

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST
Form N-CSR
February 06, 2008
UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

Investment Company Act file number 811-05767

DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

222 South Riverside Plaza

Chicago, IL 60606

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code: (212) 454-7190

Paul Schubert

345 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10154

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

Date of fiscal year end: 11/30

Date of reporting period: 11/30/07

ITEM 1. REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS

NOVEMBER 30, 2007

Annual Report to Shareholders

DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust

Ticker Symbol: KSM

Contents

Click here Performance Summary
Click here Portfolio Management Review
Click here Portfolio Summary
Click here Investment Portfolio
Click here Financial Statements
Click here Financial Highlights
Click here Notes to Financial Statements
Click here Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
Click here Tax Information
Click here Other Information
Click here Dividend Repurchase Plan
Click here Investment Management Agreement Approval
Click here Trustees and Officers
Click here Additional Information

Investments in funds involve risk. Certain investors' income may be subject to the federal Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), and federal, state and local taxes may also apply. The fund invests in individual bonds whose yields and market values fluctuate, so that your investment may be worth more or less than its original cost. Bond investments are subject to interest-rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of the bonds, and thus the value of the bond investment, can decline and the investor can lose principal value. Leverage results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses. All of these factors may result in greater share price volatility. Closed-end funds, unlike open-end funds, are not continuously offered. There is an initial public offering and once issued, shares of closed-end funds are sold in the open market through a stock exchange. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to net asset value. The price of

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

the fund's shares is determined by a number of factors, several of which are beyond the control of the fund. Therefore, the fund cannot predict whether its shares will trade at, below or above net asset value.

DWS Scudder is part of Deutsche Asset Management, which is the marketing name in the US for the asset management activities of Deutsche Bank AG, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. and DWS Trust Company.

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

Performance Summary November 30, 2007

Performance is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when sold, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please visit www.cef.dws-scudder.com for the Fund's most recent month-end performance.

Fund specific data and performance are provided for informational purposes only and are not intended for trading purposes.

Returns and rankings based on net asset value during all periods shown reflect fee reductions. Without these fee reductions, returns and rankings would have been lower.

Average Annual Total Returns as of 11/30/07				
DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Based on Net Asset Value ^(a)	2.53%	5.95%	7.32%	6.74%
Based on Market Price ^(a)	-6.14%	1.93%	5.19%	4.97%
Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index ^(b)	2.71%	4.23%	4.68%	5.30%
Lipper Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds Category ^(c)	-0.70%	6.01%	6.58%	5.02%

Sources: Lipper Inc. and Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc.

Net Asset Value and Market Price		
	As of 11/30/07	As of 11/30/06
Net Asset Value	\$ 12.11	\$ 12.48
Market Price	\$ 10.89	\$ 12.26

Prices and net asset value fluctuate and are not guaranteed.

^(a) Total return based on net asset value reflects changes in the Fund's net asset value during each period. Total return based on market price reflects changes in market value. Each figure assumes that dividend and capital gain distributions, if any, were reinvested. These figures will differ depending upon the level of any discount from or premium to net asset value at which the Fund's shares traded during the period.

^(b) The Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged, unleveraged market-value-weighted measure of municipal bonds issued across the United States. Index issues have a credit rating of at least Baa and a maturity of at least two years. Index returns, unlike Fund returns, do not reflect any fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly into an index.

^(c) The Lipper Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds Category includes funds that invest at least 50% of their assets in lower-rated municipal debt issues. Lipper figures represent the average of the total returns based on net asset value reported by all of the closed-end funds designated by Lipper Inc. as falling into the Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds Category. Category returns assume reinvestment of all distributions. It is not possible to invest directly into a Lipper category.

Distribution Information	
Twelve Months as of 11/30/07:	
Income Dividends (common shareholders)	\$.66
November Income Dividend (common shareholders)	\$.0550
Current Annualized Distribution Rate (Based on Net Asset Value) as of 11/30/07 ⁺	5.45%
Current Annualized Distribution Rate (Based on Market Price) as of 11/30/07 ⁺	6.06%
Tax Equivalent Distribution Rate (Based on Net Asset Value) as of 11/30/07 ⁺	8.38%
Tax Equivalent Distribution Rate (Based on Market Price) as of 11/30/07 ⁺	9.32%

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

⁺ Current annualized distribution rate is the latest monthly dividend shown as an annualized percentage of net asset value/market price on November 30, 2007. Distribution rate simply measures the level of dividends and is not a complete measure of performance. Tax equivalent distribution rate is based on the Fund's distribution rate and a marginal income tax rate of 35%. Distribution rates are historical, not guaranteed and will fluctuate.

Lipper Rankings — Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds

Category as of 11/30/07

Period	Rank		Number of Funds Tracked	Percentile Ranking (%)
1-Year	2	of	15	13
3-Year	8	of	15	50
5-Year	3	of	12	24
10-Year	1	of	12	8

Source: Lipper Inc. Rankings are historical and do not guarantee future results. Rankings are based on net asset value total return with distributions reinvested.

Portfolio Management Review

DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust: A Team Approach to Investing

Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), which is part of Deutsche Asset Management, is the investment advisor for DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust. DIMA and its predecessors have more than 80 years of experience managing mutual funds and DIMA provides a full range of investment advisory services to institutional and retail clients.

Deutsche Asset Management is a global asset management organization that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources. This well-resourced global investment platform brings together a wide variety of experience and investment insight across industries, regions, asset classes and investing styles.

DIMA is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank AG. Deutsche Bank AG is a major global banking institution that is engaged in a wide range of financial services, including investment management, mutual funds, retail, private and commercial banking, investment banking and insurance.

Portfolio Management Team

Philip G. Condon

Managing Director of Deutsche Asset Management and Lead Portfolio Manager of the fund.

Joined Deutsche Asset Management in 1983 and the fund team in 1998.

Over 30 years of investment industry experience.

BA and MBA, University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Rebecca Flinn

Vice President of Deutsche Asset Management and Portfolio Manager of the fund.

Joined Deutsche Asset Management in 1986 and the fund in 1998.

Over 20 years of investment industry experience.

BA, University of Redlands, California.

Philip G. Condon serves as lead portfolio manager of DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust. Rebecca L. Flinn is a

portfolio manager. In the following interview, the DWS municipal bond team discusses the fund's performance for the period and the market environment for municipal bonds.

The views expressed in the following discussion reflect those of the portfolio managers only through the end of the period of the report as stated on the cover. The management team's views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions and should not be construed as a recommendation. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Q: Will you describe the general market environment during the annual period ended November 30, 2007?

A: Municipal bonds delivered modest positive results over the 12 months. The municipal bond market, as measured by the Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index, delivered a total return of 2.71% for the 12 months ended November 30, 2007.¹ The broad taxable bond market, as measured by the Lehman Brothers US Aggregate Index, delivered a total return of 6.05% for the same period.²

¹ *The Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged, unleveraged market-value-weighted measure of municipal bonds issued across the United States. Index issues have a credit rating of at least Baa and a maturity of at least two years.*

² *The Lehman Brothers US Aggregate Index is an unmanaged, unleveraged index representing domestic taxable investment-grade bonds, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities and asset-backed securities with average maturities of one year or more. Index returns, unlike fund returns, do not include fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly into an index.*

The US Federal Reserve Board (the Fed) held rates steady for most of the period, before lowering the federal funds rate — the overnight interbank lending rate and a benchmark for interest rates generally — two times totaling 75 basis points (one basis point equals 0.01%) in September and October. This left the federal funds rate at 4.50% at the end of November 2007. Municipal yields declined on the shorter parts of the curve, while rising on issues over 10 years.³ Since a bond's yield moves in the opposite direction of its price, this meant that performance of shorter-term municipal bonds was generally better than among longer issues.

³ *The yield curve is a graph with a left-to-right line that shows how high or low yields are, from the shortest to the longest maturities. Typically (and when the yield curve is characterized as "steep," this is especially true) the line rises from left to right as investors who are willing to tie up their money for a longer period are rewarded with higher yields.*

The relationship between supply of, and demand for, municipal issues can be an important factor in the performance of this market. High demand or low supply can drive municipal bond prices higher, while low demand or high supply can have the reverse effect. Supply nationally was generally heavy during the fiscal year, driven by relatively low interest rates, although issuance began to ease toward the end of the period. To illustrate, issuance over the first 11 months of 2007 was 16 percent above last year's pace. On the demand side, much activity early in the period was driven by institutional investors using nontraditional strategies to benefit in a leveraged fashion from disparities between the tax-free and taxable markets. In the wake of the subprime mortgage crisis and resulting credit crunch, much of this interest has waned. Another outgrowth of the tighter credit environment has been a trimming of municipal inventory on the part of dealers looking to improve balance sheets, further constraining demand. Flows into tax-free mutual funds were positive overall for the period.

The municipal bond yield curve steepened significantly during the annual period. The two-year bond yield decreased 27 basis points from 3.45% to 3.18%, while the 30-year yield increased 41 basis points to 4.32% from 3.91%, resulting in a total steepening of 68 basis points. (See the graph on the following page for municipal bond yield changes from the beginning to the end of the period.)

Municipal Bond Yield Curve (as of 11/30/06 and 11/30/07)

Source: Municipal Market Data, AAA-rated universe

This chart is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to represent the yield of any DWS fund. Performance is historical and does not guarantee future results.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

At the beginning of the fiscal period, credit spreads were historically narrow. As the period progressed, spreads widened and high-yield municipal bonds underperformed the broader municipal market over the 12 months.⁴

⁴ The yield spread is the difference between the yield of a municipal bond security and the yield of an AAA-rated municipal credit. A large spread indicates that investors require yields substantially above those of AAA-rated municipal issues in order to invest in high-yield bonds. This is generally indicative of a higher-risk environment. A smaller spread generally indicates a more positive environment, since investors are less concerned about risk and therefore willing to accept lower yields. A drop in the yield spread is a positive.

Q: How did DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust perform for the 12-month period ended November 30, 2007?

A: DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust delivered a total return based on net asset value of 2.53% for the fund's fiscal year ended November 30, 2007. The fund posted a total return based on market value of -6.14% for this period. Its average peer in the Lipper Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds category for closed-end funds delivered -0.70% in the period.⁵ The fund's benchmark, the unmanaged Lehman Brothers Municipal Bond Index, returned 2.71% for the same period. (Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Please see pages 4 through 5 for more complete performance information.)

⁵ The Lipper Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds category includes funds that invest at least 50% of their assets in lower-rated municipal debt issues. Lipper figures represent the average of the total returns based on net asset value reported by all of the closed-end funds designated by Lipper Inc. as falling into the Closed-End High Yield Municipal Debt Funds Category. For the 1-, 5- and 10-year periods this category's average was -0.70% (15 funds), 6.58% (12 funds) and 5.02% (12 funds), respectively, as of November 30, 2007. Category returns assume reinvestment of all distributions. It is not possible to invest directly into a Lipper category.

Over the period, the discount at which the fund traded to its net asset value widened from around 2% to approximately 10%. We believe the discount is largely a function of a broader market focus on both liquidity and the cost of credit in the wake of the summer's subprime crisis. We rely on access to funding in order to leverage the fund's investments, and the cost of pursuing such strategies has risen in the ensuing credit crunch. In addition, closed-end funds are generally not heavily traded and therefore tend to be viewed as somewhat illiquid by market participants.

Q: How was the fund positioned, and how did this positioning contribute to its performance for the annual period ended November 30, 2007?

A: Over the period, we continued to manage the fund with an eye on preserving its earnings capacity. Early in the period, given an environment of low interest rates, we maintained a focus on avoiding excessive sales of bonds carrying high distribution yields.

The flattening of the yield curve that occurred significantly reduced the income advantage provided by longer-term issues. In fact, at the start of the period, 30-year AAA-rated municipal bond yields were at historically low levels.⁶ As a result, our curve positioning favored intermediate-term issues over longer-dated issues. This helped performance, as longer-dated issues were most impacted by rising yields and falling prices over the year. As long-term rates backed up over the period, we have increasingly taken advantage of opportunities to extend the fund's duration and increase income.

⁶ Credit quality is a measure of a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. Rating agencies assign letter designations such as AAA, AA and so forth. The lower the rating, the higher the probability of default.

The yield advantage provided by high-yield issues was at historical lows early in the period, and we did not feel that we could justify any significant tilt toward lower quality given the minimal incremental reward. As a result, well under half of the fund has been invested in issues rated BBB or lower. This positioning held back returns somewhat early in the period, but as spreads widened, the positioning ended up being a positive contributor to relative performance for the full period.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

In our view, credit spreads have reached levels where investors are paid more fairly for the incremental risk, and we began late in the period to selectively increase exposure to lower-quality issues. As an example, we recently increased the fund's holdings of prepaid utility contract bonds after spreads widened to attractive levels. These issues are backed by brokerage firms, virtually all of whom have some exposure to the subprime issue, and their prices suffered during the period.

While tobacco-related issues underperformed, a number of the fund's holdings within the sector benefited from refunding activity (which generally results in a price increase as affected issues experience a credit upgrade). Ongoing refunding activity is the principal explanation for the increased representation of AAA-rated prerefunded bonds in the fund over the period.

The increase in short-term rates over the period was reflected in increased borrowing costs related to the fund's preferred shares. This constrained performance to a degree over the 12 months.

At the end of November, the 10-year municipal bond was yielding 92% of the comparable maturity Treasury bond, reflecting an unusually attractive relative valuation. As wider credit spreads, a steeper yield curve and more favorable municipal valuations have emerged, we have begun to adopt a less defensive position in the fund to take advantage of potential opportunities.

After the end of the fund's fiscal period, the major rating agencies — Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch — placed on negative watch or outlook a number of leading bond insurers. Additionally, Ambac was downgraded to AA by Fitch. The underlying securities of municipal bonds insured by these firms are generally of high credit quality, with an average rating in the A category. The majority of the bonds insured by these three companies are backed by municipal general obligations, leases, other taxes, or essential purpose revenue bonds. While such downgrades have the potential to affect the trading value of a bond, we believe the default risk on an underlying municipal credit remains relatively low.

Portfolio Summary

Asset Allocation (As a % of Investment Portfolio)	11/30/07	11/30/06
Revenue Bonds	54%	61%
ETM/Prerefunded Bonds	41%	33%
General Obligation Bonds	3%	4%
Lease Obligations	2%	2%
	100%	100%

Quality	11/30/07	11/30/06
AAA	46%	36%
AA	5%	5%
A	6%	10%
BBB	15%	17%
BB	3%	2%
B	2%	1%
Below B	1%	2%
Not Rated	22%	27%
	100%	100%

Interest Rate Sensitivity	11/30/07	11/30/06
Average Maturity	6.9 years	4.7 years
Duration	6.0 years	4.0 years

Top Five State Allocations (As a % of Investment Portfolio)	11/30/07	11/30/06

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

New York	19%	10%
Texas	13%	15%
California	9%	6%
Maryland	5%	6%
Illinois	5%	6%

Asset allocation, quality, interest rate sensitivity and top five state allocations are subject to change. Duration shown does not account for the leverage position of the Fund.

The quality ratings represent the lower of Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or Standard & Poor's Corporation ("S&P") credit ratings. The ratings of Moody's and S&P represent their opinions as to the quality of the securities they rate. Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality. The Fund's credit quality does not remove market risk.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 13. A quarterly Fact Sheet is available upon request. Please see the Additional Information section for contact information.

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-Q. The form will be available on the SEC's Web site at www.sec.gov, and it also may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330.

Investment Portfolio as of November 30, 2007

	Principal Amount (\$)	Value (\$)
Municipal Bonds and Notes 143.2%		
Alabama 2.8%		
Alabama, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Public School and College Authority, Series C, 5.625%, 7/1/2013	1,000,000	1,048,100
Huntsville, AL, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Health Care Authority, Series A, 5.75%, 6/1/2031	1,500,000	1,629,075
Sylacauga, AL, Health Care Authority Revenue, Coosa Valley Medical Center, Series A, 6.0%, 8/1/2035	1,000,000	989,250
		3,666,425
Arizona 1.4%		
Arizona, Project Revenue, Health Facilities Authority, The New Foundation Project, 8.25%, 3/1/2019	1,815,000	1,821,298
California 10.7%		
California, Special Assessment Revenue, Golden State Tobacco Securitization Corp.:		
Series A-1, 5.0%, 6/1/2033	2,000,000	1,755,820
Series B, 5.625%, 6/1/2038	1,890,000	2,093,137
Series 2003-A-1, 6.75%, 6/1/2039	4,500,000	5,235,300
California, State Public Works Board, Lease Revenue, Department of Corrections, Series C, 5.5%, 6/1/2019	1,920,000	2,091,687
Sacramento County, CA, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Bradshaw Road Project, 7.2%, 9/2/2015	965,000	970,751
Sacramento, CA, Project Revenue, City Financing Authority, Convention Center Hotel, Series A, 6.25%, 1/1/2030	1,995,000	1,994,621
		14,141,316
Colorado 2.6%		
Colorado, Health Facilities Authority Revenue, Christian Living Communities Project, Series A, 5.75%, 1/1/2037	1,000,000	962,420
Colorado, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Portercare Adventist Health Project, 6.5%, 11/15/2031	1,000,000	1,126,400
Colorado, Transportation/Tolls Revenue, Northwest Parkway Public Highway Authority, Series D, 7.125%, 6/15/2041	1,150,000	1,289,978
		3,378,798
Connecticut 3.5%		
Greenwich, CT, Multi-Family Housing Revenue, 6.35%, 9/1/2027	2,000,000	2,061,780
Mashantucket, CT, Mashantucket Western Pequot Tribe, Special Revenue, Series A, 144A, 6.5%, 9/1/2031	705,000	743,972
Mashantucket, CT, Sports, Expo & Entertainment Revenue, Mashantucket Western Pequot Tribe:		
Series B, 144A, Zero Coupon, 9/1/2017	2,000,000	1,225,000
Series B, 144A, Zero Coupon, 9/1/2018	1,000,000	575,800
		4,606,552

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

District of Columbia 0.5%		
District of Columbia, General Obligation, Series A, 5.0%, 6/1/2018 (a)	660,000	670,435
Florida 2.8%		
Miami Beach, FL, Health Facilities Authority Hospital Revenue, Mount Sinai Medical Center, 144A, 6.75%, 11/15/2029	1,600,000	1,669,232
Orlando, FL, Greater Aviation Authority, Airport Facilities Revenue, Jet Blue Airways Corp., AMT, 6.5%, 11/15/2036	1,000,000	994,790
Orlando, FL, Special Assessment Revenue, Conroy Road Interchange Project, Series A, 5.8%, 5/1/2026	1,000,000	993,790
		3,657,812
Georgia 1.9%		
Americus-Sumter County, GA, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Hospital Authority, South Georgia Methodist, Series A, 6.375%, 5/15/2029	1,250,000	1,270,238
Georgia, Main Street National Gas, Inc., Gas Project Revenue, Series A, 5.5%, 9/15/2024	1,220,000	1,233,920
		2,504,158
Guam 0.8%		
Guam, Government Waterworks Authority, Water & Wastewater System Revenue, 6.0%, 7/1/2025	1,000,000	1,051,810
Hawaii 0.1%		
Hawaii, State General Obligation, Series CU, Prerefunded, 5.75%, 10/1/2011 (a)	65,000	69,375
Illinois 6.8%		
Illinois, Finance Authority Revenue, Three Crowns Park Plaza, Series A, 5.875%, 2/15/2038	1,000,000	969,010
Illinois, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, 6.75%, 2/15/2016	2,180,000	2,358,564
Illinois, State General Obligation, Prerefunded, 6.0%, 1/1/2013 (a)	3,315,000	3,497,656
Illinois, Upper River Valley Development Authority, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue, Waste Recovery Project, AMT, 5.9%, 2/1/2014	1,325,000	1,335,070
University Park, IL, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Governors Gateway Industrial Park, 8.5%, 12/1/2011	795,000	797,671
		8,957,971
Indiana 2.9%		
Indiana, Senior Care Revenue, Health Facilities Finance Authority, Franciscan Eldercare Community Services, 5.875%, 5/15/2029	3,000,000	2,954,970
Vigo County, IN, Hospital Authority Revenue, Union Hospital, Inc., 144A, 5.7%, 9/1/2037	1,000,000	933,640
		3,888,610
Iowa 1.7%		
Cedar Rapids, IA, First Mortgage Revenue, Cottage Grove Place, Series A, 5.875%, 7/1/2028	1,670,000	1,555,021
Lake City, IA, Senior Care Revenue, Health Care Facility, Opportunity Living Project, 144A, 6.45%, 5/1/2011	700,000	707,609
		2,262,630
Kansas 4.6%		
Lenexa, KS, Health Care Facility Revenue, 5.5%, 5/15/2039	2,000,000	1,940,320
Manhattan, KS, Senior Care Revenue, Meadowlark Hills Retirement, Series A, 6.5%, 5/15/2028	500,000	527,465
Overland Park, KS, Industrial Development Revenue, Series A, 7.375%, 1/1/2032	2,000,000	2,252,440
Wyandotte County, KS, Unified Government Special Obligation Revenue, Sales Tax, Series B, 5.0%, 12/1/2020	1,400,000	1,407,798
		6,128,023
Kentucky 0.8%		
Kentucky, Economic Development Finance Authority, Health System Revenue, Norton Healthcare: Series A, Prerefunded, 6.625%, 10/1/2028	790,000	867,602
Series A, 6.625%, 10/1/2028	210,000	224,431
		1,092,033
Louisiana 3.1%		
Louisiana, Local Government Environmental Facilities, Community Development Authority Revenue, 6.75%, 11/1/2032 (b)	1,000,000	1,000,350
Morehouse Parish, LA, Pollution Control Revenue, International Paper Co. Project, Series A, 5.25%, 11/15/2013	3,000,000	3,102,930
		4,103,280
Maryland 9.1%		
Anne Arundel County, MD, General Obligation, National Business Park Project, Prerefunded, 144A, 7.375%, 7/1/2028	983,000	1,097,372
Anne Arundel County, MD, Revenue Lease, Arundel Mills Project, Prerefunded, 7.1%, 7/1/2029	1,500,000	1,614,705
Maryland, Higher Education Revenue, Collegiate Housing Foundation: Series A, Prerefunded, 5.75%, 6/1/2019	1,000,000	1,054,290
Series A, Prerefunded, 5.75%, 6/1/2031	1,000,000	1,054,290
Maryland, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, University of Maryland Medical System, 6.75%, 7/1/2030	1,000,000	1,095,180
Maryland, Project Revenue, Economic Development Corp., Chesapeake Bay, Series B, 7.625%, 12/1/2022	4,000,000	4,361,520

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Maryland, State Economic Development Corp. Revenue, Senior Lien Project, Chesapeake Bay, Series B, 5.25%, 12/1/2031	2,000,000	1,849,900
		12,127,257
Massachusetts 6.1%		
Massachusetts, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Health & Educational Facilities Authority, Civic Investments, Series A, 9.0%, 12/15/2015	1,800,000	2,190,636
Massachusetts, Industrial Development Revenue, Development Finance Agency, Series A, 7.1%, 7/1/2032	1,895,000	1,938,452
Massachusetts, Project Revenue, Health & Educational Facilities Authority, Jordan Hospital, Series E, 6.75%, 10/1/2033	1,790,000	1,889,739
Massachusetts, State General Obligation, Consolidated Loan, Series B, Prerefunded, 5.0%, 4/1/2016 (a)	915,000	928,560
Massachusetts, State Health & Educational Facilities Authority Revenue, Partners Healthcare Systems: Series C, Prerefunded, 5.75%, 7/1/2032	965,000	1,053,751
Series C, 5.75%, 7/1/2032	35,000	37,167
		8,038,305
Michigan 4.4%		
Kalamazoo, MI, Economic Development Corp. Revenue, Heritage Community, 5.375%, 5/15/2027	1,000,000	931,490
Kalamazoo, MI, Industrial Development Revenue, Economic Development Corp., Series A, 7.5%, 5/15/2029	2,000,000	2,215,780
Saginaw, MI, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Hospital Finance Authority, Covenant Medical Center, Series F, 6.5%, 7/1/2030	1,000,000	1,063,350
Tawas City, MI, Hospital Finance Authority, St. Joseph Health Services: Series A, ETM, 5.6%, 2/15/2013	270,000	280,776
Series A, ETM, 5.75%, 2/15/2023	1,300,000	1,331,395
		5,822,791
Missouri 0.8%		
Branson, MO, Regional Airport Transportation Development District, Airport Revenue, Series B, AMT, 6.0%, 7/1/2037	250,000	237,320
St. Louis, MO, Special Assessment Revenue, Scullin Redevelopment Area, Series A, 10.0%, 8/1/2010	770,000	839,446
		1,076,766
Nevada 1.4%		
Las Vegas, NV, Transportation/Tolls Revenue, Las Vegas Monorail Project, 7.375%, 1/1/2030	2,000,000	1,908,720
New Hampshire 2.3%		
New Hampshire, Health & Education Facilities Authority Revenue, Havenwood Heritage Heights, Series A, 5.4%, 1/1/2030	550,000	511,780
New Hampshire, Higher Education Revenue, Health & Educational Facilities Authority, New Hampshire College Issue, 7.4%, 1/1/2023	1,000,000	1,126,950
New Hampshire, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Rivermead at Peterborough Retirement Community, 5.75%, 7/1/2028	1,500,000	1,462,830
		3,101,560
New Jersey 1.4%		
New Jersey, Economic Development Authority Revenue, Cigarette Tax, 5.75%, 6/15/2034	290,000	290,853
New Jersey, Resource Recovery Revenue, Tobacco Settlement Financing Corp., 5.75%, 6/1/2032	1,435,000	1,554,435
		1,845,288
New Mexico 2.1%		
Farmington, NM, Pollution Control Revenue, 5.8%, 4/1/2022	2,750,000	2,763,063
New York 15.5%		
Nassau County, NY, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, 6.0%, 8/1/2016 (a)	2,825,000	3,004,359
Nassau County, NY, Project Revenue, North Shore Healthcare Systems Project, Series B, 5.875%, 11/1/2011	475,000	500,859
New York, Core City General Obligation, Series C, 7.0%, 2/1/2010	315,000	316,865
New York, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Series A, Prerefunded, 5.125%, 4/1/2019 (a)	1,450,000	1,601,829
New York, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Transitional Finance Authority, Series B, 6.0%, 11/15/2013	490,000	527,255
New York, State General Obligation Lease, Higher Education Revenue, Dormitory Authority, State University, Prerefunded, 5.125%, 5/15/2021 (a)	1,880,000	1,913,784
New York, State Housing Finance Agency Revenue, 100 Maiden Lane, Series A, 3.6%*, 5/15/2037	1,400,000	1,400,000
New York, Transitional Finance Authority, Series B, Prerefunded, 6.0%, 11/15/2013	1,510,000	1,624,805
New York, Transportation/Tolls Revenue, Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority Systems, ETM, Series Y, 6.0%, 1/1/2012	5,000,000	5,343,600
New York City, NY, Industrial Development Agency Revenue, Liberty-7, World Trade Center, Series A, 6.25%, 3/1/2015	2,000,000	2,078,620
New York City, NY, Industrial Development Agency, Special Facility Revenue, American Airlines, JFK International Airport, AMT, 8.0%, 8/1/2028	2,000,000	2,243,720
		20,555,696
North Carolina 1.8%		
North Carolina, Electric Revenue, Municipal Power Agency:		

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Series C, 5.375%, 1/1/2017	1,000,000	1,048,140
Series B, 6.375%, 1/1/2013	1,300,000	1,368,705
		2,416,845
North Dakota 0.8%		
Grand Forks, ND, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Altru Health Care System, 7.125%, 8/15/2024	1,000,000	1,104,520
Ohio 1.7%		
Buckeye, OH, Tobacco Settlement Financing Authority, Series A-2, 5.875%, 6/1/2030	2,350,000	2,289,933
Pennsylvania 5.3%		
Montgomery County, PA, Industrial Development Authority Revenue, Whitemarsh Continuing Care, 6.25%, 2/1/2035	600,000	607,530
Montgomery County, PA, Senior Care Revenue, Higher Education & Health Authority, Philadelphia Geriatric Center, Series A, 7.25%, 12/1/2027	2,000,000	2,174,840
Pennsylvania, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Economic Development Financing Authority, UPMC Health System, Series A, 6.0%, 1/15/2031	750,000	800,700
Pennsylvania, St. Mary Hospital Authority, Health Systems Revenue, Catholic Health East, Series B, 5.5%, 11/15/2024	1,465,000	1,643,100
Philadelphia, Redevelopment Authority Revenue, First Lien Mortgage, Series A, 6.5%, 1/1/2029	616,600	624,369
Westmoreland County, PA, Senior Care Revenue, Industrial Development Authority, Health Care Facilities-Redstone, Series B, 8.125%, 11/15/2030	1,000,000	1,139,760
		6,990,299
Rhode Island 1.5%		
Rhode Island, Special Assessment Revenue, Series A, 6.125%, 6/1/2032	2,000,000	2,035,000
South Carolina 7.1%		
South Carolina, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Jobs Economic Development Authority, Bon Secours Health Systems, Inc., Series A, 5.625%, 11/15/2030	2,000,000	2,056,900
South Carolina, Jobs Economic Development Authority, Hospital Facilities Revenue, Palmetto Health Alliance: Series C, Prerefunded, 7.0%, 8/1/2030	1,375,000	1,623,930
Series C, 7.0%, 8/1/2030	170,000	200,299
Series A, Prerefunded, 7.375%, 12/15/2021	1,000,000	1,134,000
South Carolina, Transportation Infrastructure Bank Revenue, Series A, Prerefunded, 5.375%, 10/1/2024 (a)	4,150,000	4,342,228
		9,357,357
South Dakota 1.6%		
South Dakota, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Sioux Valley Hospital, Series E, 5.375%, 11/1/2024	2,000,000	2,072,040
Tennessee 2.5%		
Clarksville, TN, Natural Gas Acquisition Corp., Gas Revenue: 5.0%, 12/15/2017	500,000	502,185
5.0%, 12/15/2018	540,000	540,216
Johnson City, TN, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Health & Educational Facilities Board Hospital, Series A, 7.5%, 7/1/2033	2,000,000	2,270,300
		3,312,701
Texas 22.4%		
Abilene, TX, Senior Care Revenue, Health Facilities Development, Sears Methodist Retirement Facilities, Series A, 5.9%, 11/15/2025	2,500,000	2,465,900
Austin, TX, Project Revenue, Bergstrom Landhost Enterprises, Inc. Airport Hotel Project, Series A, 5.738%, 4/1/2027**	1,985,000	1,498,218
Crowley, TX, School District General Obligation, 5.125%, 8/1/2025	4,000,000	4,046,280
Hidalgo County, TX, Health Services, Mission Hospital: Prerefunded, 6.75%, 8/15/2016	915,000	935,917
6.75%, 8/15/2016	1,085,000	1,103,673
Houston, TX, General Obligation: Series A, Prerefunded, 5.0%, 3/1/2016	1,365,000	1,370,487
5.0%, 3/1/2016	1,635,000	1,641,573
Houston, TX, School District General Obligation, Series A, 5.0%, 2/15/2024	2,000,000	2,040,680
Houston, TX, Transportation/Tolls Revenue, Special Facilities, Continental Airlines, Inc., AMT, Series E, 6.75%, 7/1/2029	2,000,000	2,039,600
Tarrant County, TX, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Health Facilities Development Corp., 6.7%, 11/15/2030	1,000,000	1,103,990
Texas, Industrial Development Revenue, Waste Disposal Authority, AMT, Series A, 6.1%, 8/1/2024	1,000,000	1,023,290
Texas, Lower Colorado River Authority Revenue, Series B, 6.0%, 5/15/2013 (a)	5,000,000	5,229,500
Travis County, TX, Health Facilities Development Corp., Retirement Facility Revenue, Querencia Barton Creek Project, 5.65%, 11/15/2035	1,250,000	1,188,575
Travis County, TX, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Ascension Health Credit, Series A, 6.0%, 11/15/2012 (a)	3,860,000	4,069,598
		29,757,281

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Virgin Islands 2.4%		
Virgin Islands, Sales & Special Tax Revenue, Public Finance Authority, Series A, 6.375%, 10/1/2019	3,000,000	3,234,720
Virginia 1.6%		
Fairfax County, VA, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Economic Development Authority, Greenspring Retirement Community, Series A, 7.25%, 10/1/2019	2,000,000	2,168,720
Washington 1.9%		
Washington, State Health Care Facilities Authority Revenue, Series C, 5.375%, 8/15/2028 (a) (b)	595,000	604,621
Washington, State Health Care Facilities Authority Revenue, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Series A, 6.125%, 8/15/2037 (b)	2,000,000	1,966,200
		2,570,821
West Virginia 1.7%		
West Virginia, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Hospital Finance Authority, Charleston Medical Center, Series A, 6.75%, 9/1/2022	390,000	428,614
West Virginia, Hospital Finance Authority, Charleston Medical Center, Prerefunded, 6.75%, 9/1/2022	1,610,000	1,770,742
		2,199,356
Wisconsin 0.8%		
Wisconsin, Hospital & Healthcare Revenue, Health & Education Facilities Authority, Aurora Health Care, Inc., 6.875%, 4/15/2030	1,000,000	1,077,350
Total Municipal Bonds and Notes (Cost \$177,678,765)		189,826,915
Municipal Inverse Floating Rate Notes 32.9%		
California 5.6%		
California, State General Obligation, 5.0%, 6/1/2022 (a) (c)	7,000,000	7,490,805
<i>Trust: California, Municipal Securities Trust Certificates, Series 7066, Class B, 144A, 8.555%, 6/1/2022, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
Illinois 2.4%		
Aurora, IL, Single Family Mortgage Revenue, Series C, 5.5%, 6/1/2045 (c)	3,000,000	3,132,465
<i>Trust: Illinois, Puttable Floating Option Tax Exempt Receipts, RITES-PA-1499, AMT, 144A, 10.03%, 6/1/2045, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
Nevada 7.5%		
Clark County, NV, School District, Series A, 5.0%, 6/15/2022 (a) (c)	7,327,500	7,934,694
<i>Trust: Clark County, NV, School District, Series 1976, 144A, 8.485%, 6/15/2022, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
Henderson, NV, Health Care Facility Revenue, Catholic Healthcare West, Series B, 5.25%, 7/1/2031 (c)	2,000,000	2,031,530
<i>Trust: Nevada, Puttable Floating Option Tax Exempt Receipts, RITES-PA-1494, 144A, 8.16%, 7/1/2031, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
		9,966,224
New York 17.4%		
New York, Long Island Power Authority, Electric System Revenue, Series E, 5.0%, 12/1/2021(a) (c)	8,000,000	8,571,680
<i>Trust: New York, Long Island Power Authority, Electric Systems Revenue, Series 1917,144A, 8.42%, 12/1/2021, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
New York, State Dormitory Authority, State Personal Income Tax Revenue, Series A, 5.0%, 3/15/2023 (c)	5,535,000	5,923,354
<i>Trust: New York, State Dormitory Authority Revenues, Secondary Issues, Series 1955-2,144A, 8.566%, 3/15/2023, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
New York & New Jersey, Port Authority, Series 147, 5.0%, 10/15/2023 (a) (c)	8,260,000	8,534,315
<i>Trust: New York & New Jersey, Port Authority Revenue, Series 1969, AMT, 144A, 8.36%, 10/15/2023, Leverage Factor at purchase date: 4 to 1</i>		
		23,029,349
Total Municipal Inverse Floating Rate Notes (Cost \$42,885,293)		43,618,843
	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
Total Investment Portfolio (Cost \$220,564,058)+	176.1	233,445,758
Other Assets and Liabilities, Net	(23.3)	(30,859,304)
Preferred Shares, at Redemption Value	(52.8)	(70,000,000)
Net Assets Applicable to Common Shareholders	100.0	132,586,454

* Variable rate demand notes are securities whose interest rates are reset periodically at market levels. These securities are often payable on demand and are shown at their current rates as of November 30, 2007.

** Partial interest paying security. The rate shown represents 85% of the original coupon rate.

+ The cost for federal income tax purposes was \$219,794,981. At November 30, 2007, net unrealized appreciation for all securities based on tax cost was

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

\$13,650,777. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$15,000,771 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$1,349,994.

(a) Bond is insured by one of these companies:

Insurance Coverage	As a % of Total Investment Portfolio
Ambac Financial Group	5.1
Financial Guaranty Insurance Company	13.0
Financial Security Assurance Inc.	4.2
MBIA Corp.	2.4
Radian Asset Assurance	.3

(b) When-issued security

(c) Security forms part of the below tender option bond trust. Principal amount and value shown take into account the leverage factor.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

AMT: Subject to alternative minimum tax.

ETM: Bonds bearing the description ETM (escrow to maturity) are collateralized usually by US Treasury securities which are held in escrow and used to repay principal and pay interest on bonds so designated.

Prerefunded: Bonds which are prerefunded are collateralized usually by US Treasury securities which are held in escrow and are used to repay principal and pay interest on tax-exempt issues and to retire the bonds in full at the earliest refunding date.

RITES: Residual Interest Tax Exempt Security

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Financial Statements

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of November 30, 2007	
Assets	
Investments in securities, at value (cost \$220,564,058)	\$ 233,445,758
Cash	7,583
Receivable for investments sold	160,000
Interest receivable	3,605,615
Total assets	237,218,956
Liabilities	
Payable for investments purchased — when-issued securities	3,552,019
Payable for floating rate notes issued	30,842,500
Dividends payable	24,852
Accrued management fee	103,321
Other accrued expenses and payables	109,810
Total liabilities	34,632,502
Preferred shares, at redemption value	70,000,000
Net assets applicable to common shareholders	\$ 132,586,454
Net Assets Consist of	
Undistributed net investment income	710,251
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	12,881,700
Accumulated net realized gain (loss)	(2,426,327)
Paid-in capital	121,420,830
Net assets applicable to common shareholders	\$ 132,586,454
Net Asset Value	

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Net Asset Value per common share (\$132,586,454 ÷ 10,945,306 outstanding shares of beneficial interest, \$.01 par value, unlimited number of shares authorized)	\$ 12.11
--	-----------------

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Operations for the year ended November 30, 2007	
Investment Income	
Income:	
Interest	\$ 12,301,480
Expenses:	
Management fee	1,224,103
Services to shareholders	30,833
Custodian fee	18,567
Professional fees	85,460
Trustees' fees and expenses	25,598
Reports to shareholders	61,408
Auction service fee	178,120
Stock exchange listing fees	23,617
Interest expense and fees on floating rate notes	490,440
Other	53,496
Total expenses before expense reductions	2,191,642
Expense reductions	(17,669)
Total expenses after expense reductions	2,173,973
Net investment income	10,127,507
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	
Net realized gain (loss) from investments	175,059
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(4,661,155)
Net gain (loss)	(4,486,096)
Dividends on preferred shares	(2,628,752)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 3,012,659

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended November 30, 2007	
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Investment income received *	\$ 12,033,632
Payment of operating expenses	(1,670,861)
Payment of interest expense	(490,440)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	88,890,610
Purchases of investments	(120,058,664)
Cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$ (21,295,723)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:	
Net increase (decrease) in payable for floating rate notes issued	30,842,500
Reimbursement by Advisor	175,116
Distributions paid (net of reinvestment of distributions)	(9,724,353)
Cash provided (used) by financing activities	21,293,263
Increase (decrease) in cash	(2,460)
Cash at beginning of period	10,043
Cash at end of period	\$ 7,583
Reconciliation of Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations to Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations (excluding dividends on preferred shares)	\$ 5,641,411

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Net (increase) decrease in cost of investments	(34,628,311)
Net (increase) decrease in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	4,661,155
(Increase) decrease in interest receivable	(262,954)
(Increase) decrease in receivable for investments sold	(10,000)
Increase (decrease) in payable for investments purchased	3,290,304
Increase (decrease) in other accrued expenses and payables	12,672
Cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$ (21,295,723)
Non-Cash Financing Activities:	
Reinvestment of distributions	\$ 114,736

* Non-cash activity from discount accretion and premium amortization in the net amount of \$4,894 has been excluded from the Statement of Cash Flows.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets		
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	Years Ended November 30,	
	2007	2006
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 10,127,507	\$ 10,151,547
Net realized gain (loss)	175,059	89,512
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(4,661,155)	2,414,327
Dividends on preferred shares	(2,628,752)	(2,399,019)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	3,012,659	10,256,367
Distributions to common shareholders from:		
Net investment income	(7,221,341)	(8,195,230)
Fund share and paid-in capital transactions:		
Net proceeds from shares issued to common shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	114,736	331,414
Reimbursement by Advisor	175,116	—
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Fund share and paid-in capital transactions	289,852	331,414
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(3,918,830)	2,392,551
Net assets at beginning of period	136,505,284	134,112,733
Net assets at end of period (including undistributed net investment income of \$710,251 and \$329,031, respectively)	\$ 132,586,454	\$ 136,505,284
Other Information		
Common shares outstanding at beginning of period	10,936,008	10,910,224
Shares issued to common shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	9,298	25,784
Common shares outstanding at end of period	10,945,306	10,936,008

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Financial Highlights

Years Ended November 30,	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Selected Per Share Data					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 12.48	\$ 12.29	\$ 12.26	\$ 12.23	\$ 11.84
<i>Income (loss) from investment operations:</i>					
Net investment income ^a	.93	.93	.95	.98	.99
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(.42)	.23	.13	.03	.34
<i>Dividends on preferred shares (common share equivalent):</i>					
From net investment income	(.24)	(.22)	(.15)	(.08)	(.07)
Total from investment operations	.27	.94	.93	.93	1.26
<i>Less distributions from:</i>	<i>(.66)</i>	<i>(.75)</i>	<i>(.90)</i>	<i>(.90)</i>	<i>(.87)</i>

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Net investment income to common shareholders					
Reimbursement by advisor	.02	—	—	—	—
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 12.11	\$ 12.48	\$ 12.29	\$ 12.26	\$ 12.23
Market value, end of period	\$ 10.89	\$12.26	\$ 14.15	\$ 12.38	\$ 12.62
Total Return					
Based on net asset value (%) ^c	2.53 ^{b,d}	7.80 ^b	7.59	7.98	10.85
Based on market value (%) ^c	(6.14)	(8.02)	22.68	5.58	15.16
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data					
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	133	137	134	133	132
Ratio of expenses before fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common shares, including interest expense) ^c	1.64	1.26	1.31	1.25	1.28
Ratio of expenses after fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common shares, including interest expense) ^c	1.62	1.25	1.31	1.25	1.28
Ratio of expenses after fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common shares, excluding interest expense)	1.26	1.25	1.31	1.25	1.28
Ratio of expenses before fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common and preferred shares, including interest expense) ^c	1.07	.83	.86	.82	.83
Ratio of expenses after fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common and preferred shares, including interest expense) ^c	1.07	.82	.86	.82	.83
Years Ended November 30, (continued)	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Ratio of expenses after fee reductions (%) (based on net assets of common and preferred shares, excluding interest expense)	.83	.82	.86	.82	.83
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%) (based on net assets of common shares)	7.56	7.55	7.60	8.03	8.26
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%) (based on net assets of common and preferred shares)	4.96	4.97	5.01	5.25	5.36
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	44	41	19	15	14
Preferred shares information at end of period:					
Aggregate amount outstanding (\$ millions)	70	70	70	70	70
Asset coverage per share (\$) ^f	72,352	73,752	72,900	72,500	72,200
Liquidation and market value per share (\$)	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
<p>^a Based on average common shares outstanding during the period.</p> <p>^b Total return would have been lower had certain fees not been reduced.</p> <p>^c Total return based on net asset value reflects changes in the Fund's net asset value during each period. Total return based on market value reflects changes in market value. Each figure assumes that dividend and capital gain distributions, if any, were reinvested. These figures will differ depending upon the level of any discount from or premium to net asset value at which the Fund's shares traded during the period.</p> <p>^d Includes a non-recurring reimbursement from the Advisor for a fee previously charged to the Fund (see Note F). Excluding this non-recurring reimbursement, total return would have been 0.13% lower.</p> <p>^e Interest expense represents interest and fees on short term floating rate notes issued in conjunction with inverse floating rate securities. Interest income from such transactions is included in income from investment operations.</p> <p>^f Asset coverage per share equals net assets of common shares plus the redemption value of the preferred shares divided by the total number of preferred shares outstanding at the end of the period.</p>					

Notes to Financial Statements

A. Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust (the "Fund") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as a closed-end, diversified management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

Security Valuation. Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading. Debt securities are valued by independent pricing services approved by the Trustees of the Fund, whose valuations are intended to reflect the mean between the bid and asked prices. If the pricing services are unable to provide valuations, the securities are valued at the mean of the most recent bid and asked quotations or evaluated price obtained from a broker-dealer. Such services may use various pricing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other data, as well as broker quotes.

Money market instruments purchased with an original or remaining maturity of sixty days or less, maturing at par, are valued at amortized cost.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Trustees.

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") released Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("FAS 157"). FAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. FAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. As of November 30, 2007, management does not believe the adoption of FAS 157 will impact the amounts reported in the financial statements, however, additional disclosures will be required about the inputs used to develop the measurements of fair value and the effect of certain of the measurements reported in the statement of operations for a fiscal period.

Inverse Floaters. Inverse floating rate notes are debt instruments with a weekly floating rate of interest that bears an inverse relationship to changes in short-term market interest rates. Investments in this type of instrument involve special risks as compared to investments in a fixed rate municipal security. The debt instrument in which the Fund may invest is a tender option bond trust (the "trust") which can be established by the Fund, a financial institution, or a broker consisting of underlying municipal obligations with intermediate to long maturities and a fixed interest rate. Other investors in the trust usually consist of money market fund investors receiving weekly floating interest rate payments who have put options with the financial institutions. The Fund may enter into shortfall and forbearance agreements by which a Fund agrees to reimburse the trust, in certain circumstances, for the difference between the liquidation value of the fixed rate municipal security held by the trust and the liquidation value of the floating rate notes. Certain inverse floating rate securities held by the Fund have been created with bonds purchased by the Fund and subsequently transferred to the trust. These transactions are considered a form of financing for accounting purposes. As a result, the Fund includes the original transferred bond and a corresponding liability equal to the floating rate note issued. The Fund does not consider the Fund's investment in inverse floaters borrowing within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Inverse floating rate notes exhibit added interest rate sensitivity compared to other bonds with a similar maturity. Moreover, since these securities are in a trust form, a sale may take longer to settle than the standard two days after the trade date.

The weighted average outstanding daily balance of the floating rate notes during the year ended November 30, 2007 was approximately \$12,758,000, with a weighted average interest rate of 3.83%.

When-Issued/Delayed Delivery Securities. The Fund may purchase securities with delivery or payment to occur at a later date beyond the normal settlement period. At the time the Fund enters into a commitment to purchase a security, the transaction is recorded and the value of the security is reflected in the net asset value. The price of such security and the date when the security will be delivered and paid for are fixed at the time the transaction is negotiated. The value of the security may vary with market fluctuations. No interest accrues to the Fund until payment takes place. At the time the Fund enters into this type of transaction it is required to segregate cash or other liquid assets at least equal to the amount of the commitment.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Certain risks may arise upon entering into when-issued or delayed delivery securities from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts or if the issuer does not issue the securities due to political, economic, or other factors. Additionally, losses may arise due to changes in the value of the underlying securities.

Federal Income Taxes. The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable and tax-exempt income to its shareholders. Accordingly, the Fund paid no federal income taxes and no federal income tax provision was required.

At November 30, 2007, the Fund had a net tax basis capital loss carryforward of approximately \$3,195,000, which may be applied against any realized net taxable capital gains of each succeeding year until fully utilized or until November 30, 2011 (\$3,010,000) and November 30, 2012 (\$185,000), the respective expiration dates, whichever occurs first. During the year ended November 30, 2007, the Fund utilized approximately \$157,000 of prior year capital loss carryforward.

In July 2006, FASB issued Interpretation No. 48 ("FIN 48"), "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes — an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" (the "Interpretation"). The Interpretation establishes for the Fund a minimum threshold for financial statement recognition of the benefit of positions taken in filing tax returns (including whether the Fund is taxable in certain jurisdictions), and requires certain expanded tax disclosures. The Interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. On December 22, 2006, the SEC indicated that they would not object if a Fund implements FIN 48 in the first required financial statement reporting period for its fiscal year beginning after December 15, 2006. Management is evaluating the application of the Interpretation to the Fund and is not in a position at this time to estimate the significance of its impact, if any, on the Fund's financial statements.

Distribution of Income and Gains. Net investment income of the Fund, if any, is declared and distributed to shareholders monthly. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gains distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss and accretion of market discount on debt securities. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

At November 30, 2007, the Fund's components of distributable earnings (accumulated losses) on a tax-basis were as follows:

Undistributed tax-exempt income	\$ 687,204
Undistributed ordinary income	\$ 72,168
Capital loss carryforwards	\$ (3,195,000)
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	\$ 13,650,777

In addition, the tax character of distributions paid to shareholders by the Fund are summarized as follows:

	Years Ended November 30,	
	2007	2006
Distributions from tax-exempt income	\$ 9,850,093	\$ 10,594,249

Preferred Shares. The Fund has issued and outstanding 2,800 Series T municipal auction rate cumulative preferred shares, at a liquidation value of \$25,000 per share. The preferred shares are senior to and have certain class specific preferences over the common shares. The dividend rate is set through an auction process, and the dividends are generally paid every 7 days. The auction agent will pay each broker-dealer a service charge from funds provided by the Fund ("Auction Service Fee"). The 1940 Act requires that the preferred shareholders of the Fund, voting as a separate class, have the right to: a) elect at least two trustees at all times, and b) elect a majority of the trustees at any time when dividends on the preferred shares are unpaid for two full years. Unless otherwise required by law or under the terms of the preferred shares designation statement, each preferred share is entitled to one vote and preferred shareholders will vote together with common shareholders as a single class and have the same voting rights.

Statement of Cash Flows. Information on financial transactions which have been settled through the receipt and disbursement of cash is presented in the Statement of Cash Flows. The cash amount shown in the Statement of Cash Flows represents the cash position in the Fund's custodian bank at November 30, 2007. Non-cash activity from discount accretion and premium amortization has been excluded from the Statement of Cash Flows.

Contingencies. In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

Other. Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. All premiums and discounts are amortized/accreted for financial reporting purposes, with the exception of securities in default of principal.

B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the year ended November 30, 2007, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$123,348,968 and \$88,900,610, respectively.

C. Related Parties

Management Agreement. Under the Investment Management Agreement with Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank AG, the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund. In addition to portfolio management services, the Advisor provides certain administrative services in accordance with the Management Agreement. The management fee payable under the Investment Management Agreement is equal to an annual rate of 0.60% of the Fund's average weekly net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly.

Service Provider Fees. DWS Scudder Investments Service Company ("DWS-SISC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DWS-SISC and DST Systems, Inc. ("DST"), DWS-SISC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to DST. DWS-SISC compensates DST out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the year ended November 30, 2007, the amount charged to the Fund by DWS-SISC aggregated \$30,138, of which \$6,031 is unpaid.

Typesetting and Filing Service Fees. Under an agreement with DIMA, DIMA is compensated for providing typesetting and certain regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the year ended November 30, 2007, the amount charged to the Fund

by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "reports to shareholders" aggregated \$14,435, of which \$6,599 is unpaid.

Trustees' Fees and Expenses. The Fund paid each Trustee not affiliated with the Advisor retainer fees plus specified amounts for various committee services and for the Board Chairperson.

Other Related Parties. Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, an affiliate of the Advisor, is the auction agent with respect to the Preferred Shares. The auction agent will pay each broker-dealer a service charge from funds provided by the Fund ("Auction Service Fee"). The Auction Service Fee charged to the Fund for the year ended November 30, 2007 aggregated \$178,120, of which \$1,492 is unpaid.

In addition, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas charges an Administration fee for Preferred Shares. The amount charged to the Fund for the year ended November 30, 2007 aggregated \$6,464, of which \$4 is unpaid.

D. Fee Reductions

For the year ended November 30, 2007, the Advisor agreed to reimburse the Fund \$3,320, which represents a portion of the fee savings expected to be realized by the Advisor related to the outsourcing by the Advisor of certain administrative services to an unaffiliated service provider.

In addition, the Fund has entered into an arrangement with its custodian and transfer agent whereby credits realized as a result of uninvested cash balances are used to reduce a portion of the Fund's custodian expenses. During the year ended November 30, 2007, the Fund's custodian fees were reduced by \$332 and \$14,017, respectively, for custody and transfer agent credits earned.

E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$750 million revolving credit facility administered by JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A. for temporary or emergency purposes. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee which is allocated, based upon net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.35 percent. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement.

F. Payment made by Affiliates

During the year ended November 30, 2007, the Advisor fully reimbursed the Fund \$175,116 for a fee previously charged to the Fund. This reimbursement was treated as a capital contribution and is reported as "Reimbursement by Advisor" on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Trustees and Shareholders of DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust:

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust (the "Fund"), including the investment portfolio, as of November 30, 2007, and the related statement of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of November 30, 2007, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers or by other appropriate auditing procedures where replies from brokers were not received. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust at November 30, 2007, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Boston, Massachusetts
January 28, 2007

Tax Information (Unaudited)

Of the dividends paid from net investment income for the taxable year ended November 30, 2007, 100% are designated as exempt interest dividends for federal income tax purposes.

Please consult a tax advisor if you have questions about federal or state income tax laws, or on how to prepare your tax returns. If you have specific questions about your account, please call (800) 294-4366.

Other Information

Certifications

The fund's chief executive officer has certified to the New York Stock Exchange that, as of May 31, 2007, he was not aware of any violation by the fund of applicable NYSE corporate governance listing standards. The fund's reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms N-CSR and N-Q contain certifications by the fund's chief executive officer and chief financial officer that relate to the fund's disclosure in such reports and that are required by rule 30a-2 under the 1940 Act.

Dividend Repurchase Plan

A. Participation

We invite you to review the description of the Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the "Plan") which is available to you as a shareholder of DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust (the "Fund"). If you wish to participate and your shares are held in your own name, simply contact DWS Scudder Investments Service Company, whose address and phone number are provided in Paragraph E, for the appropriate form. If your shares are held in the name of a brokerage firm, bank, or other nominee, you must instruct that nominee to re-register your shares in your name so that you may participate in the Plan, unless your nominee has made the Plan available on shares held by them. Shareholders who so elect will be deemed to have appointed Computershare Inc.* ("Computershare") as their agent and as agent for the

Fund under the Plan.

B. Dividend Investment Account

The Fund's transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent or its delegate (the "Transfer Agent") will establish a Dividend Investment Account (the "Account") for each shareholder participating in the Plan. The Transfer Agent will credit to the Account of each participant funds it receives from the following sources: (a) cash dividends and capital gains distributions paid on shares of beneficial interest (the "Shares") of the Fund registered in the participant's name on the books of the Fund; and (b) cash dividends and capital gains distributions paid on Shares registered in the name of the Transfer Agent but credited to the participant's Account. Sources described in clauses (a) and (b) of the preceding sentence are hereinafter called "Distributions."

C. Investment of Distribution Funds Held in Each Account

If on the record date for a Distribution (the "Record Date"), Shares are trading at a discount from net asset value per Share (according to the evaluation most recently made on Shares of the Fund), funds credited to a participant's Account will be used to purchase Shares (the "Purchase"). Computershare will attempt, commencing five days prior to the Payment Date and ending at the close of business on the Payment Date ("Payment Date" as used herein shall mean the last business day of the month in which such Record Date occurs), to acquire Shares in the open market. If and to the extent that Computershare is unable to acquire sufficient Shares to satisfy the Distribution by the close of business on the Payment Date, the Fund will issue to Computershare, Shares valued at net asset value per Share (according to the evaluation most recently made on Shares of the Fund) in the aggregate amount of the remaining value of the Distribution. If, on the Record Date, Shares are trading at a premium over net asset value per Share, the Fund will issue on the Payment Date, Shares valued at net asset value per Share on the Record Date to the Transfer Agent in the aggregate amount of the funds credited to the participants' accounts.

D. Voluntary Cash Contributions

A participant may from time to time make voluntary cash contributions to his Account by sending to Transfer Agent a check or money order, payable to Transfer Agent, in a minimum amount of \$100 with appropriate accompanying instructions. (No more than \$500 may be contributed per month.) Transfer Agent will inform Computershare of the total funds available for the purchase of Shares and Computershare will use the funds to purchase additional Shares for the participant's Account the earlier of: (a) when it next purchases Shares as a result of a Distribution or (b) on or shortly after the first day of each month and in no event more than 30 days after such date except when temporary curtailment or suspension of purchases is necessary to comply with applicable provisions of federal securities laws. Cash contributions received more than fifteen calendar days or less than five calendar days prior to a Payment Date will be returned uninvested. Interest will not be paid on any uninvested cash contributions. Participants making voluntary cash investments will be charged a \$.75 service fee for each such investment and will be responsible for their pro rata share of brokerage commissions.

E. Additional Information

Address all notices, correspondence, questions, or other communication regarding the Plan, or if you would like a copy of the Plan, to:

DWS Scudder Investments Service Company
P.O. Box 219066
Kansas City, Missouri 64121-9066
1-800-294-4366

F. Adjustment of Purchase Price

The Fund will increase the price at which Shares may be issued under the Plan to 95% of the fair market value of the shares on the Record Date if the net asset value per Share of the Shares on the Record Date is less than 95% of the fair market value of the Shares on the Record Date.

G. Determination of Purchase Price

The cost of Shares and fractional Shares acquired for each participant's Account in connection with a Purchase shall be determined by the average cost per Share, including brokerage commissions as described in Paragraph H hereof, of the Shares acquired by Computershare in connection with that Purchase. Shareholders will receive a confirmation showing the average cost and number of Shares acquired as soon as practicable after the Transfer Agent has received or Computershare has purchased Shares. The Transfer Agent may mingle the cash in a participant's account with similar funds of other participants of the Fund for whom Computershare acts as agent under the Plan.

H. Brokerage Charges

There will be no brokerage charges with respect to Shares issued directly by the Fund as a result of Distributions. However, each participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to Computershare's open market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of Distributions. Brokerage charges for purchasing small amounts of Shares for individual Accounts through the Plan can be expected to be less than the usual brokerage charges for such transactions, as Computershare will be purchasing Shares for all participants in blocks and prorating the lower commission thus attainable.

I. Service Charges

There is no service charge by the Transfer Agent or Computershare to shareholders who participate in the Plan other than service charges specified in Paragraphs D and M hereof. However, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan in the future to include a service charge.

J. Transfer of Shares Held by Agent

The Transfer Agent will maintain the participant's Account, hold the additional Shares acquired through the Plan in safekeeping and furnish the participant with written confirmation of all transactions in the Account. Shares in the Account are transferable upon proper written instructions to the Transfer Agent. Upon request to the Transfer Agent, a certificate for any or all full Shares in a participant's Account will be sent to the participant.

K. Shares Not Held in Shareholder's Name

Beneficial owners of Shares which are held in the name of a broker or nominee will not be automatically included in the Plan and will receive all distributions in cash. Such shareholders should contact the broker or nominee in whose name their Shares are held to determine whether and how they may participate in the Plan.

L. Amendments

Experience under the Plan may indicate that changes are desirable. Accordingly, the Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan, including provisions with respect to any Distribution paid, subsequent to notice thereof sent to participants in the Plan at least ninety days before the record date for such Distribution, except when such amendment is necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable law or the rules or policies of the Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory authority, in which case such amendment shall be effective as soon as practicable. The amendment shall be deemed to be accepted by each participant unless, prior to the effective date thereof, the Transfer Agent receives notice of the termination of such participant's account under the Plan in accordance with the terms hereof. The Plan may be terminated by the Fund.

M. Withdrawal from Plan

Shareholders may withdraw from the Plan at any time by giving the Transfer Agent a written notice. If the proceeds are \$100,000 or less and the proceeds are to be payable to the shareholder of record and mailed to the address of record, a signature guarantee normally will not be required for notices by individual account owners (including joint account owners), otherwise a signature guarantee will be required. In addition, if the certificate is to be sent to anyone other than the registered owner(s) at the address of record, a signature guarantee will be required on the notice. A notice of withdrawal will be effective for the next Distribution following receipt of the notice by the Transfer Agent provided the notice is received by the Transfer Agent at least ten days prior to the Record Date for the Distribution. When a participant withdraws from the Plan, or when the Plan is terminated in accordance with Paragraph L hereof, the participant will receive a certificate for full Shares in the Account, plus a check for any fractional Shares based on market price; or if a Participant so desires, the Transfer Agent will notify Computershare to sell his Shares in the Plan and send the proceeds to the participant, less brokerage commissions and a \$2.50 service fee.

N. Tax Implications

Shareholders will receive tax information annually for personal records and to assist in preparation of their Federal income tax returns. If Shares are purchased at a discount, the amount of the discount is considered taxable income and is added to the cost basis of the purchased shares.

** Effective October 15, 2007, the stock transfer business of UMB Bank, N.A. had been acquired by Computershare Limited. Consequently, Computershare Limited's affiliate, Computershare Inc. became Plan Agent under the Plan Agency Agreement between the Fund and UMB Bank, N.A.*

Investment Management Agreement Approval

The Board of Trustees, including the Independent Trustees, approved the renewal of your Fund's investment management agreement (the "Agreement") with Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor") in September 2007. As part of its review process, the Board requested and evaluated all information it deemed reasonably necessary to evaluate the Agreement. Over the course of several months, the Contract Review Committee, in coordination with the Fixed-Income Oversight Committee and the Operations Committee of the Board, reviewed comprehensive materials received from the Advisor, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund's performance, fees and expenses, and profitability compiled by an independent fee consultant. The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance and operating results of the Fund. Based on their evaluation of the information provided, the Committees presented their findings and recommendations to the Independent Trustees as a group. The Independent Trustees then reviewed the Committees' findings and recommendations and presented their recommendations to the full Board. Throughout their consideration of the Agreement, the Independent Trustees were advised by their independent legal counsel and by an independent fee consultant.

In connection with the contract review process, the various Committees and the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that the Advisor and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders invested in the Fund, or approved the investment management agreement for the Fund, knowing that the Advisor managed the Fund and knowing the investment management fee schedule. The Board considered Deutsche Bank's commitment that it will devote to the Advisor and its affiliates all attention and resources that are necessary to provide the Fund with top-quality investment management and shareholder, administrative and product distribution services.

Nature, Quality and Extent of Services. The Board considered the nature, extent and quality of services provided under the Agreement, including portfolio management services and administrative services. The Board considered the

experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel, the resources made available to such personnel, the ability of the Advisor to attract and retain high-quality personnel and the organizational depth and stability of the Advisor. The Board reviewed the Fund's performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market indices and a peer universe compiled by Lipper Inc. ("Lipper"). The Board considered whether investment results were consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies. The Board also noted that it has put a process into place of identifying "Focus Funds" (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to their benchmark or a peer group compiled by Lipper), and receives more frequent reporting and information from the Advisor regarding such funds, along with the Advisor's remedial plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of addressing poorly performing funds at this time.

On the basis of this evaluation and the ongoing review of investment results by the Fixed-Income Oversight Committee, the Board concluded that the nature, quality and extent of services provided by the Advisor historically have been and continue to be satisfactory. The Board noted the short-term relative underperformance of the Fund, and took into account the factors contributing to such performance, steps being taken by the Advisor to improve performance and the Fund's favorable longer-term performance.

Fees and Expenses. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate, operating expenses and total expense ratio, and compared management fees to a peer group and total expenses to a broader peer universe based on information and data supplied by Lipper and supplemented by the independent fee consultant. The information provided to the Board showed that the Fund's management fee rate was at the 1st percentile of the peer group, and that the total expense ratio was at the 62nd percentile of the peer universe. The Board also considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by the Advisor and certain of its affiliates for comparable funds and considered differences in fund and fee structures among the DWS Funds.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by the Advisor. The Board noted that although the Fund's total expense ratio was above the median of the peer universe, the total expense ratio was within an acceptable range of the peer universe and consistent with reasonable expectations in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by the Advisor.

Profitability. The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by the Advisor under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs and pre-tax profits realized by the Advisor from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of the DWS Scudder organization with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Although the Board noted the inherently subjective nature of any allocation methodology, the Board received an attestation report from an accounting firm affirming that the allocation methods were consistently applied and were based upon practices commonly used in the investment management industry. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable.

Economies of Scale. The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board considered whether the management fee rate under the Agreement is reasonable in relation to the asset size of the Fund. The Board concluded that the management fee rate reflects an appropriate level of sharing of any economies of scale.

Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates. The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by the Advisor for administrative services provided to the Fund. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities, along with the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DeAM products and services. The Board concluded that management fees were reasonable in light of these fallout benefits.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board (including a majority of the Independent Trustees) determined that the terms of the Agreement continue to be fair and reasonable and that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. No single factor was determinative in the Board's analysis.

Trustees and Officers

The following table presents certain information regarding the Board Members and Officers of the fund as of November 30, 2007. Each individual's year of birth is set forth in parentheses after his or her name. Unless otherwise noted; (i) each individual has engaged in the principal occupation(s) noted in the table for at least the most recent five years, although not necessarily in the same capacity, and (ii) the address of each individual is c/o Deutsche Asset Management, 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, Illinois 60606. Each Board Member's term of office extends until the next shareholders' meeting called for the purpose of electing such Board Members and until the election and qualification of a successor, or until such Board Member sooner dies, retires, resigns or is removed as provided in the governing documents of the fund.

Independent Board Members		
Name, Year of Birth, Position(s) Held with the Fund and Length of Time Served¹	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships Held	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen
Paul K. Freeman (1950) Chairperson since 2007, and Board Member, 2002-present	Consultant, World Bank/Inter-American Development Bank; formerly, Project Leader, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (1998-2001); Chief Executive Officer, The Eric Group, Inc. (environmental insurance) (1986-1998)	58
John W. Ballantine (1946) Board Member, 1999-present	Retired; formerly, Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Management Officer, First Chicago NBD Corporation/The First National Bank of Chicago (1996-1998); Executive Vice President and Head of International Banking (1995-1996). Directorships: Healthways, Inc. (provider of disease and care management services); Portland General Electric (utility company); Stockwell Capital Investments PLC (private equity). Former Directorships: First Oak Brook Bancshares, Inc. and Oak Brook Bank	58
Donald L. Dunaway (1937) Board Member, 1980-present	Retired; formerly, Executive Vice President, A.O. Smith Corporation (diversified manufacturer) (1963-1994)	58
James R. Edgar (1946) Board Member, 1999-present	Distinguished Fellow, University of Illinois, Institute of Government and Public Affairs (1999-present); formerly, Governor, State of Illinois (1991-1999). Directorships: John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc. (processor/packager/marketer of nuts, snacks and candy products); Horizon Group Properties, Inc.; Yobet.com (online wagering platform); Alberto-Culver Company (manufactures, distributes and markets health and beauty care products)	58
Robert B. Hoffman (1936) Board Member, 1981-present	Retired; formerly, Chairman, Harnischfeger Industries, Inc. (machinery for the mining and paper industries) (1999-2001); prior thereto, Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer, Monsanto Company (agricultural, pharmaceutical and nutritional/food products) (1994-1999). Directorships: RCP Advisors, LLC (a private equity investment advisory firm)	58
William McClayton (1944) Board Member, 2004-present	Chief Administrative Officer, Diamond Management & Technology Consultants, Inc. (global management consulting firm) (2001-present); formerly, Senior Partner, Arthur Andersen LLP (accounting) (1966-2001). Directorship: Board of Managers, YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago. Formerly, Trustee, Ravinia Festival.	58
Shirley D. Peterson (1941) Board Member, 1995-present	Retired; formerly, President, Hood College (1995-2000); prior thereto, Partner, Steptoe & Johnson (law firm); Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; Assistant Attorney General (Tax), US Department of Justice. Directorships: Federal Mogul Corp. (supplier of automotive components and subsystems); AK Steel (steel production); Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (April 2004-present); Champion Enterprises, Inc. (manufactured home building); Wolverine World Wide, Inc. (designer, manufacturer and marketer of footwear) (April 2005-present); Trustee, Bryn Mawr College. Former Directorship: Bethlehem Steel Corp.	58

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Robert H. Wadsworth (1940) Board Member, 2004-present	President, Robert H. Wadsworth & Associates, Inc. (consulting firm) (1983 to present). Formerly, Trustee of New York Board DWS Funds.	61
--	---	----

Interested Board Member

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Fund and Length of Time Served	Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen
Axel Schwarzer ⁶ (1958) Board Member since 2007	Managing Director ⁴ , Deutsche Asset Management; Head of Deutsche Asset Management Americas; CEO of DWS Scudder; formerly, board member of DWS Investments, Germany (1999-2005); formerly, Head of Sales and Product Management for the Retail and Private Banking Division of Deutsche Bank in Germany (1997-1999); formerly, various strategic and operational positions for Deutsche Bank Germany Retail and Private Banking Division in the field of investment funds, tax driven instruments and asset management for corporates (1989-1996)	82

Officers²

Name, Year of Birth, Position(s) Held with the Fund and Length of Time Served ¹	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years and Other Directorships Held
Michael G. Clark ⁴ (1965) President, 2006-present	Managing Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management (2006-present); President of DWS family of funds; Director, ICI Mutual Insurance Company (since October 2007); formerly, Director of Fund Board Relations (2004-2006) and Director of Product Development (2000-2004), Merrill Lynch Investment Managers; Senior Vice President Operations, Merrill Lynch Asset Management (1999-2000)
Philip J. Collora (1945) Vice President and Assistant Secretary, 1986-present	Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management
Paul H. Schubert ⁴ (1963) Chief Financial Officer, 2004-present Treasurer, 2005-present	Managing Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management (since July 2004); formerly, Executive Director, Head of Mutual Fund Services and Treasurer for UBS Family of Funds (1998-2004); Vice President and Director of Mutual Fund Finance at UBS Global Asset Management (1994-1998)
John Millette ⁵ (1962) Secretary, 2001-present	Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management
Patricia DeFilippis ⁴ (1963) Assistant Secretary, 2005-present	Vice President, Deutsche Asset Management (since June 2005); formerly, Counsel, New York Life Investment Management LLC (2003-2005); legal associate, Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC (1998-2003)
Elisa D. Metzger ⁴ (1962) Assistant Secretary 2005-present	Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management (since September 2005); formerly, Counsel, Morrison and Foerster LLP (1999-2005)
Caroline Pearson ⁵ (1962) Assistant Secretary, 1998-present	Managing Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management
Paul Antosca ⁵ (1957) Assistant Treasurer, 2007-present	Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management (since 2006); Vice President, The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) (1990-2006)
Kathleen Sullivan D'Eramo ⁵ (1957) Assistant Treasurer, 2003-present	Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management
Jason Vazquez ⁴ (1972) Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer, 2007-present	Vice President, Deutsche Asset Management (since 2006); formerly, AML Operations Manager for Bear Stearns (2004-2006), Supervising Compliance Principal and Operations Manager for AXA Financial (1999-2004)
Robert Kloby ⁴ (1962) Chief Compliance Officer, 2006-present	Managing Director ³ , Deutsche Asset Management (2004-present); formerly, Chief Compliance Officer/Chief Risk Officer, Robeco USA (2000-2004); Vice President, The Prudential Insurance Company of America (1988-2000); E.F. Hutton and Company (1984-1988)

¹ Length of time served represents the date that each Board Member was first elected to the common board of Board Members which oversees a number of investment companies, including the fund, managed by the Advisor. For the Officers of the fund, the length of time served represents the date that each officer was first elected to serve as an officer of any fund overseen by the aforementioned common board of Board Members.

² As a result of their respective positions held with the Advisor, these individuals are considered "interested persons" of the Advisor within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Interested persons receive no compensation from the fund.

³ Executive title, not a board directorship.

⁴ Address: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

⁵ Address: Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

⁶ The mailing address of Axel Schwarzer is c/o Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc., 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154. Mr. Schwarzer is an interested Board Member by virtue of his positions with Deutsche Asset Management.

Additional Information

Automated Information Line	DWS Scudder Closed-End Fund Info Line (800) 349-4281
Web Sites	www.dws-scudder.com or visit our Direct Link: www.cef.dws-scudder.com Obtain quarterly fact sheets, financial reports, press releases and webcasts when available. www.cef.dws-scudder/alerts . Register online to receive email alerts on your DWS funds.
Written Correspondence	Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. 222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606
Proxy Voting	A description of the fund's policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the 12-month period ended June 30 is available on our Web site — www.dws-scudder.com (click on "proxy voting" at the bottom of the page) — or on the SEC's Web site — www.sec.gov . To obtain a written copy of the fund's policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 621-1048.
Legal Counsel	Vedder, Price P.C. 222 North LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60601
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Agent	Computershare Inc.* P.O. Box 43078 Providence, RI 02940-3078
Shareholder Service Agent and Transfer Agent	DWS Scudder Investments Service Company P.O. Box 219066 Kansas City, MO 64121-9066 (800) 294-4366
Custodian	State Street Bank and Trust Company 225 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	Ernst & Young LLP 200 Clarendon Street Boston, MA 02116
NYSE Symbol	KSM
CUSIP Number	Common Shares 23338T 101

	Preferred Shares	23338T 200
--	------------------	------------

* Effective October 15, 2007, Computershare Inc. replaced UMB Bank, N.A.

[Notes](#)

[Notes](#)

[Notes](#)

[Notes](#)

[Notes](#)

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS

As of the end of the period, November 30, 2007, DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust has a code of ethics, as defined in Item 2 of Form N-CSR, that applies to its Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer.

There have been no amendments to, or waivers from, a provision of the code of ethics during the period covered by this report that would require disclosure under Item 2.

A copy of the code of ethics is filed as an exhibit to this Form N-CSR.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT

The Fund's Board of Directors/Trustees has determined that the Fund has at least one "audit committee financial expert" serving on its audit committee: Mr. William McClayton, Mr. Donald Dunaway and Mr. Robert Hoffman. Each of these audit committee members is "independent," meaning that he is not an "interested person" of the Fund (as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the Investment Company Act of 1940) and he does not accept any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the Fund (except in the capacity as a Board or committee member).

An "audit committee financial expert" is not an "expert" for any purpose, including for purposes of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, as a result of being designated as an "audit committee financial expert." Further, the designation of a person as an "audit committee financial expert" does not mean that the person has any greater duties, obligations, or liability than those imposed on the person without the "audit committee financial expert" designation. Similarly, the designation of a person as an "audit committee financial expert" does not affect the duties, obligations, or liability of any other member of the audit committee or board of directors.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST

FORM N-CSR DISCLOSURE RE: AUDIT FEES

The following table shows the amount of fees that Ernst & Young, LLP (“E&Y”), the Fund’s Independent Registered Public Accountant, billed to the Fund during the Fund’s last two fiscal years. The Audit Committee approved in advance all audit services and non-audit services that E&Y provided to the Fund.

The Audit Committee has delegated certain pre-approval responsibilities to its Chairman (or, in his absence, any other member of the Audit Committee).

Services that the Fund’s Independent Registered Public Accountant Billed to the Fund

Fiscal Year Ended	Audit Fees Billed to Fund	Audit-Related Fees Billed to Fund	Tax Fees Billed to Fund	All Other Fees Billed to Fund
November 30 2007	\$49,329	\$0	\$6,726	\$0
2006	\$46,590	\$0	\$6,353	\$0

The above "Tax Fees" were billed for professional services rendered for tax return preparation.

Services that the Fund’s Independent Registered Public Accountant Billed to the Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers

The following table shows the amount of fees billed by E&Y to Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc. (“DeIM” or the “Adviser”), and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with DeIM (“Control Affiliate”) that provides ongoing services to the Fund (“Affiliated Fund Service Provider”), for engagements directly related to the Fund’s operations and financial reporting, during the Fund’s last two fiscal years.

Fiscal Year Ended	Audit-Related Fees Billed to Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers	Tax Fees Billed to Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers	All Other Fees Billed to Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers
November 30 2007	\$250,000	\$486,614	\$0
2006	\$80,000	\$316,254	\$0

The “Audit-Related Fees” were billed for services in connection with agreed upon procedures related to fund mergers and the above “Tax Fees” were billed in connection with tax compliance services and agreed upon procedures.

Non-Audit Services

The following table shows the amount of fees that E&Y billed during the Fund’s last two fiscal years for non-audit services. The Audit Committee pre-approved all non-audit services that E&Y provided to the Adviser and any Affiliated Fund Service Provider that related directly to the Fund’s operations and financial reporting. The Audit Committee requested and received information from E&Y about any non-audit services that E&Y rendered during the Fund’s last fiscal year to the Adviser and any Affiliated Fund Service Provider. The Committee considered this information in evaluating E&Y’s independence.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Fiscal Year Ended	Total Non-Audit Fees Billed to Fund	Total Non-Audit Fees billed to Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers (engagements related directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Fund)	Total Non-Audit Fees billed to Adviser and Affiliated Fund Service Providers (all other engagements)	Total of (A), (B) and (C)
November 30	(A)	(B)	(C)	
2007	\$6,726	\$486,614	\$1,215,526	\$1,708,866
2006	\$6,353	\$316,254	\$948,620	\$1,271,227

All other engagement fees were billed for services in connection with internal control reviews, agreed upon procedures and tax compliance for DeIM and other related entities that provide support for the operations of the fund.

In connection with the audit of the 2006 and 2007 financial statements, the Fund entered into an engagement letter with E&Y. The terms of the engagement letter required by E&Y, and agreed to by the Audit Committee, include provisions in which the parties consent to the sole jurisdiction of federal courts in New York, Boston or the Northern District of Illinois, as well as a waiver of right to a trial by jury and an exclusion of punitive damages.

E&Y recently advised the Fund's Audit Committee that certain arrangements between the Ernst & Young member firm in Germany ("E&Y Germany") and Deutsche Bank AG ("DB") had been determined to be inconsistent with the SEC auditor independence rules. DB is within the "Investment Company Complex" (as defined by SEC rules) and therefore covered by the SEC auditor independence rules applicable to the Fund. In 2006 and 2007, DB provided standard overdraft protection on a depository account and a guarantee of certain lease deposits to E&Y Germany. E&Y advised the Audit Committee that while neither of these arrangements was ever utilized by E&Y Germany, they could constitute lending type arrangements in violation of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X. (Rule 2-01(c)(1)(ii)(A) provides that an accountant is not independent when an accounting firm has a loan to or from an audit client.) E&Y advised the Audit Committee that E&Y believes its independence has not been impacted as it relates to the audits of the Fund. In reaching this conclusion, E&Y noted a number of factors, including that neither of the arrangements was ever utilized and, accordingly, E&Y Germany never had amounts outstanding to DB, these arrangements were immaterial to E&Y Germany and DB and the E&Y professionals responsible for the Fund's audits were not aware of these arrangements. E&Y informed the Audit Committee that E&Y Germany has cancelled the overdraft arrangements and has terminated the guarantee on the lease deposits.

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS

The registrant has a separately-designated standing audit committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The registrant's audit committee consists of William McClayton (Chairman), Robert B. Hoffman, and Donald L. Dunaway.

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

Not Applicable

ITEM 7.

DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Proxy Voting Guidelines. The Fund has delegated proxy voting responsibilities to its investment advisor, subject to the Board's general oversight. The Fund has delegated proxy voting to the advisor with the direction that proxies should be voted consistent with the Fund's best economic interests. The advisor has adopted its own Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures ("Policies"), a Proxy Voting Desktop Manual ("Manual"), and Proxy Voting Guidelines ("Guidelines") for this purpose. The Policies address, among other things, conflicts of interest that may arise between the interests of the Fund, and the interests of the advisor and its affiliates. The Manual sets forth the procedures that the advisor has implemented to vote proxies, including monitoring for corporate events, communicating with the fund's custodian regarding proxies, considering the merits of each proposal, and executing and recording the proxy vote. The Guidelines set forth the advisor's general position on various proposals, such as:

- **Shareholder Rights** — The advisor generally votes against proposals that restrict shareholder rights.
- **Corporate Governance** — The advisor generally votes for confidential and cumulative voting and against supermajority voting requirements for charter and bylaw amendments. The advisor generally votes for proposals to restrict a chief executive officer from serving on more than three outside board of directors. The advisor generally votes against proposals that require a company to appoint a chairman who is an independent director.
- **Anti-Takeover Matters** — The advisor generally votes for proposals that require shareholder ratification of poison pills or that request boards to redeem poison pills, and votes "against" the adoption of poison pills if they are submitted for shareholder ratification. The advisor generally votes for fair price proposals.
- **Routine Matters** — The advisor generally votes for the ratification of auditors, procedural matters related to the annual meeting, and changes in company name, and against bundled proposals and adjournment.

The general provisions described above do not apply to investment companies. The advisor generally votes proxies solicited by investment companies in accordance with the recommendations of an independent third-party, except for proxies solicited by or with respect to investment companies for which the advisor or an affiliate serves as investment advisor or principal underwriter ("affiliated investment companies"). The advisor votes affiliated investment company proxies in the same proportion as the vote of the investment company's other shareholders (sometimes called "mirror" or "echo" voting). Master fund proxies solicited from feeder funds are voted in accordance with applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Although the Guidelines set forth the advisor's general voting positions on various proposals, the advisor may, consistent with the Fund's best interests, determine under some circumstances to vote contrary to those positions.

The Guidelines on a particular issue may or may not reflect the view of individual members of the board, or of a majority of the board. In addition, the Guidelines may reflect a voting position that differs from the actual practices of the public companies within the Deutsche Bank organization or of the investment companies for which the advisor or an affiliate serves as investment advisor or sponsor.

The advisor may consider the views of a portfolio company's management in deciding how to vote a proxy or in establishing general voting positions for the Guidelines, but management's views are not determinative.

As mentioned above, the Policies describe the way in which the advisor resolves conflicts of interest. To resolve conflicts, the advisor, under normal circumstances, votes proxies in accordance with its Guidelines. If the advisor departs from the Guidelines with respect to a particular proxy or if the Guidelines do not specifically address a certain proxy proposal, a committee established by the advisor will vote the proxy. Before voting any such proxy, however, the committee will exclude from the voting discussions and determinations any member who is involved in or aware of a material conflict of interest. If, after excluding any and all such members, there are fewer than three voting members remaining, the advisor will engage an independent third party to vote the proxy or follow the proxy voting recommendations of an independent third party.

Under certain circumstances, the advisor may not be able to vote proxies or the advisor may find that the expected economic costs from voting outweigh the benefits associated with voting. For example, the advisor may not vote proxies on certain foreign securities due to local restrictions or customs. The advisor generally does not vote proxies on securities subject to share blocking restrictions.

ITEM 8. PORTFOLIO MANAGERS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Portfolio Manager Team Disclosure

The Fund is managed by a Team of investment professionals who collaborate to implement the Fund's investment strategy. The Team is led by a Lead Portfolio Manager who is responsible for developing the Fund's investment strategy. Each Portfolio Manager on the team has authority over all aspects of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities, portfolio construction techniques, portfolio risk assessment, and the management of daily cash flows in accordance with portfolio holdings.

The following individuals handle the day-to-day management of the fund.

Philip G. Condon, Managing Director of Deutsche Asset Management and Lead Portfolio Manager of the Fund.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

- Joined Deutsche Asset Management in 1983 and the fund team in 1998.
- Over 30 years of investment industry experience.
- BA and MBA, University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Rebecca Flinn, Vice President of Deutsche Asset Management and Portfolio Manager of the Fund.

- Joined Deutsche Asset Management in 1986 and the Fund in 1998.
- Over 20 years of investment industry experience.
- BA, University of Redlands, California

Compensation of Portfolio Managers

Portfolio managers are eligible for total compensation comprised of base salary and discretionary incentive compensation.

Base Salary – Base salary generally represents a smaller percentage of portfolio managers' total compensation than discretionary incentive compensation. Base salary is linked to job function, responsibilities and financial services industry peer comparison through the use of extensive market data surveys.

Discretionary Incentive Compensation – Generally, discretionary incentive compensation comprises a greater proportion of total compensation as a portfolio manager's seniority and compensation levels increase. Discretionary incentive compensation is determined based on an analysis of a number of factors, including among other things, the performance of Deutsche Bank, the performance of the Asset Management division, and the employee's individual contribution. In evaluating individual contribution, management will consider a combination of quantitative and qualitative factors. A portion of the portfolio manager's discretionary incentive compensation may be delivered in long-term equity programs (usually in the form of Deutsche Bank equity) (the "Equity Plan"). Top performing portfolio managers may earn discretionary incentive compensation that is a multiple of their base salary.

- The quantitative analysis of a portfolio manager's individual performance is based on, among other factors, performance of all of the accounts managed by the portfolio manager (which includes the fund and any other accounts managed by the portfolio manager) over a one-, three-, and five-year period relative to the appropriate Morningstar and Lipper peer group universes and/or benchmark index(es) with respect to each account. Additionally, the portfolio manager's retail/institutional asset mix is weighted, as appropriate for evaluation purposes. Generally the benchmark index used is a benchmark index set forth in the fund's prospectus to which the fund's performance is compared. Additional or different appropriate peer group or benchmark indices may also be used. Primary weight is given to pre-tax portfolio performance over three-year and five-year time periods (adjusted as appropriate if the portfolio manager has served for less than five years) with lesser consideration given to portfolio performance over a one-year period. The increase or decrease in a fund's assets due to the purchase or sale of fund shares is not considered a material factor.
- The qualitative analysis of a portfolio manager's individual performance is based on, among other things, the results of an annual management and internal peer review process, and management's assessment of overall portfolio manager contributions to investor relations, the investment process and overall performance (distinct from fund and other account performance). Other factors, including contributions made to the investment team, as well as adherence to Compliance Policies and Procedures, Risk Management procedures, the firm's Code of Ethics and "living the values" of the Advisor are also factors.

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

The quantitative analysis of a portfolio manager's performance is given more weight in determining discretionary incentive compensation than the qualitative portion.

Certain portfolio managers may also participate in the Equity Plan. The amount of equity awarded under the long-term equity programs is generally based on the individual's total compensation package and may comprise from 0% to 30% of the total compensation award. As discretionary incentive compensation increases, the percentage of compensation awarded in Deutsche Bank equity also increases. Portfolio managers may receive a portion of their equity compensation in the form of shares in the proprietary mutual funds that they manage or support.

Fund Ownership of Portfolio Managers

The following table shows the dollar range of shares owned beneficially and of record by each member of the Fund's portfolio management team in the Fund as well as in all DWS Funds as a group (i.e. those funds advised by Deutsche Asset Management or its affiliates), including investments by their immediate family members sharing the same household and amounts invested through retirement and deferred compensation plans. This information is provided as of the Fund's most recent fiscal year end.

Name of Portfolio Manager	Dollar Range of Fund Shares Owned	Dollar Range of All DWS Fund Shares Owned
Philip G. Condon	-	Over \$1,000,000
Rebecca Flinn	-	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000

Conflicts of Interest

In addition to managing the assets of the Fund, the Fund's portfolio managers may have responsibility for managing other client accounts of the Advisor or its affiliates. The tables below show, for each portfolio manager, the number and asset size of (1) SEC registered investment companies (or series thereof) other than the Fund, (2) pooled investment vehicles that are not registered investment companies and (3) other accounts (e.g., accounts managed for individuals or organizations) managed by each portfolio manager. Total assets attributed to each portfolio manager in the tables below include total assets of each account managed by them, although the manager may only manage a portion of such account's assets. The tables also show the number of performance based fee accounts, as well as the total assets of the accounts for which the advisory fee is based on the performance of the account. This information is provided as of the Fund's most recent fiscal year end.

Other SEC Registered Investment Companies Managed:

Name of Portfolio Manager	Number of Registered Investment Companies	Total Assets of Registered Investment Companies	Number of Investment Company Accounts with Performance Based Fee	Total Assets of Performance- Based Fee Accounts
	8	\$8,068,351,785	None	-

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

Philip G. Condon

Rebecca Flinn	2	\$1,498,665,534	None	-
---------------	---	-----------------	------	---

Other Pooled Investment Vehicles Managed:

Name of Portfolio Manager	Number of Pooled Investment Vehicles	Total Assets of Pooled Investment Vehicles	Number of Pooled Investment Vehicle Accounts with Performance-Based Fee	Total Assets of Performance- Based Fee Accounts
Philip G. Condon	1	\$10,872,991	None	-
Rebecca Flinn	None	-	None	-

Other Accounts Managed:

Name of Portfolio Manager	Number of Other Accounts	Total Assets of Other Accounts	Number of Other Accounts with Performance- Based Fee	Total Assets of Performance- Based Fee Accounts
Philip G. Condon	None	-	None	-
Rebecca Flinn	None	-	None	-

In addition to the accounts above, an investment professional may manage accounts in a personal capacity that may include holdings that are similar to, or the same as, those of the Funds. The Advisor has in place a Code of Ethics that is designed to address conflicts of interest and that, among other things, imposes restrictions on the ability of portfolio managers and other “access persons” to invest in securities that may be recommended or traded in the Funds and other client accounts.

Real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest may arise when a portfolio manager has day-to-day portfolio management responsibilities with respect to more than one fund or account, including the following:

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

- Certain investments may be appropriate for the Fund and also for other clients advised by the Advisor, including other client accounts managed by the Fund's portfolio management team. Investment decisions for the Fund and other clients are made with a view to achieving their respective investment objectives and after consideration of such factors as their current holdings, availability of cash for investment and the size of their investments generally. A particular security may be bought or sold for only one client or in different amounts and at different times for more than one but less than all clients. Likewise, because clients of the Advisor may have differing investment strategies, a particular security may be bought for one or more clients when one or more other clients are selling the security. The investment results achieved for the Fund may differ from the results achieved for other clients of the Advisor. In addition, purchases or sales of the same security may be made for two or more clients on the same day. In such event, such transactions will be allocated among the clients in a manner believed by the Advisor to be most equitable to each client, generally utilizing a pro rata allocation methodology. In some cases, the allocation procedure could potentially have an adverse effect or positive effect on the price or amount of the securities purchased or sold by the Fund. Purchase and sale orders for the Fund may be combined with those of other clients of the Advisor in the interest of achieving the most favorable net results to the Fund and the other clients.
- To the extent that a portfolio manager has responsibilities for managing multiple client accounts, a portfolio manager will need to divide time and attention among relevant accounts. The Advisor attempts to minimize these conflicts by aligning its portfolio management teams by investment strategy and by employing similar investment models across multiple client accounts.
- In some cases, an apparent conflict may arise where the Advisor has an incentive, such as a performance-based fee, in managing one account and not with respect to other accounts it manages. The Advisor will not determine allocations based on whether it receives a performance-based fee from the client. Additionally, the Advisor has in place supervisory oversight processes to periodically monitor performance deviations for accounts with like strategies.
- The Advisor and its affiliates and the investment team of the Funds may manage other mutual funds and separate accounts on a long-short basis. The simultaneous management of long and short portfolios creates potential conflicts of interest including the risk that short sale activity could adversely affect the market value of the long positions (and vice versa), the risk arising from sequential orders in long and short positions, and the risks associated with receiving opposing orders at the same time. The Advisor has adopted procedures that it believes are reasonably designed to mitigate these potential conflicts of interest. Included in these procedures are specific guidelines developed to ensure fair and equitable treatment for all clients whose accounts are managed by each Fund's portfolio management team. The Advisor and the portfolio management team have established monitoring procedures, a protocol for supervisory reviews, as well as compliance oversight to ensure that potential conflicts of interest relating to this type of activity are properly addressed.

The Advisor is owned by Deutsche Bank AG, a multi-national financial services company. Therefore, the Advisor is affiliated with a variety of entities that provide and/or engage in commercial banking, insurance, brokerage, investment banking, financial advisory, broker-dealer activities (including sales and trading), hedge funds, real estate and private equity investing, in addition to the provision of investment management services to institutional and individual investors. Since Deutsche Bank AG, its affiliates, directors, officers and employees (the "Firm") are engaged in businesses and have interests other than managing asset management accounts, such other activities involve real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest. These interests and activities include potential advisory, transactional and financial activities and other interests in securities and companies that may be directly or indirectly purchased or sold by the Firm for its clients' advisory accounts. These are considerations of which advisory clients should be aware and which may cause conflicts that could be to the disadvantage of the Advisor's advisory clients. The Advisor has instituted business and compliance policies, procedures and disclosures that are designed to identify, monitor and mitigate conflicts of interest and, as appropriate, to report them to the Fund's Board.

ITEM 9. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share	(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Pub
--------	---	-------------------------------------	--

Edgar Filing: DWS STRATEGIC MUNICIPAL INCOME TRUST - Form N-CSR

December 1 through December 31	n/a	n/a	n/a
January 1 through January 31	n/a	n/a	n/a
February 1 through February 28	n/a	n/a	n/a
March 1 through March 31	n/a	n/a	n/a
April 1 through April 30	n/a	n/a	n/a

May 1 through May 31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
June 1 through June 30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
July 1 through July 31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
August 1 through August 31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
September 1 through September 30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
October 1 through October 31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
November 1 through November 30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

The primary function of the Nominating and Governance Committee is to identify and recommend individuals for membership on the Board and oversee the administration of the Board Governance Procedures and Guidelines. Shareholders may recommend candidates for Board positions by forwarding their correspondence by U.S. mail or courier service to the Fund's Secretary for the attention of the Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee, Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110. Suggestions for candidates must include a resume of the candidate.

ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) The Chief Executive and Financial Officers concluded that the Registrant's Disclosure Controls and Procedures are effective based on the evaluation of the Disclosure Controls and Procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report.

(b) There have been no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's last half-year (the registrant's second fiscal half-year in the case of the annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

ITEM 12. EXHIBITS

(a)(1) Code of Ethics pursuant to Item 2 of Form N-CSR is filed and attached hereto as EX-99.CODE ETH.

(a)(2) Certification pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)) is filed and attached hereto as Exhibit 99.CERT.

(b) Certification pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-2(b)) is furnished and attached hereto as Exhibit 99.906CERT.

Form N-CSR Item F

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Registrant: DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust

By: /s/Michael G. Clark
Michael G. Clark

President

Date: February 1, 2008

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Registrant: DWS Strategic Municipal Income Trust

By: /s/Michael G. Clark
Michael G. Clark

President

Date: February 1, 2008

By: /s/Paul Schubert
Paul Schubert

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Date: February 1, 2008