



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1068

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The funds will retrofit and bring into ADA compliance) a building donated to the Foundation to expand its current use by researchers, local and worldwide, to study the ecological, geological, archaeological and historical features of the Deering Estate property, a 445-acre, state-owned property in South Dade.

The Deering property is the only part of the Everglades Restoration Project located in an urban setting which is easily accessed by the public. The Miami Rock Ridge located on the property forms a barrier between Biscayne Bay and the interior of the of the south Florida peninsula. The ridge is significant because it helps retain water and directs flow from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades. The property is also home to more than 80 endangered or threatened species and has 26 known archaeological sites at which fossilized remains from nearly 10,000 years ago have been discovered.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted? ☐ Yes ☒ No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input type="text" value="000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input type="text" value="600,000"/>
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<input type="text" value="600,000"/>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input type="text" value="600,000"/>	<input type="text" value="14.0"/> %
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	<input type="text" value="00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input type="text" value="00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input type="text" value="00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input type="text" value="3,711,000"/>	<input type="text" value="86"/> %
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021</b>	<input type="text" value="4,311,000"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/> %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input type="text" value="2018-19"/>	<input type="text" value="00"/>	<input type="text" value="200,000"/>	<input type="text" value="587482"/>	<input type="text" value="No"/>

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1068

#### 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: Other</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	\$600,000 to support one time fixed capital outlay, including project management, engineering, permitting and construction.	600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		600,000



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1068

#### 11. Program Performance

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

The funds will assist in retrofitting a building currently being used by worldwide researchers to study the ecologically, geologically significant features (including archeological and historical discoveries) of the Deering Estate property, a 445-acre state-owned property in South Dade County. When completed, the building will have expanded use, including a base of operations for up to 20 researchers at one time (conducting ecological, archaeological and geological studies) and additional educational program capacity. The facility will primarily be used to house researchers while they conduct important ecological, geological, archaeological and historical research of worldwide significance. The research conducted at the building can significantly enhance ongoing Everglades protection activities. Further, the upgraded building can also expand the programs hosted to educate the community and policymakers about the significant role the environment of the Deering property plays in the

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

The Deering Estate is a unique area to study the economic interaction between the Everglades restoration and key Florida industries of Fishing, Agriculture and Eco-tourism. Studies will include: Miami Rock Ridge (part of the property) forms a barrier between Biscayne Bay and the interior of the southern Florida peninsula. It establishes a geological basin that benefits the Everglades by retaining water and directing its flow from Lake Okeechobee. It contains one of the largest blocks of globally endangered pine rockland habitat in the United States. Paleo-era "Hunting Grounds," which is an original freshwater site, where the Everglades drain to Biscayne Way. Eight natural habitats, home to approximately 800 species on the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 89 of which are threatened, endangered or commercially exploited. The 26 known archeological sites including Cutler Burial Mound, Cutler Fossil and Deering Estate. Fossilized remains from nearly 10,000 years ago.

##### c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

There will be educational opportunities for the public for the public to learn the highlights of the work that the researchers conduct through public events, published research papers, and events.

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

The target population is varied. Academicians and researchers that are currently drawn to this property where significant discoveries have been made will increase. Further, persons visiting the property and attending educational programs (i.e. K-12 students and others) will have greater access to this area and the programs provided on the property. The Deering Estate research station provides an invaluable service to local communities and the country by providing unbiased scientific information and facilities to help governmental and other stakeholders tackle critical environmental issues. The Estate is the only portion of the Everglades Restoration Project (ERP) located in an urban setting which is easily accessed by the public. Field station staff and researchers often play a critical role in ensuring that environmental considerations are factored into local and regional planning and development decisions.

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

As research continues on the discoveries already made at the property, the awareness of this 445-acre state-owned heritage site will grow worldwide through research-related publications. Additionally, educators, K-12 students and the general public will learn about the unique environmental significance of this property. Outcomes will be measured by the increase body of research conducted which can benefit the property, the Everglades and the state as a whole.

##### 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 penalties for non-compliance are adequate.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1068

12. **The owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.**

The Deering Estate Foundation, Inc.

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name  Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.

14. **Recipient Contact Information**

- a. Organization
- b. Municipality and County
- c. Organization Type
- ☐ For-profit Entity
- ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (3)
- ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (4)
- ☐ Local Entity
- ☐ University or College
- ☒ Other (please specify)
- d. First Name  Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.