

BLACKROCK MUNICIPAL 2018 TERM TRUST
Form N-CSR
March 06, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT

INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number: 811-10501

Name of Fund: BlackRock Municipal 2018 Term Trust (BPK)

Fund Address: 100 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19809

Name and address of agent for service: John M. Perlowski, Chief Executive Officer, BlackRock Municipal 2018 Term Trust, 55 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10055

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (800) 882-0052, Option 4

Date of fiscal year end: 12/31/2016

Date of reporting period: 12/31/2016

Item 1 Report to Stockholders

ANNUAL REPORT

BlackRock California Municipal 2018 Term Trust (BJZ)

BlackRock Municipal 2018 Term Trust (BPK)

BlackRock New York Municipal 2018 Term Trust (BLH)

Not FDIC Insured May Lose Value No Bank Guarantee

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The Markets in Review

Dear Shareholder,

The year 2016 started on a fraught note with worries about slowing growth in China, plunging oil prices and sliding share prices. Then reflationary expectations in the United States helped drive a second-half global growth pick-up and big market reversals. As such, higher-quality asset classes such as Treasury bonds, municipals and investment grade credit prevailed in the first half of the year, only to struggle in the second. In contrast, risk assets sold off at the start of the year and rebounded in the latter half, with some asset classes posting strong year-end returns.

A key takeaway from 2016's market performance is that economics can trump politics. The global reflationary theme—governments taking policy action to support growth—was the dominant driver of 2016 asset returns, outweighing significant political upheavals and uncertainty. This trend accelerated after the U.S. election on expectations for an extra boost to U.S. growth via fiscal policy.

Markets were remarkably resilient during the year. Spikes in equity volatility after big surprises such as the U.K.'s vote to leave the European Union and the outcome of the U.S. presidential election were short-lived. Instead, political surprises and initial sell-offs were seized upon as buying opportunities. We believe this reinforces the case for taking the long view rather than reacting to short-term market noise.

Asset returns varied widely in 2016. Perceived safe assets such as government bonds and low-volatility shares underperformed the higher-risk areas of the market. And the reversal of longstanding trends created opportunities, such as in the recovery of value stocks and commodities.

We expect some of these trends to extend into 2017 and see the potential for more flows into risk assets this year. Learn more by reading our market insights at blackrock.com.

Sincerely,

Rob Kapito

President, BlackRock Advisors, LLC

Rob Kapito

President, BlackRock Advisors, LLC

Total Returns as of December 31, 2016

	6-month	12-month
U.S. large cap equities (S&P 500® Index)	7.82%	11.96%
U.S. small cap equities (Russell 2000® Index)	18.68	21.31
International equities (MSCI Europe, Australasia, Far East Index)	5.67	1.00
Emerging market equities (MSCI Emerging Markets Index)	4.49	11.19
3-month Treasury bills (BofA Merrill Lynch 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index)	0.18	0.33
U.S. Treasury securities (BofA Merrill Lynch 10-Year U.S. Treasury Index)	(7.51)	(0.16)

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U.S. investment grade bonds (Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index)	(2.53)	2.65
Tax-exempt municipal bonds (S&P Municipal Bond Index)	(3.43)	0.77
U.S. high yield bonds (Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Capped Index)	7.40	17.13

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in an index.

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Municipal Market Overview

For the Reporting Period Ended December 31, 2016

Municipal Market Conditions

Municipal bonds generated positive performance for the period, due to falling interest rates and a favorable supply-and-demand environment. Interest rates were volatile late in 2015 (bond prices rise as rates fall) leading up to a long-awaited rate hike from the U.S. Federal Reserve (the Fed) that ultimately came in December. However, ongoing reassurance from the Fed that rates would be increased gradually and would likely remain low overall resulted in strong demand for fixed income investments. Investors favored the relative yield and stability of municipal bonds amid bouts of volatility resulting from uneven U.S. economic data, volatile oil prices, global growth concerns, geopolitical risks (particularly the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union and the contentious U.S. election), and widening central bank divergence i.e., policy easing outside the United States while the Fed was posturing to commence policy tightening. During the 12 months ended December 31, 2016, municipal bond funds garnered net inflows of approximately \$27 billion (based on data from the Investment Company Institute).

For the same 12-month period, total new issuance remained robust from a historical perspective at \$444 billion (significantly above the \$398 billion issued in the prior 12-month period). A noteworthy portion of new supply during this period was attributable to refinancing activity (roughly 60%) as issuers continued to take advantage of low interest rates and a flatter yield curve to reduce their borrowing costs.

S&P Municipal Bond Index	
Total Returns as of December 31, 2016	
6 months:	(3.43)%
12 months:	0.77%

A Closer Look at Yields

From December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2016, yields on AAA-rated 30-year municipal bonds increased by 22 basis points (bps) from 2.82% to 3.04%, while 10-year rates rose by 39 bps from 1.92% to 2.31% and 5-year rates increased 53 bps from 1.26% to 1.79% (as measured by Thomson Municipal Market Data). The municipal yield curve modestly flattened over the 12-month period with the spread between 2- and 30-year maturities flattening by 22 bps and the spread between 2- and 10-year maturities flattening by 5 bps.

During the same time period, on a relative basis, tax-exempt municipal bonds broadly underperformed U.S. Treasuries with the greatest underperformance experienced in shorter-term

issues. In absolute terms, the positive performance of municipal bonds was driven largely by falling interest rates as well as a supply/demand imbalance within the municipal market as investors sought income and incremental yield in an environment where opportunities became increasingly scarce. More broadly, municipal bonds came under pressure post the November U.S. election, erasing a bulk of year-to-date performance while influencing a strong pattern of mutual fund inflows to turn negative in the closing months of the period. The asset class is known for its lower relative volatility and preservation of principal with an emphasis on income as tax rates rise.

Financial Conditions of Municipal Issuers

The majority of municipal credits remain strong, despite well-publicized distress among a few issuers. Four of the five states with the largest amount of debt outstanding (California, New York, Texas and Florida) have exhibited markedly improved credit fundamentals during the slow national recovery. However, several states with the largest unfunded pension liabilities have seen their bond prices decline noticeably and remain vulnerable to additional price deterioration. On the local level, Chicago's credit quality downgrade is an outlier relative to other cities due to its larger pension liability and inadequate funding remedies. BlackRock maintains the view that municipal bond defaults will remain minimal and in the periphery while the overall market is fundamentally sound. We continue to advocate careful credit research and believe that a thoughtful approach to structure and security selection remains imperative amid uncertainty in a modestly improving economic environment.

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The opinions expressed are those of BlackRock as of October 31, 2016, and are subject to change at any time due to changes in market or economic conditions. The comments should not be construed as a recommendation of any individual holdings or market sectors. Investing involves risk including loss of principal. Bond values fluctuate in price so the value of your investment can go down depending on market conditions. Fixed income risks include interest-rate and credit risk. Typically, when interest rates rise, there is a corresponding decline in bond values. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the bond issuer will not be able to make principal and interest payments. There may be less information on the financial condition of municipal issuers than for public corporations. The market for municipal bonds may be less liquid than for taxable bonds. Some investors may be subject to Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). Capital gains distributions, if any, are taxable.

The Standard & Poor's Municipal Bond Index, a broad, market value-weighted index, seeks to measure the performance of the U.S. municipal bond market. All bonds in the index are exempt from U.S. federal income taxes or subject to the alternative minimum tax. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The Benefits and Risks of Leveraging

The Trusts may utilize leverage to seek to enhance the distribution rate on, and net asset value (NAV) of, their common shares (Common Shares). However, these objectives cannot be achieved in all interest rate environments.

In general, the concept of leveraging is based on the premise that the financing cost of leverage, which is based on short-term interest rates, is normally lower than the income earned by a Trust on its longer-term portfolio investments purchased with the proceeds from leverage. To the extent that the total assets of the Trusts (including the assets obtained from leverage) are invested in higher-yielding portfolio investments, the Trusts' shareholders benefit from the incremental net income. The interest earned on securities purchased with the proceeds from leverage is paid to shareholders in the form of dividends, and the value of these portfolio holdings is reflected in the per share NAV.

To illustrate these concepts, assume a Trust's capitalization is \$100 million and it utilizes leverage for an additional \$30 million, creating a total value of \$130 million available for investment in longer-term income securities. If prevailing short-term interest rates are 3% and longer-term interest rates are 6%, the yield curve has a strongly positive slope. In this case, a Trust's financing costs on the \$30 million of proceeds obtained from leverage are based on the lower short-term interest rates. At the same time, the securities purchased by a Trust with the proceeds from leverage earn income based on longer-term interest rates. In this case, a Trust's financing cost of leverage is significantly lower than the income earned on a Trust's longer-term investments acquired from such leverage proceeds, and therefore the holders of Common Shares (Common Shareholders) are the beneficiaries of the incremental net income.

However, in order to benefit shareholders, the return on assets purchased with leverage proceeds must exceed the ongoing costs associated with the leverage. If interest and other costs of leverage exceed the Trusts' return on assets purchased with leverage proceeds, income to shareholders is lower than if the Trusts had not used leverage. Furthermore, the value of the Trusts' portfolio investments generally varies inversely with the direction of long-term interest rates, although other factors can influence the value of portfolio investments. In contrast, the

value of the Trusts' obligations under their respective leverage arrangements generally does not fluctuate in relation to interest rates. As a result, changes in interest rates can influence the Trusts' NAVs positively or negatively. Changes in the future direction of interest rates are very difficult to predict accurately, and there is no assurance that the Trusts' intended leveraging strategy will be successful.

The use of leverage also generally causes greater changes in each Trust's NAV, market price and dividend rates than comparable portfolios without leverage. In a declining market, leverage is likely to cause a greater decline in the NAV and market price of a Trust's shares than if the Trust were not leveraged. In addition, each Trust may be required to sell portfolio securities at inopportune times or at distressed values in order to comply with regulatory requirements applicable to the use of leverage or as required by the terms of leverage instruments, which may cause the Trusts to incur losses. The use of leverage may limit a Trust's ability to invest in certain types of securities or use certain types of hedging strategies. Each Trust incurs expenses in connection with the use of leverage, all of which are borne by shareholders and may reduce income to the shareholders. Moreover, to the extent the calculation of the Trusts' investment advisory fees includes assets purchased with the proceeds of leverage, the investment advisory fees payable to the Trusts' investment adviser will be higher than if the Trusts did not use leverage.

Each Trust may utilize leverage through TOB Trusts as described in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act), the Trusts are permitted to issue debt up to 33% of their total managed assets. A Trust may voluntarily elect to limit its leverage to less than the maximum amount permitted under the 1940 Act.

If a Trust segregates or designates on its books and records cash or liquid assets having values not less than the value of a Trust's obligations under the TOB Trust (including accrued interest), then such transaction is not considered a senior security and is not subject to the foregoing limitations and requirements under the 1940 Act.

Trust Summary as of December 31, 2016

BlackRock California Municipal 2018 Term Trust

Trust Overview

BlackRock California Municipal 2018 Term Trust's (BJZ) (the Trust) investment objectives seek to provide current income exempt from regular federal and California income taxes and to return \$15 per common share to holders of common shares on or about December 31, 2018. The Trust seeks to achieve its investment objectives by investing, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its total assets in municipal bonds that at the time of investment are judged by the investment adviser to be of investment grade quality. There is no assurance that the Trust will achieve its investment objective of returning \$15 per common share.

Trust Information

Symbol on New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)	BJZ
Initial Offering Date	October 26, 2001
Termination Date (on or about)	December 31, 2018
Yield on Closing Market Price as of December 31, 2016 (\$15.04) ¹	2.21%
Tax Equivalent Yield ²	4.50%
Current Monthly Distribution per Common Share ³	\$0.0277
Current Annualized Distribution per Common Share ³	\$0.3324
Economic Leverage as of December 31, 2016	

¹ Yield on closing market price is calculated by dividing the current annualized distribution per share by the closing market price. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

² Tax equivalent yield assumes the maximum marginal federal and state tax rate of 50.93%, which includes the 3.8% Medicare tax. Actual tax rates will vary based on income, exemptions and deductions. Lower taxes will result in lower tax equivalent yields.

³ The distribution rate is not constant and is subject to change.

Performance

Returns for the 12 months ended December 31, 2016 were as follows:

	Returns Based On	
	Market Price	NAV
BJZ ^{1, 2}	2.14%	0.80%
Lipper California Municipal Debt Funds ³	(0.83)%	(0.06)%

¹ All returns reflect reinvestment of dividends and/or distributions.

² The Trust moved from a discount to NAV to a premium during the period, which accounts for the difference between performance based on price and performance based on NAV.

³ Average return.

Performance results may include adjustments made for financial reporting purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

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The following discussion relates to the Trust's absolute performance based on NAV:

Despite a strong start, municipal bonds finished 2016 roughly flat. After producing positive returns through August, municipal bonds began to move lower in September and October due to rising yields in the U.S. Treasury market and a pick-up in new tax-exempt issuance. The weakness accelerated in November once Donald Trump's election victory caused investors to factor in a backdrop of stronger growth and tighter Fed policy. The municipal market stabilized and retraced some of its losses in December as the relative attractiveness of the asset class brought in new investors, but the modest rally was insufficient to make up for the earlier downturn.

The Trust is scheduled to terminate on or about December 31, 2018, and it therefore holds securities that will mature close to that date. This approach hurt performance versus the Lipper peer group in the first half of the period, when long-term bonds were generating the best returns. However, it helped protect the Trust from the full extent of the subsequent downturn.

Positions in the utilities, school districts and tax-backed states sectors were the largest positive contributors to performance. The Trust maintained a fully invested portfolio, which helped maximize the income component of total return. The Trust's shorter duration profile was positive for performance given that rates moved higher across the curve. (Duration is a measure of interest-rate sensitivity.)

The Trust's exposure to bonds with maturities of five years and less was a drag on returns, as shorter-term bonds were pressured by anticipation of the Fed's quarter-point interest rate hike in December. The Trust's more seasoned holdings, while producing generous yields compared to current market rates, detracted from performance. The prices of many of these investments declined due to the premium amortization that occurred as the bonds approached their first call dates. (A call is when an issuer redeems a bond prior to its maturity date; premium is the amount by which a bond trades above its \$100 par value.)

Reinvestment was a drag on performance, as bonds were called or matured with yields materially higher than the prevailing market rates at which the proceeds were reinvested.

The views expressed reflect the opinions of BlackRock as of the date of this report and are subject to change based on changes in market, economic or other conditions. These views are not intended to be a forecast of future events and are no guarantee of future results.

**BlackRock California Municipal 2018 Term
Trust**

Market Price and Net Asset Value Per Share Summary

	12/31/16	12/31/15	Change	High	Low
Market Price	\$ 15.04	\$ 15.05	(0.07)%	\$ 15.30	\$ 14.91
Net Asset Value	\$ 14.94	\$ 15.15	(1.39)%	\$ 15.25	\$ 14.93

Market Price and Net Asset Value History For the Past Five Years

Overview of the Trust's Total Investments*

Sector Allocation	12/31/16	12/31/15
Utilities	28%	28%
County/City/Special District/School District	25	21
Health	12	12
Education	11	10
State	10	17
Transportation	9	7
Corporate	4	4
Housing	1	1

Call/Maturity Schedule³

Calendar Year Ended December 31,	
2017	18%
2018	55
2019	17
2020	
2021	

³ Scheduled maturity dates and/or bonds that are subject to potential calls by issuers over the next five years.

* Excludes short-term securities.

Credit Quality Allocation¹

	12/31/16	12/31/15
AAA/Aaa	2%	2%
AA/Aa	63	67
A	15	18
BBB/Baa	6	7
N/R ²	14	6

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- ¹ For financial reporting purposes, credit quality ratings shown above reflect the highest rating assigned by either Standard & Poor's (S&P) or Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) if ratings differ. These rating agencies are independent, nationally recognized statistical rating organizations and are widely used. Investment grade ratings are credit ratings of BBB/Baa or higher. Below investment grade ratings are credit ratings of BB/Ba or lower. Investments designated N/R are not rated by either rating agency. Unrated investments do not necessarily indicate low credit quality. Credit quality ratings are subject to change.
- ² The investment adviser evaluates the credit quality of unrated investments based upon certain factors including, but not limited to, credit ratings for similar investments and financial analysis of sectors and individual investments. Using this approach, the investment adviser has deemed certain of these unrated securities as investment grade quality. As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the market value of unrated securities deemed by the investment adviser to be investment grade represents 9% and 4%, respectively, of the Trust's total investments.

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DECEMBER 31, 2016

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Trust Summary as of December 31, 2016

BlackRock Municipal 2018 Term Trust

Trust Overview

BlackRock Municipal 2018 Term Trust s (BPK) (the Trust) investment objectives seek to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax and to return \$15 per common share (the initial offering price per common share) to holders of common shares on or about December 31, 2018. The Trust seeks to achieve its investment objectives by investing, under normal market conditions, its assets in municipal bonds exempt from federal income taxes (except that the interest may be subject to the federal AMT). The Trust invests at least 80% of its assets in municipal bonds that are judged by the investment adviser to be of investment grade quality at the time of investment. There is no assurance that the Trust will achieve its investment objective of returning \$15 per common share.

Trust Information

Symbol on NYSE	BPK
Initial Offering Date	October 26, 2001
Termination Date (on or about)	December 31, 2018
Yield on Closing Market Price as of December 31, 2016 (\$14.98) ¹	2.23%
Tax Equivalent Yield ²	3.94%
Current Monthly Distribution per Common Share ³	\$0.0278
Current Annualized Distribution per Common Share ³	\$0.3336
Economic Leverage as of December 31, 2016 ⁴	2%

¹ Yield on closing market price is calculated by dividing the current annualized distribution per share by the closing market price. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

² Tax equivalent yield assumes the maximum marginal federal tax rate of 43.4%, which includes the 3.8% Medicare tax. Actual tax rates will vary based on income, exemptions and deductions. Lower taxes will result in lower tax equivalent yields.

³ The distribution rate is not constant and is subject to change.

⁴ Represents TOB Trusts as a percentage of total managed assets, which is the total assets of the Trust, including any assets attributable to TOB Trusts, minus the sum of accrued liabilities. For a discussion of leveraging techniques utilized by the Trust, please see The Benefits and Risks of Leveraging on page 5.

Performance

Returns for the 12 months ended December 31, 2016 were as follows:

	Returns Based On	
	Market Price	NAV
BPK ^{1, 2}	(0.97)%	0.46%
Lipper Intermediate Municipal Debt Funds ³	(1.16)%	(0.39)%

¹ All returns reflect reinvestment of dividends and/or distributions.