



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3213

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

The project site is located on Lake Talquin, Gadsden County, Florida. Lake Talquin is nationally known for its high-quality black crappie (speckled perch) fishery. The lake has little vegetation, but tree stumps and logs provide an excellent nursery and habitat for many of North Florida's freshwater fish species. Lake Talquin is also one of Florida's deepest lakes, with an average depth of 15 feet.

The Pat Thomas Eco-Tourism Park provides an exciting and unique experience for visitors and citizens. It allows visitors to enjoy fishing, boating, camping, and picnicking in one area. It will also educate visitors on the area's sensitive ecosystem and the need to be good stewards of our natural resources.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	605,377
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>605,377</b>

**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)	605,377	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>605,377</b>	<b>100%</b>

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?**  No
- 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.**

\$7.9 million CARES Supported small businesses, citizens, broadband, Community Awareness Program  
 \$4.4 million American Rescue Plan small businesses, non profits, church, public health, citizens, public awareness.

## 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.**

Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construct 17 new RV sites complete with hook-ups and concrete pads; construct a bathhouse with solar panels; expand/improve the septic system; purchase and install bike racks, new garbage/recycle cans, picnic tables, and benches; construct a Pavilion; improve parking areas and increase ADA parking; construct ADA sidewalks; construct a new ADA playground and refurbish existing equipment.	605,377
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>605,377</b>

### 14. Program Performance



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

This project has multiple benefits to not just Gadsden County but to the North Florida region as well. Eco-tourism and outdoor recreational opportunities are popular destination areas for residents and visitors alike. Outdoor recreational opportunities, such as the Pat Thomas Eco-Tourism Park, are important economic drivers in Gadsden County and the Florida Panhandle. Visitors traveling to the area purchase goods and services at local retail shops and grocery stores.

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

The Pat Thomas Eco-Tourism Park provides an exciting and unique experience for visitors and citizens. It allows visitors to enjoy fishing, boating, camping, and picnicking in one area. It will also educate visitors on the area's sensitive ecosystem and the need to be good stewards of our natural resources.

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

Design and Construct 17 New RV concrete pads and hook-ups with 50-amp service. Design and Construct an ADA pavilion. Design and Construct an ADA bathhouse with solar panels for heating water and heating the bathhouse during winter. Design and construct ADA sidewalks from parking to restrooms, proposed pavilion, and other areas. Design and construct a new septic system.

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

All demographical groups will benefit from this project. More than 45,000 individuals are expected to be served.

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

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**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?**

Corrective action plan created, measured and implemented with a success timeline in order for the state to continue to fund the project.

**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**

For Profit Entity

Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- 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**