

LFIR # 2123

1. Project Title George E Weems Memorial Hospital Construction

2. Senate Sponsor Loranne Ausley

3. Date of Request 01/05/2022

4. Project/Program Description

Construct a new, up to date hospital facility with the latest technology and services to serve the citizens of Franklin County allowing patients to be treated locally without additional transfers, enhancing the patient outcomes due to an improved environment and medical services offered. It will also create new job opportunities and assist in recruiting and retaining highly trained staff.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Health

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount	
Operations	0	
Fixed Capital Outlay	7,000,000	
Total State Funds Requested	7,000,000	

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)	7,000,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	7,000,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	14,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year	Amount		Specific	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		

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?

No

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



Franklin County BOCC received \$2,115,720 in CARES funding. Public health and safety salaries was the largest expenditure of the funds. Franklin County received an allocation of \$2,355,139 in ARP funds. We are waiting on the Final Rule to decide on projects.

Weems Hospital received their own CARES funds - \$3,280,900 for salaries, PPE, equipment and supplies. In addition, they received a PPP Loan \$930,855 for salaries and incentive bonuses.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Other Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Construct a new, up to date hospital facility with the latest technology and services to serve the citizens of Franklin County. Will allow patients to be treated locally without additional transfer and will enhance patient outcomes due to improved environment and medical services offered.	7,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (m	ust equal total from question #6)	7,000,000

12. Program Performance

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

As a result from Hurricane Michael, we sustained damage to our entire roof and windows and interior corridors. Our PA claim with FEMA totaled \$2,743,915.75, with insurance covering \$2,593,915.75, resulting in \$150,000 being federal funds. We repaired our roof and replaced a few of the exterior windows, but our building is still not up to code.

By building a new, state of the art hospital facility with the latest technology, it will enable patients to be treated locally and complete their rehab locally without having to travel to facilities outside of Frankin County.

In addition, a new facility will allow us to create more job opportunities, and enable recruiting and retaining highly trained staff.

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

For more than a decade, renovations and expansion of the current hospital have been discussed. In 2016, drawings were drafted, but no final plans were produced. After Hurricane Michael, we decided that building a new facility would be the best option for the residents of Franklin County and to construct a facility that meets and/or exceeds the current building code. A new facility will enable patients to be treated locally and not have to travel outside Franklin County.

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



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Direct Services that will be provided to the citizens: Allows patients to rehab closer to home; Access worldclass care via Telehealth; Be patient centered creating workflows with the patient's comfort in mind; Create isolation rooms to treat COVID patients; Enabling diagnostic imaging in one location; Add services such as Infusion Therapy, Cardiopulmonary Rehab, Sleep lab and INR clinics; Increase oxygen capacity for COVID patients; Special rooms in the ER to accommodate safe rooms for our mental health patients; Create a larger improved lab; and Provide better respiratory services.

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

The Hospital construction project targets and benefits the entire population of Franklin County, 12,125 residents (per the 2019 census data).

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

be measured?

The expected outcome is to construct a hospital that is a state of the art facility. A few examples of the methodology will be measured by the improved services that we will be able to offer to our residents, such as a swing bed program allowing recovery and rehabilitation to occur at home, benefiting the physical and mental health of the citizens of Franklin County. In addition, with the new facility, we will be able to recruit high quality staff and bring telehealth to the community.

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?

Franklin County will ensure that all deliverables are met through the construction agreement/contract throughout the duration of the building of the new hospital facility. All deliverables of constructing a new hospital will be met and there will be no failures to meet the deliverables or performance measures set forth by the funding.

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 owner of the facility is the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Weems Hospital is a non-profit under the direction of the Board.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

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	b. Organization	Chairman, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners			
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15.	Recipient Contact	Informatio	on		
	a. Organization	Franklin County Board of County Commission			
	b. Municipality and	d County	Franklin		
	c. Organization Ty	ре			
	□For Profit Entity				
	□Non Profit 501(c	c)(3)			
	□Non Profit 501(c	c)(4)			
	☑Local Entity				
	□University or Co	llege			
	□Other (please sp	pecify)			
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16.	16. Lobbyist Contact Information				
	a. Name	None			
	b. Firm Name	None			
	c. E-mail Address				
	d. Phone Number				