



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3081

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Rehabilitate the WRF serving Iona-McGregor, San Carlos Island and Fort Myers Beach to remediate loss of treatment capacity caused by aging infrastructure and damages sustained during Hurricane Ian (Sept. 2022).

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

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

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)	15,000,000	60%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	10,000,000	40%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	25,000,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?** Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

Seeking total State appropriation of \$45 million over three years for a project with an estimated total cost of \$209 million.

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

Yes

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



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\$134,459,744 - CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds used to provide community aid and government services. Expenditure and outcome reports located at <https://leeflcares.com/transparency#documents>

\$41,679,062.80 - Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA1 & ERA2) for rent and utility assistance provided to income qualified residents.

\$149,675,549 - American Rescue Plan Act allocations at <https://www.leegov.com/ARPA/Documents/Approved%20ARPA%20Allocations%20May%202026%202023.pdf>

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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

June 28, 2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

December 31, 2028

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.

Lee County Board of County Commissioners

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design, permitting, construction and equipment acquisition and installation to rehabilitate the WRF serving Iona-McGregor, San Carlos Island and Fort Myers Beach to remediate loss of treatment capacity caused by aging infrastructure and damages sustained during Hurricane Ian (Sept. 2022), to include hazard mitigation and flood-proofing elements.	15,000,000



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Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	15,000,000
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14. Program Performance

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

The proposed project is to restore the FMB WRF to at least its permitted treatment capacity of 6 MGD in order to handle the projected future flow conditions, ensure long-term efficient operation and performance. Including hazard mitigation and flood-proofing elements, to provide a coastal flooding resilient facility for uninterrupted treatment of domestic wastewater to coastal communities in the Town of Fort Myers Beach and unincorporated areas of Lee County.

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

As a part of this project, the awarded consultant will evaluate different solutions for both flood-proofing and mitigation strategies and provide recommendations for implementation in the appropriate applications. This project will apply various combination of construction measures, including but not limited to; structural loading/hardening, water-resistant coatings/fixtures, and raised platforms/structures to protect the critical infrastructure needed to operate the plant.

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

Following the aftermath of Hurricane Ian and in the devastation that hit the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Lee County, opportunities for new types of development and community needs/enhancements are available for the first in many years. This may include revising land use densities/intensities and rezoning. This change will cause an increase to the previous demands at the plant. On-going collaboration with the Town of Fort Myers Beach will be key to understanding and being able to accurately project future development demands and planning for improvements at the plant.

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

The FMB WRF treats wastewater from residential and commercial properties within the Town of Fort Myers Beach and adjacent unincorporated areas of Lee County, which comprises approximately 27% of LCU's service area wastewater flows primarily in the southwest region of the county. This represents a total estimated population of 168,114.

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

In the lessons learned from Hurricane Ian, the FMB WRF, was identified as the County's wastewater treatment facility most susceptible to sea-level rise and storm surge flooding due to the region low elevations and proximity to the coast. Taking this into consideration, Lee County is seeking funding to assist in promoting holistic regional resilience and prevention to future disruption to normal operations to minimize significant impacts to all customers, environmental risks and ongoing long-term functionality of the facility.

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?

Failure to adequately fulfill deliverables as contractually agreed can lead to non-payment and/or contract termination.

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



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c. Organization Type

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

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

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify) NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge and Resilient Florida Grant Programs
- N/A

19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)



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N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

Not ready

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0%

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2028