



Finance, Budget and Administration

Nicole Gorle

Council Initiated:

☐ Yes

☒ No

ECAF: 2026-1179

Motion: 26-295

Type:

☒ Contract

☐ Board Appt.

☐ Code Amendment

☐ Budget Action

☐ Other

Requested Handling:

☒ Normal

☐ Expedite

☐ Urgent

Fund Source:

☒ General Fund

☒ Other

☐ N/A

Executive Rec:

☒ Approve

☐ Do Not Approve

☐ N/A

Approved as to

Form:

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A

Subject: Contract – Government Affairs (*State*) – Columbia Policy Advisors

Scope: Approve a two-year agreement with Columbia Policy Advisors under which they will provide the county with state government relation services. Services to be provided are:

- Lobbying for state legislation supported by the county.
- Lobbying for/against issues impacting the county.
- Periodic legislative reports/updates and regular bill tracking.
- Work with stakeholder groups in expressing support or opposition for legislation.
- Register as the county's lobbyist with the Public Disclosure Commission and manage/ensure compliance with all requirements.
- Attend meetings and conferences mutually agreed upon.
- Other governmental relation services as mutually agreed upon.

Duration: August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2028
(*may extend two additional one-year terms*)

Fiscal Impact: ☐ Current Year ☒ Multi-Year ☐ N/A

Should the contract be extended two additional one-year terms, the first one year extension will cost \$140,400 and the second one year extension will cost \$144,000.

Expenditures	Current Year	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
General Fund	\$ 4,367.45	\$ 10,559.18	\$ 6,222.65			\$ 21,149.28
Other	\$52,132.55	\$126,040.82	\$74,277.35			\$252,450.72
Total's	\$56,500.00	\$136,600.00	\$80,500.00			\$273,600.00

Authority Granted: Authorize the Executive to execute the agreement and any future amendments.

Background: Historically, the county has contracted with an outside company to provide it with government relation services at both the State and Federal level. The county's prior contract expired earlier this year, and Columbia Policy Advisors was selected through a competitive waiver for consultant services.

Requested Action: For Council to consider taking action.