



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2048

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Since Warner University was established in 1968, the campus has continued to grow and has now outgrown its old wastewater treatment plant. The system services nearby Bok Academy South, a church, a retirement community, a mobile home park and multiple homes. It is now far exceeding its 2005-designed capacity. The campus is located in close proximity to Crooked Lake and this poses a negative environmental impact, especially during storms. A new, more efficient system is desperately needed to meet the growth of the university and the surrounding area of South Lake Wales.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,250,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,250,000

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)	2,250,000	96%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	100,000	4%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	2,350,000	100%

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? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Warner University has been working with the USDA on an application for their Water and Waste Direct Loan Program. Warner has also agreed to invest \$100,000 into this project from our own budget.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2048

Yes

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

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF):
 Student Portion: \$2,771,905
 Institutional Portion: \$3,348,169
 Strengthening Institutions: \$262,522

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)?

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.

Warner University.

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	Contract services for planning, design and building project to meet all codes, etc.	2,250,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,250,000

14. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2048

Warner University is in desperate need of a new wastewater treatment facility on its campus. Warner has historically provided wastewater treatment at no cost to the local community. This community consists of over 3,000 individuals among a service area that includes Bok Academy South middle school, South Lake Wales Church of God, a 50-unit mobile home park, Genesis Point (a retirement community) and multiple single-family homes.

Due to Warner's growth and the addition of Bok Academy, the wastewater treatment facility is now far exceeding its 2005-designed capacity of 86,000 gallons per day. It averages over 200,000 gallons per day which has a negative environmental impact on our nearby Crooked Lake - the only state-registered "Outstanding Florida Water" in Polk County. This situation is beyond the community's ability to resolve independently.

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

Warner University is now at a complete standstill for growth due to this wastewater capacity issue. No new development can happen due to no new bathrooms being allowed to be added to the system. Warner is out of dorm space for students and this Fall had to have students residing in the local Hampton Inn due to being overcapacity in our residence halls. Not only dorm space, but updated academic buildings are halted as well as even adding stadium seating to the new athletic turf field on the front of campus near Hwy 27. The new wastewater treatment facility will allow us to permit for bathrooms and keep up with the growth of Warner as well as allow growth for our neighbors who utilize our system.

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

Direct services to the citizens include the ability to grow and add on facilities at our neighboring organizations like Bok Academy, South Lake Wales Church of God, Genesis Point retirement community, and nearby residential communities who use our system. It also includes the service of clean and filtered water through our updated system, leaving the nearby Crooked Lake uncontaminated. The addition of new job opportunities at Warner through the growth, expanded service jobs on campus, and the cafeteria, as well as jobs in the residence halls and athletic fields. Tourism will also be boosted in this South Lake Wales area due to the number of tournaments and games that will bring in those from other areas to play at Warner's new football/lacrosse/soccer field with a large track, making the newest of its kind in East Polk County.

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

The largest population to be served by this project would be the Warner University community consisting of students, faculty and staff. This could be expanded to include their visiting families, athletic teams, recruits and commuters. The second tier of the population served by this project would be the communities who tie into Warner's wastewater system including the students, faculty and staff of Bok Academy, (a well-known Lake Wales Charter school), the members of the South Lake Wales Church of God, the constituents living in Genesis Point retirement community, as well as those individuals living in a 50-unit mobile home park and a handful of other homes. The total of this population hovers around 3,000.

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

Consultants recommend replacing the current wastewater treatment facility with one designed to handle 300,000 gallons per day (enough to support the next 20+ years of growth) at an estimated cost of \$4.5 million. The expected benefit of this project would be that growth for this great university and its neighbors will not be stifled any longer. The acreage is available for Warner to continue adding on a 100-bed dorm, a state-of-the-art student center, more athletic facilities, academic buildings, and Warner is ready with supportive donors and a Board of Trustees to back this growth. This last roadblock will be out of the way for an explosion to happen at this school and this part of the county. The outcome will be measured by the master plan of Warner University being able to be continued, the wastewater will be treated appropriately through measurements with our environmental engineer and DEP, and the increase in jobs available at Warner once the campus is back on the growth plan.

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 contract services are met as agreed upon.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2048

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

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?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2048

- 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?

Design is ready; no current permits

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

07/15/2025