



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1311

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funding for this project would enable ZooTampa to construct a baby manatee nursery recovery pool and water filtration system to address the increase in orphaned and sick manatees in need of critical care. 2021 has already been a record year in manatee deaths due to red tide, sea grass shortages, and boat strikes. Currently, the Zoo has 22 manatees at their hospital currently, which include four baby manatees who require around-the clock-care.

ZooTampa iprovides a state service by caring for manatees with the goal of re-releasing them back into Florida Waters. FWC included \$50,000 in their LBR, but the cost of the nursery and water system is far higher. In the past 30 years, ZooTampa has treated more than 500 critically injured, sick, or orphaned manatees.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	620,000
Total State Funds Requested	620,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	620,000	86%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	100,000	14%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	720,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

The Zoo applied for and received the following federal funding related to COVID-19:
 -PPP loan of \$2 Million (2020); PPP loan of \$2 million (2021) loans offset payroll expenses;
 -Shuttered Venues Operators (\$8 Million) to assist during the Zoo's 3-month shutdown.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design services, site preparation, preconstruction and permitting, construction of a manatee pool, hydraulic floor lift, and water filtration system.	620,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		620,000

12. Program Performance

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

The funding will allow us to fulfill a request from FWC to build a nursery pool for orphaned baby manatees. Given the recent increase in manatee deaths, it is imperative that there are facilities that can provide adequate care for orphaned, sick, or injured baby manatees.

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

Construction of a nursery pool will enable ZooTampa to have a dedicated recovery pool specifically for baby manatees. These manatees often require bottle feedings every few hours and intensive veterinary care.

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

Enhance/Preserve Environment/Wildlife-the Zoo's hospital enables manatees to recover and be released back into Florida water. Preservation of a Florida species is a benefit to all Floridians.

Enrich Cultural Experience-the Zoo provides a unique cultural experience for families and provides them with vital information on how to protect and preserve Florida wildlife, especially manatees.

Improve Quality of Education-More than 150,000 school children are served each years through the Zoo's education department; they learn about threatened or endangered species and are able to observe these animals in action at the Zoo.

Protecting the General Public from Harm-the Zoo provides materials and programs to inform Zoo visitors about human/manatee interactions and habitat, particularly as it related to boating safety and observing no-wake zones.

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



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More than 1.1 million visitors come to ZooTampa annually. Being able to observe manatees and develop an appreciation for saving Florida wildlife are important roles of the Zoo and Manatee Hospital.

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

This project will enable ZooTampa to rehabilitate injured, sick, and orphaned manatees and re-release them into Florida waters. The Zoo's Manatee Hospital Care Team works to improve the health of the manatees and coordinates with FWC in releasing fully recovered manatees back into Florida waters.

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 the contract?

Return of state dollars

13. 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 City of Tampa owns the land and the buildings at ZooTampa. ZooTampa, as non-profit 501(c) (3) entity, operates the Zoo and Manatee Hospital.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number