



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1389

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funds will be used to support the operations of the environmental education programming at Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. The Environmental Education Programming will provide an opportunity to learn about nature while providing a sanctuary for wildlife and people. Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is open seven days a week with free admission. Student field trips enhance their science curriculum and students take part in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) related educational content.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</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)	500,000	19%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	150,000	6%
Local	224,709	9%
Other	1,728,091	66%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>2,602,800</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	500,000	100,105	No

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.

Private funding

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

No



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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
<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	Education Staff salaries & fringe 75% of 4 FTE = \$148,531.43; Junior Naturalist Coordinator salary & fringe 50% of 1 FTE = \$20,468.25; Operations Director salary & fringe 35% of 1 FTE = \$33,615.68; Maintenance Staff salaries & fringe 30% of 2 FTE = \$28,489.68; Animal Care Staff salaries & fringe 20% of 14 staff = \$144,176.59	375,282
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Educational Supplies \$6,970; Field Trip Scholarships for Title 1 Schools \$25,000; Education vehicles exp. \$17,057; Utilities for Educational Amphitheater & Education Building \$6,941; 25% of Animal Ambassador feed \$33,000; 38% of Liability insurance \$25,000; 25% of medicine and medical supplies for animals \$8,250; 50% of Annual Med Exams for animals \$2,500.00	124,718
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<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>500,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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

We offer a variety of public programs at the Sanctuary for students, children, and families with the goal of educating the public about native Florida wildlife and the importance of environmental conservation. We work to close the Nature Gap, a term created by the Center for American Progress to shed light on the stark reality that nature's benefits are unequally distributed by race & income.

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

We offer field trips to Title 1 schools and other community groups, and travel directly to schools if there is a hardship in classes coming to visit. Exhibits and activities are highly tactile (Discovery Center interactive education activities include touch boxes, video monitors, and crawl through activities). Various height levels accommodate children, adults and physically challenged.

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

Grade-school children, but anyone is welcome. 10,000 plus

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

This unique facility offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to learn about nature while providing a sanctuary for wildlife and people. We have something for everyone; young and old alike. From story time for parents with toddlers to family night-walks, education activities appeal to a broad range of people. Measured by the number of guests & students who visit the Sanctuary annually. Children tend to perform better on standardized tests and have fewer attendance problems if they spend time outside. Measured by the number of students from across Florida who take field trips to Busch Wildlife Sanctuary to enhance their science curriculum and take part in our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) related educational content.

**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?**

Forfeit of scholarship and materials funding.

**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)



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- 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