CARNIVAL PLC Form SC 13G February 12, 2007

> UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. )\*

Carnival plc (Name of Issuer)

Common Stock (Title of Class of Securities)

> 3121522 (CUSIP Number)

December 29, 2006 (Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed: [X] Rule 13d-1(b) [] Rule 13d-1(c) [] Rule 13d-1(d)

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes). CUSIP: 3121522 Page 1 of 5 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS 1 I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Capital Research and Management Company 95-1411037 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE 2 INSTRUCTIONS) (a) (b) 3 SEC USE ONLY CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 4 Delaware 5 SOLE VOTING POWER 11,042,700 SHARED VOTING POWER 6 NUMBER OF SHARES NONE BENEFICIALL Y OWNED BY 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER EACH 13,597,700 REPORTING PERSON WITH: 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER NONE AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 9 13,597,700 Beneficial ownership disclaimed pursuant to Rule 13d-4

- 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
- 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

6.4%

- 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
  - ΙA

CUSIP: 3121522

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

Schedule 13G Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Amendment No.

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer: Carnival plc

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices: 3655 N.W. 87 Avenue Miami FL 33178-2428

Item 2(a) Name of Person(s) Filing: Capital Research and Management Company

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence: 333 South Hope Street Los Angeles, CA 90071

Item 2(c) Citizenship: N/A

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number: 3121522

Item 3 If this statement is filed pursuant to sections 240.13d-1(b)
or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:
 (d) [X] Investment company registered under section 8
 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
 (e) [X] An investment adviser in accordance with
 section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E).

Item 4 Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

See page 2

- (a) Amount beneficially owned:
- (b) Percent of class:
- (c) Number of shares as to which the person has:
- (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

- (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:
- (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:
- (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

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Capital Research and Management Company, an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 is deemed to be the beneficial owner of 13,597,700 shares or 6.4% of the 213,081,961 shares of Common Stock believed to be outstanding as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

- Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class. If this
  statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date
  hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial
  owner of more than five percent of the class of securities,
  check the following: [ ]
- Item 6  $$\operatorname{Ownership}$  of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person: N/A
- Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.: N/A
- Item 8  $$\rm Identification$  and Classification of Members of the Group:  $$\rm N/A$$
- Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A
- Item 10 Certification

By signing below, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 6, 2007

Signature: \*Paul G. Haaga, Jr. Name/Title: Paul G. Haaga, Jr., Executive Vice President

Capital Research and Management Company

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\*By /s/ James P. Ryan James P. Ryan Attorney-in-fact

Signed pursuant to a Power of Attorney dated November 14, 2006 included as an Exhibit to Schedule 13F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Capital Research and Management Company on November 14, 2006.

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in procedures set forth in the Bylaws).

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### Action by Stockholders

According to the Bylaws, the affirmative vote of a majority of the total votes cast for and against such nominee at a meeting of stockholders duly called at which a quorum is present shall be required to elect a director in uncontested elections, and a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of stockholders duly called at which a quorum is present shall be sufficient to approve any other matter which may properly come before a meeting, unless more than a majority of votes cast is required by the MGCL or the Charter. These provisions, combined with the requirements of the Bylaws regarding advance notice of nominations and other business to be considered at a meeting of stockholders discussed below and the calling of a stockholder-requested special meeting of stockholders discussed above, may have the effect of delaying consideration of a stockholder proposal. Stockholders may take action without a meeting only if a unanimous consent setting forth the action is given in writing or by electronic transmission by each stockholder entitled to vote on the matter.

### Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and Stockholder Proposals

The Bylaws provide that, with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of individuals for election to the board of directors and the proposal of other business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (i) pursuant to our notice of meeting, (ii) by or at the direction of the board of directors or (iii) by a stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving of notice by such stockholder as provided for in the Bylaws and at the time of the annual meeting and who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated or on any such other business and who has complied with the advance notice procedures and provided the information required by the Bylaws. With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in the notice of the meeting may be brought before the meeting. Nominations of individuals for election to the board of directors or (ii) provided that the special meeting has been called for the purpose of electing directors, by a stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving of notice by such stockholder as provided for in the Bylaws and at the time of giving of notice by such stockholder as provided for in the board of directors or (ii) provided that the special meeting has been called for the purpose of electing directors, by a stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving of notice by such stockholder as provided for in the Bylaws and at the time of the special meeting, and who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated and who has complied with the advance notice provisions and provided the information required by the Bylaws.

The purpose of requiring stockholders to give HTA advance notice of nominations and other business is to afford the board of directors a meaningful opportunity to consider the qualifications of the proposed nominees and the advisability of any other proposed business and, to the extent deemed necessary or desirable by the board of directors, to inform stockholders and make recommendations about such nominees or business. Although the Bylaws do not give the board of directors any power to disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or proposals recommending certain action, they may have the effect of precluding a contest for the election of directors or the consideration of stockholder proposals if proper procedures are not followed and of discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or to approve its own proposal without regard to whether consideration of such nominees or proposals might be harmful or beneficial to HTA and its stockholders.

### Approval of Extraordinary Corporate Actions, Amendment of Charter

Under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation generally cannot amend its charter, consolidate or merge with, or convert to, another entity, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or dissolve unless the action is declared advisable by the board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast with respect to such matter. However, a Maryland corporation may provide in its charter for approval of these matters by a lesser percentage, but not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast with respect to such matter. As permitted by Maryland law, the Charter provides that any of these actions may be approved

by the stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

### **Amendment of Bylaws**

The board of directors has the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of the Bylaws and to make new bylaws.

### No Stockholder Rights Plan

HTA has no stockholder rights plan. In the future, HTA does not intend to adopt a stockholder rights plan unless HTA s stockholders approve in advance the adoption of a plan or, if adopted by the board of directors, HTA submits the stockholder rights plan to HTA s stockholders for a ratification vote within 12 months of adoption or the plan will terminate.

### **Business Combinations**

Under the MGCL, certain business combinations (including a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in certain circumstances, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities) between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder (defined as any person who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation s outstanding voting stock or an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period immediately prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 10% or more of the voting power of the then-outstanding stock of the corporation), or an affiliate of an interested stockholder, in either case after the date on which the corporation had 100 or more beneficial owners of stock, are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. A person is not an interested stockholder under the statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. The board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance with any terms and conditions determined by it.

Any such business combination entered into after the five-year prohibition must be recommended by the board of directors of such corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least (i) 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation and (ii) two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom (or with whose affiliate) the business combination is to be effected, unless, among other conditions, the corporation s common stockholders receive a minimum price (as defined in the MGCL) for their shares and the consideration is received in cash or in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares.

These provisions of the MGCL do not apply, however, to business combinations that are approved or exempted by a board of directors prior to the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. The board of directors has adopted a resolution exempting any business combination between HTA and any other person or entity from the business combination provisions of the MGCL, provided that such business combination is first approved by the board of directors.

As a result, any person may be able to enter into business combinations with HTA that may not be in the best interests of our stockholders without compliance by HTA with the supermajority vote requirements and other provisions of the statute. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or the board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of HTA and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

### **Control Share Acquisitions**

The MGCL provides that holders of control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved at a special meeting by the affirmative vote of

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding shares of stock of a corporation in respect of which any of the following persons is entitled to exercise or direct the exercise of the voting power of shares of stock of the corporation in the election of directors: (i) a person who makes or proposes to make a control share acquisition, (ii) an officer of the corporation or (iii) an employee of the corporation who is also a director of the corporation. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other such shares of stock previously acquired by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more but less than one-third, (ii) one-third or more but less than a majority, or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions (including an undertaking to pay expenses), may compel the board of directors to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, the corporation may redeem any or all of the control shares (except those for which voting rights have previously been approved) for fair value determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or, if a meeting of stockholders is held at which the voting rights of such shares are considered and not approved, as of the date of the meeting. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transactions or to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or bylaws of the corporation.

The Bylaws exempt any and all acquisitions of shares of HTA s stock from the control share acquisition statute. According to the Bylaws, this exemption may be repealed, in whole or in part, at any time, whether before or after an acquisition of control shares and, upon such repeal, may, to the extent provided in any successor bylaw, apply to any prior or subsequent share acquisition.

### **Certain Elective Provisions of Maryland Law**

Title 3, Subtitle 8 of the MGCL permits a Maryland corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Exchange Act and at least three independent directors who are not officers or employees of the corporation or affiliated with an acquiring person, to elect to be subject, by provision in its charter or bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the charter or bylaws, to any of (i) a classified board, (ii) a two-thirds vote requirement for removing a director, (iii) a requirement that the number of directors be fixed only by vote of the directors, (iv) a requirement that a vacancy on the board be filled only by the remaining directors and for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred, or (v) a majority requirement for the calling of a stockholder-requested special meeting of stockholders. Pursuant to Subtitle 8, HTA has elected that, except as may be provided by the board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of stock, any and all vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the

remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum, and any individual elected to fill such vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term

of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is duly elected and qualifies. Through provisions in the Charter and Bylaws unrelated to Subtitle 8, HTA vests in the board of directors the exclusive power to fix the number of directorships (provided that the number is not less than three) and requires, unless called by the board of directors, HTA s independent directors, the chairman of the board of directors or HTA s president or chief executive officer, the written request of stockholders entitled to cast a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders to call a special meeting to act on such matter. However, as of the date hereof, HTA has six independent directors and a class of equity securities registered under the Exchange Act, so the board of directors could elect to provide for any of the remaining provisions.

### Anti-Takeover Effect of Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of The Charter and Bylaws

The provisions of the MGCL, the Charter and the Bylaws described above could delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control of HTA that might involve a premium price for holders of the common stock or otherwise be in the best interests of HTA s stockholders. Likewise, if the board of directors were to opt in to the business combination provisions of the MGCL or certain of the provisions of Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the MGCL or if the provision in the bylaws opting out of the control share acquisition provisions of the MGCL were amended or rescinded, these provisions of the MGCL could have similar anti-takeover effects.

### **Interested Director and Officer Transactions**

Pursuant to the MGCL, a contract or other transaction between HTA and a director or between HTA and any other corporation or other entity in which any of HTA s directors is a director or has a material financial interest is not void or voidable solely on the grounds of such common directorship or interest, the presence of such director at the meeting at which the contract or transaction is authorized, approved or ratified or the counting of the director s vote in favor thereof, if:

the fact of the common directorship or interest is disclosed or known to the board of directors or a committee of the board of directors, and the board of directors or such committee authorizes, approves or ratifies the transaction or contract by the affirmative vote of a majority of disinterested directors, even if the disinterested directors constitute less than a quorum;

the fact of the common directorship or interest is disclosed or known to HTA s stockholders entitled to vote thereon, and the transaction or contract is authorized, approved or ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the stockholders entitled to vote, excluding votes cast by the interested director or corporation or other entity; or

the transaction or contract is fair and reasonable to HTA.

*Purchase and Lease of Assets.* The Charter provides that HTA may purchase or lease assets from an officer or director or affiliate thereof upon a finding by a majority of directors, including a majority of independent directors, not otherwise interested in the transaction that such transaction is fair and reasonable to HTA and at a price no greater than the cost of the asset to such officer, director or affiliate thereof or, if the price to HTA is in excess of such cost, that substantial justification for such excess exists and such excess is reasonable. In no event shall the purchase price of any property to HTA exceed its current appraised value. In addition, the Charter provides that an officer, director or affiliate thereof may purchase or lease assets from HTA only in accordance with the requirements described in the

preceding sentences.

*Other Transactions.* The Charter also provides that we will not engage in any other transaction with an officer, director or affiliate thereof unless a majority of directors, including a majority of independent directors, not otherwise interested in such transaction approve such transaction as fair and reasonable to HTA and on terms and conditions not less favorable to HTA than those available from unaffiliated third parties. The Charter prohibits HTA from making loans to an officer, director or affiliate thereof except certain mortgages or loans to

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HTA s wholly owned subsidiaries. In addition, HTA s officers and directors and any affiliates thereof may not make loans to HTA, or to joint ventures in which HTA is a co-venturer, unless approved by a majority of directors, including a majority of independent directors, not otherwise interested in such transaction as fair, competitive, and commercially reasonable, and no less favorable to HTA than comparable loans between unaffiliated parties.

*Related Party Transactions Policy*. HTA s related party transactions policy is included as part of HTA s code of ethics. Under HTA s code of ethics, all transactions involving directors, officers and employees involving a conflict of interest must be approved by a majority of the board of directors (including a majority of the disinterested independent directors) as fair and reasonable to HTA and on terms not less favorable to HTA than those available from third parties, even if less than a quorum. Where appropriate in the judgment of the disinterested directors, the board of directors may obtain a fairness opinion or engage independent counsel to represent the interests of non-affiliated security holders, although the board of directors will have no obligation to do so.

### Indemnification and Limitation of Directors and Officers Liability

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages, except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty that is established by a final judgment and is material to the cause of action. The Charter contains a provision that eliminates such liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law.

The Charter and Bylaws provide that, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law in effect from time to time, HTA is obligated to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while a director or officer of HTA and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner, member, manager or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that individual may become subject or which that individual may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding, without requiring a preliminary determination of the ultimate entitlement to indemnification.

The Charter and Bylaws also permit HTA to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of HTA in any of the capacities described above and to any employee or agent of our company or a predecessor of our company.

The MGCL requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which the Charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made or threatened to be made a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. The MGCL permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made or are threatened to be made a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that:

the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty;

the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or

in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful.

However, under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly

received. A court may order indemnification if it determines that the director or officer is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification, even though the director or officer did not meet the prescribed standard of conduct or was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received. However, indemnification for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation, or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received, is limited to expenses.

In addition, the MGCL permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon the corporation s receipt of:

a written affirmation by the director or officer of his good faith belief that he has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation; and

a written undertaking by the director or officer or on the director s or officer s behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the director or officer did not meet the standard of conduct.

Insofar as the foregoing provisions permit indemnification of directors, officers or persons controlling HTA for liability arising under the Securities Act, HTA has been informed that in the opinion of the SEC, this indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

HTA has entered into indemnification agreements with each of HTA s directors and executive officers whereby HTA indemnifies such directors and executive officers against all expenses and liabilities, and agrees to pay or reimburse reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding if such director or executive officer is made or threatened to be made a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to limited exceptions. These indemnification agreements also provide that upon an application for indemnity by a director or executive officer to a court of appropriate jurisdiction, such court may order HTA to indemnify such director or executive officer.

### **REIT Qualification**

The Charter provides that the board of directors may revoke or otherwise terminate HTA s REIT election, without approval of HTA s stockholders, if it determines that it is no longer in HTA s best interests to continue to qualify as a REIT.

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#### MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following summary addresses U.S. federal income tax considerations related to our election to be subject to taxation as a REIT and the ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock that we anticipate being material to holders of our stock. This summary does not address the consequence of an investment in shares of the preferred stock, debt securities, warrants, rights or units. The tax considerations of such an investment will be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement. This summary does not address any foreign, state, or local tax consequences of holding our Class A common stock. The provisions of the Code concerning the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a REIT are highly technical and complex; the following discussion sets forth only certain aspects of those provisions. This summary is intended to provide you with general information only and is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning.

This summary is based on provisions of the Code, applicable final and temporary Treasury Regulations, judicial decisions, and administrative rulings and practice, all in effect as of the date of this prospectus, and should not be construed as legal or tax advice. No assurance can be given that future legislative or administrative changes or judicial decisions will not affect the accuracy of the descriptions or conclusions contained in this summary. In addition, any such changes may be retroactive and apply to transactions entered into prior to the date of their enactment, promulgation or release. We do not expect to seek a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS ), regarding any of the U.S. federal income tax issues discussed in this prospectus, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge any of the positions we take and that such a challenge will not succeed. This discussion does not purport to address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your particular investment circumstances, or if you are a type of investor subject to special tax rules. Prospective purchasers of our securities are urged to consult their tax advisors prior to any investment in our securities concerning the potential U.S. federal, state, local, and foreign tax consequences of the investment with specific reference to their own tax situations.

Except as otherwise noted, references in this discussion of Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations to we, our, us and our Company refer to Healthcare Trust of America, Inc.

#### **Taxation of Our Company**

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through 860 of the Code. We believe that we have been organized and operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code beginning with our taxable year ended December 31, 2007, and that our intended manner of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

In the opinion of O Melveny & Myers LLP, we qualified to be taxed as a REIT under the federal income tax laws for our taxable years ended December 31, 2007 through December 31, 2014, and our organization and current and proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to qualify as a REIT for our taxable year ending December 31, 2015 and thereafter. You should be aware that O Melveny & Myers LLP s opinion is based on existing U.S. federal income tax law governing qualification as a REIT, which is subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis, is not binding on the IRS or any court, and speaks of the date issued. In addition, O Melveny & Myers LLP s opinion is based on customary assumptions and is conditioned upon certain representations made by us as to factual matters, including representations regarding the nature of our assets and the future conduct of our business, all of which are described in the opinion. Moreover, our continued qualification and taxation as a REIT depends on our ability to meet, on a continuing basis, through actual operating results, certain qualification tests in the federal income tax laws. Those qualification tests involve the percentage of our income that we earn from specified sources, the percentages of our assets that fall within specified categories, the diversity of our share ownership and the percentage of our earnings that we distribute. While O Melveny & Myers LLP has reviewed those matters in connection with the

foregoing opinion, O Melveny & Myers LLP will not review our compliance with those tests on a continuing basis. Accordingly, no

assurance can be given that the actual results of our operations for any particular taxable year will satisfy such requirements. For a discussion of the tax consequences of our failure to qualify as a REIT, see Qualification as a REIT Failure to Qualify.

If we qualify as a REIT, we generally will be allowed to deduct dividends paid to our stockholders, and, as a result, we generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on that portion of our ordinary income and net capital gain that we currently distribute to our stockholders. We intend to make distributions to our stockholders on a regular basis as necessary to avoid material U.S. federal income tax and to comply with the REIT requirements. See Qualification as a REIT Annual Distribution Requirements below.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we nonetheless may be subject to U.S. federal income tax in certain circumstances, including the following:

We will be required to pay U.S. federal income tax on our undistributed REIT taxable income, including net capital gain;

We may be subject to the alternative minimum tax ;

We may be subject to tax at the highest corporate rate on certain income from foreclosure property (generally, property acquired by reason of default on a lease or indebtedness held by us);

We will be subject to a 100% U.S. federal income tax on net income from prohibited transactions (generally, certain sales or other dispositions of property, sometimes referred to as dealer property, held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, other than foreclosure property) unless the gain is realized in a taxable REIT subsidiary (TRS), or such property has been held by us for two years and certain other requirements are satisfied;

If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test (discussed below), but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT pursuant to certain relief provisions, we will be subject to a 100% U.S. federal income tax on the greater of (i) the amount by which we fail the 75% gross income test or (ii) the amount by which we fail the 95% gross income test, in either case, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability;

If we fail to satisfy any of the asset tests, other than the 5% or the 10% asset tests that qualify under the De Minimis Exception, and the failure qualifies under the General Exception, as described below under

Qualification as a REIT Asset Tests, then we will have to pay an excise tax equal to the greater of (i) \$50,000 and (ii) an amount determined by multiplying the net income generated during a specified period by the assets that caused the failure by the highest U.S. federal income tax applicable to corporations;

If we fail to satisfy any REIT requirements other than the income test or asset test requirements, described below under Qualification as a REIT Income Tests and Qualification as a REIT Asset Tests, respectively, we qualify for a reasonable cause exception, then we will have to pay a penalty equal to \$50,000 for each such failure;

We will be subject to a 4% excise tax if certain distribution requirements are not satisfied;

We may be required to pay monetary penalties to the IRS in certain circumstances, including if we fail to meet record-keeping requirements intended to monitor our compliance with rules relating to the composition of a REIT s stockholders, as described below in Recordkeeping Requirements;

If we dispose of an asset acquired by us from a C corporation in a transaction in which we took the C corporation s tax basis in the asset, we may be subject to tax at the highest regular corporate rate on the appreciation inherent in such asset as of the date of acquisition by us;

We will be required to pay a 100% tax on any re-determined rents, re-determined deductions, and excess interest. In general, re-determined rents are rents from real property that are overstated as a

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result of services furnished to any of our non-TRS tenants by any TRS in which we hold an interest. Re-determined deductions and excess interest generally represent amounts that are deducted by a TRS for amounts paid to us that are in excess of the amounts that would have been deducted based on arm s-length negotiations; and

Income earned by any TRS in which we hold an interest or any other subsidiaries that are taxable as C corporations will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates.

No assurance can be given that the amount of any such U.S. federal income taxes will not be substantial. In addition, we and our subsidiaries may be subject to a variety of taxes, including payroll taxes and state, local and foreign income, property and other taxes on assets and operations. We could also be subject to tax in situations and on transactions not presently contemplated.

#### **Qualification as a REIT**

#### In General

The REIT provisions of the Code apply to a domestic corporation, trust, or association that properly elects to be taxed as a REIT (i) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors, (ii) the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest, (iii) that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for Sections 856 through 860 of the Code, (iv) that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company, (v) that uses a calendar year for U.S. federal income tax purposes and complies with applicable recordkeeping requirements, and (vi) that meets the additional requirements discussed below. We have adopted December 31 as our year end, and thereby satisfy requirement (v) above.

#### **Ownership** Tests

In order to qualify as a REIT, commencing with our second REIT taxable year, (i) the beneficial ownership of our stock must be held by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a 12-month taxable year (or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months) for each of our taxable years and (ii) during the last half of each taxable year, no more than 50% in value of our stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by or for five or fewer individuals (the 5/50 Test ). Stock ownership for purposes of the 5/50 Test is determined by applying the constructive ownership provisions of Section 544(a) of the Code, subject to certain modifications. The term individual for purposes of the 5/50 Test includes a private foundation, a trust providing for the payment of supplemental unemployment compensation benefits, and a portion of a trust permanently set aside or to be used exclusively for charitable purposes. A qualified trust described in Section 401(a) of the Code and exempt from tax under Section 501(a) of the Code generally is not treated as an individual; rather, stock held by it is treated as owned proportionately by its beneficiaries.

We believe that we have satisfied and will continue to satisfy the above ownership requirements. In addition, the Charter restricts ownership and transfers of our stock that would violate these requirements, although these restrictions may not be effective in all circumstances to prevent a violation. We will be deemed to have satisfied the 5/50 Test for a particular taxable year if we have complied with all the requirements for ascertaining the ownership of our outstanding stock in that taxable year and have no reason to know that we have violated the 5/50 Test.

### **Income Tests**

In order to maintain qualification as a REIT, we must annually satisfy two gross income requirements:

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First, at least 75% of our gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, cancellation of indebtedness income, income from certain hedging transactions and certain foreign currency gains) for each taxable year must be derived, directly or indirectly, from investments relating

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to real property or mortgages on real property or from certain types of temporary investments (or any combination thereof). Qualifying income for purposes of this 75% gross income test generally includes: (a) rents from real property, (b) interest on obligations secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property, (c) dividends or other distributions on, and gain from the sale of, shares in other REITs, (d) gain from the sale of real estate assets (other than gain from prohibited transactions), (e) income and gain derived from foreclosure property, and (f) income from certain types of temporary investments; and

Second, in general, at least 95% of our gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions, cancellation of indebtedness income, income from certain hedging transactions and certain foreign currency gains) for each taxable year must be derived from sources qualifying under the 75% gross income test and from other types of dividends and interest, gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities that are not dealer property, or any combination of the above.

Rents we receive will qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income requirements for a REIT described above only if several conditions are met. First, the amount of rent generally must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term rents from real property solely by reason of being based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales. Second, rents received from a related party tenant will not qualify as rents from real property in satisfying the gross income tests unless the tenant is a TRS and either (i) at least 90% of the property is leased to unrelated tenants and the rent paid by the TRS is substantially comparable to the rent paid by the unrelated tenants for comparable space, or (ii) the property leased is a qualified lodging facility or a qualified healthcare property, as defined in the Code, and certain other conditions are satisfied. A tenant is a related party tenant if the REIT, or an actual or constructive owner of 10% or more of the REIT, actually or constructively owns 10% or more of the tenant. Third, if rent attributable to personal property, leased in connection with a lease of real property, is greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease, then the portion of rent attributable to the personal property will not qualify as rents from real property.

Generally, for rents to qualify as rents from real property for the purpose of satisfying the gross income tests, we may provide directly only an insignificant amount of services, unless those services are usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of real property and not otherwise considered rendered to the occupant under the applicable tax rules. Accordingly, impermissible services that we provide to tenants (except through an independent contractor from whom we derive no revenue and that meets other requirements or through a TRS) would give rise to

impermissible tenant service income. Impermissible tenant service income is deemed to be at least 150% of the direct cost to us of providing the service. If the impermissible tenant service income exceeds 1% of our total income from a property, then all of the income from that property will fail to qualify as rents from real property. If the total amount of impermissible tenant service income from a property does not exceed 1% of our total income from the property, the services will not disqualify any other income from the property that qualifies as rents from real property, but the impermissible tenant service income will not qualify as rents from real property.

We do not intend to charge significant rent that is based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person, derive significant rents from related party tenants, derive rent attributable to personal property leased in connection with real property that exceeds 15% of the total rents from that property, or derive impermissible tenant service income that exceeds 1% of our total income from any property if the treatment of the rents from such property as nonqualified rents could cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT.

Distributions that we receive from a TRS will be classified as dividend income to the extent of the earnings and profits of the TRS. Such distributions will generally constitute qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, but not under the 75% gross income test unless attributable to investments of certain new capital during the one-year

period beginning on the date of receipt of the new capital. Any dividends received by us from a REIT will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 95% and 75% gross income tests.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the 75% or the 95% gross income tests, we may nevertheless qualify as a REIT for a particular year if we are entitled to relief under certain provisions of the Code. Those relief provisions generally will be available if our failure to meet such tests is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and we file a schedule describing each item of our gross income for such year(s) in accordance with the applicable Treasury Regulations. It is not possible, however, to state whether in all circumstances we would be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions. As discussed above in Taxation of Our Company, even if these relief provisions were to apply, we would be subject to U.S. federal income tax based on the extent to which we fail to meet the 75% or 95% gross income tests.

*Hedging transactions.* We may enter into hedging transactions with respect to one or more of our assets or liabilities. Hedging transactions could take a variety of forms, including interest rate swaps or cap agreements, options, futures contracts, forward rate agreements or similar financial instruments. Except to the extent as may be provided by future Treasury Regulations, any income from a hedging transaction which is clearly identified as such before the close of the day on which it was acquired, originated or entered into, including gain from the disposition or termination of such a transaction, will not constitute gross income for purposes of the 95% and 75% gross income tests, provided that the hedging transaction is entered into (i) in the normal course of our business primarily to manage risk of interest rate or price changes or currency fluctuations with respect to indebtedness incurred or to be incurred by us to acquire or carry real estate assets or (ii) primarily to manage the risk of currency fluctuations with respect to any item of income or gain that would be qualifying income under the 75% or 95% income tests (or any property which generates such income or gain). To the extent we enter into other types of hedging transactions, the income from those transactions is likely to be treated as non-qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We intend to structure and monitor our hedging transactions so that such transactions do not jeopardize our ability to qualify as a REIT.

*Qualified temporary investment income*. Income derived from certain types of temporary stock and debt investments made with the proceeds of an offering, not otherwise treated as qualifying income for the 75% gross income test, generally will nonetheless constitute qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test for the year following such offering. More specifically, qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test includes qualified temporary investment income, which generally means any income that is attributable to stock or a debt

instrument, is attributable to the temporary investment of new equity capital and certain debt capital, and is received or accrued during the one-year period beginning on the date on which the REIT receives such new capital. After the one year period following this offering, income from investments of the proceeds of this offering will be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% income test only if derived from one of the other qualifying sources enumerated above.

*Interest.* For a discussion of interest income as it relates to the gross income tests, see Investments in Certain Debt Instruments below.

### Asset Tests

At the close of each quarter of each taxable year, we must also satisfy four tests relating to the nature of our assets. First, real estate assets, cash and cash items (including certain money market funds), and government securities must represent at least 75% of the value of our total assets. Second, not more than 25% of our total assets may be represented by securities other than those in the 75% asset class. Third, of the investments that are not included in the 75% asset class and that are not securities of any TRS in which we hold an interest, (i) the value of any one issuer s securities owned by us may not exceed 5% of the value of our total assets and (ii) we may not own more than 10% by vote or by value of any one issuer s outstanding securities. For purposes of the 10% value test, debt instruments issued by a partnership are not classified as securities to the extent of our interest as a partner in such partnership (based on

our proportionate share of the partnership s equity interests and certain debt securities) or if at least 75% of the partnership s gross income, excluding income from prohibited transactions, is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test. For purposes of the 10% value test, the term securities also does not include debt securities issued by another REIT, certain straight debt

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securities (for example, debt securities of a corporation of which we own no more than a de minimis amount of equity interest that are not convertible into stock of the corporation and as to which the amount and timing of payments is not subject to any contingencies), loans to individuals or estates, and accrued obligations to pay rent from real property. Fourth, securities of TRSs cannot represent more than 25% of our total assets. Although we intend to meet these asset tests, no assurance can be given that we will be able to do so. For purposes of these asset tests, we are treated as holding our proportionate share of our subsidiary partnerships assets. Also, for purposes of these asset tests, the term real estate assets includes any property that is not otherwise a real estate asset and that is attributable to the temporary investment of new capital, but only if such property is stock or a debt instrument, and only for the one-year period beginning on the date the REIT receives such capital. Real estate assets include our investments in stocks of other REITs but do not include stock of any real estate company, or other company, that does not qualify as a REIT (unless eligible for the special rule for temporary investment of new capital).

We will monitor the status of our assets for purposes of the various asset tests and will endeavor to manage our portfolio in order to comply at all times with such tests. If we fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter, other than our first calendar quarter as a REIT, we will not lose our qualification as a REIT if one of the following exceptions applies:

We satisfied the asset tests at the end of the preceding calendar quarter, and the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements arose from changes in the market values of our assets and was not wholly or partly caused by the acquisition of one or more non-qualifying assets; or

We eliminate any discrepancy within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which it arose. Moreover, if we fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter during a taxable year, we will not lose our qualification as a REIT if one of the following additional exceptions applies:

De Minimis Exception: The failure is due to a violation of the 5% or 10% asset tests referenced above and is de minimis (meaning that the failure is one that arises from our ownership of assets the total value of which does not exceed the lesser of 1% of the total value of our assets at the end of the quarter in which the failure occurred and \$10 million), and we either dispose of the assets that caused the failure or otherwise satisfy the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which our identification of the failure occurred; or

General Exception: All of the following requirements are satisfied: (i) the failure does not meet the de minimis exception described above, (ii) the failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, (iii) we file a schedule in accordance with Treasury Regulations providing a description of each asset that caused the failure, (iv) we either dispose of the assets that caused the failure or otherwise satisfy the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which our identification of the failure occurred, and (v) we pay an excise tax as described above in Taxation of Our Company.

### Annual Distribution Requirements

In order to qualify as a REIT, each taxable year we must distribute dividends (other than capital gain dividends) to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to (A) the sum of (i) 90% of our REIT taxable income, determined without

regard to the dividends paid deduction and by excluding any net capital gain, and (ii) 90% of the net income (after tax), if any, from foreclosure property, minus (B) the sum of certain items of non-cash income. We generally must pay such distributions in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if declared before we timely file our tax return for such year and if paid on or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration. Subject to certain requirements, we may satisfy our distribution requirement by paying a taxable stock dividend.

To the extent that we do not distribute all of our net capital gain and taxable income, we will be subject to U.S. federal, state and local tax on the undistributed amount at regular corporate income tax rates. Furthermore, if

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we should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (i) 85% of our REIT taxable income (subject to certain adjustments) for such year, (ii) 95% of our capital gain net income for such year, and (iii) 100% of any corresponding undistributed amounts from prior periods, we will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the sum of amounts actually distributed plus retained income from such taxable year on which we paid corporate income tax.

Under certain circumstances, we may be able to rectify a failure to meet the distribution requirement for a year by paying deficiency dividends to our stockholders in a later year that may be included in our deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. Thus, we may be able to avoid being taxed on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends; however, we will be required to pay interest based upon the amount of any deduction taken for deficiency dividends. Amounts paid as deficiency dividends are generally treated as taxable income for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

In order to satisfy the REIT distribution requirements, the dividends we pay must not be preferential within the meaning of the Code. A dividend determined to be preferential will not qualify for the dividends paid deduction. To avoid paying preferential dividends, we must treat every stockholder of a class of stock with respect to which we make a distribution the same as every other stockholder of that class, and we must not treat any class of stock other than according to its dividend rights as a class.

We may retain and pay income tax on net long-term capital gains we receive during the tax year. To the extent we so elect, (i) each stockholder must include in its income (as long-term capital gain) its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gains, (ii) each stockholder is deemed to have paid, and receives a credit for, its proportionate share of the tax paid by us on the undistributed long-term capital gains, and (iii) each stockholder s basis in its stock is increased by the included amount of the undistributed long-term capital gains less their share of the tax paid by us.

To qualify as a REIT, we may not have, at the end of any taxable year, any undistributed earnings and profits accumulated in any non-REIT taxable year. We believe that we have not had any non-REIT earnings and profits at the end of any taxable year and we intend to distribute any non-REIT earnings and profits that we accumulate before the end of any taxable year in which we accumulate such earnings and profits.

## Failure to Qualify

If we fail to qualify as a REIT and such failure is not an asset test or income test failure subject to the cure provisions described above, or the result of preferential dividends as described above, we generally will be eligible for a relief provision if the failure is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and we pay a penalty of \$50,000 with respect to such failure.

If we fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT in any taxable year and no relief provisions apply, we generally will be subject to tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax) on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. Distributions to our stockholders in any year in which we fail to qualify as a REIT will not be deductible by us nor will they be required to be made. In such event, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to our stockholders will be taxable as dividend income. Subject to certain limitations in the Code, corporate stockholders may be eligible for the dividends received deduction, and individual, trust and estate stockholders may be eligible to treat the dividends received from us as qualified dividend income taxable as net capital gains. Unless entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, we also will be ineligible to elect to be taxed as a REIT again prior to the fifth taxable year following the first year in which we failed to qualify as a REIT under the Code.

Our qualification as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes will depend on our continuing to meet the various requirements summarized above governing the ownership of our outstanding stock, the nature of our assets, the sources of our income, and the amount of our distributions to our stockholders. Although we intend to

operate in a manner that will enable us to comply with such requirements, there can be no certainty that such intention will be realized. In addition, because the relevant laws may change, compliance with one or more of the REIT requirements may become impossible or impracticable for us.

### **Prohibited Transaction Tax**

Any gain realized by us on the sale of any property held (other than foreclosure property) as inventory or other property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, including our share of any such gain realized by our subsidiary partnerships and taking into account any related foreign currency gains or losses, will be treated as income from a prohibited transaction that is subject to a 100% penalty tax. Whether property is held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends upon all the facts and circumstances with respect to the particular transaction. However, the Code provides a safe harbor pursuant to which sales of properties held for at least two years and meeting certain other requirements will not give rise to prohibited transaction income.

We generally intend to hold properties for investment, but we may make sales of properties consistent with our strategic objectives. In the future, we may make sales at a gain that do not satisfy the safe harbor requirements described above. There can be no assurance that the IRS will not contend that one or more of these sales are subject to the 100% penalty tax. The 100% tax will not apply to gains from the sale of property realized through a TRS or other taxable corporation, although such income will be subject to tax at regular corporate income tax rates.

### **Recordkeeping Requirements**

To avoid a monetary penalty, we must request on an annual basis information from certain of our stockholders designed to disclose the actual ownership of our outstanding stock. We intend to comply with these requirements.

### **Qualified REIT Subsidiaries and Disregarded Entities**

If a REIT owns a corporate subsidiary that is a qualified REIT subsidiary (QRS), or if a REIT owns 100% of the membership interests in a domestic limited liability company or other domestic unincorporated entity that does not elect to be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the separate existence of the QRS, limited liability company or other unincorporated entity generally will be disregarded for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Generally, a QRS is a corporation, other than a TRS, all of the stock of which is owned by a REIT. A limited liability company or other unincorporated entity 100% owned by a single member that does not elect to be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes (or, in the case of certain foreign entities, such an entity that affirmatively elects not to be treated as a corporation) generally is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner for U.S. federal income tax purposes. All assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of the QRS or disregarded entity will be treated as assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction, and credit of its owner. To the extent we own a QRS or a disregarded entity, neither will be subject to U.S. federal corporate income taxation, although such entities may be subject to state and local taxation in some states or foreign taxes if they do business or own property outside the United States.

### **Taxation of Subsidiary Partnerships**

We hold investments through entities that are classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes, including our operating partnership. Under the Code, a partnership is not subject to U.S. federal income tax, but is required to file a partnership tax return each year. In general, the character of each partner s share of each item of income, gain, loss, deduction, credit, and tax preference is determined at the partnership level. Each partner is then

allocated a distributive share of such items and is required to take such items into account in determining the partner s income. Each partner includes such amount in income for any taxable year of the

partnership ending within or with the taxable year of the partner, without regard to whether the partner has received or will receive any cash distributions from the partnership. Cash distributions, if any, from a partnership to a partner generally are not taxable unless and to the extent they exceed the partner s basis in its partnership interest immediately before the distribution. Any amounts in excess of such tax basis will generally be treated as a sale of such partner s interest in the partnership.

A REIT that is a partner in a partnership will be deemed to own its proportionate share of the assets of the partnership and, for purposes of the REIT income and asset tests, will be deemed to earn its proportionate share of the partnership s income. The assets and gross income of the partnership retain the same character in the hands of the REIT for purposes of the gross income and asset tests applicable to REITs. Our proportionate share of the assets and items of income of our operating partnership and any subsidiary partnership, including such partnership s share of the assets and liabilities and items of income with respect to any partnership or disregarded entity in which it holds an interest, will be treated as our assets and liabilities and items of income for purposes of applying the REIT asset and income tests. We control, and intend to continue to control, our operating partnership and intend to operate it consistently with the requirements for our qualification as a REIT.

The partnership agreement of our operating partnership generally provides that items of operating income and loss will be allocated to the holders of operating partnership units in proportion to the overall interests of each such holder, as defined in the partnership agreement. If an allocation of partnership income or loss does not comply with the requirements of Section 704(b) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder, the item subject to the allocation will be reallocated in accordance with the partners interests in the partnership. This reallocation will be determined by taking into account all of the facts and circumstances relating to the economic arrangement of the partners with respect to such item. Our operating partnership s allocations of income and loss are intended to comply with the requirements of Section 704(b) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

Under Section 704(c) of the Code, income, gain, loss and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property that is contributed to a partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership must be allocated for tax purposes in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. The amount of the unrealized gain or unrealized loss is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value, or book value, of the contributed property and the adjusted tax basis of such property at the time of the contribution. Such allocations are solely for U.S. federal income tax purposes and do not affect partnership capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners. To the extent that any of our subsidiary partnerships, including our operating partnership, acquires appreciated (or depreciated) properties by way of capital contributions from its partners, allocations would need to be made in a manner consistent with these requirements.

Any gain realized by the operating partnership on the sale of property held by it for more than one year generally will be long-term capital gain, except for any portion of such gain that is treated as depreciation or cost recovery recapture.

The discussion above assumes that our operating partnership and any subsidiary partnerships will be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Generally, a domestic unincorporated entity with two or more partners is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes unless it affirmatively elects to be treated as a corporation. However, certain publicly traded partnerships are treated as corporations for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Pursuant to Section 7704 of the Code, a partnership that does not elect to be treated as a corporation nevertheless will be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if it is a publicly traded partnership and it does not derive at least 90% of its gross income from certain specified sources of qualifying income within the meaning of that provision. A publicly traded partnership is any partnership (i) the interests in which are traded on an established securities market or (ii) the interests in which are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial

equivalent thereof. Operating partnership units

will not be traded on an established securities market, and we intend to operate so that our operating partnership is not treated as a corporation under the publicly traded partnership rules. Under the relevant Treasury Regulations, interests in a partnership will not be considered readily tradable on a secondary market or on the substantial equivalent of a secondary market if the partnership qualifies for specified safe harbors, which are based on the specific facts and circumstances relating to the partnership. For example, interests in a partnership are not readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof if (i) all interests in the partnership were issued in a transaction (or transactions) that was not required to be registered under the Securities Act, and (ii) the partnership does not have more than 100 partners at any time during the taxable year of the partnership (determined, in certain cases, by counting indirect partners who held their partnership interest through certain flow through entities). If any subsidiary partnership were a publicly traded partnership, it would be taxed as a corporation unless at least 90% of its gross income consists of qualifying income under Section 7704 of the Code. Qualifying income includes real property rents and other types of passive income, and is very similar to the types of income that we must generate in order to satisfy the REIT income tests discussed above. We intend to operate so that our operating partnership and any subsidiary partnerships will satisfy at least one of the above-mentioned safe harbors, and/or comply with the qualifying income exception, so as to avoid being taxed as a corporation under these rules. However, treatment of the operating partnership or other subsidiary partnership as a corporation could prevent us from qualifying as a REIT.

### **Investments in Certain Debt Instruments**

We have acquired and may continue to acquire mortgage loans, and may acquire other debt investments. Interest income constitutes qualifying mortgage interest for purposes of the 75% gross income test (as described above) to the extent that the obligation upon which such interest is paid is secured by a mortgage on real property. If we receive interest income with respect to a mortgage loan that is secured by both real property and other property, and the highest principal amount of the loan outstanding during a taxable year exceeds the fair market value of the real property on the date that we committed to acquire the loan, or agreed to modify the loan in a manner that is treated as an acquisition of a new loan for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the mortgage loan, then the interest income will be apportioned between the real property and the other collateral, and our income from the loan will qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test only to the extent that the interest is allocable to the real property. For purposes of the preceding sentence, however, the IRS has indicated in published guidance that we do not need to re-determine the fair market value of real property in connection with a loan modification that is occasioned by a default or made at a time when we reasonably believe the modification of the loan will substantially reduce a significant risk of default on such loan, and any such modification will not be treated as a prohibited transaction. Even if a loan is not secured by real property, or is under-secured, the income that it generates may nonetheless qualify for purposes of the 95% gross income test. To the extent that we derive interest income from a mortgage loan where all or a portion of the amount of interest payable is contingent, such income generally will qualify for purposes of the gross income tests only if it is based upon the gross receipts or sales, and not the net income or profits, of the borrower. This limitation does not apply, however, where the borrower leases substantially all of its interest in the property to tenants or subtenants, to the extent that the rental income derived by the borrower would qualify as rents from real property had we earned the income directly.

If the outstanding principal balance of a mortgage loan exceeds the fair market value of the real property securing the loan at the time we commit to acquire the loan, or agree to modify the loan in a manner that is treated as an acquisition of a new loan for U.S. federal income tax purposes (such fair market value is referred to as the loan value of the real property), then a portion of such loan may not be a qualifying real estate asset. Under current law it is not clear how to determine what portion of such a loan will be treated as a qualifying real estate asset. The IRS has stated that it will not challenge a REIT s treatment of a loan as being in part a real estate asset if the REIT treats the loan as being a real estate asset in an amount that is equal to the lesser of the fair market value of the loan and the greater of the current value of the real property securing the loan, or the loan value of the real property securing the loan.

The application of the REIT provisions of the Code to certain mezzanine loans, which are loans secured by equity interests in an entity that directly or indirectly owns real property rather than by a direct mortgage of the real property, is not entirely clear. A safe harbor in Revenue Procedure 2003-65 provides that if a mezzanine loan meets certain requirements then it will be treated by the IRS as a real estate asset for purposes of the REIT asset tests and interest derived from it will be treated as qualifying mortgage interest for purposes of the 75% income test. However, to the extent that mezzanine loans do not meet all of the requirements for reliance on the safe harbor set forth in the Revenue Procedure, such loans may not be real estate assets and could adversely affect our REIT qualification if we acquired them. As such, the REIT provisions of the Code may limit our ability to acquire mortgage, mezzanine or other loans that we might otherwise desire to acquire.

Investments in debt instruments may require recognition of taxable income prior to receipt of cash from such investments and may cause portions of gain to be treated as ordinary income. For example, we may purchase debt instruments at a discount from face value. To the extent we purchase any instruments at a discount in connection with their original issuances, the discount will be original issue discount if it exceeds certain de minimis amounts, which must be accrued on a constant yield method even though we may not receive the corresponding cash payment until maturity. To the extent debt instruments are purchased by us at a discount after their original issuances, the discount may represent market discount. Unlike original issue discount, market discount is not required to be included in income on a constant yield method. However, if we sell a debt instrument with market discount, we will be required to treat gain up to an amount equal to the market discount that has accrued while we held the debt instrument as ordinary income. Additionally, any principal payments we receive in respect of our debt instruments must be treated as ordinary income to the extent of any accrued market discount. If we ultimately collect less on a debt instrument than our purchase price and any original issue discount or accrued market discount that we have included in income, there may be limitations on our ability to use any losses resulting from that debt instrument. We may acquire distressed debt instruments that are subsequently modified by agreement with the borrower. Under applicable Treasury Regulations, these modifications may be treated as a taxable event in which we exchange the old debt instrument for a new debt instrument, the value of which may be treated as equal to the face amount of the new debt instrument. Because distressed debt instruments are often acquired at a substantial discount from face value, the difference between our amount realized and our tax basis in the old note could be significant, resulting in significant income without any corresponding receipt of cash. Similarly, if we acquire a distressed debt instrument and subsequently foreclose, we could have taxable income to the extent that the fair market value of the property we receive exceeds our tax basis in the debt instrument. Such a scenario could also result in significant taxable income without any receipt of cash. In the event that any debt instruments acquired by us are delinquent as to mandatory principal and interest payments, or in the event payments with respect to a particular debt instrument are not made when due, we may nonetheless be required to continue to recognize the unpaid interest as taxable income.

### **Investments in TRSs**

We own a subsidiary that has elected to be treated as a TRS for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and may in the future own interests in additional TRSs. A TRS is a corporation in which we directly or indirectly own stock and that jointly elects with us to be treated as a TRS. In addition, if any TRS in which we hold an interest owns, directly or indirectly, securities representing 35% or more of the vote or value of a subsidiary corporation, that subsidiary will also be treated as a TRS. A TRS is generally subject to U.S. federal and, possibly, state, local and foreign taxes. The taxes owed by a TRS could be substantial. To the extent that any TRS in which we hold an interest is required to pay U.S. federal, state, local, or foreign taxes, the cash available for distribution by us will be reduced accordingly.

A TRS is permitted to engage in certain kinds of activities that cannot be performed directly by us without jeopardizing our qualification as a REIT. However, an entity will not qualify as a TRS if it directly or indirectly operates or manages a health care or lodging facility or, generally, provides rights to any brand name under which any

health care or lodging facility is operated, unless such rights are provided to an eligible independent contractor to operate or manage a health care facility or a lodging facility if such rights are held by the TRS as a

franchisee, licensee or in a similar capacity and such health care facility or lodging facility is either owned by the TRS or leased to the TRS by its parent REIT. A TRS will not be considered to operate or manage a qualified health care property or a qualified lodging facility solely because the TRS directly or indirectly possesses a license, permit or similar instrument enabling it to do so. Additionally, a TRS will not be considered to operate or manage a qualified health care property or qualified lodging facility if it employs individuals working at such property or facility located outside of the United States, but only if an eligible independent contractor is responsible for the daily supervision and direction of such individuals on behalf of the TRS pursuant to a management agreement or similar service contract. An eligible independent contractor is, generally, with respect to any qualified health care property or qualified lodging facility, any independent contractor (as defined in section 856(d)(3) of the Code) if, at the time such contractor enters into a management agreement or other similar service contract with the TRS to operate such qualified health care property or qualified lodging facility, such contractor (or any related person) is actively engaged in the trade or business of operating qualified health care properties or qualified lodging facilities, respectively, for any person who is not a related person with respect to the parent REIT or the TRS. Certain payments made by any TRS to us may not be deductible by the TRS (which could materially increase the TRS s taxable income). In addition, we will be subject to a 100% tax on the amounts of any rents from real property, deductions, or excess interest received from a TRS that would be reduced through reapportionment under the Code in order to more clearly reflect the income of the TRS.

### **Taxation of U.S. Stockholders**

The term U.S. stockholder means a beneficial owner of the Class A common stock that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is (i) a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or other entity treated as a corporation that is created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any of its states or the District of Columbia, (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (iv) a trust (a) if 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 substantial decisions of the trust or (b) that has a valid election in effect under the applicable Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person under the Code.

In addition, as used herein, the term U.S. stockholder does not include any entity that is subject to special treatment under the Code, such as (i) insurance companies; (ii) tax-exempt organizations (except to the limited extent discussed below); (iii) financial institutions or broker-dealers; (iv) non-U.S. individuals and foreign corporations (except to the limited extent discussed below); (v) U.S. expatriates; (vi) persons who have elected to use a mark-to-market method of accounting; (vii) subchapter S corporations; (viii) U.S. stockholders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar; (ix) regulated investment companies; (x) holders who receive our stock through the exercise of employee stock options or otherwise as compensation; (xi) persons holding shares of our stock as part of a straddle, hedge. conversion synthetic security or other integrated investment; (xii) persons subject to the alternative minimum tax transaction, provisions of the Code; (xiii) persons holding our stock through a partnership or similar pass-through entity; and (xiv) persons holding a 10% or more (by vote or value) beneficial interest in our stock. If a partnership, including any entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holds our stock, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner in a partnership holding our stock, you are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding the consequences of the ownership and disposition of shares of our stock by the partnership. This summary assumes that stockholders hold our stock as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which generally means property held for investment.

### Distributions

Distributions by us, other than capital gain dividends, will constitute ordinary dividends to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, these dividends will

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be taxable as ordinary income and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction for

corporate stockholders. Our ordinary dividends generally will not qualify as qualified dividend income currently taxed as net capital gain for U.S. stockholders that are individuals, trusts, or estates. However, provided we properly designate the distributions, distributions to U.S. stockholders that are individuals, trusts, or estates generally will constitute qualified dividend income taxed as net capital gains to the extent the U.S. stockholder satisfies certain holding period requirements and to the extent the dividends are attributable to (i) qualified dividend income we receive from other corporations during the taxable year, including from any TRS in which we hold an interest, and (ii) our undistributed earnings or built-in gains taxed at the corporate level during the immediately preceding year. We do not anticipate distributing a significant amount of qualified dividend income.

The discussion in this section applies equally to certain distributions payable in cash and taxable stock distributions. Taxable U.S. stockholders receiving taxable stock dividends will be required to include as dividend income the fair market value of the stock received plus any cash or other property received in the distribution, to the extent of the REIT s current and accumulated earnings and profits for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a U.S. stockholder may be required to pay tax with respect to such dividends in excess of the cash received. If a U.S. stockholder sells the stock it receives as a dividend, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in income with respect to the dividend, depending on the market price of the stock at the time of the sale.

To the extent that we make a distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits (a return of capital distribution ), the distribution will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital, reducing the tax basis in a U.S. stockholder s stock. To the extent a return of capital distribution exceeds a U.S. stockholder s tax basis in its stock, the distribution will be taxable as capital gain realized from the sale of such stock.

Dividends declared by us in October, November or December and payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any such month shall be treated both as paid by us and as received by the stockholder on December 31 of the year, provided that the dividend is actually paid by us during January of the following calendar year.

We will be treated as having sufficient earnings and profits to treat as a dividend any distribution up to the amount required to be distributed in order to avoid imposition of the 4% excise tax generally applicable to REITs if certain distribution requirements are not met. Moreover, any deficiency dividend will be treated as an ordinary or a capital gain dividend, as the case may be, regardless of our earnings and profits at the time the distribution is actually made. As a result, stockholders may be required to treat certain distributions as taxable dividends that would otherwise result in a tax-free return of capital.

Distributions that are properly designated as capital gain dividends will be taxed as long-term capital gains (to the extent they do not exceed our actual net capital gain for the taxable year) without regard to the period for which the stockholder has held its stock. However, corporate stockholders may be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income. In addition, U.S. stockholders may be required to treat a portion of any capital gain dividend as unrecaptured Section 1250 gain, taxable at a maximum rate of 25%, if we incur such gain. Capital gain dividends are not eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporations.

The REIT provisions of the Code do not require us to distribute our long-term capital gain, and we may elect to retain and pay income tax on our net long-term capital gains received during the taxable year. If we so elect for a taxable year, our stockholders would include in income as long-term capital gains their proportionate share of designated retained net long-term capital gains for the taxable year. A U.S. stockholder would be deemed to have paid its share of the tax paid by us on such undistributed capital gains, which would be credited or refunded to the stockholder. The U.S. stockholder s basis in its stock would be increased by the amount of undistributed long-term capital gains (less the capital gains tax paid by us) included in the U.S. stockholder s long-term capital gains.

### Passive Activity Loss and Investment Interest Limitations; No Pass Through of Losses

Our distributions and gain from the disposition of our stock will not be treated as passive activity income and, therefore, U.S. stockholders will not be able to apply any passive losses against such income. With respect to non-corporate U.S. stockholders, our distributions (to the extent they do not constitute a return of capital) that are taxed at ordinary income rates will generally be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitation; however, net capital gain from the disposition of our stock (or distributions treated as such), capital gain dividends, and dividends taxed at net capital gains rates generally will be excluded from investment income except to the extent the U.S. stockholder elects to treat such amounts as ordinary income for U.S. federal income tax purposes. U.S. stockholders may not include in their own U.S. federal income tax returns any of our net operating or net capital losses.

#### Sale or Disposition of Stock

In general, any gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares of our stock by a stockholder will be a long-term capital gain or loss if the stock has been held for more than one year and otherwise will be a short-term capital gain or loss. However, any loss upon a sale or exchange of the stock by a stockholder who has held such stock for six months or less (after applying certain holding period rules) will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of our distributions or undistributed capital gains required to be treated by such stockholder as long-term capital gain. All or a portion of any loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares of our stock may be disallowed if the taxpayer purchases other shares of the common stock within 30 days before or after the disposition.

#### Medicare Tax on Unearned Income

Certain U.S. stockholders that are individuals, estates or trusts will be required to pay an additional 3.8% tax (the Medicare Tax ) on, among other things, certain dividends on and capital gains from the sale or other disposition of stock. U.S. stockholders that are individuals, estates or trusts should consult their tax advisors regarding the effect, if any, of the Medicare Tax on their ownership and disposition of our stock.

#### **Taxation of U.S. Tax-Exempt Stockholders**

### In General

In general, a tax-exempt organization is exempt from U.S. federal income tax on its income, except to the extent of its unrelated business taxable income (UBTI), which is defined by the Code as the gross income derived from any trade or business which is regularly carried on by a tax-exempt entity and unrelated to its exempt purposes, less any directly connected deductions and subject to certain modifications. For this purpose, the Code generally excludes from UBTI any gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of property (other than stock in trade or property held primarily for sale in the ordinary course of a trade or business), dividends, interest, rents from real property, and certain other items. However, a portion of any such gains, dividends, interest, rents, and other items generally is UBTI to the extent derived from debt-financed property, based on the amount of acquisition indebtedness with respect to such debt-financed property. Before making an investment in shares of our stock, a tax-exempt stockholder should consult its tax advisors with regard to UBTI and the suitability of the investment in our stock.

Distributions we make to a tax-exempt employee pension trust or other domestic tax-exempt stockholder or gains from the disposition of our stock held as capital assets generally will not constitute UBTI unless the exempt organization s stock is debt-financed property (e.g., the stockholder has incurred acquisition indebtedness with respect to such stock). However, if we are a pension-held REIT, this general rule may not apply to distributions to certain

pension trusts that are qualified trusts (as defined above in Qualification as a REIT Ownership Tests ) and that hold more than 10% (by value) of our stock. We will be treated as a pension-held REIT if (i) treating qualified trusts as individuals would cause us to fail the 5/50 Test (as defined above) and (ii) we are

predominantly held by qualified trusts. We will be predominantly held by qualified trusts if either (i) a single qualified trust holds more than 25% by value of our stock or (ii) one or more qualified trusts, each owning more than 10% by value of our stock, hold in the aggregate more than 50% by value of our stock. In the event we are a pension-held REIT, the percentage of any dividend received from us treated as UBTI would be equal to the ratio of (a) the gross UBTI (less certain associated expenses) earned by us (treating us as if we were a qualified trust and, therefore, subject to tax on UBTI) to (b) our total gross income (less certain associated expenses). A de minimis exception applies where the ratio set forth in the preceding sentence is less than 5% for any year; in that case, no dividends are treated as UBTI. We cannot assure you that we will not be treated as a pension-held REIT.

### **Special Issues**

Social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts, and qualified group legal services plans that are exempt from taxation under paragraphs (7), (9), (17), and (20), respectively, of Section 501(c) of the Code are subject to different UBTI rules, which generally will require them to characterize distributions from us as UBTI. Prospective tax-exempt stockholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the implications of these rules with respect to their investment in our stock.

#### Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders

The rules governing U.S. federal income taxation of non-U.S. beneficial owners of the Class A common stock, such as nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, and foreign trusts and estates ( non-U.S. stockholders ), are complex. This section is only a partial discussion of such rules. This discussion does not attempt to address the considerations that may be relevant for non-U.S. stockholders that are partnerships or other pass-through entities, that hold their stock through intermediate entities or that are subject to special rules (such as sovereigns).

Prospective non-U.S. stockholders are urged to consult their tax advisors to determine the impact of U.S. federal, state, local and foreign income tax laws on their ownership of our stock, including any reporting requirements.

### Distributions

A non-U.S. stockholder that receives a distribution that is not attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of United States real property interests (as defined below) and that we do not designate as a capital gain dividend or retained capital gain generally will recognize ordinary income to the extent that we pay the distribution out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. A withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution ordinarily will apply unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates the tax. Under some treaties, lower withholding rates do not apply to dividends from REITs or are available in limited circumstances. However, if a distribution is treated as effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder s conduct of a U.S. trade or business and, if so required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder, the non-U.S. stockholder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the distribution at graduated rates (in the same manner as U.S. stockholders are taxed on distributions) and also may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the case of a corporate non-U.S. stockholder (subject to reduction under an applicable income tax treaty). We plan to withhold U.S. income tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any distribution paid to a non-U.S. stockholder (including any portion of any dividend that is payable in our stock) that is neither a capital gain dividend nor a distribution that is attributable to gain from the sale or exchange of United States real property interests unless either (i) a lower treaty rate or special provision of the Code applies and the non-U.S. stockholder files with us any required IRS Form W-8 (for example, an IRS Form W-8BEN) evidencing eligibility for that reduced rate or (ii) the non-U.S. stockholder files with us an IRS Form W-8ECI claiming that the distribution is effectively connected income.

A non-U.S. stockholder generally will not incur tax on a return of capital distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits that is not attributable to the gain from our disposition of a United

States real property interest if the excess portion of the distribution does not exceed the adjusted basis of the non-U.S. stockholder s stock. Instead, the excess portion of the distribution will reduce the adjusted basis of the stock. However, a non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to tax on such a distribution that exceeds both our current and accumulated earnings and profits and the non-U.S. stockholder s adjusted basis in the stock, if the non-U.S. stockholder otherwise would be subject to tax on gain from the sale or disposition of our stock, as described below. Because we generally cannot determine at the time we make a distribution whether or not the distribution will exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, we normally will withhold tax on the entire amount of any distribution at the same rate as we would withhold on a dividend. However, a non-U.S. stockholder may file a U.S. federal income tax return and obtain a refund from the IRS of amounts that we withhold if we later determine that a distribution in fact exceeded our current and accumulated earnings and profits.

We may be required to withhold 10% of any distribution that exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Consequently, although we intend to withhold at a rate of 30% on the entire amount of any distribution that is neither attributable to the gain from our disposition of a United States real property interest nor designated by us as a capital gain dividend, to the extent that we do not do so, we will withhold at a rate of 10% on any portion of a distribution not subject to withholding at a rate of 30%.

Subject to the exception discussed below for 5% or smaller holders of regularly traded classes of stock, a non-U.S. stockholder will incur tax on distributions that are attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of United States real property interests under the Foreign Investors in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 (FIRPTA), regardless of whether we designate such distributions as capital gain distributions. The term United States real property interests includes interests in U.S. real property and stock in U.S. corporations at least 50% of whose assets, generally, consist of interests in U.S. real property. Under those rules, a non-U.S. stockholder is taxed on distributions attributable to gain from sales of United States real property interests as if the gain were effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder s conduct of a U.S. trade or business. A non-U.S. stockholder thus would be taxed on such a distribution at the normal capital gain rates applicable to U.S. stockholders, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of a nonresident alien individual. A corporate non-U.S. stockholder not entitled to treaty relief or exemption also may be subject to the 30% branch profits tax on such a distribution. We generally must withhold 35% of any distribution subject to these rules (35% FIRPTA Withholding). A non-U.S. stockholder may receive a credit against its tax liability for the amount we withhold.

A non-U.S. stockholder that owns no more than 5% of our Class A common stock at all times during the one-year period ending on the date of a distribution will not be subject to FIRPTA, branch profits tax or 35% FIRPTA Withholding with respect to a distribution on stock that is attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of United States real property interests, provided that our Class A common stock continues to be regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States. Instead, any such distributions made to such non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to the general withholding rules discussed above, which generally impose a withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of each distribution (unless reduced by treaty).

Distributions that are designated by us as capital gain dividends, other than those attributable to the disposition of a U.S. real property interest, generally should not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation unless:

such distribution is effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder s U.S. trade or business and, if so required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder, in which case the non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to tax on a net basis in a manner similar to the taxation of U.S. stockholders with respect to such gain, except that a holder that is a

foreign corporation may also be subject to the additional 30% branch profits tax; or

the non-U.S. stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and has a tax home in the United States, in which case such

nonresident alien individual generally will be subject to a 30% tax on the individual s net U.S. source capital gain.

It is not entirely clear to what extent we are required to withhold on distributions to non-U.S. stockholders that are not treated as ordinary income and are not attributable to the disposition of a United States real property interest. Unless the law is clarified to the contrary, we will generally withhold and remit to the IRS 35% of any distribution to a non-U.S. stockholder that is designated as a capital gain dividend (or, if greater, 35% of a distribution that could have been designated as a capital gain dividend). Distributions can be designated as capital gain dividends to the extent of our net capital gain for the taxable year of the distribution. The amount withheld is creditable against the non-U.S. stockholder s U.S. federal income tax liability.

It is also not entirely clear whether distributions that are (i) otherwise treated as capital gain dividends, (ii) not attributable to the disposition of a United States real property interest, and (iii) paid to non-U.S. stockholders who own 5% or less of the value of our Class A common stock at all times during the one-year period ending on the date of the distribution, will be treated as (a) long-term capital gain to such non-U.S. stockholders or as (b) ordinary dividends taxable in the manner described above. If we were to pay a capital gain dividend described in the prior sentence, non-U.S. stockholders should consult their tax advisors regarding the taxation of such distribution in their particular circumstances.

### Dispositions

If gain on the sale of our stock were taxed under FIRPTA, a non-U.S. stockholder would be taxed on that gain in the same manner as U.S. stockholders with respect to that gain, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax, and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals. A non-U.S. stockholder generally will not incur tax under FIRPTA on a sale or other disposition of our stock if we are a domestically controlled qualified investment entity, which requires that, during the shorter of the period since our formation and the five-year period ending on the date of the distribution or disposition, non-U.S. stockholders hold, directly or indirectly, less than 50% in value of our stock and we are qualified as a REIT. We cannot assure you that we are or will be a domestically controlled qualified investment entity. However, the gain from a sale of our Class A common stock by a non-U.S. stockholder will not be subject to tax under FIRPTA if (i) our Class A common stock is considered regularly traded under applicable Treasury Regulations on an established securities market, such as the New York Stock Exchange, and (ii) the non-U.S. stockholder owned, actually or constructively, 5% or less of our Class A common stock at all times during a specified testing period. Accordingly, provided that our Class A common stock is, and continues to be, regularly traded on an established securities market, a non-U.S. stockholder should not incur tax under FIRPTA with respect to gain on a sale of our Class A common stock unless it owns or has owned during such period, actually or constructively, more than 5% of our Class A common stock.

In addition, even if we are a domestically controlled qualified investment entity, upon a disposition of our stock, a non-U.S. stockholder may be treated as having gain from the sale or exchange of a United States real property interest if the non-U.S. stockholder (i) disposes of an interest in our stock during the 30-day period preceding the ex-dividend date of a distribution, any portion of which, but for the disposition, would have been treated as gain from sale or exchange of a United States real property interest, and (ii) directly or indirectly acquires, enters into a contract or option to acquire, or is deemed to acquire, other shares of our stock within 30 days before or after such ex-dividend date. The foregoing rule does not apply if the exception described above for dispositions by 5% or smaller holders of regularly traded classes of stock is satisfied.

Furthermore, a non-U.S. stockholder generally will incur tax on gain (even if not subject to FIRPTA) if (i) the gain is effectively connected with the non-U.S. stockholder s U.S. trade or business and, if so required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. stockholder, in which

case the non-U.S. stockholder will be subject to the same treatment as U.S. stockholders with respect to such gain, or (ii) the non-U.S. stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the

United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and has a tax home in the United States, in which case the non-U.S. stockholder will generally incur a 30% tax on his or her net U.S. source capital gains.

Purchasers of our stock from a non-U.S. stockholder generally will be required to withhold and remit to the IRS 10% of the purchase price unless at the time of purchase (i) any class of our stock is regularly traded on an established securities market in the United States (subject to certain limits if the shares sold are not themselves part of such a regularly traded class) or (ii) we are a domestically controlled qualified investment entity. The non-U.S. stockholder may receive a credit against its tax liability for the amount withheld.

### Information Reporting Requirements and Backup Withholding Tax

The amount of distributions paid during each calendar year, and the amount of tax withheld, if any, will be reported to our U.S. stockholders and to the IRS. Under the backup withholding rules, a U.S. stockholder may be subject to backup withholding (currently at 28%) with respect to distributions paid, unless such stockholder (i) is a corporation or other exempt entity and, when required, proves its status or (ii) certifies under penalties of perjury that the taxpayer identification number the stockholder has furnished to us is correct and the stockholder is not subject to backup withholding rules. A U.S. stockholder that does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS.

The amount of dividends paid and the tax withheld with respect to such dividends, regardless of whether withholding was required, will be reported to our non-U.S. stockholders and to the IRS. Copies of the information returns reporting such dividends and withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. stockholder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty. A non-U.S. stockholder may be subject to back-up withholding unless applicable certification requirements are met.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be allowed as a refund or a credit against such holder s U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

### **FATCA Withholding**

### U.S. Stockholders

Pursuant to legislation known as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ( FATCA ), a U.S. withholding tax will be imposed at a rate of 30% on dividends paid on our Class A common stock received by U.S. stockholders who own their Class A common stock through foreign accounts or foreign intermediaries if certain disclosure requirements related to U.S. accounts or ownership are not satisfied. In addition, if those disclosure requirements are not satisfied, a U.S. withholding tax at a 30% rate will be imposed, for payments after December 31, 2016, on proceeds from the sale of our Class A common stock received by U.S. stockholders who own their Class A common stock through foreign accounts or foreign intermediaries. Accordingly, the status of the entity through which our Class A common stock is held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. We will not pay any additional amounts in respect of any amounts withheld.

### Non-U.S. Stockholders

Pursuant to FATCA, a U.S. withholding tax will be imposed at a rate of 30% on dividends paid on our Class A common stock received by or through certain foreign financial institutions that fail to meet certain disclosure

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requirements related to U.S. persons that either have accounts with such institutions or own equity interests in such institutions. Similarly, dividends in respect of our Class A common stock held by a stockholder that is a non-financial non-U.S. entity will be subject to withholding at a rate of 30% unless such entity either (i) certifies that such entity does not have any substantial United States owners or (ii) provides certain

information regarding its substantial United States owners, which we will in turn provide to the Secretary of the Treasury. In addition, in the cases described above, 30% withholding will also apply to gross proceeds from the disposition of our Class A common stock occurring after December 31, 2016. We will not pay any additional amounts in respect of any amounts withheld.

#### Legislative or Other Actions Affecting REITs

The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department. No assurance can be given as to whether, when, or in what form, the U.S. federal income tax laws applicable to us and our security holders may be enacted. Changes to the U.S. federal tax laws and interpretations of U.S. federal tax laws could adversely affect an investment in our securities.

#### State, Local and Foreign Tax

We may be subject to state, local and foreign tax in states, localities and foreign countries in which we do business or own property. The tax treatment applicable to us and our security holders in such jurisdictions may differ from the U.S. federal income tax treatment described above.

### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplements from time to time in one or more transactions:

to or through one or more underwriters or dealers;

to investors directly;

through agents; or

through any combination of these methods of sale. Our securities may be offered and sold from time to time in one or more transactions at:

a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

prices related to the prevailing market prices; or

negotiated prices.

Any of the prices at which we sell securities may be at a discount to market prices. Broker-dealers may also receive from us, as applicable, or the purchasers of the securities compensation that is not expected to exceed that customary in the types of transactions involved.

Each prospectus supplement, to the extent applicable, will describe the number and terms of the securities to which such prospectus supplement relates, including:

any over-allotment options under which underwriters, if any, may purchase additional securities;

the name or names of any underwriters or agents with whom we have entered into an arrangement with respect to the sale of such securities;

the public offering or purchase price of such securities;

any underwriting discounts or commissions or agency fees or other items constituting underwriter or agent compensation;

any discounts, commissions or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers;

any securities exchanges or markets on which the securities may be listed; and

the net proceeds we will receive from such sale. Underwritten Offerings

If underwriters are used in the sale of any securities, the securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions described above. The applicable prospectus supplement will name any underwriter involved in a sale of securities. Such securities may be either offered to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters, or directly by underwriters. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts. Generally, the underwriters obligations to purchase the securities will be subject to conditions precedent and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the securities if they purchase any of the securities. We may use underwriters with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe any such underwriters in the applicable prospectus supplement, naming the underwriter and the nature of any such relationship.

### **Direct Sales and Sales through Agents**

We may sell securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any sale of those securities. We also may, from time to time, authorize dealers or agents to offer and sell these securities, upon such terms and conditions as may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, if applicable. In order to comply with the securities laws of certain states, if applicable, the securities offered will be sold in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in certain states securities may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with. This prospectus, one or more prospectus supplements, and the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part may be used in conjunction with one or more other registration statements to the extent permitted by the Securities Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

### **Rights Offerings**

We also may sell directly to investors through subscription rights distributed to our stockholders on a pro rata basis. In connection with any distribution of subscription rights to stockholders, if all of the underlying securities are not subscribed for, we may sell the unsubscribed shares of our securities directly to third parties or may engage the services of one or more underwriters, dealers or agents, including standby underwriters, to sell the unsubscribed securities to third parties.

We may also sell securities in one or more of the following transactions:

block transactions (which may involve crosses) in which a broker-dealer may sell all or a portion of the shares as agent but may position and resell all or a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;

purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its own account;

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which a broker-dealer solicits purchasers;

sales at the market to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, for securities; and

sales in other ways not involving a market maker or established trading markets, including direct sales to purchasers.

We may also enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. In connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third party in such sale transactions will be an underwriter and

will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or in a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Any dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of securities may be deemed to be underwriters under the Securities Act, and in such event, any discounts or commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on the resale of securities they realize may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act.

### Indemnification

Underwriters, dealers and agents and remarketing firms may be entitled, under agreements entered into with us, to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the

Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments that the agents, dealers, underwriters or remarketing firms may be required to make.

### Stabilization

In connection with any offering of the securities hereby, certain underwriters and selling group members and their respective affiliates may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the applicable securities. These transactions may include stabilization transactions pursuant to which these persons may bid for or purchase securities for the purpose of stabilizing their market price.

The underwriters in an offering of securities may also create a short position for their account by selling more securities in connection with the offering than they are committed to purchase from us. In that case, the underwriters could cover all or a portion of the short position by either purchasing securities in the open market following completion of the offering of these securities or by exercising any over-allotment option granted to them by us. In addition, the managing underwriter may impose penalty bids under contractual arrangements with other underwriters, which means that it can reclaim from an underwriter (or any selling group member participating in the offering) for the account of the other underwriters, the selling concession for the securities that are distributed in the offering but subsequently purchased for the account of the underwriters in the open market. Any of the transactions described in this paragraph or comparable transactions that are described in any accompanying prospectus supplement may result in the maintenance of the price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. None of the transactions described in this paragraph or in an accompanying prospectus supplement are required to be taken by an underwriter and, if they are undertaken, may be discontinued at any time.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, under certain circumstances a person engaged in the distribution of the securities offered under this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to our securities for a specified period prior to the commencement of such distribution.

### **Remarketing Arrangements**

Offered securities may also be offered and sold in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. We will identify any remarketing firm and describe the terms of its agreements, if any, with us and its compensation in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Delayed Delivery Contracts**

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize dealers acting as our agents to solicit offers by institutions to purchase securities covered by this prospectus from us at the public offering price set forth in the relevant prospectus supplement under delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in the relevant prospectus supplement. Each delayed delivery contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of securities sold pursuant to delayed delivery contracts shall be not less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom delayed delivery contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions, and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. Delayed delivery contracts will not be subject to any conditions except (i) the purchase by an institution of the securities covered by its delayed delivery contracts may not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which the institution is subject, and (ii) if the securities are being sold to

underwriters, we will be required to have sold to such underwriters the total principal amount of the securities less the principal amount

thereof covered by delayed delivery contracts. The underwriters and any other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of delayed delivery contracts.

### **Other Relationships**

Underwriters, dealers, agents and remarketing firms may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of business. Unless we specify otherwise in the related prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than shares of the Class A common stock, which are listed on the NYSE. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in our securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Therefore, no assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for our securities.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by O Melveny & Myers LLP, and Venable LLP as to matters of Maryland law. Certain legal matters relating to our classification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes will be passed upon for us by O Melveny & Myers LLP.

#### EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements, and the related financial statement schedules, incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Healthcare Trust of America, Inc. s Annual Report on Form 10-K and the effectiveness of Healthcare Trust of America, Inc. and subsidiaries internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements, and the related financial statement schedules, incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Healthcare Trust of America Holdings, LP s Annual Report on Form 10-K have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Healthcare Trust of America Holdings, LP

\$350,000,000

3.500% Senior Notes due 2026

fully and unconditionally guaranteed by

Healthcare Trust of America, Inc.

**Prospectus Supplement** 

July 7, 2016

Joint Book-Running Managers

**US Bancorp** 

J.P. Morgan

**Wells Fargo Securities** 

Jefferies

**Co-Managers** 

### BBVA

**BMO** Capital Markets

**Capital One Securities** 

**Fifth Third Securities** 

MUFG

Scotiabank