



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2338

1. Title of Project: Restoring Central Florida's Urban Wetland Corridor

2. Senate Sponsor: Victor Torres

3. Date of Submission: 03/10/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

Our request for appropriation will directly address the loss of aquifer recharge zones and poor urban water quality by creating a network of urban native habitats and urban wetlands across Central Florida to reconnect the cityscape with a corridor of native planted habitats in the regional water cycle.

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

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	444,160
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	444,160

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)	444,160	100.0%
Federal		0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.0%
Local		0.0%
Other		0.0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	444,160	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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and	Executive Director's time and Project Head.	20,000



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Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits	Accounting Services + IRS Compliance	30,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Communications & Utilities, printing & supplies, equipment, maintenance, insurance, licenses	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Project Staff	40,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Project signage, planting materials, tools, native plants, floating wetlands, and water testing kits	335,960
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Audit services, expert consultation, contracted workers	13,200
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		444,160

11. Program Performance:

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

We will utilize the funding to rebuild a wetland corridor across Central Florida. These sites will serve as key places for aquifer recharge. We will also engage low lying communities in at-risk flood zones for volunteer programs and hired work to improve their community.

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

Native wetland plants will be installed in key low lying locations such as swales, neighborhood retention ponds, and flood planes along urban road ways. We will hire staff and purchase plants to execute the installation and manage educational programs and teams of volunteers.

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

We will hire citizens in low-lying-at-risk communities to create jobs impacting the community. Additionally, the installation of wetland plants provides clean drinking water for Florida's population, the absorption of rain water from natural disasters and

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

We will serve the citizens of Central Florida - approximately 2.5 million in the metro area who depend on the Floridian Aquifer for drinking water - and directly serve 250,000 residents in ket areas around the project sites.

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 is the increase in surface water quality across Central Florida's urban landscape, as well as reduced risk of flooding due to wetland buffer zones in low-lying areas. We will use the industry standard of scientific monitoring as well as the ISO SDG City Standards to measure our progress. National Water Quality



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Standards, dissolved nutrients, biodiversity metrics, and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations will serve as our key performance indicators.

- 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?**

No legal penalties but reduction or remission of funding could be a potential penalty.

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.**

All wetland plantings will be conducted on public or private land. Each partner will volunteer their land for the inclusion in this project. Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties have been approached and are in support of this project

13. **Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Clayton Ferrara
- b. **Organization:** IDEAS For Us
- c. **E-mail Address:** Clay@ideasforus.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (772)486-8280

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** IDEAS For Us
- b. **County:** Orange
- 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:** Clayton Ferrara
- e. **E-mail Address:** Clay@ideasforus.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (772)486-8280

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm Name:** None
- c. **E-mail Address:**
- d. **Phone Number:**

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? No construction has started yet

19. What percentage of construction has been completed? 0%

20. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 07/01/2020