



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2152

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Se7en Wetlands is a unique place where visitors from all over the State can learn about the importance of Florida's water resources. After thirty years of operation as a Water Utility, Se7en Wetlands has had tremendous success as a new park adding trails and amenities, even winning multiple Environmental Excellence Awards. The requested funds will be used to construct and open an Educational Center to further statewide citizen engagement and water outreach programs.

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	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	91%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	500,000	9%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	5,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	2,000,000		Yes

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?

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



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\$350,000 for PPE, \$396,162 for Airport Operations, \$1,214,658 for housing, and \$22.7M from the ARPA for various projects including \$17.8M for sewer pipe replacement

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	Constructing the Se7en Wetlands Educational Center	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000

12. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will be used to open a Se7en Wetlands Educational Center to further statewide citizen engagement and outreach programs by focusing on Florida's water and environmental resources.

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

Diverse education and outreach programs will be tailored to different interest groups and age ranges. All citizens, including those with disabilities, will have the opportunity to visit the Se7en Wetlands Educational Center.

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

Many direct services will be provided to citizens including; diverse educational programs, outreach events, and outdoor recreation activities- including meeting goals established by the State of Florida Outdoor Recreation Plan.

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

The statewide population will be served by this project. The target population to be served includes, but is not limited to; elderly persons, persons with poor physical and mental health, at-risk youth, developmentally and physically disabled, preschool through university students, and the general public.

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

The Se7en Wetlands Educational Center will have many benefits, including but not limited to; promoting Florida water resources, improving physical and mental health for visitors, enriching cultural experiences, improving and promoting environmental education, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, improving economic activity and increasing tourism, and creating immediate job opportunities. Outcomes will be measured by tracking visitor statistics and educational program participants.

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?



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Funds would be withheld by the State of Florida from the City of Lakeland.

- 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 Lakeland owns and operates Seven Wetlands.



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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