INLAND WESTERN RETAIL REAL ESTATE TRUST INC Form PRE 14A June 24, 2010

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

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant X

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant O

Check the appropriate box:

- x Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- o Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-12

Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x	No fee required.	opriace box).	
0	1	e below per Exchange Act Rul	es 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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0 0		ith preliminary materials. of the fee is offset as provided	by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the
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	(4)	Date Filed:	

PRELIMINARY COPY

# INLAND WESTERN RETAIL REAL ESTATE TRUST, INC. 2901 BUTTERFIELD ROAD OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS 60523 TELEPHONE: (630) 218-8000

July , 2010

Dear Stockholder:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I cordially invite you to attend the 2010 annual meeting of stockholders of Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. The meeting will be held on October 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time, at our principal executive offices located at 2901 Butterfield Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523. I hope you will attend.

The accompanying notice of annual meeting of stockholders and proxy statement contain a description of the formal business to be acted upon by the stockholders. At this year s meeting, you will be entitled to vote on the election of eight directors, an amendment and restatement of our charter, and the amendment of our Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan. I encourage you to read the accompanying materials carefully. Our directors and officers, as well as representatives of Deloitte & Touche LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm for 2009, will be available at the meeting to answer any questions you may have.

It is important that your shares be represented at the meeting regardless of the size of your holdings. ACCORDINGLY, WHETHER OR NOT YOU INTEND TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING IN PERSON, I URGE YOU TO AUTHORIZE YOUR PROXY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. You may do this by completing, signing and dating the enclosed proxy card and returning it promptly in the postage pre-paid envelope provided. You may also authorize a proxy through the Internet, or by calling a toll-free telephone number, by following the procedures described in the attached proxy statement. Submitting your proxy card or authorizing a proxy via the Internet or via telephone will ensure that your shares will be represented at the meeting and voted in accordance with your wishes. If you attend the meeting, you may, if you wish, revoke your proxy and vote your shares in person.

Thank you for your continued support of and interest in our company. I and everyone at Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. wish you good health, happiness and prosperity.

Sincerely,

/s/ Steven P. Grimes

Steven P. Grimes Chief Executive Officer, President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS DATE: October 12, 2010 TIME: 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) PLACE: 2901 Butterfield Road Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

To Our Stockholders:

The purposes of the annual meeting are:

- Election of eight directors to hold office for a one-year term and until their successors are elected and qualify;
- Approval of the Amendment and Restatement of our Charter;

• Approval of the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan; and

• To transact any other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the meeting.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on July 16, 2010 as the record date for determining stockholders of record entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

A proxy statement and proxy card accompany this notice. We have previously provided you with a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009.

We hope to have the maximum number of stockholders present in person or by proxy at the meeting. To assure your representation at the meeting, please authorize your proxy by completing, signing, dating and mailing the enclosed proxy card. You may also authorize your proxy through the Internet, or by calling a toll-free telephone number, by following the procedures described in the attached proxy statement. YOUR COOPERATION IN PROMPTLY SUBMITTING YOUR PROXY WILL BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. For specific instructions, please refer to the instructions on the proxy card.

You may use the enclosed envelope which requires no further postage, if mailed in the United States, to return your proxy. If you attend the meeting, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person, if you desire.

By order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Dennis K. Holland

Dennis K. Holland Secretary

Dated: July , 2010

#### INLAND WESTERN RETAIL REAL ESTATE TRUST, INC. 2901 BUTTERFIELD ROAD OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS 60523

## PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD OCTOBER 12, 2010

Our board of directors, or Board, is furnishing you this proxy statement to solicit proxies on its behalf to be voted at our 2010 annual meeting of stockholders to be held on October 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time at our principal executive offices at the address set forth above, and at any and all adjournments or postponements thereof, which we refer to as the Annual Meeting. We encourage your participation in the voting at the Annual Meeting and solicit your support on each proposal to be presented.

This proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card are first being mailed to stockholders on or about July , 2010.

Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to IWEST, the Company, our, we and us in this proxy statement relate to Inland Wester Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. and those entities owned or controlled directly or indirectly by us. The mailing address of our principal executive offices is 2901 Butterfield Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 and our telephone number is (630) 218-8000.

# STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 12, 2010.

The proxy statement and annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, as amended, are available at www.inlandwestern.com.

# INSTRUCTION GUIDE FOR AUTHORIZING YOUR PROXY

# THREE EASY WAYS TO AUTHORIZE YOUR PROXY WITHOUT ATTENDING OUR ANNUAL MEETING

1.

Authorize Your Proxy by Mail

Simply mark, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card as promptly as possible in the prepaid-postage envelope enclosed.

# 2. Authorize Your Proxy by Telephone

It is fast, convenient, and your vote is immediately confirmed and posted. Using a touch-tone phone, call the toll free number, 1-800-868-5614, which is also shown on your proxy card.

# Just Follow These Four Easy Steps:

- Read the accompanying proxy statement and proxy card;
- Call the toll-free number provided on your proxy card;
- Enter your CONTROL NUMBER located on your proxy card; and
- Follow the simple recorded instructions.

Your vote is important! Call 24 hours a day

3.

Authorize Your Proxy by Internet

It is fast, convenient, and your vote is immediately confirmed and posted. Using a computer, simply go to the designated website for our stockholders:

www.proxyvoting.com/INWEST

Just Follow These Four Easy Steps:

- Read the accompanying proxy statement and proxy card;
- Go to the website **www.proxyvoting.com/INWEST**;
- Enter your CONTROL NUMBER located on your proxy card; and
- Follow the simple instructions.

Your vote is important!

Go to www.proxyvoting.com/INWEST 24 hours a day

#### INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

#### Information about the Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held on October 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time at 2901 Butterfield Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523. Please contact our Director of Investor Relations, Dione K. McConnell, at (630) 218-8000 or via email at mcconnell@inland-western.com if you plan to attend. Additionally, please contact Morrow & Co., LLC at (800) 573-4804 if you have any questions with respect to authorizing a proxy to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting.

#### Information about this Proxy Statement

#### Proposals to be Considered by You at the Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting, we will be asking you to:

PROPOSAL 1:	Elect eight directors.
PROPOSAL 2:	Approve the amendment and restatement of our Charter.
PROPOSAL 3:	Approve the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan

#### **Information about Voting**

VOTING OF PROXIES - Votes cast by proxy or in person at the Annual Meeting will be tabulated by an inspector of election appointed for the Annual Meeting. Each executed and timely returned proxy will be voted in accordance with the directions indicated on it. Each stockholder giving a proxy has the power to revoke it at any time before the shares it represents are voted by giving written notice of the revocation to our Secretary, by delivering a later-dated proxy (which automatically revokes the earlier proxy), or by voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Except for broker non-votes described below, executed but unmarked proxies will be voted by the person(s) named thereon (i) for the election of the nominees named herein as directors (or a substitute for a nominee if such nominee is unable or refuses to serve); (ii) for the approval of the amendment and restatement of our charter; (iii) for the approval of the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate

Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan; and (iv) in the discretion of such person(s) upon such matters not presently known or determined that properly may come before the Annual Meeting.

AUTHORIZATION OF PROXIES ELECTRONICALLY VIA THE INTERNET - Stockholders may authorize a proxy to vote via the Internet at the www.proxyvoting.com/INWEST until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, on October 11, 2010. The Internet proxy authorization procedures are designed to authenticate the stockholders identity and to allow stockholders to vote their shares and confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded.

AUTHORIZATION OF PROXIES VIA TOUCH-TONE TELEPHONE Stockholders may authorize a proxy to vote via touch-tone telephone by calling the toll-free phone number provided on their proxy card until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, on October 11, 2010. The touch-tone telephone proxy authorization procedures are designed to authenticate the stockholders identity and to allow stockholders to authorize a proxy to vote their shares and confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded.

Please refer to the proxy card enclosed for voting instructions. If you choose not to authorize your proxy by touch-tone telephone or over the Internet, please complete and return the paper proxy card in the pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope provided with this proxy statement.

#### **Quorum; Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

We have hired an independent proxy solicitor, Morrow & Co., LLC, to solicit proxies on the Board's behalf with respect to the matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. Votes cast by proxy or in person at the Annual Meeting will be tabulated by an inspector of election appointed by us. The inspector will determine whether or not a quorum is present. Presence in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting of holders of a majority of our outstanding shares constitutes a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes will count toward the presence of a quorum but will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the proposal to approve the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan, although abstentions and broker non-votes will have the effect of votes against the election of directors and the proposal to approve the amendment to our Charter. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee (such as a custodian or bank) holding shares for a beneficial owner returns a signed proxy but does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner.

#### Number of Votes Necessary for each Proposal to be Approved

• *Election of directors:* Provided a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote is required for the election of each of the eight directors to be elected at the Annual Meeting. There are no cumulative voting rights in the election of directors.

• Approval of the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan: Provided a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote is required to approve the Second Amended and Restated Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. Independent Director Stock Option Plan.

• *Approval of the Amendment and Restatement of our Charter:* Provided a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of our common stock issued and outstanding is required to approve the amendment and restatement of our Charter.

# PLEASE VOTE YOUR SHARES BY AUTHORIZING YOUR PROXY BY TELEPHONE, VIA THE INTERNET OR BY COMPLETING, SIGNING AND DATING THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY CARD AND RETURNING IT IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

#### **Costs of Proxies**

We will bear all expenses incurred in connection with the solicitation of proxies. Our officers, directors and employees may solicit proxies by mail, personal contact, letter, telephone, telegram, facsimile or other electronic means. They will not receive any additional compensation for those activities, but they may be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, we have hired Morrow & Co., LLC, to solicit proxies on our behalf. We expect that the fee of soliciting proxies on our behalf will be approximately \$6,500 plus costs and expenses.

#### **Other Matters**

As of the date of this proxy statement, the above-referenced proposals are the only matters we are aware of that are to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting. If any other matter should properly come before the Annual Meeting for which we did not receive proper notice, in accordance with the requirements of our bylaws, the persons appointed by you in your proxy will vote on those matters in accordance with the recommendation of the Board, or, in the absence of such a recommendation, in accordance with their discretion. The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on any such other matter will be required for approval.

#### Where You Can Find More Information About Us

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information we file with the SEC at the SEC s Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of the documents at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Section of the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-

0330 for further information regarding the public reference facilities. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the website maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov.

## **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

# PROPOSAL NO. 1: ELECTION OF EIGHT INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE AS DIRECTORS TO HOLD OFFICE UNTIL THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS AND UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE ELECTED AND QUALIFY.

Our current governing charter requires us to have at least three, but not more than 11, directors. Our Board currently consists of nine individuals. Robert D. Parks has advised us that he will not stand for re-election at the Annual Meeting. Accordingly, pursuant to a resolution of the Board, the Board will be reduced to eight individuals effective at the Annual Meeting. Although we are not listed on the New York Stock Exchange, after an evaluation, we believe that all of our directors would satisfy the definition of independent under the New York Stock Exchange s listing standards, except for Robert D. Parks and Brenda G. Gujral.

The election of members of the Board is conducted on an annual basis. Each individual elected to the Board serves a one-year term and until his or her successor is elected and qualifies. Accordingly, the term of office of each of our current directors will expire at the Annual Meeting. At that meeting each current director, other than Mr. Parks, will be nominated to stand for re-election as a director. We have no reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unable or unwilling to serve if elected. However, should any nominee be unable or unwilling to accept the office of director, and if the Board shall designate a substitute nominee, the persons named as proxies will vote for the election of the substitute nominee designated by the Board, and if none, for such other persons as they shall determine. Seven of our current directors have been directors since January 1, 2008. Information regarding the business experience of each nominee and Mr. Parks is provided below based upon information furnished to us by the individuals named.

## Nominees for Election as Directors

The following sets forth information with regard to the nominees for election to our Board, with ages set forth as of January 1, 2010.

NAME, POSITIONS WITH IWEST AND AGE	BUSINESS EXPERIENCE
FRANK A. CATALANO, JR. Director since 2003 Age 49	<b>Frank A. Catalano, Jr.</b> has been one of our directors since our inception on March 5, 2003. He has served as President of Catalano & Associates since 1999. Catalano & Associates is a real estate company that includes brokerage, property management and rehabilitation and leasing of office buildings. Mr. Catalano s experience also includes mortgage banking. Since February 1, 2008, he has been with Gateway-Funding as their Regional Vice President. From 2002 until August 2007, he was a Vice President of American Home Mortgage Company. He also was President and Chief Executive Officer of CCS Mortgage, Inc. from 1995 through 2000.
	Mr. Catalano is a member of the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce and its past chairman of the board. He is also a member of the Elmhurst Jaycees, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare Board of Governors and Elmhurst Kiwanis. Mr. Catalano holds

	a mortgage banker s license.
KENNETH H. BEARD	Kenneth H. Beard has been one of our independent directors since our inception on
Director since 2003	March 5, 2003. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of KHB Group, Inc. and
	Midwest Mechanical Construction, mechanical engineering and construction
	companies. From 1999 to 2002, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of
	Exelon Services, a subsidiary of
Age 69	

	<ul> <li>Exelon Corporation. From 1974 to 1999, Mr. Beard was President and Chief</li> <li>Executive Officer of Midwest Mechanical, Inc., a heating, ventilation and air</li> <li>conditioning construction and service company that he founded in 1974. From 1964 to</li> <li>1974, Mr. Beard was employed by The Trane Company, a manufacturer of heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment.</li> <li>Mr. Beard holds a MBA and BSCE from the University of Kentucky and is a licensed</li> <li>mechanical engineer. He is past chairman of the foundation board of the Wellness</li> <li>House in Hinsdale, Illinois, a cancer support organization and serves on the Dean s</li> <li>Advisory Council of the University of Kentucky, School of Engineering. Mr. Beard is a past member of the Oak Brook, Illinois, Plan Commission (1981 to 1991) and a past</li> <li>board member of Harris Bank, Hinsdale, Illinois (1985 to 2004).</li> </ul>
PAUL R. GAUVREAU Director since 2003 Age 70	<ul> <li>Paul R. Gauvreau has been one of our directors since our inception on March 5, 2003. He is the retired Chief Financial Officer, Financial Vice President and Treasurer of Pittway Corporation, a New York Stock exchange listed manufacturer and distributor of professional burglar and fire alarm systems and equipment from 1966 until its sale to Honeywell, Inc. in 2001. He was President of Pittway s non-operating real estate and leasing subsidiaries through 2001. He was a financial consultant to Honeywell, Inc., Genesis Cable, L.L.C. and ADUSA, Inc. He was a director and audit committee member of Cylink Corporation, a NASDAQ Stock Market listed manufacturer of voice and data security products from 1998 until its merger with Safenet, Inc. in February 2003.</li> <li>Mr. Gauvreau holds an MBA from the University of Chicago and a BSC from Loyola</li> </ul>
	University of Chicago. He is on the Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Finance Committee and Treasurer of Benedictine University, Lisle, Illinois and a member of the Board of Directors of the Children s Brittle Bone Foundation, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin.
GERALD M. GORSKI	Gerald M. Gorski has been one of our directors since July 1, 2003. He has been a
Director since 2003	Partner in the law firm of Gorski & Good, Wheaton, Illinois since 1978. Mr. Gorski s practice is limited to governmental law. His firm represents numerous units of local government in Illinois and Mr. Gorski has served as a Special Assistant State s Attorney and Special Assistant Attorney General in Illinois. He received a B.A from North Central College with majors in Political Science and Economics and a J.D. from
Age 66	DePaul University Law School where he was placed on the Deans Honor List. Mr. Gorski serves as the Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the DuPage Airport Authority. Further, Mr. Gorski has also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the DuPage National Technology Park. He has written numerous articles on various legal issues facing Illinois municipalities; has been a speaker at a number of municipal law conferences and is a member of the Illinois Bar Association, the Institute for Local Government Law and the International Municipal Lawyers Association.
RICHARD P. IMPERIALE	Richard P. Imperiale has been a director since January 2008 and is President and
Director since 2008	founder of the Uniplan Companies, a Milwaukee, Wisconsin based investment advisory holding company. Uniplan and its affiliates manage and advise over \$500 million in client accounts. Uniplan specializes in providing clients with consistently superior risk-
Age 50	

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#### BRENDA G. GUJRAL Director since our formation in 2003

Age 67

Brenda G. Gujral has been one of our directors since our inception and previously served as our chief executive officer until November 15, 2007. She was the president and a director of Inland Real Estate Investment Corporation ( IREIC ) from July 1987 through September 1992 at which time she took a leave to work in a family business. She returned to Inland in a part-time position from October 1995 until January 1998 at which time she was again named president and director of IREIC becoming its chief executive officer in January of 2008. She served as president, chief operating officer and a director of Inland Securities Corporation from January 1997 until June 2009, and has been a director of Inland Securities Corporation since January 1997. Additionally, Ms. Gujral has served as a director of Inland Investment Advisors, Inc., an investment advisor, since January 2001. Ms. Gujral also has served as president and director of Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc. ( IARETI ) since its inception in October 2004, the chairman of the board of Inland Real Estate Exchange Corporation since May 2001, and a director of Inland Opportunity Business Manager & Advisor, Inc. since April 2009. Ms. Gujral was a director of Inland Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. from its inception in September 1998 until it was acquired in February 2007.

Ms. Gujral has overall responsibility for the operations of IREIC, including investor relations, regulatory compliance and filings, review of asset management activities and broker-dealer marketing and communication. Ms. Gujral works with the internal and outside legal counsel in structuring IREIC s investment programs and in connection with preparing offering documents and registering the related securities with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) and state securities commissions.

Ms. Gujral has been with the Inland organization for twenty-nine years, becoming an officer in 1982. Prior to joining Inland, she worked for the Land Use Planning Commission establishing an office in Portland, Oregon, to implement land use legislation for that state. She is a graduate of California State University. She holds Series 7, 22, 39 and 63 certifications from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and is a licensed real estate salesperson and a member of NAREIT.

# THE BOARD S RECOMMENDATION

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE

FOR

FRANK A. CATALANO, JR., KENNETH H. BEARD, PAUL R. GAUVREAU, GERALD M. GORSKI, RICHARD P. IMPERIALE, KENNETH E. MASICK, BARBARA A. MURPHY, AND BRENDA G. GUJRAL

# ITS NOMINEES FOR ELECTION AS DIRECTORS

*Diversity.* Although the Board has not established a policy regarding diversity, the Nominating Committee believes that the Board is diverse with respect to background, skills, experience, expertise and gender.

*Director Qualifications.* In considering whether directors and nominees have the experiences, qualifications, attributes and skills, taken as a whole, to enable the Board to carry out its duties effectively, the Nominating Committee and the Board focused on each Director's participation and performance on the Board during his or her tenure, as well as on the information discussed in each of the Directors' individual biographies set forth elsewhere herein. In particular, with respect to each Director, the Nominating Committee and the Board noted the following:

• Mr. Catalano s experience in running a firm engaged in the brokerage, management, rehabilitation and leasing of commercial property coincides closely with the business of the Company;