



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1444

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

4. Project/Program Description

United Food Bank and Services of Plant City, Inc. (UFBPC), a 501(c)(3) formed in 1991, now serving 16,880 clients annually with 152,607 service requests filled in FY22 across the eight East Hillsborough County communities including Plant City, Brandon, Valrico, Lithia, Seffner, Thonotosassa, Dover, and Bealsville, with a small presence in Riverview, is requesting \$2 million in assistance from the State of Florida, toward its \$5 million capital campaign to construct a new building at 702 E. Alsobrook Street. The current structure, occupied by UFBPC for 10 years, built in 1988, is unable to keep up with the agency's growth, going from 157,783 pounds of food distributed in 2016-2017, to 2,759,070 pounds distributed in 2021-2022, a 1,648 percent increase. The new building will have 111,038 ft of space, a near doubling of the current 56,980 ft, with intake areas for 1:1 client meetings, an educational area, increased storage with vertical racking, and a standard height loading dock.

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	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	38%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	450,000	9%
Other	2,729,353	53%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	5,179,353	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.**

N/A



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1444

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.

Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) funding for \$36,712 was received in May of 2021. A total of \$300,070 was received from Hillsborough CARES in 2021 (November and December combined), and \$734,832.60 was received from Hillsborough CARES in 2022 (June, August, and September combined), all for food purchases.

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.

United Food Bank and Services of Plant City, Inc. (legal 501(c)(3) 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	New building construction costs, including masonry, metals, woods and plastics, openings, door frames and hardware, glass, finishes, framing and drywall, ceiling, and flooring under the supervision of CBRE construction project management firm for cost containment oversight on behalf of United Food Bank and Services of Plant City. While construction starts in October of 2023 with targeted completion by mid-2024, the capital campaign will continue through the end of 2024, with this funding.	2,000,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1444

Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	2,000,000
--	------------------

14. Program Performance

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

United Food Bank and Services of Plant City, Inc. plans to construct a \$5 million new building utilizing public and private contributions, with \$1,699,893 in the bank, \$450,000 coming from the Hillsborough BOCC, and Driscoll's global corporation helping toward the end with a community-wide matching grant. With the \$2 million in LFIR funds, as requested from the State of Florida, the new building, through its near doubling of cubic space, will increase storage capacity for food supplies; expand educational opportunities for its clients; enhance a computer lab that links clients to education, jobs, and resources; allow for assessments at intake with space for private client meetings; and increase parking for clients and visitors. Additionally, a new standard height loading dock and vertical racking system will assure that more food and emergency supply donations are accepted to meet increased community need.

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

To meet the goal of constructing a new 111,038 ft building at 702 East Alsobrook Street in Plant City, the activities to accomplish this include the hiring of a nationally recognized project construction firm, CBRE, utilizing Senior Project Manager, Claudio Pastore, with 24 years of construction and project management experience with a Business Management degree from Mercy College in Dobs Ferry, New York, working alongside of Boggs Design Partners from Plant City with Erica Azorin Craig, AIA, NCARB, as the project's Principal Architect, with more than 11 years of experience in commercial and residential architecture. A business plan for the new building is in place and on file as required by the Hillsborough County BOCC to guide all aspects of the Architectural & Engineering, Procurement, General Contractor, Construction, Technology, Furniture, and Construction Closeout phases. United Food Bank has a Board of Directors Building Committee to oversee Mr. Pastore from CBRE.

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

While no direct services are being purchased with the requested \$2,000,000 in funding through this LFIR for FY 2024-2025, the new United Food Bank building that these funds will contribute to, will allow for an increase and improvement in direct services by design. The growth in demand of this facility has left United Food Bank no other choice but to expand its footprint in all aspects, including parking, warehouse, offices, classroom, demonstration cooking, food storage, volunteer sorting, diaper and pet pantries, as well as client meeting rooms and the lobby. The new building will allow for increased capacity across all direct services and will allow for improved efficiencies in its main hunger relief program, its Feeding Our Future program for children, and its Feeding Our Legacy program for seniors, in addition to the financial literacy, health literacy, and healthy eating habits classroom instruction, with a new demonstration kitchen that will allow for increased attendance.

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

United Food Bank clients, all who come from or who are served in one of the eight surrounding communities of East Hillsborough--within District 23--including Plant City, Brandon, Dover, Thonotosassa, Seffner, Historic Bealsville, Valrico, Lithia, and a very small portion of clients located in Riverview, demographically include 83 percent White (includes White Hispanics), 14 percent Black, another .05 percent Asian, and a total of 2.5 percent who checked "other" by race. A total of 33 percent of the clients served at this food bank are Hispanic. The United Food Bank target population includes 46.1 percent females and 53.9 percent male clients; 27.1 percent are children, 7.4 percent are infants, 44.1 percent are adults and 21.4 percent are elderly. Poverty of households with children under five years of age is 18.5 percent in Plant City compared to 11.9 percent in Hillsborough County. More than 16,000 individuals will be served annually with more than 150,000 total individual services.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1444

An expected benefit of United Food Bank and Services' new building will be to increase the strength and capability of food-insecure individuals, families (including children), and seniors to improve their health and ability to thrive in predominately rural portions of Hillsborough County. The measurement will be to implement and track the number of attendees who participate in financial literacy, healthy cooking, and health literacy classes in the new building, as compared to prior attendance records. Either a pre- and post-test or a self-report mechanism will be provided to participants to gauge the knowledge gained and perceived benefit of course instruction for tabulation and reporting purposes. Additionally, the number of clients engaged in onsite activities can increase with added parking at the new building, added square footage, and the ability to conduct overlapping events, whereas limited space now creates an either/or scenario. Future increases in services will be tabulated.

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?

United Food Bank and Services of Plant City (UFBPC) is accustomed to contracting with government through its local BOCC, even for a parking lot renovation funding commitment in 2018. In its contract agreement, UFBPC agreed to a 20-year lien on the property not to exceed the awarded amount. The capital contribution includes a lien that is amortized annually over 20 years using straight-line depreciation. This is one example with UFBPC committing to all covenants and obligations secured by the lien with this local municipality, a contract this nonprofit maintains ongoing and in close working relationship with Hillsborough County Government, in large part due to its good stewardship of the funds and valued services to the community. A signed and special, public commendation was presented to UFBPC from all the Hillsborough County Commissioners in June of 2021.

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
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1444

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number