



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2189

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Design and permitting for reestablishment of a tidal connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay. Local funding noted includes previous project expenses related to the proposed work.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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	38%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,641,192	62%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	2,641,192	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

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?

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2189

Sarasota County has received approximately \$222.8 million dollars of COVID-19 relief funding through the CARES Act, CRRSA, and ARPA. Funding was and is currently being used to respond to the short and long term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, to include financially supporting impacted local businesses, individuals, non-profits, and municipal partners through the completed Sarasota CARES program; providing emergency rental assistance to landlords and tenants through the Sarasota ERA program; and advancing affordable housing efforts, water quality projects, recovering revenue loss, and supporting other miscellaneous capital projects through the Sarasota SLFRF program.

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?

Not Applicable

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

Not Applicable

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.

Sarasota 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	Engineering and environmental design and permitting of a tidal connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay.	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?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2189

Engineering and environmental design and permitting of a tidal connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay.

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

Engineering and environmental design and permitting of a tidal connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay.

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

A new connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay is expected to improve water quality, increase economic and tourism activity in this part of Sarasota County with increased boating, related retail/commercial activities and property values.

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

All of Sarasota County and any visitors to the Little Sarasota Bay area.

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

The project is intended to improve water quality within Little Sarasota Bay and increase the population of fisheries, shellfish and seagrasses. A new connection between the Gulf of Mexico and Little Sarasota Bay is expected to improve water quality, increase economic and tourism activity in this part of Sarasota County with increased boating, related retail/commercial activities and property values.

Outcomes will be measured through environmental sampling and statistics and annual seagrass monitoring/measurements, along with tax receipts, permit applications, property appraiser valuations and Chamber of Commerce statistics.

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?

Sarasota County imposes performance reporting for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in its consulting contracts. In severe cases of failure, consultants may be placed on a no-bid prohibition for County related contracting.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2189

☐ 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