



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3382

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The original Highlands County Courthouse was built in 1927. An addition was added to the back of the building in 2002. The original part of the courthouse is on the national historic register, making some of the repairs more difficult. Currently the courthouse needs repairs far beyond what can be accomplished in one budget cycle. Original windows need to be replaced, individual courtrooms updated, carpet and flooring replaced, safety protocols enhanced, essential disaster protections updated and many other much needed repairs. At last count the list included more than 80 projects.

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	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,350,000</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)	1,350,000	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>1,350,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

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.

\$18,063,838; Emergency Operations Center Expansion. 911 Operator Dispatch Console upgrades, Special Needs Shelter Expansion, Road & Bridge Facility Expansion, 24-Hour Vending Library, County Jail Body Scanners, Healthy Families Household Assistance, Mail In Elections Upgrades

## 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?

4/1/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

6/1/2027

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.

Highlands County Board of County Commissioners

### 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	Administrative costs to oversee and administer the project	100,000
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	Assessment of interior and exterior needs & corrections	250,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Extensive internal and external repairs and renovations to stop breakdown of the historical courthouse and newer addition. We will not know the exhaustive list of repairs and renovations needed until the building is evaluated with a conditions analysis with cost estimates. The elevator system is antiquated and needs to be replaced for the safety of the public.	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,350,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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Provide much needed renovation and hardening of the Highlands County Court house built in 1927. Structural repairs need to be done to the exterior of the oldest part of the building to prevent moisture build up that leads to mold inside the building. The building holds the courts and the clerk of courts.

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

Court related services will be provided in a clean, safe environment that offers essential court related services in one place that not only meets their needs but is also a working museum of history for the legal workings of Highlands County

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

Citizens will be offered court related services such as court hearings/trials of all types, free legal services, participate in foreclosure sales and participate in teen court in an environment that meets current codes for life safety and protection

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

General population. The majority of the funds will not benefit no specific group. Over 2,500 people will be assisted annually.

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

Benefit: The Highlands County Courthouse was built in 1927. An addition was added in 2002. The original building is ornate with brick facing and large ornate windows. Restoration of the brick and windows will restore the facade of the building and provide a safe and sealed facility for court purposes.  
 Methodology: Construction repair will bring the courthouse back to its glory. Moisture content reduction inside the facility and visual physical repairs on exterior.

Benefit: The general public that uses the courthouse will be provided with a cleaner and safer environment and nice place to do business.

Methodology: The number of people submitting complaints about standing water, uneven flooring and environmental issues.

**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?**

Contractual milestones established throughout the project, non-payment of invoices until milestones completed

**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**