



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3085

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Improve economic development, increase agricultural opportunities, programs/events, tourism, and meet demand to have a climate-controlled building to be constructed on county-owned land located on the fairgrounds. New facility will meet demand and serve many revenue generating events, i.e., Agricultural-related expos, FAA, 4H, Farm Bureau, craft fairs/green markets, concerts, graduation ceremonies, weddings, community and regional events, etc.

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	7,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>7,500,000</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)	7,500,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>7,500,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.



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Received: \$5,232,196; Funds used for eligible COVID-19 public health expenses (i.e., vaccinations, payroll, counseling/services, shelter mods., etc.), administration reporting/ equitable outcome/community engagement expenses, and capital investing in public facilities (i.e., broadband, HVAC/filter-related, productivity tech/software, facilities sanitation, etc.).

## 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?

7/1/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/30/2026

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.

Hardee County is the owner and the entity.

### 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	Contractual services for architectural/engineering design, bidding, administration, project management, engineering during construction and construction	7,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>7,500,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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

To improve the fairgrounds with a climate-controlled building that will meet market demands and serve as an economic revenue generator for new programs/events, i.e., Agricultural-related expos, 4H, FAA, Farm Bureau, craft fairs/green markets, concerts, graduation ceremonies, weddings, community and regional events, etc. Providing for stability, protection of life, health and safety in this Rural Area of Opportunity.



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

To seek contractual professional architectural/engineering design, bidding, administration, project management, engineering during construction and construction through the competitive procurement process.

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

Direct services to citizens is safe, comfortable facility to enjoy and experience. Protecting life, health and safety for users and attendees from intense heat, serve storm events while attending events and programs, i.e., weddings, graduations, fair expos, craft fairs, etc. in this Rural Area of Opportunity.

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

Hardee County, which is a financially disadvantaged community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C.) that is located in a Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes), citizenry, visitors, tourists, business community and surrounding areas. Greater than 27,000 expected to be served.

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

Expected benefit is completion of the building, enhancing education, agriculture related programs as the new climate controlled facility provides for a new venue to meet the demand for events and programs to be held inside away from weather related storms and incidents. Improving the economy, tourism, providing for stabilization to this Rural Area of Opportunity.

**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?**

Non-payment of invoices until milestones achieved; implementation of corrective action plan.

**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)



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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