



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3136

1. Project Title Port LaBelle Utility System Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion

2. Senate Sponsor Kathleen Passidomo

3. Date of Request 02/14/2023

4. Project/Program Description

Port LaBelle is one of the fastest growing areas in Hendry County, with 257 homes being built in 2021, 281 homes built in 2022 and 682 homes having active permits and applications for 2023. The Port LaBelle Utility System potable water treatment plant is in need of expansion to provide additional plant capacity in order to continue to accommodate the rapid increase in residential connections. This area is included in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) area in the Eastern Caloosahatchee Basin. This project would provide economic improvements for Hendry and Glades Counties. Staff submitted a grant application to DEP in July for the total cost of the project, however, DEP has not yet announced the awarded projects. This request is for the engineering and permitting phase of the project.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	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 2023-2024	1,000,000	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. 28,000,000

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

Applied for DEP Grant

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



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Yes

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

Cares Act Funds \$7,332,515.00
FHFC Funds \$186,549.70
E911 State Board \$36,000.00
HHS Stimulus \$25,418.81
FAA Covid Funds \$81,372.00
Emergency Housing Vouchers \$33,960.00
ARPA \$4,081,140.50

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

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

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

12/31/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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.

Hendry County

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	Permitting, design and engineering	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Expanding the WWTP will allow for additional capacity for septic to sewer conversions in the Port LaBelle Utility System Service Area

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

Design, permitting and engineering services to expand the wastewater treatment plant.

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

Project does not provide any direct services to citizens

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

Users within the Port LaBelle Utility System Service Area

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

Expansion of the plant will allow capacity for future septic to sewer conversions along with allowing capacity for future sewer connections.

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?

Revocation of funds to the state

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)
☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)
☒ Local Entity
☐ University or College
☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name
e. E-mail Address



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f. Phone Number (863)675-5329

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name Jessica F. Love

b. Firm Name GrayRobinson PA

c. E-mail Address jessica.love@gray-robinson.com

d. Phone Number (850)577-9090

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) DEP Grant
- ☐ 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)
- ☐ 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?

12/31/2026