



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2209

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

4. Project/Program Description

The project will consist of the construction of a Cat 5 hurricane rated fire station and public safety facility at Keaton Beach. The existing station suffered damage from Hurricane Idalia and fire rescue personnel is currently working out of a temporary facility. As the current structure is not hurricane rated or a hardened structure, fire rescue personnel evacuates the facility prior to tropical storms, hurricanes, or flood events leaving no fire rescue or emergency services personnel in the Keaton Beach area within Taylor County. The new facility will not only be a hurricane rated, hardened structure, it will also be constructed to code elevations to prevent flooding of the facility. The new facility will enable fire rescue and emergency/public safety personnel to shelter in place to allow for the continuity of operations and rapid disaster recovery efforts.

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	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	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	2,000,000	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?** No

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

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

As a rural, fiscally constrained County which suffered catastrophic damage from Hurricane Idalia, the County has no additional funding sources for the project. Taylor County is a RAO and REDI designated community.



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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.

The County received \$3.7 M which was used for public safety payroll costs and the purchase of PPE and associated supplies. The American Rescue Plan funds are designated for critically needed stormwater facilities.

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.

Taylor County Board of Commissioners will own, operate, and maintain the facility. The County will provide the land the facility will be located on.

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	All funds will be used for the construction of the Keaton Beach Fire Rescue and Public Safety Facility. Taylor County will be providing the land and all project management services.	2,000,000
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?



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Construction of a new hurricane rated, hardened, elevated structure will provide for the continuity of operations of fire rescue and emergency and public safety services at Keaton Beach as well as the communities of Dekle Beach, Dark Island, Cedar Island, Spring Warrior, Yates Creek and the southern end of the County. The Keaton Beach area is located 23.1 miles from the primary fire station in Perry as well as other emergency support services. The community of Steinhatchee is located 19.3 miles away on coastal roads which often receive considerable flooding during weather or storm surge events and at this time offers limited fire rescue and emergency support services .

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

The new building will serve as a public safety facility with the primary use being fire rescue services. In addition to fire protection and emergency services, the site will serve as a disaster recovery staging area.

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

Direct services will include but not be limited to fire protection, emergency support services , and disaster recovery. The new facility will provide service to the communities of Keaton Beach, Dekle Beach, Dark Island, Cedar Island, Yates Creek, and Spring Warrior, as well as the entire southern end of the County. In addition to direct services provided on a daily basis, the new facility will ensure for rapid recovery efforts in the event of a disaster/weather related event.

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

The target population is Keaton Beach and the surrounding coastal communities in Taylor County (County). Approximately 5,000 citizens will be served year round with approximately double that number being served during the very busy recreational boating, fishing, and scalloping seasons . The County also provides mutual aid to the nearby counties of Dixie and Lafayette.

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

The project will provide a Cat 5 hurricane rated, hardened, resilient structure which will enable Fire Rescue to provide emergency services in all types of weather events and conditions. Fire rescue personnel, vehicles, and equipment will be able to shelter in place to provide fire and emergency services during minor events or immediately after Hurricane events. At this time due to damage from Hurricane Idalia, fire rescue services in Keaton Beach and the surrounding coastal areas have been relocated. Emergency response times will be substantially reduced with an adequate, resilient facility and equipment and apparatus storage areas,

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?

Taylor County (County) will move forward immediately with the completion of the facility design . Construction will be underway immediately after the construction of Shady Grove Fire Station. As the existing structure suffered damage from Idalia, the new facility is critical to Keaton and the nearby communities for adequate fire protection and emergency support services. All deliverable and performance measures will be met per the contract timelines and requirements. The County owns the land where the facility will be located, The County will provide all project management services.

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**



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- 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