PENNSYLVANIA REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST Form DEF 14A April 20, 2018 Table of Contents

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

(Amendment No.)

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 §240.14a-12

Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than The Registrant)

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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

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PENNSYLVANIA REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

MAY 31, 2018

Time: Thursday, May 31, 2018 Time: 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time

Place: The Bellevue

200 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

Purpose of the Meeting

- (1) To elect eight trustees nominated by the Board of Trustees and named in this Proxy Statement for a term expiring at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
- (2) To provide advisory approval of the Company s executive compensation;
- (3) To approve the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust 2018 Equity Incentive Plan;
- (4) To approve the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust Employee Share Purchase Plan;
- (5) To ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor for 2018; and
- (6) To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof. **Record Date:** Our Board of Trustees has fixed the close of business on April 2, 2018 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

All shareholders are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Trustees

LISA M. MOST

Secretary

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 20, 2018

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials

for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 31, 2018:

The Company is making this Proxy Statement, a form of proxy card, and PREIT s Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 available electronically via the internet at www.preit.com by clicking on Investors, then clicking on News & Reports, then clicking on SEC Filings and Reports and then clicking on Pro Statements or Annual Reports, respectively. On or before April 20, 2018, we will mail to our shareholders a Notice of Internet Availability and Proxy Materials (the Notice), which will contain instructions on how to access this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report and how to vote. Shareholders who receive the Notice will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials in the mail, although the Notice will contain instructions regarding requesting a printed copy of the proxy materials if you so desire. Whether or not you expect to attend the meeting in person, please follow the instructions on the Notice so that your shares may be voted at the Annual Meeting. You may vote your shares by mail, by telephone, or through the internet by following the instructions set forth on the Notice. If you attend the meeting, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person.

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VOTING INFORMATION

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust (PREIT or the Company) will be held on Thursday, May 31, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time at The Bellevue, 200 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102. This Proxy Statement is being mailed or made available on or about April 20, 2018 to each holder of PREIT s issued and outstanding common shares of beneficial interest entitled to vote at the meeting in order to furnish information relating to the business to be transacted at the meeting. We are mailing or making available our Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 together with this Proxy Statement. The Annual Report is being provided for informational purposes and not as a means of soliciting your proxy.

Shareholders Entitled to Vote

We have fixed the close of business on April 2, 2018 as the record date for the Annual Meeting (the Record Date). All holders of record of PREIT s common shares of beneficial interest as of the Record Date are entitled to notice of and are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. On the Record Date, 70,353,289 common shares of beneficial interest were outstanding. Shareholders of record on the Record Date may vote by (i) internet by visiting the website specified in the Notice of Internet Availability and Proxy Materials (the Notice), (ii) telephone using the instructions provided in the Notice, or (iii) marking, executing and returning the proxy card (located at the website specified in the Notice), in accordance with the instructions thereon. Shareholders who hold their shares in street name through a bank, broker or other holder of record (a nominee) must vote their shares in the manner prescribed by their nominee.

Your Participation in Voting the Shares You Own Is Important

Voting your shares is important to ensure that you have a say in the governance of PREIT and to fulfill the objectives of the majority voting standard that we apply in the election of trustees. If you are receiving this Proxy Statement from a broker, bank or other financial institution, please review the proxy materials and follow the instructions on the voting instruction form to communicate your voting instructions to your broker, bank or other financial institution. We encourage you to exercise your rights and fully participate as a shareholder of PREIT.

How to Vote

We hope you will attend the Annual Meeting. Whether or not you expect to attend the meeting in person, please vote your shares by mail, by telephone or through the internet by following the instructions set forth in the Notice, so that your shares will be represented. If you receive more than one Notice because you have multiple accounts, you should submit your voting instructions with respect to each account by mail, telephone or through the internet, so that all of your shares will be voted at the Annual Meeting.

Shares Held through a Broker, Bank or Other Financial Institution

If you hold your shares through a broker, bank or other financial institution, there is a New York Stock Exchange rule that determines the manner in which your vote will be handled at our upcoming 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Your broker, bank or other financial institution is not permitted to vote on your behalf on the election of trustees or the proposals related to our executive compensation or the proposed equity plans (i.e., proposals one through four as described in this Proxy Statement) unless you provide specific instructions by completing and returning the voting instruction form or by following the voting instructions provided to you to vote your shares via telephone or the internet. For your vote with respect to those proposals to be counted, you need to communicate your voting instructions to your broker, bank or other financial institution before the date of the 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, and before any earlier date specified in the voting instructions provided by your broker, bank or other financial institution.

Voting Standards Generally

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On each matter subject to a vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement of the meeting, each holder of common shares will be entitled to one vote per share. With respect to the election of trustees (Proposal One), assuming a quorum is present, and subject to the majority voting provisions of our corporate governance guidelines, which are described in this Proxy Statement, the eight nominees receiving the highest number of votes cast at the

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VOTING INFORMATION

meeting will be elected as trustees. With respect to the advisory approval of the Company s executive compensation as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement and the accompanying tabular and narrative disclosure (Proposal Two), the approval of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust 2018 Equity Incentive Plan (Proposal Three), the approval of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust Employee Share Purchase Plan (Proposal Four), and the vote on ratification of the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor for 2018 (Proposal Five), assuming a quorum is present, in each case the proposal will be approved if a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy and being cast as a vote on the proposal are voted FOR the proposal. Proposal Two is non-binding. If you mark your proxy as Withhold or Abstain on any matter, or if you give specific instructions that no vote be cast on any specific matter, the shares represented by your proxy will not be voted on that matter, but will count toward the establishment of a quorum. Proxies submitted by brokers that do not indicate a vote for some or all of the proposals because they do not have discretionary voting authority and have not received instructions as to how to vote on those proposals (so called broker non-votes) are also considered in determining whether a quorum is present, but generally will not affect the outcome of any vote.

Voting by Proxy; Revocation of Proxies

You may vote your shares to be voted at the Annual Meeting in person or by proxy. All valid proxies received before the Annual Meeting will be voted according to their terms. If you complete your proxy properly, whether by completing and returning a proxy card or by submitting your instructions by telephone or through the internet, but do not provide instructions as to how to vote your shares, your proxy will be voted FOR the election of all trustees nominated by our Board of Trustees, FOR advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement and the accompanying tabular and narrative disclosure, FOR approval of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust 2018 Equity Incentive Plan, FOR approval of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust Employee Share Purchase Plan, and FOR the ratification of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor for 2018. If any other business is properly brought before the Annual Meeting, proxies will be voted in accordance with the judgment of the persons voting the proxies. After providing your proxy, you may revoke it at any time before it is voted at the Annual Meeting by filing an instrument revoking it with our Secretary or by submitting a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. You also may revoke your proxy by attending the Annual Meeting and giving notice of revocation. Attendance at the Annual Meeting, by itself, will not constitute revocation of a proxy.

Delivery of Documents to Shareholders Sharing an Address

Some banks, brokers and other nominee record holders might be participating in the practice of householding proxy statements and annual reports. This means that only one copy of our Proxy Statement and Annual Report might have been sent to multiple shareholders in your household, if you have elected to receive paper copies. We will promptly deliver a separate copy of either document to you if you request one by writing or calling us as follows: Investor Relations, Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust, The Bellevue, 200 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102; Telephone: 215-875-0735. If you want to receive separate copies of the Annual Report and Proxy Statement in the future, or if you are receiving multiple copies and would like to receive only one copy for your

household in the future, you should contact your bank, broker or other nominee record holder.

Solicitation of Proxies

We will bear the cost of preparing and soliciting proxies, including the reasonable charges and expenses of brokerage firms or other nominees for forwarding proxy materials to shareholders. In addition to solicitation by mail, certain trustees, officers and employees of PREIT and its subsidiaries may solicit proxies personally or by telephone or other electronic means without extra compensation, with the exception of reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in connection with the solicitation. The enclosed proxy being solicited in connection with this Proxy Statement is being solicited by and on behalf of our Board of Trustees.

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GOVERNANCE

PROPOSAL ONE Election of Trustees

Trustee Nomination Process

PREIT s trust agreement provides that nominations for election to the office of trustee at any annual meeting of shareholders are made by the Board of Trustees, or by a shareholder if such shareholder provides a notice in writing delivered to our Secretary not less than 90 nor more than 120 days before the anniversary date of the prior year s meeting, and for an election at an annual meeting that is not within 30 days of such anniversary date, or for a special meeting called for the election of trustees, not later than 10 days following the date on which notice of the date of the meeting is mailed or disclosed publicly, whichever comes first. The notice must be signed by the holders of at least two percent of the common shares outstanding on the date of the notice. Shareholders making nominations of trustee candidates must provide in the notice, among other things, (a) information regarding share ownership and any hedging or other transaction to hedge the economic risk or to increase or decrease the voting power of such shareholder, (b) a description of all agreements or understandings between any such shareholder and each nominee and any other person, pursuant to which any such shareholder has a right to vote any shares, or pursuant to which the nominee or shareholder may be entitled to compensation, reimbursement of expenses or indemnification by reason of such nomination or service as a trustee, including all such information that would be required to be disclosed under federal securities regulations if the nominee were nominated by the Board of Trustees, and (c) such other information regarding each nominee as would be required in a proxy statement had t