



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2041

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI) is a multi-agency partnership formed in 2000 with the single purpose of seeking out funding assistance for projects that would improve and protect the natural resources within the first federally funded designated Wild and Scenic River in the State of Florida. LRPI focuses on stormwater discharge and hydrologic improvements, along with septic to sewer conversions and habitat restoration projects designed to improve and protect the natural resources within the watershed. Revitalizing this important water body provides long-term environmental, recreational and economic benefits to the region. Each State dollar is matched at the local level on a minimum 50:50 cost share basis, with over \$46 million in State funds having been effectively utilized for watershed restoration projects since its inception.

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	774,543
Total State Funds Requested	774,543

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)	774,543	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	774,543	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	1,549,086	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	985,255	2500	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?**



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

Palm Beach County is the recipient of CARES US Treasury funds in the amount of \$261 million dollars. Funding was spent entirely for emergency assistance, mortgage assistance, business grants, COVID 19 sheltering, testing, and isolation and emergency personnel. Palm Beach County received \$290,730,026 in American Rescue Plan funding which was used on pandemic-related service and infrastructure projects.

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.

As a partner of the LRPI, Palm Beach County serves as the requester, and FDEP receives the funds. Owners to receive appropriations if awarded by way of this request include the Town of Jupiter, Martin County and Palm Beach 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	Construction costs for capital projects including habitat restoration and storm water system improvements.	774,543
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		774,543

14. Program Performance

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



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Funds requested will support capital construction efforts designed to improve water and habitat quality within the Loxahatchee River and its watershed. Agency partners of LRPI Initiative, consisting of local government and water control representatives, as well as representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District, ranked the proposed projects based on priority need and beneficial impacts to the Loxahatchee River.

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

Projects include storm water system improvements to reduce runoff and sediment loading into the Loxahatchee River and its tributaries, as well as hydrologic improvements designed to improve quantity and quality of freshwater flow into the watershed. Funds will be utilized primarily for capital costs associated with the various projects, with a small percentage utilized to contract consulting and engineering services to support the various projects.

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

Direct and secondary improvements to water quality, habitat quality and sediment quality within the watershed and surrounding urban environment.

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

The target population served by this effort and associated projects includes the residents and numerous visitors of both Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

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

Benefits will include the reduction of nutrient and sediment loading into the Loxahatchee River and its tributaries, along with hydrologic improvements to the existing natural floodplain and wetland systems within the watershed. Methodologies to measure expected benefits of these efforts include water quality and biological monitoring.

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?

None. LRPI has a years-long, documented track record of success related to performance measures and deliverables associated with funds appropriated to support these efforts. Through this program's minimum 50:50 match commitment from participants, over \$46 million in State funds and local funds have been dedicated to restoring the Loxahatchee River.

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)



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- 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

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify)
- N/A

19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?