

# Royce Value Trust, Inc.

June 29, 2020

## Dear Stockholder,

- Our records indicate you have not voted your shares
- Your vote is required to approve the new investment advisory agreement
- Without your vote, the Fund's operations may be terminated

The Royce Value Trust, Inc. (the "Fund") Special Meeting of Stockholders (the "Special Meeting") is scheduled to be held July 14, 2020. Ahead of the Special Meeting, you are being asked to approve a new investment advisory agreement with the Fund's investment manager, Royce Investment Partners ("Royce")<sup>2</sup>. Approval of this agreement will ensure that Royce continues operating the Fund and executing the differentiated strategy that is delivering strong returns for you year after year.

# Leading Independent Proxy Advisory Firm Recommends Stockholders Vote "FOR" the New Investment Advisory Agreement on the WHITE Proxy Card

On June 24, 2020, Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. ("ISS") issued a report recommending that the Fund's stockholders vote "FOR" the approval of the new investment advisory agreement with Royce. ISS is a leading independent proxy advisory firm. Many pension funds, mutual funds and other institutional shareholders around the world consider the analysis conducted by and recommendations issued by ISS in making their voting decisions.

In recommending that the Fund's stockholders vote "FOR" the new agreement with Royce, ISS stated in its report that<sup>3</sup>:

"The most significant aspect of the proposal for shareholders in this context is that the advisory fee rate will not increase. The investment objective remains the same, and the fund will be managed by the same personnel. As such, there would be no material impact to investors in connection with the approval of this proposal."

## Support the Investment Manager with a Proven Track Record

Vote "FOR" the new agreement with Royce, which is building on the Fund's strong track record including...



Consistently outperforming the Fund's benchmark<sup>4</sup> over key timeframes, including over the past 1-, 3-, 5-, 20-, 25-, and 30-year periods ended 3/31/20, as well as since the Fund's inception (11/26/86)<sup>5</sup>



Outperforming the Fund's benchmark<sup>4</sup> in the previous full market cycle period and from the 8/31/18 index peak through 3/31/20<sup>5</sup>



Outperforming the comparable openend Morningstar category average (US Fund Small Blend)<sup>6</sup> over key timeframes, including year-to-date and over the past 1-, 3-, 5-, 10-, and 15-year periods through 3/31/20<sup>5</sup>

# If the New Investment Advisory Agreement is Not Approved, the Fund May Be Forced to Seek Approval to Liquidate

Liquidation could result in serious negative implications for long-term stockholders such as...



# Not Voting is the Same as Voting Against the New Agreement

Every vote counts, and with the July 14 meeting approaching, it is important that you vote today.

To follow the Board of Directors' unanimous recommendation and the recommendation by ISS, vote **"FOR"** the agreement by internet, phone or by signing, dating and mailing the **WHITE** proxy card.







### Your Vote is Important, No Matter How Many or How Few Shares You Own

You can vote by internet, telephone or by signing and dating the **WHITE** proxy card and mailing it in the envelope provided. If you have any questions about how to vote your shares or need additional assistance, please contact:

Innisfree M&A Incorporated



Stockholders Call Toll Free: (877) 825-8964 Banks and Brokers Call: (212) 750-5833



#### REMEMBER

We urge you not to vote using any other colored proxy card as doing so will revoke your vote on the **WHITE** proxy card.

- <sup>1</sup> Due to the "change of control" that will result from the pending combination of Legg Mason Inc. ("Legg Mason") and Franklin Resources, Inc., a global investment management organization operating as Franklin Templeton, that will cause the Fund's current investment advisory agreement to terminate in accordance with its terms as required by applicable law.
- <sup>2</sup> Royce & Associates, LP is a Delaware limited partnership that primarily conducts its business under the name Royce Investment Partners.
- <sup>3</sup> Permission to use quotations neither sought nor obtained.
- <sup>4</sup> Fund benchmark is the Russell 2000 Index, an unmanaged, capitalization-weighted index of domestic small-cap stocks. It measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest publicly traded U.S. companies in the Russell 3000 index.
- $^{\rm 5}\,$  Returns calculated on a net asset value ("NAV") basis.
- For the Morningstar Small Blend Category: © 2020 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. The information regarding the category in this piece: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Small-blend portfolios favor U.S. firms at the smaller end of the market-capitalization range. Some aim to own an array of value and growth stocks while others employ a discipline that leads to holdings with valuations and growth rates close to the small-cap averages. Stocks in the bottom 10% of the capitalization of the U.S. equity market are defined as small cap. The blend style is assigned to portfolios where neither growth nor value characteristics predominate.

#### Forward-looking Statement

This letter is not an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell shares of the Fund. This letter may contain statements regarding plans and expectations for the future that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking and can sometimes be identified by the use of words such as "plan," "expect," "will," "should," "could," "anticipate," "intend," "project," "estimate," "guidance," "possible," "continue" and other similar terms and phrases, although not all forward-looking statements include these words. Such forward-looking statements are based on the current plans and expectations of the Fund, and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance and events to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. Additionally, past performance is no guarantee of future results. Additional information concerning such risks and uncertainties are or will be contained in the Fund's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Fund's Annual Report to Stockholders on Form N-CSR, for the year ended December 31, 2019, and subsequent filings with the Commission. These factors should be considered carefully and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The Fund undertakes no responsibility to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement.