

Eli Lilly expands beyond obesity in \$20B spree

By **Madison Muller**
and **Gerry Smith**

BLOOMBERG NEWS

Eli Lilly & Co. is on a record spending spree, announcing acquisitions worth more than \$20 billion so far in 2026 as the drugmaker expands beyond its blockbuster obesity franchise.

In recent weeks, Lilly has pledged to shell out up to \$7.8 billion for sleep drugmaker Centessa Pharmaceuticals Plc and up to \$7 billion for cancer drug developer Kelonia Therapeutics — two of its most expensive deals ever. On Tuesday, it agreed to buy three vaccine developers for as much as \$3.8 billion.

The value of Lilly's deals is its highest ever in a year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The \$20 billion figure includes milestone payments.

There could be much

more to come.

“We are making more offers than you can possibly imagine,” Jake Van Naarden, Lilly's head of oncology and business development, said at a recent conference. “What's interesting is how many of the multibillion dollar deals we are attempting to do and getting rebuffed with some frequency.”

Van Naarden and his team evaluate “at least” 10 potential deals a week.

The flurry of agreements shows how the world's largest pharmaceutical company is using the windfall from its weight-loss and diabetes shots to diversify its pipeline — mainly by targeting medicines in earlier stages rather than existing blockbusters. The company is already seeking its next act — and hoping to learn from past mistakes of not doing so sooner.

With a market capital-

ization around \$1 trillion, investors still have high expectations for Lilly. That means it needs to avoid the pitfalls that have long plagued companies fortunate enough to have a wildly profitable drug. Lilly itself has fallen victim to that trap: In the early 2000s, the loss of patent protections on its blockbuster depression drug Prozac sent the company into a tailspin as it struggled for a decade to find its footing.

Lilly still has about a decade of patent protection left on its best-selling diabetes and obesity drugs Mounjaro and Zepbound. However, executives say they don't want to rest on their laurels.

Deals have become a key part of that strategy, helping Lilly grow quickly in areas like cancer and gene therapy where it wasn't as big of a player.

In some cases, the company is placing bets in

areas where others have struggled. It's investing heavily in gene therapy, an area of medicine that some drugmakers have abandoned because of its high costs and uncertain sales prospects. And Lilly's agreement with three vaccine makers is happening as Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a longtime vaccine critic, leads the US Department of Health and Human Services.

“These acquisitions reflect a deliberate strategy to prevent disease at its source rather than treat its consequences,” Dan Skovronsky, Lilly's chief scientific and product officer, said in a statement about the vaccine deals.

Under Chief Executive Officer Dave Ricks, Lilly is investing earlier in a drug's life cycle, when medicines are typically cheaper than those that have completed large-scale clinical studies.

While the company has

continued to target drugs in earlier stages of development, recent deals have shown a new willingness to spend more on later-stage medicines that could give it a competitive edge in markets outside of obesity.

About a third of Lilly's pipeline is now genetic medicines, most of which are still in the early stages of development. That includes a \$1.1 billion deal with German biotech Seamless Therapeutics GmbH that Lilly inked in January to develop gene therapies for hearing loss.

Hearing loss is one of the cornerstones of Lilly's genetic medicines portfolio. The company bought Akouos Inc. for about \$487 million in 2022, gaining access to a treatment for hearing loss caused by genetic mutations. Two years later, an early stage trial of the medicine was hailed as a

success when it allowed an 11-year-old boy to hear for the first time. That drug has now advanced to the next phase of testing.

Immunology and neuroscience are two other areas where Lilly is hunting for deals to bolster existing businesses.

The company tends to look for promising platforms or technologies in each area, rather than paying a premium for one specific drug. It's also investing heavily in artificial intelligence to develop novel treatments, ink-ing a collaboration worth up to \$2.25 billion with Profluent Inc. in April and another with Insilico Medicine Cayman TopCo in March worth up \$2.75 billion.

Lilly's intent is “to aggressively reinvest obesity cash flows to enhance its pipeline,” said Leerink Partners analyst David Risinger.

LEGAL NOTICES

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Legals/Public Notices	Legals/Public Notices	Legals/Public Notices
County Auditor's Monthly Report of Condition of Budgets March 31, 2026		
HARRIS COUNTY	Budget Allowance	Actual & Encumbrance
Governmental - General Fund	\$ 3,119,793,130	\$ 2,519,255,037
Total General Fund	3,119,793,130	2,519,255,037
Other Funds		
Governmental - General Fund Group	1,545,135,804	648,933,189
Governmental - Special Revenue	590,378,177	185,271,091
Grants/Special Revenue	3,209,966,361	741,928,589
Governmental - Capital Projects	2,092,269,514	687,850,906
Governmental - Debt Service Fund	156,752,159	68,177,636
Proprietary - Internal Service	668,368,210	564,619,343
Proprietary - Toll Road	5,746,594,425	1,619,058,960
Proprietary - Other Enterprise	40,938,259	7,858,598
Total Other Funds	14,050,402,909	4,523,698,312
Total - Harris County Funds	\$ 17,170,196,039	\$ 7,042,953,349
FLOOD CONTROL		
Governmental - General Fund	\$ 651,274,661	\$ 393,790,382
Governmental - Capital Projects	894,133,949	204,607,215
Governmental - Debt Service Fund	203,587,047	83,952,630
Total - Flood Control	\$ 1,748,995,657	\$ 682,350,227
Bonds Payable:		
Harris County Governmental Bonds Payable		\$ 2,362,027,350
Flood Control Bonds Payable		1,284,120,601
Toll Road Bonds Payable		3,133,980,793
Total Bonds Payable		6,780,128,744
Commercial Paper:		
Harris County Commercial Paper		235,935,000
Flood Control Commercial Paper		44,270,000
Toll Road Commercial Paper		17,150,000
Total Commercial Paper		297,355,000
TOTAL OUTSTANDING BONDS & COMMERCIAL PAPER INDEBTEDNESS		\$ 7,077,483,744
NOTE: THE DATA PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT IS UNAUDITED AND IS PRESENTED PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 114.023. CERTAIN PROPRIETARY FUNDS ARE RESTRICTED. BONDS OUTSTANDING FOR HARRIS COUNTY INCLUDE TOLL ROAD BONDS, AS WELL AS OTHER HARRIS COUNTY INDEBTEDNESS. IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS DESIRED, PLEASE CALL THE HARRIS COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE AT 832-927-4640, OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT AUDITOR.HARRISCOUNTYTX.GOV		
HOUSTON, TEXAS May 14, 2026	MICHAEL POST, CPA, CIA COUNTY AUDITOR	

County Auditor's Monthly Report of Condition of Budgets February 28, 2026			
HARRIS COUNTY	Budget Allowance	Actual & Encumbrance	Budget Balance
Governmental - General Fund	\$3,119,259,757	\$2,451,917,055	\$667,342,702
Total General Fund	3,119,259,757	2,451,917,055	667,342,702
Other Funds			
Governmental - General Fund Group	1,545,135,804	515,540,242	1,029,595,562
Governmental - Special Revenue	587,210,103	173,630,348	413,579,755
Grants/Special Revenue	3,186,769,234	677,425,396	2,509,343,838
Governmental - Capital Projects	2,093,421,874	643,867,703	1,449,554,171
Governmental - Debt Service Fund	156,752,159	53,505,156	103,247,003
Proprietary - Internal Service	668,368,210	545,914,735	122,453,475
Proprietary - Toll Road	5,733,307,917	1,326,071,122	4,407,236,795
Proprietary - Other Enterprise	40,938,259	6,902,556	34,035,703
Total Other Funds	14,011,903,560	3,942,857,258	10,069,046,302
Total - Harris County Funds	\$17,131,163,317	\$6,394,774,313	\$10,736,389,004
FLOOD CONTROL			
Governmental - General Fund	\$651,274,661	\$221,810,972	\$429,463,689
Governmental - Capital Projects	893,803,405	194,902,555	698,900,850
Governmental - Debt Service Fund	203,587,047	75,433,318	128,153,729
Total - Flood Control	\$1,748,665,113	\$492,146,845	\$1,256,518,268
Bonds Payable:			
Harris County Governmental Bonds Payable			\$2,364,052,917
Flood Control Bonds Payable			1,262,082,380
Toll Road Bonds Payable			3,122,454,559
Total Bonds Payable			6,748,589,856
Commercial Paper:			
Harris County Commercial Paper			275,760,000
Flood Control Commercial Paper			43,980,000
Toll Road Commercial Paper			12,790,000
Total Commercial Paper			332,530,000
TOTAL OUTSTANDING BONDS & COMMERCIAL PAPER INDEBTEDNESS			\$7,081,119,856
NOTE: THE DATA PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT IS UNAUDITED AND IS PRESENTED PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 114.023. CERTAIN PROPRIETARY FUNDS ARE RESTRICTED. BONDS OUTSTANDING FOR HARRIS COUNTY INCLUDE TOLL ROAD BONDS, AS WELL AS OTHER HARRIS COUNTY INDEBTEDNESS. IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS DESIRED, PLEASE CALL THE HARRIS COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE AT 832-927-4640, OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT AUDITOR.HARRISCOUNTYTX.GOV			
HOUSTON, TEXAS May 14, 2026	MICHAEL POST, CPA, CIA COUNTY AUDITOR		

Legal Bids & Proposals

Request for Proposal – Houston-Galveston Area Council – Enterprise Solutions – HGACBuy/Cooperative Purchasing Program – Medium and Heavy Trucks, Truck Bodies, and Trailers – HT07-26A

H-GAC is soliciting responses for selecting qualified manufacturers, dealers and distributors of Medium and Heavy Trucks, Truck Bodies, and Trailers and to make these types of products available to Customers of the HGACBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program under blanket type contracts. **NOTE: This solicitation is a supplement to the previously offered Request for Proposal (RFP) #HT07-26. Current HT07-26 awardees do not need to submit a response.**

To view the solicitation documents, visit <https://www.h-gac.com/procurement> or ESBID (txsmartbuy.com)

Response Deadline: June 18, 2026 @ 12:00 P.M. CT
IPLH0U0142864

Legal Bids & Proposals

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Legals/Public Notices

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL
PERMIT NO. WQ0014905003
APPLICATION. Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 165, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014905003 (EPA I.D. No. TX0136811) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed an annual average flow of 1,990,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located approximately 4,750 feet west of the intersection of Fry Road and West Road, in Harris County, Texas 77433. The discharge route is from the plant site to Langham Creek (a Harris County Flood Control District Ditch), thence to Bear Creek, thence to South Mayde Creek, thence to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal. TCEQ received this application on April 15, 2026. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Kendall Neighborhood Library, 609 North Eldridge Parkway, Houston, in Harris County, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. The application and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications . This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application. https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.741666,29.91&level=18
ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications . El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications .
ADDITIONAL NOTICE. TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.
PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.
OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.
TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement “[I/we] request a contested case hearing.” If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 165 at the address stated above or by calling Mr. David Keel, P.E., DAC Engineers, at 281-506-7119.

Issuance Date: May 4, 2026

Online learning for young kids

chron.com/news/education/back-to-school

CHRON

Citation by Publication
CAUSE NUMBER: 202605920
Plaintiff: DOE, JANE
vs.
Defendant: KAPRI ULTRA LOUNGE LLC
IN THE 127TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Harris
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: “You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org ”
TO: NEAL, CHRISTOPHER WHEREABOUTS OR RESIDENCE UNKNOWN
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to be and appear before the 127th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas in the Courthouse in the city of Houston, Texas at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M., Monday, JUNE 22, 2026, being the Monday next after the expiration date of forty-two days after this citation is issued, and you are hereby commanded and required then and there to appear and file written answer to the PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION filed in said Court on January 29, 2026, in a suit numbered 202605920 on the docket of said court, wherein DOE, JANE Plaintiff(s) and KAPRI ULTRA LOUNGE LLC, Defendant(s), the nature of plaintiff's demand being and the said petition alleging:
ASSAULT/BATTERY
On or about May 14, 2024, Plaintiff JANE DOE appeared at Kapri Ultra Lounge for a scheduled job interview for a position as a bottle service attendant. The interview was conducted by Defendant CHRISTOPHER NEAL, a manager at Kapri Ultra Lounge, who at all relevant times was acting within the course and scope of his employment with Defendant KAPRI ULTRA LOUNGE, LLC. During the interview, Plaintiff JANE DOE became uncomfortable due to Defendant CHRISTOPHER NEAL's conduct and proximity. Defendant CHRISTOPHER NEAL exited the room to answer a phone call and, upon reentering, moved excessively close to plaintiff and engaged in inappropriate and unwanted physical contact. Defendant CHRISTOPHER NEAL intentionally groped plaintiff's breast and private area without her consent. Plaintiff immediately told defendant CHRISTOPHER NEAL to stop and left the interview.
Notice hereof shall be given by publishing this Citation once a week for four consecutive weeks previous to JUNE 22, 2026, in some newspaper published in the County of HARRIS, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then the nearest county where a newspaper is published, and this Citation shall be returned on JUNE 16, 2026, which is forty-two days after the date it is issued, and the first publication shall be at least twenty-eight days before said return day.
HEREIN FAIL NOT , but have before said court on said return day this Writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed same.
WITNESS: Marilyn Burgess, District Clerk of Harris County, Texas
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at Houston, Texas on May 5, 2026.
(SEAL)
Newspaper: HOUSTON CHRONICLE
Issued at request of: DEHOYOS, RYAN A. 2990 RICHMOND AVENUE, SUITE 400 HOUSTON, TX 77098 832-745-4878
Bar Number: 24070931
<i>/s/ Marilyn Burgess</i> Marilyn Burgess, District Clerk of Harris County, Texas 201 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77002 P.O. Box 4651, Houston, Texas 77210
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