

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

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**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No.            )**

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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 under §240.14a-12

**SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY**  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

N/A  
(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
  - Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
  - Fee computed on table in exhibit required by Item 25(b) per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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**SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY**  
960 San Antonio Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**  
**To Be Held at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time on Thursday, April 6, 2023**

Dear Stockholders of Scilex Holding Company:

We cordially invite you to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “Annual Meeting”) of Scilex Holding Company, a Delaware corporation (the “Company” or “Scilex”), which will be held virtually on **Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time via live audio webcast on the Internet at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023)** for the following purposes, as more fully described in the accompanying proxy statement for the Annual Meeting (the “Proxy Statement”):

1. To elect two Class I directors to serve until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
2. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023;
3. To approve the amendment to the Scilex Holding Company 2022 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options (“ISOs”) to 30,276,666 shares, and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to January 1, 2024; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

In order to provide expanded access to our stockholders, our board of directors (our “Board”) has determined to hold a live audio webcast in lieu of an in-person meeting. You will be able to vote and submit your questions during the meeting at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023). The virtual-only approach also lowers costs and aligns with our broader sustainability goals. Although no physical in-person meeting will be held, we designed the format of the Annual Meeting to ensure that our stockholders of record who attend the Annual Meeting will be afforded similar rights and opportunities to participate as they would at an in-person meeting. As always, we encourage you to vote your shares prior to the Annual Meeting either by Internet or by proxy card to help make this meeting format as efficient as possible.

Our Board has fixed the close of business on March 6, 2023 as the record date for the Annual Meeting. Only stockholders of record on March 6, 2023 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Further information regarding voting rights and the matters to be voted upon is presented in the Proxy Statement.

We intend to mail the Proxy Statement, the accompanying proxy card, and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 on or about March 9, 2023 to all stockholders of record entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we urge you to submit your vote via the Internet or mail as soon as possible to ensure that your shares are represented. For additional instructions on voting by the Internet, please refer to your proxy card. Returning the proxy does not deprive you of your right to attend the Annual Meeting and to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote at the Annual Meeting, you must obtain a proxy issued in your name from that record holder.**

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[Table of Contents](#)

We appreciate your continued support of Scilex.

By order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Jaisim Shah

Jaisim Shah

*Chief Executive Officer, President and Director*

Palo Alto, CA

March 8, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
<a href="#">PROCEDURAL MATTERS</a>	1
<a href="#">BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</a>	8
<a href="#">PROPOSAL NO. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</a>	24
<a href="#">PROPOSAL NO. 2 RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM</a>	25
<a href="#">REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE</a>	28
<a href="#">PROPOSAL NO. 3 APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY 2022 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN TO (I) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER BY 10,000,000 SHARES TO 30,276,666 SHARES, (II) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO 30,276,666 SHARES, AND (III) MODIFY THE COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO JANUARY 1, 2024</a>	29
<a href="#">EXECUTIVE OFFICERS</a>	42
<a href="#">EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</a>	43
<a href="#">EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION</a>	48
<a href="#">SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT</a>	50
<a href="#">CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS</a>	52
<a href="#">CHANGE OF CONTROL OF LEGACY SCILEX</a>	64
<a href="#">HOUSEHOLDING OF PROXY MATERIALS</a>	64
<a href="#">OTHER MATTERS</a>	64
<a href="#">APPENDIX A – SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY 2022 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED</a>	A-1

**SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY**  
**PROXY STATEMENT**  
**FOR**  
**2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**  
**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

This proxy statement (this “Proxy Statement”) and the enclosed form of proxy are furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by our board of directors (our “Board”) for use at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “Annual Meeting”) of Scilex Holding Company, a Delaware corporation (the “Company” or “Scilex”), and any adjournments or postponements thereof. The Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time via live audio webcast. This Proxy Statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 are first being mailed on or about March 9, 2023 to all stockholders of record entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

The information provided in the “question and answer” format below is for your convenience only and is merely a summary of the information contained in this Proxy Statement. You should read this entire Proxy Statement carefully. Information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not intended to be incorporated by reference into this Proxy Statement, and references to our website address in this Proxy Statement are inactive textual references only.

**What matters am I voting on?**

You will be voting on:

- the election of two Class I directors to serve until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
- the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023;
- the approval of the amendment to our 2022 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options (“ISOs”) to 30,276,666 shares, and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to January 1, 2024; and
- any other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

**How does the board of directors recommend I vote on these proposals?**

Our Board recommends a vote:

- **“FOR”** the election of Dorman Followwill and David Lemus as Class I directors;
- **“FOR”** the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023; and
- **“FOR”** the approval of the amendment to our 2022 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to 30,276,666 shares, and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to January 1, 2024.

### **What if another matter is properly brought before the meeting?**

Our Board knows of no other matters that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the accompanying proxy to vote on those matters in accordance with his or her best judgment.

### **Who is entitled to vote?**

Holders of our common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (“Common Stock”), and holders of Series A preferred stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (“Series A Preferred Stock”), as of the close of business on March 6, 2023, the record date for the Annual Meeting (the “Record Date”), may vote at the Annual Meeting. The holders of Series A Preferred Stock are entitled to vote, together with the holders of Common Stock and not separately as a class, on an as converted to Common Stock basis, on all matters on which the holders of shares of Common Stock have the right to vote. As of the Record Date, there were 145,811,298 shares of our Common Stock and 29,057,097 shares of Series A Preferred Stock outstanding. Stockholders are not permitted to cumulate votes with respect to the election of directors. Each share of Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock, respectively, is entitled to one vote on each proposal.

*Registered Stockholders.* If shares of our Common Stock are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, you are considered the stockholder of record with respect to those shares, and these proxy materials have been provided to you directly by us. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to the individuals listed on the proxy card, vote live at the Annual Meeting, or vote by proxy via the Internet. Throughout this Proxy Statement, we refer to these registered stockholders as “stockholders of record.”

*Street Name Stockholders.* If shares of our Common Stock are held on your behalf in a brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered to be the beneficial owner of shares that are held in “street name,” and these proxy materials have been forwarded to you by your broker or nominee, who is considered the stockholder of record with respect to those shares. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other nominee as to how to vote your shares. Beneficial owners are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. However, since a beneficial owner is not the stockholder of record, you should follow your broker’s procedures for obtaining a legal proxy to vote your shares of our Common Stock live at the Annual Meeting. If you request a printed copy of our proxy materials by mail, your broker, bank or other nominee will provide a voting instruction form for you to use. Throughout this Proxy Statement, we refer to stockholders who hold their shares through a broker, bank or other nominee as “street name stockholders.”

### **How many votes are needed for approval of each proposal?**

- *Proposal No. 1:* The election of directors requires a plurality of the vote of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon to be approved. “Plurality” means that the nominees who receive the largest number of votes cast “For” such nominees are elected as directors. As a result, only “For” votes will affect the outcome, and any shares abstained from voting “For” a particular nominee (whether as a result of stockholder abstention or a broker non-vote) will not be counted in such nominee’s favor and will have no effect on the outcome of the election. You may vote “For” or “Withhold” on each of the nominees for election as a director.
- *Proposal No. 2:* The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon to be approved. Stockholder abstentions will not have any effect on the outcome of this proposal, so long as a quorum exists. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

## [Table of Contents](#)

- *Proposal No. 3:* The approval of the amendment to our 2022 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to 30,276,666 shares, and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to January 1, 2024 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon to be approved. Stockholder abstentions will not have any effect on the outcome of this proposal, so long as a quorum exists. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

### **What are the effects of abstentions, withheld votes and broker non-votes?**

An abstention represents a stockholder's affirmative choice to decline to vote on a proposal. If a stockholder indicates on its proxy card that it wishes to abstain from voting its shares or withholds votes as to a particular proposal, or if a broker, bank or other nominee holding its customer's shares of record causes abstentions or withheld votes to be recorded for shares, these shares will be considered present and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. As a result, abstentions and withheld votes will be counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum. Our bylaws (our "Bylaws") provide that an action of our stockholders (other than the election of directors) is approved if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of such action, and the directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast. Under Delaware law (under which Scilex is incorporated), abstentions are counted as shares present and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, but they are not counted as shares cast. Therefore, abstentions and withheld votes will have no impact on the outcomes of Proposal No. 2 and Proposal No. 3 as long as a quorum exists. Further, since the outcome of Proposal No. 1 will be determined by a plurality vote, abstentions and withheld votes will have no impact on the outcome of such proposal as long as a quorum exists.

A broker non-vote occurs when a broker, bank or other nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the broker, bank or other nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to such proposal and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares. Broker non-votes will be counted for purposes of calculating whether a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting but will not be counted for purposes of determining the number of votes present and entitled to vote or votes cast. Therefore, a broker non-vote will make a quorum more readily attainable but will not otherwise affect the outcome of the vote on any proposal.

*As a reminder, if you are a beneficial owner of shares held in street name, in order to ensure your shares are voted in the way you would prefer, you must provide voting instructions to your broker, bank or other agent by the deadline provided in the materials you receive from your broker, bank or other agent.*

### **What is a quorum?**

A quorum is the minimum number of shares required to be present at the Annual Meeting to properly hold an annual meeting of stockholders and conduct business under our Bylaws and Delaware law. The presence by remote communication or by proxy, duly authorized, of the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. On the Record Date, there were 145,811,298 shares of Common Stock and 29,057,097 shares of Series A Preferred Stock outstanding and entitled to vote. **Thus, the holders of at least 87,434,198 shares of Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock in total must be present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the meeting to have a quorum.** Abstentions, withheld votes and broker non-votes are counted as shares present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum.

### **How do I vote?**

If you are a stockholder of record, there are three ways to vote:

- by Internet at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023), 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 (have your proxy card in hand when you visit the website);
- by completing and mailing your proxy card (if you received printed proxy materials); or
- by Internet during the Annual Meeting. Instructions on how to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting are described at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023).

If you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we recommend that you also vote by proxy so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Annual Meeting.

If you are a street name stockholder, you will receive voting instructions from your broker, bank or other nominee. You must follow the voting instructions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee in order to direct your broker, bank or other nominee, as applicable, on how to vote your shares. Street name stockholders should generally be able to vote by returning a voting instruction form or on the Internet. However, the availability of Internet voting will depend on the voting process of your broker, bank or other nominee. As discussed above, if you are a street name stockholder, you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other nominee in order to vote your shares by remote communication in the Annual Meeting.

### **Can I change my vote or revoke my proxy?**

Yes, if you are a stockholder of record, you can change your vote or revoke your proxy any time before the Annual Meeting by:

- entering a new vote by Internet;
- completing and returning a later-dated proxy card;
- notifying our Corporate Secretary, in writing, at Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303; or
- attending and voting electronically at the Annual Meeting (although attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy).

If you are a street name stockholder, your broker, bank or other nominee can provide you with instructions on how to change your vote.

### **Will my vote be kept confidential?**

Yes, your vote will be kept confidential and not disclosed to the Company unless:

- required by law;
- you expressly request disclosure on your proxy; or
- there is a proxy contest.

### **Why won't there be an in-person meeting this year?**

In order to provide expanded access to our stockholders, our Board has determined to hold a live audio webcast in lieu of an in-person meeting. The virtual-only approach also lowers costs and aligns with our broader sustainability goals. Although no physical in-person meeting will be held, we designed the format of the Annual Meeting to ensure that our stockholders of record who attend the Annual Meeting will be afforded similar rights and opportunities to participate as they would at an in-person meeting. You will be able to vote and submit your questions during the meeting at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023).



**What do I need to do to attend the Annual Meeting online?**

We will be hosting our Annual Meeting via live audio webcast only. If you are a stockholder as of the Record Date and wish to virtually attend the Annual Meeting, you will need the 16-digit control number, which is located on your proxy card (if you receive a printed copy of the proxy materials). Instructions on how to participate in the Annual Meeting are also posted online at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023). The webcast will start at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time on April 6, 2023. Stockholders may vote and ask questions while attending the Annual Meeting online.

Use of cameras and recording devices are prohibited while virtually attending the live audio webcast.

**How can I get help if I have trouble checking in or listening to the meeting online?**

If you encounter any difficulties accessing the virtual meeting during the check-in or meeting, please call the technical support number that will be posted on the Virtual Shareholder Meeting log-in page.

**What is the effect of giving a proxy?**

Proxies are solicited by and on behalf of our Board. Jaisim Shah and Henry Ji, Ph.D. have been designated as proxy holders by our Board. When proxies are properly dated, executed and returned, the shares represented by such proxies will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with the instructions of the stockholder. If no specific instructions are given, however, the shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of our Board as described above. If any matters not described in this Proxy Statement are properly presented at the Annual Meeting, the proxy holders will use their own judgment to determine how to vote the shares. If the Annual Meeting is adjourned, the proxy holders can vote the shares on the new Annual Meeting date as well, unless you have properly revoked your proxy instructions, as described above.

**How are proxies solicited for the Annual Meeting?**

Our Board is soliciting proxies for use at the Annual Meeting. In addition to these proxy materials, our directors and employees may also solicit proxies in person, by telephone or by other means of communication. Our directors and employees will not be paid any additional compensation for soliciting proxies.

**Who is paying for this proxy solicitation?**

We will pay for the entire cost of soliciting proxies. Proxies may be solicited on our behalf by our directors, officers or employees in person or by telephone, mail, electronic transmission and/or facsimile transmission. We may also reimburse brokerage firms, banks and other agents for the cost of forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners.

**What does it mean if I receive more than one proxy card?**

If you receive more than one proxy card, your shares may be registered in more than one name or in different accounts. Please follow the voting instructions on each of the proxy cards you receive to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

**How may my brokerage firm or other intermediary vote my shares if I fail to provide timely directions?**

Brokerage firms and other intermediaries holding shares of our Common Stock in street name for their customers are generally required to vote such shares in the manner directed by their customers. In the absence of timely directions, your broker will have discretion to vote your shares on our sole “routine” matter: the proposal to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. Your broker will not have discretion to vote on Proposal No. 1 or Proposal No. 3, each of which is a “non-routine” matter, or any other proposals that are considered “non-routine” matters, absent direction from you.

**Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?**

We expect to announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting. We will also disclose voting results on a Current Report on Form 8-K that we will file with the SEC within four business days after the Annual Meeting. If final voting results are not available to us in time to file a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days after the Annual Meeting, we will file a Current Report on Form 8-K to publish preliminary results and will provide the final results in an amendment to the Current Report on Form 8-K as soon as they become available.

**I share an address with another stockholder, and we received only one paper copy of the proxy materials. How may I obtain an additional copy of the proxy materials?**

We have adopted a procedure called “householding,” which the SEC has approved. Under this procedure, we deliver a single copy of our proxy materials to multiple stockholders who share the same address, unless we have received contrary instructions from one or more of such stockholders. This procedure reduces our printing costs, mailing costs and fees. Stockholders who participate in householding will continue to be able to access and receive separate proxy cards. Upon written or oral request, we will deliver promptly a separate copy of our proxy materials to any stockholder at a shared address to which we delivered a single copy of any of these materials. To receive a separate copy, or, if a stockholder is receiving multiple copies, to request that we only send a single copy of our proxy materials, such stockholder may contact us at:

Scilex Holding Company  
Attention: Investor Relations  
960 San Antonio Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
investorrelations@scilexholding.com  
(650) 516-4310

We encourage stockholders to contact us by telephone or e-mail instead of physical mail to help ensure timely receipt of any request for proxy materials.

Street name stockholders may contact their broker, bank or other nominee to request information about householding.

**What is the deadline to propose actions for consideration at next year’s annual meeting of stockholders or to nominate individuals to serve as directors?**

*Stockholder Proposals*

Stockholders may present proper proposals for inclusion in our proxy statement and for consideration at next year’s annual meeting of stockholders by submitting their proposals in writing to our Corporate Secretary in a timely manner. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders, our Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices not later than the close of business on November 10, 2023. In addition, stockholder proposals must comply with the requirements of Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Stockholder proposals should be addressed to:

Scilex Holding Company  
Attention: Corporate Secretary  
960 San Antonio Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Our Bylaws also establish an advance notice procedure for stockholders who wish to present a proposal before an annual meeting of stockholders but do not intend for the proposal to be included in our proxy statement. Our

## Table of Contents

Bylaws provide that the only business that may be conducted at an annual meeting of stockholders is business that is (i) specified in our notice of such annual meeting given by or at the direction of our Board, (ii) otherwise properly brought before such annual meeting by or at the direction of our Board or (iii) otherwise properly brought before such meeting by a stockholder of record at the time of such stockholder's timely delivery of written notice to our Corporate Secretary, which notice must contain the information specified in our Bylaws, who is entitled to vote at such annual meeting and has complied with the notice procedures set forth in our Bylaws. To be timely for the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders, our Corporate Secretary must receive the written notice at our principal executive offices:

- not earlier than the close of business on December 8, 2023; and
- not later than the close of business on January 8, 2024.

In the event that we hold the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after the one-year anniversary of the Annual Meeting, then, for notice by the stockholder to be timely, it must be received by the Corporate Secretary not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to such annual meeting or the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made.

In addition, pursuant to Rule 14a-19 of the Exchange Act ("Rule 14a-19"), notices of a solicitation of proxies in support of director nominees other than our own nominees must be postmarked or electronically submitted no later than February 6, 2024, and each nomination must comply with the SEC regulations under Rule 14a-19, which require, among other things, that such notice include a statement that such person intends to solicit the holders of shares representing at least 67% of the voting power of shares entitled to vote on the election of directors. If, however, the date of the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders is more than 30 days before or after April 6, 2024, then the Rule 14a-19 deadline shall be the later of 60 calendar days prior to the date of the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders or the 10th calendar day following the day on which we first make a public announcement of the date of our 2024 annual meeting of stockholders.

If a stockholder who has notified us of the stockholder's intention to present a proposal at an annual meeting of stockholders does not appear to present the stockholder's proposal at such annual meeting, we are not required to present the proposal for a vote at such annual meeting.

### *Nomination of Director Candidates*

Stockholders may propose director candidates for consideration by our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Any such recommendations should include the nominee's name and qualifications for membership on our Board and should be directed to our Corporate Secretary at the address of our principal executive office set forth above. For additional information regarding stockholder recommendations for director candidates, see the section titled "Board of Directors and Corporate Governance — Stockholder Recommendations and Nominations to the Board of Directors."

Our Bylaws also permit stockholders to nominate directors for election at an annual meeting of stockholders. To nominate a director, the stockholder must provide the information required by our Bylaws. In addition, the stockholder must give timely notice to our Corporate Secretary in accordance with our Bylaws, which, in general, require that the notice be received by our Corporate Secretary within the time periods described above under the section titled "Stockholder Proposals" for stockholder proposals that are not intended to be included in a proxy statement.

### *Availability of Bylaws*

A copy of our Bylaws is available via the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also contact our Corporate Secretary at the address set forth above for a copy of the relevant provisions of our Bylaws regarding the requirements for making stockholder proposals and nominating director candidates.

**Why do you discuss both Vickers Vantage Corp. I and Scilex Holding Company in this Proxy Statement?**

On November 10, 2022 (the “Closing Date”), the Company consummated the previously announced business combination (the “Business Combination”) pursuant to the terms of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of March 17, 2022 and as amended by Amendment No. 1 to Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated September 12, 2022 (the “Merger Agreement”), by and among Vickers Vantage Corp. I (“Vickers”), Vantage Merger Sub Inc., a then-wholly-owned subsidiary of Vickers (“Merger Sub”), and the pre-Business Combination Scilex Holding Company (now named Scilex, Inc.) (“Legacy Scilex”), a majority-owned subsidiary of Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc. (“Sorrento”). Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, on the Closing Date, (i) Merger Sub merged with and into Legacy Scilex, with Legacy Scilex as the surviving company in the Business Combination, and, after giving effect to such Business Combination, Legacy Scilex became a wholly owned subsidiary of Vickers and changed its name to “Scilex, Inc.,” and (ii) Vickers changed its name to “Scilex Holding Company”. In connection with the Business Combination, on the Closing Date, our Common Stock and public warrants began trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the ticker symbols “SCLX” and “SCLXW,” respectively.

All references to the “Company”, “Scilex”, “we”, “us”, “our”, and similar terms in this Proxy Statement refer to Scilex Holding Company, a Delaware corporation formerly known as Vickers Vantage Corp. I, and its consolidated subsidiaries, including Scilex, Inc., formerly known as Scilex Holding Company.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Our business and affairs are managed under the direction of our Board. Our Board consists of seven directors, all of whom, other than Jaisim Shah and Henry Ji, Ph.D., qualify as “independent” under The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq”) listing rules and standards (the “Nasdaq Listing Rules”), including Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Nasdaq Listing Rules. Our Board is divided into three staggered classes of directors. At each annual meeting of stockholders, a class of directors will be elected for a three-year term to succeed the class whose term is then expiring.

The following table sets forth the names, ages as of March 1, 2023, and certain other information for each of the members of our Board with terms expiring at the Annual Meeting (who are also nominees for election as a director at the Annual Meeting) and for each of the continuing members of our Board:

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Director Since</u>	<u>Current Term Expires</u>	<u>Expiration of Term for Which Nominated</u>
<b><i>Directors with Terms Expiring at the Annual Meeting/Nominees</i></b>						
Dorman Followwill <sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup>	I	59	Director	2022	2023	2026
David Lemus <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	I	60	Director	2022	2023	2026
Tommy Thompson <sup>(5)</sup>	I	81	Director	2022	2023	2026
<b><i>Continuing Directors</i></b>						
Tien-Li Lee, M.D. <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	II	48	Director	2022	2024	
Laura J. Hamill <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>	II	58	Director	2022	2024	
Henry Ji, Ph.D.	III	58	Executive Chairperson of the Board	2022	2025	
Jaisim Shah	III	62	Chief Executive Officer, President and Director	2022	2025	

- (1) Member of the Audit Committee
- (2) Member of the Compensation Committee
- (3) Member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
- (4) A nominee for election as a director at the Annual Meeting
- (5) Mr. Thompson’s service on the Board will cease as of the Annual Meeting.

### **Nominees for Director**

***Dorman Followwill.*** Mr. Followwill has served as a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, he served as a director of Legacy Scilex from April 2022 to November 2022, as a director of Sorrento since October 2017 and as its lead independent director since August 2020. Mr. Followwill was Senior Partner of Transformational Health at Frost & Sullivan, a business consulting firm involved in market research and analysis, growth strategy consulting and corporate training across multiple industries, from 2016 to September 2020. Prior to that time, he served in various roles at Frost & Sullivan, including Partner on the Executive Committee managing the P&L of the business in Europe, Israel and Africa, and Partner overseeing the Healthcare and Life Sciences business in North America, since initially joining Frost & Sullivan to help found the Consulting practice in January 1988. Mr. Followwill has more than 30 years of organizational leadership and management consulting experience, having worked on hundreds of consulting projects across all major regions and across multiple industry sectors, each project focused around the strategic imperative of growth. He holds a B.A. from Stanford University in The Management of Organizations. We believe that Mr. Followwill's extensive knowledge and understanding of the healthcare and life sciences industries qualify him to serve on our Board.

***David Lemus.*** Mr. Lemus has served as a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, he served as a director of Legacy Scilex from April 2022 to November 2022 and as a director of Sorrento since October 2017. Mr. Lemus has served as Chief Executive Officer of IronShore Pharmaceuticals Inc. since January 2020 as well as the founder and Chief Executive Officer of LEMAX LLC since 2017. He also currently serves as a non-executive board member of Silence Therapeutics, plc and BioHealth Innovation, Inc. and served previously on several other boards of public and private companies as a non-executive director. He served from November 2017 to September 2018 as the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Proteros biosciences GmbH. Previously, from January 2016 to May 2017, he served as Interim Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer of Medigene AG. Prior to that time, at Sigma Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc., he served as Chief Executive Officer from January 2013 to July 2015, as Chief Operating Officer from March 2012 to December 2012, and as V.P. Finance from July 2011 to February 2012. Mr. Lemus previously served as Chief Financial Officer and Executive V.P. of MorphoSys AG from January 1998 to May 2011. Prior to his role at MorphoSys AG, he held various positions, including Operations Manager and Controller (Pharma International Division) and Global IT Project Manager (Pharma Division) at F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG, Group Treasurer of Lindt & Spruengli AG and Treasury Consultant for Electrolux AB. Mr. Lemus received a M.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management in 1988 and a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Maryland in 1984. Mr. Lemus is also a certified public accountant licensed in the State of Maryland. We believe that Mr. Lemus' extensive accounting and financial background and business experience in the life sciences industry qualify him to serve on our Board.

### **Continuing Directors**

***Tien-Li Lee, M.D.*** Dr. Lee has served as a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, Dr. Lee served as a director of Legacy Scilex from March 2019 to November 2022 and as a director of Scilex Pharmaceuticals Inc., our wholly owned subsidiary ("Scilex Pharma"), since November 2018. Dr. Lee has over 20 years of experience as a biotechnology innovator and executive who has been integrally involved with the founding or advancement of several biopharmaceutical companies. He is the founder and has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Aardvark Therapeutics, Inc. since March 2017. Prior to that, Dr. Lee joined NantKwest, Inc., a publicly-traded immunotherapy company in 2014 and served as its Chief Strategy Officer until March 2017. His experience includes therapeutics for immunology, cardiovascular, oncology, neurology, and infectious disease indications. Dr. Lee is also an inventor or co-inventor of multiple biomedical and biotechnology innovations, licensed or assigned to several companies for development including NantKwest, Inc., Simcere Pharmaceutical Group, Cellics Therapeutics, Inc., Sorrento and Aardvark Therapeutics, Inc. Dr. Lee earned his M.D. degree from the University of California, San Diego and his B.A. degree from the University of California, Berkeley in Molecular Biology. We believe that Dr. Lee is qualified to serve on our Board because of his experience in management roles at life sciences companies and extensive academic and professional background in the field of biotechnology.

## [Table of Contents](#)

**Laura J. Hamill.** Ms. Hamill has served as a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, Ms. Hamill served as a director of Legacy Scilex from April 2022 to November 2022 and has extensive experience in the biopharmaceutical industry, with over 30 years of global commercial operational roles in a variety of executive leadership positions. Since mid-2019, Ms. Hamill has served as the founder and a consultant at Hamill Advisory Group, LLC. From September 2018 to July 2019, Ms. Hamill served as the Executive Vice President, Worldwide Commercial Operations at Gilead Sciences, Inc., a research-based biopharmaceutical company, where she was responsible for leading the company's global commercial strategic direction and delivering annual revenue of \$20 billion. Prior to joining Gilead Sciences, Inc., Ms. Hamill held a number of U.S. and international executive positions at Amgen Corporation, a biotechnology company focused on discovering and delivering innovative human therapeutics, from July 2000 to August 2018, most recently as Senior Vice President, U.S. Commercial Operations. During her time at Amgen Corporation, Ms. Hamill established the company's intercontinental region and managed the company's international marketing and business operations while living abroad in Switzerland for three years. She also served as a member of the company's corporate governance team, such as business development, global commercial operations, the Amgen Foundation and chair for the company's Senior Women's Leadership Council. In addition, Ms. Hamill previously held a variety of executive roles in the biopharmaceutical industry, including positions at Klemtner Inc. and F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG. Ms. Hamill has served on the board of directors of a number of public companies, including AnaptysBio, Inc. since September 2019, Y-mAbs Therapeutics, Inc. since April 2020, Pardes Biosciences, Inc. since August 2021 and BB Biotech AG since March 2022. She previously served as a director at Acceleron Pharma Inc. (acquired by Merck & Co., Inc.) from September 2020 to December 2021. Ms. Hamill holds a B.A. in business administration from the University of Arizona. We believe that Ms. Hamill is qualified to serve on our Board because of her extensive leadership experience in the biopharmaceutical industry and her global commercial operations and strategic planning expertise.

**Henry Ji, Ph.D.** Dr. Ji has served as the Executive Chairperson and a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, he served as Legacy Scilex's Executive Chairperson and a board member from March 2019 to November 2022. Dr. Ji has served on the board of directors of Scilex Pharma since November 2016 and he served as the Chief Executive Officer of Scilex Pharma from November 2016 to March 2019. He co-founded and has served as a director of Sorrento since January 2006, served as its Chief Scientific Officer from November 2008 to September 2012, as its Interim Chief Executive Officer from April 2011 to September 2012, as its Secretary from September 2009 to June 2011, as its Chief Executive Officer and President since September 2012 and as Chairman of its board of directors since August 2017. In 2002, Dr. Ji founded BioVintage, Inc., a research and development company focusing on innovative life sciences technology and product development, and has served as its President since 2002. From 2001 to 2002, Dr. Ji served as Vice President of CombiMatrix Corporation, a publicly-traded biotechnology company that develops proprietary technologies, including products and services in the areas of drug development, genetic analysis, molecular diagnostics and nanotechnology. During his tenure at CombiMatrix Corporation, Dr. Ji was responsible for strategic technology alliances with biopharmaceutical companies. From 1999 to 2001, Dr. Ji served as Director of Business Development, and in 2001 as Vice President of Stratagene Corporation (later acquired by Agilent Technologies, Inc.) where he was responsible for novel technology and product licensing and development. In 1997, Dr. Ji co-founded Stratagene Genomics, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Stratagene Corporation, and served as its President and Chief Executive Officer from its founding until 1999. Dr. Ji previously served as a director of Celularity Inc. from June 2017 to July 2021. Dr. Ji is the holder of several issued and pending patents in the life science research field and is the sole inventor of Sorrento's intellectual property. Dr. Ji has a Ph.D. in Animal Physiology from the University of Minnesota and a B.S. in Biochemistry from Fudan University. Dr. Ji has demonstrated significant leadership skills as President and Chief Executive Officer of Stratagene Genomics, Inc. and Vice President of CombiMatrix Corporation and Stratagene Corporation, and brings more than 20 years of biotechnology and biopharmaceutical experience to his position on our Board. We believe that Dr. Ji's extensive knowledge of the industry in which we operate allows him to bring to our Board a broad understanding of the operational and strategic issues we face.

**Jaisim Shah.** Mr. Shah has served as our Chief Executive Officer and President and a member of our Board since November 10, 2022. Prior to that, he served as Legacy Scilex's President, Chief Executive Officer and a

## [Table of Contents](#)

board member from March 2019 to November 2022. He has more than 25 years of global biopharma experience, including over 15 years in senior management leading business development, commercial operations, investor relations, marketing and medical affairs. He also served as the Chief Executive Officer and a board member of Semnur Pharmaceuticals, Inc., our wholly owned subsidiary (“Semnur”), from its inception in 2013 until its acquisition by Legacy Scilex in March 2019. Mr. Shah has served on the board of directors of Scilex Pharma since November 2016. Prior to his time at Semnur, Mr. Shah was a consultant to several businesses, including Sorrento, and was the Chief Business Officer of Elevation Pharmaceuticals, Inc., where Mr. Shah led a successful sale of Elevation Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. in September 2012. Prior to his time at Elevation Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Mr. Shah was president of Zelos Therapeutics, Inc., where he focused on financing and business development. Prior to his time at Zelos Therapeutics, Inc., Mr. Shah was the Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer at CytRx Corporation, a biopharmaceutical company. Previously, Mr. Shah was Chief Business Officer at Facet Biotech Corporation and PDL BioPharma, Inc., where he completed numerous licensing, partnering and strategic transactions with pharmaceutical and biotech companies. Prior to his time at PDL BioPharma, Inc., Mr. Shah was at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, most recently as Vice President of Global Marketing where he received the “President’s Award” for completing one of the most significant collaborations in the company’s history. Previously, Mr. Shah was at F. Hoffman-La Roche AG in international marketing and was global business leader for corporate alliances with Genentech, Inc. and IDEC Corporation. Mr. Shah previously served as a director of Celularity Inc. from June 2017 to July 2021. He has served as a director of Sorrento since September 2013. Mr. Shah holds a M.A. in Economics from the University of Akron and a M.B.A. from Oklahoma University. We believe that Mr. Shah’s extensive operational, executive and business development experience qualifies him to serve on our Board.

### **Family Relationships**

There are no family relationships among any of the individuals who serve as our directors or executive officers.

### **Legal Proceedings**

Dr. Henry Ji, our Executive Chairman, is also the Chief Executive Officer and President of Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc. On February 13, 2023, Sorrento, together with its wholly owned direct subsidiary, Scintilla Pharmaceuticals, Inc., commenced voluntary proceedings under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, jointly administered under the caption *In re Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc., et al.* (Case Number: 23-90085 (DRJ)). While the Company is majority-owned by Sorrento, the Company is not a debtor in Sorrento’s voluntary Chapter 11 filing. As of December 31, 2022, the Company had a \$1.8 million receivable from Sorrento related to certain invoices paid on behalf of Sorrento, which was fully reserved.

### **Board Composition**

Our business and affairs are managed under the direction of our Board, which currently consists of seven members. Dr. Ji serves as Executive Chairperson of our Board. The primary responsibilities of our Board are to provide oversight, strategic guidance, counseling and direction to our management. Our Board meets on a regular basis and on an *ad hoc* basis as required.

In accordance with the terms of our restated certificate of incorporation (our “Certificate of Incorporation”) and our Bylaws, our Board is divided into three classes with staggered three-year terms, as follows:

- The Class I directors are Dorman Followwill, David Lemus, and Tommy Thompson, and their term will expire at the Annual Meeting;
- The Class II directors are Tien-Li Lee, M.D. and Laura J. Hamill and their term will expire at our annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2024; and
- The Class III directors are Henry Ji, Ph.D. and Jaisim Shah and their term will expire at our annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2025.



## [Table of Contents](#)

At each annual meeting of stockholders, the successors to directors whose terms will then expire will be elected to serve from the time of election and qualification until the third annual meeting following their election. The authorized number of directors that shall constitute our Board will be determined exclusively by our Board; *provided* that, at any time Sorrento, together with its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors and assigns (other than us and our subsidiaries) (the “Sorrento Group”), beneficially owns, in the aggregate, at least 50% in voting power of the then-outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, the stockholders may also fix the number of directors by resolutions adopted by the stockholders, in each case, subject to certain rights of any holders of our preferred stock to elect directors. Any increase or decrease in the number of directors will be apportioned among the three classes so that, as nearly equal as practicable, each class will consist of one-third of the directors. No decrease in the number of directors constituting our Board will shorten the term of any incumbent director. Our directors may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority in voting power of the then-outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of such directors; *provided, however*, that, from and after the time that the Sorrento Group first ceases to beneficially own more than 50% in voting power of the then-outstanding shares of our stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the “Sorrento Trigger Event”), any such director or all such directors may be removed only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% in voting power of all the then-outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote thereon, voting together as a single class.

Subject to applicable law and our Certificate of Incorporation and subject to the rights of the holders of any series of our preferred stock, any vacancy on our Board may be filled by our Board or our stockholders; *provided, however*, that from and after the Sorrento Trigger Event, any such vacancy shall be filled only by our Board and not by our stockholders. Any director elected in accordance with the preceding sentence shall hold office until the annual meeting of stockholders for the election of directors of the class to which he or she has been appointed and until his or her successor has been duly elected and qualified, subject, however, to such director’s earlier death, resignation, retirement, removal or disqualification.

### **Controlled Company Exemption**

Sorrento controls a majority of the voting power for the election of directors. As a result, we are a “controlled company” within the meaning of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

Under the Nasdaq Listing Rules, a company of which more than 50% of the voting power is held by an individual, group or another company is a “controlled company” and may elect not to comply with certain corporate governance standards, including, but not limited to, the requirements (i) that a majority of its board of directors consist of independent directors, (ii) that its board of directors have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities and (iii) that director nominees must be selected or recommended for the board’s selection, either by independent directors constituting a majority of the board’s independent directors in a vote in which only independent directors participate, or a nominating and corporate governance committee comprised solely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities. While we do not presently intend to rely on these exemptions, we may opt to utilize these exemptions in the future as long as it remains a controlled company. Accordingly, our stockholders may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the corporate governance requirements of Nasdaq. If we cease to be a “controlled company” and shares of our Common Stock continue to be listed on Nasdaq, we will be required to comply with these standards and, depending on our Board’s independence determination with respect to its then-current directors, we may be required to add additional directors to our Board in order to achieve such compliance within the applicable transition periods.

### **Director Independence**

Under the Nasdaq Listing Rules, independent directors must comprise a majority of our Board as a listed company within one year of the consummation of the Business Combination.



## [Table of Contents](#)

As a “controlled company”, we are largely exempted from such requirements. Our Board has determined that each of the directors on our Board, other than Dr. Ji and Mr. Shah (as a result of their positions as our Executive Chairperson and our Chief Executive Officer, respectively), qualifies as an independent director, as defined by Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Nasdaq Listing Rules, and our Board consists of a majority of “independent directors” as defined under the rules of the SEC and Nasdaq relating to director independence requirements. In addition, we are subject to the rules of the SEC and Nasdaq relating to the membership, qualifications and operations of our Audit Committee, as discussed below.

### **Role of Board in Risk Oversight Process**

Risk assessment and oversight are an integral part of our governance and management processes. Our Board encourages management to promote a culture that incorporates risk management into its corporate strategy and day-to-day business operations. Management discusses strategic and operational (including cybersecurity) risks at regular management meetings, and conducts specific strategic planning and review sessions during the year that include a focused discussion and analysis of the risks we face. Throughout the year, senior management reviews these risks with our Board at regular board meetings as part of management presentations that focus on particular business functions, operations or strategies, and presents the steps taken by management to mitigate or eliminate such risks.

Our Board is responsible for overseeing our overall risk management process. The responsibility for managing risk rests with executive management while the committees of our Board and our Board as a whole participate in the oversight process. Our Board’s risk oversight process builds upon management’s risk assessment and mitigation processes, which include reviews of long-term strategic and operational planning, executive development and evaluation, regulatory and legal compliance and financial reporting and internal controls with respect to areas of potential material risk, including operations, finance, legal, regulatory, cybersecurity, strategic and reputational risk.

### **Board Leadership Structure**

Our Bylaws provide our Board with the discretion to combine or separate the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chairperson of our Board. Our Board is chaired by Dr. Ji. Our Board believes that separation of the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Executive Chairperson of our Board creates an environment that encourages objective oversight of management’s performance and enhances the effectiveness of our Board as a whole. We believe that this separation of responsibilities provides a balanced approach to managing our Board and overseeing the Company. However, our Board will continue to periodically review its leadership structure and may make such changes in the future as it deems appropriate.

### **Board Diversity**

In evaluating a director candidate’s qualifications, our Board assesses whether a candidate possesses the integrity, judgment, knowledge, experience, skills and expertise that are likely to enhance our ability, as well as the ability of the committees of our Board, to manage and direct our affairs and business. Our Board may consider many factors, such as personal and professional integrity, ethics and values; experience in corporate management, such as serving as an officer or former officer of a publicly held company; and experience as a board member or executive officer of another publicly held company. In addition, our Board may consider diversity in identifying potential director nominees, including diversity of expertise and experience in substantive matters pertaining to our business relative to other board members and diversity of background and perspective, including, but not limited to, with respect to age, gender, race, place of residence and specialized experience.

The table below provides an enhanced disclosure regarding the diversity of our Board members and nominees. Each of the categories listed in the below table has the meaning as it is used in Rule 5605(f) of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

**Board Diversity Matrix (As of November 10, 2022)<sup>(1)</sup>**

Board Size: Total Number of Directors	7			
	Male	Female	Non-Binary	Gender Undisclosed
<b>Part I: Gender Identity</b>				
Number of directors based on gender identity	6	1	0	0
<b>Part II: Demographic Background</b>				
African American or Black	0	0	0	0
Alaskan Native or Native American	0	0	0	0
Asian	3	0	0	0
Hispanic or Latinx	1	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	4	1	0	0
Two or More Races or Ethnicities	0	0	0	0
LGBTQ+			0	
Did not Disclose Demographic Background			0	

(1) The date of the closing of the Business Combination.

**Board Diversity Matrix (As of March 1, 2023)**

Board Size: Total Number of Directors	7			
	Male	Female	Non-Binary	Gender Undisclosed
<b>Part I: Gender Identity</b>				
Number of directors based on gender identity	6	1	0	0
<b>Part II: Demographic Background</b>				
African American or Black	0	0	0	0
Alaskan Native or Native American	0	0	0	0
Asian	3	0	0	0
Hispanic or Latinx	1	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	4	1	0	0
Two or More Races or Ethnicities	0	0	0	0
LGBTQ+			0	
Did not Disclose Demographic Background			0	

**Board Meetings and Committees**

During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, upon or following the Business Combination, our Board held one meeting and acted by written consent one time. Each director attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (i) the total number of meetings of our Board held during the period for which the director had been a director and (ii) the total number of meetings held by all committees of our Board on which the director served during the periods that the director served.

Our corporate governance guidelines have a formal policy regarding attendance by members of our Board at annual meetings of stockholders that encourages, but does not require, our directors to attend. Those who do attend are expected to answer appropriate questions from stockholders. In 2022, prior to the Business Combination, Vickers held an extraordinary general meeting. None of our current Board members were members of the Board prior to the Business Combination.

## [Table of Contents](#)

In connection with the Business Combination, our Board formed an audit committee (the “Audit Committee”), a compensation committee (the “Compensation Committee”) and a nominating and corporate governance committee (the “Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee”). Our Board has adopted a charter for each of these committees, which complies with the applicable requirements of current Nasdaq Listing Rules. In addition, our Board has established a commercialization and transaction committee. Copies of the charters for the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are available on the investor relations portion of our website. The composition and responsibilities of each of the committees of our Board are as set forth below. The reference to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained at or available or accessible through our website, and you should not consider it to be a part of this Proxy Statement. Members will serve on these committees until their resignation or removal or until otherwise determined by our Board. Our Board may establish other committees as it deems necessary or appropriate from time to time.

### ***Audit Committee***

Our Audit Committee consists of David Lemus, Laura J. Hamill and Dorman Followwill, with David Lemus serving as the chairperson of the committee. Each of the members of the Audit Committee satisfies the independence requirements under the applicable Nasdaq Listing Rules and SEC rules. Each member of the Audit Committee can read and understand fundamental financial statements under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and Nasdaq Listing Rules.

The responsibilities of the Audit Committee are included in a written charter. The Audit Committee assists our Board in fulfilling our Board’s oversight responsibilities with respect to our accounting and financial reporting processes, the systems of internal control over financial reporting and audits of financial statements and reports, the performance of our internal audit function, the quality and integrity of our financial statements and reports, the qualifications, independence and performance of our independent registered public accounting firm, and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. For this purpose, the Audit Committee performs several functions. The Audit Committee’s responsibilities include, among others:

- appointing, determining the compensation of, retaining, overseeing and evaluating our independent registered public accounting firm and any other registered public accounting firm engaged for the purpose of performing other review or attest services for us;
- prior to commencement of the audit engagement, reviewing and discussing with the independent registered public accounting firm a written disclosure by the prospective independent registered public accounting firm of all relationships between us, or persons in financial oversight roles with us, and such independent registered public accounting firm or their affiliates;
- determining and approving engagements of the independent registered public accounting firm, prior to commencement of the engagement, and the scope of and plans for the audit;
- monitoring the rotation of partners of the independent registered public accounting firm on our audit engagement;
- reviewing with management and the independent registered public accounting firm any fraud that includes management or other employees who have a significant role in our internal control over financial reporting and any significant changes in internal controls;
- establishing and overseeing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters;
- reviewing the results of management’s efforts to monitor compliance with our programs and policies designed to ensure compliance with laws and rules;
- overseeing our programs, policies, and procedures related to our information technology systems, including information asset security and data protection; and

## [Table of Contents](#)

- reviewing and discussing with management and the independent registered public accounting firm the results of the annual audit and the independent registered public accounting firm's assessment of the quality and acceptability of our accounting principles and practices and all other matters required to be communicated to the Audit Committee by the independent registered public accounting firm under generally accepted accounting standards, the results of the independent registered public accounting firm's review of our quarterly financial information prior to public disclosure and our disclosures in our periodic reports filed with the SEC.

David Lemus qualifies as an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of SEC regulations and each of David Lemus, Laura J. Hamill and Dorman Followwill meets the financial sophistication requirements under the Nasdaq Listing Rules. Our independent registered public accounting firm and our management periodically meet separately with the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee reviews, discusses and assesses its own performance and composition at least annually. The Audit Committee also periodically reviews and assesses the adequacy of its charter, including its role and responsibilities as outlined in its charter, and recommends any proposed changes to our Board for its consideration and approval.

The composition and functioning of the Audit Committee complies with all applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and all applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq Listing Rules. We intend to comply with future requirements to the extent they become applicable to us.

During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, upon or following the Business Combination, the Audit Committee did not hold any meetings and did not act by written consent.

### ***Compensation Committee***

Our Compensation Committee consists of Tien-Li Lee, M.D., Dorman Followwill and Laura J. Hamill, with Tien-Li Lee, M.D. serving as the chairperson of the committee. Tien-Li Lee, M.D., Dorman Followwill and Laura J. Hamill each satisfy the independence requirements under the Nasdaq Listing Rules. Each of the members of the Compensation Committee is a non-employee director as defined in Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act and satisfies Nasdaq independence requirements. The Compensation Committee acts on behalf of our Board to fulfill our Board's responsibilities in overseeing our compensation policies, plans and programs, and in reviewing and determining the compensation to be paid to our executive officers and non-employee directors. The responsibilities of the compensation committee are included in its written charter. The Compensation Committee's responsibilities include, among others:

- reviewing, modifying and approving (or, if it deems appropriate, making recommendations to our Board regarding) our overall compensation strategy and policies, and reviewing, modifying and approving corporate performance goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of our executive officers and other senior management;
- determining and approving (or, if it deems appropriate, recommending to our Board for determination and approval) the compensation and terms of employment of our Chief Executive Officer, including seeking to achieve an appropriate level of risk and reward in determining the long-term incentive component of the compensation of the Chief Executive Officer;
- determining and approving (or, if it deems appropriate, recommending to our Board for determination and approval) the compensation and terms of employment of our executive officers and other members of senior management;
- reviewing and approving (or, if it deems appropriate, making recommendations to our Board regarding) the terms of employment agreements, severance agreements, change-of-control protections and other compensatory arrangements for our executive officers and other members of senior management;

## Table of Contents

- conducting periodic reviews of the base compensation levels of all of our employees generally;
- reviewing and approving the type and amount of compensation to be paid or awarded to non-employee directors;
- reviewing and approving the adoption, amendment and termination of our equity incentive plans, stock appreciation rights plans, pension and profit sharing plans, incentive plans, stock bonus plans, stock purchase plans, bonus plans, deferred compensation plans, 401(k) plans, supplemental retirement plans and similar programs, if any; and administering all such plans, establishing guidelines, interpreting plan documents, selecting participants, approving grants and awards and exercising such other power and authority as may be permitted or required under such plans; and
- reviewing our incentive compensation arrangements to determine whether such arrangements encourage excessive risk-taking, reviewing and discussing at least annually the relationship between our risk management policies and practices and compensation and evaluating compensation policies and practices that could mitigate any such risk.

In addition, once we cease to be an “emerging growth company,” as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012, as amended (the “JOBS Act”), the responsibilities of the Compensation Committee will also include:

- reviewing and recommending to our Board for approval the frequency with which we conduct a vote on executive compensation, taking into account the results of the most recent stockholder advisory vote on the frequency of the vote on executive compensation, and reviewing and approving the proposals regarding the frequency of the vote on executive compensation to be included in our annual meeting proxy statements; and
- reviewing and discussing with management our Compensation Discussion and Analysis, and recommending to our Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be approved for inclusion in our annual reports on Form 10-K, registration statements and our annual meeting proxy statements.

Under its charter, the Compensation Committee may form, and delegate authority to, subcommittees as appropriate. The Compensation Committee reviews, discusses and assesses its own performance and composition at least annually. The Compensation Committee also periodically reviews and assesses the adequacy of its charter, including its role and responsibilities as outlined in its charter, and recommends any proposed changes to our Board for its consideration and approval.

### *Compensation Committee Processes and Procedures*

Typically, our Compensation Committee meets at least quarterly and with greater frequency if necessary. The agenda for each meeting is usually developed by the chairperson of our Compensation Committee, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. Our Compensation Committee meets regularly in executive session. However, from time to time, various members of management and other employees as well as outside advisors or consultants may be invited by our Compensation Committee to make presentations, to provide financial or other background information or advice or to otherwise participate in Compensation Committee meetings. The Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Chairperson may not participate in, or be present during, any deliberations or determinations of our Compensation Committee regarding their compensation or individual performance objectives. The charter of our Compensation Committee grants our Compensation Committee full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company. In addition, under the charter, our Compensation Committee has the authority to obtain, at the expense of the Company, advice and assistance from compensation consultants and internal and external legal, accounting or other advisors and other external resources that our Compensation Committee considers necessary or appropriate in the performance of its duties. Our Compensation Committee has direct responsibility for the oversight of the work of any consultants or advisers engaged for the purpose of advising our Compensation Committee. In particular, our Compensation

## [Table of Contents](#)

Committee has the sole authority to retain, in its sole discretion, compensation consultants to assist in its evaluation of executive and director compensation, including the authority to approve the consultant's reasonable fees and other retention terms. Under the charter, our Compensation Committee may select, or receive advice from, a compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser to our Compensation Committee, other than in-house legal counsel and certain other types of advisers, only after taking into consideration six factors, prescribed by the SEC and Nasdaq, that bear upon the adviser's independence; however, there is no requirement that any adviser be independent.

The composition and functioning of the Compensation Committee comply with all applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and all applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq Listing Rules. We intend to comply with future requirements to the extent they become applicable to us.

During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, upon or following the Business Combination, the Compensation Committee held one meeting and did not act by written consent.

### ***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consists of Tien-Li Lee, M.D., Dorman Followwill and Laura J. Hamill, with Dorman Followwill serving as the chairperson of the committee. Tien-Li Lee, M.D., Dorman Followwill and Laura J. Hamill each satisfy the independence requirements under the Nasdaq Listing Rules. The responsibilities of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are included in its written charter. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee acts on behalf of our Board to fulfill our Board's responsibilities in overseeing all aspects of our nominating and corporate governance functions. The responsibilities of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee include, among others:

- making recommendations to our Board regarding corporate governance issues;
- identifying, reviewing and evaluating qualified candidates to serve as directors (consistent with criteria approved by our Board);
- determining the minimum qualifications for service on our Board;
- reviewing and evaluating incumbent directors;
- instituting and overseeing director orientation and director continuing education programs;
- serving as a focal point for communication between candidates, non-committee directors and our management;
- recommending to our Board for selection candidates to serve as nominees for director for the annual meeting of stockholders;
- making other recommendations to our Board regarding matters relating to the directors;
- reviewing succession plans for our Chief Executive Officer and our other executive officers;
- reviewing and overseeing matters of corporate responsibility and sustainability, including potential long- and short-term trends and impacts to our business of environmental, social, and governance issues, and our public reporting on these topics; and
- considering any recommendations for nominees and proposals submitted by stockholders.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee periodically reviews, discusses and assesses the performance of our Board and the committees of our Board. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee seeks input from senior management, our Board and others. In assessing our Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee evaluates the overall composition of our Board, our Board's contribution as a whole and its effectiveness in serving our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews, discusses and assesses its own performance and composition at least annually. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also

## [Table of Contents](#)

periodically reviews and assesses the adequacy of its charter, including its role and responsibilities as outlined in its charter, and recommends any proposed changes to our Board for its consideration and approval.

The composition and functioning of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee comply with all applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and all applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq Listing Rules. We intend to comply with future requirements to the extent they become applicable to us.

During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, upon or following the Business Combination, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee did not hold any meetings and did not act by written consent.

### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

Following the closing of the Business Combination, on November 10, 2022, our Board approved and adopted a written code of business conduct and ethics, applicable to directors, officers and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. A current copy of our code of business conduct and ethics is posted on our website at [www.scilexholding.com](http://www.scilexholding.com). Information contained on or accessible through our website is not a part of this Proxy Statement, and the inclusion of the website address in this Proxy Statement is an inactive textual reference only. We intend to disclose any amendments to our code of business conduct and ethics, or any waivers of its requirements, on our website to the extent required by the applicable rules and exchange requirements.

### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

None of the members of our Compensation Committee is currently, or has been at any time in the past year, one of our officers or employees. Other than Dr. Ji and Mr. Shah, none of our executive officers currently serves, or has served during the last completed fiscal year, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of our Board or Compensation Committee.

### **Limitation of Liability and Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

The Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws contain provisions that limit the liability of our directors for monetary damages to the fullest extent permitted by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, as amended (the "DGCL"). Consequently, our directors and officers will not be personally liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duties as directors or officers, except liability for the following:

- any breach of their duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;
- acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- in the case of our directors, unlawful payments of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases or redemptions in violation of the DGCL; or
- any transaction from which the director or officer derived an improper personal benefit.

The Certificate of Incorporation also provides that if the DGCL is amended to permit further elimination or limitation of the personal liability of directors or officers, then the liability of our directors and officers will be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, as so amended.

The Bylaws provide that we shall indemnify any person who is or was a director or officer of the Company or who is or was serving at our request as a director, officer or trustee of another corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, employee benefit plan, trust, nonprofit entity or other enterprise (a "Covered

## [Table of Contents](#)

Person”), and who is or was a party to, is threatened to be made a party to, or is otherwise involved (including as a witness) in any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative based on such person’s actions in his or her official capacity as a director or officer of the Company or as a director, officer or trustee of another corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, employee benefit plan, trust, nonprofit entity or other enterprise (to the extent serving in such position at our request), in each case against all liability and loss suffered (including, without limitation, any judgments, fines, excise taxes or penalties arising under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and amounts paid in settlement consented to in writing by us) and expenses (including attorneys’ fees), actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith, subject to certain conditions. In addition, the Bylaws provide that we may, to the fullest extent permitted by law, (i) advance costs, fees or expenses (including attorneys’ fees) incurred by a Covered Person defending or participating in any proceeding in advance of the final disposition of such proceeding, subject to certain exceptions, and (ii) purchase and maintain insurance, at our expense, to protect us and any person who is or was our director, officer, employee or agent or is or was our director, officer, employee or agent serving at our request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise against any liability, expense or loss, whether or not we would have the power or obligation to indemnify such person against such liability, expense or loss under the DGCL or the provisions of the Bylaws.

We have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers as determined by our Board. These agreements, among other things, require us to indemnify our directors and executive officers against liabilities that may arise by reason of their status or service. These indemnification agreements also require us to advance all expenses actually and reasonably incurred by the directors and executive officers in connection with any proceeding. We believe that these agreements are necessary to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve as directors and executive officers. We also maintain directors’ and officers’ liability insurance.

The above description of the indemnification provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the indemnification agreements is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to these documents.

Certain of our non-employee directors may, through their relationships with their employers, be insured or indemnified against certain liabilities incurred in their capacity as members of our Board.

The limitation of liability and indemnification provisions in the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against our directors and officers for breach of their fiduciary duty. They may also reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation against our directors and officers, even though an action, if successful, might benefit us and our stockholders. In addition, a stockholder’s investment may be adversely affected to the extent we pay the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers pursuant to these indemnification provisions. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, may be permitted to directors or executive officers, we have been informed that in the opinion of the SEC, such indemnification is against public policy and is therefore unenforceable.

At present, there is no pending litigation or proceeding involving any of our directors or executive officers as to which indemnification is required or permitted, and we are not aware of any threatened litigation or proceeding that may result in a claim for indemnification.

### **Identifying and Evaluating Director Nominees**

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for identifying, reviewing, evaluating and recommending candidates for nomination to our Board, including candidates to fill any vacancies that may occur. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assesses the qualifications of candidates in light of the policies and principles in our corporate governance guidelines and may also engage third-party search firms to identify director candidates. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may conduct interviews,



## [Table of Contents](#)

detailed questionnaires and comprehensive background checks or use any other means that it deems appropriate to gather information to evaluate potential candidates. Based on the results of the evaluation process, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommends candidates to our Board for approval as director nominees for election to our Board. In assessing our Board, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will evaluate the overall composition of our Board, our Board's contribution as a whole and its effectiveness in serving our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders.

### **Minimum Requirements**

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes that candidates for director should have certain minimum qualifications, including being able to read and understand basic financial statements, being over 21 years of age and having the highest personal integrity and ethics. Some of the qualifications that our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will also consider include, but are not limited to, such candidate's (i) level of expertise, (ii) potential conflicts of interests or other commitments, (iii) demonstrated excellence in his or her field, (iv) ability to exercise sound business judgment, (v) diversity with respect to personal background, perspective and experience and (vi) commitment to rigorously representing the long-term interests of the Company's stockholders. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also reviews director candidates in the context of the current size and composition of our Board, the operating requirements of the Company and the long-term interests of the Company's stockholders. Although our Board does not maintain a specific policy with respect to board diversity, our Board values diversity as a factor in selecting nominees. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers a broad range of backgrounds and experiences and may consider factors including gender, racial diversity, age, skills, and such other factors as it deems appropriate to maintain an appropriate balance of knowledge, experience and capability. In the case of incumbent directors whose terms of office are set to expire, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews such directors' overall service to the Company during their term, including the number of meetings attended, level of participation, quality of performance, and any other relationships and transactions that might impair such directors' independence. In the case of new director candidates, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also determines whether the nominee is independent for purposes of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

### **Stockholder Recommendations and Nominations to the Board of Directors**

Stockholders may submit recommendations for director candidates to our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee by sending the individual's name and qualifications to our Corporate Secretary at Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, who will forward all recommendations to our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will evaluate any candidates recommended by stockholders against the same criteria and pursuant to the same policies and procedures applicable to the evaluation of candidates proposed by directors or management.

### **Stockholder and Other Interested Party Communications**

Our Board provides to every stockholder and any other interested parties the ability to communicate with our Board as a whole, and with individual directors on the Board, through an established process for stockholder communication. For a communication directed to our Board as a whole, stockholders and other interested parties may send such communication to our Corporate Secretary at Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, Attn: Board of Directors c/o Corporate Secretary.

For a stockholder or other interested party communication directed to an individual director in his or her capacity as a member of our Board, stockholders and other interested parties may send such communication to the attention of the individual director at Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, Attn: Name of Director.

Our Corporate Secretary, in consultation with appropriate members of our Board as necessary, will review all incoming communications and, if appropriate, all such communications will be forwarded to the appropriate member or members of our Board, or if none is specified, to the Chairperson of our Board.

## [Table of Contents](#)

### Hedging and Pledging Policies

Our Insider Trading Policy prohibits any director, officer, employee or consultant from engaging in “short sales” of our equity securities and from engaging in hedging transactions involving our equity securities, provided that our Board, or a committee comprised solely of independent members of our Board, may approve a hedging transaction so long as the transaction does not hedge or offset any decrease in the market value of our equity securities. Further, our Insider Trading Policy restricts our designated insiders from pledging our equity securities as collateral for a loan or otherwise unless the transaction is pre-cleared by our Insider Trading Compliance Officer. As a condition of pre-approving any pledge of our equity securities, any designated insider seeking to pledge securities must clearly demonstrate his or her financial capacity to repay the loan without resort to the pledged securities.

### Non-Employee Director Compensation

Pursuant to our Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy for the compensation of our non-employee directors, during 2022, each of our non-employee directors received annual retainers, subject to proration, for service on our Board and its committees as follows:

<b>Annual Cash Compensation</b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Board Members	\$ 82,500
Chairs of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	\$ 37,500
Members of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	\$ 15,000
<b>Equity Compensation</b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>
Initial Stock Options	250,000
Annual Stock Options	100,000

All annual cash compensation amounts for our non-employee directors are payable in equal quarterly installments in arrears, following the end of each quarter in which the service occurred, pro-rated for any partial months of service. The equity compensation paid to our non-employee directors will vest monthly over a period of 48 months from the date of grant with respect to the initial stock option grants and over a period of 12 months from the date of grant with respect to the annual stock option grants, in each case, subject to continued service through each vesting date. Additionally, we will reimburse each outside director for reasonable travel expenses related to such director’s attendance at Board and committee meetings.

Employee directors receive no additional compensation for their service as a director.

### Non-Employee Director Compensation Table

The following table provides information regarding the total compensation that was earned by or paid to each of our non-employee directors during the year ended December 31, 2022.

<u>Name<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)</u>	<u>Option Awards (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></u>	<u>All Other Compensation (\$)</u>	<u>Total (\$)</u>
Dorman Followwill	65,518	—	—	65,518
Laura J. Hamill	67,614	—	—	67,614
Tien-Li Lee, M.D.	87,588 <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	87,588
David Lemus	61,326	—	—	61,326
Tommy Thompson	40,532	—	—	40,532

(1) Dr. Ji, our Executive Chairperson, and Mr. Shah, our Chief Executive Officer and President, are not included in this table, as each of them was our employee and therefore receives no compensation for his

## [Table of Contents](#)

service as a director. Dr. Ji's and Mr. Shah's compensation as named executive officers are included in the section titled "Executive Compensation — Summary Compensation Table" below.

- (2) As of December 31, 2022, Dr. Lee held options to purchase an aggregate of 427,670 shares of our Common Stock (which number of options gives effect to certain exchange ratio for the conversion of shares of Legacy Scilex common stock and stock options into shares of our Common Stock and stock options (the "Exchange Ratio"), which is equal to (a) the number of shares constituting the total consideration to be paid to the holders of our Common Stock at the closing of the Business Combination, divided by (b) the sum of (i) issued and outstanding Legacy Scilex common stock and (ii) issued and outstanding Legacy Scilex stock options as of immediately prior to the time at which the Business Combination became effective (the "Effective Time")) and none of Mr. Followwill, Ms. Hamill, Mr. Lemus and Mr. Thompson held any options or other equity awards to acquire shares of our Common Stock.
- (3) Between January 1, 2022 through April 24, 2022, the fees earned by Dr. Lee were pursuant to a consulting agreement dated October 27, 2020, as amended on March 17, 2021. Between April 25, 2022 through December 31, 2022, the fees earned by Dr. Lee were for his service as a member of our board of directors.

**PROPOSAL NO. 1  
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Our Board is currently composed of seven members. In accordance with our Certificate of Incorporation, our Board is divided into three staggered classes of directors. At the Annual Meeting, two Class I directors will be elected for a three-year term to succeed the same class whose term is then expiring.

Each director's term continues until the election and qualification of his or her successor, or such director's earlier death, resignation or removal. Any increase or decrease in the number of directors will be distributed among the three classes so that, as nearly as possible, each class will consist of one-third of our directors. This classification of our Board may have the effect of delaying or preventing changes in the control of our Company.

**Nominees**

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has recommended, and our Board has approved, Dorman Followwill and David Lemus as nominees for election as Class I directors at the Annual Meeting. If elected, each of Dorman Followwill and David Lemus will serve as a Class I director until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders and until his respective successor is duly elected and qualified. Each of the nominees is currently a director of our Company. For information concerning the nominees, please see the section titled "Board of Directors and Corporate Governance." Tommy Thompson's service on our Board will expire at the Annual Meeting.

If you are a stockholder of record and you sign your proxy card or vote over the Internet but do not give instructions with respect to the voting of directors, your shares will be voted "FOR" the election of each of Dorman Followwill and David Lemus. We expect that Dorman Followwill and David Lemus will each accept such nomination; however, in the event that a director nominee is unable or declines to serve as a director at the time of the Annual Meeting, the proxies will be voted for any nominee designated by our Board to fill such vacancy. If you are a street name stockholder and you do not give voting instructions to your broker or nominee, your broker will leave your shares unvoted on this matter, which will result in no effect on the vote for this matter.

**Director Interest**

Dorman Followwill and David Lemus have an interest in this Proposal No. 1, as each is currently a member of our Board.

**Vote Required**

The election of directors requires a plurality of the votes of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon to be approved. Broker non-votes will have no effect on this proposal.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" THE ELECTION OF  
EACH OF THE DIRECTOR NOMINEES NAMED ABOVE.**

**PROPOSAL NO. 2  
RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Our Audit Committee has appointed Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to audit our consolidated financial statements for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

Notwithstanding the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, and even if our stockholders ratify the appointment, our Audit Committee, in its discretion, may appoint another independent registered public accounting firm at any time during our fiscal year if our Audit Committee believes that such a change would be in the best interests of our Company and our stockholders. At the Annual Meeting, our stockholders are being asked to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. Our Audit Committee is submitting the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to our stockholders because we value our stockholders' views on our independent registered public accounting firm and as a matter of good corporate governance. One or more representatives of Ernst & Young LLP will be present at the Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement and will be available to respond to appropriate questions from our stockholders.

If our stockholders do not ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, our Board may reconsider the appointment.

**Change in Auditor**

Effective upon the closing of the Business Combination, on November 10, 2022, our Audit Committee dismissed WithumSmith+Brown, PC ("Withum"), which served as Vickers's independent registered public accounting firm prior to the Business Combination.

The report of Withum on the financial statements of Vickers as of December 31, 2020 and 2021 did not contain an adverse opinion or a disclaimer of opinion, and was not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles except for an explanatory paragraph in such report regarding substantial doubt about Vickers's ability to continue as a going concern and emphasized the restatement of Vickers's financial statement as of January 11, 2021 due to its change in accounting for warrants and Vickers Ordinary Shares subject to possible redemption. "Vickers Ordinary Shares" means (i) the ordinary shares of Vickers prior to the change of its domicile pursuant to a transfer by way of continuation of an exempted company out of the Cayman Islands and a domestication into the State of Delaware as a corporation, and the de-registration in the Cayman Islands (the "Domestication") and (ii) the common stock of Vickers following the Domestication.

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2020 and 2021 and the subsequent interim period through November 10, 2022, there were no disagreements (as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K) with Withum on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedures, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Withum, would have caused Withum to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreements in its reports covering such periods. In addition, no "reportable events," as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K, occurred within the period of Withum's engagement and the subsequent interim period preceding Withum's dismissal.

We previously provided Withum with a copy of the disclosures regarding the dismissal reproduced in this Proxy Statement and requested and received a letter from Withum addressed to the SEC stating whether it agrees with such disclosures, and, if not, stating the respects in which it does not agree.

## [Table of Contents](#)

### **Fees Paid to the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The following table presents fees for professional audit services and other services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP to our Company and Legacy Scilex for our fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 (in thousands).

	<u>2022<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>2021<sup>(1)</sup></u>
Audit Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1,918,000	\$ 600,000
Audit-Related Fees	—	—
Tax Fees	—	—
All Other Fees	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,918,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 600,000</u></u>

- (1) The fees in this column exclude fees for services rendered by Withum as the independent registered public accounting firm for Vickers prior to the Business Combination.
- (2) Audit fees consist of fees for services rendered in connection with the annual audit and quarterly reviews of our consolidated financial statements. Audit fees also consist of services provided in connection with issuance of EY's consents that were included in our registration statements filed in connection with and following the closing of the Business Combination, standalone audits, consultation on accounting matters, and SEC registration statement services. The 2022 audit fees for EY also include fees of \$1,368,000 related to services performed in connection with the Business Combination, which was completed in November 2022.

### **Auditor Independence**

In our fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, there were no other professional services provided by Ernst & Young LLP, other than those listed above, that would have required our Audit Committee to consider their compatibility with maintaining the independence of Ernst & Young LLP.

### **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

Our Audit Committee is required to pre-approve the audit and non-audit services performed by our independent registered public accounting firm in order to assure that the provision of such services does not impair the auditor's independence. Any proposed services exceeding pre-approved cost levels require specific pre-approval by our Audit Committee.

Our Audit Committee at least annually reviews and provides general pre-approval for the services that may be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm. The term of the general pre-approval is 12 months from the date of approval, unless our Audit Committee specifically provides for a different period. If our Audit Committee has not provided general pre-approval, then the type of service requires specific pre-approval by our Audit Committee.

Pursuant to its charter, our Audit Committee has delegated pre-approval authority to the chairperson of our Audit Committee so long as any such pre-approval decisions are presented to the full Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting. All services performed and related fees billed by Ernst & Young LLP during fiscal year 2022 were pre-approved by our Audit Committee pursuant to regulations of the SEC.

### **Vote Required**

The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the

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[Table of Contents](#)

Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon. Stockholder abstentions will not have any effect on the outcome of this proposal, so long as a quorum exists. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE “FOR” THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM.**

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee is a committee of the Board of Directors comprised solely of independent directors as required by the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC and the rules and regulations of the SEC.

In the performance of its oversight function, the Audit Committee has:

- reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with management and Ernst & Young LLP;
- discussed with Ernst & Young LLP the matters required to be discussed by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (“PCAOB”) and the SEC; and
- received the written disclosures and the letter from Ernst & Young LLP required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding their communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with them their independence.

Based on the Audit Committee’s review and discussions with management and Ernst & Young LLP, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 for filing with the SEC.

Respectfully submitted by the members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors:

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

David Lemus, *Chairperson*

Dorman Followwill

Laura J. Hamill

*The foregoing report of the Audit Committee is required by the SEC, is not “soliciting material,” and, in accordance with the SEC’s rules, will not be deemed to be part of or incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this Proxy Statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and will not otherwise be deemed “soliciting material” or “filed” under either the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.*



**PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY 2022 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN TO (I) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER BY 10,000,000 SHARES TO 30,276,666 SHARES, (II) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO 30,276,666 SHARES, AND (III) MODIFY THE COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO JANUARY 1, 2024**

We are asking our stockholders to approve the amendment to the Scilex Holding Company 2022 Equity Incentive Plan (the “Equity Incentive Plan”, and such amendment, the “Plan Amendment”) to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares from 20,276,666 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to 30,276,666 shares, and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to January 1, 2024.

On October 17, 2022, our Board adopted, subject to the approval by our stockholders, the Equity Incentive Plan. On November 9, 2022, our stockholders approved the Equity Incentive Plan. The Equity Incentive Plan became effective on November 9, 2022, the day immediately preceding the date of the closing of the Business Combination. On January 1, 2023, pursuant to the terms of the Equity Incentive Plan, (a) 5,653,954 shares of Common Stock were added to the shares available thereunder, pursuant to the automatic feature thereunder, which provides that the number of shares reserved for issuance thereunder will automatically increase on January 1 of each year for a period of ten years, commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of: (i) 4% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the immediately preceding year, (ii) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock, and (iii) such number of shares of Common Stock determined by the Board or the Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year, and (b) 5,653,954 shares of Common Stock were also added to the shares available thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs, in accordance with the automatic feature thereunder, which provides that the number of shares reserved for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of ISOs will increase commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of: (x) 4% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the immediately preceding year, (y) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock, and (z) such number of shares of Common Stock determined by the Board or the Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year.

On March 5, 2023, our Compensation Committee approved, and we are submitting to our stockholders for approval, the Plan Amendment.

As of March 1, 2023, 5,481,666 shares of our Common Stock remain available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan, including pursuant to the exercise of ISOs, and 14,795,000 shares are subject to outstanding awards thereunder.

**Reasons for Approving the Plan Amendment**

***Equity Incentive Awards Are Critical to Long-Term Stockholder Value Creation***

Our equity incentive plan is critical to our long-term goal of building stockholder value. As discussed in the “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance — Non-Employee Director Compensation” and “Executive Compensation” sections of this Proxy Statement, equity incentive awards are central to our compensation program and constitute a significant portion of our named executive officers’ total direct compensation. Our Board and its Compensation Committee believe that our ability to grant equity incentive awards to new and existing employees, directors and eligible consultants has helped us attract, retain and motivate professionals

## [Table of Contents](#)

with superior ability, experience and leadership capability. Equity compensation aligns the interests of our employees, directors and consultants with the interests of our stockholders, encourages retention and promotes actions that result in long-term stockholder value creation.

### ***We Manage Our Equity Incentive Award Use Carefully***

We manage our long-term stockholder dilution by limiting the number of equity awards granted annually. The Compensation Committee carefully monitors our total dilution and equity expense to ensure that we maximize stockholder value by granting only the appropriate number of equity awards necessary to attract, retain and motivate employees.

Based on historical usage and our internal growth plans, we expect that the proposed 10,000,000 share increase in the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan, together with the shares currently reserved for future awards under the Equity Incentive Plan and the potential annual automatic share reserve increases discussed below, would be sufficient for approximately three years of awards, assuming we continue to grant awards consistent with our historical usage and current practices, as reflected in our historical burn rate for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 discussed below, and noting that future circumstances may require us to change our current equity grant practices.

The proposed 10,000,000 share increase would result in there being 30,276,666 shares of Common Stock subject to the Equity Incentive Plan (which number is the sum of (x) 14,622,712 shares that were approved in connection with the initial adoption of the Equity Incentive Plan on the effective date thereof plus (y) 5,653,954 shares previously added to the Equity Incentive Plan on January 1, 2023 in accordance with the automatic increase provision set forth therein plus (z) an additional 10,000,000 shares, if approved by our stockholders at the Annual Meeting). The Plan Amendment also amends the aggregate maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of ISOs to 30,276,666 shares to correspond to the aggregate number of shares subject to the Equity Incentive Plan, which is consistent with the terms of the Equity Incentive Plan prior to the Plan Amendment. Lastly, because the aggregate maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of ISOs is proposed to be 30,276,666 shares (and such number already includes the automatic increase on January 1, 2023), the future commencement date of increases is being amended to January 1, 2024.

If the Plan Amendment is approved, the share reserve under the Equity Incentive Plan could last for a longer or shorter period of time, depending upon our future equity grant practices, which we cannot predict with any degree of certainty at this time. As discussed in further detail below, in determining the Plan Amendment, the Compensation Committee and the Board took into account, among other things, our stock price and volatility, share usage and burn rate during our fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 (the last year prior to the closing of the Business Combination in which we granted any equity awards) and dilution as of such date (or “overhang percentage”), the existing terms of our outstanding awards and the potential annual automatic share reserve increases discussed below. In addition, the Compensation Committee also considered the fact that at the time of the grants made during (and prior to) the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, we were not a registered reporting company under the Exchange Act and our future equity grant practices may differ materially from our prior grant practices as a private company.

The following table shows certain key equity metrics for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 (the last year prior to the closing of the Business Combination in which we granted any equity awards):

<b>Key Equity Metrics</b>	<b>2019</b>
Equity burn rate <sup>(1)</sup>	11.6%
Overhang <sup>(2)</sup>	18.6%

(1) Equity burn rate is calculated by dividing (a) the number of shares subject to equity awards granted during the fiscal year by (b) the weighted-average number of shares outstanding during the period. For purposes of

## Table of Contents

this calculation, we included the equity awards granted by Legacy Scilex under the 2019 Plan during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, the last year in which we granted equity awards prior to the date of closing of the Business Combination. Awards that were forfeited, cancelled or terminated (other than upon exercise) during 2019 are not excluded from the calculation. Our equity burn rate during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 is based on the following (which numbers do not give effect to the completion of the Business Combination and are provided for illustrative purposes only):

	<u>2019</u>
Stock options granted	22,968,260
Common Stock outstanding	197,310,338
<b>Equity burn rate</b>	<b>11.6%</b>

- (2) Overhang is calculated by dividing (a) the sum of (i) the number of shares subject to equity awards outstanding at the end of the fiscal year and (ii) the number of shares available for future grant, by (b) the sum of (i) the number of shares outstanding at the end of the fiscal year plus (ii) the sum of (x) the number of shares subject to equity awards outstanding at the end of the fiscal year and (y) the number of shares available for future grant. Our overhang during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 is based on the following (which numbers do not give effect to the completion of the Business Combination and are provided for illustrative purposes only):

	<u>2019</u>
Shares subject to equity awards outstanding	25,411,073
Shares available for future grant	19,588,927
Common Stock outstanding	197,310,338
<b>Overhang</b>	<b>18.6%</b>

If the Plan Amendment is approved, the issuance of the additional shares to be reserved under the Equity Incentive Plan would dilute existing stockholders by an additional 3.9% on a fully diluted basis, based on 145,811,298 shares of our Common Stock outstanding as of March 6, 2023 and an aggregate of 41,491,804 shares of our Common Stock subject to equity awards outstanding or available for future issuance (including pursuant to our 2023 Inducement Plan (the "Inducement Plan")).

The total aggregate equity value of the additional authorized shares being requested under the Equity Incentive Plan (above the shares currently remaining available for issuance thereunder), based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the Record Date, is \$91,800,000.

In light of the factors described above, and the fact that the ability to continue to grant equity compensation is vital to our ability to continue to attract and retain employees in the competitive labor markets in which we compete, the Board has determined that the Plan Amendment is reasonable and appropriate at this time.

Each year, the Compensation Committee and our management review our overall compensation strategy. We are committed to effectively managing our equity compensation and we carefully review our burn rate. As evident by our historical burn rate, we achieve burn rates within the limits published by independent shareholder advisory groups, such as Institutional Shareholder Services, for biotechnology companies.

### **Summary of the Equity Incentive Plan, as Amended by the Plan Amendment**

The following description of certain features of the Equity Incentive Plan, as amended by the Plan Amendment, is intended to be a summary only. The summary is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the Equity Incentive Plan, as amended by the Plan Amendment, a copy of which is attached hereto as *Appendix A*.

## [Table of Contents](#)

### ***Purpose***

The purpose of the Equity Incentive Plan is to secure and retain the services of employees, directors and consultants, to provide incentives for such persons to exert maximum efforts for our success and to provide a means by which such persons may be given an opportunity to benefit from increases in value of our Common Stock through the granting of awards under the Equity Incentive Plan.

### ***Eligibility***

Our equity incentive program is broad-based. As of March 1, 2023, approximately 93 of our employees had received grants of equity awards, five of our non-employee directors had received grants of equity awards and approximately seven of our consultants had received grants of equity awards. As of March 1, 2023, there were approximately 93 employees, five non-employee directors and no consultants eligible to participate in the Equity Incentive Plan. As of March 1, 2023, there were no non-employees to whom an offer of employment had been extended by the Company or an affiliate.

### ***Awards***

The Equity Incentive Plan provides for the grant of ISOs within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), to our employees and our parent and subsidiary corporations’ employees, and for the grant of nonstatutory stock options (“NSOs”), stock appreciation rights, restricted stock awards, restricted stock unit awards, performance awards and other forms of awards to our employees, directors and consultants and any of our affiliates’ employees and consultants.

### ***Authorized Shares***

If our stockholders approve the Plan Amendment, the aggregate number of shares of our Common Stock authorized for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan as of the date of the Annual Meeting, subject to certain adjustments in accordance with the terms thereof, including as a result of the automatic increase, will be 30,276,666 shares, which number is the sum of (i) 14,622,712 shares of our Common Stock that were approved in connection with the initial adoption of the Equity Incentive Plan on the effective date thereof plus (ii) 5,653,954 shares previously added to the Equity Incentive Plan on January 1, 2023 in accordance with the automatic increase described in the Equity Incentive Plan plus (iii) an additional 10,000,000 shares approved by our stockholders at the Annual Meeting plus (iv) an additional number of shares of our Common Stock, if any, and as such shares become available from time to time, equal to the number of shares subject to outstanding awards granted under the Scilex Holding Company 2019 Stock Option Plan (the “2019 Stock Option Plan”), that, following the effective date of the Equity Incentive Plan, (a) were not issued because the award or any portion of the award expired or otherwise terminated without all of the shares covered by the award having been issued, (b) were not issued because the award or any portion thereof was settled in cash, (c) were forfeited back to or repurchased by us because of the failure to meet a contingency or condition required for the vesting of such shares, (d) were withheld or reacquired to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price or (e) were withheld or reacquired to satisfy a tax withholding obligation. In addition, the number of shares of our Common Stock reserved for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan automatically increases on January 1 of each year for a period of ten years, beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (1) 4% of the total number of shares of our Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the immediately preceding year, (2) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock (subject to adjustment for recapitalizations, stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions), and (3) such number of shares of our Common Stock determined by our Board or our Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year. If our stockholders approve the Plan Amendment, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing sentences and subject to certain adjustments in accordance with the terms of the Equity Incentive Plan, the aggregate maximum number of shares of our Common Stock that may be issued on the exercise of ISOs under the Equity Incentive Plan will be increased to 30,276,666 shares, which amount will increase commencing on

## [Table of Contents](#)

January 1, 2024 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) 4% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the preceding year, (ii) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock (subject to adjustment for recapitalizations, stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions), and (iii) such number of shares of our Common Stock determined by our Board or our Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year. All of the foregoing share numbers are subject to adjustment as necessary to implement any changes in our capital structure (as described below).

Shares subject to awards that will be granted under the Equity Incentive Plan that expire or terminate without being exercised in full will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. The settlement of any portion of an award in cash will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. Shares of Common Stock withheld under an award to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price of an award or to satisfy a tax withholding obligation will not reduce the number of shares that will be available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. With respect to a stock appreciation right, only shares of Common Stock that are issued upon settlement of the stock appreciation right will count towards reducing the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. If any shares of our Common Stock issued pursuant to an award are forfeited back to or repurchased or reacquired by us (i) because of a failure to meet a contingency or condition required for the vesting of such shares; (ii) to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price of an award; or (iii) to satisfy a tax withholding obligation in connection with an award, the shares that are forfeited or repurchased or reacquired will revert to and again become available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan.

### ***Plan Administration***

Our Board, or a duly authorized committee of our Board, administers the Equity Incentive Plan. Our Board, or a duly authorized committee of our Board, may, in accordance with the terms of the Equity Incentive Plan, delegate to one or more of our officers the authority to (i) designate employees (other than officers) to be recipients of specified awards, and to the extent permitted by applicable law, the terms of such awards; and (ii) determine the number of shares of Common Stock to be subject to such awards granted to such employees. Under the Equity Incentive Plan, our Board, or a duly authorized committee of our Board, will have the authority to determine: award recipients; how and when each award will be granted; the types of awards to be granted; the provisions of each award, including the period of exercisability and the vesting schedule applicable to an award; the number of shares of Common Stock or cash equivalent subject to each award; the fair market value applicable to an award; and the terms of any performance award that is not valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, Common Stock, including the amount of cash payment or other property that may be earned and the timing of payment.

Under the Equity Incentive Plan, (i) our Board will not, without stockholder approval, (a) reduce the exercise or strike price of an option or stock appreciation right (other than in connection with a capitalization adjustment), and (b) at any time when the exercise or strike price of an option or stock appreciation right is above the fair market value of a share of Common Stock, cancel and re-grant or exchange such option or stock appreciation right for a new award with a lower (or no) purchase price or for cash, and (ii) a participant's rights under any award will not be materially adversely impaired by any amendment without the participant's written consent.

We will also designate a plan administrator to administer the day-to-day operations of the Equity Incentive Plan.

### ***Stock Options***

Options will be granted under stock option agreements adopted by our Board. Each option will be designated in writing as an ISO or an NSO. Our Board will determine the exercise price for stock options, within the terms and conditions of the Equity Incentive Plan, except the exercise price of a stock option generally will not be less than 100% (or 110% in the case of ISOs granted to a person who owns or is deemed to own stock possessing more than 10% of our total combined voting power or that of any of our parent or subsidiary corporations, or a ten

## Table of Contents

percent stockholder) of the fair market value of our Common Stock on the date of grant. Options granted under the Equity Incentive Plan will vest at the rate specified in the stock option agreement as will be determined by our Board. The terms and conditions of separate options need not be identical.

No option will be exercisable after the expiration of ten years (or five years in the case of ISOs granted to a ten percent stockholder) or a shorter period specified in the applicable award agreement. Unless the terms of an optionholder's stock option agreement, or other written agreement between us and the recipient, provide otherwise, if an optionholder's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases for any reason other than disability, death or cause, the optionholder may generally exercise any vested options for a period of three months following the cessation of service. If an optionholder's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases due to death, or an optionholder dies within a certain period following cessation of service, the optionholder or a beneficiary may generally exercise any vested options for a period of 18 months following the date of death. If an optionholder's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases due to disability, the optionholder may generally exercise any vested options for a period of 12 months following the cessation of service. In the event of a termination for cause, options generally terminate upon the termination date. An optionholder may not exercise an option at any time that the issuance of shares upon such exercise would violate applicable law. Unless provided otherwise in the optionholder's stock option agreement or other written agreement between an optionholder and us, if an optionholder's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases for any reason other than for cause and, at any time during the last thirty days of the applicable post-termination exercise period: (i) the exercise of the optionholder's option would be prohibited solely because the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon such exercise would violate applicable law, or (ii) the immediate sale of any shares of Common Stock issued upon such exercise would violate our trading policy, then the applicable post-termination exercise period will be extended to the last day of the calendar month that begins after the date the award would otherwise expire, with an additional extension of the exercise period to the last day of the next calendar month to apply if any of the foregoing restrictions apply at any time during such extended exercise period. There is no limitation as to the maximum permitted number of extensions. However, in no event may an option be exercised beyond the expiration of its term.

Acceptable consideration for the purchase of Common Stock issued upon the exercise of a stock option will be determined by our Board and may include (i) cash or check, bank draft or money order payable to us; (ii) a broker-assisted cashless exercise; (iii) subject to certain conditions, the tender of shares of our Common Stock previously owned by the optionholder; (iv) a net exercise of the option if it is an NSO; or (v) other legal consideration acceptable to our Board.

Unless our Board provides otherwise, options or stock appreciation rights generally will not be transferable except by will or the laws of descent and distribution. Subject to approval of our Board or a duly authorized officer, an option may be transferred pursuant to a domestic relations order.

### ***Limitations on ISOs***

The aggregate fair market value, determined at the time of grant, of our Common Stock with respect to ISOs that are exercisable for the first time by an optionholder during any calendar year under all of our stock plans or plans of our affiliates may not exceed \$100,000. Options or portions thereof that exceed such limit will generally be treated as NSOs. No ISO may be granted to any person who, at the time of the grant, owns or is deemed to own stock possessing more than 10% of our total combined voting power or that of any of our parent or subsidiary corporations unless (i) the option exercise price is at least 110% of the fair market value of the stock subject to the option on the date of grant; and (ii) the term of the ISO does not exceed five years from the date of grant.

### ***Restricted Stock Unit Awards***

Subject to the terms of the Equity Incentive Plan, each restricted stock unit award will have such terms and conditions as determined by our Board. A restricted stock unit award represents a participant's right to be issued

## [Table of Contents](#)

on a future date the number of shares of our Common Stock that is equal to the number of restricted stock units subject to the award. A participant will not have voting or any other rights as a stockholder of ours with respect to any restricted stock unit award (unless and until shares are actually issued in settlement of a vested restricted stock unit award). A restricted stock unit award will be granted in consideration for a participant's services to us or an affiliate, such that the participant will not be required to make any payment to us (other than such services) with respect to the grant or vesting of the restricted stock unit award, or the issuance of any shares of Common Stock pursuant to the restricted stock unit award. Our Board may determine that restricted stock unit awards may be granted in consideration for any form of legal consideration that may be acceptable to our Board and permissible under applicable law. A restricted stock unit award may be settled by cash, delivery of stock (or any combination of our Common Stock and cash), or in any other form of consideration determined by our Board and set forth in the restricted stock unit award agreement. At the time of grant, our Board may impose such restrictions or conditions on the award of restricted stock units that delay delivery to a date following the vesting of the award. Additionally, dividend equivalents may be paid or credited in respect of shares of Common Stock covered by a restricted stock unit award. Except as otherwise provided in the applicable award agreement, or other written agreement between us and the recipient, restricted stock unit awards that have not vested will be forfeited once the participant's continuous service ends for any reason.

### ***Restricted Stock Awards***

Restricted stock awards will be granted under restricted stock award agreements adopted by our Board. A restricted stock award may be awarded in consideration for cash, check, bank draft or money order, past services to us or any of our affiliates, or any other form of legal consideration that may be acceptable to our Board and permissible under applicable law. Our Board will determine the terms and conditions of restricted stock awards, including vesting and forfeiture terms. Dividends may be paid or credited with respect to shares subject to a restricted stock award, as determined by our Board and specified in the applicable restricted stock award agreement. If a participant's service relationship with us ends for any reason, we may receive any or all of the shares of Common Stock held by the participant that have not vested as of the date the participant terminates service with us through a forfeiture condition or a repurchase right.

### ***Stock Appreciation Rights***

Stock appreciation rights will be granted under stock appreciation right agreements adopted by our Board and denominated in shares of Common Stock equivalents. The terms of separation stock appreciation rights need not be identical. Our Board will determine the purchase price or strike price for a stock appreciation right, which generally will not be less than 100% of the fair market value of our Common Stock on the date of grant. A stock appreciation right granted under the Equity Incentive Plan will vest at the rate specified in the stock appreciation right agreement as will be determined by our Board. Stock appreciation rights may be settled in cash or shares of our Common Stock (or any combination of our Common Stock and cash) or in any other form of payment, as determined by our Board and specified in the stock appreciation right agreement.

Our Board will determine the term of stock appreciation rights granted under the Equity Incentive Plan, up to a maximum of ten years. If a participant's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases for any reason other than cause, disability, or death, the participant may generally exercise any vested stock appreciation right for a period of three months following the cessation of service. If a participant's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases due to death, or a participant dies within a certain period following cessation of service, the participant or a beneficiary may generally exercise any vested stock appreciation rights for a period of 18 months following the date of death. If a participant's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases due to disability, the participant may generally exercise any vested stock appreciation rights for a period of 12 months following the cessation of service. In the event of a termination for cause, stock appreciation rights generally terminate upon the termination date. A holder of a stock appreciation right may not exercise a stock appreciation right at any time that the issuance of shares upon such exercise would violate applicable law. Unless provided otherwise in the stock appreciation right agreement or other written agreement between the participant

## [Table of Contents](#)

and us, if a participant's service relationship with us or any of our affiliates ceases for any reason other than for cause and, at any time during the last thirty days of the applicable post-termination exercise period: (i) the exercise of the participant's stock appreciation right would be prohibited solely because the issuance of shares upon such exercise would violate applicable law, or (ii) the immediate sale of any shares issued upon such exercise would violate our trading policy, then the applicable post-termination exercise period will be extended to the last day of the calendar month that begins after the date the award would otherwise expire, with an additional extension of the exercise period to the last day of the next calendar month to apply if any of the foregoing restrictions apply at any time during such extended exercise period. There is no limitation as to the maximum permitted number of extensions. However, in no event may a stock appreciation right be exercised beyond the expiration of its term.

### ***Performance Awards***

The Equity Incentive Plan will permit the grant of performance awards that may be settled in stock, cash or other property. Performance awards may be structured so that the stock or cash will be issued or paid only following the achievement of certain pre-established performance goals during a designated performance period. Performance awards that are settled in cash or other property are not required to be valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, our Common Stock. The performance goals may be based on any measure of performance selected by our Board. The performance goals may be based on company-wide performance or performance of one or more business units, divisions, affiliates, or business segments, and may be either absolute or relative to the performance of one or more comparable companies or the performance of one or more relevant indices. Unless specified otherwise by our Board at the time the performance award is granted, our Board will appropriately make adjustments in the method of calculating the attainment of performance goals for a performance period as follows: (i) to exclude restructuring and/or other nonrecurring charges; (ii) to exclude exchange rate effects; (iii) to exclude the effects of changes to generally accepted accounting principles; (iv) to exclude the effects of any statutory adjustments to corporate tax rates; (v) to exclude the effects of items that are "unusual" in nature or occur "infrequently" as determined under generally accepted accounting principles; (vi) to exclude the dilutive effects of acquisitions or joint ventures; (vii) to assume that any business divested by us achieved performance objectives at targeted levels during the balance of a performance period following such divestiture; (viii) to exclude the effect of any change in the outstanding shares of our Common Stock by reason of any stock dividend or split, stock repurchase, reorganization, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination or exchange of shares or other similar corporate change, or any distributions to common stockholders other than regular cash dividends; (ix) to exclude the effects of stock based compensation and the award of bonuses under our bonus plans; (x) to exclude costs incurred in connection with potential acquisitions or divestitures that are required to be expensed under generally accepted accounting principles; and (xi) to exclude the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges that are required to be recorded under generally accepted accounting principles.

Our Board retains the discretion to reduce or eliminate the compensation or economic benefit due upon attainment of performance goals and to define the manner of calculating the performance criteria it selects to use for the performance period. Partial achievement of the specified criteria may result in the payment or vesting corresponding to the degree of achievement as specified in the performance award agreement or the written terms of a performance cash award. Our Board will determine the length of any performance period, the performance goals to be achieved during a performance period and the other terms and conditions of such awards.

### ***Other Stock Awards***

Our Board will be permitted to grant other awards, based in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, our Common Stock, either alone or in addition to other awards. Our Board will have the sole and complete discretion to determine the persons to whom and the time or times at which other stock awards will be granted, the number of shares under the other stock award (or cash equivalent) and all other terms and conditions of such awards.



### ***Non-Employee Director Compensation Limit***

The aggregate value of all compensation granted or paid following the effective date of the Equity Incentive Plan to any individual for service as a non-employee director with respect to any fiscal year, including awards granted under the Equity Incentive Plan (valued based on the grant date fair value for financial reporting purposes) and cash fees paid by us to such non-employee director, will not exceed \$750,000 in total value, except such amount will increase to \$1,000,000 for the year in which a non-employee director is first appointed or elected to our Board.

### ***Changes to Capital Structure***

In the event there is a specified type of change in our capital structure, such as a stock split, reverse stock split, or recapitalization, our Board will appropriately and proportionately adjust (i) the class(es) and maximum number of shares subject to the Equity Incentive Plan and the maximum number of shares by which the share reserve may annually increase pursuant to the Equity Incentive Plan; (ii) the class(es) and maximum number of shares that may be issued on the exercise of ISOs; and (iii) the class(es) and number of shares and exercise price, strike price, or purchase price, if applicable, of all outstanding awards granted under the Equity Incentive Plan.

### ***Corporate Transactions***

In the event of a corporate transaction (as defined below), unless otherwise provided in a participant's award agreement or other written agreement with us or one of our affiliates or unless otherwise expressly provided by our Board at the time of grant, any awards outstanding under the Equity Incentive Plan may be assumed, continued or substituted for, in whole or in part, by any surviving or acquiring corporation (or its parent company), and any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by us with respect to our Common Stock issued pursuant to awards may be assigned to the successor (or its parent company). If the surviving or acquiring corporation (or its parent company) does not assume, continue or substitute for such awards, then (i) with respect to any such awards that are held by participants whose continuous service has not terminated prior to the effective time of the corporate transaction, or current participants, the vesting (and exercisability, if applicable) of such awards will be accelerated in full (or, in the case of performance awards with multiple vesting levels depending on the level of performance, unless provided otherwise in the applicable award agreement, vesting will accelerate at 100% of the target level) to a date prior to the effective time of the corporate transaction (contingent upon the effectiveness of the corporate transaction) as our Board determines (or, if our Board does not determine such a date, to the date that is five days prior to the effective time of the corporate transaction), and such awards will terminate if not exercised (if applicable) at or prior to the effective time of the corporate transaction, and any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by us with respect to such awards will lapse (contingent upon the effectiveness of the corporate transaction); and (ii) any such awards that are held by persons other than current participants will terminate if not exercised (if applicable) prior to the occurrence of the corporate transaction, except that any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by us with respect to such awards will not terminate and may continue to be exercised notwithstanding the corporate transaction.

In the event an award will terminate if not exercised prior to the effective time of a corporate transaction, our Board may provide, in its sole discretion, that the holder of such award may not exercise such award but instead will receive a payment, in such form as may be determined by our Board, equal in value to the excess (if any) of (i) the value of the property the participant would have received upon the exercise of the award, over (ii) any per share exercise price payable by such holder, if applicable. As a condition to the receipt of an award, a participant will be deemed to have agreed that the award will be subject to the terms of any agreement under the Equity Incentive Plan governing a corporate transaction involving us.

Under the Equity Incentive Plan, a "corporate transaction" generally will be the consummation, in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions, of (i) a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all, as determined by our Board, of the consolidated assets of us and our subsidiaries; (ii) a sale or other disposition of at least 50% of our outstanding securities; (iii) a merger, consolidation or similar transaction following which we are not the surviving corporation; or (iv) a merger, consolidation or similar transaction following which we are

## [Table of Contents](#)

the surviving corporation but the shares of our Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to such transaction are converted or exchanged into other property by virtue of the transaction.

### ***Transferability***

Except as expressly provided in the Equity Incentive Plan or the form of award agreement, awards granted under the Equity Incentive Plan may not be transferred or assigned by a participant. After the vested shares subject to an award have been issued, or in the case of a restricted stock award and similar awards, after the issued shares have vested, the holder of such shares is free to assign, hypothecate, donate, encumber or otherwise dispose of any interest in such shares provided that any such actions are in compliance with the provisions herein, the terms of our trading policy and applicable law.

### ***Clawback/Recovery***

All awards granted under the Equity Incentive Plan will be subject to recoupment in accordance with any clawback policy that we are required to adopt pursuant to the listing standards of any national securities exchange or association on which our securities are listed or as is otherwise required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act or other applicable law and any clawback policy that we otherwise adopt, to the extent applicable and permissible under applicable law. In addition, our Board may impose such other clawback, recovery or recoupment provisions in an award agreement as our Board determines necessary or appropriate, including, but not limited to, a reacquisition right in respect of previously acquired shares of Common Stock or other cash or property upon the occurrence of cause.

### ***Amendment or Termination***

Our Board may accelerate the time at which an award granted under the Equity Incentive Plan may first be exercised or the time during which an award grant under the Equity Incentive Plan or any part thereof will vest, notwithstanding the provisions in the award agreement stating the time at which it may first be exercised or the time during which it will vest. Our Board will have the authority to amend, suspend, or terminate the Equity Incentive Plan at any time, provided that such action does not materially impair the existing rights of any participant without such participant's written consent. Certain material amendments will also require the approval of our stockholders. No ISOs may be granted after the tenth anniversary of the date our Board adopts the Equity Incentive Plan. No awards may be granted under the Equity Incentive Plan while it is suspended or after it is terminated.

### ***Federal Income Tax Consequences Associated with the Equity Incentive Plan***

The following is a general summary under current law of the material federal income tax consequences to participants in the Equity Incentive Plan. This summary deals with the general tax principles that apply and is provided only for general information. Some kinds of taxes, such as state, local and foreign income taxes and federal employment taxes, are not discussed. Tax laws are complex and subject to change and may vary depending on individual circumstances and from locality to locality. The summary does not discuss all aspects of income taxation that may be relevant in light of a holder's personal investment circumstances. This summarized tax information is not tax advice.

***Nonstatutory Stock Options.*** For federal income tax purposes, if an optionee is granted an NSO under the Equity Incentive Plan, the optionee will not have taxable income on the grant of the option, nor will we be entitled to any deduction. Generally, upon exercise of NSOs, the optionee will recognize ordinary income, and we will be entitled to a deduction, in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of a share of our Common Stock over the option exercise price on the date each such option is exercised. The optionee's basis for the stock for purposes of determining gain or loss on subsequent disposition of such shares generally will be the fair market value of our Common Stock on the date the optionee exercises such option. Any subsequent gain or loss will be generally taxable as capital gains or losses.

**Incentive Stock Options.** There is no taxable income to an optionee when an optionee is granted an ISO or when that option is exercised. However, the amount by which the fair market value of the shares at the time of exercise exceeds the option price will be an “item of adjustment” for the optionee for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. Gain realized by the optionee on the sale of an ISO is taxable at capital gains rates, and no tax deduction is available to us, unless the optionee disposes of the shares within (a) two years after the date of grant of the option or (b) within one year of the date the shares were transferred to the optionee. If the shares acquired upon exercise of the ISO are sold or otherwise disposed of before the end of the two-year and one-year periods specified above, the excess of the fair market value of a share of our Common Stock over the option exercise price on the date of the option’s exercise will be taxed at ordinary income rates (or, if less, the gain on the sale), and we will be entitled to a deduction to the extent the optionee must recognize ordinary income. If such a sale or disposition takes place in the year in which the optionee exercises the option, the income the optionee recognizes upon sale or disposition of the shares will not be considered an item of adjustment for alternative minimum tax purposes.

An ISO exercised more than three months after an optionee terminates employment, for reasons other than death or disability, will be taxed as an NSO, and the optionee will recognize ordinary income on the exercise. We will be entitled to a tax deduction equal to the ordinary income, if any, realized by the optionee.

**Restricted Stock.** An individual to whom restricted stock is issued generally will not recognize taxable income upon such issuance, and we generally will not then be entitled to a deduction, unless an election is made by the participant under Section 83(b) of the Code (“Section 83(b”). However, when restrictions on shares of restricted stock lapse, such that the shares are no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, the individual generally will recognize ordinary income, and we generally will be entitled to a deduction for an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares at the date such restrictions lapse over the purchase price. If a timely election is made under Section 83(b) with respect to restricted stock, the participant generally will recognize ordinary income on the date of the issuance equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the shares at that date over the purchase price of such shares, and we will be entitled to a deduction for the same amount.

**Stock Appreciation Rights.** A participant will not be taxed upon the grant of a stock appreciation right. Upon the exercise of the stock appreciation right, the participant will recognize ordinary income equal to the amount of cash or the fair market value of the stock received upon exercise. At the time of exercise, we will be eligible for a tax deduction as a compensation expense equal to the amount that the participant recognizes as ordinary income.

**Performance Awards and Other Stock Awards.** The participant will have ordinary income upon receipt of stock or cash payable under performance awards, dividend equivalents, restricted stock units and stock payments. We will be eligible for a tax deduction as a compensation expense equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant.

**Section 162(m) of the Code.** Section 162(m) of the Code generally limits to \$1.0 million the amount of compensation that we may deduct in any calendar year for certain current and former executive officers. For grants under the Equity Incentive Plan, we will not be able to take a deduction for any compensation in excess of \$1.0 million that is paid to a covered officer.

**Requirements of Section 409A of the Code.** Certain awards under the Equity Incentive Plan may be considered “nonqualified deferred compensation” for purposes of Section 409A of the Code (“Section 409A”), which imposes certain requirements on compensation that is deemed under Section 409A to involve nonqualified deferred compensation. Among other things, the requirements relate to the timing of elections to defer, the timing of distributions and prohibitions on the acceleration of distributions. Failure to comply with these requirements (or an exception from such requirements) may result in the immediate taxation of all amounts deferred under the nonqualified deferred compensation plan for the taxable year and all preceding taxable years, by or for any participant with respect to whom the failure relates, the imposition of an additional 20% income tax on the participant for the amounts required to be included in gross income and the possible imposition of penalty interest on the unpaid tax. Generally, Section 409A does not apply to incentive awards that are paid at the time the award vests. Likewise, Section 409A typically does not apply to restricted stock. Section 409A may,

## [Table of Contents](#)

however, apply to incentive awards the payment of which is delayed beyond the calendar year in which the award vests. Treasury regulations generally provide that the type of awards provided under the Equity Incentive Plan will not be considered nonqualified deferred compensation. However, to the extent that Section 409A applies to an award issued under the Equity Incentive Plan, the Equity Incentive Plan and all such awards will, to the extent practicable, be construed in accordance with Section 409A. Under the Equity Incentive Plan, the administrator has the discretion to grant or to unilaterally modify any award issued under the Equity Incentive Plan in a manner that conforms with the requirements of Section 409A with respect to deferred compensation or voids any participant election to the extent it would violate Section 409A. The administrator also has sole discretion to interpret the requirements of the Code, including Section 409A, for purposes of the Equity Incentive Plan and all awards issued under the Equity Incentive Plan.

### **New Plan Benefits**

Future awards, if any, that will be made to eligible persons under the Equity Incentive Plan are subject to the discretion of the administrator and, therefore, we cannot currently determine the benefits or number of shares of our Common Stock subject to awards that may be granted in the future to our employees, directors and consultants under the Equity Incentive Plan. No awards have been granted that are contingent on the approval of the Plan Amendment.

For illustrative purposes only, the following table sets forth (i) the aggregate number of shares subject to options granted under the Equity Incentive Plan since the closing of the Business Combination, when such plan became effective, to our named executive officers, to all current executive officers, as a group, to all directors who are not executive officers, as a group, and to all employees who are not executive officers, as a group (even if not currently outstanding) and (ii) the weighted-average per share exercise price of such options.

<b>Name of Individual or Group and Position</b>	<b>Number of Shares Subject to Options</b>	<b>Weighted-Average Per Share Exercise Price (\$)</b>
Jaisim Shah <i>Chief Executive Officer, President and Director</i>	1,700,000	\$ 8.08
Henry Ji, Ph.D. <i>Executive Chairperson</i>	9,000,000	\$ 8.08
Elizabeth Czerepak <i>Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary</i>	350,000	\$ 8.08
All current executive officers, as a group (3 persons)	11,050,000	\$ 8.08
All current directors who are not current executive officers, as a group (5 persons)	1,250,000	\$ 8.08
All employees who are not current executive officers, as a group (approximately 93 persons as of March 1, 2023)	2,495,000	\$ 8.08

### **Vote Required**

The approval of the Plan Amendment requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of our Common Stock and Series A Preferred Stock present by remote communication or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon. Stockholder abstentions will not have any effect on the outcome of this proposal, so long as a quorum exists. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE “FOR” THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY 2022 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN TO**

**(I) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER BY 10,000,000 SHARES TO 30,276,666 SHARES, (II) INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO 30,276,666 SHARES, AND (III) MODIFY THE COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SHARES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE THEREUNDER PURSUANT TO THE EXERCISE OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS TO JANUARY 1, 2024.**

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table identifies certain information about our executive officers as of March 1, 2023. Each of our executive officers is appointed by, and serves at the discretion of, our Board and holds office until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified or until his or her earlier resignation or removal.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position(s)</u>
Jaisim Shah	62	Chief Executive Officer, President and Director
Henry Ji, Ph.D.	58	Executive Chairperson and Director
Elizabeth A. Czepak	67	Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary

### *Executive Officers*

**Jaisim Shah.** Please see the section titled “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance Continuing Directors” above for Mr. Shah’s biography.

**Henry Ji, Ph.D.** Please see the section titled “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance Continuing Directors” above for Dr. Ji’s biography.

**Elizabeth A. Czepak.** Ms. Czepak has served as our Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary since November 10, 2022. From May 2022 to November 10, 2022, she served as Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Legacy Scilex. Since May 2022, she has served as Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Sorrento. She served on the board of directors of Legacy Scilex from September 2019 to October 2020 and on the board of directors of Sorrento from October 2021 to May 2022. Ms. Czepak has over 35 years of experience in big pharma, biotechnology and venture capital. From September 2020 to May 2022, she served as the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of BeyondSpring Inc., a public global biopharmaceutical company that develops innovative immuno-oncology cancer therapies. From May 2018 to January 2020, Ms. Czepak served as the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Business Officer of Genevant Sciences, Inc., a lipid nanoparticle delivery company. From 2015 to 2018, she served as the Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President of Corporate Development of Altimmune, Inc., a public clinical stage vaccines company, and from 2014 to 2015, she served as the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Business Officer of Isarna Therapeutics Inc., which developed TGF-beta inhibitors for cancer, ophthalmic and fibrotic diseases. From 2011 to 2014, Ms. Czepak served as the Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, Principal Accounting Officer and Head of Human Resources at Cancer Genetics, Inc., a public, commercial stage molecular diagnostics company. Prior to that, she served as a Managing Director at JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Bear, Stearns & Co. and Founding General Partner of Bear Stearns Health Innoventures L.P., a venture capital fund, and was an NASD (now FINRA) Registered Representative (Series 7 and Series 63). Since February 2020, Ms. Czepak has served as a director and chair of the audit committee of Delcath Systems, Inc., a public interventional oncology company focused on the treatment of liver and ocular cancer. Ms. Czepak previously served on the board of directors of Spectrum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. from June 2019 to December 2020. She holds a B.A. magna cum laude in Spanish and Mathematics Education from Marshall University and an MBA from Rutgers University. In 2020, Ms. Czepak earned a Corporate Director Certificate from Harvard Business School.

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION****Overview****Vickers Executive Officers and Director Compensation Prior to Completion of the Business Combination**

Prior to the closing of the Business Combination, none of Vickers’s executive officers or directors received any cash compensation for services rendered to Vickers.

**Scilex and Current Executive Compensation**

To achieve our goals, we have designed, and intend to modify as necessary, our compensation and benefits programs to attract, retain, incentivize and reward deeply talented and qualified executives who share our philosophy and desire to work towards achieving our goals. We believe our compensation programs should promote the success of the Company and align executive incentives with the long-term interests of our stockholders. This section provides an overview of the material components of our executive compensation programs, including a narrative description of the material factors necessary to understand the information disclosed in the summary compensation table below. The following is a discussion and analysis of the material components of the compensation arrangements of Scilex’s named executive officers in 2022. As an “emerging growth company” as defined in the JOBS Act, we are not required to include a Compensation Discussion and Analysis section and have elected to comply with the scaled disclosure requirements applicable to emerging growth companies.

Our Board or the Compensation Committee, with input from our Executive Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, historically determined the compensation for Scilex’s named executive officers. Our named executive officers for the year ended December 31, 2022, were Jaisim Shah, our Chief Executive Officer and President, Henry Ji, our Executive Chairperson, and Elizabeth Czerepak, our Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary.

**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the compensation paid or accrued to Scilex’s named executive officers for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021:

<b>Name and Principal Position</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Salary (\$)</b>	<b>Bonus (\$)</b>	<b>Stock Awards (\$)</b>	<b>Option Awards (\$)</b>	<b>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)</b>	<b>Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)</b>	<b>All Other Compensation (\$)</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
<b>Jaisim Shah</b>	2022	773,298	—	—	—	—	—	12,435 <sup>(1)</sup>	785,733
<i>Chief Executive Officer, President and Director</i>	2021	579,280	290,509 <sup>(2)</sup>	—	—	—	—	11,600 <sup>(1)</sup>	881,389
<b>Henry Ji, Ph.D.</b>	2022	626,548	—	—	—	—	—	—	626,548
<i>Executive Chairperson</i>									
<b>Elizabeth Czerepak</b>	2022	172,917	50,000 <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	222,917
<i>Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary</i>									

(1) Represents matching contributions made to Mr. Shah under the Company’s 401(k) plan.

(2) Represents discretionary bonus amount awarded to Mr. Shah by the board of directors of Legacy Scilex.

(3) Represents a signing bonus awarded to Ms. Czerepak in connection with her becoming our Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary.

## **Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table**

### ***Arrangements with Executive Officers***

Scilex has entered into an offer letter with each of Mr. Shah and Ms. Czerepak. The material terms of the offer letters are described below.

#### ***Shah Offer Letter and Compensation***

Scilex entered into an offer letter with Mr. Shah (the “Shah Offer Letter”), dated April 19, 2019, pursuant to which Mr. Shah serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Scilex Pharma. Under the Shah Offer Letter, Mr. Shah’s annual base salary was initially set at \$407,925, which was increased to \$579,280 in 2020 and to \$792,000 on November 11, 2022 (but became effective as of March 17, 2022). Mr. Shah’s employment with Scilex is at-will, and either Scilex or Mr. Shah may terminate the terms and conditions of the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause and with or without notice.

On June 6, 2019, Scilex issued to Mr. Shah an option to purchase 8,126,836 shares of Common Stock, with an exercise price equal to \$1.73 per share, whereby 25% of the shares vested on March 18, 2020, and 1/48th of the total amount of the shares vested and shall vest each month thereafter, subject to Mr. Shah providing continuous service (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) on each such vesting date, inclusive. On December 21, 2020, Scilex issued to Mr. Shah an additional option to purchase 1,626,497 shares of Common Stock, with an exercise price equal to \$1.73 per share, whereby 25% of the shares vested on December 21, 2021, and 1/48th of the total amount of the shares vested and shall vest each month thereafter, subject to Mr. Shah providing continuous service (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) on each such vesting date, inclusive. The foregoing number of shares and exercise prices for Mr. Shah’s options reflect the application of the Exchange Ratio in the Business Combination. Each of the foregoing options also vest in full if there is a Change in Control (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) and Mr. Shah’s continuous service terminates due to an involuntary termination of employment without “cause” or due to a voluntary termination of employment with “good reason” (each, as defined in the applicable option agreement) within 13 months after the effective time of such Change in Control.

#### ***Ji Compensation***

Scilex has not entered into an offer letter or employment agreement in connection with Dr. Ji’s service as our Executive Chairperson. On November 11, 2022, our Compensation Committee approved Dr. Ji’s annual base salary of \$792,000 and bonus of \$554,400, effective as of March 17, 2022.

On September 20, 2019, Scilex issued to Dr. Ji, in connection with his service as a director, an option to purchase 2,031,708 shares of Common Stock, with an exercise price equal to \$1.73 per share, whereby 25% of the shares vested on March 18, 2020, and 1/48th of the total amount of the shares vested and shall vest each month thereafter, subject to Dr. Ji providing continuous service (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) on each such vesting date, inclusive. The foregoing number of shares and exercise price for Dr. Ji’s option reflects the application of the Exchange Ratio in the Business Combination. Each of the foregoing options also vest in full if there is a Change in Control (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) and Dr. Ji’s continuous service terminates due to an involuntary termination of employment without “cause” or due to a voluntary termination of employment with “good reason” (each, as defined in the applicable option agreement) within 13 months after the effective time of such Change in Control.

#### ***Czerepak Offer Letter and Compensation***

Scilex entered into an offer letter with Ms. Czerepak (the “Czerepak Offer Letter”), dated April 27, 2022, pursuant to which Ms. Czerepak serves as our Executive Vice President, Chief Business Officer, and Chief Financial Officer. Under the Czerepak Offer Letter, Ms. Czerepak’s annual base salary is \$300,000 and she was awarded a \$50,000 signing bonus. Following the closing of the Business Combination and Scilex’s filing of a



## [Table of Contents](#)

Registration Statement on Form S-8, subject to the Board's approval, Scilex shall grant Ms. Czerepak an incentive stock option to purchase 350,000 shares of Common Stock, which shall vest over a four year period, whereby 1/4th of the shares subject to the option shall vest on the date that is one year after the vesting commencement date and an additional 1/48th of the shares subject to the option shall vest on the same date of each month thereafter, subject to Ms. Czerepak providing continuous service (as defined in the equity incentive plan pursuant to which the option will be granted) on each such vesting date, inclusive. In addition, all of the shares subject to the option will vest upon the occurrence of a change in control (as defined in the Equity Incentive Plan) that occurs prior to the termination of her continuous service. Ms. Czerepak's employment with Scilex is at-will, and either Scilex or Ms. Czerepak may terminate the terms and conditions of the employment relationship at any time, with or without cause and with or without notice. However, if Scilex terminates Ms. Czerepak's employment other than for cause or Ms. Czerepak resigns from her employment with Scilex for good reason (each, as defined in the Czerepak Offer Letter), subject to Ms. Czerepak's execution and delivery of a release of claims in a form prescribed by Scilex, and so long as Ms. Czerepak has not been offered a full-time position at Sorrento with a base salary and annual bonus potential of not less than the combined base salary and target bonus she received from both Scilex and Sorrento, if any, as of immediately prior to the termination of her employment, Scilex will continue to pay Ms. Czerepak her base salary for a period of twelve months.

On October 14, 2019, Scilex issued to Ms. Czerepak, in connection with her service as a director, an option to purchase 404,098 shares of Common Stock, with an exercise price equal to \$1.73 per share, whereby 1/48th of the shares vested on October 23, 2019, and 1/48th of the total amount of the shares vested and shall vest each month thereafter, subject to Ms. Czerepak providing continuous service (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) on each such vesting date, inclusive. The foregoing number of shares and exercise price for Ms. Czerepak's option reflects the application of the Exchange Ratio in the Business Combination. Each of the foregoing options also vest in full if there is a Change in Control (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan) and Ms. Czerepak's continuous service terminates due to an involuntary termination of employment without "cause" or due to a voluntary termination of employment with "good reason" (each, as defined in the applicable option agreement) within 13 months after the effective time of such Change in Control.

### ***Additional Arrangements with Executive Officers***

Based upon the information provided by Compensia, a national compensation consulting firm engaged by our Compensation Committee to review and advise on our compensation practices, on November 11, 2022, our Compensation Committee approved the following base salaries and target bonuses (on terms and conditions determined by our Board) of our executive officers, effective as of March 17, 2022. No bonuses were awarded to our named executive officers for 2022:

	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Target Bonus</u>
Henry Ji, Ph.D.	\$792,000	70%
Jaisim Shah	\$792,000	70%
Elizabeth Czerepak	\$300,000	50%

In connection with the filing of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 with respect to the 2022 Equity Incentive Plan, our Board approved the following stock option grants thereunder, subject to the continued service of the individuals:

	<u>Stock Options</u>
Henry Ji, Ph.D.	9,000,000
Jaisim Shah	1,700,000
Elizabeth Czerepak	350,000

### Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

During the year ended December 31, 2022, Scilex did not have any arrangement with any of its named executive officers providing for potential payments, compensation or other benefits upon termination or the occurrence of a change of control, other than the severance provision for Ms. Czerepak and the accelerated vesting provisions pursuant to previously granted options as described above.

### Perquisites, Health, Welfare and Retirement Benefits

Our executive officers, during their employment with us, are eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans, including our medical, vision and dental insurance plans, in each case on the same basis as all of our other employees. We generally do not provide perquisites or personal benefits to our named executive officers, except in limited circumstances. We do, however, pay the premiums for medical, vision and dental insurance for all of our employees, including our named executive officers. Our Board may elect to adopt qualified or nonqualified benefit plans in the future if it determines that doing so is in our best interests.

### Pension Benefits and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

We maintain a defined contribution 401(k) plan available to eligible employees, which is administered by Sorrento. Employee contributions are voluntary and are determined on an individual basis, limited to the maximum amount allowable under federal tax regulations. We made matching contributions to the 401(k) plan totaling \$0.3 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

Mr. Shah participates in our tax-qualified Section 401(k) plan and we provide a 4% matching contribution up to an annual compensation limit (\$305,000 in 2022).

We do not provide any other pension plan for our employees, and none of Scilex’s named executive officers participated in a nonqualified deferred compensation plan during the year ended December 31, 2022.

### Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End 2022

The following table presents certain information concerning outstanding equity awards held by each of Scilex’s named executive officers as of December 31, 2022. Following the Business Combination, each outstanding equity award with respect to our Common Stock reflected in the table below was equitably adjusted in accordance with the terms of the Merger Agreement and the 2019 Stock Option Plan.

Name	Option Grant Date	Vesting Commencement Date	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Option Awards <sup>(1)(2)</sup>		Option Expiration Date
				Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price Per Share (\$)	
Jaisim Shah	6/6/2019	3/18/2019 <sup>(3)</sup>	7,618,908	507,928	\$ 1.73	6/6/2029
	12/21/2020	12/21/2020 <sup>(3)</sup>	813,248	813,249	\$ 1.73	12/21/2030
Henry Ji, Ph.D.	9/20/2019	3/18/2019 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,904,726	126,982	\$ 1.73	9/20/2029
Elizabeth Czerepak	10/14/2019	10/23/2019 <sup>(4)</sup>	328,330	75,768	\$ 1.73	10/14/2029

(1) Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, effective as of the closing of the Business Combination on November 10, 2022, outstanding equity awards were adjusted as follows: (i) each option to purchase Legacy Scilex common stock that was outstanding as of immediately prior to the Effective Time was converted into the right to receive an option relating to our Common Stock upon substantially the same terms and conditions as were in effect with respect to such option immediately prior to the Effective Time (the “Option”) except that (x) such Option relates to that whole number of shares of our Common Stock

## [Table of Contents](#)

(rounded down to the nearest whole share) equal to the number of Legacy Scilex common stock subject to such Option, multiplied by the Exchange Ratio of 0.673498:1, and (y) the exercise price per share for each such share of our Common Stock equals the exercise price per share of such Option in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time, divided by the Exchange Ratio (rounded up to the nearest whole cent). The numbers in the table reflect the share numbers outstanding and exercise prices as of December 31, 2022, in each case after giving effect to the Exchange Ratio.

- (2) Each option was granted under the 2019 Stock Option Plan.
- (3) Each option vested as to 1/4th of the shares subject to the option on the one-year anniversary of the vesting commencement date and 1/48th of the shares subject to the option vested and shall vest on each monthly anniversary thereafter, subject to full acceleration in the event of an involuntary termination of employment without “cause” or due to a voluntary termination of employment with “good reason” (each, as defined in the applicable option agreement) within 13 months following a Change in Control (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan).
- (4) This option vested and shall vest as to 1/48th of the shares subject to the option on each monthly anniversary commencing on October 23, 2019, subject to full acceleration in the event of an involuntary termination of employment without “cause” or due to a voluntary termination of employment with “good reason” (each, as defined in the applicable option agreement) within 13 months following a Change in Control (as defined in the 2019 Stock Option Plan).

## EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

As of December 31, 2022, the Equity Incentive Plan and the Company’s 2022 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “ESPP”) were the only compensation plans under which securities of the Company were authorized for future grant. Each of the Equity Incentive Plan and the ESPP were approved by our stockholders. In March 2019, the 2017 Scilex Pharmaceuticals Inc. Equity Incentive Plan (the “Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan”), which was adopted by the board of directors and stockholders of Scilex Pharma on June 26, 2017, and amended and restated on July 5, 2018, terminated in connection with a corporate reorganization that was effected in March 2019. However, the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan continues to govern awards outstanding thereunder. Additionally, the 2019 Stock Option Plan, which was adopted by the board of directors and stockholders of Legacy Scilex on May 28, 2019 and June 24, 2019, respectively, and amended on December 21, 2020, terminated at the closing of the Business Combination. However, the 2019 Stock Option Plan continues to govern awards outstanding thereunder. On January 17, 2023, the Compensation Committee adopted the Inducement Plan. The Inducement Plan has not been approved by our stockholders.

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2022 with respect to the Company’s existing and predecessor plans, excluding the Inducement Plan which was adopted after December 31, 2022.

<u>Plan Category</u>	<u>(a) Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</u>	<u>(b) Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights</u>	<u>(c) Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a))</u>
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders <sup>(1)</sup>	16,939,379	\$ 1.68 <sup>(2)</sup>	16,084,983 <sup>(3)(4)</sup>
Equity compensation plans not approved by stockholders	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,939,379</b>	<b>\$ 1.68<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>16,084,983<sup>(3)(4)</sup></b>

(1) Includes the following plans: the Equity Incentive Plan, the ESPP, the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan and the 2019 Stock Option Plan.

(2) Amount is based on the weighted-average exercise price of vested and unvested stock options outstanding under the Equity Incentive Plan, the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan and the 2019 Stock Option Plan.

(3) As of December 31, 2022, a total of 14,622,712 shares of our Common Stock were reserved for issuance pursuant to the Equity Incentive Plan, the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan and the 2019 Stock Option Plan, which number excludes the 5,653,954 shares that were added to the Equity Incentive Plan as a result of the automatic annual increase on January 1, 2023. The Equity Incentive Plan provides that the number of shares of our Common Stock reserved and available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan will automatically increase on January 1 of each year for a period of ten years, beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (A) 4% of the total number of shares of our Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the immediately preceding year, (B) 7,311,356 shares of our Common Stock (subject to the adjustment for recapitalizations, stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions), and (C) such number of shares of our Common Stock determined by our Board or our Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year. All of the foregoing share numbers are subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split, stock dividend or other change in our capitalization. Shares subject to awards granted under the Equity Incentive Plan that expire or terminate without being exercised in full will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. The settlement of any portion of an award in cash will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. Shares of our Common Stock withheld under an award to satisfy

## [Table of Contents](#)

the exercise, strike or purchase price of an award or to satisfy a tax withholding obligation will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. With respect to a stock appreciation right, only shares of our Common Stock that are issued upon settlement of the stock appreciation right will count towards reducing the number of shares available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. If any shares of our Common Stock issued pursuant to an award are forfeited back to or repurchased or reacquired by us (i) because of a failure to meet a contingency or condition required for the vesting of such shares; (ii) to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price of an award; or (iii) to satisfy a tax withholding obligation in connection with an award, the shares that are forfeited or repurchased or reacquired will revert to and again become available for issuance under the Equity Incentive Plan. The Company no longer makes grants under the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan or the 2019 Stock Option Plan.

- (4) As of December 31, 2022, a total of 1,462,271 shares of our Common Stock have been reserved for issuance pursuant to the ESPP, which number excludes the 1,413,488 shares that were added to the ESPP as a result of the automatic annual increase on January 1, 2023. The ESPP provides that the number of shares of our Common Stock reserved and available for issuance under the ESPP will automatically increase on January 1 of each year for a period of up to ten years, commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (A) 1% of the total number of shares of our Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the immediately preceding calendar year; (B) 1,827,839 shares of our Common Stock (subject to the adjustment for recapitalizations, stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions); and (C) such number of shares of our Common Stock determined by our Board or our Compensation Committee prior to January 1 of a given year, provided however, that our Board may act prior to January 1 of a given calendar year to provide that there will be no increase for such calendar year or the increase for such year will be a lesser number of shares than the amount set forth in clauses (A) to (C) above.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth information regarding the beneficial ownership of our Common Stock as of March 6, 2023 by:

- each person or “group” known to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding Common Stock;
- each of our current executive officers and directors; and
- all of our executive officers and directors as a group.

Beneficial ownership is determined according to the rules of the SEC, which generally provide that a person has beneficial ownership of a security if he, she or it possesses sole or shared voting or investment power over that security, including options and warrants that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days. Shares subject to options and warrants that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of March 6, 2023 are considered outstanding and beneficially owned by the person holding such options or warrants for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of that person, but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.

The beneficial ownership of our Common Stock is based on 145,811,298 shares of such common stock outstanding as of March 6, 2023. Voting power is based on 145,811,298 shares of Common Stock and 29,057,097 shares of Series A Preferred Stock outstanding as of March 6, 2023. Shares of Series A Preferred Stock are held solely by Sorrento.

Unless otherwise indicated, we believe, based on information available to us, that all persons and entities named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner <sup>(1)</sup>	Common Stock		Series A Preferred Stock		
	Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned	% of Total Common Stock	Shares of Series A Preferred Stock Beneficially Owned	% of Total Series A Preferred Stock	% of Total Vote
<b>Directors and Executive Officers</b>					
Jaisim Shah <sup>(2)</sup>	9,294,509	6.0%	—	—	5.0%
Henry Ji, Ph.D. <sup>(3)</sup>	3,197,506	2.2%	—	—	1.8%
Elizabeth Czerepak <sup>(4)</sup>	383,880	*	—	—	*
Tien-Li Lee, M.D. <sup>(5)</sup>	444,704	*	—	—	*
Dorman Followwill <sup>(6)</sup>	15,925	*	—	—	*
Laura J. Hamill	15,625	*	—	—	*
David Lemus	15,625	*	—	—	*
Tommy Thompson	15,625	*	—	—	*
<b>All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (8 individuals)</b>	13,383,399	8.4%	—	—	7.1%
<b>5% Beneficial Owners</b>					
Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc.	66,476,412 <sup>(7)</sup>	44.2%	29,057,097	100%	53.3%

\* Less than 1%.

- (1) Unless otherwise indicated, the business address of each of the following individuals is 4955 Directors Place, San Diego, CA 92121. None of the following individuals own shares of Series A Preferred Stock.
- (2) Represents 9,181,876 shares subject to options exercisable within 60 days of March 6 2023 and 112,633 shares of Common Stock held directly.
- (3) Represents 2,594,208 shares subject to options exercisable within 60 days of March 6 2023 and 603,298 shares of Common Stock held directly.
- (4) Represents 383,880 shares subject to options exercisable within 60 days of March 6 2023.

## [Table of Contents](#)

- (5) Represents 443,295 shares subject to options exercisable within 60 days of March 6 2023 and 1,409 shares of Common Stock held directly.
- (6) Represents 15,625 shares subject to options exercisable within 60 days of March 6, 2023 and 300 shares of Common Stock held directly.
- (7) Represents (a) 61,985,795 shares held following completion of Sorrento's previously announced dividend on January 19, 2023 of shares of our Common Stock then held by Sorrento (of which 2,259,058 shares are being held in abeyance for the benefit of certain holders of warrants to purchase shares of common stock of Sorrento who may be entitled to receive shares of Common Stock pursuant to the terms of the applicable warrants as a result of the previously declared dividend of shares of Common Stock by Sorrento), (b) 3,104,000 shares subject to Private Placement Warrants and (c) 1,386,617 shares subject to Public Warrants exercisable within 60 days of March 6 2023. "Public Warrants" means the redeemable warrants that were included in the Units that entitle the holder of each whole warrant to purchase one Vickers Ordinary Share at a price of \$11.50 per share. "Units" means the units of Vickers, each of which consisted of one Vickers Ordinary Share and one-half of one redeemable warrant upon the consummation of an initial business combination, which units, if not separated into its component securities as of immediately prior to the Effective Time were, without any action on the part of the holder, separated automatically into its component securities, comprised of one share of Common Stock and one-half of one warrant to purchase one share of Common Stock. The business address of Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc. is 4955 Directors Place, San Diego, CA 92121.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following is a summary of transactions since January 1, 2020 and any currently proposed transactions to which Vickers or Legacy Scilex was or is to be a participant in which the amount involved exceeded or will exceed \$120,000, and in which any of Vickers's or Legacy Scilex's directors, executive officers or, to Vickers's or Legacy Scilex's knowledge, beneficial owners of more than 5% of Vickers's or Legacy Scilex's capital stock, or their immediate family members have had or will have a direct or indirect material interest, other than compensation and other arrangements that are described in the section titled "Executive Compensation."

### **Certain Relationships of Vickers**

On July 16, 2020, the Company issued an aggregate of 3,593,750 ordinary shares to an affiliate of the Sponsors for an aggregate purchase price of \$25,000. In August 2020, the affiliate transferred his Founder Shares to the Sponsors for the same price paid for such shares. On October 8, 2020, the Company effected a share capitalization of 0.2 shares for each share outstanding, on December 7, 2020, the Sponsors forfeited 1,437,500 ordinary shares, which were cancelled by the Company, and on January 6, 2021, the Company effected a share capitalization of 0.2 shares for each share outstanding, resulting in 3,450,000 ordinary shares issued and outstanding (the "Founder Shares").

### **Founder Shares**

On July 16, 2020, Vickers issued an aggregate of 3,593,750 Vickers Ordinary Shares to an affiliate of Vickers Venture Fund VI Pte Ltd and Vickers Venture Fund VI (Plan) Pte Ltd (the "Sponsors") for an aggregate purchase price of \$25,000. In August 2020, the affiliate transferred such shares to the Sponsors for the same price paid for such shares. On October 8, 2020, Vickers effected a share capitalization of 0.2 shares for each share outstanding, on December 7, 2020, the Sponsors forfeited 1,437,500 Vickers Ordinary Shares, which were cancelled by Vickers, and on January 6, 2021, Vickers effected a share capitalization of 0.2 shares for each share outstanding, resulting in 3,450,000 Vickers Ordinary Shares issued and outstanding (the "Founder Shares"). All share and per-share amounts have been retroactively restated to reflect the share transactions. The Founder Shares included an aggregate of up to 450,000 shares that were subject to forfeiture depending on the extent to which the underwriters' over-allotment option is exercised, so that the number of founder shares will equal, on an as-converted basis, approximately 20% of the issued and outstanding Vickers Ordinary Shares after the initial public offering of 13,800,000 Units of Vickers consummated on January 11, 2021 (the "IPO"). As a result of the underwriters' election to partially exercise their over-allotment option, no founder shares are currently subject to forfeiture.

The Sponsors have agreed, subject to limited exceptions, not to transfer, assign or sell any of their founder shares until six months after the consummation of the Business Combination or earlier if we consummates a liquidation, merger, share exchange or other similar transaction that results in all of the public shareholders (as defined below) having the right to exchange their Vickers Ordinary Shares for cash, securities or other property. As used in this Proxy Statement, the term (i) "public shareholders" means the holders of the "public shares" (as defined below), which are the Vickers Ordinary Shares sold as part of the IPO, whether they were purchased in the IPO or in the aftermarket, including any of our Initial Shareholders to the extent that they purchase such public shares (except that our Initial Shareholders will not have conversion or tender rights with respect to any public shares they own) and (ii) "public shares" means the Vickers Ordinary Shares which were sold as part of the IPO, whether they were purchased in the IPO or in the aftermarket.

### **Promissory Note**

On July 16, 2020, Vickers issued an unsecured promissory note (the "Unsecured Promissory Note") to an affiliate of the Sponsors, pursuant to which Vickers may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$125,000. The Unsecured Promissory Note is non-interest bearing and payable on the earlier of



## [Table of Contents](#)

(i) December 31, 2020 or (ii) the completion of the IPO. The outstanding balance under the Unsecured Promissory Note of \$125,000 was repaid subsequent to the closing of the IPO on January 14, 2021. Borrowings under the Unsecured Promissory Note are no longer available to Vickers.

### ***Related Party Loans***

On December 20, 2021, the Sponsors loaned Vickers an aggregate of \$500,000 for working capital purposes. On January 10, 2022, the Sponsors deposited an aggregate of \$1,035,000 into the Trust Account (as defined below), to provide Vickers with an additional three months to consummate an initial business combination pursuant to Vickers's Amended and Restated Memorandum and Articles of Association ("Vickers's Charter"). On January 27, 2022, the Sponsors loaned Vickers an additional aggregate principal amount of \$500,000 for working capital purposes. On April 10, 2022, the Sponsors deposited an aggregate of \$1,035,000 into the Trust Account to provide Vickers with an additional three months to consummate an initial business combination pursuant to Vickers's Charter. On June 30, 2022, Vickers's shareholders approved an amendment (the "Extension Amendment") to its amended and restated memorandum and articles of association to (i) extend the date by which Vickers has to consummate an initial business combination from July 11, 2022 (the "Original Termination Date") to August 11, 2022 (the "Extended Date") and (ii) allow Vickers without another shareholder vote, to elect to extend the date to consummate a business combination on a monthly basis for up to five times by an additional one month each time after the Extended Date, upon five days' advance notice prior to the applicable deadlines, until January 11, 2023 or a total of up to nine months after the Original Termination Date (the "Extension Proposal"). Each extension was made on a monthly basis and was conditioned on the deposit into the Trust Account of a payment equal to \$0.0333 per public share outstanding. In connection with the shareholder vote on the Extension Amendment, Vickers was required to provide its shareholders with the right to redeem their public shares. Holders of 4,073,605 public shares elected to redeem their shares at a per share redemption price of \$10.27 thereby reducing the amount in the Trust Account by an aggregate of approximately \$41.8 million. On July 8, 2022, the Sponsors deposited an aggregate of \$323,888.95 into the Trust Account to provide Vickers with an additional calendar month to consummate an initial business combination pursuant to Vickers's Charter. After the redemption of the 4,073,605 public shares, there were 9,726,395 public shares remaining. On each of August 11, 2022, September 9, 2022 and October 10, 2022, the Sponsors deposited an additional payment of \$323,888.95 into the Trust Account to provide Vickers with an additional calendar month to consummate an initial business combination pursuant to Vickers's Charter. The "Trust Account" means the trust account of Vickers that held the proceeds from the IPO and the private placement of the Private Placement Warrants. The "Private Placement Warrants" means the 6,840,000 warrants sold in a private placement to the Sponsors consummated on January 11, 2021 (of which 2,736,000 were forfeited pursuant to that certain Sponsor Support Agreement, dated March 17, 2022, by and among the Initial Shareholders and with Scilex, Inc. (the "Sponsor Support Agreement") and 3,104,000 were transferred to Sorrento pursuant to the Warrant Transfer Agreement (as described below), in each case in connection with the Business Combination).

On October 17, 2022, the Sponsors and Vickers entered into that certain Debt Contribution Agreement (the "Vickers Debt Agreement"), which provides that, effective as of immediately prior to the Effective Time, all of the issued and outstanding loans made by the Sponsors to Vickers prior to such Effective Time shall be contributed by the Sponsors to Vickers in exchange for a number of shares of our Common Stock determined by dividing the aggregate amount of such indebtedness by \$10.00. As of immediately prior to the Effective Time, the outstanding indebtedness was \$5.3 million, which resulted in the issuance of an additional 533,057 shares of our Common Stock to the Sponsors, in accordance with the Vickers Debt Agreement.

### ***Advances from Related Party***

During 2020, an affiliate of the Sponsors advanced Vickers an aggregate of \$30,000 to fund expenses in connection with the IPO. The advances are non-interest bearing and payable upon demand. As of June 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, there were no advances outstanding. The outstanding amount of \$30,000 as of December 31, 2020 was repaid on February 26, 2021.

### ***Administrative Service Fee***

Commencing on the effective date of the registration statement of the IPO through the acquisition of a target business, the Sponsors have provided Vickers with office space and certain office and secretarial services at no cost.

No compensation of any kind, including any finder's fee, reimbursement, consulting fee or monies in respect of any payment of a loan, will be paid by us to the Sponsors, officers and directors, or any of their affiliates, prior to, or in connection with any services rendered in order to effectuate, the consummation of an initial business combination (regardless of the type of transaction that it is). However, these individuals will be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with activities on our behalf such as identifying potential target businesses and performing due diligence on suitable business combinations. Our Audit Committee will review on a quarterly basis all payments that were made to the Sponsors, officers, directors or our or their affiliates and will determine which expenses and the amount of expenses that will be reimbursed. There is no cap or ceiling on the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred by such persons in connection with activities on our behalf.

### ***Stockholder Agreement with Sorrento***

On September 12, 2022, Vickers entered into the Stockholder Agreement with Sorrento.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stockholder Agreement, from and after the Effective Time, and for so long as the Sorrento Group beneficially owns any shares of Series A Preferred Stock, among other things, (i) Sorrento shall have the right, but not the obligation, to designate each director to be nominated, elected or appointed to our Board (each, a "Stockholder Designee" and collectively, the "Stockholder Designees"), regardless of whether such Stockholder Designee is to be elected to our Board at a meeting of stockholders called for the purpose of electing directors (or by consent in lieu of meeting) or appointed by our Board in order to fill any vacancy created by the departure of any director or increase in the authorized number of members of our Board or the size of our Board and (ii) we are required to take all actions reasonably necessary, and not otherwise prohibited by applicable law, to cause each Stockholder Designee to be so nominated, elected or appointed to our Board as more fully described in the Stockholder Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties have agreed that our Board will continue to satisfy all applicable stock exchange requirements applicable to directors, including with respect to director independence. Sorrento also have the right to designate a replacement director for any Stockholder Designee that has been removed from our Board and the right to appoint a representative of Sorrento to attend all meetings of the committees of the Board.

The Stockholder Agreement also provides that we shall not, and shall cause our subsidiaries not to, among others, without the prior written consent of Sorrento: (i) amend, alter, modify or repeal (whether by merger, consolidation, by operation of law or otherwise) any provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation (including the Certificate of Designations of Series A Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on November 10, 2022 (our "Certificate of Designations")) or our Bylaws that increase or decrease the authorized number of directors constituting our Board; (ii) take any action that would have the effect of increasing or decreasing the number of directors constituting our Board; (iii) amend, alter, modify or repeal (whether by merger, consolidation, reclassification, by operation of law or otherwise) any provisions of the respective charters (and any related organizational documents) of any of the committees of our Board; (iv) file any voluntary petition under any applicable federal or state bankruptcy or insolvency law on behalf of us or any of our subsidiaries; (v) (A) incur or permit any of our subsidiaries to incur any indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$10,000,000 (with "principal amount" for purposes of this definition to include undrawn committed or available amounts) or (B) enter into, modify, amend or renew (or permit any of our subsidiaries enter into, modify, amend or renew) any contract or other agreement in respect of indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$10,000,000 (with "principal amount" for purposes of this definition to include undrawn committed or available amounts); (vi) consummate or otherwise enter into any other contract or

## [Table of Contents](#)

agreement to effect any change of control, joint venture or corporate reorganization by the Company or any of our subsidiaries; (vii) declare or pay any dividend or distribution on our Common Stock, other Junior Security (as defined below) or Parity Security (as defined below); or (viii) purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire for consideration by us, directly or indirectly, any Common Stock, other Junior Security or Parity Security (except as necessary to effect (A) a reclassification of any Junior Security for or into other Junior Securities, (B) a reclassification of any Parity Security for or into other Parity Securities with the same or lesser aggregate liquidation preference, (C) a reclassification of any Parity Security into a Junior Security, (D) the exchange or conversion of any Junior Security for or into another Junior Security, (E) the exchange or conversion of any Parity Security for or into another Parity Security with the same or lesser per share liquidation amount, (F) the exchange or conversion of any Parity Security for or into any Junior Security or (G) the settlement of incentive equity awards (including any applicable withholdings and the net exercise of options) in accordance with the terms thereof).

The Stockholder Agreement will terminate and be of no further force and effect upon the earlier of (i) mutual written agreement of the parties thereto and (ii) the date upon which Sorrento (together with its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors and assigns (other than us and our subsidiaries)) ceases to own any shares of Series A Preferred Stock.

The Series A Preferred Stock ranks (i) senior to all of our Common Stock, and to all other classes or series of our capital stock, except for any such other class or series, the terms of which expressly provide that it ranks on parity with the Series A Preferred Stock as to dividend rights and rights on liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Company ("Junior Securities"); and (ii) on parity with each class or series of our capital stock, created specifically ranking by its terms on parity with the Series A Preferred Stock as to dividend rights and rights on liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Company ("Parity Securities").

### ***Warrant Transfer Agreement with Sorrento***

Concurrent with the execution of the Funding Commitment Letter (as described below), Vickers, the Sponsors, Sorrento and Maxim Group LLC, the representative of the underwriters in the IPO ("Maxim") entered into the Warrant Transfer Agreement, dated as of October 17, 2022, pursuant to which, if, prior to the consummation of the Business Combination, the public shareholders had redeemed 50% or more of the public shares as were outstanding as of March 17, 2022, then in addition to the forfeiture of the Private Placement Warrants by the Sponsors contemplated by the Sponsor Support Agreement, the Sponsors would transfer to Sorrento, and Sorrento would acquire all rights, title and interest in and to all or a portion of the Private Placement Warrants (as equitably adjusted from time to time in respect of any change in the outstanding Vickers Ordinary Shares into a different number, class or series, including by reason of any reclassification, recapitalization, share split (including a reverse share split), or combination, exchange, readjustment of shares, or similar transaction, or any share dividend or distribution paid in shares) as determined in accordance with the following schedule:

<b>Redemptions</b>	<b>Number of Private Placement Warrants to be Transferred to Sorrento</b>	<b>Number of Private Placement Warrants to be Retained by Sponsors</b>	<b>Total Private Placement Warrants</b>
90% or greater	3,104,000	1,000,000	4,104,000
85% to 89.99%	2,600,000	1,504,000	4,104,000
75% to 84.99%	2,052,000	2,052,000	4,104,000
50% to 74.99%	3,400,000	3,440,000	6,840,000
Below 50%	—	6,840,000	6,840,000

In connection with the Business Combination, the public shareholders redeemed an aggregate of 8,576,838 Vickers Ordinary Shares, which redeemed shares, together with the shares redeemed in connection with the Extension Proposal, represented an aggregate of 91.67% of the public Vickers Ordinary Shares outstanding as of

## [Table of Contents](#)

March 17, 2022. Accordingly, the Sponsors transferred 3,104,000 Private Placement Warrants to Sorrento pursuant to the Warrant Transfer Agreement and forfeited 2,736,000 Private Placement Warrants pursuant to the Sponsor Support Agreement.

### **Certain Relationships of Legacy Scilex**

#### ***Corporate Reorganization***

On March 18, 2019, Legacy Scilex completed a corporate reorganization. In connection with the corporate reorganization, the existing stockholders of Scilex Pharma exchanged their shares for the same number of newly issued shares of Legacy Scilex common stock, pursuant to a Contribution and Loan Agreement. As a result, Scilex Pharma and Semnur became Legacy Scilex's wholly owned subsidiaries. In connection with the reorganization, each option issued by Scilex Pharma to acquire shares of common stock granted under the Scilex Pharma 2017 Plan was cancelled and substituted for an option to purchase an equivalent number of shares of Legacy Scilex common stock.

#### ***Our Relationship with Sorrento***

Prior to the Business Combination, Legacy Scilex was a majority owned subsidiary of Sorrento. Following the closing of the Business Combination, Sorrento continues to beneficially own a significant percentage of our outstanding Common Stock. In connection with the Business Combination, Legacy Scilex and Sorrento entered into certain agreements that relate to Legacy Scilex's relationship with Sorrento prior to the Business Combination and provides a framework for our ongoing relationship with Sorrento.

On January 1, 2017, Scilex Pharma entered into a transition services agreement (the "TSA") with Sorrento. Pursuant to the TSA, Sorrento agreed to provide, directly or indirectly, certain administrative, financial, legal, tax, insurance, facility, information technology and other services to Scilex Pharma. In addition to the services provided under the TSA, Sorrento retains insurance coverage on behalf of Scilex Pharma. For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the total cost of services and insurance, including an agreed-upon markup, provided to Scilex Pharma was \$4.0 million and \$2.3 million, respectively.

#### ***Itochu and Oishi Product Development Agreement and Commercial Supply Agreement***

We are a party to the Product Development Agreement with Oishi Koseido Co., Ltd. ("Oishi") and Itochu Chemical Frontier Corporation ("Itochu"), who are responsible for supplying ZTlido (lidocaine topical system) 1.8% ("ZTlido") and SP-103 (lidocaine topical system) 5.4%, ("SP-103") for development and commercialization purposes. We are also a party to the Itochu and Oishi Commercial Supply Agreement, pursuant to which Itochu agreed to purchase Products (as defined in the Itochu and Oishi Commercial Supply Agreement) from Oishi and handle the shipping of the Products. As of December 31, 2020, Itochu held approximately 14.7% of Legacy Scilex's outstanding capital stock, representing a noncontrolling interest. Itochu ceased to be a shareholder of Legacy Scilex on January 13, 2021. Its Managing Executive Officer, Kenji Hakoda, served on the board of directors of Legacy Scilex from March 2019 to October 2020. During the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, pursuant to the aforementioned Product Development Agreement and the Itochu and Oishi Commercial Supply Agreement, Legacy Scilex purchased inventory from Itochu in the amount of \$5.7 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, on terms Legacy Scilex considers to be arms' length between the parties.

#### ***Indenture and Letter of Credit***

On September 7, 2018, Scilex Pharma entered into the Purchase Agreements with certain purchasers (the "Purchasers") and Sorrento, which is a beneficial owner of more than 5% of Legacy Scilex's capital stock. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreements, on September 7, 2018, Scilex Pharma, among other things, issued and sold

## Table of Contents

to the Purchasers those certain senior secured notes due 2026 (the “Scilex Pharma Notes”) for an aggregate purchase price of \$140.0 million. The Scilex Pharma Notes are governed by an indenture (as amended, the “Indenture”) with Scilex Pharma, as issuer, U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association, as the Trustee and Collateral Agent, and Sorrento, as guarantor. The Indenture provides that the holders of the Scilex Pharma Notes will be entitled to receive quarterly payments in an amount equal to a fixed percentage, ranging from 15% to 25%, of the net sales of ZTlido for the prior fiscal quarter on each February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15. As security for the Scilex Pharma Notes, Scilex Pharma has granted to the Collateral Agent, for the benefit of the Purchasers, a continuing security interest in and lien on Scilex Pharma’s right, title, and interest in and to ZTlido and all property and assets of Scilex Pharma that are necessary for, or otherwise relevant to, now or in the future, the manufacture and sale of ZTlido, on a worldwide basis (exclusive of Japan). Pursuant to the Indenture, Sorrento agreed to irrevocably and unconditionally guarantee, on a senior unsecured basis, the punctual performance and payment when due of all obligations of Scilex Pharma under the Indenture. Pursuant to the terms of the Indenture, Sorrento issued an irrevocable standby letter of credit to Scilex Pharma (as amended, the “Letter of Credit”) which provides that, in the event that (1) Scilex Pharma does not hold at least \$29.0 million in unrestricted cash (inclusive of cash equivalents in the collateral account) as of any calendar month ending March 31, 2020 through and including the month ending March 31, 2021 or at least \$35.0 million in unrestricted cash (inclusive of cash equivalents in the collateral account) at the end of any calendar month after March 31, 2021, (2) actual cumulative net sales of ZTlido from September 7, 2018 through December 31, 2021 are less than a specified sales threshold for such period, or (3) actual cumulative net sales of ZTlido for any calendar year during the term of the Scilex Pharma Notes, beginning with the 2022 calendar year, are less than a specified sales threshold for such calendar year, Scilex Pharma, as beneficiary of the Letter of Credit, will draw, and Sorrento will pay to Scilex Pharma, \$35.0 million in a single lump-sum amount as a subordinated loan. The Letter of Credit will terminate upon the earliest to occur of: (a) the repayment of the Scilex Pharma Notes in full, (b) the actual net sales of ZTlido for any calendar year during the term of the Scilex Pharma Notes exceeding a certain threshold, (c) the consummation of an initial public offering on a major international stock exchange by us that satisfies certain valuation thresholds, and (d) the replacement of the Letter of Credit with another letter of credit in form and substance, including as to the identity and creditworthiness of issuer, reasonably acceptable to the holders of at least 80% in principal amount of outstanding Scilex Pharma Notes.

On December 14, 2020, the parties entered into a Consent Under and Amendment No. 3 to Indenture and Letter of Credit (“Amendment No. 3”), which amended: (i) the Indenture and (ii) the Letter of Credit.

On December 14, 2020, and in connection with Amendment No. 3, the aggregate \$45.0 million in restricted funds held in previously established reserve and collateral accounts were released and Scilex Pharma utilized such funds to repurchase an aggregate of \$45.0 million in principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes. Scilex Pharma also repurchased an aggregate of \$20.0 million in principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes on December 16, 2020. Pursuant to the foregoing repurchases, the aggregate principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes was reduced by an aggregate of \$65.0 million.

Further related to Amendment No. 3, the Purchasers also consented to Scilex Pharma incurring up to \$10.0 million of indebtedness in connection with an accounts receivable revolving loan facility with another lender and the incurrence of liens and the pledge of collateral to such lender in connection therewith.

Effective February 14, 2022, Scilex Pharma issued to Sorrento a draw notice under the Letter of Credit as required under the terms of the Indenture because actual cumulative net sales of ZTlido from the issue date of the Scilex Pharma Notes through December 31, 2021 were less than a specified sales threshold for such period. As a result of the draw notice being issued, Sorrento paid to Scilex Pharma \$35.0 million in a single lump-sum amount as a subordinated loan. Per the terms of the Amendment No. 3, in February 2022, Scilex Pharma repurchased Scilex Pharma Notes in an aggregate amount equal to \$20.0 million at a purchase price in cash equal to 100% of the principal amount.

## [Table of Contents](#)

Effective February 15, 2022, in accordance with the Indenture, the principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes was increased by \$28.0 million as actual cumulative net sales of ZTlido from the issue date of the Scilex Pharma Notes through December 31, 2021 did not equal or exceed a \$481.0 million sales threshold for such period.

On June 2, 2022, Sorrento and Scilex Pharma entered into a Consent Under and Amendment No. 4 to Indenture (“Amendment No. 4”) with the Trustee, Collateral Agent, and the Purchasers, which amended the Indenture. Pursuant to Amendment No. 4, (1) on June 3, 2022, Scilex Pharma repurchased approximately \$41.4 million of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Scilex Pharma Notes at 100% of the principal amount thereof (the “Repurchase”), (2) the Purchasers agreed that Scilex Pharma can repurchase the remaining principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes at any time on or before September 30, 2022 for \$41.4 million (subject to reduction for any quarterly royalty payments) and upon such repurchase the Purchasers will forgive and discharge \$28.0 million of the aggregate principal amount of the Scilex Pharma Notes, and (3) the minimum cash requirement under the Indenture was reduced to \$5.0 million in aggregate unrestricted cash equivalents at the end of each calendar month. Scilex Pharma funded the Repurchase with cash-on-hand and \$15.0 million received from Sorrento on June 2, 2022. We paid off all the amounts outstanding under the Scilex Pharma Notes as of immediately prior to the closing of the Business Combination, which payment was funded by Sorrento and treated as intercompany debt in exchange for Series A Preferred Stock pursuant to the terms of the Debt Exchange Agreement described below.

On September 28, 2022, we repurchased the remaining outstanding principal balance of the Scilex Pharma Notes with cash-on-hand and \$34.0 million received from Sorrento.

### ***Oaktree Guaranty***

On November 7, 2018, Sorrento and certain of its domestic subsidiaries entered into a Term Loan Agreement, as amended on May 3, 2019 and December 6, 2019 (as amended, the “Oaktree Loan Agreement”) with certain funds and accounts managed by Oaktree Capital Management, L.P. and Oaktree Fund Administration, LLC, as administrative and collateral agent, for an initial term loan of \$100.0 million and a delayed draw term loan of \$20.0 million that was provided to Sorrento on May 3, 2019. On April 12, 2019, Legacy Scilex and Semnur entered into a Joinder Agreement to the Oaktree Loan Agreement whereby each entity became a guarantor under the Oaktree Loan Agreement and pledged all of their respective assets (other than equity of Scilex Pharma) as collateral for the loans made to Sorrento under the Oaktree Loan Agreement. All obligations owed under the Oaktree Loan Agreement were paid off in full on June 12, 2020 and both Legacy Scilex and Semnur ceased to be a guarantor under the Oaktree Loan Agreement as of such date.

### ***Intercompany Promissory Note and Sale of Shares to Sorrento***

On October 5, 2018, Scilex Pharma issued to Sorrento an intercompany promissory note in the amount of approximately \$21.7 million for certain amounts previously advanced to Scilex Pharma by Sorrento (the “Intercompany Note”). On October 22, 2018, Sorrento purchased from Legacy Scilex 24,117,608 shares of Legacy Scilex common stock in exchange for the cancellation of \$21.7 million of indebtedness under the Intercompany Note. During 2021 and 2020, Sorrento made advances to Scilex Pharma in the amount of \$8.1 million and \$10.3 million, respectively, under the Intercompany Note. As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the outstanding principal balance under the Intercompany Note was approximately \$23.5 million and \$15.4 million, respectively. In connection with Amendment No. 4 to the Indenture, the maximum aggregate principal amount of the Intercompany Note was increased from up to \$25.0 million to up to \$50.0 million. As of immediately prior to the closing of the Business Combination, the outstanding principal balance under the Intercompany Note was \$23.5 million, which amount was treated as Outstanding Indebtedness (as defined in the Debt Exchange Agreement discussed below) and contributed to Legacy Scilex in exchange for preferred stock as more fully described below.

***Note Payable to Sorrento***

On March 18, 2019, Legacy Scilex entered into a note payable with Sorrento with an initial principal amount of \$16.5 million (the “Note Payable”). Legacy Scilex may borrow up to an aggregate of \$20.0 million of principal amount under the Note Payable. The Note Payable is interest bearing at the lesser of (i) 10% simple interest per annum, and (ii) the maximum interest rate permitted under law. Interest is due and payable annually. The Note Payable is payable upon demand and may be prepaid in whole or in part at any time without penalty or premium. The outstanding principal balance of the Note Payable as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 was \$19.6 million and \$13.0 million, respectively. Accrued interest of \$3.9 million and \$2.6 million was recognized under related party payable in Legacy Scilex’s consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. During the six months ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, Sorrento made advances to Legacy Scilex in the amount of \$27.5 million and \$0, respectively, under the Note Payable. The outstanding principal balance of the Note Payable on June 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021 was \$47.1 million and \$19.6 million, respectively, which was recorded under the current related party note payable in Legacy Scilex’s consolidated balance sheets. As of June 30, 2022 and December 31, 2021, Legacy Scilex had ending balances resulting from the accrued interest on the Note Payable of \$5.6 million and \$3.9 million, respectively, which was recorded under the related party payable in Legacy Scilex’s consolidated balance sheets. The proceeds from the Note Payable were used to finance the acquisition of Semnur and to finance Legacy Scilex’s operations. As of immediately prior to the closing of the Business Combination, the outstanding principal balance under the Note Payable was \$54.3 million, which amount was treated as Outstanding Indebtedness (as defined in the Debt Exchange Agreement discussed below) and contributed to Legacy Scilex in exchange for preferred stock as more fully described below.

***Debt Exchange Agreement and Related Matters***

On September 12, 2022, Legacy Scilex and Scilex Pharma entered into a Contribution and Satisfaction of Indebtedness Agreement with Sorrento (the “Debt Exchange Agreement”), pursuant to which (i) Sorrento shall contribute to Legacy Scilex all amounts (including accrued interest thereon, if any) for certain loans and other amounts provided by Sorrento to Legacy Scilex and Scilex Pharma that remain outstanding as of immediately prior to the closing of the Business Combination (the “Aggregate Outstanding Amount” or “Outstanding Indebtedness”), including with respect to the Scilex Pharma Notes, the Intercompany Note, and the other notes payable to Sorrento described above, in exchange for the issuance by Legacy Scilex to Sorrento of preferred stock of Legacy Scilex, (ii) Legacy Scilex shall contribute to Scilex Pharma the portion of such Outstanding Indebtedness that is owed by Scilex Pharma to Sorrento as a contribution of capital for no consideration, and (iii) upon the occurrence of the events described in clauses (i) and (ii), the Aggregate Outstanding Amount and the Outstanding Indebtedness shall be satisfied in full.

Pursuant to the terms of the Debt Exchange Agreement effective as of immediately prior to, and contingent upon, the closing of the Business Combination, Sorrento has elected to contribute the Outstanding Indebtedness to Legacy Scilex in exchange for the issuance by Legacy Scilex to Sorrento of that number of shares of Legacy Scilex preferred stock (subject to adjustment for recapitalizations, stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions) (the “Exchange Shares” and such transaction, the “Debt Contribution”) that is equal to (i) the Aggregate Outstanding Amount plus the amount equal to 10% of the Aggregate Outstanding Amount divided by (ii) \$11.00 (rounded up to the nearest whole share); provided, that in no event shall the Aggregate Outstanding Amount exceed \$310,000,000.

On October 17, 2022, Sorrento and Legacy Scilex entered into the Funding Commitment Letter. Pursuant to the terms of the Funding Commitment Letter, upon the written request of Legacy Scilex (which request Legacy Scilex shall make to the extent necessary to satisfy the closing condition in the Merger Agreement that requires the combined company to have \$5,000,001 in net tangible assets as of immediately following the Effective Time) (the “Net Tangible Assets Condition”), Sorrento shall fund one or more loans to Legacy Scilex in the amount set forth in such written request (a “Loan Request”), provided, that any amounts funded by Sorrento in respect of



## [Table of Contents](#)

any Loan Request shall be treated as Outstanding Indebtedness for all purposes under the Debt Exchange Agreement and included in the calculation of the Aggregate Outstanding Amount thereunder. The Funding Commitment Letter also provides that in no event shall the aggregate amount of loans made and funded by Sorrento pursuant to Loan Requests exceed the lesser of (a) \$10,000,000 and (b) an amount that, when taken together with all other Outstanding Indebtedness, will result in the Aggregate Outstanding Amount equaling \$310,000,000. As consideration for the execution of the Funding Commitment Letter, Vickers, the Sponsors, Sorrento and Maxim entered into the Warrant Transfer Agreement, which is more fully described above. No Loan Requests were made under the Funding Commitment Letter.

Prior to the Debt Contribution, Legacy Scilex filed, with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, (i) a Certificate of Amendment to its Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of preferred stock of Legacy Scilex from 20,000,000 to 45,000,000 and (ii) a certificate of designation setting forth the designations, powers, rights and preferences and qualifications, limitations and restrictions of the Exchange Shares. Following the issuance thereof to Sorrento and in connection with the closing of the Business Combination, such shares were converted into the right to receive (i) one share of Series A Preferred Stock and (ii) one-tenth of one share of our Common Stock, which shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall then have the rights set forth in the Certificate of Designations. Sorrento is entitled to the rights set forth in the Stockholder Agreement as a result of Sorrento's ownership thereof.

As of immediately prior to the closing of the Business Combination, the Outstanding Indebtedness (including amounts related to the transfer of certain liabilities to Sorrento and repayment of Scilex Pharma Notes) was \$290,570,964, which was contributed by Sorrento, in accordance with the Debt Exchange Agreement, in exchange for 29,057,097 shares of Legacy Scilex preferred stock, which were in turn converted into the right to receive 29,057,097 shares of Series A Preferred Stock and 2,905,710 shares of our Common Stock.

### ***Shah Investor LP Assignment Agreement***

Legacy Scilex, through Semnur, is a party to the Assignment Agreement with Shah Investor LP, pursuant to which Shah Investor LP assigned Legacy Scilex certain intellectual property and Legacy Scilex agreed to pay Shah Investor LP a contingent quarterly royalty in the low-single digits based on the quarterly net sales of any pharmaceutical formulations for local delivery of steroids by injection developed utilizing such intellectual property, which would include SP-102 (10 mg, dexamethasone sodium phosphate viscous gel) (SEMDEXA). Mahendra Shah, Ph.D., who served on the board of directors of Legacy Scilex from March 2019 to October 2020, is the managing partner of Shah Investor LP.

### ***Acquisition of SP-104 Assets from Sorrento***

In April 2021, Sorrento entered into an asset purchase agreement (the "Aardvark Asset Purchase Agreement") with Aardvark Therapeutics, Inc. ("Aardvark"), pursuant to which, among other things, Sorrento acquired Aardvark's Delayed Burst Release Low Dose Naltrexone (DBR-LDN) asset and intellectual property rights, for the treatment of chronic pain, fibromyalgia and chronic post-COVID syndrome (collectively, the "SP-104 Assets"), which includes a Statement of Work dated November 18, 2020 (the "Tulex Statement of Work"), pursuant to which Tulex Pharmaceuticals Inc. agreed to, among other things, develop, test and manufacture clinical supplies of SP-104 (4.5mg, low-dose naltrexone hydrochloride delayed-release capsules) ("SP-104").

Subsequent to the acquisition, Sorrento designated Legacy Scilex to lead all development efforts related to SP-104 and on May 12, 2022, Legacy Scilex and Sorrento entered into a bill of sale and assignment and assumption agreement, pursuant to which Sorrento sold, conveyed, assigned and transferred to Legacy Scilex all of its rights, title and interest in and to the SP-104 Assets (including PCT/US2021/053645 and all patents and patent applications that claim priority rights thereto) and Legacy Scilex assumed all of Sorrento's rights, liabilities and obligations under the Aardvark Asset Purchase Agreement (the "SP-104 Acquisition").

As consideration for the SP-104 Acquisition, Legacy Scilex issued a promissory note in the aggregate principal amount of \$5,000,000 to Sorrento (the "SP-104 Promissory Note"). The SP-104 Promissory Note matures seven



## [Table of Contents](#)

years from the date of issuance and bears interest at the rate equal to the lesser of (a) 2.66% simple interest per annum and (b) the maximum interest rate permitted under law. The SP-104 Promissory Note is payable in cash, shares of Common Stock (any shares so issued, the “Consideration Shares”) or any combination thereof, at Legacy Scilex’s sole discretion, and may be prepaid in whole or in part at any time without penalty. Legacy Scilex also agreed to file with the SEC, a resale registration statement, relating to the resale by Sorrento of any Consideration Shares that may be issued to Sorrento, within 60 days of the issuance of such Consideration Shares.

As the successor to the Aardvark Asset Purchase Agreement, Legacy Scilex is obligated to pay Aardvark (i) \$3,000,000, upon initial approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of a new drug application for the LDN Formulation (as defined in the Aardvark Asset Purchase Agreement) (which amount may be paid in shares of Common Stock or cash, in Legacy Scilex’s sole discretion) (the “Development Milestone Payment”) and (ii) \$20,000,000, in cash, upon achievement of certain net sales by Legacy Scilex of a commercial product that uses the LDN Formulation (the “Commercial Product”). Legacy Scilex will also pay Aardvark certain royalties in the single digits based on percentages of annual net sales by Legacy Scilex of a commercial product that uses the LDN Formulation. The royalty percentage is subject to reduction in certain circumstances. Royalties are due for so long as Commercial Product is covered by a valid patent in the country of sale or for ten years following the first commercial sale of the Commercial Product, whichever is longer. As of March 1, 2023, none of the foregoing payments have been triggered.

In connection with its acquisition of the SP-104 Assets, Legacy Scilex has agreed that if it issues any shares of Common Stock in respect of the Development Milestone Payment, Legacy Scilex will prepare and file one or more registration statements with the SEC for the purpose of registering for resale such shares and is required to file such registration statement with the SEC within 60 days following the date on which any such shares are issued.

Tien-Li Lee, MD, a member of our Board, is the founder, chief executive officer and a member of the board of directors of Aardvark.

### ***Guaranty of Lease***

On August 8, 2019, Legacy Scilex entered into a new office lease for approximately 6,000 square feet for its executive offices in Palo Alto, California, as amended on September 15, 2019 (the “Lease”). The term of the Lease commenced on September 15, 2019 and will expire on November 30, 2024. We will be obligated to pay an average of approximately \$0.5 million in annual rent over the term of the Lease. In connection with the Lease, on August 8, 2019, Sorrento executed a Guaranty of Lease, guaranteeing the performance of our obligations under the Lease.

### ***Intercompany Receivable***

During the month of December 2022, we paid \$1.8 million of invoices on behalf of Sorrento for legal fees incurred by Sorrento, which was fully reserved in our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022.

### ***Executive Officer and Director Compensation***

Please see the section of this prospectus titled “*Executive and Director Compensation*” for information regarding the compensation of our executive officers and non-employee directors.

### ***Employment Agreements***

We have entered into offer letter agreements with our named executive officers, other than Dr. Ji, that, among other things, provide for certain compensatory and change in control benefits, as well as severance benefits. For descriptions of such agreements, see the section titled “*Executive Compensation*.”

### ***Limitation of Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors***

Please see the section titled “Board of Directors and Corporate Governance — Limitation of Liability and Indemnification of Directors and Officers” for information regarding our arrangements to provide indemnification to our officers and directors.

### ***Business Combination Related Agreements***

Concurrently with the execution of the Merger Agreement, Vickers, Legacy Scilex and Sorrento entered into a Company Stockholder Support Agreement, pursuant to which Sorrento agreed to vote all Legacy Scilex common stock beneficially owned by it, including any additional shares of Legacy Scilex it acquires ownership of or the power to vote, in favor of the Business Combination and related transactions.

On November 10, 2022, in connection with the closing of the Business Combination, Scilex, Sorrento, the Sponsors, and Vickers’s former directors Pei Wei Woo, Suneel Kaji and Steve Myint, entered into the Registration Rights Agreement, whereby, subject to certain exceptions, the parties agreed, among other things, not to transfer any of our Common Stock or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchanged for our Common Stock beneficially owned or owned of record by such holder until the date that is the earlier of (i) one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the Registration Rights Agreement or (ii) the date on which we complete a liquidation, merger, stock exchange, reorganization or other similar transaction that results in all of our stockholders having the right to exchange their shares of our Common Stock for cash, securities or other property. The Registration Rights Agreement governs the registration of certain shares of our Common Stock for resale and includes certain customary demand and “piggy-back” registration rights with respect to shares of our Common Stock held by the parties thereto.

### ***Related Person Transaction Policy***

We have adopted a related person transaction policy that sets forth our procedures for the identification, review, consideration and approval or ratification of related person transactions. For purposes of our policy, a related person transaction is a transaction, arrangement or relationship, or any series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships, in which we and any related person are, were or will be participants in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000. Transactions involving compensation for services provided to us as an employee or director are not covered by this policy. A related person is any executive officer, director or beneficial owner of more than 5% of any class of our voting securities and any of their respective immediate family members and any entity owned or controlled by such persons.

Under the policy, if a transaction has been identified as a related person transaction, including any transaction that was not a related person transaction when originally consummated or any transaction that was not initially identified as a related person transaction prior to consummation, our management must present information regarding the related person transaction to our Audit Committee, or, if audit committee approval would be inappropriate, to another independent body of our Board, for review, consideration and approval or ratification. The presentation must include a description of, among other things, the material facts, the interests, direct and indirect, of the related persons, the benefits to us of the transaction and whether the transaction is on terms that are comparable to the terms available to or from, as the case may be, an unrelated third party or to or from employees generally. Under the policy, we will collect information that we deem reasonably necessary from each director, executive officer and, to the extent feasible, significant stockholder to enable us to identify any existing or potential related-person transactions and to effectuate the terms of the policy. In addition, under our code of conduct and ethics, our employees and directors have an affirmative responsibility to disclose any transaction or relationship that reasonably could be expected to give rise to a conflict of interest. In considering related person transactions, our Audit Committee, or other independent body of our Board, will take into account the relevant available facts and circumstances including, but not limited to:

- the risks, costs and benefits to us;
- the impact on a director’s independence in the event that the related person is a director, immediate family member of a director or an entity with which a director is affiliated;

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[Table of Contents](#)

- the availability of other sources for comparable services or products; and
- the terms available to or from, as the case may be, unrelated third parties or to or from employees generally.

The policy requires that, in determining whether to approve, ratify or reject a related person transaction, our Audit Committee, or other independent body of our Board, must consider, in light of known circumstances, whether the transaction is in, or is not inconsistent with, our best interests and those of our stockholders, as our Audit Committee, or other independent body of our Board, determines in the good faith exercise of our discretion.

## CHANGE OF CONTROL OF LEGACY SCILEX

Reference is made to the disclosure in Vickers’s definitive proxy statement/prospectus dated October 27, 2022 included in Vickers’s Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-264941), filed with the SEC on October 27, 2022, as amended, in the section titled “*Business Combination Proposal — The Merger Agreement*,” beginning on page 123, which is incorporated herein by reference. Further reference is made to the information set forth under “*Introductory Note*” in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 10, 2022 (File No. 001-39852), filed with the SEC on November 17, 2022, and in the section titled “*Form 10 Information — Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management*” within Item 2.01 in our aforementioned Current Report on Form 8-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## HOUSEHOLDING OF PROXY MATERIALS

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries (e.g., brokers) to satisfy the delivery requirements for proxy materials with respect to two or more stockholders sharing the same address by delivering a single set of proxy materials addressed to those stockholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as “householding,” potentially means extra convenience for stockholders and cost savings for companies.

This year, a number of brokers with account holders who are our stockholders will be “householding” our proxy materials. A single set of proxy materials will be delivered to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected stockholders. Once you have received notice from your broker that they will be “householding” communications to your address, “householding” will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you revoke your consent. If, at any time, you no longer wish to participate in “householding” and would prefer to receive a separate set of proxy materials, please notify your broker, notify our Corporate Secretary at (650) 516-4310 or send a written request to: Corporate Secretary at Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Stockholders who currently receive multiple copies of proxy materials at their addresses and would like to request “householding” of their communications should contact their brokers.

## OTHER MATTERS

### 2022 Annual Report and SEC Filings

Our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 are included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which we will make available to stockholders at the same time as this Proxy Statement. Our Annual Report and this Proxy Statement are posted on our website at [www.scilexholding.com](http://www.scilexholding.com) and are available from the SEC at its website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may also obtain a copy of our Annual Report without charge by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Scilex Holding Company, 960 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

\* \* \*

Our Board does not know of any other matters to be presented at the Annual Meeting. If any additional matters are properly presented at the Annual Meeting, the persons named in the enclosed proxy card will have discretion to vote shares they represent in accordance with their own judgment on such matters.

It is important that your shares be represented at the Annual Meeting, regardless of the number of shares that you hold. You are, therefore, urged to vote by using the Internet as instructed on the enclosed proxy card or execute and return, at your earliest convenience, the enclosed proxy card in the envelope that has also been provided.

### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

/s/ Jaisim Shah

Jaisim Shah

*Chief Executive Officer, President and Director*

**Palo Alto, CA**

**March 8, 2023**

**APPENDIX A**

**SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY  
2022 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN**

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OCTOBER 17, 2022**

**APPROVED BY THE STOCKHOLDERS: NOVEMBER 9, 2022**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2022**

**AS AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON: MARCH 5, 2023**

**1. GENERAL.**

**(a) Plan Purpose.** The Company, by means of the Plan, seeks to secure and retain the services of Employees, Directors and Consultants, to provide incentives for such persons to exert maximum efforts for the success of the Company and any Affiliate and to provide a means by which such persons may be given an opportunity to benefit from increases in value of the Common Stock through the granting of Awards.

**(b) Available Awards.** The Plan provides for the grant of the following Awards: (i) Incentive Stock Options; (ii) Nonstatutory Stock Options; (iii) SARs; (iv) Restricted Stock Awards; (v) RSU Awards; (vi) Performance Awards; and (vii) Other Awards.

**(c) Adoption Date; Effective Date.** The Plan will come into existence on the Adoption Date, but no Award may be granted prior to the Effective Date.

**2. SHARES SUBJECT TO THE PLAN.**

**(a) Share Reserve.** Subject to adjustment in accordance with Section 2(c), any adjustments as necessary to implement any Capitalization Adjustments, and any adjustments as a result of the following sentence regarding the automatic increase, the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to Awards will not exceed 30,276,666 shares (which number is the sum of (x) 14,622,712 shares that were approved in connection with the initial adoption of the Plan on the Effective Date plus (y) 5,653,954 shares previously added to the Plan on January 1, 2023 in accordance with the automatic increase provision set forth in the following sentence plus (z) an additional 10,000,000 shares approved at the Company's 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders) plus a number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of Returning Shares, if any, as such shares become available from time to time. In addition, subject to any adjustments as necessary to implement any Capitalization Adjustments, such aggregate number of shares of Common Stock will automatically increase on January 1 of each year for a period of ten years commencing on January 1, 2023 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) 4% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the preceding year, (ii) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock, and (iii) such number of shares of Common Stock determined by the Board or the Compensation Committee prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of a given year.

**(b) Aggregate Incentive Stock Option Limit.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 2(a) and subject to any adjustments as necessary to implement any Capitalization Adjustments, the aggregate maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of Incentive Stock Options is 30,276,666 shares, which such amount shall be increased commencing on January 1, 2024 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2032, in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) 4% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 of the preceding year, (ii) 7,311,356 shares of Common Stock, and (iii) such number of shares of Common Stock determined by the Board or the Compensation Committee prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of a given year.

**(c) Share Reserve Operation.**

**(i) Limit Applies to Common Stock Issued Pursuant to Awards.** For clarity, the Share Reserve is a limit on the number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to Awards and does not limit the granting of Awards, except that the Company will keep available at all times the number of shares of Common Stock reasonably required to satisfy its obligations to issue shares pursuant to such Awards. Shares may be issued in connection with a merger or acquisition as permitted by, as applicable, Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635(c), NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 303A.08, NYSE American Company Guide Section 711 or other applicable rule, and such issuance will not reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the Plan.

**(ii) Actions that Do Not Constitute Issuance of Common Stock and Do Not Reduce Share Reserve.** The following actions do not result in an issuance of shares under the Plan and accordingly do not reduce the number of shares subject to the Share Reserve and available for issuance under the Plan: (1) the expiration or termination of any portion of an Award without the shares covered by such portion of the Award having been issued, (2) the settlement of any portion of an Award in cash (i.e., the Participant receives cash rather than Common Stock), (3) the withholding of shares that would otherwise be issued by the Company to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price of an Award; or (4) the withholding of shares that would otherwise be issued by the Company to satisfy a tax withholding obligation in connection with an Award. For the avoidance of doubt, with respect to a SAR, only shares of Common Stock which are issued upon settlement of the SAR shall count towards reducing the number of shares available for issuance under the Plan.

**(iii) Reversion of Previously Issued Shares of Common Stock to Share Reserve.** The following shares of Common Stock previously issued pursuant to an Award and accordingly initially deducted from the Share Reserve will be added back to the Share Reserve and again become available for issuance under the Plan: (1) any shares that are forfeited back to or repurchased by the Company because of a failure to meet a contingency or condition required for the vesting of such shares; (2) any shares that are reacquired by the Company to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price of an Award; and (3) any shares that are reacquired by the Company to satisfy a tax withholding obligation in connection with an Award.

**3. ELIGIBILITY AND LIMITATIONS.**

**(a) Eligible Award Recipients.** Subject to the terms of the Plan, Employees, Directors and Consultants are eligible to receive Awards.

**(b) Specific Award Limitations.**

**(i) Limitations on Incentive Stock Option Recipients.** Incentive Stock Options may be granted only to Employees of the Company or a “parent corporation” or “subsidiary corporation” thereof (as such terms are defined in Sections 424(e) and (f) of the Code).

**(ii) Incentive Stock Option \$100,000 Limitation.** To the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined at the time of grant) of Common Stock with respect to which Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by any Optionholder during any calendar year (under all plans of the Company and any Affiliates) exceeds \$100,000 (or such other limit established in the Code) or otherwise does not comply with the rules governing Incentive Stock Options, the Options or portions thereof that exceed such limit (according to the order in which they were granted) or otherwise do not comply with such rules will be treated as Nonstatutory Stock Options, notwithstanding any contrary provision of the applicable Option Agreement(s).

**(iii) Limitations on Incentive Stock Options Granted to Ten Percent Stockholders.** A Ten Percent Stockholder may not be granted an Incentive Stock Option unless (i) the exercise price of such Option is at least 110% of the Fair Market Value on the date of grant of such Option and (ii) the Option is not exercisable after the expiration of five years from the date of grant of such Option.

**(iv) Limitations on Nonstatutory Stock Options and SARs.** Nonstatutory Stock Options and SARs may not be granted to Employees, Directors and Consultants who are providing Continuous Service only to any “parent” of the Company (as such term is defined in Rule 405) unless the stock underlying such Awards is treated as “service recipient stock” under Section 409A because the Awards are granted pursuant to a corporate transaction (such as a spin off transaction) or unless such Awards otherwise comply with the distribution requirements of Section 409A.

**(c) Aggregate Incentive Stock Option Limit.** The aggregate maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of Incentive Stock Options is the number of shares specified in Section 2(b).

**(d) Non-Employee Director Compensation Limit.** The aggregate value of all compensation granted or paid, as applicable, in each case following the Effective Date, to any individual for service as a Non-Employee Director with respect to any fiscal year, including Awards granted and cash fees paid by the Company to such Non-Employee Director for his or her service as a Non-Employee Director, will not exceed (i) \$750,000 in total value or (ii) in the event such Non-Employee Director is first appointed or elected to the Board during such fiscal year, \$1,000,000 in total value, in each case calculating the value of any equity awards based on the grant date fair value of such equity awards for financial reporting purposes.

#### **4. OPTIONS AND STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS.**

Each Option and SAR will have such terms and conditions as determined by the Board. Each Option will be designated in writing as an Incentive Stock Option or Nonstatutory Stock Option at the time of grant; provided, however, that if an Option is not so designated, then such Option will be a Nonstatutory Stock Option, and the shares purchased upon exercise of each type of Option will be separately accounted for. Each SAR will be denominated in shares of Common Stock equivalents. The terms and conditions of separate Options and SARs need not be identical; provided, however, that each Option Agreement and SAR Agreement will conform (through incorporation of provisions hereof by reference in the Award Agreement or otherwise) to the substance of each of the following provisions:

**(a) Term.** Subject to Section 3(b) regarding Ten Percent Stockholders, no Option or SAR will be exercisable after the expiration of ten years from the date of grant of such Award or such shorter period specified in the Award Agreement.

**(b) Exercise or Strike Price.** Subject to Section 3(b) regarding Ten Percent Stockholders, the exercise or strike price of each Option or SAR will not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value on the date of grant of such Award. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Option or SAR may be granted with an exercise or strike price lower than 100% of the Fair Market Value on the date of grant of such Award if such Award is granted pursuant to an assumption of or substitution for another option or stock appreciation right pursuant to a Corporate Transaction and in a manner consistent with the provisions of Sections 409A and, if applicable, 424(a) of the Code.

**(c) Exercise Procedure and Payment of Exercise Price for Options.** In order to exercise an Option, the Participant must provide notice of exercise to the Plan Administrator in accordance with the procedures specified in the Option Agreement or otherwise provided by the Company. The Board has the authority to grant Options that do not permit all of the following methods of payment (or otherwise restrict the ability to use certain methods) and to grant Options that require the consent of the Company to utilize a particular method of payment. The exercise price of an Option may be paid, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law and as determined by the Board, by one or more of the following methods of payment to the extent set forth in the Option Agreement:

**(i)** by cash or check, bank draft or money order payable to the Company;

## [Table of Contents](#)

(ii) pursuant to a “cashless exercise” program developed under Regulation T as promulgated by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board that, prior to the issuance of the Common Stock subject to the Option, results in either the receipt of cash (or check) by the Company or the receipt of irrevocable instructions to pay the exercise price to the Company from the sales proceeds;

(iii) by delivery to the Company (either by actual delivery or attestation) of shares of Common Stock that are already owned by the Participant free and clear of any liens, claims, encumbrances or security interests, with a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise that does not exceed the exercise price, provided that (1) at the time of exercise the Common Stock is publicly traded, (2) any remaining balance of the exercise price not satisfied by such delivery is paid by the Participant in cash or other permitted form of payment, (3) such delivery would not violate any Applicable Law or agreement restricting the redemption of the Common Stock, (4) any certificated shares are endorsed or accompanied by an executed assignment separate from certificate and (5) such shares have been held by the Participant for any minimum period necessary to avoid adverse accounting treatment as a result of such delivery;

(iv) if the Option is a Nonstatutory Stock Option, by a “net exercise” arrangement pursuant to which the Company will reduce the number of shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise by the largest whole number of shares with a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise that does not exceed the exercise price, provided that (1) such shares used to pay the exercise price will not be exercisable thereafter and (2) any remaining balance of the exercise price not satisfied by such net exercise is paid by the Participant in cash or other permitted form of payment; or

(v) in any other form of consideration that may be acceptable to the Board and permissible under Applicable Law.

**(d) Exercise Procedure and Payment of Appreciation Distribution for SARs.** In order to exercise any SAR, the Participant must provide notice of exercise to the Plan Administrator in accordance with the SAR Agreement. The appreciation distribution payable to a Participant upon the exercise of a SAR will not be greater than an amount equal to the excess of (i) the aggregate Fair Market Value on the date of exercise of a number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of Common Stock equivalents that are vested and being exercised under such SAR, over (ii) the strike price of such SAR. Such appreciation distribution may be paid to the Participant in the form of Common Stock or cash (or any combination of Common Stock and cash) or in any other form of payment, as determined by the Board and specified in the SAR Agreement.

**(e) Transferability.** Options and SARs may not be transferred to third-party financial institutions for value. The Board may impose such additional limitations on the transferability of an Option or SAR as it determines. In the absence of any such determination by the Board, the following restrictions on the transferability of Options and SARs will apply, provided that except as explicitly provided herein, neither an Option nor a SAR may be transferred for consideration and provided, further, that if an Option is an Incentive Stock Option, such Option may be deemed to be a Nonstatutory Stock Option as a result of such transfer:

**(i) Restrictions on Transfer.** An Option or SAR will not be transferable, except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and will be exercisable during the lifetime of the Participant only by the Participant; provided, however, that the Board may permit transfer of an Option or SAR in a manner that is not prohibited by applicable tax and securities laws upon the Participant’s request, including to a trust if the Participant is considered to be the sole beneficial owner of such trust (as determined under Section 671 of the Code and applicable U.S. state law) while such Option or SAR is held in such trust, provided that the Participant and the trustee enter into a transfer and other agreements required by the Company.

**(ii) Domestic Relations Orders.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, subject to the execution of transfer documentation in a format acceptable to the Company and subject to the approval of the Board or a duly authorized Officer, an Option or SAR may be transferred pursuant to a domestic relations order.



## [Table of Contents](#)

**(f) Vesting.** The Board may impose such restrictions on or conditions to the vesting and/or exercisability of an Option or SAR as determined by the Board. Except as otherwise provided in the applicable Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company, vesting of Options and SARs will cease upon termination of the Participant's Continuous Service.

**(g) Termination of Continuous Service for Cause.** Except as explicitly otherwise provided in the Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company, if a Participant's Continuous Service is terminated for Cause, the Participant's Options and SARs will terminate and be forfeited immediately upon such termination of Continuous Service, and the Participant will be prohibited from exercising any portion (including any vested portion) of such Awards on and after the date of such termination of Continuous Service and the Participant will have no further right, title or interest in such forfeited Award, the shares of Common Stock subject to the forfeited Award, or any consideration in respect of the forfeited Award.

**(h) Post-Termination Exercise Period Following Termination of Continuous Service for Reasons Other than Cause.** Subject to Section 4(i), if a Participant's Continuous Service terminates for any reason other than for Cause, the Participant may exercise his or her Option or SAR to the extent vested, but only within the following period of time or, if applicable, such other period of time provided in the Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company; provided, however, that in no event may such Award be exercised after the expiration of its maximum term (as set forth in Section 4(a)):

**(i)** three months following the date of such termination if such termination is a termination without Cause (other than any termination due to the Participant's Disability or death);

**(ii)** 12 months following the date of such termination if such termination is due to the Participant's Disability;

**(iii)** 18 months following the date of such termination if such termination is due to the Participant's death; or

**(iv)** 18 months following the date of the Participant's death if such death occurs following the date of such termination but during the period such Award is otherwise exercisable (as provided in (i) or (ii) above).

Following the date of such termination, to the extent the Participant does not exercise such Award within the applicable Post-Termination Exercise Period (or, if earlier, prior to the expiration of the maximum term of such Award), such unexercised portion of the Award will terminate, and the Participant will have no further right, title or interest in terminated Award, the shares of Common Stock subject to the terminated Award, or any consideration in respect of the terminated Award.

**(i) Restrictions on Exercise; Extension of Exercisability.** A Participant may not exercise an Option or SAR at any time that the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon such exercise would violate Applicable Law. Except as otherwise provided in the Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company, if a Participant's Continuous Service terminates for any reason other than for Cause and, at any time during the last thirty days of the applicable Post-Termination Exercise Period: (i) the exercise of the Participant's Option or SAR would be prohibited solely because the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon such exercise would violate Applicable Law, or (ii) the immediate sale of any shares of Common Stock issued upon such exercise would violate the Company's Trading Policy, then the applicable Post-Termination Exercise Period will be extended to the last day of the calendar month that commences following the date the Award would otherwise expire, with an additional extension of the exercise period to the last day of the next calendar month to apply if any of the foregoing restrictions apply at any time during such extended exercise period, generally without limitation as to the maximum permitted number of extensions; provided, however, that in no event may such Award be exercised after the expiration of its maximum term (as set forth in Section 4(a)).

## [Table of Contents](#)

**(j) Non-Exempt Employees.** No Option or SAR, whether or not vested, granted to an Employee who is a non-exempt employee for purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, will be first exercisable for any shares of Common Stock until at least six months following the date of grant of such Award. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in accordance with the provisions of the Worker Economic Opportunity Act, any vested portion of such Award may be exercised earlier than six months following the date of grant of such Award in the event of (i) such Participant's death or Disability, (ii) a Corporate Transaction in which such Award is not assumed, continued or substituted, (iii) a Change in Control, or (iv) such Participant's retirement (as such term may be defined in the Award Agreement or another applicable agreement or, in the absence of any such definition, in accordance with the Company's then current employment policies and guidelines). This Section 4(j) is intended to operate so that any income derived by a non-exempt employee in connection with the exercise or vesting of an Option or SAR will be exempt from his or her regular rate of pay.

**(k) Whole Shares.** Options and SARs may be exercised only with respect to whole shares of Common Stock or their equivalents.

### 5. AWARDS OTHER THAN OPTIONS AND STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS.

**(a) Restricted Stock Awards and RSU Awards.** Each Restricted Stock Award and RSU Award will have such terms and conditions as determined by the Board; provided, however, that each Restricted Stock Award Agreement and RSU Award Agreement will conform (through incorporation of the provisions hereof by reference in the Award Agreement or otherwise) to the substance of each of the following provisions:

#### **(i) Form of Award.**

**(1) RSAs:** To the extent consistent with the Company's Bylaws, at the Board's election, shares of Common Stock subject to a Restricted Stock Award may be (i) held in book entry form subject to the Company's instructions until such shares become vested or any other restrictions lapse, or (ii) evidenced by a certificate, which certificate will be held in such form and manner as determined by the Board. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, a Participant will have voting and other rights as a stockholder of the Company with respect to any shares subject to a Restricted Stock Award.

**(2) RSUs:** A RSU Award represents a Participant's right to be issued on a future date the number of shares of Common Stock that is equal to the number of restricted stock units subject to the RSU Award. As a holder of a RSU Award, a Participant is an unsecured creditor of the Company with respect to the Company's unfunded obligation, if any, to issue shares of Common Stock in settlement of such Award and nothing contained in the Plan or any RSU Agreement, and no action taken pursuant to its provisions, will create or be construed to create a trust of any kind or a fiduciary relationship between a Participant and the Company or an Affiliate or any other person. A Participant will not have voting or any other rights as a stockholder of the Company with respect to any RSU Award (unless and until shares are actually issued in settlement of a vested RSU Award).

#### **(ii) Consideration.**

**(1) RSA:** A Restricted Stock Award may be granted in consideration for (A) cash or check, bank draft or money order payable to the Company, (B) past services to the Company or an Affiliate, or (C) any other form of consideration as the Board may determine and permissible under Applicable Law.

**(2) RSU:** Unless otherwise determined by the Board at the time of grant, a RSU Award will be granted in consideration for the Participant's services to the Company or an Affiliate, such that the Participant will not be required to make any payment to the Company (other than such services) with respect to the grant or vesting of the RSU Award, or the issuance of any shares of Common Stock pursuant to the RSU Award. If, at the time of grant, the Board determines that any consideration must be paid by the Participant (in a form other than

## [Table of Contents](#)

the Participant's services to the Company or an Affiliate) upon the issuance of any shares of Common Stock in settlement of the RSU Award, such consideration may be paid in any form of consideration as the Board may determine and permissible under Applicable Law.

**(iii) Vesting.** The Board may impose such restrictions on or conditions to the vesting of a Restricted Stock Award or RSU Award as determined by the Board. Except as otherwise provided in the Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company or an Affiliate, vesting of Restricted Stock Awards and RSU Awards will cease upon termination of the Participant's Continuous Service.

**(iv) Termination of Continuous Service.** Except as otherwise provided in the Award Agreement or other written agreement between a Participant and the Company, if a Participant's Continuous Service terminates for any reason, (i) the Company may receive through a forfeiture condition or a repurchase right any or all of the shares of Common Stock held by the Participant under his or her Restricted Stock Award that have not vested as of the date of such termination as set forth in the Restricted Stock Award Agreement and (ii) any portion of his or her RSU Award that has not vested will be forfeited upon such termination and the Participant will have no further right, title or interest in the RSU Award, the shares of Common Stock issuable pursuant to the RSU Award, or any consideration in respect of the RSU Award.

**(v) Dividends and Dividend Equivalents.** Dividends or dividend equivalents may be paid or credited, as applicable, with respect to any shares of Common Stock subject to a Restricted Stock Award or RSU Award, as determined by the Board and specified in the Award Agreement).

**(vi) Settlement of RSU Awards.** A RSU Award may be settled by the issuance of shares of Common Stock or cash (or any combination thereof) or in any other form of payment, as determined by the Board and specified in the RSU Award Agreement. At the time of grant, the Board may determine to impose such restrictions or conditions that delay such delivery to a date following the vesting of the RSU Award.

**(b) Performance Awards.** With respect to any Performance Award, the length of any Performance Period, the Performance Goals to be achieved during the Performance Period, the other terms and conditions of such Award, and the measure of whether and to what degree such Performance Goals have been attained will be determined by the Board.

**(c) Other Awards.** Other Awards may be granted either alone or in addition to Awards provided for under Section 4 and the preceding provisions of this Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Board will have sole and complete discretion to determine the persons to whom and the time or times at which such Other Awards will be granted, the number of shares of Common Stock (or the cash equivalent thereof) to be granted pursuant to such Other Awards and all other terms and conditions of such Other Awards.

## **6. ADJUSTMENTS UPON CHANGES IN COMMON STOCK; OTHER CORPORATE EVENTS.**

**(a) Capitalization Adjustments.** In the event of a Capitalization Adjustment, the Board shall appropriately and proportionately adjust: (i) the class(es) and maximum number of shares of Common Stock subject to the Plan and the maximum number of shares by which the Share Reserve may annually increase pursuant to Section 2(a), (ii) the class(es) and maximum number of shares that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of Incentive Stock Options pursuant to Section 2(b), and (iii) the class(es) and number of securities and exercise price, strike price or purchase price of Common Stock subject to outstanding Awards. The Board shall make such adjustments, and its determination shall be final, binding and conclusive. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no fractional shares or rights for fractional shares of Common Stock shall be created in order to implement any Capitalization Adjustment. The Board shall determine an appropriate equivalent benefit, if any, for any fractional shares or rights to fractional shares that might be created by the adjustments referred to in the preceding provisions of this Section.

**(b) Dissolution or Liquidation.** Except as otherwise provided in the Award Agreement, in the event of a dissolution or liquidation of the Company, all outstanding Awards (other than Awards consisting of vested and outstanding shares of Common Stock not subject to a forfeiture condition or the Company's right of repurchase) will terminate immediately prior to the completion of such dissolution or liquidation, and the shares of Common Stock subject to the Company's repurchase rights or subject to a forfeiture condition may be repurchased or reacquired by the Company notwithstanding the fact that the holder of such Award is providing Continuous Service, provided, however, that the Board may determine to cause some or all Awards to become fully vested, exercisable and/or no longer subject to repurchase or forfeiture (to the extent such Awards have not previously expired or terminated) before the dissolution or liquidation is completed but contingent on its completion.

**(c) Corporate Transaction.** The following provisions will apply to Awards in the event of a Corporate Transaction except as set forth in Section 11, and unless otherwise provided in the instrument evidencing the Award or any other written agreement between the Company or any Affiliate and the Participant or unless otherwise expressly provided by the Board at the time of grant of an Award.

**(i) Awards May Be Assumed.** In the event of a Corporate Transaction, any surviving corporation or acquiring corporation (or the surviving or acquiring corporation's parent company) may assume or continue any or all Awards outstanding under the Plan or may substitute similar awards for Awards outstanding under the Plan (including but not limited to, awards to acquire the same consideration paid to the stockholders of the Company pursuant to the Corporate Transaction), and any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by the Company in respect of Common Stock issued pursuant to Awards may be assigned by the Company to the successor of the Company (or the successor's parent company, if any), in connection with such Corporate Transaction. A surviving corporation or acquiring corporation (or its parent) may choose to assume or continue only a portion of an Award or substitute a similar award for only a portion of an Award, or may choose to assume or continue the Awards held by some, but not all Participants. The terms of any assumption, continuation or substitution will be set by the Board.

**(ii) Awards Held by Current Participants.** In the event of a Corporate Transaction in which the surviving corporation or acquiring corporation (or its parent company) does not assume or continue such outstanding Awards or substitute similar awards for such outstanding Awards, then with respect to Awards that have not been assumed, continued or substituted and that are held by Participants whose Continuous Service has not terminated prior to the effective time of the Corporate Transaction (referred to as the "**Current Participants**"), the vesting of such Awards (and, with respect to Options and Stock Appreciation Rights, the time when such Awards may be exercised) will be accelerated in full to a date prior to the effective time of such Corporate Transaction (contingent upon the effectiveness of the Corporate Transaction) as the Board determines (or, if the Board does not determine such a date, to the date that is five days prior to the effective time of the Corporate Transaction), and such Awards will terminate if not exercised (if applicable) at or prior to the effective time of the Corporate Transaction, and any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by the Company with respect to such Awards will lapse (contingent upon the effectiveness of the Corporate Transaction). With respect to the vesting of Performance Awards that will accelerate upon the occurrence of a Corporate Transaction pursuant to this subsection (ii) and that have multiple vesting levels depending on the level of performance, unless otherwise provided in the Award Agreement, the vesting of such Performance Awards will accelerate at 100% of the target level upon the occurrence of the Corporate Transaction. With respect to the vesting of Awards that will accelerate upon the occurrence of a Corporate Transaction pursuant to this subsection (ii) and are settled in the form of a cash payment, such cash payment will be made no later than 30 days following the occurrence of the Corporate Transaction.

**(iii) Awards Held by Persons other than Current Participants.** In the event of a Corporate Transaction in which the surviving corporation or acquiring corporation (or its parent company) does not assume or continue such outstanding Awards or substitute similar awards for such outstanding Awards, then with respect to Awards that have not been assumed, continued or substituted and that are held by persons other than Current Participants, such Awards will terminate if not exercised (if applicable) prior to the occurrence of the Corporate

## Table of Contents

Transaction; provided, however, that any reacquisition or repurchase rights held by the Company with respect to such Awards will not terminate and may continue to be exercised notwithstanding the Corporate Transaction.

**(iv) Payment for Awards in Lieu of Exercise.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event an Award will terminate if not exercised prior to the effective time of a Corporate Transaction, the Board may provide, in its sole discretion, that the holder of such Award may not exercise such Award but will receive a payment, in such form as may be determined by the Board, equal in value, at the effective time, to the excess, if any, of (1) the value of the property the Participant would have received upon the exercise of the Award (including, at the discretion of the Board, any unvested portion of such Award), over (2) any exercise price payable by such holder in connection with such exercise.

**(d) Appointment of Stockholder Representative.** As a condition to the receipt of an Award under this Plan, a Participant will be deemed to have agreed that the Award will be subject to the terms of any agreement governing a Corporate Transaction involving the Company, including, without limitation, a provision for the appointment of a stockholder representative that is authorized to act on the Participant's behalf with respect to any escrow, indemnities and any contingent consideration.

**(e) No Restriction on Right to Undertake Transactions.** The grant of any Award under the Plan and the issuance of shares pursuant to any Award does not affect or restrict in any way the right or power of the Company or the stockholders of the Company to make or authorize any adjustment, recapitalization, reorganization or other change in the Company's capital structure or its business, any merger or consolidation of the Company, any issue of stock or of options, rights or options to purchase stock or of bonds, debentures, preferred or prior preference stocks whose rights are superior to or affect the Common Stock or the rights thereof or which are convertible into or exchangeable for Common Stock, or the dissolution or liquidation of the Company, or any sale or transfer of all or any part of its assets or business, or any other corporate act or proceeding, whether of a similar character or otherwise.

## 7. ADMINISTRATION.

**(a) Administration by Board.** The Board will administer the Plan unless and until the Board delegates administration of the Plan to a Committee or Committees, as provided in subsection (c) below.

**(b) Powers of Board.** The Board will have the power, subject to, and within the limitations of, the express provisions of the Plan:

**(i)** To determine from time to time: (1) which of the persons eligible under the Plan will be granted Awards; (2) when and how each Award will be granted; (3) what type or combination of types of Award will be granted; (4) the provisions of each Award granted (which need not be identical), including the time or times when a person will be permitted to receive an issuance of Common Stock or other payment pursuant to an Award; (5) the number of shares of Common Stock or cash equivalent with respect to which an Award will be granted to each such person; (6) the Fair Market Value applicable to an Award; and (7) the terms of any Performance Award that is not valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, the Common Stock, including the amount of cash payment or other property that may be earned and the timing of payment.

**(ii)** To construe and interpret the Plan and Awards granted under it, and to establish, amend and revoke rules and regulations for its administration. The Board, in the exercise of this power, may correct any defect, omission or inconsistency in the Plan or in any Award Agreement, in a manner and to the extent it deems necessary or expedient to make the Plan or Award fully effective.

**(iii)** To settle all controversies regarding the Plan and Awards granted under it.

**(iv)** To accelerate the time at which an Award may first be exercised or the time during which an Award or any part thereof will vest, notwithstanding the provisions in the Award Agreement stating the time at which it may first be exercised or the time during which it will vest.

## Table of Contents

(v) To prohibit the exercise of any Option, SAR or other exercisable Award during a period of up to 30 days prior to the consummation of any pending stock dividend, stock split, combination or exchange of shares, merger, consolidation or other distribution (other than normal cash dividends) of Company assets to stockholders, or any other change affecting the shares of Common Stock or the share price of the Common Stock including any Corporate Transaction, for reasons of administrative convenience.

(vi) To suspend or terminate the Plan at any time. Suspension or termination of the Plan will not Materially Impair rights and obligations under any Award granted while the Plan is in effect except with the written consent of the affected Participant.

(vii) To amend the Plan in any respect the Board deems necessary or advisable; provided, however, that stockholder approval will be required for any amendment to the extent required by Applicable Law. Except as provided above, rights under any Award granted before amendment of the Plan will not be Materially Impaired by any amendment of the Plan unless (1) the Company requests the consent of the affected Participant, and (2) such Participant consents in writing.

(viii) To submit any amendment to the Plan for stockholder approval.

(ix) To approve forms of Award Agreements for use under the Plan and to amend the terms of any one or more Awards, including, but not limited to, amendments to provide terms more favorable to the Participant than previously provided in the Award Agreement, subject to any specified limits in the Plan that are not subject to Board discretion; provided however, that, (1) the Board shall not, without stockholder approval, reduce the exercise or strike price of an Option or SAR (other than in connection with a Capitalization Adjustment) and, at any time when the exercise or strike price of an Option or SAR is above the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock, the Board shall not, without stockholder approval, cancel and re-grant or exchange such Option or SAR for a new Award with a lower (or no) purchase price or for cash, and (2) a Participant's rights under any Award will not be Materially Impaired by any such amendment unless (A) the Company requests the consent of the affected Participant, and (B) such Participant consents in writing.

(x) Generally, to exercise such powers and to perform such acts as the Board deems necessary or expedient to promote the best interests of the Company and that are not in conflict with the provisions of the Plan or Awards.

(xi) To adopt such procedures and sub-plans as are necessary or appropriate to permit and facilitate participation in the Plan by, or take advantage of specific tax treatment for Awards granted to, Employees, Directors or Consultants who are non-U.S. nationals or employed outside the United States (provided that Board approval will not be necessary for immaterial modifications to the Plan or any Award Agreement to ensure or facilitate compliance with the laws of the relevant non-U.S. jurisdiction).

### **(c) Delegation to Committee.**

**(i) General.** The Board may delegate some or all of the administration of the Plan to a Committee or Committees. If administration of the Plan is delegated to a Committee, the Committee will have, in connection with the administration of the Plan, the powers theretofore possessed by the Board that have been delegated to the Committee, including the power to delegate to another Committee or a subcommittee of the Committee any of the administrative powers the Committee is authorized to exercise (and references in this Plan to the Board will thereafter be to the Committee or subcommittee), subject, however, to such resolutions, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan, as may be adopted from time to time by the Board. Each Committee may retain the authority to concurrently administer the Plan with the Committee or subcommittee to which it has delegated its authority hereunder and may, at any time, re-vest in such Committee some or all of the powers previously delegated. The Board may retain the authority to concurrently administer the Plan with any Committee and may, at any time, re-vest in the Board some or all of the powers previously delegated.

**(ii) Rule 16b-3 Compliance.** To the extent an Award is intended to qualify for the exemption from Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act that is available under Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act, the Award will be granted by the Board or a Committee that consists solely of two or more Non-Employee Directors, as determined under Rule 16b-3(b)(3) of the Exchange Act, and, thereafter, any action establishing or modifying the terms of the Award will be approved by the Board or a Committee meeting such requirements to the extent necessary for such exemption to remain available.

**(d) Effect of Board's Decision.** All determinations, interpretations and constructions made by the Board or any Committee in good faith will not be subject to review by any person and will be final, binding and conclusive on all persons.

**(e) Delegation to an Officer.** The Board or any Committee may delegate to one or more Officers the authority to do one or both of the following (i) designate Employees who are not Officers to be recipients of Options and SARs (and, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, other types of Awards) and, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, the terms thereof, and (ii) determine the number of shares of Common Stock to be subject to such Awards granted to such Employees; provided, however, that the resolutions or charter adopted by the Board or any Committee evidencing such delegation will specify the total number of shares of Common Stock that may be subject to the Awards granted by such Officer and that such Officer may not grant an Award to himself or herself. Any such Awards will be granted on the applicable form of Award Agreement most recently approved for use by the Board or the Committee, unless otherwise provided in the resolutions approving the delegation authority. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, neither the Board nor any Committee may delegate to an Officer who is acting solely in the capacity of an Officer (and not also as a Director) the authority to determine the Fair Market Value.

## 8. TAX WITHHOLDING

**(a) Withholding Authorization.** As a condition to acceptance of any Award under the Plan, a Participant authorizes withholding from payroll and any other amounts payable to such Participant, and otherwise agrees to make adequate provision for (including), any sums required to satisfy any U.S. and/or non-U.S. federal, state, or local tax or social insurance contribution withholding obligations of the Company or an Affiliate, if any, which arise in connection with the exercise, vesting or settlement of such Award, as applicable. Accordingly, a Participant may not be able to exercise an Award even though the Award is vested, and the Company shall have no obligation to issue shares of Common Stock subject to an Award, unless and until such obligations are satisfied.

**(b) Satisfaction of Withholding Obligation.** To the extent permitted by the terms of an Award Agreement, the Company may, in its sole discretion, satisfy any U.S. and/or non-U.S. federal, state or local tax or social insurance withholding obligation relating to an Award by any of the following means or by a combination of such means: (i) causing the Participant to tender a cash payment; (ii) withholding shares of Common Stock from the shares of Common Stock issued or otherwise issuable to the Participant in connection with the Award; (iii) withholding cash from an Award settled in cash; (iv) withholding payment from any amounts otherwise payable to the Participant; (v) by allowing a Participant to effectuate a "cashless exercise" pursuant to a program developed under Regulation T as promulgated by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board or (vi) by such other method as may be set forth in the Award Agreement.

**(c) No Obligation to Notify or Minimize Taxes; No Liability to Claims.** Except as required by Applicable Law, the Company has no duty or obligation to any Participant to advise such holder as to the time or manner of exercising such Award. Furthermore, the Company has no duty or obligation to warn or otherwise advise such holder of a pending termination or expiration of an Award or a possible period in which the Award may not be exercised. The Company has no duty or obligation to minimize the tax consequences of an Award to the holder of such Award and will not be liable to any holder of an Award for any adverse tax consequences to such holder in connection with an Award. As a condition to accepting an Award under the Plan, each Participant



## Table of Contents

(i) agrees to not make any claim against the Company, or any of its Officers, Directors, Employees or Affiliates related to tax liabilities arising from such Award or other Company compensation and (ii) acknowledges that such Participant was advised to consult with his or her own personal tax, financial and other legal advisors regarding the tax consequences of the Award and has either done so or knowingly and voluntarily declined to do so. Additionally, each Participant acknowledges any Option or SAR granted under the Plan is exempt from Section 409A only if the exercise or strike price is at least equal to the “fair market value” of the Common Stock on the date of grant as determined by the Internal Revenue Service and there is no other impermissible deferral of compensation associated with the Award. Additionally, as a condition to accepting an Option or SAR granted under the Plan, each Participant agrees not make any claim against the Company, or any of its Officers, Directors, Employees or Affiliates in the event that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service asserts that such exercise price or strike price is less than the “fair market value” of the Common Stock on the date of grant as subsequently determined by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

**(d) Withholding Indemnification.** As a condition to accepting an Award under the Plan, in the event that the amount of the Company’s and/or its Affiliate’s withholding obligation in connection with such Award was greater than the amount actually withheld by the Company and/or its Affiliates, each Participant agrees to indemnify and hold the Company and/or its Affiliates harmless from any failure by the Company and/or its Affiliates to withhold the proper amount.

### **9. MISCELLANEOUS.**

**(a) Source of Shares.** The stock issuable under the Plan will be shares of authorized but unissued or reacquired Common Stock, including shares repurchased by the Company on the open market or otherwise.

**(b) Use of Proceeds from Sales of Common Stock.** Proceeds from the sale of shares of Common Stock pursuant to Awards will constitute general funds of the Company.

**(c) Corporate Action Constituting Grant of Awards.** Corporate action constituting a grant by the Company of an Award to any Participant will be deemed completed as of the date of such corporate action, unless otherwise determined by the Board, regardless of when the instrument, certificate, or letter evidencing the Award is communicated to, or actually received or accepted by, the Participant. In the event that the corporate records (e.g., Board consents, resolutions or minutes) documenting the corporate action approving the grant contain terms (e.g., exercise price, vesting schedule or number of shares) that are inconsistent with those in the Award Agreement or related grant documents as a result of a clerical error in the Award Agreement or related grant documents, the corporate records will control and the Participant will have no legally binding right to the incorrect term in the Award Agreement or related grant documents.

**(d) Stockholder Rights.** No Participant will be deemed to be the holder of, or to have any of the rights of a holder with respect to, any shares of Common Stock subject to such Award unless and until (i) such Participant has satisfied all requirements for exercise of the Award pursuant to its terms, if applicable, and (ii) the issuance of the Common Stock subject to such Award is reflected in the records of the Company.

**(e) No Employment or Other Service Rights.** Nothing in the Plan, any Award Agreement or any other instrument executed thereunder or in connection with any Award granted pursuant thereto will confer upon any Participant any right to continue to serve the Company or an Affiliate in the capacity in effect at the time the Award was granted or affect the right of the Company or an Affiliate to terminate at will and without regard to any future vesting opportunity that a Participant may have with respect to any Award (i) the employment of an Employee with or without notice and with or without cause, (ii) the service of a Consultant pursuant to the terms of such Consultant’s agreement with the Company or an Affiliate or (iii) the service of a Director pursuant to the Bylaws of the Company or an Affiliate, and any applicable provisions of the corporate law of the U.S. state or non-U.S. jurisdiction in which the Company or the Affiliate is incorporated, as the case may be. Further, nothing in the Plan, any Award Agreement or any other instrument executed thereunder or in connection with any Award



## Table of Contents

will constitute any promise or commitment by the Company or an Affiliate regarding the fact or nature of future positions, future work assignments, future compensation or any other term or condition of employment or service or confer any right or benefit under the Award or the Plan unless such right or benefit has specifically accrued under the terms of the Award Agreement and/or Plan.

**(f) Change in Time Commitment.** In the event a Participant's regular level of time commitment in the performance of his or her services for the Company and any Affiliates is reduced (for example, and without limitation, if the Participant is an Employee of the Company and the Employee has a change in status from a full-time Employee to a part-time Employee or takes an extended leave of absence) after the date of grant of any Award to the Participant, the Board may determine, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, to (i) make a corresponding reduction in the number of shares or cash amount subject to any portion of such Award that is scheduled to vest or become payable after the date of such change in time commitment, and (ii) in lieu of or in combination with such a reduction, extend the vesting or payment schedule applicable to such Award. In the event of any such reduction, the Participant will have no right with respect to any portion of the Award that is so reduced or extended.

**(g) Execution of Additional Documents.** As a condition to accepting an Award under the Plan, the Participant agrees to execute any additional documents or instruments necessary or desirable, as determined in the Plan Administrator's sole discretion, to carry out the purposes or intent of the Award, or facilitate compliance with securities and/or other regulatory requirements, in each case at the Plan Administrator's request.

**(h) Electronic Delivery and Participation.** Any reference herein or in an Award Agreement to a "written" agreement or document will include any agreement or document delivered electronically, filed publicly at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) (or any successor website thereto) or posted on the Company's intranet (or other shared electronic medium controlled by the Company to which the Participant has access). By accepting any Award the Participant consents to receive documents by electronic delivery and to participate in the Plan through any on-line electronic system established and maintained by the Plan Administrator or another third party selected by the Plan Administrator. The form of delivery of any Common Stock (e.g., a stock certificate or electronic entry evidencing such shares) shall be determined by the Company.

**(i) Clawback/Recovery.** All Awards granted under the Plan will be subject to recoupment in accordance with any clawback policy that the Company is required to adopt pursuant to the listing standards of any national securities exchange or association on which the Company's securities are listed or as is otherwise required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act or other Applicable Law and any clawback policy that the Company otherwise adopts, to the extent applicable and permissible under Applicable Law. In addition, the Board may impose such other clawback, recovery or recoupment provisions in an Award Agreement as the Board determines necessary or appropriate, including but not limited to a reacquisition right in respect of previously acquired shares of Common Stock or other cash or property upon the occurrence of Cause. No recovery of compensation under such a clawback policy will be an event giving rise to a Participant's right to voluntarily terminate employment upon a "resignation for good reason," or for a "constructive termination" or any similar term under any plan of or agreement with the Company.

**(j) Securities Law Compliance.** A Participant will not be issued any shares in respect of an Award unless either (i) the shares are registered under the Securities Act; or (ii) the Company has determined that such issuance would be exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Each Award also must comply with other Applicable Law governing the Award, and a Participant will not receive such shares if the Company determines that such receipt would not be in material compliance with Applicable Law.

**(k) Transfer or Assignment of Awards; Issued Shares.** Except as expressly provided in the Plan or the form of Award Agreement, Awards granted under the Plan may not be transferred or assigned by the Participant. After the vested shares subject to an Award have been issued, or in the case of Restricted Stock and similar awards, after the issued shares have vested, the holder of such shares is free to assign, hypothecate,

## [Table of Contents](#)

donate, encumber or otherwise dispose of any interest in such shares provided that any such actions are in compliance with the provisions herein, the terms of the Trading Policy and Applicable Law.

**(l) Effect on Other Employee Benefit Plans.** The value of any Award granted under the Plan, as determined upon grant, vesting or settlement, shall not be included as compensation, earnings, salaries, or other similar terms used when calculating any Participant's benefits under any employee benefit plan sponsored by the Company or any Affiliate, except as such plan otherwise expressly provides. The Company expressly reserves its rights to amend, modify, or terminate any of the Company's or any Affiliate's employee benefit plans.

**(m) Deferrals.** To the extent permitted by Applicable Law, the Board, in its sole discretion, may determine that the delivery of Common Stock or the payment of cash, upon the exercise, vesting or settlement of all or a portion of any Award may be deferred and may establish programs and procedures for deferral elections to be made by Participants. Deferrals will be made in accordance with the requirements of Section 409A.

**(n) Section 409A.** Unless otherwise expressly provided for in an Award Agreement, the Plan and Award Agreements will be interpreted to the greatest extent possible in a manner that makes the Plan and the Awards granted hereunder exempt from Section 409A, and, to the extent not so exempt, in compliance with the requirements of Section 409A. If the Board determines that any Award granted hereunder is not exempt from and is therefore subject to Section 409A, the Award Agreement evidencing such Award will incorporate the terms and conditions necessary to avoid the consequences specified in Section 409A(a)(1) of the Code, and to the extent an Award Agreement is silent on terms necessary for compliance, such terms are hereby incorporated by reference into the Award Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Plan (and unless the Award Agreement specifically provides otherwise), if the shares of Common Stock are publicly traded, and if a Participant holding an Award that constitutes "deferred compensation" under Section 409A is a "specified employee" for purposes of Section 409A, no distribution or payment of any amount that is due because of a "separation from service" (as defined in Section 409A without regard to alternative definitions thereunder) will be issued or paid before the date that is six months and one day following the date of such Participant's "separation from service" or, if earlier, the date of the Participant's death, unless such distribution or payment can be made in a manner that complies with Section 409A, and any amounts so deferred will be paid in a lump sum on the day after such six month period elapses, with the balance paid thereafter on the original schedule.

**(o) Choice of Law.** This Plan and any controversy arising out of or relating to this Plan shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of Delaware, without regard to conflict of law principles that would result in any application of any law other than the law of the State of Delaware.

### **10. COVENANTS OF THE COMPANY.**

**(a) Compliance with Law.** The Company will seek to obtain from each regulatory commission or agency, as may be deemed necessary, having jurisdiction over the Plan such authority as may be required to grant Awards and to issue and sell shares of Common Stock upon exercise or vesting of the Awards; provided, however, that this undertaking will not require the Company to register under the Securities Act the Plan, any Award or any Common Stock issued or issuable pursuant to any such Award. If, after reasonable efforts and at a reasonable cost, the Company is unable to obtain from any such regulatory commission or agency the authority that counsel for the Company deems necessary or advisable for the lawful issuance and sale of Common Stock under the Plan, the Company will be relieved from any liability for failure to issue and sell Common Stock upon exercise or vesting of such Awards unless and until such authority is obtained. A Participant is not eligible for the grant of an Award or the subsequent issuance of Common Stock pursuant to the Award if such grant or issuance would be in violation of any Applicable Law.

**11. ADDITIONAL RULES FOR AWARDS SUBJECT TO SECTION 409A.**

**(a) Application.** Unless the provisions of this Section of the Plan are expressly superseded by the provisions in the form of Award Agreement, the provisions of this Section shall apply and shall supersede anything to the contrary set forth in the Award Agreement for a Non-Exempt Award.

**(b) Non-Exempt Awards Subject to Non-Exempt Severance Arrangements.** To the extent a Non-Exempt Award is subject to Section 409A due to application of a Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement, the following provisions of this subsection (b) apply.

**(i)** If the Non-Exempt Award vests in the ordinary course during the Participant's Continuous Service in accordance with the vesting schedule set forth in the Award Agreement, and does not accelerate vesting under the terms of a Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement, in no event will the shares be issued in respect of such Non-Exempt Award any later than the later of: (i) December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year that includes the applicable vesting date, or (ii) the 60<sup>th</sup> day that follows the applicable vesting date.

**(ii)** If vesting of the Non-Exempt Award accelerates under the terms of a Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement in connection with the Participant's Separation from Service, and such vesting acceleration provisions were in effect as of the date of grant of the Non-Exempt Award and, therefore, are part of the terms of such Non-Exempt Award as of the date of grant, then the shares will be earlier issued in settlement of such Non-Exempt Award upon the Participant's Separation from Service in accordance with the terms of the Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement, but in no event later than the 60<sup>th</sup> day that follows the date of the Participant's Separation from Service. However, if at the time the shares would otherwise be issued the Participant is subject to the distribution limitations contained in Section 409A applicable to "specified employees," as defined in Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, such shares shall not be issued before the date that is six months following the date of such Participant's Separation from Service, or, if earlier, the date of the Participant's death that occurs within such six month period.

**(iii)** If vesting of a Non-Exempt Award accelerates under the terms of a Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement in connection with a Participant's Separation from Service, and such vesting acceleration provisions were not in effect as of the date of grant of the Non-Exempt Award and, therefore, are not a part of the terms of such Non-Exempt Award on the date of grant, then such acceleration of vesting of the Non-Exempt Award shall not accelerate the issuance date of the shares, but the shares shall instead be issued on the same schedule as set forth in the Grant Notice as if they had vested in the ordinary course during the Participant's Continuous Service, notwithstanding the vesting acceleration of the Non-Exempt Award. Such issuance schedule is intended to satisfy the requirements of payment on a specified date or pursuant to a fixed schedule, as provided under Treasury Regulations Section 1.409A-3(a)(4).

**(c) Treatment of Non-Exempt Awards Upon a Corporate Transaction for Employees and Consultants.** The provisions of this subsection (c) shall apply and shall supersede anything to the contrary set forth in the Plan with respect to the permitted treatment of any Non-Exempt Award in connection with a Corporate Transaction if the Participant was either an Employee or Consultant upon the applicable date of grant of the Non-Exempt Award.

**(i) Vested Non-Exempt Awards.** The following provisions shall apply to any Vested Non-Exempt Award in connection with a Corporate Transaction:

**(1)** If the Corporate Transaction is also a Section 409A Change in Control then the Acquiring Entity may not assume, continue or substitute the Vested Non- Exempt Award. Upon the Section 409A Change in Control the settlement of the Vested Non-Exempt Award will automatically be accelerated and the shares will be immediately issued in respect of the Vested Non-Exempt Award. Alternatively, the Company may instead provide that the Participant will receive a cash settlement equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant upon the Section 409A Change in Control.

(2) If the Corporate Transaction is not also a Section 409A Change in Control, then the Acquiring Entity must either assume, continue or substitute each Vested Non-Exempt Award. The shares to be issued in respect of the Vested Non-Exempt Award shall be issued to the Participant by the Acquiring Entity on the same schedule that the shares would have been issued to the Participant if the Corporate Transaction had not occurred. In the Acquiring Entity's discretion, in lieu of an issuance of shares, the Acquiring Entity may instead substitute a cash payment on each applicable issuance date, equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant on such issuance dates, with the determination of the Fair Market Value of the shares made on the date of the Corporate Transaction.

**(ii) Unvested Non-Exempt Awards.** The following provisions shall apply to any Unvested Non-Exempt Award unless otherwise determined by the Board pursuant to subsection (e) of this Section.

(1) In the event of a Corporate Transaction, the Acquiring Entity shall assume, continue or substitute any Unvested Non-Exempt Award. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, any Unvested Non-Exempt Award will remain subject to the same vesting and forfeiture restrictions that were applicable to the Award prior to the Corporate Transaction. The shares to be issued in respect of any Unvested Non-Exempt Award shall be issued to the Participant by the Acquiring Entity on the same schedule that the shares would have been issued to the Participant if the Corporate Transaction had not occurred. In the Acquiring Entity's discretion, in lieu of an issuance of shares, the Acquiring Entity may instead substitute a cash payment on each applicable issuance date, equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant on such issuance dates, with the determination of Fair Market Value of the shares made on the date of the Corporate Transaction.

(2) If the Acquiring Entity will not assume, substitute or continue any Unvested Non-Exempt Award in connection with a Corporate Transaction, then such Award shall automatically terminate and be forfeited upon the Corporate Transaction with no consideration payable to any Participant in respect of such forfeited Unvested Non-Exempt Award. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent permitted and in compliance with the requirements of Section 409A, the Board may in its discretion determine to elect to accelerate the vesting and settlement of the Unvested Non-Exempt Award upon the Corporate Transaction, or instead substitute a cash payment equal to the Fair Market Value of such shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant, as further provided in subsection (e)(ii) below. In the absence of such discretionary election by the Board, any Unvested Non-Exempt Award shall be forfeited without payment of any consideration to the affected Participants if the Acquiring Entity will not assume, substitute or continue the Unvested Non-Exempt Awards in connection with the Corporate Transaction.

(3) The foregoing treatment shall apply with respect to all Unvested Non-Exempt Awards upon any Corporate Transaction, and regardless of whether or not such Corporate Transaction is also a Section 409A Change in Control.

**(d) Treatment of Non-Exempt Awards Upon a Corporate Transaction for Non-Employee Directors.** The following provisions of this subsection (d) shall apply and shall supersede anything to the contrary that may be set forth in the Plan with respect to the permitted treatment of a Non-Exempt Director Award in connection with a Corporate Transaction.

(i) If the Corporate Transaction is also a Section 409A Change in Control then the Acquiring Entity may not assume, continue or substitute the Non-Exempt Director Award. Upon the Section 409A Change in Control the vesting and settlement of any Non-Exempt Director Award will automatically be accelerated and the shares will be immediately issued to the Participant in respect of the Non-Exempt Director Award. Alternatively, the Company may provide that the Participant will instead receive a cash settlement equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant upon the Section 409A Change in Control pursuant to the preceding provision.

## Table of Contents

**(ii)** If the Corporate Transaction is not also a Section 409A Change in Control, then the Acquiring Entity must either assume, continue or substitute the Non-Exempt Director Award. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the Non-Exempt Director Award will remain subject to the same vesting and forfeiture restrictions that were applicable to the Award prior to the Corporate Transaction. The shares to be issued in respect of the Non-Exempt Director Award shall be issued to the Participant by the Acquiring Entity on the same schedule that the shares would have been issued to the Participant if the Corporate Transaction had not occurred. In the Acquiring Entity's discretion, in lieu of an issuance of shares, the Acquiring Entity may instead substitute a cash payment on each applicable issuance date, equal to the Fair Market Value of the shares that would otherwise be issued to the Participant on such issuance dates, with the determination of Fair Market Value made on the date of the Corporate Transaction.

**(e)** If the RSU Award is a Non-Exempt Award, then the provisions in this Section 11(e) shall apply and supersede anything to the contrary that may be set forth in the Plan or the Award Agreement with respect to the permitted treatment of such Non-Exempt Award:

**(i)** Any exercise by the Board of discretion to accelerate the vesting of a Non-Exempt Award shall not result in any acceleration of the scheduled issuance dates for the shares in respect of the Non-Exempt Award unless earlier issuance of the shares upon the applicable vesting dates would be in compliance with the requirements of Section 409A.

**(ii)** The Company explicitly reserves the right to earlier settle any Non-Exempt Award to the extent permitted and in compliance with the requirements of Section 409A, including pursuant to any of the exemptions available in Treasury Regulations Section 1.409A-3(j)(4)(ix).

**(iii)** To the extent the terms of any Non-Exempt Award provide that it will be settled upon a Change in Control or Corporate Transaction, to the extent it is required for compliance with the requirements of Section 409A, the Change in Control or Corporate Transaction event triggering settlement must also constitute a Section 409A Change in Control. To the extent the terms of a Non-Exempt Award provide that it will be settled upon a termination of employment or termination of Continuous Service, to the extent it is required for compliance with the requirements of Section 409A, the termination event triggering settlement must also constitute a Separation From Service. However, if at the time the shares would otherwise be issued to a Participant in connection with a "separation from service" such Participant is subject to the distribution limitations contained in Section 409A applicable to "specified employees," as defined in Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, such shares shall not be issued before the date that is six months following the date of the Participant's Separation From Service, or, if earlier, the date of the Participant's death that occurs within such six month period.

**(iv)** The provisions in this subsection (e) for delivery of the shares in respect of the settlement of a RSU Award that is a Non-Exempt Award are intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A so that the delivery of the shares to the Participant in respect of such Non-Exempt Award will not trigger the additional tax imposed under Section 409A, and any ambiguities herein will be so interpreted.

## **12. SEVERABILITY.**

If all or any part of the Plan or any Award Agreement is declared by any court or governmental authority to be unlawful or invalid, such unlawfulness or invalidity shall not invalidate any portion of the Plan or such Award Agreement not declared to be unlawful or invalid. Any Section of the Plan or any Award Agreement (or part of such a Section) so declared to be unlawful or invalid shall, if possible, be construed in a manner which will give effect to the terms of such Section or part of a Section to the fullest extent possible while remaining lawful and valid.

**13. TERMINATION OF THE PLAN.**

The Board may suspend or terminate the Plan at any time. No Incentive Stock Options may be granted after the tenth anniversary of the earlier of: (i) the Adoption Date, or (ii) the date the Plan is approved by the Company's stockholders. No Awards may be granted under the Plan while the Plan is suspended or after it is terminated.

**14. DEFINITIONS.**

As used in the Plan, the following definitions apply to the capitalized terms indicated below:

(a) "**Acquiring Entity**" means the surviving or acquiring corporation (or its parent company) in connection with a Corporate Transaction.

(b) "**Adoption Date**" means the date the Plan is first approved by the Board or Compensation Committee.

(c) "**Affiliate**" means, at the time of determination, any "parent" or "subsidiary" of the Company as such terms are defined in Rule 405 promulgated under the Securities Act. The Board may determine the time or times at which "parent" or "subsidiary" status is determined within the foregoing definition.

(d) "**Applicable Law**" means shall mean the Code and any applicable U.S. or non-U.S. securities, federal, state, material local or municipal or other law, statute, constitution, principle of common law, resolution, ordinance, code, edict, decree, rule, listing rule, regulation, judicial decision, ruling or requirement issued, enacted, adopted, promulgated, implemented or otherwise put into effect by or under the authority of any Governmental Body (including under the authority of any applicable self-regulating organization such as the Nasdaq Stock Market, New York Stock Exchange or the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority).

(e) "**Award**" means any right to receive Common Stock, cash or other property granted under the Plan (including an Incentive Stock Option, a Nonstatutory Stock Option, a Restricted Stock Award, a RSU Award, a SAR, a Performance Award or any Other Award).

(f) "**Award Agreement**" means a written agreement between the Company and a Participant evidencing the terms and conditions of an Award. The Award Agreement generally consists of the Grant Notice and the agreement containing the written summary of the general terms and conditions applicable to the Award and which is provided to a Participant along with the Grant Notice.

(g) "**Board**" means the board of directors of the Company (or its designee). Any decision or determination made by the Board shall be a decision or determination that is made in the sole discretion of the Board (or its designee), and such decision or determination shall be final and binding on all Participants.

(h) "**Capitalization Adjustment**" means any change that is made in, or other events that occur with respect to, the Common Stock subject to the Plan or subject to any Award after the Effective Date without the receipt of consideration by the Company through merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, reincorporation, stock dividend, dividend in property other than cash, large nonrecurring cash dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, liquidating dividend, combination of shares, exchange of shares, change in corporate structure or any similar equity restructuring transaction, as that term is used in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 (or any successor thereto). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the conversion of any convertible securities of the Company will not be treated as a Capitalization Adjustment.

(i) "**Cause**" has the meaning ascribed to such term in any written agreement between the Participant and the Company defining such term and, in the absence of such agreement, such term means, with respect to a Participant, the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) the Participant's theft, dishonesty, willful

## [Table of Contents](#)

misconduct, breach of fiduciary duty for personal profit, or intentional falsification of any Company or Affiliate documents or records; (ii) the Participant's material failure to abide by the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics or other policies (including, without limitation, policies relating to confidentiality and reasonable workplace conduct and policies of any Affiliate, as applicable); (iii) the Participant's unauthorized use, misappropriation, destruction or diversion of any tangible or intangible asset or corporate opportunity of the Company or any of its Affiliates (including, without limitation, the Participant's improper use or disclosure of Company or Affiliate confidential or proprietary information); (iv) any intentional act by the Participant which has a material detrimental effect on the Company's or its Affiliate's reputation or business; (v) the Participant's repeated failure or inability to perform any reasonable assigned duties after written notice from the Company (or its Affiliate, as applicable) of, and a reasonable opportunity to cure, such failure or inability; (vi) any material breach by the Participant of any employment or service agreement between the Participant and the Company (or its Affiliate, as applicable), which breach is not cured pursuant to the terms of such agreement; or (vii) the Participant's conviction (including any plea of guilty or *nolo contendere*) of any criminal act involving fraud, dishonesty, misappropriation or moral turpitude, or which impairs the Participant's ability to perform his or her duties with the Company (or its Affiliate, as applicable). The determination that a termination of the Participant's Continuous Service is either for Cause or without Cause will be made by the Board with respect to Participants who are executive officers of the Company and by the Company's Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee with respect to Participants who are not executive officers of the Company. Any determination by the Company that the Continuous Service of a Participant was terminated with or without Cause for the purposes of outstanding Awards held by such Participant will have no effect upon any determination of the rights or obligations of the Company or such Participant for any other purpose.

(j) "**Change in Control**" or "**Change of Control**" means the occurrence, in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions, of any one or more of the following events; provided, however, to the extent necessary to avoid adverse personal income tax consequences to the Participant in connection with an Award, also constitutes a Section 409A Change in Control:

(i) any Exchange Act Person becomes the Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing more than 50% of the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities other than by virtue of a merger, consolidation or similar transaction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Change in Control shall not be deemed to occur (A) on account of the acquisition of securities of the Company directly from the Company, (B) on account of the acquisition of securities of the Company by an investor, any affiliate thereof or any other Exchange Act Person that acquires the Company's securities in a transaction or series of related transactions the primary purpose of which is to obtain financing for the Company through the issuance of equity securities, or (C) solely because the level of Ownership held by any Exchange Act Person (the "**Subject Person**") exceeds the designated percentage threshold of the outstanding voting securities as a result of a repurchase or other acquisition of voting securities by the Company reducing the number of shares outstanding, provided that if a Change in Control would occur (but for the operation of this sentence) as a result of the acquisition of voting securities by the Company, and after such share acquisition, the Subject Person becomes the Owner of any additional voting securities that, assuming the repurchase or other acquisition had not occurred, increases the percentage of the then outstanding voting securities Owned by the Subject Person over the designated percentage threshold, then a Change in Control shall be deemed to occur;

(ii) there is consummated a merger, consolidation or similar transaction involving (directly or indirectly) the Company and, immediately after the consummation of such merger, consolidation or similar transaction, the stockholders of the Company immediately prior thereto do not Own, directly or indirectly, either (A) outstanding voting securities representing more than 50% of the combined outstanding voting power of the surviving Entity in such merger, consolidation or similar transaction or (B) more than 50% of the combined outstanding voting power of the parent of the surviving Entity in such merger, consolidation or similar transaction, in each case in substantially the same proportions as their Ownership of the outstanding voting securities of the Company immediately prior to such transaction;



## [Table of Contents](#)

(iii) the stockholders of the Company approve or the Board approves a plan of complete dissolution or liquidation of the Company, or a complete dissolution or liquidation of the Company shall otherwise occur, except for a liquidation into a parent corporation;

(iv) there is consummated a sale, lease, exclusive license or other disposition of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries, other than a sale, lease, license or other disposition of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries to an Entity, more than 50% of the combined voting power of the voting securities of which are Owned by stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportions as their Ownership of the outstanding voting securities of the Company immediately prior to such sale, lease, license or other disposition; or

(v) individuals who, on the date the Plan is adopted by the Board, are members of the Board (the “**Incumbent Board**”) cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the members of the Board; provided, however, that if the appointment or election (or nomination for election) of any new Board member was approved or recommended by a majority vote of the members of the Incumbent Board then still in office, such new member shall, for purposes of this Plan, be considered as a member of the Incumbent Board.

Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision of this Plan, (A) the term Change in Control shall not include a sale of assets, merger or other transaction effected exclusively for the purpose of changing the domicile of the Company, and (B) the definition of Change in Control (or any analogous term) in an individual written agreement between the Company or any Affiliate and the Participant shall supersede the foregoing definition with respect to Awards subject to such agreement; provided, however, that if no definition of Change in Control or any analogous term is set forth in such an individual written agreement, the foregoing definition shall apply.

(k) “**Code**” means the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including any applicable regulations and guidance thereunder.

(l) “**Committee**” means the Compensation Committee and any other committee of one or more Directors to whom authority has been delegated by the Board or Compensation Committee in accordance with the Plan.

(m) “**Common Stock**” means the common stock of the Company.

(n) “**Company**” means Scilex Holding Company, a Delaware corporation, and any successor corporation thereto.

(o) “**Compensation Committee**” means the Compensation Committee of the Board.

(p) “**Consultant**” means any person, including an advisor, who is (i) engaged by the Company or an Affiliate to render consulting or advisory services and is compensated for such services, or (ii) serving as a member of the board of directors of an Affiliate and is compensated for such services. However, service solely as a Director, or payment of a fee for such service, will not cause a Director to be considered a “Consultant” for purposes of the Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a person is treated as a Consultant under this Plan only if a Form S-8 Registration Statement under the Securities Act is available to register either the offer or the sale of the Company’s securities to such person.

(q) “**Continuous Service**” means that the Participant’s service with the Company or an Affiliate, whether as an Employee, Director or Consultant, is not interrupted or terminated. A change in the capacity in which the Participant renders service to the Company or an Affiliate as an Employee, Director or Consultant or a change in the Entity for which the Participant renders such service, provided that there is no interruption or termination of the Participant’s service with the Company or an Affiliate, will not terminate a Participant’s



## Table of Contents

Continuous Service; provided, however, that if the Entity for which a Participant is rendering services ceases to qualify as an Affiliate, as determined by the Board, such Participant's Continuous Service will be considered to have terminated on the date such Entity ceases to qualify as an Affiliate. For example, a change in status from an Employee of the Company to a Consultant of an Affiliate or to a Director will not constitute an interruption of Continuous Service. To the extent permitted by law, the Board or the chief executive officer of the Company, in that party's sole discretion, may determine whether Continuous Service will be considered interrupted in the case of (i) any leave of absence approved by the Board or chief executive officer, including sick leave, military leave or any other personal leave, or (ii) transfers between the Company, an Affiliate, or their successors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a leave of absence will be treated as Continuous Service for purposes of vesting in an Award only to such extent as may be provided in the Company's leave of absence policy, in the written terms of any leave of absence agreement or policy applicable to the Participant, or as otherwise required by law. In addition, to the extent required for exemption from or compliance with Section 409A, the determination of whether there has been a termination of Continuous Service will be made, and such term will be construed, in a manner that is consistent with the definition of "separation from service" as defined under U.S. Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h) (without regard to any alternative definition thereunder).

(r) "**Corporate Transaction**" means the consummation, in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions, of any one or more of the following events:

(i) a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all, as determined by the Board, of the consolidated assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries;

(ii) a sale or other disposition of at least 50% of the outstanding securities of the Company;

(iii) a merger, consolidation or similar transaction following which the Company is not the surviving corporation; or

(iv) a merger, consolidation or similar transaction following which the Company is the surviving corporation but the shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately preceding the merger, consolidation or similar transaction are converted or exchanged by virtue of the merger, consolidation or similar transaction into other property, whether in the form of securities, cash or otherwise.

(s) "**Director**" means a member of the Board.

(t) "**determine**" or "**determined**" means as determined by the Board or the Committee (or its designee) in its sole discretion.

(u) "**Disability**" means, with respect to a Participant, such Participant is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months, as provided in Section 22(e)(3) of the Code, and will be determined by the Board on the basis of such medical evidence as the Board deems warranted under the circumstances.

(v) "**Effective Date**" means the later of (i) the date on which the Plan is approved by the stockholders of the Company in accordance with Section 13, and (ii) the day that is one day prior to the date of the closing of the transactions contemplated by that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of March 17, 2022 (as amended), by and among the Company and the other parties thereto.

(w) "**Employee**" means any person employed by the Company or an Affiliate. However, service solely as a Director, or payment of a fee for such services, will not cause a Director to be considered an "Employee" for purposes of the Plan.

(x) "**Employer**" means the Company or the Affiliate that employs the Participant.

## Table of Contents

(y) “**Entity**” means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity.

(z) “**Exchange Act**” means the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(aa) “**Exchange Act Person**” means any natural person, Entity or “group” (within the meaning of Section 13(d) or 14(d) of the Exchange Act), except that “Exchange Act Person” will not include (i) the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company, (ii) any employee benefit plan of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company or any trustee or other fiduciary holding securities under an employee benefit plan of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company, (iii) an underwriter temporarily holding securities pursuant to a registered public offering of such securities, (iv) an Entity Owned, directly or indirectly, by the stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportions as their Ownership of stock of the Company; or (v) any natural person, Entity or “group” (within the meaning of Section 13(d) or 14(d) of the Exchange Act) that, as of the Effective Date, is the Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing more than 50% of the combined voting power of the Company’s then outstanding securities.

(bb) “**Fair Market Value**” means, as of any date, unless otherwise determined by the Board, the value of the Common Stock (as determined on a per share or aggregate basis, as applicable) determined as follows: (i) if the Common Stock is listed on any established stock exchange or traded on any established market, the Fair Market Value will be the closing sales price for such stock as quoted on such exchange or market (or the exchange or market with the greatest volume of trading in the Common Stock) on the date of determination, as reported in a source the Board deems reliable; (ii) if there is no closing sales price for the Common Stock on the date of determination, then the Fair Market Value will be the closing selling price on the last preceding date for which such quotation exists; or (iii) in the absence of such markets for the Common Stock, or if otherwise determined by the Board, the Fair Market Value will be determined by the Board in good faith and in a manner that complies with Sections 409A and 422 of the Code.

(cc) “**Governmental Body**” means any: (a) nation, state, commonwealth, province, territory, county, municipality, district or other jurisdiction of any nature; (b) U.S. or non-U.S. federal, state, local, municipal, or other government; (c) governmental or regulatory body, or quasi-governmental body of any nature (including any governmental division, department, administrative agency or bureau, commission, authority, instrumentality, official, ministry, fund, foundation, center, organization, unit, body or Entity and any court or other tribunal, and for the avoidance of doubt, any tax authority) or other body exercising similar powers or authority; or (d) self-regulatory organization (including the Nasdaq Stock Market, New York Stock Exchange, and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority).

(dd) “**Grant Notice**” means the notice provided to a Participant that he or she has been granted an Award under the Plan and which includes the name of the Participant, the type of Award, the date of grant of the Award, number of shares of Common Stock subject to the Award or potential cash payment right, (if any), the vesting schedule for the Award (if any) and other key terms applicable to the Award.

(ee) “**Incentive Stock Option**” means an option granted pursuant to Section 4 of the Plan that is intended to be, and qualifies as, an “incentive stock option” within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code.

(ff) “**Materially Impair**” means any amendment to the terms of the Award that materially adversely affects the Participant’s rights under the Award. A Participant’s rights under an Award will not be deemed to have been Materially Impaired by any such amendment if the Board, in its sole discretion, determines that the amendment, taken as a whole, does not materially impair the Participant’s rights. For example, the following types of amendments to the terms of an Award do not Materially Impair the Participant’s rights under the Award: (i) imposition of reasonable restrictions on the minimum number of shares subject to an Option that may be exercised, (ii) to maintain the qualified status of the Award as an Incentive Stock Option under Section 422 of the Code; (iii) to change the terms of an Incentive Stock Option in a manner that disqualifies, impairs or otherwise

## [Table of Contents](#)

affects the qualified status of the Award as an Incentive Stock Option under Section 422 of the Code; (iv) to clarify the manner of exemption from, or to bring the Award into compliance with or qualify it for an exemption from, Section 409A; or (v) to comply with other Applicable Laws.

**(gg) “Non-Employee Director”** means a Director who either (i) is not a current employee or officer of the Company or an Affiliate, does not receive compensation, either directly or indirectly, from the Company or an Affiliate for services rendered as a consultant or in any capacity other than as a Director (except for an amount as to which disclosure would not be required under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act (“**Regulation S-K**”)), does not possess an interest in any other transaction for which disclosure would be required under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K, and is not engaged in a business relationship for which disclosure would be required pursuant to Item 404(b) of Regulation S-K; or (ii) is otherwise considered a “non-employee director” for purposes of Rule 16b-3.

**(hh) “Non-Exempt Award”** means any Award that is subject to, and not exempt from, Section 409A, including as the result of (i) a deferral of the issuance of the shares subject to the Award which is elected by the Participant or imposed by the Company or (ii) the terms of any Non-Exempt Severance Agreement.

**(ii) “Non-Exempt Director Award”** means a Non-Exempt Award granted to a Participant who was a Director but not an Employee on the applicable grant date.

**(jj) “Non-Exempt Severance Arrangement”** means a severance arrangement or other agreement between the Participant and the Company that provides for acceleration of vesting of an Award and issuance of the shares in respect of such Award upon the Participant’s termination of employment or separation from service (as such term is defined in Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (and without regard to any alternative definition thereunder)) (“**Separation from Service**”) and such severance benefit does not satisfy the requirements for an exemption from application of Section 409A provided under Treasury Regulations Section 1.409A-1(b)(4), 1.409A-1(b)(9) or otherwise.

**(kk) “Nonstatutory Stock Option”** means any option granted pursuant to Section 4 of the Plan that does not qualify as an Incentive Stock Option.

**(ll) “Officer”** means a person who is an officer of the Company within the meaning of Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

**(mm) “Option”** means an Incentive Stock Option or a Nonstatutory Stock Option to purchase shares of Common Stock granted pursuant to the Plan.

**(nn) “Option Agreement”** means a written agreement between the Company and the Optionholder evidencing the terms and conditions of the Option grant. The Option Agreement includes the Grant Notice for the Option and the agreement containing the written summary of the general terms and conditions applicable to the Option and which is provided to a Participant along with the Grant Notice. Each Option Agreement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

**(oo) “Optionholder”** means a person to whom an Option is granted pursuant to the Plan or, if applicable, such other person who holds an outstanding Option.

**(pp) “Other Award”** means an award valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, Common Stock, including the appreciation in value thereof (e.g., options or stock rights with an exercise price or strike price less than 100% of the Fair Market Value at the time of grant) that is not an Incentive Stock Options, Nonstatutory Stock Option, SAR, Restricted Stock Award, RSU Award or Performance Award.

**(qq) “Other Award Agreement”** means a written agreement between the Company and a holder of an Other Award evidencing the terms and conditions of an Other Award grant. Each Other Award Agreement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

## Table of Contents

**(rr) “Own,” “Owned,” “Owner,” “Ownership”** means that a person or Entity will be deemed to “Own,” to have “Owned,” to be the “Owner” of or to have acquired “Ownership” of securities if such person or Entity, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship or otherwise, has or shares voting power, which includes the power to vote or to direct the voting, with respect to such securities.

**(ss) “Participant”** means an Employee, Director or Consultant to whom an Award is granted pursuant to the Plan or, if applicable, such other person who holds an outstanding Award.

**(tt) “Performance Award”** means an Award that may vest or may be exercised or a cash award that may vest or become earned and paid contingent upon the attainment during a Performance Period of certain Performance Goals and which is granted under the terms and conditions of Section 5(b) pursuant to such terms as are approved by the Board. In addition, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law and set forth in the applicable Award Agreement, the Board may determine that cash or other property may be used in payment of Performance Awards. Performance Awards that are settled in cash or other property are not required to be valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, the Common Stock.

**(uu) “Performance Criteria”** means the one or more criteria that the Board will select for purposes of establishing the Performance Goals for a Performance Period. The Performance Criteria that will be used to establish such Performance Goals may be based on any one of, or combination of, the following as determined by the Board: earnings (including earnings per share and net earnings); earnings before interest, taxes and depreciation; earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization; total stockholder return; return on equity or average stockholder’s equity; return on assets, investment, or capital employed; stock price; margin (including gross margin); income (before or after taxes); operating income; operating income after taxes; pre-tax profit; operating cash flow; sales or revenue targets; increases in revenue or product revenue; expenses and cost reduction goals; improvement in or attainment of working capital levels; economic value added (or an equivalent metric); market share; cash flow; cash flow per share; share price performance; debt reduction; customer satisfaction; stockholders’ equity; capital expenditures; debt levels; operating profit or net operating profit; workforce diversity; growth of net income or operating income; billings; pre-clinical development related compound goals; financing; regulatory milestones, including approval of a compound; stockholder liquidity; corporate governance and compliance; product commercialization; intellectual property; personnel matters; progress of internal research or clinical programs; progress of partnered programs; partner satisfaction; budget management; clinical achievements; completing phases of a clinical study (including the treatment phase); announcing or presenting preliminary or final data from clinical studies; in each case, whether on particular timelines or generally; timely completion of clinical trials; submission of INDs and NDAs and other regulatory achievements; partner or collaborator achievements; internal controls, including those related to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002; research progress, including the development of programs; investor relations, analysts and communication; manufacturing achievements (including obtaining particular yields from manufacturing runs and other measurable objectives related to process development activities); strategic partnerships or transactions (including in-licensing and out-licensing of intellectual property; establishing relationships with commercial entities with respect to the marketing, distribution and sale of the Company’s products (including with group purchasing organizations, distributors and other vendors); supply chain achievements (including establishing relationships with manufacturers or suppliers of active pharmaceutical ingredients and other component materials and manufacturers of the Company’s products); co-development, co-marketing, profit sharing, joint venture or other similar arrangements; individual performance goals; corporate development and planning goals; and other measures of performance selected by the Board or Committee.

**(vv) “Performance Goals”** means, for a Performance Period, the one or more goals established by the Board for the Performance Period based upon the Performance Criteria. Performance Goals may be based on a Company-wide basis, with respect to one or more business units, divisions, Affiliates, or business segments, and in either absolute terms or relative to the performance of one or more comparable companies or the performance of one or more relevant indices. Unless specified otherwise by the Board (i) in the Award Agreement at the time the Award is granted or (ii) in such other document setting forth the Performance Goals at the time the

## Table of Contents

Performance Goals are established, the Board will appropriately make adjustments in the method of calculating the attainment of Performance Goals for a Performance Period as follows: (1) to exclude restructuring and/or other nonrecurring charges; (2) to exclude exchange rate effects; (3) to exclude the effects of changes to generally accepted accounting principles; (4) to exclude the effects of any statutory adjustments to corporate tax rates; (5) to exclude the effects of items that are “unusual” in nature or occur “infrequently” as determined under generally accepted accounting principles; (6) to exclude the dilutive effects of acquisitions or joint ventures; (7) to assume that any business divested by the Company achieved performance objectives at targeted levels during the balance of a Performance Period following such divestiture; (8) to exclude the effect of any change in the outstanding shares of Common Stock of the Company by reason of any stock dividend or split, stock repurchase, reorganization, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination or exchange of shares or other similar corporate change, or any distributions to common stockholders other than regular cash dividends; (9) to exclude the effects of stock based compensation and the award of bonuses under the Company’s bonus plans; (10) to exclude costs incurred in connection with potential acquisitions or divestitures that are required to be expensed under generally accepted accounting principles; and (11) to exclude the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges that are required to be recorded under generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, the Board retains the discretion to reduce or eliminate the compensation or economic benefit due upon attainment of Performance Goals and to define the manner of calculating the Performance Criteria it selects to use for such Performance Period. Partial achievement of the specified criteria may result in the payment or vesting corresponding to the degree of achievement as specified in the Award Agreement or the written terms of a Performance Cash Award.

**(ww) “Performance Period”** means the period of time selected by the Board over which the attainment of one or more Performance Goals will be measured for the purpose of determining a Participant’s right to vesting or exercise of an Award. Performance Periods may be of varying and overlapping duration, at the sole discretion of the Board.

**(xx) “Plan”** means this Scilex Holding Company 2022 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended from time to time.

**(yy) “Plan Administrator”** means the person, persons, and/or third-party administrator designated by the Company to administer the day-to-day operations of the Plan and the Company’s other equity incentive programs.

**(zz) “Post-Termination Exercise Period”** means the period following termination of a Participant’s Continuous Service within which an Option or SAR is exercisable, as specified in Section 4(h).

**(aaa) “Prior Plan”** means the Company’s 2019 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.

**(bbb) “Restricted Stock Award”** or “RSA” means an Award of shares of Common Stock granted pursuant to the terms and conditions of Section 5(a).

**(ccc) “Restricted Stock Award Agreement”** means a written agreement between the Company and a holder of a Restricted Stock Award evidencing the terms and conditions of a Restricted Stock Award grant. The Restricted Stock Award Agreement includes the Grant Notice for the Restricted Stock Award and the agreement containing the written summary of the general terms and conditions applicable to the Restricted Stock Award and which is provided to a Participant along with the Grant Notice. Each Restricted Stock Award Agreement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

**(ddd) “Returning Shares”** means shares subject to outstanding stock awards granted under the Prior Plan and that following the Effective Date: (A) are not issued because such stock award or any portion thereof expires or otherwise terminates without all of the shares covered by such stock award having been issued; (B) are not issued because such stock award or any portion thereof is settled in cash; (C) are forfeited back to or

## Table of Contents

repurchased by the Company because of the failure to meet a contingency or condition required for the vesting of such shares; (D) are withheld or reacquired to satisfy the exercise, strike or purchase price; or (E) are withheld or reacquired to satisfy a tax withholding obligation.

**(eee) “RSU Award” or “RSU”** means an Award of restricted stock units representing the right to receive an issuance of shares of Common Stock which is granted pursuant to the terms and conditions of Section 5(a).

**(fff) “RSU Award Agreement”** means a written agreement between the Company and a holder of a RSU Award evidencing the terms and conditions of a RSU Award. The RSU Award Agreement includes the Grant Notice for the RSU Award and the agreement containing the written summary of the general terms and conditions applicable to the RSU Award and which is provided to a Participant along with the Grant Notice. Each RSU Award Agreement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

**(ggg) “Rule 16b-3”** means Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act or any successor to Rule 16b-3, as in effect from time to time.

**(hhh) “Rule 405”** means Rule 405 promulgated under the Securities Act.

**(iii) “Section 409A”** means Section 409A of the Code and the regulations and other guidance thereunder.

**(jjj) “Section 409A Change in Control”** means a change in the ownership or effective control of the Company, or in the ownership of a substantial portion of the Company’s assets, as provided in Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(v) of the Code and Treasury Regulations Section 1.409A-3(i)(5) (without regard to any alternative definition thereunder).

**(kkk) “Securities Act”** means the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

**(lll) “Share Reserve”** means the number of shares available for issuance under the Plan as set forth in Section 2(a).

**(mmm) “Stock Appreciation Right” or “SAR”** means a right to receive the appreciation on Common Stock that is granted pursuant to the terms and conditions of Section 4.

**(nnn) “SAR Agreement”** means a written agreement between the Company and a holder of a SAR evidencing the terms and conditions of a SAR grant. The SAR Agreement includes the Grant Notice for the SAR and the agreement containing the written summary of the general terms and conditions applicable to the SAR and which is provided to a Participant along with the Grant Notice. Each SAR Agreement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

**(ooo) “Subsidiary”** means, with respect to the Company, (i) any corporation of which more than 50% of the outstanding Common Stock having ordinary voting power to elect a majority of the board of directors of such corporation (irrespective of whether, at the time, stock of any other class or classes of such corporation will have or might have voting power by reason of the happening of any contingency) is at the time, directly or indirectly, Owned by the Company, and (ii) any partnership, limited liability company or other entity in which the Company has a direct or indirect interest (whether in the form of voting or participation in profits or capital contribution) of more than 50%.

**(ppp) “Ten Percent Stockholder”** means a person who Owns (or is deemed to Own pursuant to Section 424(d) of the Code) stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any Affiliate.

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[Table of Contents](#)

**(qqq)** “*Trading Policy*” means the Company’s policy permitting certain individuals to sell Company shares only during certain “window” periods and/or otherwise restricts the ability of certain individuals to transfer or encumber Company shares, as in effect from time to time.

**(rrr)** “*Unvested Non-Exempt Award*” means the portion of any Non-Exempt Award that had not vested in accordance with its terms upon or prior to the date of any Corporate Transaction.

**(sss)** “*Vested Non-Exempt Award*” means the portion of any Non-Exempt Award that had vested in accordance with its terms upon or prior to the date of a Corporate Transaction.

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SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY  
960 SAN ANTONIO RD  
PALO ALTO, CA 94303



**VOTE BY INTERNET**

*Before The Meeting* - Go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) or scan the QR Barcode above

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 5, 2023. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

*During The Meeting* - Go to [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023)

You may attend the meeting via the Internet and vote during the meeting. Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow available and follow the instructions.

**VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903**

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 5, 2023. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions.

**VOTE BY MAIL**

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

V02314-P89086

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS  
DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

<b>SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY</b>		<b>For All</b>	<b>Withhold All</b>	<b>For All Except</b>	To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "For All Except" and write the number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.	
<b>The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR each of the nominees in Proposal 1 and FOR each of Proposals 2 and 3.</b>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Election of Directors					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Nominees:</b>						
01) Dorman Followwill						<b>For</b>
02) David Lemus						<b>Against</b>
2. Proposal to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Proposal to amend our 2022 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder by 10,000,000 shares to 30,276,666 shares, (ii) increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options to 30,276,666 shares and (iii) modify the commencement date of the automatic increase in the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options to January 1, 2024					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NOTE:</b> In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.						
<b>You may attend the Annual Meeting via the Internet and vote during the Annual Meeting. Have the information that is printed in the box marked with the arrow on your proxy card available and follow the instructions.</b>						
Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name by authorized officer.						
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX]			Date		Signature (Joint Owners)	
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX]			Date		Signature (Joint Owners)	



You are cordially invited to attend our 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be held virtually, via live webcast at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023) at 9:00 AM Pacific Time on Thursday, April 6, 2023.

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:**  
The Proxy Statement and Form 10-K are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

V02315-P89086

**SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY  
Annual Meeting of Stockholders  
April 6, 2023 9:00 AM Pacific Time  
This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors**

The stockholders hereby appoint Jaisim Shah and Henry Ji, Ph.D., or any of them, as proxies, each with the power to appoint his substitute, and hereby authorize them to represent and to vote, as designated on the reverse side of this ballot, all of the shares of Common Stock of SCILEX HOLDING COMPANY that the stockholders are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 9:00 AM Pacific Time on April 6, 2023, via live webcast at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023) and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

**This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed herein. If no such direction is made, this proxy will be voted in accordance with the Board of Directors' recommendations.**

**Please note, there will be no physical location for the meeting. To attend the meeting live via the Internet, please go to [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/SCLX2023) and have your 16-digit control number available to login.**

**This proxy is governed by the laws of the State of Delaware.**

Continued and to be signed on reverse side