



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2067

1. Title of Project: Florida Aquarium - Expansion of Threatened Coral Archive and Reproduction

2. Senate Sponsor: Lauren Book

3. Date of Submission: 02/25/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The Florida Aquarium requests \$1 million in appropriations to support a capital project to expand the coral holding and breeding capacity at the Apollo Beach location. The project will construct an additional 2400 square feet of coral archive and reproduction laboratory space. The project will consist primarily of an additional coral greenhouse along with a light-controlled area for coral reproduction laboratory work. This project will increase the capacity for The Florida Aquarium to house corals affected by the coral disease outbreak in Florida and to further develop a managed breeding program for threatened and disease-affected coral species. The Apollo Beach facility will have the ability to produce hundreds of genetically unique offspring of multiple coral species each year.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	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	1,000,000	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

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



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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	Site preparation, construction of a combination of a greenhouse and light-controlled laboratory space, installation of tanks and aquarium filtration systems and associated infrastructure, outfitting laboratory space.	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The requested funds will be used to expand the coral archive and reproduction work at The Florida Aquarium Apollo Beach location. A new coral greenhouse and laboratory space will be constructed at the site. Custom aquarium systems will be installed in the new structures. The program expects to increase capacity to hold disease affected corals and produce genetically diverse coral offspring to be provided to existing coral restoration programs in Florida.

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

Corals may be archived for living genetic banking or new coral offspring will be used by researchers and restoration practitioners in Florida. Visitors to the site for private tours will be educated about the importance of coral reefs and coral conservation.

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

University/College students assist with research at The Florida Aquarium Apollo Beach location. Guided tours are given to community groups.

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

The general public relies on a healthy Florida Coral Reef Tract for environmental sustainability.

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

The expected benefit of the project is to provide living genetic archive space for Florida's coral species and to expand the existing breeding program for threatened and disease-affected coral species. This project will



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benefit coral restoration practitioners in the state by providing a more diverse population of corals for restoration activities. The new space will have the potential to produce hundreds of coral offspring each year of multiple coral species. Benefits will be measured by tracking annual production of corals and transfer for restoration activities.

- 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 Florida Aquarium, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not for profit entity.

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Roger Germann
- b. **Organization:** The Florida Aquarium
- c. **E-mail Address:** rgermann@flaquarium.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)367-4062

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** The Florida Aquarium
- b. **County:** Hillsborough
- 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:** Kim Casey
- e. **E-mail Address:** kcasey@flaquarium.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (813)367-4509

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Matthew Blair
- b. **Firm Name:** Corcoran & Johnston
- c. **E-mail Address:** matt@cororanfirm.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)527-0172