



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1563

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Rural Expansion Toolkit consists of grant programs, including consulting services and site preparedness in the rural communities, as well as existing marketing and training grant opportunities. Applications will be accepted from local or regional economic development of community partners located within a rural community as identified in 288.0656(e) Florida Statutes and, in the case of site preparedness program, those who can also demonstrate a pathway to site readiness.

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	600,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>600,000</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)	600,000	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>600,000</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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### 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
<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	Funds to administer the grant and to ensure compliance with state funding requirements	100,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Grants will be established to support rural communities' efforts to market their counties and provide additional training, technical, marketing and lead generation opportunities, consulting services to enhance economic development efforts in their community and will assist Florida's rural communities with the development/enhancement of site to make them build-ready and competitive for site selection projects.	500,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>600,000</b>

**14. Program Performance**

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

The goal of this program would be to provide grants to Florida's rural communities in the areas of site preparedness, consulting services, marketing, and training. Allowing rural communities to apply for grants that range from \$5,000 to \$25,000 following guidance set out from the Department of Commerce.



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

The Florida Rural Economic Development Association will use its expertise to partner with and assist rural communities throughout the state working with the three designated RAOs, Opportunity Florida, North Florida Economic Development Partnership, and Florida Heartland ERO.

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

Helping to provide grants to rural communities more efficiently.

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

Targeted population would be Florida's 29 designated rural communities that reside in a Rural Area of Opportunity.

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

The benefit of this project will be the continued assistance of our Florida rural communities.

**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?**

General claw back provision as determined by the agency would be implemented.

**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)

**d. First Name**  **Last Name**   
**e. E-mail Address**   
**f. Phone Number**



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#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	<input type="text" value="Mike Grissom"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Buchanan Ingersoll &amp; Rooney PC"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="michael.grissom@bipc.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)681-4238"/>