WESTERN ASSET MANAGED MUNICIPALS FUND INC. Form N-CSR

July 25, 2013

## **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 811-06629

Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY (Address of principal executive offices)

10018 (Zip code)

Robert I. Frenkel, Esq.

Legg Mason & Co., LLC

100 First Stamford Place

Stamford, CT 06902 (Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (888) 777-0102

Date of fiscal year May 31

end:

Date of reporting period: May 31, 2013

ITEM 1.	REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS.
II EIVI I.	REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The **Annual** Report to Stockholders is filed herewith.

May 31, 2013	
Annual Report	
WESTERN ASSET MANAGED MUNICIPALS FUND INC. (MMU)	
INVESTMENT PRODUCTS: NOT FDIC INSURED • NO BANK GUARANTEE • MAY LOSE VALUE	
INVESTMENT I RODOCTS. NOT I DIC INSCRED * NO BANK GUARANTEE * MAT EOSE VALUE	

## Fund objective

The Fund seeks to maximize current income exempt from federal income tax\* as is consistent with preservation of principal.

\* Certain investors may be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax ( AMT ), and state and local taxes will apply. Capital gains, if any, are fully taxable. Please consult your personal tax or legal adviser.

### What s inside

Letter from the chairman	II
Investment commentary	III
Fund overview	1
Fund at a glance	4
Spread duration	5
Effective duration	6
Schedule of investments	7
Statement of assets and liabilities	17
Statement of operations	18
Statements of changes in net assets	19
Financial highlights	20
Notes to financial statements	21
Report of independent registered public accounting firm	27
Additional information	28
Annual chief executive officer and principal financial officer certifications	35
Other shareholder communications regarding accounting matters	36
Important tax information	37
Dividend reinvestment plan	38

Letter from the chairman
Dear Shareholder,
We are pleased to provide the annual report of Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. for the twelve-month reporting period ended May 31, 2013. Please read on for a detailed look at prevailing economic and market conditions during the Fund s reporting period and to learn how those conditions have affected Fund performance.
I am pleased to introduce myself as the new Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fund, succeeding R. Jay Gerken, as he embarks upon his retirement. Jay has most recently served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fund and other funds in the Legg Mason complex. On behalf of all our shareholders and the Fund s Board of Directors, I would like to thank Jay for his vision and guidance, and wish him all the best.
I am honored to have been appointed to my new role with the Fund. During my 23 year career in the financial industry, I have seen it evolve and expand. Despite these changes, keeping an unwavering focus on our shareholders and their needs remains paramount. This was a consistent focus of Jay s, and I look forward to following his lead in the years to come.
As always, we remain committed to providing you with excellent service and a full spectrum of investment choices. We also remain committed to supplementing the support you receive from your financial advisor. One way we accomplish this is through our website, www.lmcef.com. Here you can gain immediate access to market and investment information, including:
• Fund prices and performance,
Market insights and commentaries from our portfolio managers, and
• A host of educational resources.
We look forward to helping you meet your financial goals.
Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Fuller Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

June 28, 2013

II Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc.

Investment	commentary
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#### **Economic review**

The U.S. economy expanded over the twelve months ended May 31, 2013, but the pace was generally far from robust. U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) igrowth, as reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce, was a tepid 1.3% in the second quarter of 2012. Economic growth accelerated to 3.1% in the third quarter, partially due to increased private inventory investment, higher federal government spending and moderating imports. However, economic activity sharply moderated in the fourth quarter, with GDP expanding an anemic 0.4%. This was driven by a reversal of the above factors, as private inventory investment and federal government spending weakened. Economic growth then improved, as the U.S. Department of Commerce s final reading for first quarter 2013 GDP growth, released after the reporting period ended, was 1.8%. Accelerating growth was due, in part, to strengthening consumer spending, which rose 2.6% during the first quarter, versus a 1.8% increase during the previous quarter.

While there was some improvement in the U.S. job market, unemployment remained elevated throughout the reporting period. When the period began, unemployment, as reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, was 8.2%. Unemployment then generally declined and was 7.8% in September 2012. The unemployment rate then fluctuated between 7.8% and 7.9% over the next four months. Unemployment then fell to 7.7% in February, 7.6% in March and 7.5% in April, before edging up to 7.6% in May. In an encouraging sign, the number of longer-term unemployed has declined in recent months. In February 2013, more than 40% of the people without a job had been out of work for more than six months. This fell to 37.3% in May 2013.

Meanwhile, the housing market brightened, as sales generally improved and home prices continued to rebound. According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), existing-home sales rose 4.2% on a seasonally adjusted basis in May 2013 versus the previous month and were 12.9% higher than in May 2012. In addition, the NAR reported that the median existing-home price for all housing types was \$208,000 in May 2013, up 15.4% from May 2012. This marked the fifteenth consecutive month that home prices rose compared to the same period a year earlier. While the inventory of homes available for sale rose 3.3% in May 2013 to a 5.1 month supply at the current sales pace, it was 10.1% lower than in May 2012.

The manufacturing sector expanded during the majority of the reporting period, although it experienced several soft patches. Based on the Institute for Supply Management s Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) ii, after expanding 34 consecutive months, the PMI fell to 49.7 in June 2012, which represented the first contraction in the manufacturing sector since July 2009 (a reading below 50 indicates a contraction, whereas a reading above 50 indicates an expansion). Manufacturing continued to contract over the next two months before ticking up to 51.5 in September and 51.7 in October. The PMI fell back to contraction territory with a reading of 49.5 in November. While manufacturing then expanded over the next five months, in May 2013 the PMI fell to 49.0, its lowest level since July 2009.

The Federal Reserve Board (Fed) iii took a number of actions as it sought to meet its dual mandate of fostering maximum employment and price stability. As has been the case since December 2008, the Fed kept the federal funds rateiv at a historically low range between zero and 0.25%. At its June 2012 meeting, the Fed announced that it would continue its program of purchasing longer-term Treasury securities and selling an equal amount of shorter-term Treasury securities (often referred to as Operation Twist) until the end of 2012. In September, the Fed announced a third round of quantitative easing (QE3), which involves purchasing \$40 billion each month of agency mortgage-backed securities (MBS) on an open-end basis. In addition, the Fed further extended the duration that it expects to keep the federal funds rate on hold, until at least mid-2015. At its meeting in December, the Fed announced that it would continue purchasing \$40 billion per month of agency MBS, as well as initially purchasing \$45 billion a month of longer-term Treasuries. The Fed also said that it would keep the federal funds rate

Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. III

### Investment commentary (cont d)

Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc.

on hold ...as long as the unemployment rate remains above 6.5%, inflation between one and two years ahead is projected to be no more than a half percentage point above the Committee s 2.0% longer-run goal, and longer-term inflation expectations continue to be well anchored. At its meeting that ended on June 19, 2013, after the reporting period ended, the Fed did not make any material changes to its official policy statement. However, in a press conference following the meeting, Fed Chairman Bernanke said ...the Committee currently anticipates that it would be appropriate to moderate the monthly pace of purchases later this year; and if the subsequent data remain broadly aligned with our current expectations for the economy, we would continue to reduce the pace of purchases in measured steps through the first half of next year, ending purchases around midyear. These comments initially triggered a sharp sell-off in both the stock and bond markets. While the stock market subsequently rallied and recouped its losses in early July, the bond market has not rebounded as sharply. As a result, Treasury yields remain higher than they were prior to Chairman Bernanke s press conference.

As always, thank you for your confidence in our stewardship of your assets.
Sincerely,
Kenneth D. Fuller Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
July 5, 2013
All investments are subject to risk including the possible loss of principal. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.
i Gross domestic product ( GDP ) is the market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given period of time.
ii The Institute for Supply Management s PMI is based on a survey of purchasing executives who buy the raw materials for manufacturing a more than 350 companies. It offers an early reading on the health of the manufacturing sector.
iii The Federal Reserve Board (Fed) is responsible for the formulation of policies designed to promote economic growth, full employment, stable prices and a sustainable pattern of international trade and payments.

iv The federal funds rate is the rate charged by one depository institution on an overnight sale of immediately available funds (balances at the Federal Reserve) to another depository institution; the rate may vary from depository institution to depository institution and from day to day.

Fund	overview

### Q. What is the Fund s investment strategy?

**A.** The Fund seeks to maximize current income exempt from federal income tax as is consistent with preservation of principal. We select securities primarily by identifying undervalued sectors and individual securities, while also selecting securities that we believe will benefit from changes in market conditions.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests primarily in investment grade municipal bonds, but it can also invest up to 20% of its total assets in municipal bonds rated below investment grade by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization or, if unrated, determined to be of equivalent quality. The Fund may also use a variety of derivative instruments for investment purposes, as well as for hedging or risk-management purposes.

At Western Asset Management Company (Western Asset), the Fund s subadviser, we utilize a fixed-income team approach, with decisions derived from interaction among various investment management sector specialists. The sector teams are comprised of Western Asset s senior portfolio management personnel, research analysts and an in-house economist. Under this team approach, management of client fixed-income portfolios will reflect a consensus of interdisciplinary views within the Western Asset organization. The individuals responsible for development of investment strategy, day-to-day portfolio management, oversight and coordination of the Fund are Stephen A. Walsh, Robert E. Amodeo, David T. Fare and Dennis J. McNamara. It is anticipated that Mr. Walsh will step down as a member of the Fund s portfolio management team effective on or about March 31, 2014 and that S. Kenneth Leech will join the Fund s portfolio management team at that time. Mr. Leech has been employed by Western Asset as an investment professional for more than 20 years.

#### Q. What were the overall market conditions during the Fund s reporting period?

**A.** The spread sectors (non-Treasuries) overcame several periods of heightened risk aversion and generally outperformed equal-duration Treasuries over the twelve months ended May 31, 2013. Risk aversion was prevalent at times given mixed economic data, contagion fears from the European sovereign debt crisis and uncertainties regarding future Federal Reserve Board (Fed )i actions. However, periodic setbacks were often temporary in nature and spread sector demand was generally solid as investors looked to generate incremental yield in the low interest rate environment.

Both short- and long-term Treasury yields moved higher during the twelve months ended May 31, 2013. Two-year Treasury yields rose from 0.27% at the beginning of the period to 0.30% at the end of the period. Their peak of 0.30% occurred on several occasions and they were as low as 0.20% on April 29, 2013. Ten-year Treasury yields were 1.59% at the beginning of the period and peaked at 2.16% at the end of the period. On July 25, 2012, ten-year Treasuries closed at an all-time low of 1.43%.

While there were periods of volatility, the municipal bond market generated positive results during the twelve months ended May 31, 2013. Demand was generally solid and the municipal bond market posted positive returns during eight of the twelve months covered by this report. Supporting the municipal bond market were increasing tax revenues, relatively low new issuance and extremely low defaults. In addition, while certain challenges remain, a number of states took actions to reduce spending and get their financial houses in order. All told, the Barclays

Municipal Bond Indexii gained 3.05% for the twelve months ended May 31, 2013. Over the same period, the overall taxable bond market, as measured by the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Indexiii gained 0.92%.

## Q. How did we respond to these changing market conditions?

**A.** There were no significant changes to the Fund during the reporting period. That being said, toward the end of 2012 we initiated a number of trades to make the Fund more tax efficient. The Fund employed the use of short U.S. Treasury futures during the reporting period to manage durationiv. This strategy contributed to performance.

Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report

#### Fund overview (cont d)

During the reporting period, we utilized leverage in the Fund. We ended the period with leverage as a percentage of gross assets, of approximately 29%, relatively unchanged during the twelve months ended May 31, 2013. The use of leverage was additive for results given the positive performance of the municipal bond market over the twelve months ended May 31, 2013.

#### Performance review

For the twelve months ended May 31, 2013, Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. returned 6.66% based on its net asset value (NAV) v and 1.90% based on its New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) market price per share. The Funds unmanaged benchmark, the Barclays Municipal Bond Index, returned 3.05% for the same period. The Lipper General & Insured Municipal Debt (Leveraged) Closed-End Funds Category Averagevi returned 6.46% over the same time frame. Please note that Lipper performance returns are based on each funds NAV.

Certain investors may be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax, and state and local taxes will apply. Capital gains, if any, are fully taxable. Please consult your personal tax or legal adviser.

During the twelve-month period, the Fund made distributions to shareholders totaling \$0.78 per share. The performance table shows the Fund s twelve-month total return based on its NAV and market price as of May 31, 2013. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** 

### Performance Snapshot as of May 31, 2013

Price Per Share	12-Month Total Return*
\$14.12 (NAV)	6.66%
\$13.37 (Market Price)	1.90%

All figures represent past performance and are not a guarantee of future results.

\* Total returns are based on changes in NAV or market price, respectively. Returns reflect the deduction of all Fund expenses, including management fees, operating expenses, and other Fund expenses. Returns do not reflect the deduction of brokerage commissions or taxes that investors may pay on distributions or the sale of shares.

Total return assumes the reinvestment of all distributions at NAV.

Total return assumes the reinvestme	nt of all distributions in additional sha	res in accordance with the Fund	l s Dividend Reinvestment
Plan			

### Q. What were the leading contributors to performance?

**A.** The largest contributor to the Fund s relative performance during the reporting period was its overall yield curvevii positioning. The Fund maintained an overweight to the 22+ year portion of the municipal yield curve through the period. This positively impacted results as longer-term securities outperformed shorter-term securities.

Sector positioning, overall, enhanced the Fund s results during the reporting period. In particular, an overweight to revenue bonds such as those in the Industrial Development Revenue sector were additive for performance.

Also contributing to the Fund s results was its overweight to lower rated investment grade municipal bonds. More specifically, an overweight to A-rated securities was beneficial as they outperformed their higher-rated counterparts during the period. An underweight to AAA-rated securities was also rewarded given their underperformance versus the benchmark.

Finally, as discussed, the Fund s Treasury futures position and the use of leverage were beneficial during the reporting period.

### Q. What were the leading detractors from performance?

**A.** The largest detractor from relative performance during the reporting period was the Fund s underweight to certain low rated, more speculative securities. For example, the Fund s lack of exposure to the Tobacco sector was not rewarded given its outperformance versus the benchmark.

The Fund s cash position was also a drag on results given the overall municipal bond market s positive return and the low yields available from money market securities.

2 Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report

### Looking for additional information?

The Fund is traded under the symbol MMU and its closing market price is available in most newspapers under the NYSE listings. The daily NAV is available on-line under the symbol XMMUX on most financial websites. *Barron s* and the *Wall Street Journal s* Monday edition both carry closed-end fund tables that provide additional information. In addition, the Fund issues a quarterly press release that can be found on most major financial websites as well as www.lmcef.com.

In a continuing effort to provide information concerning the Fund, shareholders may call 1-888-777-0102 (toll free), Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time, for the Fund s current NAV, market price and other information.

Thank you for your investment in Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. As always, we appreciate that you have chosen us to manage your assets and we remain focused on achieving the Fund s investment goals.

Sincerely,

Western Asset Management Company

June 14, 2013

RISKS: The Fund s investments are subject to a number of risks such as liquidity risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, leveraging risk and management risk. As interest rates rise, the price of fixed-income investments declines. Lower rated, higher-yielding bonds are subject to greater credit risk than higher-rated investment grade securities. Municipal securities purchased by the Fund may be adversely affected by changes in the financial condition of municipal issuers and insurers, regulatory and political developments, uncertainties and public perceptions, and other factors. The Fund may make significant investments in derivative instruments. Derivative instruments can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses and could have a potentially large impact on Fund performance. Leverage may result in greater volatility of NAV and market price of common shares and may increase a shareholder s risk of loss.

The mention of sector breakdowns is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a recommendation to purchase or sell any securities. The information provided regarding such sectors is not a sufficient basis upon which to make an investment decision. Investors seeking financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in any securities or investment strategies discussed should consult their financial professional. Portfolio holdings are subject to change at any time and may not be representative of the portfolio managers current or future investments. The Fund s portfolio composition is subject to change at any time.

All investments are subject to risk including the possible loss of principal. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All index performance reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes. Please note that an investor cannot invest directly in an index.

The information provided is not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results or investment advice. Views expressed may differ from those of the firm as a whole.

- i The Federal Reserve Board (Fed) is responsible for the formulation of policies designed to promote economic growth, full employment, stable prices and a sustainable pattern of international trade and payments.
- ii The Barclays Municipal Bond Index is a market value weighted index of investment grade municipal bonds with maturities of one year or more.
- iii The Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index is a broad-based bond index comprised of government, corporate, mortgage- and asset-backed issues, rated investment grade or higher, and having at least one year to maturity.
- iv Duration is the measure of the price sensitivity of a fixed-income security to an interest rate change of 100 basis points. Calculation is based on the weighted average of the present values for all cash flows.
- v Net asset value (NAV) is calculated by subtracting total liabilities and outstanding preferred stock (if any) from the closing value of all securities held by the Fund (plus all other assets) and dividing the result (total investments) by the total number of the common shares outstanding. The NAV fluctuates with changes in the market prices of securities in which the Fund has invested. However, the price at which an investor may buy or sell shares of the Fund is the Fund s market price as determined by supply of and demand for the Fund s shares.
- vi Lipper, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reuters, provides independent insight on global collective investments. Returns are based on the twelve-month period ended May 31, 2013, including the reinvestment of all distributions, including returns of capital, if any, calculated among the 74 funds in the Fund s Lipper category.
- vii The yield curve is the graphical depiction of the relationship between the yield on bonds of the same credit quality but different maturities.

Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report

Fund at a glance (unaudited)
Investment breakdown (%) as a percent of total investments
The bar graph above represents the composition of the Fund s investments as of May 31, 2013 and May 31, 2012 and does not include derivatives such as futures contracts. The Fund is actively managed. As a result, the composition of the Fund s investments is subject to change at any time.
Represents less than 0.1%.
4 Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report

Spread duration	(unaudited)
Economic Expos	ure May 31, 2013
Spread duration n	neasures the sensitivity to changes in spreads. The spread over Treasuries is the annual risk-premium demanded by investors t
hold non-Treasury security with posi	y securities. Spread duration is quantified as the % change in price resulting from a 100 basis points change in spreads. For a tive spread duration, an increase in spreads would result in a price decline and a decline in spreads would result in a price art highlights the market sector exposure of the Fund s portfolio and the exposure relative to the selected benchmark as of the
Benchmark MMU	Barclays Municipal Bond Index Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc.
	Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report 5

Effective duration	n (unaudited)
Interest Rate Exp	posure May 31, 2013
from a 100 basis p	measures the sensitivity to changes in relevant interest rates. Effective duration is quantified as the % change in price resulting oints change in interest rates. For a security with positive effective duration, an increase in interest rates would result in a price ine in interest rates would result in a price increase. This chart highlights the interest rate exposure of the Fund s sectors relative characteristics as of the end of the reporting period.
Benchmark MMU	Barclays Municipal Bond Index Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc.
6 Western Ass	et Managed Municipals Fund Inc. 2013 Annual Report

### **Schedule of investments**

May 31, 2013

## Western Asset Managed Municipals Fund Inc.

		Maturity	Face	
Security	Rate	Date	Amount	Value
Municipal Bonds 135.5%				
Arizona 5.1%				
Greater Arizona Development Authority, Development Authority				
Infrastructure Revenue, Pinal County Road Project, NATL	5.000%	8/1/19	\$ 3,705,000	\$ 4,063,422
Phoenix, AZ, Civic Improvement Corp. Airport Revenue	5.000%	7/1/40	5,000,000	5,407,550
Salt Verde, AZ, Financial Corp. Gas Revenue				