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TRI-CONTINENTAL CORP  
Form PREC14A  
August 11, 2006

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  
(AMENDMENT NO. )

Filed by the Registrant / /

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant /X/

Check the appropriate box:

/X/ 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 Under Rule 14a-12

TRI-CONTINENTAL CORPORATION

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(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

WESTERN INVESTMENT HEDGED PARTNERS L.P.  
WESTERN INVESTMENT LLC  
WESTERN INVESTMENT ACTIVISM PARTNERS LLC  
WESTERN INVESTMENT TOTAL RETURN MASTER FUND LTD.  
BENCHMARK PLUS INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS, L.L.C.  
BENCHMARK PLUS PARTNERS, L.L.C.  
BENCHMARK PLUS MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.  
PARADIGM PARTNERS, N.W., INC.  
ARTHUR D. LIPSON  
SCOTT FRANZBLAU  
ROBERT FERGUSON  
MICHAEL DUNMIRE  
PAUL DEROSA  
DAVID B. FORD  
ELYSE NAKAJIMA

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(Name of Persons(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)