



CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 8/12/2025

ALL

Item Creation Date: 7/25/2025

LGL - Bond Counsel Engagement Letter - Greenberg Traurig LLP - CUS Refunding Bonds, Series 2025

Agenda Item#: 27.

Summary:

ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston and GREENBERG TRAUIG, LLP for bond counsel services for various departments; providing a maximum contract amount.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2254.1036, the following written notice is given to the public: The City desires to sell bonds for public purposes as authorized by State law and as further set forth in the ordinance to finance current expenses. The proposed bond counsel, Greenberg Traurig LLP ("Greenberg Traurig") is a full-service firm that includes a national public finance practice and has the necessary competence, qualification and experience to serve as bond counsel for the City. The engagement of Greenberg Traurig is in the best interest of the City, since the legal services requested require specialized experience in municipal finance, federal tax, and state securities law and therefore cannot be adequately performed by the attorneys and supporting personnel of the City. Furthermore, such legal services cannot be reasonably obtained from attorneys in private practice for the payment of hourly fees without contingency because the City will not be obligated to pay any legal fees unless the transaction successfully closes.

Background:

The City Attorney recommends City Council approve an ordinance approving and authorizing a professional services agreement with Greenberg Traurig, LLP ("Firm") for legal services, including bond counsel services, in an amount not to exceed \$825,000.00, for the purpose of representing the City in connection with the issuance of Combined Utility System First Lien Revenue and Refunding Bonds, series 2025.

MWBE Information:

This contract is issued with a 24% MWBE participation goal. The Firm will utilize the services of co-bond counsel, Bratton & Associates, PLLC.

PAY OR PLAY:

The contract requires compliance with the City's Pay or Play Ordinance regarding health benefits for employees of City contractors. In this case, the Firm provides health benefits for eligible employees in compliance with City policy.

HIRE HOUSTON FIRST:

This procurement is exempt from the City's Hire Houston First Ordinance. The Legal Department is utilizing a professional services procurement.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION:

DocuSigned by:



Arturo G. Michel, City Attorney

Amount and Source of Funding:

Funding for this item is contingent on the issuance of the above-referenced bonds. Payment for services will not exceed \$825,000.00 paid from the proceeds of said bonds.

Contact Information:

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