

# PROFILE | THIRD QUARTER 2021 SHORT-TERM TAXABLE BOND STRATEGY

# **SHORT-TERM TAXABLE BOND**

Style: Multi-Sector Bond

Approach: Active; Top Down/Bottom Up

 Benchmark: Bloomberg 1-5 Year Gov/ Credit Index

Inception: 10/1/2002

Strategy Assets: \$227 MM

#### **INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

We believe we can capture yield advantages over money market funds, while managing volatility, by actively managing a portfolio of short-term securities diversified across multiple bond sectors. We seek to optimize return potential by adhering to a disciplined quantitative and qualitative research process, and having a flexible approach to sector allocation.

# **ABOUT OUR FIRM**

GW&K is a dynamic investment management firm that offers active equity and fixed income investment solutions to meet the needs of a diverse client base. At our core is an entrepreneurial spirit of innovation, a desire to help educate our clients and a level of service that is hard to come by. Our founding principles of applying rigorous fundamental research, focusing on quality and maintaining a long-term view still guide our investment process today.

- Founded in 1974
- ■\$55 Billion Under Management
- Individually Managed Accounts
- Serving Individuals and Institutions

All data as of September 30, 2021

## STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS ON SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION

Modest shifts in duration and among sectors to maximize opportunities in changing economic and interest rate environments

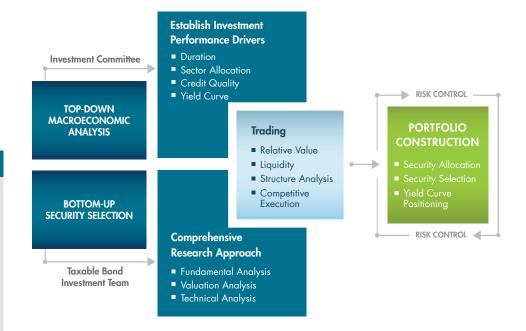
COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH

Central to our investment process and risk management approach

**ACTIVE MANAGEMENT** 

Invest across multiple investment grade sectors to help enhance return opportunities and manage risks

# **INVESTMENT PROCESS**



# **TOP-DOWN ANALYSIS**

- Analysis of business cycle, valuation trends and market technicals
- Analysis guides outlook on market, sector allocation

#### **BOTTOM-UP SELECTION**

- Quantitative and qualitative research techniques
- Search for companies with solid business models and the ability to generate cash

#### PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

- Managers construct fully diversified portfolios that reflect their economic views
- Active management of portfolio sector exposure to optimize return potential

## **RECOGNITION OF OPPORTUNITY**

- We seek companies that maintain sustainable competitive advantages and may benefit from emerging cyclical or secular drivers
- We seek to identify companies that are undervalued due to temporary or discrete events
- We seek AAA mortgage pass throughs that offer high total return potential and minimized risk



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## **INVESTMENT TEAM**

#### **MARY F. KANE, CFA**

Partner Portfolio Manager Investment Professional Since 1982 Joined GW&K 2005 AB, Wheaton College MBA, Boston University

#### STEPHEN J. REPOFF, CFA

Principal Portfolio Manager Investment Professional Since 2004 Joined GW&K 2013 BA/BS, Boston University MSF, Boston College

#### **NANCY G. ANGELL, CFA**

Partner Co-Director, Fixed Income Investment Professional Since 1984 Joined GW&K 1984 AB, Duke University MBA, Boston University

#### **JOHN B. FOX, CFA**

Partner Co-Director, Fixed Income Investment Professional Since 1990 Joined GW&K 1990 BA, Boston College MBA, Boston University

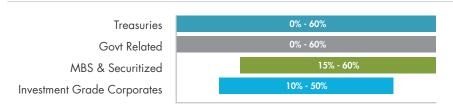
15 Taxable Bond Investment Professionals Averaging 18 Years Experience

## A DISCIPLINED APPROACH TO PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION & RISK MANAGEMENT

**RISK MANAGEMENT** 

- Monitor portfolio's duration, credit quality, sector over/underweightings relative to benchmark
- Monitor credits for changes in fundamentals, valuation and technicals

SECTOR ALLOCATION
GUIDELINES



TYPICAL AVERAGE CREDIT
QUALITY

AA

**DURATION GUIDELINES** 

+ / - 20% of the Bloomberg 1-5 Year Government/Credit Index

**AVERAGE # OF HOLDINGS** 

30 - 60

## **COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH**

Comprehensive research by our seasoned team is central to our investment process and risk managed approach. While researching new securities, our team focuses on fundamentals, valuation, and technicals.

#### **Fundamentals**

Our research begins with an extensive review of financial trends, cash flow, liquidity, as well as customer and supplier relationships. Assessing the quality of management is also a key component of our research process. Competitor and market analysis yields important insights on industry growth trends, and keeps us informed of relevant regulatory, technological and environmental concerns. Our research includes a thorough examination of a bond's characteristics.

## **Valuation**

We study historical spreads relative to industry peer group, and similar quality credits to identify those that are trading cheap or rich. We estimate valuations based upon current fundamentals and technicals. The team utilizes Bloomberg Analytics throughout the research process.

#### **Technicals**

We assess factors such as M&A, shareholder friendly activities and supply considerations. We examine covenants to ensure protection of bondholder rights. The team also reviews the mortgage back security supply outlook and investor demand before making relevant decisions.