

ADAMS EXPRESS CO
Form DEFA14A
October 19, 2006

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

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY

(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):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

1. Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2. Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3. Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

4. Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5. Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials:

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and date of its filing.

1. Amount previously paid:

2. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3. Filing Party:

4. Date Filed:

THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO STOCKHOLDERS IS INCLUDED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER REPORT ON FORM N-30B-2 FILED BY THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ON OCTOBER 19, 2006:

LETTER TO STOCKHOLDERS

We submit herewith the financial statements of the Company for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Also provided are a schedule of investments and other summary financial information.

Net assets of the Company at September 30, 2006 were \$15.73 per share on 85,117,815 shares outstanding, compared with \$14.71 per share at December 31, 2005 on 86,099,607 shares outstanding. On March 1, 2006, a distribution of \$0.05 per share was paid, consisting of \$0.02 from 2005 investment income, \$0.02 from 2005 short-term capital gain, and \$0.01 from 2006 investment income, all taxable in 2006. A 2006 investment income dividend of \$0.05 per share was paid on June 1, 2006 and September 1, 2006.

Net investment income for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 amounted to \$13,673,160, compared with \$12,904,578 for the same period in 2005. These earnings are equal to \$0.16 and \$0.15 per share.

Net capital gain realized on investments for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 amounted to \$32,807,779, the equivalent of \$0.39 per share.

The total return on the market value (with dividends and capital gains reinvested) of the Company's shares was 9.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. The total return on the net asset value of the Company's shares in the period was 8.2%. These compare to an 8.5% total return for the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Index and a 10.9% total return for the Dow Jones Industrial Average over the same time period.

For the twelve months ended September 30, 2006, the Company's total return on market value was 10.1% and on net asset value was 9.7%, as the discount narrowed during the period. Comparable figures for the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrials were 10.8% and 13.1%, respectively over the twelve month time period.

By now, you should have received the proxy statement concerning the upcoming Special Meeting of Stockholders on November 7, 2006. As is more fully described in the proxy statement, we are calling the Special Meeting to obtain your approval of a comprehensive rewriting and updating of our corporate charter. We believe that the charter amendments will provide your Board of Directors with additional tools needed to strengthen its ability to further the interests of the Company and our long-term shareholders. Your vote is very important and we urge you to vote in favor of each of the eight charter amendment proposals. If you have not yet voted, please call the Altman Group at 1-800-314-9816, extension 7309, and they can assist you in voting your proxy.

Current and potential shareholders can find information about the Company, including the daily net asset value (NAV) per share, the market price, and the discount/premium to the NAV, at our website (www.adamsexpress.com). Also available at the website are a history of the

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Company, historical financial information, and other useful content. Further information regarding shareholder services is located on page 15 of this report.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Douglas G. Ober,

Chairman and

Chief Executive Officer

Joseph M. Truta,

President

October 13, 2006