



Memorandum

To: Santaquin City Mayor and City Council Members
From: Dennis L. Marker, Operations Manager
Date: January 27, 2021
Re: Lincoln-Hill Partners Consulting Agreement - Resolution 02-02-2022

This resolution approves a consulting agreement with Lincoln-Hill Partners for the conduct of state level lobbying services. The agreement establishes a one-year contract between the city and Lincoln Hill at a cost of \$50,000. The funding source for this contract is federal ARPA funds so no operational funds will be impacted. Potential return on this investment is \$4.5 Million.

Background

The city is constructing a new pressurized irrigation (PI) tank for the Summit Ridge area at a cost of \$6.5 Million. The city plans to use \$1.5 Million of its federal ARPA funds to help defray project costs. Currently, the remainder of funding for the project will come from Council approved bonds.

Last year, the state opened an opportunity to leverage \$50 Million of their ARPA funds to help cities with major infrastructure projects. Santaquin applied for the matching funds to help reduce our PI tank debt. The city requested \$1.5 Million to match our funds. We ranked 16th out more than 340 requests for the funds. The state awarding committee, made up of legislators, chose to fund many other projects, some ranked in the 300's. After this frustrating effort, we approached Utah County to see if we could leverage some of their ARPA funds.

Utah County officials have indicated a willingness to help Santaquin with 50% of the PI tank project cost **IF**

- 1) Santaquin commits its \$1.5 Million,
- 2) The state commits \$1.5 Million toward the project, and
- 3) The city uses Lincoln-Hill Partners to help the city lobby the state for the additional funds.

At this time, the proposed state budget includes an additional \$100 Million of ARPA matching funds for another round of grant funding cycle. If the Council approves this agreement, Lincoln-Hill Partners will advocate for Santaquin's water project with the award committee members. Lincoln-Hill Partners was able to get ARPA funding for each of its clients during the process last year. It is believed that with the County's conditional commitment of funds, the city's application will have even greater merits but could still be overlooked without the political pressure Lincoln-Hill Partners can apply on our behalf.