



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3036

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Vortex Spring Adventures provides recreational/educational diving/swimming opportunities to Holmes County residents and tourists from all over the world. Expansion at VSA, and nearby including several economic and housing initiatives with local public authorities, is limited due to lack of sewer services near Vortex Spring. Funding will be used to construct an onsite wastewater system allowing for continued growth and planned public/private initiatives in this area. Vortex Spring Adventures will hold/operate and cede to public operator once available.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>3,500,000</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)	3,500,000	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>3,500,000</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?



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

SBA/EDIL - \$150,000 loan received for payroll assistance. | PPE - \$98,000 received in forgivable payroll assistance.

## 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

01/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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.

Vortex Spring Adventures to give land up to 20 acres, own/operate infrastructure, and cede to public operator once available.

### 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design, CEI, and Construction of on-site wastewater treatment system and appurtenant components	3,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>3,500,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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

Funding will be used to construct an onsite wastewater system at Vortex Spring Adventure allowing for continued growth and planned public/private initiatives in this area. VSA will hold/operate and cede to public operator once available.

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



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Funding will be used directly to design and construct an onsite wastewater treatment system at Vortex Spring Adventures to serve this vital economic driver and protect the spring itself, while supporting other nearby economic and housing initiatives until public sewer service is available for tie-in.

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

This is a limited infrastructure project that will allow for expanded wastewater treatment near Vortex Spring.

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

This project will serve the 1,000+ tourists, Florida residents, and locals that visit Vortex Spring each year. Citizens in western Holmes County will be benefited by the anticipated economic growth in the area currently on hold due to public wastewater needs. Additionally, the further protection of a precious water resource benefits the State of Florida as a whole.

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

This project will be measured in terms of year over year economic performance in western Holmes County along with year over year improvements to surface and groundwater quality near Vortex Spring.

**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?**

Standard performance metrics and penalties to be outlined in resulting Agency Agreement.

**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



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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)
- N/A

#### 20. What is the status of construction?

#### 21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

#### 22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?