



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2581

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

4. Project/Program Description

Funds needed for project management & construction to complete site work per the design of the Okeechobee Jail improvements, which includes adding additional beds (i.e., 232 beds/73,072 sq.ft. to 424 beds/119,582 sq.ft.) to safely accommodate increased adult and juvenile (female/male) prisoners and protect 1st responders/employees; provide a safe intake & processing area; medical & administration offices; emergency generator w/fuel tank, demolition of existing old pods, add new inmate cells. Project addresses the life, health and safety of law enforcement employees/first responders/inmates/the public as they are at risk in the old antiquated facility built in 1986 that has major plumbing issues, mold, obsolete equipment & does not meet rules/regulations to properly address increases of the inmate population, separation of male/female inmates and safe processing of inmates. Promotes employment/jobs, increases revenues in this Rural Area of Opportunity.

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	7,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	7,500,000

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)	7,500,000	11%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	7,500,000	12%
Local	30,000,000	46%
Other	20,000,000	31%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	65,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	7,500,000	1281a	No

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.



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

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

The County received \$8,190,640.00 in American Rescue Recovery Act funds that have been utilized to address Jail Expansion/Renovation from revenue loss, water, sewer, storm water, broadband infrastructure and tourist development shortfall.

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.

Okeechobee County is both owner and 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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Contractual Project management and construction services for jail improvements	7,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		7,500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Purpose is to complete the Okeechobee Jail improvements which includes adding additional beds (i.e., 232 beds/73,072 sq.ft. to 424 beds/119,582 sq.ft.) to safely accommodate increased adult and juvenile (female/male) prisoners and protect 1st responders/employees; provide a safe intake & processing area; medical & administration offices; emergency generator w/fuel tank, demolition of existing old pods, adding new inmate cells.

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

Continue with the project management & construction services to complete jail improvements as designed. When completed, facility would double amount of new housing space (56,460 sq.ft.) and total number of new inmate beds (424 inmate beds); secure intake & processing area; needed administration/medical space, emergency generator, ADA compliance, complete site work under County's procurement policies.

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

The existing jail structure is failing. Citizens are better served by improved facilities creating a safer, more secure, and positive environment that leads to less liability on the County and vicariously upon the tax payers. Environment encouraging the recovery and improvement of those incarcerated to increase the probability of becoming productive and contributing members of the community.

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

Population served is the residents and visitors of Okeechobee County that is designated as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern per Executive Order #11-81; and as outlined in F.S. 288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) as a Rural Area of Opportunity; law enforcement personnel, first responders including the inmate population: Greater than 40,000 expected to be served. Additionally, the following target population are expected to be served by this facility: Persons with poor mental health, Persons with poor physical health, Jobless persons, Economically disadvantaged persons, Currently or Formerly incarcerated persons, Drug Offenders, Victims of crime, etc.

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

Expected outcome is a fully renovated/constructed facility that provides appropriate and safe Sheriff facilities and adequate jail accommodations to address increasing inmate populations and safely protect law enforcement personnel/visitors/citizenry; improve State revenues; increase workforce (estimated 13 jobs to be created). Improve mental/physical health, inmate education, protect general public from harm, reduce recidivism and substance abuse. Completion and certification of the project.

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?

Contractual milestones to be adhered to throughout the project; non-payment of invoices until milestones addressed; corrective action plan, liquidated damages, if needed.

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