



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1531

1. Title of Project: Palm Beach Zoo - Water Quality and Recreation

2. Senate Sponsor: Bobby Powell

3. Date of Submission: 02/04/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The Water Quality Program will improve waste and storm-water management at the Zoo. Our 5-acre lake system at the Zoo currently consists of seven interconnected ponds ultimately linked to the Lake Worth Lagoon. This ecosystem has a sandy, silty bottom, covered to a large extent in biological waste, sometimes several feet thick, that has gathered over the Zoo's history. The bottom of our lake system sits 3 – 5 feet above the ground water table. Our ground well system consists of two wells pumping fresh water under a SFWMD permit 24/7, from the water table up into our lake system. Many of the 550 animals at the Zoo play in or around this water. Sea level rise has every well owner in our area east of I-95 concerned with salt infiltration over time. If our pumps shut down for any sustained length of time, our lakes immediately begin to drain down to the water table. Our goal is to make our lake system safe and inviting, not only for our staff and wildlife, but for over 350,000 guests/year.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency Contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	225,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	25,000
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	250,000	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? Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. \$1 million.

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	Mobile circulation pumps, Aeration equipment to increase oxygen concentration, Degassing Tower, Tools and spare parts, Water testing equipment and supplies, Flood/flow gates, Travel and lodging for Biohabitats, Inc. Consultants	112,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Biohabitats, Inc. Consultants to develop Master Water Plan, Water technician on staff to gather and document water data/conditions, Engineering consultants as needed	137,500
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

11. Program Performance:

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

Testing and monitoring of water quality and dredging years of bio-waste sludge from the lake floor so as to eventually attract visitors for fishing and boating activities on 5+ acres of waterways.

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

Test and monitor existing water quality throughout the lake system. Add mobile circulation pumps and aerators. Reduce or eliminate demand for ground water from existing wells. Dredge lake system of years of accumulated bio-waste. Slow or eliminate drainage of lake water into water table by sealing pond floors.

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

N/A

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

Approximately 350,000 zoo visitors including 26,000 K-12th grade school children.

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



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will be measured?

Improved water quality and reduced flooding in and around zoo property during storms. Water quality metrics will be used to measure water quality. Observation on zoo premises will measure reduction of flooding.

- 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?**

N/A

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 Zoological Society of the Palm Beaches

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Margo McKnight
- b. **Organization:** Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society
- c. **E-mail Address:** mmcknight@palmbeachzoo.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)533-0887 Ext. 250

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Palm Beach Zoo and Conservation Society
- b. **County:** Palm Beach
- 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:** Kathleen Breland
- e. **E-mail Address:** kbreland@palmbeachzoo.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (561)088-7224

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Erin Ballas
- b. **Firm Name:** Public Affairs Consultants
- c. **E-mail Address:** erinballas@paconsultants.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)728-6387

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only



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16. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (Please describe)
- N/A

17. 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

18. What is the status of construction? Ready

19. What percentage of construction has been completed? 0

20. What is the estimated completion date of construction? October 2020