EATON VANCE MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST Form 486BPOS

March 24, 2016

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 24, 2016

1933 Act File No. 333-158147

1940 Act File No. 811-09141

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT of 1933 o PRE-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. o POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 4 x and/or REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 o AMENDMENT NO. 11 x

EATON VANCE MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(617) 482-8260 (Registrant s Telephone Number)

Maureen A. Gemma Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance of Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. x

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

- " when declared effective pursuant to Section 8(c)
- x Immediately upon filing pursuant to no-action relief granted to Registrant on June 26, 2013

BASE PROSPECTUS

2,281,789 Shares

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

Common Shares

Investment Objective and Policies. Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust (the Trust) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company which commenced operations in January 1999. The Trust s investment objective is to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax. The Trust pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in investment grade municipal securities. The Trust may also invest a portion of its assets in higher risk, higher yielding municipal securities of lesser quality. The Trust s net asset value (NAV) and distribution rate will vary, and may be affected by several factors, including changes in interest rates and the credit quality of municipal issuers. Fluctuations in NAV may be magnified as a result of the Trust s use of leverage, which may be a speculative investment technique. An investment in the Trust may not be appropriate for all investors, particularly those subject to the federal alternative minimum tax (AMT). Closed-end fund shares frequently trade at a discount to their NAV. There is no assurance that the Trust will achieve its investment objective.

Investment Adviser. The Trust s investment adviser is Eaton Vance Management (Eaton Vance or the Adviser). As of January 31, 2016, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$ 302.6 billion of fund and separate account assets on behalf of clients, including 50 open-end and closed-end municipal bond funds with combined assets of about \$14. 5 billion.

The Offering. The Trust may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings (each, an Offering), the Trust s common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value (Common Shares). Common Shares may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus (each, a prospectus supplement). You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in Common Shares. Common Shares may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales, load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Trust and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale. The Trust may not sell any Common Shares through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the particular Offering of the Common Shares.

The Common Shares have traded both at a premium and a discount to NAV. The Trust cannot predict whether Common Shares will trade in the future at a premium or discount to NAV. The provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act), generally require that the public offering price of common shares (less any underwriting commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the NAV per share of a company s common stock

(calculated within 48 hours of pricing). The Trust s issuance of Common Shares may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for the Trust s Common Shares by increasing the number of Common Shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for the Trust s Common Shares. Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from NAV, which may increase investors risk of loss.

Investing in the Common Shares involves certain risks, including that the Trust will invest substantial portions of its assets in below investment grade quality securities with speculative characteristics. See Investment objective, policies and risks beginning on page 21 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

(continued from previous page)

Portfolio Contents. During normal market conditions, the Trust will invest at least 80% of its total assets in debt obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States, and the District of Columbia and their political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, the interest on which is exempt from regular federal income tax (municipal obligations).

At least 65% of the Trust s total assets normally will be invested in municipal obligations rated at least investment grade at the time of investment (which are those rated Baa or higher by Moody s Investors Service, Inc. (Moody s) or BBB or higher by either Standard & Poor s Ratings Services (S&P) or by Fitch Ratings (Fitch)), or, if unrated, determined by Eaton Vance to be of at least investment grade quality. From time to time, the Trust may hold a significant number of municipal obligations not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (Rating Agency). When the Trust invests in unrated municipal obligations, it may be more dependent on Eaton Vance s research capabilities than when it invests in rated municipal obligations.

The Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch (but no more than 30% of total assets may be rated lower than B by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch) and unrated municipal obligations considered to be of comparable quality by Eaton Vance. Investment in municipal obligations of below investment grade quality involves special risks as compared with investment in higher grade municipal obligations. These risks include greater sensitivity to a general economic downturn, greater market price volatility and less secondary market trading. Securities rated below investment grade are commonly known as junk bonds. Such securities are regarded, on balance, as predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and repay principal owed.

The Trust may purchase and sell various kinds of financial futures contracts and related options, including futures contracts and related options based on various debt securities and securities indices, as well as interest rate swaps and forward rate contracts, to seek to hedge against changes in interest rates, as a substitute for the purchase of securities or for other risk management purposes.

Interest income from certain types of municipal obligations may be a tax preference item for purposes of the AMT for individual investors. Distributions to corporate investors of certain interest income may also be indirectly subject to the AMT. The Trust may not be suitable for investors subject to the AMT.

During unusual market conditions, the Trust may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objective and other policies.

Leverage. The Trust currently uses leverage created by issuing Institutional MuniFund Term Preferred shares (iMTP) and auction preferred shares (APS). On January 31, 2016, the Trust had outstanding 2,000 Series A, 2,000 Series B and 806 Series C APS, with a liquidation preference per share of \$25,000 plus the amount of any accumulated but unpaid dividends. The Trust also invests in residual interest bonds. Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term tax-exempt interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. As of January 31, 2016, the Trust had no outstanding borrowings. On February 26, 2016, the Fund repurchased 1,651 shares of Series A, 1,815 shares of Series B and 749 shares of Series C APS at a price per share equal to 94.5% of the liquidation preference per share (or \$23,625 per share) and issued 2,720 shares of iMTP with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 plus the amount of any accumulated but unpaid dividends.

The Adviser anticipates that the use of leverage (from the issuance of APS and iMTP, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) will result in higher income to holders of Common Shares (the Common Shareholders) over time. Use of financial leverage creates an opportunity for increased income but, at the same time, creates special risks. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful. The fee paid to Eaton Vance will be calculated on the basis of the Trust's gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of APS and iMTP, borrowings and leverage

created by residual interest bonds, so the fees will be higher when leverage is utilized. In this regard, holders of debt or preferred securities do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds, which means that Common Shareholders effectively bear the entire advisory fee. See Investment objective, policies and risks Use of Leverage at page 25, Investment objective, policies and risks Additional risk considerations at page 28 and Description of capital structure at page 44...

Exchange Listing. As of March 22, 2016, the Trust had 23, 767,367 Common Shares outstanding, which are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol EVN. As of March 22, 2016, the last reported sales price of a Common Share of the Trust on the NYSE was \$ 14.37. Any new Common Shares offered and sold pursuant to this Registration Statement will also be listed on the NYSE and trade under this symbol.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

2

This prospectus, together with any applicable prospectus supplement, sets forth concisely information you should know before investing in the Trust. Please read and retain this prospectus for future reference. A Statement of Additional Information dated March 24, 2016 has been filed with the SEC. The Statement of Additional Information, annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders when available and other information about the Trust and can be obtained without charge by calling 1-800-262-1122 or by writing to the Trust at the address below or from the Trust s website (http://www.eatonvance.com). A table of contents to the Statement of Additional Information is located at page 49 of this prospectus. This prospectus incorporates by reference the entire Statement of Additional Information. The Statement of Additional Information is available along with other Trust-related materials: at the SEC s public reference room in Washington, DC (call 1-202-942-8090 for information on the operation of the public reference room); from the EDGAR database on the SEC s internet site (http://www.sec.gov); upon payment of copying fees by writing to the SEC s public reference section, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-0102; or by electronic mail at publicinfo@sec.gov. The Trust s address is Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 and its telephone number is 1-800-262-1122.

The Common Shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The Trust has not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. The Trust is not making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. The Trust will notify shareholders promptly of any material change to this prospectus during the period the Trust is required to deliver the prospectus. The Trust s business, financial condition and results of operations may have changed since the date of this prospectus.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the Statement of Additional Information contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words may, will, intend, expestimate, continue, plan, anticipate, and similar terms and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this prospectus as well as in any accompanying prospectus supplement. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities we hold, the price at which our shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in our forward-looking statements. Our future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement are made as of the date of this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, as the case may be. Except for our ongoing obligations under the federal securities laws, we do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the Statement of Additional Information are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act).

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus. We urge you to review carefully that section for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in our securities.

Prospectus dated March 24, 2016

	Eaton	Vance	Munici	pal In	come	Trust
--	-------	-------	--------	--------	------	-------

3

Table of Contents

Prospectus Summary	5
Summary of Trust Expenses	16
Financial Highlights and Investment Performance	17
The Trust	19
The Offering	20
Use of Proceeds	20
Portfolio Composition	20
Investment Objective, Policies and Risks	21
Management of the Trust	39
Plan of Distribution	40
Distributions	41
Federal Income Tax Matters	41
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	43
Description of Capital Structure	44
Custodian and Transfer Agent	48
Legal Opinions	48
Reports to Common Shareholders	48
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	48
Additional Information	48
Table of Contents for the Statement of Additional Information	49
The Trust's Privacy Policy	50

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

4

Prospectus Summary

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information included elsewhere in this prospectus, in any related prospectus supplement and in the Statement of Additional Information.

THE TRUST

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust (the Trust) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Trust commenced operations in January 1999 following an initial public offering of its common shares of beneficial interest (Common Shares). The Trust is investment objective is to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax. The Trust pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in investment grade municipal securities. The Trust may also invest a portion of its assets in higher risk, higher yielding municipal securities of lesser quality. Investments are based on the municipal securities research, trading and portfolio management of the Trust is investment adviser, Eaton Vance Management (Eaton Vance or the Adviser). The Trust is NAV and distribution rate will vary and may be affected by several factors, including changes in interest rates and the credit quality of municipal issuers. An investment in the Trust may not be appropriate for all investors, particularly those that are not subject to federal income tax. There is no assurance that the Trust will achieve its investment objective.

THE OFFERING

The Trust may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings (each, an Offering), up to 2,281,789 of Common Shares on terms to be determined at the time of the Offering. The Common Shares may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus (each, a prospectus supplement). You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in Common Shares. Common Shares may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by the Trust, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Trust and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale. See Plan of Distribution. The Trust may not sell any of Common Shares through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the particular Offering of Common Shares.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICIES

Investment objective

The Trust s investment objective is to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax. This income will be earned by investing primarily in investment grade municipal obligations. Securities will be purchased and sold in an effort to maintain a competitive yield and to enhance return based upon the relative value of the securities available in the marketplace.

Portfolio parameters

During normal market conditions, substantially all of the Trust s total assets (at least 80%) will be invested in debt obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States, and the District of Columbia and their political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, the interest on which is exempt from regular federal income tax (municipal obligations). At least 65% of the Trust s total assets will normally be invested in municipal obligations rated at least investment grade at the time of investment (which are those rated Baa or higher by Moody s or BBB or higher by either S&P or by Fitch), or, if unrated, determined by Eaton Vance to be of at least investment grade quality. From time to time, the Trust may hold a significant amount of municipal obligations not

rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (Rating Agency). When the Trust invests in unrated municipal obligations, it may be more dependent on Eaton Vance s research capabilities than when it invests in rated municipal obligations.

The Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch (but no more than 30% of total assets may be rated lower than B by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch) and unrated municipal obligations considered to be of comparable quality by Eaton Vance. For purposes of rating restrictions, if securities are rated differently by the Rating Agencies, the higher rating is used. The Trust will not purchase securities that are in default at the time of purchase. Investment in municipal obligations of below investment grade quality involves special risks as compared with investment in higher grade municipal obligations. These risks include greater sensitivity to a general economic downturn, greater market price volatility and less secondary market trading. Securities rated below investment grade are commonly known as junk bonds. Such securities are regarded, on balance, as predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and repay principal owed. See Investment objective, policies and risks Additional risk considerations. For a description of municipal obligation ratings, see Appendix A to the Statement of Additional Information.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

5

The foregoing credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Trust is not required to dispose of a security in the event that a Rating Agency downgrades its assessment of the credit characteristics of a particular issue or withdraws its assessment. Credit quality can change from time to time, and recently issued credit ratings may not fully reflect the actual risks posed by a particular security or the issuer—s current financial condition.

Municipal obligations include bonds, notes and commercial paper issued by a municipality for a wide variety of both public and private purposes, the interest on which is, in the opinion of issuer—s counsel (or on the basis of other reliable authority), exempt from regular federal income tax. Public purpose municipal bonds include general obligation and revenue bonds. General obligation bonds are backed by the taxing power of the issuing municipality. Revenue bonds are backed by the revenues of a project or facility, or from the proceeds of a specific revenue source. Some revenue bonds are payable solely or partly from funds that are subject to annual appropriations by a state—s legislature. Municipal notes include bond anticipation, tax anticipation and revenue anticipation notes. Bond, tax and revenue anticipation notes are short-term obligations that will be retired with the proceeds of an anticipated bond issue, tax revenue or facility revenue, respectively.

Some of the securities in which the Trust invests may include so-called zero-coupon bonds, whose values are subject to greater fluctuation in response to changes in market interest rates than bonds that pay interest currently. Zero-coupon bonds are issued at a significant discount from face value and pay interest only at maturity rather than at intervals during the life of the security. The Trust is required to take into account income from zero-coupon bonds on a current basis, even though it does not receive that income currently in cash, and the Trust is required to distribute substantially all of its income for each taxable year. Thus, the Trust may have to sell other investments to obtain cash needed to make income distributions.

The Trust may purchase municipal obligations that are additionally secured by insurance, bank credit agreements, or escrow accounts. The credit quality of companies that provide such credit enhancements will affect the value of those securities. Although the insurance feature reduces certain financial risks, the premiums for insurance and the higher market price paid for insured obligations may reduce the Trust s current yield. Only a portion (and possibly at times none) of the municipal obligations held by the Trust will have such credit enhancements (including insurance) and the Trust is not required to separately purchase credit enhancements such as insurance on those municipal obligations that do not have credit enhancements. The insurance feature does not guarantee the market value of the insured obligations or the NAV of the Trust s shares. To the extent that securities held by the Trust are insured as to principal and interest payments by insurers whose claims-paying ability is downgraded by a Rating Agency, the value of such security may be affected.

The Trust may purchase and sell various kinds of financial futures contracts and related options, including futures contracts and related options based on various debt securities and securities indices, as well as interest rate swaps and forward rate contracts to seek to hedge against changes in interest rates, as a substitute for the purchase of securities or for other risk management purposes.

Interest income from certain types of municipal obligations may be a tax preference item for purposes of the AMT for individual investors. Distributions to corporate investors of certain interest income may also be indirectly subject to the AMT. The Trust may not be suitable for investors subject to the AMT.

The Trust has adopted certain fundamental investment restrictions set forth in the Statement of Additional Information, which may not be changed without a shareholder vote. Except for such restrictions and the 80% requirement set forth above, the investment objective and policies of the Trust may be changed by the Trust s Board of Trustees (Board) without shareholder action.

During unusual market conditions, the Trust may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objective and other policies.

Investment process

A team of Eaton Vance investment professionals is responsible for the overall management of the Trust s investments. The Trust s investments are actively managed, and may be bought or sold on a daily basis. The Adviser uses a variety of techniques that are designed to help control risk and seek to minimize the Trust s exposure to loss of principal value due to defaults and declines in the value of portfolio investments. Eaton Vance s process for selecting obligations for purchase and sale emphasizes the creditworthiness of the issuer or other person obligated to repay the obligation and the relative value of the obligation in the market. In evaluating creditworthiness, the Adviser considers ratings assigned by Rating Agencies and generally performs additional credit and investment analysis. There is no guarantee that Eaton Vance will be successful in achieving the Trust s investment objective.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

6

LISTING

As of March 22, 2016, the Trust had 23, 767,367 Common Shares outstanding, which are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol EVN. As of March 22, 2016, the last reported sales price of a Common Share of the Trust on the NYSE was \$ 14.37.. Any new Common Shares offered and sold pursuant to this Registration Statement will also be listed on the NYSE and trade under this symbol.

USE OF LEVERAGE

Residual interest bonds create investment leverage in the Trust because they provide more than one dollar of exposure to municipal bonds for each dollar the Trust invests in them. Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. To initiate a residual interest bond investment, the Trust may sell a bond it holds to a special purpose vehicle (SPV) for cash. At the same time, the Trust buys a residual interest in the assets and cash flows of the SPV, the assets of which consist of a bond that is identical to that sold to the SPV by the Trust (the SPV Bond). The SPV also issues and sells notes paying floating rates of interest (Floating-Rate Notes) to third parties. The Floating-Rate Notes have interest rates that generally reset weekly based on changes in a reference interest rate (such as the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), or the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) Municipal Bond Swap Index) and their holders have the option to tender to the SPV for redemption at par value at each reset date. The income earned on the SPV Bond is, in effect, first used to pay the interest payable on the Floating-Rate Note, with any remaining income then going to the residual interest bond. The holder of the Floating-Rate Note effectively holds a demand obligation that bears interest at the prevailing short-term, tax-exempt rate. As the holder of the residual interest bond, the Trust receives the residual cash flow from the SPV.

A residual interest bond investment held by the Trust generally gives the Trust the right (1) to cause the holders of the Floating-Rate Notes to tender their notes at par value and (2) to require the SPV to terminate and transfer the SPV Bond to the Trust. Should the Trust exercise this right, it would generally pay the SPV the par value of the Floating-Rate Notes and exchange the residual interest bond for the underlying SPV Bond. The SPV also may be terminated upon the occurrence of certain termination events as defined in the SPV s trust agreement, such as a downgrade in the credit quality of the underlying SPV Bond, bankruptcy of or payment failure by the issuer of the SPV Bond, the inability to remarket Floating-Rate Notes that have been tendered due to insufficient buyers in the market or the SPV s failure to obtain renewal of the liquidity support agreement provided for the Floating-Rate Notes. The Trust may enter into shortfall and forbearance agreements with brokers by which the Trust agrees to reimburse the broker , in certain circumstances, for the difference between the liquidation value of the SPV Bond and the liquidation value of the Floating-Rate Notes, as well as shortfalls in interest cash flows. Such agreements may expose the Trust to a risk of loss that exceeds its investment in the residual interest bonds. Absent a shortfall and forbearance agreement, the Trust would not be required to make such a reimbursement.

The Trust will segregate or earmark liquid assets at its custodian equal to the value of economic leverage created by residual interest bonds, whether initiated by the Trust or purchased on the secondary market.

Investments in residual interest bonds typically offer the potential for yields exceeding the yields available on fixed rate bonds with comparable credit quality and maturity. Because the residual interest bond is an inverse floating rate security and only pays a residual income, compared to fixed rate municipal bonds, the value of residual interest bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. These securities tend to underperform the market for fixed rate bonds in a rising long-term interest rate environment, but tend to outperform the market for fixed rate bonds when long-term interest rates decline. Moreover, the income earned on such bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. When residual interest bonds are held by the Trust, an increase in short- or long-term market interest rates may adversely affect the income received from such bonds or the net asset value of Common Shares. Certain existing residual interest bonds were restructured in order to comply with new banking regulations effective in July 2015 while other existing residual interest bonds must do so

by July 2016. There can be no assurance that existing residual interest bonds can be restructured or, if unwound, that the Fund will be able to reinvest assets from unwound residual interest bonds and achieve the same level of return.

In addition, the Trust currently uses leverage created by issuing APS. On March 9, 1999, the Trust issued 2,620 Series A and 2,620 Series B APS, with a liquidation preference per share of \$25,000 plus accumulated but unpaid dividends. As of January 31, 2016, 620 Series A and 620 Series B APS had been redeemed. On May 27, 2009, in connection with the merger of the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust into the Trust, the Trust issued 5,027,606 Common Shares and 806 shares of Series C APS in exchange for the common shares and APS, respectively, to the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust. The APS have seniority over the Common Shares. As of January 31, 2016, the Trust had no outstanding borrowings, but did have leverage in the form of residual interest bonds in addition to the outstanding APS. On February 26, 2016, the Fund repurchased 1,651 shares of Series A, 1,815 shares of Series B and 749 shares of Series C APS at a price per share equal to 94.5% of the liquidation preference per share (or \$23,625 per share) and issued 2,720 shares of iMTP with a

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

7

liquidation preference of \$25,000 plus the amount of any accumulated but unpaid dividends. The Adviser anticipates that the use of leverage (from such issuance of APS and iMTP, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) may result in higher income to Common Shareholders over time. Use of financial leverage creates an opportunity for increased income but, at the same time, creates special risks. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.

The costs of the financial leverage program (from the issuance of preferred shares, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) are borne by Common Shareholders and consequently result in a reduction of the NAV of Common Shares. During periods in which the Trust is using leverage, the fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Trust did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Trust s gross assets, which include proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares, borrowings and interests in residual interest bonds. In this regard, holders of debt or preferred securities do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds, which means that Common Shareholders effectively bear the entire advisory fee. See Investment objective, policies and risks Use of leverage and related risks and Management of the Trust The Adviser.

Financial leverage may also be achieved through the purchase of certain derivative instruments. The Trust suse of derivative instruments exposes the Trust to special risks. See Investment objective, policies and risks Additional investment practices and Investment objective, policies and risks Additional risk considerations.

INVESTMENT ADVISER AND ADMINISTRATOR

Eaton Vance, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Eaton Vance Corp., is the Trust s investment adviser and administrator. As of January 31, 2016, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$ 302.6 billion of assets, including 50 open-end and closed-end municipal bond funds with combined assets of about \$14. 5 billion.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Trust may sell the Common Shares being offered under this prospectus in any one or more of the following ways: (i) directly to purchasers; (ii) through agents; (iii) to or through underwriters; or (iv) through dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Trust and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale.

The Trust may distribute Common Shares from time to time in one or more transactions at: (i) a fixed price or prices that may be changed; (ii) market prices prevailing at the time of sale; (iii) prices related to prevailing market prices; or (iv) negotiated prices; provided, however, that in each case the offering price per Common Share (less any underwriting commission or discount) must equal or exceed the NAV per Common Share.

The Trust from time to time may offer its Common Shares through or to certain broker-dealers, including UBS Securities LLC, that have entered into selected dealer agreements relating to at-the-market offerings.

The Trust may directly solicit offers to purchase Common Shares, or the Trust may designate agents to solicit such offers. The Trust will, in a prospectus supplement relating to such Offering, name any agent that could be viewed as an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act), and describe any commissions the Trust must pay to such agent(s). Any such agent will be acting on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment or, if indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials, on a firm commitment basis. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for the Trust in the ordinary course of business.

If any underwriters or agents are used in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, the Trust will enter into an underwriting agreement or other agreement with them at the time of sale to them, and the Trust will set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such Offering their names and the terms of the Trust s agreement with them.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, the Trust will sell such Common Shares to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell such Common Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealer at the time of resale.

The Trust may engage in at-the-market offerings to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the 1933 Act. An at-the-market offering may be through an underwriter or underwriters acting as principal or agent for the Trust.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements which they may enter into with the Trust to indemnification by the Trust against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for the Trust in the ordinary course of business.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

8

In order to facilitate the Offering of Common Shares, any underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of Common Shares or any other Common Shares the prices of which may be used to determine payments on the Common Shares. Specifically, any underwriters may over-allot in connection with the Offering, creating a short position for their own accounts. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of Common Shares or of any such other Common Shares, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, Common Shares or any such other Common Shares in the open market. Finally, in any Offering of Common Shares through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing Common Shares in the Offering if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed Common Shares in transactions to cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of Common Shares above independent market levels. Any such underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

The Trust may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell Common Shares not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell Common Shares covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third parties may use Common Shares pledged by the Trust or borrowed from the Trust or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of securities, and may use Common Shares received from the Trust in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of securities. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials (or a post-effective amendment).

The Trust or one of the Trust s affiliates may loan or pledge Common Shares to a financial institution or other third party that in turn may sell Common Shares using this prospectus. Such financial institution or third party may transfer its short position to investors in Common Shares or in connection with a simultaneous Offering of other Common Shares offered by this prospectus or otherwise.

The maximum amount of compensation to be received by any member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. will not exceed 8% of the initial gross proceeds from the sale of any security being sold with respect to each particular Offering of Common Shares made under a single prospectus supplement.

Any underwriter, agent or dealer utilized in the initial Offering of Common Shares will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer.

DISTRIBUTIONS

The Trust intends to make regular monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders. The amount of each monthly distribution will vary depending on a number of factors, including distributions payable on the APS or other costs of financial leverage. As portfolio and market conditions change, the rate of distribution on the Common Shares and the Trust s distribution policy could change. Over time, the Trust will distribute all of its net investment income (after it pays accrued distributions on any outstanding APS or other costs of financial leverage).

The net investment income of the Trust will consist of all interest income accrued on portfolio investments, short-term capital gain (including short-term gains on options, futures and forward positions and gains on the sale of portfolio investments held for one year or less) in excess of long-term capital loss and income from certain hedging transactions, less all expenses of the Trust. Expenses of the Trust will be accrued each day. Substantially all of the Trust s investment company taxable income will be distributed each year. In addition, at least annually, the Trust intends to distribute any net capital gain (which is the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss). To the extent that the Trust s net investment income and net capital gain for any year exceed the total monthly distributions paid during the year, the Trust will make a special distribution at or near year-end of such excess amount as may be required. If the Trust s total monthly distributions in any year exceed the amount of its net investment

income and net capital gain for the year, any such excess would be characterized as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. Under the 1940 Act, for any distribution that includes amounts from sources other than net income, the Trust is required to provide Common Shareholders a written statement regarding the components of such distribution. Such a statement will be provided at the time of any distribution believed to include any such amounts.

Common Shareholders may automatically reinvest some or all of their distributions in additional Common Shares pursuant to the Trust s dividend reinvestment plan. See Dividend reinvestment plan.

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

The Trust has established a dividend reinvestment plan (the Plan). Under the Plan, unless a Common Shareholder elects to receive distributions in cash, all distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Common Shares, either purchased in the open market or newly issued by the Trust if the Common Shares are trading at or above their NAV. Common Shareholders

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

9

who intend to hold their Common Shares through a broker or nominee should contact such broker or nominee regarding the Plan. See Dividend reinvestment plan.

CLOSED-END STRUCTURE

Closed-end funds differ from open-end management investment companies (commonly referred to as mutual funds) in that closed-end funds generally list their shares for trading on a securities exchange and do not redeem their shares at the option of the shareholder. By comparison, mutual funds issue securities redeemable at NAV at the option of the shareholder and typically engage in a continuous offering of their shares. Mutual funds are subject to continuous asset in-flows and out-flows that can complicate portfolio management, whereas closed-end funds generally can stay more fully invested in securities consistent with the closed-end fund s investment objectives and policies. In addition, in comparison to open-end funds, closed-end funds have greater flexibility in the employment of financial leverage and in the ability to make certain types of investments, including investments in illiquid securities.

However, shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. Since inception, the market price of the Common Shares has fluctuated and at times traded below NAV, and at times has traded above the Trust s NAV. In recognition of the possibility that the Common Shares might trade at a discount to NAV and that any such discount may not be in the interest of Common Shareholders, the Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, from time to time may review possible actions to reduce any such discount. The Board might consider open market repurchases or tender offers for Common Shares at NAV. There can be no assurance that the Board will decide to undertake any of these actions or that, if undertaken, such actions would result in the Common Shares trading at a price equal to or close to NAV per Common Share. The Board might also consider the conversion of the Trust to an open-end management investment company. The Board believes, however, that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Trust s investment objective and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is highly unlikely that the Board would vote to convert the Trust to an open-end management investment company. Investors should note that the existence of preferred shares to provide investment leverage could make a conversion to open-end form more difficult because of the voting rights of preferred shareholders, the costs of redeeming preferred shares and other factors. See Description of capital structure.

SPECIAL RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in any investment company security involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or even that you may lose part or all of your investment.

Discount from or premium to NAV

The Offering will be conducted only when Common Shares of the Trust are trading at a price equal to or above the Trust s NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Trust s Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to net asset value. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Trust s NAV may decrease.

Secondary market for the Common Shares

The issuance of Common Shares through the Offering may have an adverse effect on the secondary market for the Common Shares. The increase in the amount of the Trust soutstanding Common Shares resulting from the Offering may put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Trust. Common Shares will not be issued pursuant to the Offering at any time when Common Shares are trading at a price lower than a price equal to the Trust s NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions.

The Trust also issues Common Shares of the Trust through its dividend reinvestment plan. See Dividend reinvestment plan. Common Shares may be issued under the plan at a discount to the market price for such Common Shares, which may put downward pressure on the market price for Common Shares of the Trust.

When the Common Shares are trading at a premium, the Trust may also issue Common Shares of the Trust that are sold through transactions effected on the NYSE. The increase in the amount of the Trust soutstanding Common Shares resulting from that offering may also put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Trust.

The voting power of current shareholders will be diluted to the extent that such shareholders do not purchase shares in any future Common Share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if the Adviser is unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, the Trust s per share distribution may decrease (or may consist of return of capital) and the Trust may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

10

Investment and market risk

An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Trust, which will generally trade in the over-the-counter (OTC) markets. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of distributions.

Interest rate and income risk

The prices of municipal obligations tend to fall as interest rates rise. When interest rates decline, the value of municipal obligations held by the Trust can be expected to rise. Interest rate risk is the risk that the municipal obligations in the Trust s portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. These risks may be greater in the current market environment because of prevailing low interest rates. In typical market interest rate environments, the prices of longer-term municipal obligations tend to fluctuate more in price in response to changes in market interest rates than prices of shorter-term municipal obligations. A decline in the prices of the municipal obligations owned by the Trust would cause a decline in the NAV of the Trust, which could adversely affect the trading price of the Common Shares. This risk is usually greater among municipal obligations with longer maturities or durations. See Additional risk considerations Interest rate and income risk.

Call and reinvestment risks

If interest rates fall, it is possible that issuers of callable bonds with high interest coupons will call (or prepay) their bonds before their maturity date. If a call were exercised by the issuer during a period of declining interest rates, the Trust would likely replace such called security with a lower yielding security. If that were to happen, it could decrease the Trust s dividends and possibly could affect the market price of Common Shares. Similar risks exist when the Trust invests the proceeds from matured or traded municipal obligations at market interest rates that are below the Trust s current earnings rate.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one or more municipal bonds in the Trust s portfolio will decline in price, or fail to pay interest or principal when due, because the issuer of the bond experiences a decline in its financial status. Because the Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in below investment grade securities, it will be subject to a high level of credit risk. In general, lower rated municipal bonds carry a greater degree of risk that the issuer will lose its ability to make interest and principal payments, which could have a negative impact on the Trust s NAV or dividends. Securities rated in the fourth highest category (*i.e.*, Baa by Moody s or BBB by S&P or Fitch) are considered investment grade quality, but may have speculative characteristics. In evaluating the creditworthiness, the Adviser considers ratings assigned by Ratings Agencies and generally performs additional credit and investment analysis. See Additional risk considerations. Credit risk.

Liquidity risk

The secondary market for some municipal obligations is less liquid than that for widely traded taxable debt obligations or widely traded municipal obligations. No established resale market exists for certain of the municipal obligations in which the Trust may invest. The Trust has no limitation on the amount of its assets that may be invested in securities that are not readily marketable or are subject to restrictions on resale. In certain situations, the Trust could find it more difficult to sell such securities at desirable times and/or prices. The Trust may not be able to readily dispose of such securities at prices that approximate those at which the Trust could sell such securities if they were more widely traded or at which the Trust has valued such securities and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Trust may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. See Additional risk considerations Liquidity risk.

Municipal bond market risk

Investing in the municipal bond market involves certain risks. Certain securities in which the Trust will invest will not be registered with the SEC or any state securities commission and will not be listed on any national securities exchange. The amount of public information available about the municipal obligations in the Trust s portfolio is generally less than for corporate equities or bonds, and the investment performance of the Trust may, therefore, be more dependent on the analytical abilities of Eaton Vance than if the Trust were a stock fund or taxable bond fund.

The ability of municipal issuers to make timely payments of interest and principal may be diminished during general economic downturns and as governmental cost burdens are reallocated among federal, state and local governments. In addition, laws enacted in the future by Congress or state legislatures or referenda could extend the time for payment of principal and/or interest, or impose other constraints on enforcement of such obligations, or on the ability of municipalities to levy taxes. Issuers of municipal obligations might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. In the event of bankruptcy of an issuer, the Trust could experience delays in collecting principal and interest to which it is entitled, and may obtain only a limited recovery or no recovery in such circumstances. To enforce its rights in the event of default in the payment of interest or repayment of principal, or both,

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

11

the Trust may take possession of and manage the assets securing the issuer s obligations on such securities, which may increase the Trust s operating expenses. Any income derived from the Trust s ownership or operation of such assets may not be tax-exempt.

Fixed income markets have recently experienced a period of relatively high volatility. As a result of the Federal Reserve s action to end its quantitative easing stimulus program as well as the possibility that it may unwind the program and its recent decision to raise the target fed funds rate, fixed income markets could experience continuing high volatility, which could negatively impact the Fund s performance. Many state and municipal governments are under significant economic and financial stress. See Additional risk considerations Municipal bond market risk.

Insurance risk

Municipal obligations may be insured as to their scheduled payment of principal and interest. Although the insurance feature may reduce some financial risks, the premiums for insurance and the higher market price sometimes paid for insured obligations may reduce the current yield on the insured obligation. Insured obligations also may be secured by bank credit agreements or escrow accounts. Changes in the ratings of an insurer may affect the value of an insured obligation, and in some cases may even cause the value of a security to be less than a comparable uninsured obligation. The insurance does not guarantee the market value of the insured obligation or the net asset value of the Trust s shares. The credit rating of an insured obligation reflects the credit rating of the insurer, based on its claims-paying ability. The obligation of a municipal bond insurance company to pay a claim extends over the life of each insured obligation. Although defaults on insured municipal obligations have been low to date and municipal bond insurers have met their claims, there is no assurance this will continue. A higher than expected default rate could strain the insurer s loss reserves and adversely affect its ability to pay claims to bondholders. Because a significant portion of insured municipal obligations that have been issued and are outstanding is insured by a small number of insurance companies, an event involving one or more of these insurance companies, such as a credit rating downgrade, could have a significant adverse effect on the value of the municipal obligations insured by that insurance company and on the municipal bond markets as a whole.

Risks of municipal lease obligations (MLOs) and certificates of participation

MLOs are obligations in the form of a lease, installment purchase or conditional sales contract (which typically provide for the title to the leased asset to pass to the governmental issuer) that is issued by state or local governments to acquire equipment and facilities. Interest income from MLOs is generally exempt from local and state taxes in the state of issuance. MLOs, like other municipal debt obligations, are subject to the risk of non-payment. See Additional risk considerations Risks of municipal lease obligations (MLOs) and certificates of participation.

State and sector specific risk

The Trust has no current intention to invest 25% or more of its gross assets in municipal obligations of issuers located in the same state (or U.S. territory), but reserves the flexibility to do so in the future. If the Trust focuses its investments in any one state (or U.S. territory), the Trust may be more susceptible to adverse economic, political or regulatory occurrences affecting a particular state (or territory). Certain municipal bond issuers in Puerto Rico have recently experienced financial difficulties and rating agency downgrades, and two such issuers have defaulted on their payment obligations. See Additional risk considerations State and sector specific risk.

Below investment grade securities risk

As indicated above, the Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch (but not, with respect to more than 30% of its total assets, lower than B by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch) and unrated municipal obligations that the Adviser considers to be of comparable quality. Such obligations are commonly called junk bonds and will have speculative characteristics in varying

degrees. Below investment grade securities held by the Trust are subject to higher risk. Also, their yields and market values may fluctuate more than higher rated securities. Fluctuations in value do not affect the cash income from the securities, but are reflected in the Trust s net asset value. The greater risks and fluctuations in yield and value occur, in part, because investors generally perceive issuers of lower rated and unrated securities to be less creditworthy. These issuers may be particularly susceptible to market downturns, adverse economic or political events or other developments such as weather or other catastrophic events.

Secondary market trading in below investment grade securities may be less liquid than the market for higher grade securities. See Additional risk considerations Below investment grade securities risk.

Unrated securities risk

The Trust may invest in unrated obligations for which Eaton Vance will make a credit quality determination for purposes of the Trust s credit quality policy. To the extent that the Trust invests in such unrated obligations, the Trust s credit quality will be more

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

12

dependent on Eaton Vance s credit analysis than if the Trust invested in only rated obligations. Some unrated securities may not have an active trading market or may be difficult to value.

Residual interest bond risk

Residual interest bonds create investment leverage in the Trust because they provide more than one dollar of exposure to municipal bonds for each dollar the Trust invests in them. As a result, the value of residual interest bonds may increase or decrease at a rate that is a multiple of the rate by which the value of the underlying municipal bonds underlying the residual interest bonds increase or decrease. The market values of residual interest bonds will generally be more volatile than the market values of fixed rate tax-exempt securities. To seek to limit the volatility of these securities, the Trust may invest in residual interest bonds with shorter-term maturities or that contain limitations on the extent to which the interest rate may vary. The Trust may also use derivatives to offset the volatility of residual interest bonds.

Residual interest bonds pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. Because the residual interest bond is an inverse floating rate security and only pays a residual income, compared to fixed rate municipal bonds, the value of residual interest bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. These securities tend to underperform the market for fixed rate bonds in a rising long-term interest rate environment, but tend to outperform the market for fixed rate bonds when long-term interest rates decline. Moreover, the income earned on such bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. In the extreme, increases in short-term interest rates may eliminate the interest paid to the Trust by residual interest bond investments. Certain existing residual interest bonds were restructured in order to comply with new banking regulations effective in July 2015 while other existing residual interest bonds must do so by July 2016. There can be no assurance that existing residual interest bonds can be restructured or, if unwound, that the Fund will be able to reinvest assets from unwound residual interest bonds and achieve the same level of return.

Residual interest bonds have varying degrees of liquidity, and the market for these securities is relatively volatile. See Additional risk considerations Residual interest bond risk.

Leverage risk

As discussed above, the Trust currently uses leverage created by issuing APS and iMTP and investing in residual interest bonds. The Trust will comply with the asset segregation requirements of the 1940 Act in making such investments. Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. The Adviser anticipates that the use of leverage (from the issuance of APS and iMTP, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) may result in higher income to Common Shareholders over time. Leverage creates risks for Common Shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares and the risk that fluctuations in dividend rates on APS and iMTP shares and costs of borrowings may affect the return to Common Shareholders. APS and iMTP dividends are based on the yields of short-term municipal obligations, while the proceeds of the Trust s offering are invested in longer-term municipal obligations, which typically have higher yields. To the extent the income derived from investments purchased with funds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Trust s distributions will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income from the investments purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders will be less than if leverage had not been used. In the latter case, Eaton Vance, in its best judgment, may nevertheless determine to maintain the Trust s leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate. While the Trust has preferred shares outstanding, an increase in short-term rates would also result in an increased cost of leverage, which would adversely affect the Trust s income available for distribution. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.

In addition, under current federal income tax law, the Trust is required to allocate a portion of any net realized capital gains or other taxable income to APS and iMTP holders. The terms of the Trust s APS and iMTP require the Trust to pay to any APS and iMTP holders additional dividends intended to compensate the APS and iMTP holders for taxes payable on any capital gains or other taxable income allocated to APS and iMTP .. Any such additional dividends will reduce the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders. As discussed under Management of the Trust, the fee paid to Eaton Vance is calculated on the basis of the Trust s gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of APS and iMTP, borrowings and investment in residual interest bonds, so the fees will be higher when leverage is utilized. In this regard, holders of APS and iMTP do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds, which means that Common Shareholders effectively bear the entire advisory fee.

The APS have been rated AAA by S&P. iMTP has been rated AAA by S&P and Fitch. The Trust currently intends to seek to maintain these ratings or an equivalent credit rating from other Rating Agencies on the APS, iMTP or any preferred shares it issues. The Trust is subject to investment restrictions of the Rating Agencies as a result. Any bank lender in connection with a credit facility or commercial paper program may also impose specific restrictions as a condition to borrowing. Such restrictions

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

13

imposed by a Rating Agency or lender may include asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Trust by the 1940 Act. These covenants or guidelines do not currently and are not expected to impede Eaton Vance in managing the Trust s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies and it is not anticipated that they will so impeded Eaton Vance in the future. See Description of capital structure Preferred shares.

Financial leverage may also be achieved through the purchase of certain derivative instruments. The Trust s use of derivative instruments exposes the Trust to special risks. See Investment objective, policies and risks Additional investment practices and Investment objective, policies, and risks Additional risk considerations.

Derivatives risk

In addition to investing in residual interest bonds, the Trust may invest without limitation in other derivative instruments (which are instruments that derive their value from another instrument, security or index) acquired for hedging purposes or investment purposes. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed amounts invested in these instruments. Derivative transactions, including options on securities and securities indices and other transactions in which the Trust may subject the Trust to increased risk of principal loss due to unexpected movements in securities prices and interest rates, and imperfect correlations between the Trust's securities holdings and indices upon which derivative transactions are based. Derivatives can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses, and may have a potentially large impact on the Trust's performance. The Trust also will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to any OTC derivatives contracts entered into by the Trust. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Trust may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Trust may obtain only a limited recovery or no recovery in such circumstances. Derivatives may disproportionately increase losses and have a potentially large negative impact on the Trust's performance.

The use of derivatives to enhance income is considered to be speculative in nature. The use of derivatives may result in greater losses than if they had not been used, may require the Trust to sell or purchase portfolio securities at inopportune times or for prices other than current market value, may limit the amount of appreciation the Trust can realize on an investment or may cause the Trust to hold a security it might otherwise sell. Segregated liquid assets, amounts paid by the Trust as premiums and cash or other assets held in margin accounts with respect to derivatives transactions are not otherwise available to the Trust for investment or operational purposes. Certain derivative transactions may have economic characteristics similar to leverage. See Additional risk considerations Leverage Risk.

Counterparty risk

Changes in the credit quality of the companies that serve as the Trust s counterparties with respect to its derivatives positions and liquidity providers for the Trust s residual interest bonds or other investments supported by another party s credit will affect the value of those instruments. Certain entities that have served as counterparties in the municipals markets have in recent years incurred significant financial hardships, including bankruptcy and material loss of credit standing as a result of exposure to investments that have experienced defaults or otherwise suffered extreme credit deterioration. As a result, such hardships have reduced these entities capital and called into question their continued ability to perform their obligations. By using derivatives or other instruments that expose the Trust to counterparties, the Trust assumes the risk that its counterparties could experience future financial hardship.

Additional risk considerations Counterparty risk.

Hedging risk

The Trust s use of derivatives or other transactions to reduce risks involves costs and will be subject to Eaton Vance s ability to predict correctly changes in the relationships of such hedge instruments to the Trust s portfolio holdings or

other factors. No assurance can be given that Eaton Vance s judgment in this respect will be correct. In addition, no assurance can be given that the Trust will enter into hedging or other transactions at times or under circumstances in which it may be advisable to do so. Hedging transactions have risks, including the imperfect correlation between the value of such instruments and the underlying assets of the Trust, which creates the possibility that the loss on such instruments may be greater than the gain, if any, in the value of the underlying asset in the Trust s portfolio; the limited availability of such instruments; the loss of principal; the possible default of the other party to the transaction; illiquidity of the derivative investments; and the imperfect correlation between the tax-exempt and taxable markets. Furthermore, the ability to successfully use hedging transactions depends on the Eaton Vance s ability to predict pertinent market movements, which cannot be assured. Thus, the use of hedging transactions may result in losses greater than if they had not been used, may require the Trust to sell or purchase portfolio securities at inopportune times or for prices other than current market values, may limit the amount of appreciation the Trust can realize on an investment, or may cause the Trust to hold a security that it might otherwise sell.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

14

Inflation risk/deflation risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline. In addition, during periods of rising inflation, short-term interest rates and the Trust's cost of leverage would likely increase, reducing returns to the Common Shareholders to the extent that such increased cost is not offset by commensurately higher income. Also, distribution rates of preferred shares would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Shareholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time – the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse affect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Trust's investments.

Duration and maturity risk

The Trust has no set policy regarding portfolio maturity or duration. Holding long duration and long maturity investments will expose the Trust to certain magnified risks. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risks as discussed above.

Tax risk

The value of the Trust s investments and its NAV may be adversely affected by changes in tax rates and policies. Because interest income from municipal obligations normally is not subject to regular federal income taxation, the attractiveness of municipal obligations in relation to other investment alternatives is affected by changes in federal income tax rates or changes in the tax-exempt status of interest income from municipal obligations. Congress is currently actively considering significant changes to federal tax law, including changes to the tax-exempt status of such municipal bond interest. Any proposed or actual changes in such rates or exempt status, therefore, can significantly affect the demand for and supply, liquidity and marketability of municipal obligations. This could, in turn, affect the Trust is NAV and ability to acquire and dispose of municipal obligations at desirable yield and price levels. The Trust is not a suitable investment for individual retirement accounts, for other tax-exempt or tax-deferred accounts or for investors who are otherwise indifferent to the federal income tax consequences of their investments. See Distributions and Federal income tax matters.

The Trust will invest in municipal obligations in reliance at the time of purchase on an opinion of bond counsel to the issuer that the interest paid on those securities will be excludable from gross income under the regular federal income tax, and the Adviser will typically not independently verify that opinion. Subsequent to the Trust s acquisition of such a municipal security, however, the security may be determined to pay, or to have paid, taxable income. As a result, the treatment of dividends previously paid or to be paid by the Trust as exempt-interest dividends could be adversely affected, subjecting the Trust s Common Shareholders to increased federal income tax liabilities.

Interest income from certain types of municipal obligations may be a tax preference item for purposes of the AMT for individual investors. Distributions to corporate investors of certain interest income may also be indirectly subject to the AMT.

Management risk

The Trust is subject to management risk because it is actively managed. Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers invest the assets of the Trust as they deem appropriate in implementing the Trust s investment strategy. Accordingly, the success of the Trust depends upon the investment skills and analytical abilities of Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers to develop and effectively implement strategies that achieve the Trust s investment objective. There is no assurance that Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers will be successful in developing and implementing the Trust s investment strategy. Subjective decisions made by Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers may cause the Trust to incur losses or to miss profit opportunities on which it could

otherwise have capitalized.

Anti-takeover provisions

The Trust s Agreement and Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other persons or entities to acquire control of the Trust or to change the composition of the Board. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Trust, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Trust and interfering with the normal operation of the Trust. Description of capital structure Anti-takeover provisions in the Declaration of Trust.

Additional risks

The Trust may also be subject to the following categories of risk: Private activity bond risk, Swaps risk, Futures risk, Structured notes risk, Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk, When-Issued and Delayed-Delivery Transactions Risk, Other investment companies and ETFs risk, Current regulatory environment risk, Current economic conditions risk and United States credit rating downgrade Risk. See Additional risk considerations.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

15

Summary of Trust Expenses

The purpose of the tables below is to help you understand all fees and expenses that you, as a holder of Common Shares (Common Shareholder), would bear directly or indirectly. The Annual Expenses table reflects outstanding APS in an amount equal to 20 ..8% of the Trust s average net assets and average leverage attributable to floating-rate notes for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2015 in an amount equal to 26.1% of the Trust s total assets (including such APS and floating-rate notes) and shows Trust expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to Common Shares.

Common Shareholder transaction expenses
Sales Load (as a percentage of offering price)
Offering expenses borne by the Trust
Dividend reinvestment plan fees

Percentage of Net Assets

__(1)

None(2)

None(3)

Attributable to Common Shares

(Assuming Leverage as Described Above) (4)

Annual expenses

Management fee 1.26% (5)
Interest expenses 0.33% (6)
Other expenses 0.17%
Total annual expenses 1.76%
Dividends on preferred shares 0.05%
Total annual Trust operating expenses and dividends on preferred shares 1.81%

EXAMPLE

The following example illustrates the expenses that Common Shareholders would pay on a \$1,000 investment in Common Shares, assuming (i) total annual Trust operating expenses of 1. 81 % of net assets attributable to Common Shares in years 1 through 10; (ii) a 5% annual return; and (iii) all distributions are reinvested at NAV:

1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years		
\$18	\$57	\$98	\$213		

The above table and example and the assumption in the example of a 5% annual return are required by regulations of the SEC that are applicable to all investment companies; the assumed 5% annual return is not a prediction of, and does not represent, the projected or actual performance of the Trust s Common Shares. For more complete descriptions of certain of the Trust s costs and expenses, see Management of the Trust. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at NAV, participants in the Trust s dividend reinvestment plan may receive Common Shares purchased or issued at a price or value different from NAV. See Distributions and Dividend Reinvestment Plan. The example does not include sales load or estimated offering costs, which would cause the expenses shown in the example to increase.

The example should not be considered a representation of future expenses. Actual expenses may be higher or lower. The Trust s actual rate of return may be greater or less than the hypothetical 5% return shown in the example.

If Common Shares are sold to or through underwriters, the prospectus supplement will set forth any applicable sales load.

(2)

The Adviser will pay the expenses of the Offering (other than the applicable commissions); therefore, Offering expenses are not included in the Summary of Trust Expenses. Offering expenses generally include, but are not limited to, the preparation, review and filing with the SEC of the Trust's registration statement (including this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information), the preparation, review and filing of any associated marketing or similar materials, costs associated with the printing, mailing or other distribution of the prospectus, Statement of Additional Information and/or marketing materials, associated filing fees, NYSE listing fees, and legal and auditing fees associated with the Offering.

(3)

You will be charged a \$5.00 service charge and pay brokerage charges if you direct the plan agent to sell your Common Shares held in a dividend reinvestment account.

(4)

Stated as a percentage of average net assets attributed to Common Shares for the Year ended November 30, 2015 ...

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

16

(5)

The advisory fee paid by the Trust to the Adviser is based on the average weekly gross assets of the Trust, including all assets attributable to any form of investment leverage that the Trust may utilize, provided that the advisory fee attributable to leverage created through floating rate notes may be limited as described under Management of the Trust The Adviser. Accordingly, if the Trust were to increase investment leverage in the future, the advisory fee will increase as a percentage of net assets.

(6)

Interest Expenses relate to the Trust s liability with respect to floating rate notes held by third parties in conjunction with investments in residual interest bonds. The Trust records offsetting interest income in an amount at least equal to this expense relating to the municipal obligations underlying such transactions.

Financial Highlights and Investment Performance

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

This table details the financial performance of the Common Shares, including total return information showing how much an investment in the Trust has increased or decreased each period. This information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. The report of Deloitte & Touche LLP and the Trust s financial statements are incorporated herein by reference and included in the Trust s annual report, which is available upon request.

Selected data for a common share outstanding during the periods stated.

	Year Ended November 30,									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Net asset value										
Beginning of year	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
(Common shares)	40000	10 7 10	12.260	10 = 10	11.000	10010	0.440	4.4.250	4 7 000	4.4.4
I (I) F	12.950	10.540	13.360	10.710	11.080	10.840	8.110	14.370	15.880	14.470
Income (Loss) From										
Operations Net investment income ⁽¹⁾	ı									
Net investment meomes	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ
	0.886	0.886	0.885	0.905	0.988	1.036	0.981	1.067	1.076	1.100
Net realized and										
unrealized gain (loss)	0.082	2.423	(2.778)	2.715	(0.352)	0.169	2.648	(6.262)	(1.518)	1.444
Distributions to preferred	ļ									
shareholders from net										
investment income ⁽¹⁾	(0.007)	(0.005)	(0.009)	(0.013)	(0.016)	(0.022)	(0.036)	(0.258)	(0.278)	(0.252)
Total income (loss) from		¢	¢	ф	¢	¢	¢	¢	¢	¢
operations	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	0.961	3.304	(1.902)	3.607	0.620	1.183	3.593	(5.453)	(0.720)	2.292

Less Distributions to Common Shareholders From net investment										
income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total distributions to	(0.892)	(0.900)	(0.930)	(0.957)	(0.990)	(0.943)	(0.863)	(0.807)	(0.790)	(0.882)
common shareholders	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
D	(0.892)	(0.900)	(0.930)	(0.957)	(0.990)	(0.943)	(0.863)	(0.807)	(0.790)	(0.882)
Premium from common shares sold through shelf offering (see Note 6) ⁽¹⁾	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net asset value End of	0.001	0.006	0.012							
year (Common shares)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Market value End of	13.020	12.950	10.540	13.360	10.710	11.080	10.840	8.110	14.370	15.880
year (Common shares)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Investment Return	13.390	13.350	10.530	14.310	12.270	11.980	11.480	8.450	13.300	16.010
on Net Asset Value ⁽²⁾ Total Investment Return	7.60%	32.67%	(14.69)%	34.28%	5.66%	10.74%	46.43%	(39.72)%	(4.62)%	16.33%
on Market Value ⁽²⁾	7.42%	36.79%	(20.43)%	25.54%	11.96%	13.06%	48.84%			13.43% last page.)

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

17

	Year Ended November 30,									
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Ratios/Supplemental Data										
Net assets applicable to										
common shares, end of	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
year (000 s omitted)										
7	309,354	307,074	246,295	304,726	243,936	250,731	243,846	140,254	246,974	272,274
Ratios (as a percentage of										
average daily net assets										
applicable to common shares): ⁽³⁾										
Expenses excluding										
interest and fees ⁽⁴⁾	1.43%	1.55%	1.63%	1.68%	1.88%	1.73%	2.00%	1.84%	1.71%(8)	1 76%
Interest and fee expense ⁽⁵⁾		0.30%	0.33%	0.34%	0.39%	0.34%	0.47%	0.73%	1.35%	1.46%
Total expenses ⁽⁴⁾	1.76%	1.85%	1.96%	2.02%	2.27%	2.07%	2.47%	2.57%	3.06%(8)	3.22%
Net investment income	6.84%	7.49%	7.49%	7.44%	9.46%	9.00%	10.44%	8.45%	7.02%(8)	7.27%
Portfolio Turnover	21%	36%	42%	25%	15%	16%	44%	53%	$37\%^{(8)}$	41%
Senior Securities:										
Total preferred shares										
outstanding	4,806	4,806	4,806	4,806	4,806	4,806	4,806	4,394	5,240	5,240
Asset coverage per	ф	Φ.	Φ.	Φ.	A	Φ.	Φ.	Φ.	ф	Φ.
preferred share ⁽⁶⁾	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	89,369	88,894	76,248	88,406	75,757	77,172	75,739	56,919	72,138	76,963
Involuntary liquidation	07,507	00,074	70,240	00,100	13,131	77,172	13,137	30,717	72,130	70,703
preference per preferred	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
share ⁽⁷⁾										
	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Approximate market value										
per preferred share ⁽⁷⁾	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000
	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000

(1)

Computed using average common shares outstanding.

(2)

Returns are historical and are calculated by determining the percentage change in net asset value or market value with all distributions reinvested. Distributions are assumed to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Trust s dividend reinvestment plan.

(3)

Ratios do not reflect the effect of dividend payments to preferred shareholders.

(4)

Excludes the effect of custody fee credits, if any, of less than 0.005%.

(5)

Interest and fee expense relates to the liability for floating rate notes issued in conjunction with residual interest bond transactions.

(6)

Calculated by subtracting the Trust s total liabilities (not including the preferred shares) from the Trust s total assets, and dividing the result by the number of preferred shares outstanding.

(7)

Plus accumulated and unpaid dividends.

(8)

The investment adviser was allocated a portion of the Trust s operating expenses (equal to less than 0.005% of average daily net assets for the year ended November 30, 2007). Absent this allocation, total return would be lower.

Ratios based on net assets applicable to common shares plus preferred shares are presented below. Ratios do not reflect the effect of dividend payments to preferred shareholders and exclude the effect of custody fee credits, if any.

		Year Ended November 30,								
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Expense excluding interes	st 1.04%									
and fees		1.08%	1.13%	1.17%	1.25%	1.19%	1.26%	1.17%	$1.14\%^{(8)}$	1.17%
Interest and fee expense	0.23%	0.21%	0.23%	0.24%	0.26%	0.23%	0.29%	0.47%	0.90%	0.97%
Total expenses	1.27%	1.29%	1.36%	1.41%	1.51%	1.42%	1.55%	1.64%	$2.04\%^{(8)}$	2.14%
Net investment income	4.92%	5.23%	5.18%	5.19%	6.28%	6.15%	6.56%	5.40%	4.69%	4.83%

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

18

TRADING AND NAV INFORMATION

The Trust s common shares have traded both at a premium and a discount to NAV. The Trust cannot predict whether its shares will trade in the future at a premium or discount to NAV. The provisions of the 1940 Act generally require that the public offering price of common shares (less any underwriting commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the NAV per share of a company s common stock (calculated within 48 hours of pricing). The issuance of common shares may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for the Trust s common shares by increasing the number of common shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for the Trust s common shares. Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from NAV. See Additional Risk Considerations - Discount from or Premium to NAV.

In addition, the Trust s Board of Trustees has authorized the Trust to repurchase up to 10% of its outstanding common shares (as of the date of such authorization) in open-market transactions at a discount to NAV. The repurchase program does not obligate the Trust to purchase a specific amount of shares. The results of the repurchase program are disclosed in the Trust s annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. See Description of Capital Structure Repurchase of Common Shares and Other Discount Measures.

The following table sets forth for each of the periods indicated the high and low closing market prices for Common Shares on the NYSE, and the corresponding NAV per share and the premium or discount to NAV per share at which the Trust s Common Shares were trading as of such date.

NAV ner Share on Date

			11/11 per br	iaic on Date		
			C	of	NAV Premiu	ım/(Discount)
			Market Pric	ce High and	on Date of Ma	rket Price High
	Market	Price	Lo)W	and	Low
Fiscal Quarter Ended	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
2/29/2016	14.28	13.06	13.49	13.12	5.86%	(0.46)%
11/30/2015	13.39	12.53	13.02	12.57	2.84%	(0.32)%
8/31/2015	13.19	12.21	12.71	12.46	3.78%	(2.01)%
5/31/2015	13.89	12.97	13.33	12.66	4.20%	2.45%
2/28/2015	14.16	13.15	13.63	13.16	3.89%	(0.08%)
11/30/2014	13.35	12.49	12.96	12.46	3.01%	0.24%
8/31/2014	12.86	12.12	12.22	11.87	5.24%	2.11%
5/31/2014	12.84	11.40	12.13	11.14	5.85%	2.33%
2/28/2014	11.51	10.16	11.14	10.44	3.32%	(2.68)%

The last reported sale price, NAV per share and percentage premium to NAV per share of the Common Shares as of March 22, 2016 were \$ 14.37, \$ 13. 61 and 5.58 %, respectively. As of March 22, 2016, the Trust had 23, 767,367 Common Shares outstanding and net assets of the Trust were \$ 323,544,068 ...

The Trust

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust (the Trust) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company registered under the 1940 Act. The Trust was organized as a Massachusetts business trust on December 10, 1998 pursuant to an Agreement and Declaration of Trust governed by the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and commenced operations on January 29, 1999. The Trust s principal office is located at Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 and its telephone number is 1-800-225-6265.

On January 26, 1999, the Trust issued 14,000,000 Common Shares of beneficial interest, par value \$0.01 per share (Common Shares), pursuant to the initial public offering thereof. The Common Shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol EVN. Any new Common Shares issued in the Offering also will be listed on the NYSE and trade under this symbol. On March 1, 1999, the Trust issued 2,620 Series A and 2,620 Series B auction preferred shares (APS), of which 620 of each Series were subsequently redeemed. On May 28, 2009, in connection with the merger of the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust into the Trust, the Trust issued 5,027,606 Common Shares and 806 shares of Series CAPS in exchange for the common shares and APS, respectively, of the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust. On January 31, 2016 the Trust had 2,000 Series A, 2,000 Series B and 806 Series CAPS outstanding.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

19

The following provides information about the Trust s outstanding shares as of November 30, 2015:

		Amount Held by the	
		Trust	Amount
Class	Amount Authorized	or for its Account	Outstanding
Common Shares	Unlimited	0	23,759,672
APS, Series A	2,000	0	2,000
APS, Series B	2,000	0	2,000
APS, Series C	806	0	806

The Offering

The Trust may offer, from time to time, in one or more Offerings, up to 2,281,789 of Common Shares on terms to be determined at the time of the Offering. The Common Shares may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus (each, a prospectus supplement). You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in Common Shares. Common Shares may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by the Trust, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Trust and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale. See Plan of Distribution. The Trust may not sell any of Common Shares through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the particular Offering of Common Shares.

Use of Proceeds

It is expected that the net proceeds of the Offering will be invested in accordance with the Trust s investment objective and policies. The Trust anticipates that it will be possible to invest the proceeds of the Offering consistent with the Trust s investment objective and policies almost immediately.

Portfolio Composition

As of November 30, 2015, the following sets forth certain information with respect to the characteristics and composition of the Trust s investment portfolio:

Percentage of total investment portfolio invested in investment grade obligations	90.46%
Percentage of total investment portfolio invested in obligations rated below investment grade	6.41%
Percentage of total investment portfolio invested in obligations not rated	3.13%

Rating (1)	Mkt Value	Percent
AAA	87,020,962	15.1%
AA	263,186,385	45.8%
A	128,997,503	22.4%
BBB	40,908,107	7.1%
BB	31,609,037	5.5%

В	5,222,212	0.9%
Not rated	18,021,749	3.1%
Total	574,965,955	100.0%

(1)

Ratings: Using the higher of S&P s, Moody s or Fitch s ratings on the Trust s investments. S&P and Fitch rating categories may be modified further by a plus (+) or minus

(-) in AA, A, BBB, BB, B, and CCC ratings. Moody s rating categories may be modified further by a 1, 2 or 3 in Aa, A, Baa, Ba, B, and Caa ratings. These ratings include the ratings of the municipal obligations held by tender option bond trusts in which the Trust holds a residual interest.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

20

Investment Objective, Policies and Risks

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Trust s investment objective is to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax. This income will be earned by investing primarily in investment grade municipal obligations. Securities will be purchased and sold in an effort to maintain a competitive yield and to enhance return based upon the relative value of the securities available in the marketplace. Investments are based on the municipal securities research, trading and portfolio management of the Trust s investment adviser, Eaton Vance Management (Eaton Vance or the Adviser). The Trust s NAV and distribution rate will vary and may be affected by several factors, including changes in interest rates and the credit quality of municipal issuers. An investment in the Trust may not be appropriate for all investors, particularly those that are not subject to federal income tax. There is no assurance that the Trust will achieve its investment objective.

PORTFOLIO PARAMETERS

General composition of the Trust

During normal market conditions, substantially all of the Trust s total assets (at least 80%) will be invested in debt obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States, and the District of Columbia and their political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, the interest on which is exempt from regular federal income tax (municipal obligations). At least 65% of the Trust s total assets will normally be invested in municipal obligations rated at least investment grade at the time of investment (which are those rated Baa or higher by Moody s or BBB or higher by either S&P or by Fitch), or, if unrated, determined by Eaton Vance to be of at least investment grade quality. For the purposes of rating restrictions, if securities are rated differently by the Rating Agencies, the higher rating is used. From time to time, the Trust may hold a significant amount of municipal obligations not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (Rating Agency). When the Trust invests in unrated municipal obligations, it may be more dependent on Eaton Vance s research capabilities than when it invests in rated municipal obligations.

The Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch (but no more than 30% of total assets may be rated lower than B by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch) and unrated municipal obligations considered to be of comparable quality by Eaton Vance. Investment in municipal obligations of below investment grade quality involves special risks as compared with investment in higher grade municipal obligations. These risks include greater sensitivity to a general economic downturn, greater market price volatility and less secondary market trading. Securities rated below investment grade are commonly known as junk bonds. Such securities are regarded, on balance, as predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and repay principal owed. For a description of municipal obligation ratings, see Appendix A to the Statement of Additional Information.

The foregoing credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Trust is not required to dispose of a security in the event that a Rating Agency downgrades its assessment of the credit characteristics of a particular issue or withdraws its assessment. Credit quality can change from time to time, and recently issued credit ratings may not fully reflect the actual risks posed by a particular security or the issuer—s current financial condition.

During unusual market conditions, the Trust may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objective and other policies.

Municipal obligations

Municipal obligations include bonds, notes and commercial paper issued by a municipality, a group of municipalities or participants in qualified issues of municipal debt for a wide variety of both public and private purposes. General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer s pledge of its faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. General obligation bonds issued by municipalities can be adversely affected by economic downturns and the resulting decline in tax revenues, pension funding risk, other post-employment benefit risk, budget imbalances, taxing ability risk, lack of political willpower and federal funding risk, among others. Revenue bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a particular facility or class of facilities or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special excise tax or other specific revenue source such as payments from the user of the facility being financed and can be adversely affected by the negative economic viability of the facility or revenue source. Municipal obligations also include municipal leases and participations in municipal leases. An issuer s obligation under such leases is often subject to the appropriation by a legislative body, on an annual or other basis, of funds for the payment of the obligations.

Certain municipal obligations may be purchased on a when-issued basis, which means that payment and delivery occur on a future settlement date. The price and yield of such securities are generally fixed on the date of commitment to purchase. The values of zero coupon bonds and principal only strips are subject to greater fluctuation in response to changes in market interest

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

21

rates than bonds that pay interest currently. The Trust accrues income on these investments and is required to distribute that income each year. The Trust may be required to sell securities to obtain cash needed for income distributions.

The interest on municipal obligations is (in the opinion of the bond issuer s counsel) generally exempt from regular federal income tax. Interest income from certain types of municipal obligations may be subject to the AMT for individuals. Distributions to corporate investors also may be subject to the AMT. The Trust may not be suitable for investors subject to the AMT.

Municipal lease obligations (MLOs) and certificates of participation

MLOs are obligations in the form of a lease, installment purchase or conditional sales contract (which typically provide for the title to the leased asset to pass to the governmental issuer) that is issued by state or local governments to acquire equipment and facilities. Interest income from MLOs is generally exempt from local and state taxes in the state of issuance. MLOs, like other municipal debt obligations, are subject to the risk of non-payment. Although MLOs do not constitute general obligations of the issuer for which the issuer s unlimited taxing power is pledged, a lease obligation is frequently backed by the issuer s covenant to budget for, appropriate and make the payments due under the lease obligation. However, certain lease obligations contain non-appropriation clauses, which provide that the issuer has no obligation to make lease or installment purchase payments in future years unless money is appropriated for such purpose on a yearly basis. Although non-appropriation lease obligations may be secured by the leased property, disposition of the property in the event of foreclosure might prove difficult. Participations in municipal leases are undivided interests in a portion of the total obligation. Participations entitle their holders to receive a pro rata share of all payments under the lease.

MLOs and participations therein represent a type of financing that may not have the depth of marketability associated with more conventional securities and, as such, they may be less liquid than conventional securities. Certain MLOs may be deemed illiquid, unless determined by the Adviser, pursuant to guidelines adopted by the Trust s Board of Trustees (Board), to be liquid securities. The Adviser will consider the factors it believes are relevant to the marketability of the obligation, to the extent that information regarding such factor is available to the Adviser and pertinent to the liquidity determination, which may include: (1) the willingness of dealers to bid for the obligation; (2) the number of dealers willing to purchase or sell the obligation and the number of other potential buyers; (3) the frequency of trades and quotes for the obligation; (4) the nature of the marketplace trades, including the time needed to dispose of the obligation, the method of soliciting offers, and the mechanics of transfer; (5) the willingness of the governmental issuer to continue to appropriate funds for the payment of the obligation; (6) how likely or remote an event of non-appropriation may be, which depends in varying degrees on a variety of factors, including those relating to the general creditworthiness of the governmental issuer, its dependence on its continuing access to the credit markets, and the importance to the issuer of the equipment, property or facility covered by the lease or contract; (7) an assessment of the likelihood that the lease may or may not be cancelled; and (8) other factors and information unique to the obligation in determining its liquidity.

The ability of issuers of MLOs to make timely lease payments may be adversely impacted in general economic downturns and as relative governmental cost burdens are allocated and reallocated among federal, state and local governmental units. Such non-payment would result in a reduction of income from and value of the obligation. Issuers of MLOs might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. In the event of bankruptcy of such an issuer, holders of MLOs could experience delays and limitations with respect to the collection of principal and interest on such MLOs and may not, in all circumstances, be able to collect all principal and interest to which it is entitled. To enforce its rights in the event of a default in lease payments, the Trust might take possession of and manage the assets securing the issuer s obligations on such securities or otherwise incur costs to protect its right, which may increase the Trust s operating expenses and adversely affect the net asset value of the Trust. When the lease contains a non-appropriation clause, however, the failure to pay would not be a default and the Trust would not have the right to take possession of the assets. Any income derived from the Trust s ownership or operation of such assets may not be tax-exempt.

Pre-refunded municipal securities

The principal of, and interest on, pre-refunded municipal obligations are no longer paid from the original revenue source for the securities. Instead, the source of such payments is typically an escrow fund consisting of U.S. government securities. The assets in the escrow fund are derived from the proceeds of refunding bonds issued by the same issuer as the pre-refunded municipal obligations. Issuers of municipal obligations use this advance refunding technique to obtain more favorable terms with respect to securities that are not yet subject to call or redemption by the issuer. For example, advance refunding enables an issuer to refinance debt at lower market interest rates, restructure debt to improve cash flow or eliminate restrictive covenants in the indenture or other governing instrument for the pre-refunded municipal obligations. However, except for a change in the revenue source from which principal and interest payments are made, the pre-refunded municipal obligations remain outstanding on their original terms until they mature or are redeemed by the issuer.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

22

Private activity bonds

Private activity bonds, formerly referred to as industrial development bonds, are issued by or on behalf of public authorities to obtain funds to provide privately operated housing facilities, airport, mass transit or port facilities, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal or hazardous waste treatment or disposal facilities and certain local facilities for water supply, gas or electricity. Other types of private activity bonds, the proceeds of which are used for the construction, equipment, repair or improvement of privately operated industrial or commercial facilities, may constitute municipal obligations, although the current federal tax laws place substantial limitations on the size of such issues. Interest on certain private activity bonds issued after August 7, 1986 is exempt from regular federal income tax, but such interest (including a distribution by the Trust derived from such interest) is treated as a tax preference item which could subject the recipient to or increase the recipient s liability for the AMT. For corporate shareholders, the Trust s distributions derived from interest on all municipal obligations (whenever issued) are included in adjusted current earnings for purposes of the AMT as applied to corporations (to the extent not already included in alternative minimum taxable income as income attributable to private activity bonds).

Zero-coupon bonds

Some of the securities in which the Trust invests may include so-called zero-coupon bonds, whose values are subject to greater fluctuation in response to changes in market interest rates than bonds that pay interest currently. Zero-coupon bonds are issued at a significant discount from face value and pay interest only at maturity rather than at intervals during the life of the security. The Trust is required to take into account income from zero-coupon bonds on a current basis, even though it does not receive that income currently in cash, and the Trust is required to distribute substantially all of its income for each taxable year. Thus, the Trust may have to sell other investments to obtain cash needed to make income distributions.

Residual interest bonds

Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. To initiate a residual interest bond investment, the Trust may sell a bond it holds to the SPV for cash. At the same time, the Trust buys a residual interest in the assets and cash flows of the SPV, the assets of which consist of a bond that is identical to that sold to the SPV by the Trust (the SPV Bond). The SPV also issues and sells Floating-Rate Notes to third parties. The Floating-Rate Notes have interest rates that generally reset weekly based on changes in a reference interest rate (such as LIBOR, or SIFMA Municipal Bond Swap Index) and their holders have the option to tender to the SPV for redemption at par value at each reset date. The income earned on the SPV Bond is, in effect, first used to pay the interest payable on the Floating-Rate Note, with any remaining income then going to the residual interest bond. The holder of the Floating-Rate Note effectively holds a demand obligation that bears interest at the prevailing short-term, tax-exempt rate. As the holder of the residual interest bond, the Trust receives the residual cash flow from the SPV.

A residual interest bond investment held by the Trust generally gives the Trust the right (1) to cause the holders of the Floating-Rate Notes to tender their notes at par value and (2) to require the SPV to terminate and transfer the SPV Bond to the Trust. Should the Trust exercise this right, it would generally pay the SPV the par value of the Floating-Rate Notes and exchange the residual interest bond for the underlying SPV Bond. The SPV also may be terminated upon the occurrence of certain termination events as defined in the SPV s trust agreement, such as a downgrade in the credit quality of the underlying SPV Bond, bankruptcy of or payment failure by the issuer of the SPV Bond, the inability to remarket Floating-Rate Notes that have been tendered due to insufficient buyers in the market or the SPV s failure to obtain renewal of the liquidity support agreement provided for the Floating-Rate Notes. The Trust may enter into shortfall and forbearance agreements with brokers by which the Trust agrees to reimburse the broker , in certain circumstances, for the difference between the liquidation value of the SPV Bond and the liquidation value of the Floating-Rate Notes, as well as shortfalls in interest cash flows. Such agreements may expose the Trust to a risk of loss that exceeds its investment in the residual interest bonds. Absent a shortfall and forbearance

agreement, the Trust would not be required to make such a reimbursement.

The Trust will segregate or earmark liquid assets at its custodian equal to the value of economic leverage created by residual interest bonds, whether initiated by the Trust or purchased on the secondary market.

Investments in residual interest bonds typically offer the potential for yields exceeding the yields available on fixed rate bonds with comparable credit quality and maturity. Because the residual interest bond is an inverse floating rate security and only pays a residual income, compared to fixed rate municipal bonds, the value of residual interest bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. These securities tend to underperform the market for fixed rate bonds in a rising long-term interest rate environment, but tend to outperform the market for fixed rate bonds when long-term interest rates decline. Moreover, the income earned on such bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. When residual interest bonds are held by the Trust, an increase in short- or long-term market interest rates may adversely affect the income received from such bonds or the net asset value of Common Shares. See Use of Leverage. Certain existing residual interest bonds were restructured in order to comply with new banking regulations effective in July 2015

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

23

while other existing residual interest bonds must do so by July 2016. There can be no assurance that existing residual interest bonds can be restructured or, if unwound, that the Fund will be able to reinvest assets from unwound residual interest bonds and achieve the same level of return.

As of November 30, 2015, 21.8 % of the Trust s net assets were invested in residual interest bonds.

As of November 30, 2015, the actual leverage attributable to the floating rate notes was 49.4 % of the Trust s net assets.

Short-term floating rate securities

The Trust may also invest in Floating-Rate Notes, as described above, issued by SPVs. The short-term floating rate security will be linked to a reference interest rate (such as LIBOR or the SIFMA Municipal Bond Swap Index) and the SPV s income will be used to pay the coupon on the Floating-Rate Notes. Generally, the interest rate earned Floating-Rate Notes will be based upon the market rates for municipal obligations with maturities or remarketing provisions that are comparable in duration to the periodic interval of the tender option, which may vary from weekly, to monthly, to extended periods of one year or multiple years. Since the option feature has a shorter term than the final maturity or first call date of the underlying bond deposited in the trust, the Trust as the holder of the Floating-Rate Notes relies upon the terms of the agreement with the financial institution furnishing the option as well as the credit strength of that institution. As further assurance of liquidity, the terms of the SPV provide for a liquidation of the SPV Bond and the application of the proceeds to pay off the Floating-Rate Notes. The SPVs that are organized to issue both Floating-Rate Notes and residual interest bonds generally include liquidation triggers to protect the investor in the Floating-Rate Notes.

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT PRACTICES

When-issued securities

The Trust may purchase securities on a when-issued basis, which means that payment and delivery occur on a future settlement date. The price and yield of such securities are generally fixed on the date of commitment to purchase. However, the market value of the securities may fluctuate prior to delivery and upon delivery the securities may be worth more or less than the Trust agreed to pay for them. The Trust may be required to maintain a segregated account of liquid assets equal to outstanding purchase commitments. The Trust may also purchase instruments that give the Trust the option to purchase a municipal obligation when and if issued.

Futures transactions

The Trust may purchase and sell various kinds of financial futures contracts and options thereon to seek to hedge against changes in interest rates or for other risk management or investment purposes. Futures contracts may be based on various debt securities and securities indices. Such transactions involve a risk of loss or depreciation due to unanticipated adverse changes in securities prices, which may exceed the Trust s initial investment in these contracts. The Trust will only purchase or sell futures contracts or related options in compliance with the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. These transactions involve transaction costs. There can be no assurance that Eaton Vance s use of futures will be advantageous to the Trust. Distributions by the Trust of any gains realized on the Trust s transactions in futures and options on futures will be taxable.

Interest rate swaps and forward rate contracts

Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by the Trust with another party of their respective commitments to pay or receive interest, e.g., an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments. The Trust will only enter into interest rate swaps on a net basis, i.e., the two payment streams are netted out with the Trust receiving or paying, as

the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. The Trust may also enter forward rate contracts. Under these contracts, the buyer locks in an interest rate at a future settlement date. If the interest rate on the settlement date exceeds the lock rate, the buyer pays the seller the difference between the two rates. If the lock rate exceeds the interest rate on the settlement date, the seller pays the buyer the difference between the two rates. Any such gain received by the Trust would be taxable.

If the other party to an interest rate swap or forward rate contract defaults, the Trust s risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that the Trust is contractually entitled to receive that is in excess of collateral posted by the Trust s counterparty in respect of such liability. The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Trust s obligations over its entitlements will be maintained in a segregated account by the Trust s custodian. The Trust will not enter into any interest rate swap or forward rate contract unless the claims-paying ability of the other party thereto is considered to be investment grade by the Adviser. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, the Trust will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. These instruments are traded in the over-the-counter market.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

24

Investment company securities

The Trust may invest in the securities of other investment companies. These securities include shares of other closed-end funds, open-end investment companies (i.e., mutual funds), exchange-traded funds (often referred to as ETFs) and business development companies that invest primarily in municipal obligations of the types in which the Trust may invest directly. In addition to providing tax-exempt income, such securities may provide capital appreciation. In addition, the Trust may invest a portion of its assets in pooled investment vehicles (other than investment companies) that invest primarily in municipal obligations of the types in which the Trust may invest directly. Such investments, which may also be leveraged and subject to similar risks as the Trust, will not exceed 10% of the Trust s gross assets. To the extent that the Trust invests in other investment companies, the Trust must bear these expenses in addition to the expenses of its own operation. The Trust will not invest in other investment companies that are affiliated with Eaton Vance.

INVESTMENT PROCESS

A team of Eaton Vance investment professionals is responsible for the overall management of the Trust s investments. The Trust s investments are actively managed, and may be bought or sold on a daily basis. The Adviser uses a variety of techniques that are designed to help control risk and seek to minimize the Trust s exposure to loss of principal value due to defaults and declines in the value of portfolio investments. There is no guarantee that it will be successful in its investment objective.

The Adviser s staff monitors the credit quality and price of securities and instruments held by the Trust, as well as other securities and instruments that are available for investment. The Trust is not required to dispose of an investment in the event that a Rating Agency downgrades its assessment of the credit characteristics of a particular issue or withdraws its assessment, including in the event of a default. The Adviser s process for selecting obligations for purchase and sale emphasizes the creditworthiness of the issuer or other person obligated to repay the obligation and the relative value of the obligation in the market. In evaluating creditworthiness, the Adviser considers ratings assigned by Rating Agencies and generally performs additional credit and investment analysis.

Portfolio turnover

The Trust cannot accurately predict its portfolio turnover rate, but its historical annual turnover rate over the last five years has been between 15% and 42% (excluding turnover of securities and obligations having a maturity of one year or less). For the fiscal years ended November 30, 2015 and November 30, 2014, the Trust s portfolio turnover rates were 21% and 36%, respectively. The Trust may engage in active short-term trading to benefit from yield disparities among different issues, to seek short-term profits or for other reasons. Such trading will increase the Trust s rate of turnover and may increase the incidence of net short-term capital gains which, upon distribution by the Trust, are taxable to Common Shareholders as ordinary income.

USE OF LEVERAGE

As described herein, the Trust may invest in residual interest bonds, which have the economic effect of leverage. In addition, the Trust currently uses leverage created by issuing APS and iMTP .. On March 9, 1999, the Trust issued 2,620 Series A and 2,620 Series B APS, with a liquidation preference per share of \$25,000 plus accumulated but unpaid dividends. As of November 30, 2015, 620 Series A and 620 Series B APS had been redeemed. On May 27, 2009, in connection with the merger of the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust into the Trust, the Trust issued 5,027,606 Common Shares and 806 shares of Series C APS in exchange for the common shares and APS, respectively, to the Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust. The APS have seniority over the Common Shares. As of November 30, 2015, the Trust had no outstanding borrowings, but did have leverage in the form of residual interest bonds in addition to the outstanding APS. On February 26, 2016, the Fund repurchased 1,651 shares of Series A, 1,815 shares of Series B and 749 shares of Series C APS at a price per share equal to 94.5% of the

liquidation preference per share (or \$23,625 per share) and issued 2,720 shares of iMTP with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 plus the amount of any accumulated but unpaid dividends. The Adviser anticipates that the use of leverage (from such issuance of the APS, borrowings and investment in residual interest bonds) will result in higher income to Common Shareholders over time. Use of financial leverage creates an opportunity for increased income but, at the same time, creates special risks. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will successful.

The costs of the financial leverage program (from the issuance of preferred shares, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) are borne by Common Shareholders and consequently result in a reduction of the NAV of Common Shares. During periods in which the Trust is using leverage, the fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Trust did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Trust s gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares, borrowings and investment in residual interest bonds. In this regard, holders of debt or preferred securities do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds, which means that Common Shareholders effectively bear the entire advisory fee.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

25

Leverage creates risks for holders of the Common Shares, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares. There is a risk that fluctuations in the distribution rates on any outstanding preferred shares may adversely affect the return to the holders of the Common Shares. If the income from the investments purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the return on the Trust will be less than if leverage had not been used, and, therefore, the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders will be reduced. The Adviser in its best judgment nevertheless may determine to maintain the Trust s leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate in the circumstances.

Changes in the value of the Trust s investment portfolio (including investments bought with the proceeds of leverage) will be borne entirely by the Common Shareholders. If there is a net decrease (or increase) in the value of the Trust s investment portfolio, the leverage will decrease (or increase) the NAV per Common Share to a greater extent than if the Trust were not leveraged. During periods in which the Trust is using leverage, the fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Trust did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Trust s gross assets, including the proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares, borrowings and investment in residual interest bonds. As discussed under Description of capital structure, the Trust s issuance of preferred shares may alter the voting power of Common Shareholders.

Capital raised through leverage will be subject to distribution and/or interest payments, which may exceed the income and appreciation on the assets purchased. The issuance of preferred shares involves offering expenses and other costs and may limit the Trust s freedom to pay distributions on Common Shares or to engage in other activities. The issuance of a class of preferred shares having priority over the Common Shares creates an opportunity for greater return per Common Share, but at the same time such leveraging is a speculative technique that will increase the Trust s exposure to capital risk. Unless the income and appreciation, if any, on assets acquired with offering proceeds exceed the cost of issuing additional classes of securities (and other Trust expenses), the use of leverage will diminish the investment performance of the Common Shares compared with what it would have been without leverage.

The Trust is subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more Rating Agencies that issued ratings for preferred shares issued by the Trust. These guidelines impose asset coverage or Trust composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Trust by the 1940 Act. These covenants or guidelines do not currently and are not expected to impede Eaton Vance in managing the Trust s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies and it is not anticipated that they will so impeded Eaton Vance in the future.

Under the 1940 Act, the Trust is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the total asset value of the Trust s portfolio is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares plus the amount of any senior security representing indebtedness (*i.e.*, such liquidation value and amount of indebtedness may not exceed 50% of the Trust s total assets). In addition, the Trust is not permitted to declare any cash distribution on its Common Shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the NAV of the Trust s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such distribution) is at least 200% of such liquidation value plus amount of indebtedness. The Trust intends, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem preferred shares, from time to time, to maintain coverage of any preferred shares of at least 200%. As of November 30, 2015, the outstanding APS represented 46.9% leverage, and there was an asset coverage of the APS of 357%. Normally, holders of the Common Shares will elect six of the Trustees of the Trust and holders of any preferred shares will elect two. In the event the Trust fails to pay distributions on its preferred shares for two years, preferred shareholders would be entitled to elect a majority of the Trustees until the preferred distributions in arrears are paid.

Under the 1940 Act, the Trust is not permitted to incur indebtedness, including through the issuance of debt securities, unless immediately thereafter the total asset value of the Trust s portfolio is at least 300% of the liquidation value of the outstanding indebtedness (*i.e.*, such liquidation value may not exceed 33 1/3% of the Trust s total assets). In addition, the Trust is not permitted to declare any cash distribution on its Common Shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the NAV of the Trust s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such distribution) is at least 300% of such liquidation value. If the Trust borrows money or enters into a commercial paper program, the Trust

intends, to the extent possible, to retire outstanding debt, from time to time, to maintain coverage of any outstanding indebtedness of at least 300%. As of January 31, 2016, there were no outstanding borrowings. Leverage created through the use of residual interest bonds is not considered to be indebtedness pursuant to the 1940 Act.

To qualify for federal income taxation as a regulated investment company, the Trust must distribute in each taxable year at least 90% of its net investment income (including net interest income and net short-term gain). The Trust also will be required to distribute annually substantially all of its income and capital gain, if any, to avoid imposition of a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax. If the Trust is precluded from making distributions on the Common Shares because of any applicable asset coverage requirements, the terms of the preferred shares may provide that any amounts so precluded from being distributed, but required to be distributed for the Trust to meet the distribution requirements for qualification as a regulated investment company, will be

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

26

paid to the holders of the preferred shares as a special distribution. This distribution can be expected to decrease the amount that holders of preferred shares would be entitled to receive upon redemption or liquidation of the shares.

Successful use of a leveraging strategy may depend on the Adviser s ability to predict correctly interest rates and market movements, and there is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed.

Residual interest bonds

Residual interest bonds create investment leverage in the Trust because they provide more than one dollar of exposure to municipal bonds for each dollar the Trust invests in them. Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. To initiate a residual interest bond investment, the Trust may sell a bond it holds to a SPV for cash. At the same time, the Trust buys a residual interest in the assets and cash flows of the SPV, the assets of which are identical to that sold to the SPV by the Trust (the SPV Bond). The SPV also issues and sells Floating-Rate Notes to third parties. The Floating-Rate Notes have interest rates that generally reset weekly based on changes in a reference interest rate (such as LIBOR or the SIFMA Municipal Bond Swap Index) and their holders have the option to tender to the SPV for redemption at par value at each reset date. The income earned on the SPV Bond is, in effect, first used to pay the interest payable on the Floating-Rate Note, with any remaining income then going to the residual interest bond. The holder of the Floating-Rate Note effectively holds a demand obligation that bears interest at the prevailing short-term, tax-exempt rate. As the holder of the residual interest bond, the Trust receives the residual cash flow from the SPV.

A residual interest bond investment held by the Trust generally gives the Trust the right (1) to cause the holders of the Floating-Rate Notes to tender their notes at par value and (2) to require the SPV to terminate and transfer the SPV Bond to the Trust. Should the Trust exercise this right, it would generally pay the SPV the par value of the Floating-Rate Notes and exchange the residual interest bond for the underlying SPV Bond. The SPV also may be terminated upon the occurrence of certain termination events as defined in the SPV s trust agreement, such as a downgrade in the credit quality of the underlying SPV Bond, bankruptcy of or payment failure by the issuer of the SPV Bond, the inability to remarket Floating-Rate Notes that have been tendered due to insufficient buyers in the market or the SPV s failure to obtain renewal of the liquidity support agreement provided for the Floating-Rate Notes. The Trust may enter into shortfall and forbearance agreements with brokers by which the Trust agrees to reimburse the broker , in certain circumstances, for the difference between the liquidation value of the SPV Bond and the liquidation value of the Floating-Rate Notes, as well as shortfalls in interest cash flows. Such agreements may expose the Trust to a risk of loss that exceeds its investment in the residual interest bonds. Absent a shortfall and forbearance agreement, the Trust would not be required to make such a reimbursement.

The Trust will segregate or earmark liquid assets at its custodian equal to the value of economic leverage created by residual interest bonds, whether initiated by the Trust or purchased on the secondary market.

Investments in residual interest bonds typically offer the potential for yields exceeding the yields available on fixed rate bonds with comparable credit quality and maturity. Because the residual interest bond is an inverse floating rate security and only pays a residual income, compared to fixed rate municipal bonds, the value of residual interest bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. These securities tend to underperform the market for fixed rate bonds in a rising long-term interest rate environment, but tend to outperform the market for fixed rate bonds when long-term interest rates decline. Moreover, the income earned on such bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. When residual interest bonds are held by the Trust, an increase in short- or long-term market interest rates may adversely affect the income received from such bonds or the net asset value of Common Shares. Certain existing residual interest bonds were restructured in order to comply with new banking regulations effective in July 2015 while other existing residual interest bonds must do so by July 2016. There can be no assurance that existing residual interest bonds can be restructured or, if unwound, that

the Fund will be able to reinvest assets from unwound residual interest bonds and achieve the same level of return.

The following table is designed to illustrate the effect on the return to a holder of the Common Shares of leverage in the amount of approximately 46.89 % of the Trust s gross assets, assuming hypothetical annual returns of the Trust s portfolio of minus 10% to plus 10%. As the table shows, leverage generally increases the return to Common Shareholders when portfolio return is positive and greater than the cost of leverage and decreases the return when the portfolio return is negative or less than the cost of leverage. The figures appearing in the table are hypothetical and actual returns may be greater or less than those appearing in the table.

Assumed portfolio return (net of expenses) (10)% (5)% 0% 5% 10% Corresponding Common Share return assuming 46.89 % leverage (19.26)% (9.84)% (0.43)% 8.98% 18.40%

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

27

ADDITIONAL RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in any investment company security involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or even that you may lose part or all of your investment.

Discount from or premium to NAV

The Offering will be conducted only when Common Shares of the Trust are trading at a price equal to or above the Trust s NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Trust s Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to net asset value. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Trust s NAV may decrease.

Secondary market for the Common Shares

The issuance of Common Shares through the Offering may have an adverse effect on the secondary market for the Common Shares. The increase in the amount of the Trust soutstanding Common Shares resulting from the Offering may put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Trust. Common Shares will not be issued pursuant to the Offering at any time when Common Shares are trading at a price lower than a price equal to the Trust s NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions.

The Trust also issues Common Shares of the Trust through its dividend reinvestment plan. See Dividend reinvestment plan. Common Shares may be issued under the plan at a discount to the market price for such Common Shares, which may put downward pressure on the market price for Common Shares of the Trust.

When the Common Shares are trading at a premium, the Trust may also issue Common Shares of the Trust that are sold through transactions effected on the NYSE. The increase in the amount of the Trust s outstanding Common Shares resulting from that offering may also put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Trust.

The voting power of current shareholders will be diluted to the extent that such shareholders do not purchase shares in any future Common Share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if the Adviser is unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, the Trust s per share distribution may decrease (or may consist of return of capital) and the Trust may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

Investment and market risk

An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Trust, which will generally trade in the over-the-counter (OTC) markets. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of distributions.

Interest rate and income risk

The prices of municipal obligations tend to fall as interest rates rise. When interest rates decline, the value of municipal obligations held by the Trust can be expected to rise. Interest rate risk is the risk that the municipal obligations in the Trust s portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. These risks may be greater in the current market environment because of prevailing low interest rates. In typical market interest rate environments, the prices of longer-term municipal obligations tend to fluctuate more in price in response to changes in market interest rates than prices of shorter-term municipal obligations. A decline in the prices of the municipal obligations owned by the Trust would cause a decline in the NAV of the Trust, which could adversely affect the trading price of the Common Shares. This risk is usually greater among municipal obligations with longer maturities or durations. Although the Trust has no policy governing the maturities or durations of its investments, the Trust expects that it will generally invest in a portfolio of longer-term securities, generally with maturities of 10 years or greater. This means that the Trust s share NAV and market price per share will fluctuate more in response to changes in market interest rates than if the Trust invested primarily in shorter-term municipal obligations.

Market risk is often greater among certain types of income securities, such as zero-coupon bonds, which do not make regular interest payments. As interest rates change, these bonds often fluctuate in price more than coupon bonds that make regular interest payments. Because the Trust may invest in these types of income securities, it may be subject to greater market risk than a fund that invests only in current interest paying securities. The Trust may utilize certain strategies, including taking positions in futures or interest rate swaps and forward rate contracts, for the purpose of reducing the interest rate sensitivity of the portfolio and decreasing the Trust s exposure to interest rate risk, although there can be no assurance that it will do so or that such strategies will be successful.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

28

The income investors receive from the Trust is based primarily on the interest it earns from its investments, which can vary widely over the short- and long-term. If long-term interest rates drop, investors income from the Trust over time could drop as well if the Trust purchases securities with lower interest coupons. This risk is magnified when prevailing short-term interest rates increase and the Trust holds residual interest bonds.

The Trust incurs economic leverage by investing in residual interest bonds. Compared to similar fixed-rate municipal bonds, the value of these bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. Moreover, the income earned on residual interest bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. Thus, when such bonds are held by the Trust, an increase in short- or long-term market interest rates may adversely affect the income received from such bonds or the NAV of the Trust s shares.

Call and reinvestment risks

If interest rates fall, it is possible that issuers of callable bonds with high interest coupons will call (or prepay) their bonds before their maturity date. If a call were exercised by the issuer during a period of declining interest rates, the Trust would likely replace such called security with a lower yielding security. If that were to happen, it could decrease the Trust s dividends and possibly could affect the market price of Common Shares. Similar risks exist when the Trust invests the proceeds from matured or traded municipal obligations at market interest rates that are below the Trust s current earnings rate.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one or more municipal bonds in the Trust s portfolio will decline in price, or fail to pay interest or principal when due, because the issuer of the bond experiences a decline in its financial status. Because the Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in below investment grade securities, it will be subject to a high level of credit risk. In general, lower rated municipal bonds carry a greater degree of risk that the issuer will lose its ability to make interest and principal payments, which could have a negative impact on the Trust s NAV or dividends. Securities rated in the fourth highest category (*i.e.*, Baa by Moody s or BBB by S&P or Fitch) are considered investment grade quality, but may have speculative characteristics.

The prices of lower grade securities are more sensitive to negative developments, such as a decline in the issuer s revenues or a general economic downturn, than are the prices of higher grade securities. Municipal securities of below investment grade quality are speculative with respect to the issuer s capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due and therefore involve a greater risk of default. Lower grade securities tend to be less liquid than investment grade securities and the market values of lower grade securities tend to be more volatile than investment grade securities.

Changes in the credit quality of the issuers of municipal obligations held by the Trust will affect the principal value of (and possibly the income earned on) such obligations. The credit quality of an issuer of municipal obligations may be affected by a variety of factors, including the issuer s tax base, the extent to which the issuer relies on federal or state aid, limitations on the taxing power of the issuer and changes in general economic conditions. Changes by Rating Agencies in their ratings of a security and in the ability of the issuer to make payments of principal and interest may also affect the value of the Trust s investments. The amount of information about the financial condition of an issuer of municipal obligations may not be as extensive as that made available by corporations whose securities are publicly traded.

The Trust may invest in municipal leases and participations in municipal leases. The obligation of the issuer to meet its obligations under such leases is often subject to the ongoing appropriation by the appropriate legislative body, on an annual or other basis, of funds for the payment of the obligations. Investments in municipal leases are thus subject to the risk that the legislative body will not make the necessary appropriation and the issuer will not otherwise be willing or able to meet its obligation.

In evaluating creditworthiness, the Adviser considers ratings assigned by Rating Agencies and generally performs additional credit and investment analysis. Credit ratings are based largely on the issuer's historical financial condition and the Rating Agency's investment analysis at the time of rating, and the rating assigned to any particular security is not necessarily a reflection of the issuer's current financial condition. The rating assigned to a security by a Rating Agency does not reflect assessment of the volatility of the security's market value or of the liquidity of an investment in the security. Credit quality in the sectors of the market can change from time to time, and recently issued credit ratings may not fully reflect the actual risks posed by a particular security.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

29

Liquidity risk

At times, a substantial portion of the Trust s assets may be invested in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or are subject to restrictions on resale, which includes residual interest bonds. The Trust, by itself or together with other accounts managed by Eaton Vance and its affiliates, at times may hold a major portion of all of such securities. Under adverse market or economic conditions or in the event of adverse changes in the financial condition of the issuer, the Trust could find it more difficult to sell such securities when Eaton Vance believes it is advisable to do so or may be able to sell such securities only at prices lower than if such securities were more widely held. Under such circumstances, it may also be more difficult to determine the fair value of such securities for purposes of computing the Trust s NAV.

The secondary market for some municipal obligations is less liquid than that for widely traded taxable debt obligations or widely traded municipal obligations. No established resale market exists for certain of the municipal obligations in which the Trust may invest. The Trust has no limitation on the amount of its assets that may be invested in securities that are not readily marketable or are subject to restrictions on resale. In certain situations, the Trust could find it more difficult to sell such securities at desirable times and/or prices. The Trust may not be able to readily dispose of such securities at prices that approximate those at which the Trust could sell such securities if they were more widely traded or at which the Trust has valued such securities and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Trust may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. In addition, the limited liquidity could affect the market price of the securities, thereby adversely affecting the Trust s NAV and ability to make distributions.

Municipal bond market risk

Investing in the municipal bond market involves certain risks. Certain securities in which the Trust will invest will not be registered with the SEC or any state securities commission and will not be listed on any national securities exchange. The amount of public information available about the municipal obligations in the Trust s portfolio is generally less than for corporate equities or bonds, and the investment performance of the Trust may, therefore, be more dependent on the analytical abilities of Eaton Vance than if the Trust were a stock fund or taxable bond fund.

The ability of municipal issuers to make timely payments of interest and principal may be diminished during general economic downturns and as governmental cost burdens are reallocated among federal, state and local governments. In addition, laws enacted in the future by Congress or state legislatures or referenda could extend the time for payment of principal and/or interest, or impose other constraints on enforcement of such obligations, or on the ability of municipalities to levy taxes. Issuers of municipal obligations might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. In the event of bankruptcy of an issuer, the Trust could experience delays in collecting principal and interest to which it is entitled, and may obtain only a limited recovery or no recovery in such circumstances. To enforce its rights in the event of default in the payment of interest or repayment of principal, or both, the Trust may take possession of and manage the assets securing the issuer s obligations on such securities, which may increase the Trust s operating expenses. Any income derived from the Trust s ownership or operation of such assets may not be tax-exempt.

Many state and municipal governments are under significant economic and financial stress. Current economic conditions may increase the likelihood that a municipal issuer will be unable to make timely payments of interest and principal or will default or seek protection under the bankruptcy laws and may increase the likelihood of legislation that will adversely effect the Trust s investments in municipal obligations. See Investment objective, policies and risks Additional risk considerations Current economic conditions risk.

The value of municipal securities generally may be affected by uncertainties in the municipal markets as a result of legislation or litigation, including legislation or litigation that changes the taxation of municipal securities or the rights of municipal security holders in the event of a bankruptcy. Certain provisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code governing such bankruptcies are unclear. Further, the application of state law to municipal security issuers could produce varying

results among the states or among municipal security issuers within a state. These uncertainties could have a significant impact on the prices of the municipal securities in which the Trust invests.

If the number of municipal borrowers and the amount of outstanding municipal securities contract, without corresponding reductions in investor demand for municipal securities, the Trust may have fewer investment alternatives, may invest in securities that it previously would have declined and may concentrate its investments in a smaller number of issuers.

Fixed income markets have recently experienced a period of relatively high volatility. As a result of the Federal Reserve s action to end its quantitative easing stimulus program as well as the possibility that it may unwind the program and its recent decision to raise the target fed funds rate, fixed income markets could experience continuing high volatility, which could negatively impact the Fund s performance.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

30

Insurance risk

Municipal obligations may be insured as to their scheduled payment of principal and interest. Although the insurance feature may reduce some financial risks, the premiums for insurance and the higher market price sometimes paid for insured obligations may reduce the current yield on the insured obligation. Insured obligations also may be secured by bank credit agreements or escrow accounts. Changes in the ratings of an insurer may affect the value of an insured obligation, and in some cases may even cause the value of a security to be less than a comparable uninsured obligation. The insurance does not guarantee the market value of the insured obligation or the net asset value of the Trust s shares. The credit rating of an insured obligation reflects the credit rating of the insurer, based on its claims-paying ability. The obligation of a municipal bond insurance company to pay a claim extends over the life of each insured obligation. Although defaults on insured municipal obligations have been low to date and municipal bond insurers have met their claims, there is no assurance this will continue. A higher than expected default rate could strain the insurer s loss reserves and adversely affect its ability to pay claims to bondholders. Because a significant portion of insured municipal obligations that have been issued and are outstanding is insured by a small number of insurance companies, an event involving one or more of these insurance companies, such as a credit rating downgrade, could have a significant adverse effect on the value of the municipal obligations insured by that insurance company and on the municipal bond markets as a whole.

Risks of MLOs and certificates of participation

MLOs and certificates of participation involve special risks not normally associated with general obligations or revenue bonds. MLOs are obligations in the form of a lease, installment purchase or conditional sales contract (which typically provide for the title to the leased asset to pass to the governmental issuer) that is issued by state or local governments to acquire equipment and facilities. Interest income from MLOs is generally exempt from local and state taxes in the state of issuance. MLOs, like other municipal debt obligations, are subject to the risk of non-payment. Although MLOs do not constitute general obligations of the issuer for which the issuer s unlimited taxing power is pledged, a lease obligation is frequently backed by the issuer s covenant to budget for, appropriate and make the payments due under the lease obligation. However, certain lease obligations contain non-appropriation clauses, which provide that the issuer has no obligation to make lease or installment purchase payments in future years unless money is appropriated for such purpose on a yearly basis, which function to render constitutional and statutory requirements for the issuance of debt inapplicable to such obligations. In addition, such leases or contracts may be subject to temporary abatement of payments in the event the governmental issuer is prevented from maintaining occupancy of the leased premises or utilizing the leased equipment. Although non-appropriation lease obligations may be secured by the leased property, disposition of the property in the event of foreclosure might prove difficult, time consuming and costly, and may result in a delay in recovering or the failure to fully recover ownership of the assets.

Participations in municipal leases are undivided interests in a portion of the total obligation or in an unmanaged pool of municipal leases or installment contracts. Certificates of participation involve the same risks as the underlying municipal leases. Participations entitle their holders to receive a pro rata share of all payments under the lease or pool of leases. In addition, the Trust may be dependent upon the municipal authority issuing the certificate of participation to exercise remedies with respect to an underlying lease. Certificates of participation also entail a risk of default or bankruptcy, both of the issuer of the municipal lease and also the municipal agency issuing the certificate of participation.

MLOs and participations therein represent a type of financing that may not have the depth of marketability associated with more conventional securities and, as such, they may be less liquid than conventional securities. Certain MLOs may be deemed illiquid, unless determined by the Adviser, pursuant to guidelines adopted by the Board, to be liquid securities. The Adviser will consider the factors it believes are relevant to the marketability of the obligation, to the extent that information regarding such factor is available to the Adviser and pertinent to the liquidity determination, which may include: (1) the willingness of dealers to bid for the obligation; (2) the number of dealers willing to purchase or sell the obligation and the number of other potential buyers; (3) the frequency of trades and quotes for the

obligation; (4) the nature of the marketplace trades, including the time needed to dispose of the obligation, the method of soliciting offers, and the mechanics of transfer; (5) the willingness of the governmental issuer to continue to appropriate funds for the payment of the obligation; (6) how likely or remote an event of non-appropriation may be, which depends in varying degrees on a variety of factors, including those relating to the general creditworthiness of the governmental issuer, its dependence on its continuing access to the credit markets, and the importance to the issuer of the equipment, property or facility covered by the lease or contract; (7) an assessment of the likelihood that the lease may or may not be cancelled; and (8) other factors and information unique to the obligation in determining its liquidity.

The ability of issuers of MLOs to make timely lease payments may be adversely impacted in general economic downturns and as relative governmental cost burdens are allocated and reallocated among federal, state and local governmental units. Such non-payment would result in a reduction of income from and value of the obligation. Issuers of MLOs might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. In the event of bankruptcy of such an issuer, holders of MLOs could experience delays and limitations with respect to the collection of principal and interest on such MLOs and may not, in all circumstances, be able to collect all principal

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

31

and interest to which it is entitled. To enforce its rights in the event of a default in lease payments, the Trust might take possession of and manage the assets securing the issuer—s obligations on such securities or otherwise incur costs to protect its right, which may increase the Trust—s operating expenses and adversely affect the net asset value of the Trust. When the lease contains a non-appropriation clause, however, the failure to pay would not be a default and the Trust would not have the right to take possession of the assets. Any income derived from the Trust—s ownership or operation of such assets may not be tax-exempt.

Current regulatory environment risk

Congress is currently actively considering significant changes to federal tax law, including changes to the tax-exempt status of such municipal bond interest. Any proposed or actual changes in such rates or exempt status, therefore, can significantly affect the demand for and supply, liquidity and marketability of municipal obligations. This could in turn affect the Trust s net asset value and ability to acquire and dispose of municipal obligations at desirable yield and price levels.

It is possible that government regulation of various types of derivative instruments, including futures and swap agreements, may limit or prevent the Trust from using such instruments as part of its investment strategy, which could negatively impact the Trust. For example, some legislative and regulatory proposals, such as those in the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act), would, upon implementation, impose limits on the maximum position that could be held by a single trader in certain contracts and would subject some derivatives transactions to new forms of regulation that could create barriers to some types of investment activity. Other provisions require many swaps to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on dealers that enter into swaps with a pension plan, endowment, retirement plan or government entity, and require banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. While many provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act must be implemented through future rulemaking, and any regulatory or legislative activity may not necessarily have a direct, immediate effect upon the Trust, it is possible that, upon implementation of these measures or any future measures, they could potentially limit or completely restrict the ability of the Trust to use these instruments as a part of its investment strategy, increase the costs of using these instruments or make them less effective. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which the Trust engages in derivative transactions also could prevent the Trust from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments, or may change the availability of certain investments.

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Trust. Legislation or regulation may change the way in which the Trust itself is regulated. The Adviser cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Trust sability to achieve its investment objective.

Current economic conditions risk

The financial crisis in the U.S. and global economies over the past several years, including the European sovereign debt crisis, has resulted, and may continue to result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets, both domestic and foreign, and in the net asset values of many investment companies, including to some extent the Trust. Conditions in the U.S. and global economies have resulted, and may continue to result, in fixed income instruments experiencing unusual liquidity issues, increased price volatility and, in some cases, credit downgrades and increased likelihood of default. The financial condition of federal, state and local governments may be sensitive to market events, which may, in turn, adversely affect the marketability of notes and bonds they issue. Recent declines in real estate prices and general business activity are reducing tax revenues of many state and local governments and could affect the economic viability of projects that are the sole source of revenue to support various private activity bonds. In addition, global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, which increases the possibilities that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in a different country or

region. Because the situation is widespread and largely unprecedented, it may be unusually difficult to identify both risks and opportunities using past models of the interplay of market forces, or to predict the duration of these market conditions. The severity or duration of these conditions may also be affected by policy changes made by governments or quasi-governmental organizations.

United States credit rating downgrade risk

On August 5, 2011, S&P lowered its long-term sovereign credit rating on the U.S. to AA+ from AAA with a negative outlook. Moody s affirmed the Aaa long-term sovereign credit rating of the U.S. on November 21, 2011 while maintaining its negative outlook. The downgrade by S&P and any future downgrades by other Rating Agencies could increase volatility in both stock and bond markets, result in higher interest rates and higher Treasury yields and increase borrowing costs generally. These events could have significant adverse effects on the economy generally and could result in significant adverse impacts on municipal issuers and the Trust. In addition, following S&P s downgrade of the U.S., the major Rating Agencies have also placed many municipalities on review for potential downgrades, which could impact the market price, liquidity and volatility of the municipal

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

32

securities held by the Trust in its portfolio. If the universe of municipal securities meeting the Trust s ratings and credit quality requirements shrinks, it may be more difficult for the Trust to meet its investment objective and the Trust s investments may become more concentrated in fewer issues.

State specific risk

The Trust has no current intention to invest 25% or more of its gross assets in municipal obligations of issuers located in the same state (or U.S. territory), but reserves the flexibility to do so in the future. If the Trust focuses its investments in any one state (or U.S. territory), the Trust may be more susceptible to adverse economic, political or regulatory occurrences affecting a particular state (or territory). Certain municipal bond issuers in Puerto Rico have recently experienced financial difficulties and rating agency downgrades, and two such issuers have defaulted on their payment obligations.

Sector concentration risk

The Trust may invest 25% or more of its total assets in municipal obligations of issuers located in the same economic sector, such as revenue obligations of health care facilities or hospitals, airport revenue obligations or industrial development bonds. This may make the Trust more susceptible to adverse economic, political, or regulatory occurrences affecting a particular state or economic sector. For example, health care related issuers are susceptible to changes in Medicaid reimbursement policies, and national and state health care legislation. As concentration increases, so does the potential for fluctuation in the NAV of the Trust s shares.

Below investment grade securities risk

As indicated above, the Trust may invest up to 35% of its total assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch (but not, with respect to more than 30% of its total assets, lower than B by each of Moody s, S&P and Fitch) and unrated municipal obligations that the Adviser considers to be of comparable quality. Such obligations are commonly called junk bonds and will have speculative characteristics in varying degrees. Below investment grade securities held by the Trust are subject to higher risk. Also, their yields and market values may fluctuate more than higher rated securities. Fluctuations in value do not affect the cash income from the securities, but are reflected in the Trust s net asset value. The greater risks and fluctuations in yield and value occur, in part, because investors generally perceive issuers of lower rated and unrated securities to be less creditworthy. These issuers may be particularly susceptible to market downturns, adverse economic or political events or other developments such as weather or other catastrophic events.

Secondary market trading in below investment grade securities may be less liquid than the market for higher grade securities. To the extent that there is no established market for some of the lower grade municipal obligations in which the Trust may invest, trading in such securities may be relatively inactive. The Adviser is responsible for determining the net asset value of the Trust, subject to the supervision of the Board. During periods of reduced market liquidity and in the absence of readily available market quotations for lower grade municipal obligations held in the Trust's portfolio, the ability of the Adviser to value the Trust's securities becomes more difficult and the Adviser's use of judgment may play a greater role in the valuation of the Trust's securities due to the reduced availability of reliable objective data. The effects of adverse publicity and investor perceptions may be more pronounced for securities for which no established market exists as compared with the effects on securities for which a regular market does exist. Further, the Trust may have more difficulty selling such securities in a timely manner and at their stated value or at the value at which the Trust is carrying them than would be the case for securities for which an established market does exist.

Municipal obligations held by the Trust that are initially rated below investment grade may subsequently be determined by the Adviser to be of investment grade quality for purposes of the Trust s investment policies if the securities subsequently are backed by escrow accounts containing U.S. Government obligations. The Trust may retain

in its portfolio an obligation that declines in quality, including defaulted obligations, if such retention is considered desirable by the Adviser. In the case of a defaulted obligation, the Trust may incur additional expense seeking recovery of its investment.

The Trust s credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Trust is not required to dispose of a security in the event that a Rating Agency downgrades its assessment of the credit characteristics of a particular issuer or withdraws its assessment. Any such downgrade may adversely affect the market price and liquidity of the security. The ratings of Rating Agencies represent their opinions as to the quality of the obligations which they undertake to rate. Ratings are relative and subjective and, although ratings may be useful in evaluating the safety of interest and principal payments, they do not evaluate the market value risk of such obligations.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

33

Unrated securities risk

The Trust may invest in unrated obligations for which Eaton Vance will make a credit quality determination for purposes of the Trust s credit quality policy. To the extent that the Trust invests in such unrated obligations, the Trust s credit quality will be more dependent on Eaton Vance s credit analysis than if the Trust invested in only rated obligations. Some unrated securities may not have an active trading market or may be difficult to value.

Residual interest bond risk

Residual interest bonds create investment leverage in the Trust because they provide more than one dollar of exposure to municipal bonds for each dollar the Trust invests in them. As a result, the value of residual interest bonds may increase or decrease at a rate that is a multiple of the rate by which the value of the underlying municipal bonds underlying the residual interest bonds increase or decrease. The market values of residual interest bonds will generally be more volatile than the market values of fixed rate tax-exempt securities. To seek to limit the volatility of these securities, the Trust may invest in residual interest bonds with shorter-term maturities or that contain limitations on the extent to which the interest rate may vary. The Trust may also use derivatives to offset the volatility of residual interest bonds.

Residual interest bonds pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. Because the residual interest bond is an inverse floating rate security and only pays a residual income, compared to fixed rate municipal bonds, the value of residual interest bonds will fluctuate to a greater extent in response to changes in prevailing long-term interest rates. These securities tend to underperform the market for fixed rate bonds in a rising long-term interest rate environment, but tend to outperform the market for fixed rate bonds when long-term interest rates decline. Moreover, the income earned on such bonds will fluctuate in response to changes in prevailing short-term interest rates. In the extreme, increases in short-term interest rates may eliminate the interest paid to the Trust by residual interest bond investments.

The SPV underlying a residual interest bond may be terminated by the sponsoring broker-dealer upon the occurrence of certain termination events, such as a downgrade in the credit quality of the underlying SPV Bond, bankruptcy of or payment failure by the issuer of the SPV Bond, the broker-dealer s inability to remarket Floating-Rate Notes that have been tendered due to insufficient buyers in the market or the SPV s failure to obtain renewal of the liquidity support agreement provided for the Floating-Rate Notes.

The Trust may enter into shortfall and forbearance agreements with an SPV s sponsoring broker-dealer by which the Trust agrees to reimburse the broker-dealer, in certain circumstances, for the difference between the liquidation value of the SPV Bond and the liquidation value of the Floating-Rate Notes, as well as shortfalls in interest cash flows. The SPV termination provisions and shortfall and forbearance agreements expose the Trust to risk of loss in SPV Bonds that may exceed its associated residual interest bond investments, and to the risk that it may be required to sell Trust assets to fulfill its obligations under the terms of the SPV with little or no advance notice, and that such sales may take place at inopportune times and/or unattractive prices.

Any economic effect of leverage through the Trust s investment in residual interest bonds will create an opportunity for increased net income and returns, but will also create the possibility that the Trust s long-term returns will be diminished if the cost of leverage exceeds the return on the residual interest bonds purchased with leverage by the Trust.

The amount of fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher if the Trust uses financial leverage because the fees will be calculated based on the Trust s gross assets. Gross assets include assets financed through the creation of SPVs, the issuance of preferred equity, borrowings and other forms of financial leverage, which may create a conflict of interest between Eaton Vance and the Common Shareholders.

Investments in residual interest bonds require the Trust to maintain segregated assets in accordance with applicable interpretations of the staff of the SEC. While the segregated assets may be invested in liquid securities, they may not be used for other operational purposes. Consequently, investment in residual interest bonds may limit the Trust s flexibility and may require the Trust to sell other portfolio securities to pay Trust expenses or to meet other obligations at time when it may be disadvantageous to do so. Certain existing residual interest bonds will have to be restructured in order to comply with new banking regulations effective in July 2015 or otherwise unwound while other existing residual interest bonds must do so by July 2016. There can be no assurance that existing residual interest bonds can be restructured or, if unwound, that the Fund will be able to reinvest assets from unwound residual interest bonds and achieve the same level of return.

Leverage risk

As discussed above, the Trust currently uses leverage created by issuing APS and iMTP and investing in residual interest bonds. The Trust will comply with the asset segregation requirements of the 1940 Act in making such investments. Residual interest bonds are securities that pay interest at rates that vary inversely with changes in prevailing short-term interest rates and provide the economic effect of leverage. The Adviser anticipates that the use of leverage (from the issuance of APS and iMTP, any borrowings, and residual interest bonds) may result in higher income to Common Shareholders over time. Leverage creates risks

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

34

for Common Shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares and the risk that fluctuations in dividend rates on APS shares and costs of borrowings may affect the return to Common Shareholders. APS dividends are based on the yields of short-term municipal obligations, while the proceeds of the Trust's offering are invested in longer-term municipal obligations, which typically have higher yields. To the extent the income derived from investments purchased with funds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Trust's distributions will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income from the investments purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders will be less than if leverage had not been used. In the latter case, Eaton Vance, in its best judgment, may nevertheless determine to maintain the Trust's leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate. While the Trust has preferred shares outstanding, an increase in short-term rates would also result in an increased cost of leverage, which would adversely affect the Trust's income available for distribution. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.

In addition, under current federal income tax law, the Trust is required to allocate a portion of any net realized capital gains or other taxable income to APS and iMTP holders. The terms of the Trust is APS and iMTP require the Trust to pay to any APS and iMTP holders additional dividends intended to compensate the APS and iMTP holders for taxes payable on any capital gains or other taxable income allocated to APS and iMTP. Any such additional dividends will reduce the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders. As discussed under Management of the Trust, the fee paid to Eaton Vance is calculated on the basis of the Trust is gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of APS and iMTP, borrowings and investment in residual interest bonds, so the fees will be higher when leverage is utilized. In this regard, holders of APS and iMTP do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds, which means that Common Shareholders effectively bear the entire advisory fee.

The APS have been rated AAA by S&P. iMTP has been rated AAA by S&P and Fitch. The Trust currently intends to seek to maintain these ratings or an equivalent credit rating from other Rating Agencies on the APS , iMTP or any preferred shares it issues. The Trust is subject to investment restrictions of the Rating Agencies as a result. Any bank lender in connection with a credit facility or commercial paper program may also impose specific restrictions as a condition to borrowing. Such restrictions imposed by a Rating Agency or lender may include asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Trust by the 1940 Act. These covenants or guidelines do not currently and are not expected to impede Eaton Vance in managing the Trust s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies and it is not anticipated that they will so impeded Eaton Vance in the future. See Description of capital structure Preferred shares.

Financial leverage may also be achieved through the purchase of certain derivative instruments. The Trust s use of derivative instruments exposes the Trust to special risks. See Investment objective, policies and risks Additional investment practices and Investment objective, policies, and risks Additional risk considerations.

Derivatives risk

In addition to investing in residual interest bonds, the Trust may invest without limitation in other derivative instruments (which are instruments that derive their value from another instrument, security or index) acquired for hedging purposes or investment purposes. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed amounts invested in these instruments. Derivative transactions, including options on securities and securities indices and other transactions in which the Trust may subject the Trust to increased risk of principal loss due to unexpected movements in securities prices and interest rates, and imperfect correlations between the Trust securities holdings and indices upon which derivative transactions are based. Derivatives can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses, and may have a potentially large impact on the Trust sepreformance. The Trust also will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to any OTC derivatives contracts entered into by the Trust. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Trust may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative

contract in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Trust may obtain only a limited recovery or no recovery in such circumstances. Derivatives may disproportionately increase losses and have a potentially large negative impact on the Trust s performance.

The use of derivatives to enhance income is considered to be speculative in nature. The use of derivatives may result in greater losses than if they had not been used, may require the Trust to sell or purchase portfolio securities at inopportune times or for prices other than current market value, may limit the amount of appreciation the Trust can realize on an investment or may cause the Trust to hold a security it might otherwise sell. Segregated liquid assets, amounts paid by the Trust as premiums and cash or other assets held in margin accounts with respect to derivatives transactions are not otherwise available to the Trust for investment or operational purposes. Certain derivative transactions may have economic characteristics similar to leverage. See Additional risk considerations Leverage Risk.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

35

Counterparty risk

Changes in the credit quality of the companies that serve as the Trust's counterparties with respect to its derivatives positions and liquidity providers for the Trust's residual interest bonds or other investments supported by another party's credit will affect the value of those instruments. Certain entities that have served as counterparties in the municipals markets have recently incurred significant financial hardships, including bankruptcy and material loss of credit standing as a result of exposure to investments that have experienced defaults or otherwise suffered extreme credit deterioration. As a result, such hardships have reduced these entities capital and called into question their continued ability to perform their obligations. By using derivatives or other instruments that expose the Trust to counterparties, the Trust assumes the risk that its counterparties could experience future financial hardship.

The counterparty risk for cleared derivatives is generally lower than for uncleared over-the-counter derivative transactions since generally a clearing organization becomes substituted for each counterparty to a cleared derivative contract and, in effect, guarantees the parties performance under the contract as each party to a trade looks only to the clearing organization for performance of financial obligations under the derivative contract. However, there can be no assurance that a clearing organization, or its members, will satisfy its obligations to the Trust.

Hedging risk

The Trust s use of derivatives or other transactions to reduce risks involves costs and will be subject to Eaton Vance s ability to predict correctly changes in the relationships of such hedge instruments to the Trust s portfolio holdings or other factors. No assurance can be given that Eaton Vance s judgment in this respect will be correct. In addition, no assurance can be given that the Trust will enter into hedging or other transactions at times or under circumstances in which it may be advisable to do so. Hedging transactions have risks, including the imperfect correlation between the value of such instruments and the underlying assets of the Trust, which creates the possibility that the loss on such instruments may be greater than the gain, if any, in the value of the underlying asset in the Trust s portfolio; the limited availability of such instruments; the loss of principal; the possible default of the other party to the transaction; illiquidity of the derivative investments; and the imperfect correlation between the tax-exempt and taxable markets. Furthermore, the ability to successfully use hedging transactions depends on the Eaton Vance s ability to predict pertinent market movements, which cannot be assured. Thus, the use of hedging transactions may result in losses greater than if they had not been used, may require the Trust to sell or purchase portfolio securities at inopportune times or for prices other than current market values, may limit the amount of appreciation the Trust can realize on an investment, or may cause the Trust to hold a security that it might otherwise sell.

Swaps risk

Whether the use of swap agreements will be successful will depend on the Adviser's ability to predict correctly whether certain types of reference instruments are likely to produce greater returns than other instruments. Swap agreements may be subject to contractual restrictions on transferability and termination and they may have terms of greater than seven days. The Trust's obligations under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owed to the Trust under the swap). Developments in the swaps market, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect the Trust's ability to terminate existing swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under such agreements, as well as to participate in swap agreements in the future. If there is a default by the counterparty to a swap, the Trust will have contractual remedies pursuant to the swap agreement, but any recovery may be delayed depending on the circumstances of the default.

Futures risk

Although some futures contracts call for making or taking delivery of the underlying reference instrument, generally these obligations are closed out prior to delivery by offsetting purchases or sales of matching futures contracts (same exchange, underlying security or index, and delivery month). Closing a futures contract sale is effected by purchasing

a futures contract for the same aggregate amount of the specific type of financial instrument or commodity with the same delivery date. If an offsetting purchase price is less than the original sale price, the Trust realizes a capital gain, or if it is more, the Trust realizes a capital loss. Conversely, if an offsetting sale price is more than the original purchase price, the Trust realizes a capital gain, or if it is less, the Trust realizes a capital loss. The Adviser has claimed an exclusion from the definition of a Commodity Pool Operator (CPO) under the Commodity Exchange Act with respect to the Trust and therefore, neither the Adviser nor the Trust are subject to registration or regulation thereunder.

Structured notes risk

Structured notes are derivative debt instruments, the interest rate or principal of which is determined by an unrelated indicator (for example, a currency, security, commodity or index thereof). Indexed securities may include a multiplier that multiplies the indexed element by a specified factor and, therefore, the value of such securities may be very volatile. The terms of structured notes and indexed securities may provide that in certain circumstances no principal is due at maturity, which may result in a loss

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

36

of invested capital. Structured notes and indexed securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the unrelated indicator may produce an increase or a decrease in the interest rate or the value of the structured note or indexed security at maturity may be calculated as a specified multiple of the change in the value of the unrelated indicator. Structured notes and indexed securities may entail a greater degree of market risk than other types of investments because the investor bears the risk of the unrelated indicator. Structured notes or indexed securities also may be more volatile, less liquid, and more difficult to accurately price than less complex securities and instruments or more traditional debt securities.

Inflation risk/deflation risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline. In addition, during periods of rising inflation, short-term interest rates and the Trust s cost of leverage would likely increase, reducing returns to the Common Shareholders to the extent that such increased cost is not offset by commensurately higher income. Also, distribution rates of preferred shares would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Shareholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time – the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse affect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Trust s investments.

Private activity bond risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline. In addition, during periods of rising inflation, short-term interest rates and the Trust s cost of leverage would likely increase, reducing returns to Common Shareholders to the extent that such increased cost is not offset by commensurately higher income. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse affect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Trust s investments.

Duration and maturity risk

The Trust has no set policy regarding portfolio maturity or duration. Holding long duration and long maturity investments will expose the Trust to certain magnified risks. These risks include interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risks as discussed above.

Tax risk

The value of the Trust s investments and its NAV may be adversely affected by changes in tax rates and policies. Because interest income from municipal obligations normally is not subject to regular federal income taxation, the attractiveness of municipal obligations in relation to other investment alternatives is affected by changes in federal income tax rates or changes in the tax-exempt status of interest income from municipal obligations. Congress is currently actively considering significant changes to federal tax law, including changes to the tax-exempt status of such municipal bond interest. Any proposed or actual changes in such rates or exempt status, therefore, can significantly affect the demand for and supply, liquidity and marketability of municipal obligations. This could, in turn, affect the Trust is NAV and ability to acquire and dispose of municipal obligations at desirable yield and price levels. The Trust is not a suitable investment for individual retirement accounts, for other tax-exempt or tax-deferred accounts or for investors who are otherwise indifferent to the federal income tax consequences of their investments. See Distributions and Federal income tax matters.

The Trust will invest in municipal obligations in reliance at the time of purchase on an opinion of bond counsel to the issuer that the interest paid on those securities will be excludable from gross income under the regular federal income

tax, and the Adviser will typically not independently verify that opinion. Subsequent to the Trust s acquisition of such a municipal security, however, the security may be determined to pay, or to have paid, taxable income. As a result, the treatment of dividends previously paid or to be paid by the Trust as exempt-interest dividends could be adversely affected, subjecting the Trust s Common Shareholders to increased federal income tax liabilities.

Interest income from certain types of municipal obligations may be a tax preference item for purposes of the AMT for individual investors. Distributions to corporate investors of certain interest income may also be indirectly subject to the AMT.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

37

Management risk

The Trust is subject to management risk because it is actively managed. Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers invest the assets of the Trust as they deem appropriate in implementing the Trust s investment strategy. Accordingly, the success of the Trust depends upon the investment skills and analytical abilities of Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers to develop and effectively implement strategies that achieve the Trust s investment objective. There is no assurance that Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers will be successful in developing and implementing the Trust s investment strategy. Subjective decisions made by Eaton Vance and the individual portfolio managers may cause the Trust to incur losses or to miss profit opportunities on which it could otherwise have capitalized.

Potential conflicts of interest risk

The Adviser provides a wide array of portfolio management and other asset management services to a mix of clients and may engage in ordinary course activities in which their respective interests or those of their clients may compete or conflict with those of the Trust. For example, the Adviser may provide investment management services to other funds and accounts that follow investment objectives similar to those of the Trust. In certain circumstances, and subject to its fiduciary obligations under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Adviser may have to allocate a limited investment opportunity among its clients, which include closed-end funds, open-end funds and other commingled funds. The Adviser has adopted policies and procedures designed to address such situations and other potential conflicts of interests.

When-issued and delayed-delivery transactions risk

Securities may be purchased on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis (meaning securities are purchased or sold with payment and delivery taking place in the future) in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price and yield at the time of entering into the transaction. When the Trust agrees to purchase such securities, it assumes the risk of any decline in value of the security from the date of the agreement to purchase. The Trust does not earn interest on the securities it has committed to purchase until they are paid for and delivered on the settlement date. From the time of entering into the transaction until delivery and payment is made at a later date, the securities that are the subject of the transaction are subject to market fluctuations. In forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery transactions, if the seller or buyer, as the case may be, fails to consummate the transaction the counterparty may miss the opportunity of obtaining a price or yield considered to be advantageous. However, no payment or delivery is made until payment is received or delivery is made from the other party to the transaction.

Other investment companies and ETF risk

The Trust may, subject to the limitations of the 1940 Act, invest in the securities of other investment companies. Such securities may be leveraged. As a result, the Trust may be indirectly exposed to leverage through an investment in such securities. Utilization of leverage is a speculative investment technique and involves certain risks. The Trust, as a holder of the securities of other investment companies, will bear its pro rata portion of the other investment companies expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses are in addition to the direct expenses of the Trust s own operations.

The Trust may invest in the securities of ETFs, to the extent permitted by law. ETFs are designed to provide investment results that generally correspond to the price and yield performance of the component securities (or commodities) of the benchmark index. ETFs are listed on an exchange and trade in the secondary market on a per-share basis. The values of ETFs are subject to change as the values of their respective component securities (or commodities) fluctuate according to market volatility. Investments in ETFs may not exactly match the performance of a direct investment in the respective indices to which they are intended to correspond due to the temporary unavailability of certain index securities in the secondary market or other extraordinary circumstances, such as

discrepancies with respect to the weighting of securities. Typically, the ETF bears its own operational expenses, which are deducted from its assets. To the extent that the Trust invests in ETFs, the Trust must bear these expenses in addition to the expenses of its own operation.

Anti-takeover provisions

Pursuant to the Trust s Declaration of Trust, the Trust s Board is divided into three classes of Trustees with each class serving for a three-year term and certain types of transactions require the favorable vote of holders of at least 75% of the outstanding shares of the Trust. These provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other persons or entities to acquire control of the Trust or to change the composition of the Board. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Trust, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Trust and interfering with the normal operation of the Trust. See Description of capital structure Anti-takeover provisions in the Declaration of Trust.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

38

Management of the Trust

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The management of the Trust, including general supervision of the duties performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement (defined below), is the responsibility of the Trust s Board under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the 1940 Act.

THE ADVISER

Eaton Vance acts as the Trust s investment adviser under an Investment Advisory Agreement (the Advisory Agreement). The Adviser s principal office is located at Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Eaton Vance, its affiliates and predecessor companies have been managing assets of individuals and institutions since 1924 and of investment companies since 1931. Eaton Vance and its affiliates serve as investment advisers to investment companies and individual and institutional clients. As of January 31, 2016, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$ 302.6 billion of assets, including 50 open-end and closed-end municipal bond funds with combined assets of about \$14. 5 billion. Eaton Vance is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Eaton Vance Corp., a publicly-held holding company, which through its subsidiaries and affiliates engages primarily in investment management and administration.

Eaton Vance employs 40 personnel in its municipal bond department, with teams in both Boston and New York, including 15 portfolio managers, 6 traders and 15 research analysts. Eaton Vance was one of the first advisory firms to manage a registered municipal bond investment company, and has done so continuously since 1978. Eaton Vance and certain of its subsidiaries on a combined basis currently manage separately managed municipal investment accounts, 16 national municipal investment companies, and 34 single state municipal investment companies, with combined assets of about \$14. 5 billion. Of the municipal income funds managed by Eaton Vance, 21 are closed-end funds.

Under the general supervision of the Trust s Board, Eaton Vance is responsible for managing the Trust s overall investment program, determining the Trust s allocations among its permitted investments, and selecting individual holdings.

The Adviser will furnish to the Trust investment advice and office space and all necessary office facilities, equipment and personnel for servicing the investments of the Trust. The Adviser will compensate all Trustees and officers of the Trust who are members of the Adviser s organization and who render investment services to the Trust, and will also compensate all other Adviser personnel who provide research and investment services to the Trust. Pursuant to the investment advisory agreement and certain fee reduction agreements between the Adviser and the Trust, the Adviser receives an annual investment advisory fee calculated as a percentage of the Trust s average weekly gross assets. The annual advisory fee rate for the 12 month period ending April 30, 2016 is 0. 610% (0. 625% prior to May 1, 2015) of the Trust average weekly gross assets. Such rate will be reduced by 0.015% on May 1 of each year thereafter through April 30, 2030. For purposes of the advisory fee calculation, gross assets are calculated by deducting accrued liabilities of the Trust except the principal amount of any indebtedness for money borrowed, which includes (i) debt securities issued by the Trust, (ii) the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares issued by the Trust and (iii) the amount payable by the Trust to floating rate note holders, provided that the total of the liquidation value of preferred shares and the amount payable to floating-rate note holders is limited to the value of the Trust s APS shares prior to any APS redemptions by the Trust. During any future periods in which the Trust is using leverage, the fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Trust did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Trust s gross assets, including proceeds from any borrowings and from the issuance of preferred shares. As demonstrated in the fee table under Summary of Trust Expenses, after giving effect to the Trust s use of leverage and using the assumptions set forth in the fee table, the management fee would be 1.38%. On March 9, 1999, the Trust issued 2,620 Series A and 2,620 Series B APS, with a liquidation preference per

share of \$25,000 plus accumulated but unpaid dividends. As of January 31, 2016, 620 Series A and 620 Series B APS had been redeemed. The APS have seniority over the Common Shares. As of January 31, 2016, the Trust had no outstanding borrowings.

Cynthia J. Clemson is responsible for the overall and day-to-day management of the Fund s investments. Ms. Clemson is a Vice President of EVM, is Co-Director of the Municipal Investments Group and has been a portfolio manager of the Fund since July 2015. She has managed other Eaton Vance portfolios for more than five years .. The Statement of Additional Information provides additional information about the portfolio manager s compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, and the portfolio manager s ownership of securities in the Trust.

The Trust and the Adviser have adopted Codes of Ethics relating to personal securities transactions. The Codes of Ethics permits Adviser personnel to invest in securities (including securities that may be purchased or held by the Trust) for their own accounts, subject to certain pre-clearance, reporting and other restrictions and procedures contained in such Codes of Ethics.

The Trust s shareholder reports contain information regarding the basis for the Trustees approval of the Trust s Advisory Agreement.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

39

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Eaton Vance serves as administrator of the Trust. Under an Administration Agreement with the Trust (the Administration Agreement), Eaton Vance is responsible for managing the business affairs of the Trust, subject to the supervision of the Trust s Board. Eaton Vance will furnish to the Trust office space and all necessary office facilities, equipment and personnel for administering the affairs of the Trust. Eaton Vance s administrative services include recordkeeping, preparation and filing of documents required to comply with federal and state securities laws, supervising the activities of the Trust s custodian and transfer agent, providing assistance in connection with the Board and shareholders meetings, providing service in connection with any repurchase offers and other administrative services necessary to conduct the Trust s business. Eaton Vance currently receives compensation of 0.20% annually of the average weekly gross assets for providing administrative services to the Trust. In addition to the management fee and administration fee, the Trust pays all costs and expenses of its operation, including compensation of its Trustees (other than those affiliated with the Adviser), custodial expenses, dividend disbursing expenses, legal fees, expenses of independent auditors, expenses of preparing Trust documents and reports to governmental agencies, and taxes and filing or other fees, if any.

Plan of Distribution

The Trust may sell the Common Shares being offered under this prospectus in any one or more of the following ways: (i) directly to purchasers; (ii) through agents; (iii) to or through underwriters; or (iv) through dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Trust and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale.

The Trust may distribute Common Shares from time to time in one or more transactions at: (i) a fixed price or prices that may be changed; (ii) market prices prevailing at the time of sale; (iii) prices related to prevailing market prices; or (iv) negotiated prices; provided, however, that in each case the offering price per Common Share (less any underwriting commission or discount) must equal or exceed the NAV per Common Share.

The Trust from time to time may offer its Common Shares through or to certain broker-dealers, including UBS Securities LLC, that have entered into selected dealer agreements relating to at-the-market offerings.

The Trust may directly solicit offers to purchase Common Shares, or the Trust may designate agents to solicit such offers. The Trust will, in a prospectus supplement relating to such Offering, name any agent that could be viewed as an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act), and describe any commissions the Trust must pay to such agent(s). Any such agent will be acting on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment or, if indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials, on a firm commitment basis. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for the Trust in the ordinary course of business.

If any underwriters or agents are used in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, the Trust will enter into an underwriting agreement or other agreement with them at the time of sale to them, and the Trust will set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such Offering their names and the terms of the Trust s agreement with them.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, the Trust will sell such Common Shares to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell such Common Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealer at the time of resale.

The Trust may engage in at-the-market offerings to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the 1933 Act. An at-the-market offering may be through an underwriter or underwriters acting as principal or agent for the Trust.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements which they may enter into with the Trust to indemnification by the Trust against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for the Trust in the ordinary course of business.

In order to facilitate the Offering of Common Shares, any underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of Common Shares or any other Common Shares the prices of which may be used to determine payments on the Common Shares. Specifically, any underwriters may over-allot in connection with the Offering, creating a short position for their own accounts. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of Common Shares or of any such other Common Shares, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, Common Shares or any such other Common Shares in the open market. Finally, in any Offering of Common Shares through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing Common Shares in the Offering if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed Common Shares in transactions to cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

40

or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of Common Shares above independent market levels. Any such underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

The Trust may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell Common Shares not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell Common Shares covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third parties may use Common Shares pledged by the Trust or borrowed from the Trust or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of securities, and may use Common Shares received from the Trust in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of securities. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering materials (or a post-effective amendment).

The Trust or one of the Trust s affiliates may loan or pledge Common Shares to a financial institution or other third party that in turn may sell Common Shares using this prospectus. Such financial institution or third party may transfer its short position to investors in Common Shares or in connection with a simultaneous Offering of other Common Shares offered by this prospectus or otherwise.

The maximum amount of compensation to be received by any member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. will not exceed 8% of the initial gross proceeds from the sale of any security being sold with respect to each particular Offering of Common Shares made under a single prospectus supplement.

Any underwriter, agent or dealer utilized in the initial Offering of Common Shares will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer.

Distributions

The Trust intends to make regular monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders. The amount of each monthly distribution will vary depending on a number of factors, including distributions payable on the APS or other costs of financial leverage. As portfolio and market conditions change, the rate of distribution on the Common Shares and the Trust s distribution policy could change. Over time, the Trust will distribute all of its net investment income (after it pays accrued distributions on any outstanding APS or other costs of financial leverage).

The net investment income of the Trust will consist of all interest income accrued on portfolio investments, short-term capital gain (including short-term gains on options, futures and forward positions and gains on the sale of portfolio investments held for one year or less) in excess of long-term capital loss and income from certain hedging transactions, less all expenses of the Trust. Expenses of the Trust will be accrued each day. Substantially all of the Trust investment company taxable income will be distributed each year. In addition, at least annually, the Trust intends to distribute any net capital gain (which is the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss). To the extent that the Trust income and net capital gain for any year exceed the total monthly distributions paid during the year, the Trust will make a special distribution at or near year-end of such excess amount as may be required. If the Trust is total monthly distributions in any year exceed the amount of its net investment income and net capital gain for the year, any such excess would be characterized as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. Under the 1940 Act, for any distribution that includes amounts from sources other than net income, the Trust is required to provide Common Shareholders a written statement regarding the components of such distribution. Such a statement will be provided at the time of any distribution believed to include any such amounts.

Common Shareholders may automatically reinvest some or all of their distributions in additional Common Shares pursuant to the Trust s dividend reinvestment plan. See Dividend reinvestment plan.

Federal Income Tax Matters

The following discussion of federal income tax matters is based on the advice of K&L Gates LLP, counsel to the Trust.

The discussions below and certain disclosure in the Statement of Additional Information provide general tax information related to an investment in the Common Shares. Because tax laws are complex and often change, you should consult your tax adviser about the tax consequences of an investment in the Trust. The following tax discussion assumes that you are a U.S. Common Shareholder that is not subject to special rules under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and that you hold the Common Shares as a capital asset (generally, property held for investment).

A U.S. Common Shareholder means an owner of Common Shares that, for federal income tax purposes is a citizen or individual resident of the United States, a corporation (including any entity treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, an estate the income of which is subject to federal income taxation regardless of its source, or a trust if (i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

41

substantial decisions of the trust or (ii) the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

The Trust intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (RIC) under Subchapter M of the Code. In order to qualify as a RIC, the Trust must satisfy certain requirements regarding the sources of its income, the diversification of its assets and the distribution of its income. As a RIC, the Trust is not expected to be subject to U.S. federal income tax to the extent that it distributes its investment company taxable income and net recognized capital gains.

The Trust currently intends to invest a sufficient portion of its assets in tax-exempt municipal obligations so that it will be permitted to pay exempt-interest dividends (as defined under applicable federal income tax law). Each distribution of exempt-interest dividends, whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional Common Shares, ordinarily will constitute income exempt from regular federal income tax under current federal tax law. Interest on certain municipal obligations, such as certain private activity bonds, however, is included as an item of tax preference in determining the amount of a taxpayer s alternative minimum taxable income. To the extent that the Trust receives income from such municipal obligations, a portion of the dividends paid by the Trust, although exempt from regular federal income tax, will be taxable to Common Shareholders to the extent that their tax liability is determined under the AMT. Furthermore, exempt-interest dividends are included in determining what portion, if any, of a person s social security and railroad retirement benefits will be includible in gross income subject to regular federal income tax. The Trust will annually provide a report indicating the percentage of the Trust s income attributable to municipal obligations subject to the AMT. Corporations are subject to special rules in calculating their federal alternative minimum taxable income with respect to interest from such municipal obligations.

In addition to exempt-interest dividends, the Trust also may distribute to its shareholders amounts that are treated as long-term capital gain or ordinary income (which may include short-term capital gains). These distributions may be subject to federal, state and local taxation, depending on a shareholder s situation. Taxable distributions are taxable whether or not such distributions are reinvested in the Trust. Net capital gain distributions (the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss) are generally taxable at rates applicable to long-term capital gains regardless of how long a Common Shareholder has held his or her Common Shares. The maximum tax rate for individuals on long-term capital gains is 20%. The net investment income, including capital gains, of certain individuals, estates and trusts will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax and certain individuals may be subject to limitations on the use of itemized deductions, which can increase the effective tax rate of such persons. The Trust does not currently expect that any part of its distributions to shareholders from its investments will qualify for the dividends-received deduction available to corporate shareholders or as qualified dividend income to noncorporate shareholders.

As a RIC, the Trust will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax in any taxable year provided that it meets certain distribution requirements. If the Trust retains any net capital gain or investment company taxable income, it will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates on the amount retained. If the Trust retains any net capital gain, it may report the retained amount as undistributed capital gains as part of its annual reporting to its shareholders who, if subject to U.S. federal income tax on long-term capital gains, (i) will be required to include in income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as long-term capital gain, their share of such undistributed amount; (ii) will be entitled to credit their proportionate shares of the tax paid by the Trust on such undistributed amount against their U.S. federal income tax liabilities, if any; and (iii) will be entitled to claim refunds to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of Common Shares owned by a Common Shareholder of the Trust will be increased by an amount equal to the difference between the amount of undistributed capital gains included in the shareholder s gross income and the tax deemed paid by the Common Shareholder under clause (ii) of the preceding sentence.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) currently requires that a RIC that has two or more classes of stock allocate to each such class proportionate amounts of each type of its income (such as exempt interest, ordinary income and capital

gains). Accordingly, if the Trust issues preferred shares, it will designate dividends made with respect to Common Shares and preferred shares as consisting of particular types of income (e.g., exempt interest, net capital gain and ordinary income) in accordance with the proportionate share of each class in the total dividends paid by the Trust during the year.

Dividends and other taxable distributions declared by the Trust in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a specified date in such month and paid during the following January will be treated as having been received by shareholders in the year the distributions were declared.

Each Common Shareholder will receive an annual statement summarizing the shareholder s dividend and capital gains distributions (including net capital gains credited to the Common Shareholder but retained by the Trust) after the close of the Trust s taxable year.

The redemption, sale or exchange of Common Shares normally will result in capital gain or loss to Common Shareholders. Generally a shareholder s gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the Common Shares have been held for more than one year. Present law taxes both long-term and short-term capital gains of corporations at the same rates applicable to ordinary

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

42

income. For non-corporate taxpayers, however, short-term capital gains and other ordinary income are currently taxed at ordinary income rates (currently a maximum of 39.6%), while the maximum tax rate for individuals on long-term capital gains is 20%. An additional 3.8% Medicare tax may apply to certain individual, estate or trust shareholders taxable distributions and to any capital gains received by such shareholders. Certain individuals may be subject to limitations on the use of itemized deductions, which can increase the effective tax rate of such persons. Any loss on the sale of shares that have been held for six months or less will be disallowed to the extent of any distribution of exempt-interest dividends received with respect to such shares, unless the shares are of a RIC that declares exempt-interest dividends on a daily basis in an amount equal to at least 90% of its net tax-exempt interest and distributes such dividends on a monthly or more frequent basis. If a shareholder sells or otherwise disposes of shares before holding them for more than six months, any loss on the sale or disposition will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any net capital gain distributions received by the shareholder on such share. Any loss realized on a sale or exchange of shares of the Trust will be disallowed to the extent those shares of the Trust are replaced by other substantially identical shares of the Trust or other substantially identical stock or securities (including through reinvestment of dividends) within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date of disposition of the original shares. In that event, the basis of the replacement shares of the Trust will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss.

Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry the Trust s shares on which exempt-interest dividends are paid is not deductible. Under certain applicable rules, the purchase or ownership of shares may be considered to have been made with borrowed funds even though such funds are not directly used for the purchase or ownership of the shares. In addition, if you receive Social Security or certain railroad retirement benefits, you may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a portion of such benefits as a result of receiving investment income, including exempt-interest dividends and other distributions paid by the Trust.

If the Trust invests in certain pay-in-kind securities, zero coupon securities, deferred interest securities or, in general, any other securities with original issue discount (or with market discount if the Trust elects to include market discount in income currently), the Trust must accrue income on such investments for each taxable year, which generally will be prior to the receipt of the corresponding cash payments. However, the Trust must distribute to shareholders, at least annually, all or substantially all of its investment company taxable income (determined without regard to the deduction for dividends paid), including such accrued income, to qualify as a RIC and to avoid federal income and excise taxes. Therefore, the Trust may have to dispose of its portfolio securities under disadvantageous circumstances to generate cash, or may have to leverage itself by borrowing the cash, to satisfy these distribution requirements.

The Trust may hold or acquire municipal obligations that are market discount bonds. A market discount bond is a security acquired in the secondary market at a price below its redemption value (or its adjusted issue price if it is also an original issue discount bond). If the Trust invests in a market discount bond, it will be required to treat any gain recognized on the disposition of such market discount bond as ordinary taxable income to the extent of the accrued market discount.

As with all investment companies, the Trust may be required to backup withhold U.S. federal income tax at the current rate of 28% of all taxable distributions payable to Common Shareholders who fail to provide the Trust with their correct taxpayer identification number or to make required certifications, or if the Common Shareholders have been notified by the IRS that they are subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax; rather, it is a way in which the IRS ensures it will collect taxes otherwise due. Any amounts withheld may be credited against a shareholder s U.S. federal income tax liability.

The Trust may invest in other securities the U.S. federal income tax treatment of which is uncertain or subject to recharacterization by the IRS. To the extent the tax treatment of such securities or their income differs from the tax treatment expected by the Trust, it could affect the timing or character of income recognized by the Trust, requiring the Trust to purchase or sell securities, or otherwise change its portfolio, in order to comply with the tax rules applicable to RICs under the Code.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

Pursuant to the Trust s dividend reinvestment plan (the Plan), unless a Common Shareholder elects to receive distributions in cash, all distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Common Shares.

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC (the Plan Agent) serves as agent for the Common Shareholders in administering the Plan. Common Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Plan will receive all Trust distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to the Common Shareholder of record (or if the Common Shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to the nominee) by the Plan Agent, as disbursing agent. Participation in the Plan is completely voluntary and may be terminated or resumed at any time without penalty by written notice if received by the Plan Agent prior to any distribution record date.

Common Shares will be acquired by the Plan Agent or an independent broker-dealer for the participants accounts, depending upon the circumstances described below, either (i) through receipt of additional previously authorized but unissued Common Shares from the Trust (newly issued Common Shares) or (ii) by purchase of outstanding Common Shares on the open market (open-market purchases) on the NYSE or elsewhere. If on the payment date for the distribution, the NAV per Common Share

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

43

is equal to or less than the market price per Common Share plus estimated brokerage commissions (such condition being referred to herein as market premium), the Plan Agent will invest the distribution amount in newly issued Common Shares on behalf of the participants. The number of newly issued Common Shares to be credited to each participant s account will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the distribution by the NAV per Common Share on the date the Common Shares are issued, provided that the maximum discount from the then current market price per Common Share on the date of issuance may not exceed 5%. If on the distribution payment date the NAV per Common Share is greater than the market value plus estimated brokerage commissions (such condition being referred to herein as market discount), the Plan Agent will invest the distribution amount in Common Shares acquired on behalf of the participants in open-market purchases.

In the event of a market discount on the distribution payment date, the Plan Agent will have up to 30 days after the distribution payment date to invest the distribution amount in Common Shares acquired in open-market purchases. If, before the Plan Agent has completed its open-market purchases, the market price of a Common Share exceeds the NAV per Common Share, the average per Common Share purchase price paid by the Plan Agent may exceed the NAV of the Common Shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer Common Shares than if the distribution had been paid in newly issued Common Shares on the distribution payment date. Therefore, the Plan provides that if the Plan Agent is unable to invest the full distribution amount in open-market purchases during the purchase period or if the market discount shifts to a market premium during the purchase period, the Plan Agent will cease making open-market purchases and will invest the uninvested portion of the distribution amount in newly issued Common Shares.

The Plan Agent maintains all Common Shareholders accounts in the Plan and furnishes written confirmation of all transactions in the accounts, including information needed by Common Shareholders for tax records. Common Shares in the account of each Plan participant will be held by the Plan Agent on behalf of the Plan participant, and each Common Shareholder proxy will include those Common Shares purchased or received pursuant to the Plan. The Plan Agent will forward all proxy solicitation materials to participants and vote proxies for Common Shares held pursuant to the Plan in accordance with the instructions of the participants. In the case of Common Shareholders such as banks, brokers or nominees that hold Common Shares for others who are the beneficial owners, the Plan Agent will administer the Plan on the basis of the number of Common Shares certified from time to time by the record Common Shareholder s name and held for the account of beneficial owners who participate in the Plan.

There will be no brokerage charges to Common Shares issued directly by the Trust as a result of distributions payable either in Common Shares or in cash. However, each Plan participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to the Plan Agent s open-market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of distributions.

Common Shareholders participating in the Plan may receive benefits not available to Common Shareholders not participating in the Plan. If the market price (plus commissions) of the Common Shares is above their NAV, participants in the Plan will receive Common Shares of the Trust purchased at a discount to market price and having a current value that exceeds the cash distributions they would have otherwise received on their Common Shares. If the market price (plus commissions) of the Common Shares is below their NAV, Plan participants will receive Common Shares with a NAV that exceeds the cash distributions they would have otherwise received on their Common Shares. There may, however, be insufficient Common Shares available in the market at prices below NAV to satisfy the Plan s requirements, in which case the Plan Agent will acquire newly issued Common Shares. Also, since the Trust does not redeem its Common Shares, the price on resale may be more or less than their NAV.

Experience under the Plan may indicate that changes are desirable. Accordingly, upon 30 days notice to Plan participants, the Trust reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan. A Plan participant will be charged a \$5.00 service charge and pay brokerage charges whenever he or she directs the Plan Agent to sell Common Shares held in a distribution reinvestment account.

All correspondence concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Agent at American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560. Please call 1-866-706-0514 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time if you have questions regarding the Plan.

Description of Capital Structure

The Trust is an unincorporated business trust established under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated December 10, 1998 and filed that day with the Secretary of The Commonwealth (the Declaration of Trust). The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees of the Trust may authorize separate classes of shares of beneficial interest. The Trustees have authorized an unlimited number of Common Shares. The Trust intends to hold annual meetings of Common Shareholders in compliance with the requirements of the NYSE.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

44

COMMON SHARES

The Declaration of Trust permits the Trust to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional Common Shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per Common Share. Each Common Share represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets of the Trust with each other Common Share in the Trust. Holders of Common Shares will be entitled to the payment of distributions when, as and if declared by the Board. The 1940 Act or the terms of any borrowings or preferred shares may limit the payment of distributions to the holders of Common Shares. Each whole Common Share shall be entitled to one vote as to matters on which it is entitled to vote pursuant to the terms of the Declaration of Trust on file with the SEC. Upon liquidation of the Trust, after paying or adequately providing for the payment of all liabilities of the Trust and the liquidation preference with respect to any outstanding preferred shares, and upon receipt of such releases, indemnities and refunding agreements as they deem necessary for their protection, the Trustees may distribute the remaining assets of the Trust among the holders of the Common Shares. The Declaration of Trust provides that Common Shareholders are not liable for any liabilities of the Trust, requires inclusion of a clause to that effect in every agreement entered into by the Trust and indemnifies shareholders against any such liability. Although shareholders of an unincorporated business trust established under Massachusetts law may, in certain limited circumstances, be held personally liable for the obligations of the trust as though they were general partners, the provisions of the Declaration of Trust described in the foregoing sentence make the likelihood of such personal liability for Common Shareholders remote.

While there are any borrowings or preferred shares outstanding, the Trust may not be permitted to declare any cash distribution on its Common Shares, unless at the time of such declaration, (i) all accrued distributions on preferred shares or accrued interest on borrowings have been paid and (ii) the value of the Trust s total assets (determined after deducting the amount of such distribution), less all liabilities and indebtedness of the Trust not represented by senior securities, is at least 300% of the aggregate amount of such securities representing indebtedness and at least 200% of the aggregate amount of securities representing indebtedness plus the aggregate liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (expected to equal the aggregate original purchase price of the outstanding preferred shares plus the applicable redemption premium, if any, together with any accrued and unpaid distributions thereon, whether or not earned or declared and on a cumulative basis). In addition to the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Trust may be required to comply with other asset coverage requirements as a condition of the Trust obtaining a rating of the preferred shares from a Rating Agency. These requirements may include an asset coverage test more stringent than under the 1940 Act. This limitation on the Trust s ability to make distributions on its Common Shares could in certain circumstances impair the ability of the Trust to maintain its qualification for taxation as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes. The Trust intends, however, to the extent possible to purchase or redeem preferred shares or reduce borrowings from time to time to maintain compliance with such asset coverage requirements and may pay special distributions to the holders of the preferred shares in certain circumstances in connection with any such impairment of the Trust s status as a regulated investment company. See Investment objective, policies and risks and Distributions and Federal income tax matters. Depending on the timing of any such redemption or repayment, the Trust may be required to pay a premium in addition to the liquidation preference of the preferred shares to the holders thereof.

The Trust has no present intention of offering additional Common Shares, except as described herein. Other offerings of its Common Shares, if made, will require approval of the Board. Any additional offering will not be sold at a price per Common Share below the then current NAV (exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions) except in connection with an offering to existing Common Shareholders or with the consent of a majority of the Trust s outstanding Common Shares. The Common Shares have no preemptive rights.

The Trust generally will not issue Common Share certificates. However, upon written request to the Trust s transfer agent, a share certificate will be issued for any or all of the full Common Shares credited to an investor s account. Common Share certificates that have been issued to an investor may be returned at any time.

REPURCHASE OF COMMON SHARES AND OTHER DISCOUNT MEASURES

Because shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to their NAVs, the Board has determined that from time to time it may be in the interest of Common Shareholders for the Trust to take corrective actions. The Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, will review at least annually the possibility of open market repurchases and/or tender offers for the Common Shares and will consider such factors as the market price of the Common Shares, the NAV of the Common Shares, the liquidity of the assets of the Trust, effect on the Trust s expenses, whether such transactions would impair the Trust s status as a regulated investment company or result in a failure to comply with applicable asset coverage requirements, general economic conditions and such other events or conditions which may have a material effect on the Trust s ability to consummate such transactions. There are no assurances that the Board will, in fact, decide to undertake either of these actions or if undertaken, that such actions will result in the Common Shares trading at a price which is equal to or approximates their NAV. In recognition of the possibility that the Common Shares might trade at a discount to NAV and that any such discount may not be in the interest of

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

45

Common Shareholders, the Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, from time to time may review possible actions to reduce any such discount.

PREFERRED SHARES

The Declaration of Trust authorizes the issuance of an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest with preference rights, including preferred shares, having a par value of \$0.01 per share, in one or more series, with rights as determined by the Board, by action of the Board without the approval of the Common Shareholders. On March 9, 1999, the Trust issued 2,620 Series A and 2,620 Series B APS, with a liquidation preference per share of \$25,000 plus accumulated but unpaid dividends. As of January 31, 2016, 620 Series A and 620 Series B APS had been redeemed. On February 26, 2016, the Fund repurchased 1,651 shares of Series A, 1,815 shares of Series B and 749 shares of Series C APS at a price per share equal to 94.5% of the liquidation preference per share (or \$23,625 per share) and issued 2,720 shares of iMTP with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 plus the amount of any accumulated but unpaid dividends. The APS and iMTP have seniority over the Common Shares.

Under the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Trust must, immediately after the issuance of any preferred shares, have an asset coverage of at least 200%. Asset coverage means the ratio which the value of the total assets of the Trust, less all liability and indebtedness not represented by senior securities (as defined in the 1940 Act), bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness of the Trust, if any, plus the aggregate liquidation preference of the preferred shares. The liquidation value of the preferred shares is equal to their aggregate original purchase price plus the applicable redemption premium, if any, together with any accrued and unpaid distributions thereon (on a cumulative basis), whether or not earned or declared. The terms of the preferred shares, including their distribution rate, voting rights, liquidation preference and redemption provisions, is determined by the Board (subject to applicable law and the Trust s Declaration of Trust). The Trust may issue preferred shares that provide for the periodic redetermination of the distribution rate at relatively short intervals through an auction or remarketing procedure, although the terms of the preferred shares may also enable the Trust to lengthen such intervals. At times, the distribution rate on the Trust s preferred shares may exceed the Trust s return after expenses on the investment of proceeds from the preferred shares, resulting in a lower rate of return to Common Shareholders than if the preferred shares were not outstanding.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Trust, the terms of any preferred shares may entitle the holders of preferred shares to receive a preferential liquidating distribution (equal to the original purchase price per share plus the applicable redemption premium, if any, together with accrued and unpaid distributions, whether or not earned or declared and on a cumulative basis) before any distribution of assets is made to holders of Common Shares. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the preferred shareholders would not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Trust.

Holders of preferred shares, voting as a class, shall be entitled to elect two of the Trust s Trustees. Under the 1940 Act, if at any time distributions on the preferred shares are unpaid in an amount equal to two full years distributions thereon, the holders of all outstanding preferred shares, voting as a class, will be allowed to elect a majority of the Trust s Trustees until all distributions in arrears have been paid or declared and set apart for payment. In addition, if required by a Rating Agency rating the preferred shares or if the Board determines it to be in the best interests of the Common Shareholders, issuance of the preferred shares may result in more restrictive provisions than required by the 1940 Act being imposed. In this regard, holders of the preferred shares may be entitled to elect a majority of the Trust s Board in other circumstances, for example, if one payment on the preferred shares is in arrears.

The APS have been rated AAA by S&P. iMTP has been rated AAA by S&P and Fitch. The Trust currently intends to seek to maintain these ratings or an equivalent credit rating from other Rating Agencies on the APS, iMTP or any preferred shares it issues. The Trust is subject to investment restrictions of the Rating Agencies as a result. Any bank lender in connection with a credit facility or commercial paper program may also impose specific restrictions as a

condition to borrowing. Such restrictions imposed by a Rating Agency or lender may include asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Trust by the 1940 Act. These covenants or guidelines do not currently and are not expected to impede Eaton Vance in managing the Trust s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies and it is not anticipated that they will so impeded Eaton Vance in the future. See Description of capital structure Preferred shares.

ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS IN THE DECLARATION OF TRUST

The Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Trust or to change the composition of its Board, thereby potentially depriving Common Shareholders of an opportunity to sell their Common Shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Trust. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Trust, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Trust and interfering with the normal operation of the Trust.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

46

The Board is divided into three classes, with the term of one class expiring at each annual meeting of Common Shareholders. At each annual meeting, one class of Trustees is elected to a three-year term. This provision could delay for up to two years the replacement of a majority of the Board. A Trustee may be removed from office only for cause by a written instrument signed by the remaining Trustees or by a vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the class of shares of the Trust that elected such Trustee and are entitled to vote on the matter.

In addition, the Declaration of Trust requires the favorable vote of the holders of at least 75% of the outstanding shares of each class of the Trust, voting as a class, then entitled to vote to approve, adopt or authorize certain transactions with 5%-or-greater holders (Principal Shareholders) of a class of shares and their associates, unless the Board has approved a memorandum of understanding with such holders, in which case normal voting requirements would be in effect. For these purposes, a Principal Shareholder refers to any person who, whether directly or indirectly and whether alone or together with its affiliates and associates, beneficially owns 5% or more of the outstanding shares of any class of beneficial interest of the Trust. The transactions subject to these special approval requirements are: (i) the merger or consolidation of the Trust or any subsidiary of the Trust with or into any Principal Shareholder; (ii) the issuance of any securities of the Trust to any Principal Shareholder for cash; (iii) the sale, lease or exchange of all or any substantial part of the assets of the Trust to any Principal Shareholder (except assets determined by the Trustees to have an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purpose of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period or assets sold in the ordinary course of business); or (iv) the sale, lease or exchange to or with the Trust or any subsidiary thereof, in exchange for securities of the Trust, of any assets of any Principal Shareholder (except assets determined by the Trustees to have an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purpose of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period).

The Board has determined that provisions with respect to the Board and the 75% voting requirements described above, which voting requirements are greater than the minimum requirements under Massachusetts law or the 1940 Act, are in the best interest of Common Shareholders generally. Reference should be made to the Declaration of Trust on file with the SEC for the full text of these provisions.

CONVERSION TO OPEN-END FUND

The Trust may be converted from a closed-end company to an open-end company, as those terms are defined in Section 5(a)(2) and 5(a)(1), respectively, of the 1940 Act at any time if approved by the lesser of (i) two-thirds or more of the Trust s then outstanding Common Shares and preferred shares (if any), each voting separately as a class, or (ii) more than 50% of the then outstanding Common Shares and preferred shares (if any), each voting separately as a class, if such conversion is recommended by at least 75% of the Trustees then in office. If approved in the foregoing manner, conversion of the Trust could not occur until 90 days after the shareholders meeting at which such conversion was approved and would also require at least 30 days prior notice to all shareholders. The current composition of the Trust s portfolio likely would prohibit the Trust from complying with regulations of the SEC applicable to open-end management investment companies. Accordingly, conversion likely would require significant changes in the Trust s investment policies and liquidation of a substantial portion of its relatively illiquid portfolio. Conversion of the Trust to an open-end management investment company also would require the redemption of any outstanding APS and could require the repayment of borrowings. In the event of conversion, the Common Shares would cease to be listed on the NYSE or other national securities exchange or market system. The Board believes, however, that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Trust s investment objective and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is unlikely that the Board would vote to convert the Trust to an open-end management investment company.

Common Shareholders of an open-end management investment company may require the company to redeem their shares at any time (except in certain circumstances as authorized by or under the 1940 Act) at their NAV, less such redemption charge, if any, as might be in effect at the time of a redemption. If converted to an open-end management investment company, the Trust expects to pay all such redemption requests in cash, but intends to reserve the right to

pay redemption requests in a combination of cash or securities. If such partial payment in securities were made, investors may incur brokerage costs in converting such securities to cash. If the Trust were converted to an open-end management investment company, it is likely that new Common Shares would be sold at NAV plus a sales load.

Eaton Vance Municipal Income Trust

47

Custodian and Transfer Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company (State Street), State Street Financial Center, One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, is the custodian of the Trust and will maintain custody of the securities and cash of the Trust. State Street maintains the Trust segmental ledger and computes NAV per share at least weekly. State Street also attends to details in connection with the sale, exchange, substitution, transfer and other dealings with the Trust serves investments and receives and disburses all funds. State Street also assists in preparation of shareholder reports and the electronic filing of such reports with the SEC.

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219, is the transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent of the Trust.

Legal Opinions

Certain legal matters in connection with the Common Shares will be passed upon for the Trust by internal counsel for Eaton Vance.

Reports to Common Shareholders

The Trust will send to Common Shareholders unaudited semi-annual and audited annual reports, including a list of investments held.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Deloitte & Touche LLP, is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Trust and audit the Trust s financial statements.

Additional Information

This prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information do not contain all of the information in the Registration Statement that the Trust has filed with the SEC (file No. 811-09141). The complete Registration Statement may be