



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1514

1. Project Title Palatka Potable Water Main Line Replacement

2. Senate Sponsor Travis Hutson

3. Date of Request 02/13/2023

4. Project/Program Description

To replace failing water lines, correct poor water quality and alleviate excessive water loss within the system (116,952,000 gallons in 2020). The City currently has 40 miles of failing water lines. Since 2015, the City has replaced 14.5 miles of failing lines with 3.5 in progress and planning an additional 8 miles of replacement. The aged potable lines contain a high level of tuberculation and biofilm buildup. This has been linked to contamination and threats to public health and can negatively impact fire flow, water quality and adequate supply to residents. This project is for approximately 36,510 LF of potable main line replacement within the City of Palatka, specifically the development of the Wilson Cypress Site and the Downtown area.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	7,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>

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)	7,000,000	85%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	750,000	9%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	500,000	6%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>8,250,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	500,000	1635A	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 5,000,000

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

The City has exhausted its current SRF Drinking Water Loan (\$10.4 million) to replace potable lines and has been awarded \$3 million from the St. John's River Water Management District Cost Share Program and 2.25 million from CDBG Small Cities since 2015. The City continues to actively pursue alternative funding in order to get the remaining failing and aged potable lines replaced as quickly as possible to ensure maximum public safety.



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

Yes

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

\$499,397.27 as a pass through from Putnam County. Used for Public Safety Personnel Costs; Employee leave due to Covid; telecommunications system and Commission Chamber Infrastructure to facilitate remote working, governmental business and public meetings; and PPE. \$5,234,421 in ARPA funding, \$2.69 million of this was allocated toward potable water; the remainder is PPE; Emergency Responder Communication Equipment; broadband; public educational; as well as health and safety programs.

### 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)?

Yes

##### c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

7/1/2023

##### d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

6/30/2024

#### 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.

City of Palatka owns the potable water distribution system.

#### 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	Construction, Bidding Administration, Construction Administration and Observation	7,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>7,000,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance



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

To replace failing water lines in order to correct poor water quality, alleviate excessive water loss within the system (116,952,000 gallons in 2020). This is necessary to ensure public safety for our residents and to encourage economic growth. Due to the age and condition, there is a high level of tuberculation causing an issue with the water quality currently being offered to residents. Also biofilm, or layers of bacteria, collect and build up on the interior of corroded pipe. Biofilm consists of nutrients, microbes, worms and water-borne pathogens. This has been linked to contamination in the water supply and threats to public health. This negatively impacts fire flow, water quality and supply to residents. The new infrastructure will also decrease the current issue plaguing residents, Red Water with high-particulate iron concentrations due to corrosion. It is a common water quality-related customer complaint.

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

Replacing the old and outdated potable water supply infrastructure with sustainable, newer PVC materials will alleviate the concern of both contamination and the possibility of low water pressure within the existing system. Low pressure can cause a problem in the event of fire as the hydrants might not have the pressure needed to put out the threat. The new infrastructure will also decrease the current issue plaguing residents, Red Water. Red water is the generic term for water with high-particulate iron concentrations due to corrosion byproduct release. It is a common water quality-related customer complaint in the project area: tap water with objectionable tastes, odors and staining (<https://www.corrosionpedia.com/definition/965/red-water>). The replacement of the failing pipes with PVC will serve to alleviate water loss through leaks, breaks, and the need to regularly flush the system as PVC does not have the issues with tuberculation that plagues cast iron.

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

This project will enable the City of Palatka to distribute potable water with a high water quality, and adequate water pressure free from the contamination of tuberculation, biofilm and high particulate iron concentrations; improve fire protection through increased fire flow with increased number of hydrants and equidistant placement of fire hydrants within the City; and will improve the economic development prospects of Palatka as proper infrastructure is one of the key needs to encourage new businesses to settle in Palatka. This initiative will include the Wilson Cypress Site and the Downtown area.

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

The target population served by this project is the population of the City of Palatka. The City is comprised of households with low to moderate income levels, a high percentage of low income housing, and lower than average property values. These factors contribute to the City's current fiscally constrained status. With this application the City is seeking to fund a stand alone phase of this multiphase plan of potable water line replacement and would replace approximately 36,510 linear feet of the City's failing potable water infrastructure.

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

The City will be able to deliver cleaner and safer drinking water free of biofilm that can lead to water contamination to residents currently being serviced by failing and aged pipes. The public safety of residents will also improve as current leaks and breaks can adversely affect water pressure which can be a problem in the event of a fire if the hydrant does not have adequate water pressure to be utilized by the fire department. The outcome can be measured by the reduction in frequency of flushing needs, the reduction in the number of breaks and leaks, the reduction in the complaints from citizens of red water, and the increase in available pressure at fire hydrants.

**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?**

Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

**15. Requester Contact Information**

a. First Name  Last Name   
b. Organization



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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

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) St Johns River Management District
- ☐ N/A

#### 19. What is the population economic status?



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- ☐ 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?**

5 phases completed. 2 phases under construction, 2 phases scheduled

**21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

50% complete, 5 phases completed, 3 under constriction, 2 scheduled

**22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

6/30/2024