



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1447

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project requests a H145 helicopter which will increase HCSO's ability to aid wildfire cessation, post-hurricane relief, and rescue operations, while also increasing the number of specialty team members, such as SWAT Operators and Bomb Technicians, and their specialized equipment, which can be transported directly to locations where they are needed to respond throughout the State of Florida. This aircraft's safety features, reliability, and maintenance cost make it both practical and effective addition to HCSO's fleet.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	15,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	15,500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	15,500,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	15,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Not in the most recent fiscal year.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	This request would be used to purchase an Airbus H145, a twin-engine helicopter which would increase HCSO's capabilities to aid wildfire cessation, post-hurricane relief, and rescue operations, while also increasing the number of specialty team members, such as SWAT Operators and Bomb Technicians, and their specialized equipment, which can be transported directly to locations throughout Florida.	15,500,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		15,500,000

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?



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This aircraft will increase HCSO's ability to aid wildfire cessation, post-hurricane relief, and rescue operations, while also increasing the number of specialty team members, such as SWAT Operators and Bomb Technicians, and their specialized equipment, which can be transported directly to locations where they are needed to respond throughout the State of Florida. This aircraft's safety features, reliability, and maintenance cost make it both practical and effective addition to HCSO's fleet.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

HCSO will procure and put into service the requested aircraft and maintain it in good working order. HCSO will respond with the requested aircraft to calls for service including wildfires, requests for post-hurricane supplies and/or personnel, rescue operations to extract victims from remote areas, and calls for the deployment of specialty team members with their equipment.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

HCSO will respond to calls for service using the requested aircraft, which provides increased capabilities for responding to wildfires, requests for post-hurricane supplies, rescue operations for ambulatory or non-ambulatory victims in remote areas, and calls for service for specialty team members, such as SWAT Operators and/or Bomb Technicians, with their equipment.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population are the citizens of and visitors to Hillsborough County, which has a population of approximately 1.5 million people. The aircraft would be deployable to assist throughout the State of Florida which would allow this project to have a much larger impact, particularly during wildfires or after disasters such as hurricanes.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

This aircraft will increase HCSO's ability to aid wildfire cessation operations by more than doubling the potential capacity of the water delivery via bambi bucket from the current 140 gallons to 320 gallons with the requested H145. This increased capability could decrease the amount of time and resources required to extinguish wildfires while also minimizing resulting loss of life and property. HCSO's capability to respond to multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional calls for service within the Tampa Bay region or throughout the State of Florida, including providing more supplies per flight for post-hurricane operations, rescuing and transporting victims from remote areas, and delivering specialty team members and their equipment to critical operations would also be increased. Records for operations of this aircraft can be provided, including details of services provided, agencies assisted, equipment utilized, and deployment times.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type



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- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number