



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1214

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Design funding is sought for a new gateway structure with an electronic toll system, new landscaping, and pavement improvements at the south end of the Bob Sikes Bridge. The existing toll booth facility visually cues motorists to stop in spite of the signage to the contrary increasing traffic congestion. These changes will keep the motoring public moving efficiently onto the island while collecting the toll and providing an aesthetic greeting to keep tourism thriving on Pensacola Beach. The 2023 Summer Tourist Season saw 15 of the top 17 highest recorded vehicle count days since recording began in 2016, hence the importance of modifying the existing means of collecting tolls on Santa Rosa Island to be as efficiently as possible.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	250,000
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	250,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	200,000	2042A	Yes

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?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1214

Yes

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

Escambia County has received the following federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic that have been used for Family and Business economic loss, COVID-19 prevention and testing.
 CARES Act Funds in the amount of \$57,285,295.00 that had to be spent by December 2020.
 American Rescue Plan Act - We received \$30,914,575.50 on 6/9/21 and another \$30,914,575.50 on 6/9/22.

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.

Escambia County owns the Bob Sikes Toll Bridge and Toll Collection Facility (Toll Booth).

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 services will be procured from an Engineering Design Consultant in order to design and permit the proposed improvements.	250,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

14. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1214

Design funding is sought for a new gateway structure with an electronic toll system, new landscaping, and pavement improvements at the south end of the Bob Sikes Bridge. The existing toll booth facility visually cues motorists to stop in spite of the signage to the contrary increasing traffic congestion. These changes will keep the motoring public moving efficiently onto the island while collecting the toll and providing an aesthetic greeting to keep tourism thriving on Pensacola Beach.

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

Design of an efficient Toll-By-Plate facility that will keep traffic moving more efficiently onto Santa Rosa Island for patrons of Pensacola Beach, Fort Pickens, and Gulf Islands National Seashore.

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

Once designed and constructed, the new Toll-By-Plate Facility will move traffic in a more efficient manner than the existing traditional toll both facility that subconsciously encourages motorists to stop and slow traffic flow.

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

The general population who chooses to patronize Santa Rosa Island. Vehicle counts for 2023 through September indicate 4,187,796 vehicles passed through the existing Toll-By-Plate facility. This is 300,759 more vehicles over the same time period as 2022.

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

Improvements will allow additional visitors for the beach community while also allowing residents to more efficiently come and go from their homes on the island resulting in fewer backups across the Bob Sikes Bridge into Gulf Breeze congesting US Hwy 98. We expect no traffic backups on normal tourists season weekends excluding Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Blue Angels Weekend. Daily Counts are provided by the current Toll-By-Plate System and traffic is monitored remotely by a traffic engineer from mid-April through Labor Day. Reports are provided weekly for traffic volumes and travel time.

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?

The professional services agreement between the County and Consultant will have penalties for not providing deliverables within the time allotted for design in the scope of services and agreement. These penalties could include monetary penalties, negative post design evaluations for the firm, and decreased likelihood of obtaining additional design work in the future.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1214

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

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