



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1352

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project is being submitted to purchase bunker gear for Palm Beach County Fire Rescue firefighters in an effort to reduce exposure to cancer causing agents. The funds will be used to provide 300 complete bunker gear sets for Palm Beach County fire fighters for a total project cost of \$821,400. This is our continued effort in minimizing the known risk of cancer to our firefighters. Currently, this is an unfunded project, yet crucial to the health and well being of our firefighters. We can assured that this effort provides a critical piece of firefighter safety and fall in line with reducing firefighter cancer.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

| Type of Funding                    | Amount         |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Operations                         | 0              |
| Fixed Capital Outlay               | 821,400        |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>821,400</b> |

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)       | 821,400        | 100%        |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                |                |             |
| Federal  | 0              | 0%          |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0              | 0%          |
| Local  | 0              | 0%          |
| Other  | 0              | 0%          |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023</b> | <b>821,400</b> | <b>100%</b> |

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

| Fiscal Year<br>(yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific<br>Appropriation # | Vetoed |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------|
|                          | Recurring | Nonrecurring |                             |        |
|                          |           |              |                             |        |

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

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

Palm Beach County received \$261M in CARES funding for pandemic emergency assistance, mortgage assistance, business grants, COVID 19 sheltering, testing, and isolation, and emergency personnel. Palm Beach will receive \$290,730,026 in American Rescue Plan funding which will be applied to pandemic-related services and projects.

**11. 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                    |   | 0              |
| Other Salary and Benefits  |   | 0              |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                | This total amount will be used to purchase Bunker Gear Sets that will be used to protect firefighter in the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Agency. | 821,400        |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |   | 0              |
| <b>Operational Costs: Other</b>  |   |                |
| Salary and Benefits  |   | 0              |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |   | 0              |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |   | 0              |
| <b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>                    |   |                |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering                      |   | 0              |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b> |   | <b>821,400</b> |

**12. Program Performance**

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

Through extensive research from University of Miami, it has been proven that bunker gear contains cancer causing contaminants after a fire play a role and risk of causing cancer in firefighters. This potential exposure has been identified to have serious health risks to our firefighters. This project will provide the needed set of bunker gear to help protect our firefighters from this cross contamination and exposure to cancer by providing clean bunker gear immediately after a fire.

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

The Bunker Gear will be purchased and will offer the necessary warranties and ongoing necessary maintenance to increase long term use of these firefighter bunker gear sets.

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

One firefighter's illness or death causes a rippling affect to our community which not only impacts the firefighter and their family, but the department and community as a whole. When fire department staff are provided with protective equipment, this reduces the incidents of illnesses and disease, allowing them to be available to provide services to the citizens in need. This safety provision may also attract the interest of this career choice to young people in the community.

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

At-risk firefighters and staff that respond to fire related calls throughout Palm Beach County. According to a 2018 census report, the county had a population of 1,485,941, making it the third-most populous county in the state of Florida and the 25th-most populous county in the United States. The total population is counted because the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue is responsible for providing all municipalities within the County support for any given emergency.

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



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be measured?

Decreased incidents of exposure to carcinogens by firefighters and staff that will ultimately cause cancer related illnesses and diseases. Because we have access to the use of the staff at the Palm Beach County Health Department, if approved by the Fire Department Administrator and Palm Beach County Commissioners and staff volunteers, a before and after study of health related illnesses could be completed to determine if this additional equipment has helped our rates of loss time due to illness compared to before we received the additional equipment. Because the University of Miami has done studies, a partnership could be formed to assist in their research classes and to justify the expense for our future budgets.

**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 funding to the State.

**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.**

Palm Beach County is the owner of this facility and the entity.



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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