



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3485

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District (LA-MSID) desired to purchase a 15-acres parcel adjacent to the floodplain in Bedman Creek during 2023's - sister bill (ROBUST Phase I). During ROBUST Phase II, design and construction will excavate & submerge this parcel to provide water quality during the wet months. As part of Phase II, water control structures will also be built to allow adjacent flood plain to fill, providing storage and regulating flows downstream on Bedman Creek. Any additional high flows will be diverted to Carlos Waterway. LA-MSID has held a Public Hearing for the project on October 23, 2023 and has a letter of support from Roland Ottolini from Lee County Natural Resources.

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

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,885,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,885,000

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)	2,885,000	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	2,885,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	250,000		No

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.**

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 2024-2025

LFIR # 3485

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

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.

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	Design and construction (following sister's bill land purchase, phase I), of Phase II of ROBUST. Monies will be used to create water quality shelf and build two water control structures. Contract will be negotiated with FDEP by November 30, 2023. Design will be complete by March 31, 2025. Construction would be complete by June 30, 2026.	2,885,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,885,000

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 2024-2025

LFIR # 3485

The Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District (LA-MSID) purchased a 15-acres parcel, adjacent to the floodplain in Bedman Creek as part of an appropriation for ROBUST Phase I. During ROBUST Phase II, design and construction will excavate & submerge this parcel to provide water quality during the wet months. As part of Phase II, water control structures will also be built to allow adjacent flood plain to fill, providing storage and regulating flows downstream on Bedman Creek. Any additional flows will be diverted to Carlos Waterway.

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

This area of Bedman Creek falls into Lee County's jurisdiction and is a point where our two systems interact. Improvements to this area will greatly help not only the residents located here but will have positive impacts on the impaired water-body - the Caloosahatchee River. ROBUST will regulate high-flows downstream on Bedman Creek, which has been prone to flooding in most years.

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

The improvements along with improvement functionality of the system will include beautification and will allow for more passive use and educational opportunities.

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

Elderly persons
At-risk youth
Preschool students
Grade school students
High school students
University/College students

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

ROBUST, Phase I, included the appropriation and purchase of a 15-acre tract that will be excavated to the proper elevation to maximize treatment following rain events. By raising the elevation of stormwater in Bedman Creek's floodplain, the head pressure is increased, forcing more recharge. In ROBUST, Phase II, the water in the floodplain will be "cleaned up" on a littoral shelf constructed on the parcel. ROBUST, Phase II will regulate stormwater on Bedman Creek as well as creating a diversion to Carlos Waterway. This provides strategic options for LA-MSID to relieve flooding in one area while diverting it to another basin or sub-basin. ROBUST will regulate high-flows downstream on Bedman Creek, which has been prone to flooding in most years. This will be accomplished by storing more water in Bedman's upstream flood plain and by creating a diversion to Carlos Waterway.

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?

By not meeting the deliverables on this project, LA-MSID would be deemed ineligible to apply or receive appropriations for two years.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3485

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify) Independent Special District-Govt.

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?

- 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)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3485

N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

Planning

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0%

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2026