



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1228

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose we are requesting funding is to outfit and operate an environmental education center which will be used to educate over 200,000+ public school children about the importance of wildlife and environmental conservation for many generations to come. Enclosures housing permanently impaired wild animals will be renovated/constructed along with interpretative signage and nature trails teaching young and old about the ecosystems we share.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	210,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	290,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</b>

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	22%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	150,000	6%
Local	140,419	6%
Other	1,561,304	66%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>2,351,723</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	500,000	109	No

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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### Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

**11. Status of Construction**

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning    
  Design    
  Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

**12. List 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.**

**13. 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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Funds will be spent on personnel salaries and benefits for the Education Department and, operations and maintenance salaries allocated to the Environmental Education Center at the Sanctuary's new facility location.	160,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be spent operational expenses including utilities.	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Funds will be spent on necessary finishes, specialties, equipment, furnishings and fixtures of the Environmental Education Center at the Sanctuary's new facility location.	290,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

**14. Program Performance**

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

Wildlife habitats will be the anchor of Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. Our goal in designing the facility is to highlight the ever-changing landscape of Florida, our impact on the animals that we share our environment with, and how our community members can help preserve our precious natural resources.

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



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We offer a variety of everyday public programs with the goal of educating about Florida wildlife and the importance of environmental conservation. Open 6 days a week with free admission, the Sanctuary’s permanent collection of approximately 200 animals are on display and provide hands-on learning opportunities & interactive displays to first hand about human impact on the environment & wildlife.

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

We offer a variety of everyday public programs with the goal of educating about Florida wildlife and the importance of environmental conservation. Open 6 days a week with free admission, the Sanctuary’s permanent collection of approximately 200 animals are on display and provide hands-on learning opportunities & interactive displays to first hand about human impact on the environment & wildlife.

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

Our Sanctuary has over 200,000+ visitors annually. As we are free to the public, we target all populations regardless of socio-economic background.

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

1) This unique facility offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to learn about nature while providing a sanctuary for wildlife and people. We have something for everyone; young and old alike. From story time for parents with toddlers to family nightwalks, education activities appeal to a broad range of people. This will be measured by the number of guests who visit. 2) Children tend to perform better on standardized tests and have fewer attendance problems if they spend time outside. Measured by the number of students from across Florida who take field trips to Busch Wildlife Sanctuary to enhance their science curriculum and take part in our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) related educational content. 3) Busch Wildlife Sanctuary serves Florida by helping sick, injured and orphaned wildlife. The public bring them to our hospital or a member of our trained, volunteer rescue team retrieve animals that are too dangerous for the public to intercept.

**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 funds

**15. Requester Contact Information**

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

**16. 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



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University or College

Other (please specify)

**d. First Name**  **Last Name**

**e. E-mail Address**

**f. Phone Number**

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

**a. Name**

**b. Firm Name**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**