

Date: November 20, 2020

TO: MIAX PEARL Equities Members

FROM: MIAX PEARL Equities Listings Department

Re: First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund - FVC

MIAX PEARL, LLC ("Exchange") commenced trading of equity securities on September 25, 2020, followed by a security-by-security phase-in period. This Product Circular is being issued to advise you that the following security has been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("UTP") on the Exchange as a UTP Derivative Security pursuant to Exchange Rule 2900, and will begin trading on MIAX PEARL during the phase-in period. See the <a href="Exchange's Website">Exchange's Website</a> for the phase-in schedule.

# Security (the "Fund") Symbol

First Trust Dorsey Wright Dynamic Focus 5 ETF FVC

Issuer/Trust: First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund

**Issuer Website**: <a href="https://www.ftportfolios.com/">https://www.ftportfolios.com/</a>

**Primary Listing Exchange**: NASDAQ Stock Market

The purpose of this Product Circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in this new product pursuant to the Exchange's unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website, examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Issuer Disclosure Materials."

## **Background Information on the Fund**

The Fund will normally invest at least 80% of its net assets (including investment borrowings) in the exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") and cash equivalents that comprise the Index. The Fund, using an indexing investment approach, attempts to replicate, before fees and expenses, the performance of the Index. The Fund's investment advisor seeks a correlation of 0.95 or better (before fees and expenses) between the Fund's performance and the performance of the Index; a figure of 1.00 would represent perfect correlation. The ETFs comprising the Index selection universe are advised by First Trust Advisors L.P., the Fund's investment advisor ("First Trust" or the "Advisor"). The cash equivalents comprising the Index selection universe (the "Cash Proxy") are 1- to 3-month U.S. Treasury Bills that represent the

component securities of the Nasdaq US T-Bill Index, a cash equivalents index (the "Cash Index"). The Index is owned and was developed by Dorsey Wright & Associates, LLC (the "Index Provider").

The Index Provider has retained Nasdaq, Inc. to calculate and maintain the Index. Nasdaq, Inc. may, from time to time, exercise reasonable discretion as it deems appropriate in order to ensure Index integrity. The Index is constructed pursuant to the Index Provider's proprietary methodology, which takes into account the performance of each of the First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs relative to one another. The Index is designed to provide targeted exposure to the five First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs that the Index determines offer the greatest potential to outperform the other First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs and that satisfy certain trading volume and liquidity requirements. The Cash Index is also evaluated and its inclusion and weight in the Index is adjusted based upon its rank relative to the selection universe of sector and industry-based ETFs chosen by the Index. Relative strength measures the price performance of a security versus a market average, another security or universe of securities. A security's relative strength can improve if it rises more than the market in an uptrend, or goes down less than the market in a downtrend.

The Index uses relative strength to evaluate the momentum of each First Trust sector and industry-based ETF to determine the five ETFs that have the highest level of momentum, which the Index determines have the greatest probability of outperforming the other First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs and that satisfy certain trading volume and liquidity requirements. The Index uses the price data of the selected First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs to perform the relative strength analysis. When determining relative strength, the Index takes into account a variety of factors to track movements and trends of securities prices over various time periods.

The Index Provider has constructed the Index to identify longer term trends though a series of observations, which are used to determine the inputs for the relative strength analysis. Security selection for the Index will be conducted in the following manner:

- 1. The selection universe of the Index begins with all of the First Trust ETFs and the Cash Index.
- 2. The Index then identifies the First Trust ETFs that are designed to target a specific sector or industry group, or that have a significant overweight towards a particular sector or industry group. The selected ETFs must also satisfy certain trading volume and liquidity requirements.
- 3. The sector and industry-based First Trust ETFs are then ranked using a relative strength methodology that is based upon each ETF's market performance. Relative strength is a momentum technique that relies on unbiased, unemotional and objective data, rather than biased forecasting and subjective research. Relative strength is a way of recording historic performance patterns, and the Index uses relative strength signals as a trend indicator for current momentum trends of a security versus another security.
- 4. The Index then selects the five top-ranking First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs according to the proprietary relative strength methodology for inclusion in the Index.
- 5. The Index is evaluated on a bi-monthly basis (occurring in the second and fourth weeks of the month containing a Friday with the exception of the month of December wherein the Index holdings are evaluated once, in the second week of the month containing a Friday), and the five positions within the Index are held as long as those positions continue to suggest that they will outperform the majority of the inventory of other potential First Trust ETFs on a relative basis. An ETF included in the Index will only

be removed if it falls to the bottom half of the universe of First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs according to the Index's relative strength methodology. A new ETF is only added to the Index when a current member is removed. The Index will always be comprised of five First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs. The relative strength analysis is conducted on weeks containing the second and fourth Friday of the month with the exception of the week between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. When a sector or industry ETF addition or deletion is made, the portfolio is rebalanced so each position is equally weighted.

6. In instances where the relative strength begins to diminish among more than one-third of the potential First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs relative to the Cash Index, the Index allocates to the Cash Index.

The target allocation to the Cash Index is equal to the percentile rank of the Cash Index within the Index's relative strength rankings. The Cash Index may constitute between 0% and 95% of the Index; however, the maximum level that the Cash Index can be increased or decreased during an evaluation week is limited to 33% per evaluation. Changes in the Cash Index allocation within the Index will not cause the five First Trust sector and industry-based ETFs in the Index to be rebalanced back to equally weighted. The Index is rebalanced and reconstituted periodically and the Fund will make corresponding changes to its portfolio shortly after the Index changes are made public. The Index's periodic rebalance and reconstitution schedule may cause the Fund to experience a higher rate of portfolio turnover.

The Fund will be concentrated in an industry or a group of industries to the extent that the Index is so concentrated. To the extent the Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in a given jurisdiction or investment sector, the Fund may be exposed to the risks associated with that jurisdiction or investment sector.

As of December 31, 2019, the Index was composed of the following First Trust ETFs:

- 1. First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund (FDN)
- 2. First Trust Financials AlphaDEX Fund (FXO)
- 3. First Trust NASDAQ-100-Technology Sector Index Fund (QTEC)
- 4. First Trust Utilities AlphaDEX Fund (FXU)
- 5. First Trust Technology AlphaDEX Fund (FXL)

The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").

The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis, at net asset value, only in large blocks of shares called "Creation Units." Individual shares of the Fund may only be purchased and sold on the secondary market through a broker-dealer. Since shares of the Fund trade on securities exchanges in the secondary market at their market price rather than their net asset value, the Fund's shares may trade at a price greater than (premium) or less than (discount) the Fund's net asset value. An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the Fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the Fund (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (the "bid-ask spread"). Recent information, including the Fund's net asset value, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads, is available online at https://www.ftportfolios.com/Retail/etf/home.aspx.

# **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, concentration risk, equity securities risk, sector risk and passive investment risk.

# **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on MIAX PEARL is subject to MIAX PEARL trading rules.

# **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during the Regular Trading Session.

The Shares will trade on MIAX PEARL between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

#### **Dissemination of Data**

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Shares to Tape B.

Name	Listing Market	Trading Symbol	IOPV Symbol	NAV Symbol
First Trust Dorsey Wright Dynamic Focus 5 ETF	NASDAQ Stock Market	FVC	FVC.IV	FVC.NV

# **Delivery of a Prospectus**

MIAX PEARL Equity Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's Registration Statement (including the exhibits to the Registration Statement), parts of which have

been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and in the future make available a written product description, MIAX PEARL Rules requires that MIAX PEARL Equity Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, MIAX PEARL Equity Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by an MIAX PEARL Equity Member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Exchange Traded Products] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Exchange Traded Products]."

A MIAX PEARL Equity Member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to MIAX PEARL Equity Member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, MIAX PEARL Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

## Suitability

Trading in the securities on the Exchange will be subject to the provisions of MIAX PEARL Rule 2107 and other applicable suitability rules. Equity Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

## **Trading Halts**

MIAX PEARL will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with MIAX PEARL Rules. The grounds for a halt under MIAX PEARL Rules include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, MIAX PEARL will stop trading the Shares of a security if the primary market de-lists the security.

## Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO- ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Fund to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Fund (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Fund's securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

# Rule 10b-10 (Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares)

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c); and

3) Except for the identity, number, and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

## Rule 10b-17 (Untimely Announcement of Record Dates)

The SEC has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 that will cover transactions in the Shares.

# Section 11(d)(1); Rule 11d1-2 (Customer Margin)

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) that will permit broker-dealers that do not create Shares but engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in such Shares exclusively in the secondary market to extend or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares, in connection with such secondary market transactions. For broker-dealers that engage in the creation of Shares, the SEC has also taken a no-action position under Rule 11d1-2 that will cover the extension or maintenance or the arrangement for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days.

## Rule 14e-5

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

## SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6 (Disclosure of Control and interest in Distributions)

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-5 that will permit a broker-dealer to execute transactions in Shares without disclosing any control relationship with an issuer of a component security. In addition, the SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-6 that will permit a broker dealer to execute transactions in the Shares without disclosing its participation or interest in a primary or secondary distribution of a component security.

This Product Circular is not a statutory prospectus. MIAX PEARL Equity Members should consult the prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please direct product listing questions to MIAX PEARL Equities Listings at <u>Listings@MIAXOptions.com</u> or (609) 897-7308.

Please direct regulatory questions to the MIAX PEARL Regulatory Department at <a href="mailto:Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com">Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com</a> or (609) 897-7309.