



**PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MEETING
AGENDA ITEM
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 12, 2026**

SUBJECT

Consider and award RFP 34-26 Texas State Government Relations Services (Re-bid).

BACKGROUND

EPWater requires ongoing support to engage with the Texas executive branch, state legislature and various state agencies to represent the utility's interests related to policies, laws, and rules that affect operations, funding, or regulatory responsibilities. RFP 34-26 solicited firms to provide a range of services, to include legislative tracking and analysis, advocacy before the Texas legislature and Office of the Governor, and engaging with state agencies, such as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Water Development Board.

These services will help ensure timely information, representation, and guidance on executive, legislative and regulatory matters affecting EPWater.

PRIOR PSB ACTION

- On December 14, 2022, the Public Service Board approved a professional services agreement with HILLCO Partners LLC to provide legislative and regulatory consulting services in Austin, Texas, for an annual amount of \$126,000 and an annual amount of up to \$5,000 for reimbursable costs for a term of two years, beginning on January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, and an option to extend the term of the agreement for two one-year terms.

UTILITY KPI ALIGNMENT

Customer Satisfaction

EVALUATION PROCESS

EPWater received proposals from seven firms, and each firm was scored in the categories of Experience & Qualifications, Approach & Strategy, Key Personnel, Past Performance, and Cost of Services. Hillco Partners LLC scored the highest and is proposed to be selected based on their specialized knowledge, prior experience, and demonstrated effectiveness in Texas policy matters relevant to water utilities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This expenditure is part of the approved budget.

PROPOSED ACTION REQUESTED

Consider and award RFP 34-26 Texas State Government Relations Services (Re-bid) to Hillco Partners LLC in the annual amount of \$144,000 for a term of three years, beginning on October 1, 2026, with two three-year options to extend.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED

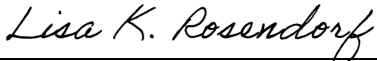
- Evaluation Scoresheet

EXHIBIT 3 - COMMITTEE SCORE SHEET

SOLICITATION TITLE: TEXAS STATE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS SERVICES

SOLICITATION NO: RFP34-26

	MAX POINTS	Burklund Consulting, LLC	CribProcure Inc	Forma Group LLC	Graydon Strama Lucio Group, LLC	Haney Group LLC	HillCo Partners, LLC	Vilma Luna LLC
1 Cost of Services (Biennium)	10	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 176,700.00	\$ 198,000.00	\$ 144,000.00	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 144,000.00	\$ 152,880.00
		10	7	6	8	9	8	8
2 Experience and Qualifications	30	17	11	18	26	23	30	22
3 Approach and Strategy	25	13	11	13	20	16	23	19
4 Key Personnel	20	10	8	10	15	12	19	11
5 Past Performance	15	8	6	8	11	9	13	12
MAX POINT	100	58	43	55	80	69	93	72
	FINAL RANKING:	5	7	6	2	4	1	3


 Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer

Date 7/27/26


 Veronica Garcia, Senior Purchasing Agent

Date 07/27/2026