



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1357

1. Title of Project: Mote Marine Science Education Aquarium

2. Senate Sponsor: Joe Gruters

3. Date of Submission: 02/01/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

Funds will be used to partially fund construction of a new Mote Marine Science Education Aquarium (Mote-SEA) to be located in Nathan Benderson Park, an ideal location at the nexus of Manatee and Sarasota Counties directly adjacent to I-75. Mote and Sarasota County have entered into an agreement that will transfer ownership of 12 acres of county land or have that land automatically leased to Mote for 90 years. Mote-SEA will be a 110,000 sq. ft., five story iconic structure that will have over 1.2 million gallons of water displaying diverse marine and coastal species and habitats from FL and around the world. It will also feature three state-of-the-art marine STEM education learning laboratories where programming will be provided free of charge to approximately 70,000 area K-12 schools science students every year, along with at least two additional STEM workforce training research labs where high school and undergraduate interns will work alongside world-class Mote research scientists.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Economic Opportunity

State Agency Contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	50,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	50,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	50,000,000	38.46%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	30,000,000	23.08%
Other	50,000,000	38.46%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	130,000,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Partial funding of construction of a new state of the art 110,000 sq. ft. Mote Marine Science Education Aquarium to be located at Nathan Benderson Park in Sarasota County.	50,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		50,000,000

11. Program Performance:

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

These funds will be used to partially fund the construction of a new 110,000 sq. ft. Marine Science Education Aquarium. Increasing out-of-town tourism draw, providing STEM education programs free to local schools and enhancing marine science literacy to local and out of town visitors. Also enhancing new job creation and multi-county regional economic benefits.

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

Funds will be used for actual construction. Design, planning, and related expenses have already been completed. The construction will utilize local subcontractors, increasing job creation and stimulating the state's economy by \$278 million over the two year construction period, and \$28 million annually thereafter.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

New jobs will be created during construction and, after opening, additional full time, high paying positions will be added. Fully equipped STEM teaching labs will be provided free to local and regional K-12 schools science classes, with 70,000 students per year. STEM workforce training will be provided for high school and undergraduate students annually via research labs, designed for this purpose. Overall enhancement of ocean literacy for all who visit - both from nearby or out-of-town.

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

The target audience is broad and diverse. Exhibits graphics will all be digital and in multiple languages. These are all designed to change easily reflecting the changing world of marine science and the ocean environment.



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The accessible location will allow over 3,000,000 FL residents easy access within a 60 minute drive. Stable annual attendance is conservatively projected to be 650,000 guests.

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

Greatly improved marine science literacy, STEM education, workforce development in the sciences, education and hospitality industries. Strong new visitor draw to the area from both the U.S. and international markets will contribute to a \$28 million annual economic impact to FL and provide positive image for FL. Mote will use both in house and third party, independent consultants to evaluate the impacts and success of the new Mote-SEA. These evaluations will include on-site focus groups, as well as remotely, via email and video conference.

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 in the contract?

Funding shall be withheld on a proportional basis for deliverables not achieved in the following manner. Foundation, earthwork, cofferdam 4.3 percent. Exterior walls, windows, roofing 17.3 percent. Floor construction, partitions, conveying, stairs 14 percent. Exhibit construction both wet, dry, and acrylic, L.S.S. 38.2 percent. Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing 17.4 percent. Finishes 8.8 percent. Interim progress reports and invoices will be submitted through a fixed lump sum contract.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

The owner of the new facility will be Mote Marine Laboratory Inc., a Florida 501 (c) 3.

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Dr. Michael Crosby
- b. **Organization:** Mote Marine Laboratory Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** mcrosby@mote.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (941)388-4441

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Mote Marine Laboratory Inc.
- b. **County:** Sarasota
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Daniel Bebak
- e. **E-mail Address:** danbebak@mote.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (941)388-4441



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15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** David Shepp
- b. **Firm Name:** Southern Strategy Group
- c. **E-mail Address:** shepp@sostrategy.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)563-4100