



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2460

**1. Title of Project:** North Florida Mega Industrial Park Rail Extension

**2. Senate Sponsor:** Keith Perry

**3. Date of Submission:** 03/12/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

Columbia County is in the process of constructing a rail spur from the CSX main line to US 90 at the 2,622 acre North Florida Mega Industrial Park (NFMIP) and the 500-acre Columbia County Catalyst Site. It is imperative to construct a rail extension into the NFMIP, on public right-of-way that will be donated to the county, to facilitate economic development to include an inter-modal facility with a 15-county service area and create a significant number of high-wage jobs. Rail access is extremely important for many economic development projects and makes this location more attractive to advanced manufacturing facilities.

**5. State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Transportation

State Agency Contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,311,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,311,000</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)	2,311,000	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>2,311,000</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?** No

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		



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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	Construction of a rail extension from a rail spur connected to CSX to industrial/economic development sites within the North Florida Mega Industrial Park. Design has already been completed.	2,311,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,311,000</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

Columbia County would extend rail service from a rail spur connected to CSX through the North Florida Mega Industrial Park (NFMIP) allowing rail access to more than 2,622 industrial development acres including the State of Florida's 500-acre North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity Catalyst Site serving a 15-county region. Expanding rail service creates the opportunity for inter-modal facilities and increases the region's and state's competitiveness in the manufacturing sector promoting additional employment. The extension of rail into the NFMIP will attract industry to relocate to Columbia County and create high-wage manufacturing jobs.

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

The NFMIP Rail Extension will allow rail service into industrial/economic development sites located in the North Florida Mega Industrial Park and the 500-acre North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity Catalyst Site, encouraging the development of industrial and manufacturing industries in rural north Florida and creating high-wage employment for the 15 county region.

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

The NFMIP Rail Extension will allow rail service into industrial/economic development sites located in the North Florida Mega Industrial Park and the 500-acre North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity Catalyst Site, encouraging the development of industrial and manufacturing industries in rural north Florida and creating high-wage employment for the 15 county region.

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

The NFMIP has a labor force of 1,200,000 within a one-hour drive. The project will serve the 15 county region. Many of these counties are part of the North Central Florida Rural Area of Opportunity. According to state demographic data, most of the counties in this region have poverty levels higher than the state average and a population with alower educational attainment.



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

The extension of rail into the NFMIP will attract industry to relocate to Columbia County and create high-wage manufacturing jobs. The growth of manufacturing represents the most impactful opportunity to expand the state's economy. The NFMIP targets the advanced manufacturing job sector. The Columbia County Catalyst site is a public-private partnership that will benefit the rural north Florida region while allowing the state of Florida to competently compete for major economic development projects. The projects outcome will be measured by jobs created, capital investment, and the number of freight shipments received by rail.

**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?**

Standard contract penalties.

**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.**

Columbia County

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Ronald Williams
- b. **Organization:** Columbia County Board of County Commissioners
- c. **E-mail Address:** penny\_stanley@columbiacountyfla.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (386)758-1326

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Columbia County
- b. **County:** Columbia
- 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:** David Kraus
- e. **E-mail Address:** david\_kraus@columbiacountyfla.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (386)758-1178

**15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Andy Palmer
- b. **Firm Name:** Metz, Husband & Daughton, PA



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**c. E-mail Address:** [Andy.Palmer@metzlaw.com](mailto:Andy.Palmer@metzlaw.com)

**d. Phone Number:** (850)205-9000