



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2275

**1. Title of Project:** Hillsborough County - Two Rivers Ranch Conservation Easement

**2. Senate Sponsor:** Tom Lee

**3. Date of Submission:** 03/07/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

The requested funds will be used to acquire a conservation easement over the 6,946-acre Two Rivers Ranch property located in northeast Hillsborough County. The conservation easement will provide: 1) permanent protection of the last major undeveloped property within the Hillsborough River Watershed, which provides a significant portion of the City of Tampa’s drinking water; 2) permanent protection of a “landscape-scale” wildlife corridor between Hillsborough River State Park and the County’s Blackwater Creek Preserve; and 3) permanent protection of 13 distinct ecological communities providing habitat for 17 threatened or endangered plant and animal species.

**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	
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

**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)	1,500,000	9.09%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	15,000,000	90.91%
Other	0	0.00%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>15,000,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**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

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 3500000



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**10. 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		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Land Acquisition - acquisition of a 6,946-acre conservation easement	1,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,500,000</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

Acquisition of a conservation easement over the 6,946-acre Two Rivers Ranch property will provide: 1) permanent protection of the last major undeveloped property within the Hillsborough River Watershed, which provides a significant portion of the City of Tampa’s drinking water; 2) permanent protection of a “landscape-scale” wildlife corridor between Hillsborough River State Park and the County’s Blackwater Creek Preserve; and 3) permanent protection of 13 distinct ecological communities providing habitat for 17 threatened or endangered plant and animal species.

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

Annual monitoring of the conservation easement by County staff to ensure compliance with all terms and conditions of the easement.

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

Protection of surface water quality in the Hillsborough River, which is the major source of drinking water for the City of Tampa. Other ecosystem benefits are provided in section "e" below.

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

Due to the project's wide-ranging water quality and natural systems benefits, the target population served by this project includes all residents of Hillsborough County, or approximately 1.6 million individuals.

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



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Providing permanent protection of Two Rivers Ranch will result in over \$51 million in ecosystem benefits to the region. Using EPA models, this is broken down into four areas: flood protection (\$41 million), stable climate (\$3 million), usable air (\$1 million), and usable water (\$6 million).

**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?**

Prohibited uses of the property are outlined in the conservation easement agreement. Notices of violation may be issued by the County and, if not addressed in a timely manner by the landowner, could result in mediation by both parties or potentially litigation.

**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 County would be the owner of the proposed conservation easement.

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Forest Turbiville
- b. **Organization:** Hillsborough County BOCC
- c. **E-mail Address:** turbivillej@hillsboroughcounty.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)672-7876

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Hillsborough County BOCC
- 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:** Forest Turbiville
- e. **E-mail Address:** turbivillej@hillsboroughcounty.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (813)672-7876

**15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Jim Taylor
- b. **Firm Name:** Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners
- c. **E-mail Address:** TaylorJ@hcflgov.net
- d. **Phone Number:** (813)417-0310