



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1293

1. Title of Project: Hardee County Agricultural Educational Training Co

2. Senate Sponsor: Ben Albritton

3. Date of Submission: 02/06/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

To construct a 4,000 sq. ft. Agricultural Training/Conference Center building at \$150 per sq. ft. located adjacent to the Hardee County Agri-Civic Center & the County Extension/University of Florida Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences Center that will accommodate up to 200 people & will have the capability to be sectioned into 2 separate rooms that would accommodate 80-100 on each side. Facility would offer a size variety based on needs of the conference or training being offered, whether the needs require 200 people or 100 or less. The location is close to current restroom facilities of the Agri-Civic Center that serves as local hub for a lot of agricultural, education, Fair Association, schools, civic & community events that could utilize them making this project more cost effective. Hardee County is a Rural Area of Economic Opportunity.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

State Agency Contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	600,000
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	600,000	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	600,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		500,000	2241	Yes

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Other Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	contractual architectural/engineering & construction services	600,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		600,000

11. Program Performance:

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

Purpose is to design and construct a 4,000 sq.ft. agricultural educational training conference center to meet the demand for a facility that will accommodate up to 200 persons allowing to hold affordable educational/training programs/seminars & events, providing employment opportunities, increase of tourism & revenues.

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

Contractual architectural/engineering for final design and a set of construction plans, permitting, bidding, project management and construction of 4,000 sq. ft. facility to meet the demand for a facility that will accommodate up to 200 persons allowing to hold affordable educational programs/seminars & events.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Once completed, the conference center provides the opportunity to host affordable educational/training programs/seminars to be attended by interested parties, i.e., students, elderly, special needs, residents, visitors, and the business community from the County and surrounding communities.

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

Florida residents & visitors, business community, organizations -- >800

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

Final design/construction plans & construction of 4,000 sq. ft. facility to hold affordable educational/training programs/seminars and events in a facility to accommodate up to 200 individuals per event, keep Floridians



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working with this project, employment opportunities, increased revenues. Monitoring of event bookings and attendees. Employment maintained from 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 in the contract?**

non payment of invoices

12. **The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

Hardee County is the owner of the facility and the entity.

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Lexton H. Albritton, Jr.
- b. **Organization:** Hardee County Board of County Commissioners
- c. **E-mail Address:** Lex.Albritton@hardeecounty.net
- d. **Phone Number:** (863)773-9430

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Hardee County Board of County Commissioners
- b. **County:** Hardee
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Lexton H. Albritton, Jr.
- e. **E-mail Address:** Lex.Albritton@hardeecounty.net
- f. **Phone Number:** (863)773-9430

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Connie Vanassche
- b. **Firm Name:** CAS Governmental Services, LLC
- c. **E-mail Address:** ccvgovser@gmail.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)512-0089