

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
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 §240.14a-12

CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

(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 the date of its filing.
6. Amount Previously Paid:

7. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

8. Filing Party:

9. Date Filed:

Your **Vote** Counts!

CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

2021 Annual Meeting

Vote by June 2, 2021

11:59 PM ET

CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC.
4 STAMFORD PLAZA
107 ELM STREET, 9TH FLOOR
STAMFORD, CT 06902



D50470-P55553

You invested in CARA THERAPEUTICS, INC. and it's time to vote!

You have the right to vote on proposals being presented at the Annual Meeting. **This is an important notice regarding the availability of proxy material for the stockholder meeting to be held on June 3, 2021.**

Get informed before you vote

View the Notice and Proxy Statement and Form 10-K online OR you can receive a free paper or email copy of the material(s) by requesting prior to May 20, 2021. If you would like to request a copy of the material(s) for this and/or future stockholder meetings, you may (1) visit www.ProxyVote.com, (2) call 1-800-579-1639 or (3) send an email to sendmaterial@proxyvote.com. If sending an email, please include your control number (indicated below) in the subject line. Unless requested, you will not otherwise receive a paper or email copy.



For complete information and to vote, visit www.ProxyVote.com

Control #

Smartphone users

Point your camera here and
vote without entering a
control number



Vote Virtually at the Meeting*

June 3, 2021
12:00 PM EDT

Virtually at:
www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/CARA2021

*Please check the meeting materials for any special requirements for meeting attendance.

THIS IS NOT A VOTABLE BALLOT

This is an overview of the proposals being presented at the upcoming stockholder meeting. Please follow the instructions on the reverse side to vote these important matters.

Voting Items	Board Recommends
1. Election of the Board of Directors' two nominees for director to serve until the 2024 Annual Meeting and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Nominees: 01) Harrison Bains, Jr. 02) Susan Shiff, Ph.D.	✔ For
2. Advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers.	✔ For
3. Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021.	✔ For

NOTE: Such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

You may attend and vote during the Annual Meeting via the Internet. Have the information that is printed in the box marked with the arrow on your proxy card or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials available and follow the instructions.

Prefer to receive an email instead? While voting on www.ProxyVote.com, be sure to click "Sign up for E-delivery".