



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2371

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The project is a preliminary engineering study of the potential construction of a new 3,500-foot-long roadway to connect Blount Island to the fully remediated St. Johns River Power Park, connecting Power Park Loop Road to the Hecksher Drive / Blount Island Boulevard Intersection. The Roadway will generally parallel an existing rail line and require the widening of the existing rail line causeway, with an eye towards space rocket recovery / transport and other Florida target industry usage.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</b>

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)	500,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	500,000	50%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

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

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**  No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

An appropriation of current year revenues from the JEA Electric System.

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Yes



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

As of December 7, 2023, JEA has submitted approximately \$2.9 million in costs to FEMA related to the COVID-19 pandemic and has not received any reimbursement for these costs.

## 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

Study will inform

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

Study will inform

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.

Local Government / JEA. JEA is a municipal utility owned by the City of Jacksonville, which owns / remediated the Power Park site that would be connected by the potential bridge being evaluated. If deemed feasible, the bridge, once constructed, would likely be owned by the State of Florida. The study will inform the question of ultimate ownership as well as permitting needs, earliest start date, estimated time to complete, and cost / needed cost share to construct the bridge.

### 13. 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
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	The purpose for the requested funds is to undertake a preliminary engineering study for the project. The Study will include: data collection (surveying, geotechnical sampling, environmental investigations, and traffic volumes), a determination of the required intersection configuration at Hecksher Drive, a summary of the project, and cost of construction estimating.	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance



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

The purpose is to conduct a preliminary engineering study of the potential construction of a new 3,500-foot-long roadway to connect Blount Island to the fully remediated St. Johns River Power Park, connecting Power Park Loop Road to the Hecksher Drive / Blount Island Boulevard Intersection. The Roadway will generally parallel an existing rail line and require the widening of the existing rail line causeway, with an eye towards space rocket recovery / transport and other Florida target industry usage.

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

The Study will include: data collection (surveying, geotechnical sampling, environmental investigations, and traffic volumes), a determination of the required intersection configuration at Hecksher Drive, a summary of the project, and cost of construction estimating.

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

The study will not provide direct services; rather, it will enable JEA to determine the feasibility of benefiting the Northeast Florida region by connecting the 1,000 acres of buildable land within this remediated industrial site.

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

The Northeast Florida region. The metro Jacksonville area has a population of over 1.7 million people

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

The St. Johns Power Park presents a unique opportunity to transform a remediated industrial site into a regional economic engine. The site includes 1,000 acres of buildable land, 25 acres of deep channel waterfront, close proximity to JAXPORT, 2 miles to I-295, 6 miles to I-95, 21 miles to I-10, 5 miles internal rail loop and industrial siding tracks, direct access to CSX lines, utility access (electric, water, wastewater, gas). The viability of connecting site via a roadway will be measured by data collection (surveying, geotechnical sampling, environmental investigations, and traffic volumes), a determination of the required intersection configuration at Hecksher Drive, and the cost of construction estimating.

**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?**

JEA contracts have standard penalties for failure to deliver.

**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)



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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

**a. Name**

**b. Firm Name**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**