



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1598

**1. Title of Project:** Washington County Agriculture (AG) Center

**2. Senate Sponsor:** George Gainer

**3. Date of Submission:** 02/07/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

The Washington County Agriculture Center is located on a seven-acre property in Chipley, Florida and was constructed in the 1960's. Owned by the State of Florida and leased by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners, it has been the host to multiple types of community, regional, and state-wide public events. Most recently, it is serving as a FEMA Hurricane Recovery Center following Hurricane Michael. The existing facility houses an auditorium, conference areas and office spaces. The current facility is in great disrepair as shown in the photographs attached. The roof has been repaired multiple times and still continues to leak, which resulted in the removal of stored public records from the Clerk of Court's Office. The facility was originally constructed on approximately 30-feet of muck, which has led to great settlement. The settlement has caused cracking in the foundation, as well as in the walls. Plumbing in the restrooms are in desperate need of upgrades.

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

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,517,500
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,517,500</b>

**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)	2,517,500	89.4%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	300,000	10.6%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>2,817,500</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**8. Has this project previously received state funding?** No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

**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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	0	0
Other Salary and Benefits	0	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	0	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	0	0
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	0	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	0	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	0	0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	0	2,517,500
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,517,500</b>

#### 11. Program Performance:

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

This project would provide a new and expanded Agriculture Center for Washington County. It would include demolition of the existing building which is in great disrepair due to foundation settlement, leaking roof, outdated plumbing, etc. The current facility rentals bring in approximately 25,000 visitors per year and continued growth is anticipated. The proposed project includes a 15,000 SF building with agriculture, livestock, 4-H, family and consumer sciences, and horticulture offices, along with many other uses.

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

The funds would be used to provide architectural, engineering and construction activities for the Agriculture Center expansion. The improved facility will provide enhanced opportunities for the citizens and youth within the Region. Washington County has seen an increase in exhibitor events which educate the participants and the public in the area of livestock, agriculture, horticulture, food production, and product services with special emphasis on youth activities.

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

Direct services for citizens include services provided by Family and Consumer Sciences, Horticulture, 4-H, Livestock, and UF/IFAS Extension Agency. Also, events held at the facility include livestock shows, festivals, fairs, dances, pageants, fundraisers, banquets, graduations, theater and concert events, various educational and recreational classes and trainings, weddings, reunions, seminars, etc.

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

General population; the funds will benefit all age groups. Target population = >800



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

Completion of the project will enhance cultural experiences by providing additional areas for exhibitions, and multiple community, regional and state-wide events. This will include, but is not limited to, agriculture, education and competition opportunities. The success of cultural experiences will be measured by the total number of people visiting the facility each year. Completion of the project will improve agricultural activities by providing opportunities to educate participants and the public in the areas of livestock, agriculture, horticulture, food production, and product services with special emphasis on youth activities. Success of improved agricultural production/promotion/education will be measured by an increase in exhibitor events held within Washington County. The construction project would provide immediate job opportunities for the entire area, and will require various types of construction crews to complete 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 in the contract?**

If the State determines that the performance of the County is not satisfactory, the State shall have the option of (a) immediately terminating the Agreement, or (b) notifying the County of the deficiency with a requirement that the deficiency be corrected within a specified time, otherwise the Agreement will be terminated at the end of such time, or (c) take whatever action is deemed appropriate by the State.

**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.**

The facility is owned by the State of Florida and leased by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners.

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Karen Shaw
- b. **Organization:** Washington County Board of County Commissioners
- c. **E-mail Address:** Kshaw@washingtonfl.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)638-6058

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Washington County Board of County Commissioners
- b. **County:** Washington
- 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:** Jeff Massey



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e. **E-mail Address:** JMassey@washingtonfl.com

f. **Phone Number:** (850)638-6200

#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. **Name:** None

b. **Firm Name:** None

c. **E-mail Address:**

d. **Phone Number:**