



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1398

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Design funding is sought for a new gateway structure with an electronic toll system, new landscaping, and pavement improvements at the south end of the Bob Sikes Bridge. The existing toll booth facility visually cues motorists to stop in spite of the signage to the contrary, increasing traffic congestion heading to Pensacola Beach. These changes will keep the motoring public moving efficiently onto the island while collecting the toll and providing an aesthetic greeting to keep tourism thriving on Pensacola Beach.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	200,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>200,000</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)	200,000	44%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	250,000	56%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific 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.

Escambia County has received the following federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic that have been used for Family and Business economic loss, COVID-19 prevention and testing.  
 CARES Act Funds in the amount of \$57,285,295.00 that had to be spent by December 2020.  
 American Rescue Plan Act - We received \$30,914,575.50 on 6/9/21 and another \$30,914,575.50 will be coming around 6/9/22.

## 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

TBD

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

TBD

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.

Escambia County

### 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design services will be procured from an engineering design consultant in order to design and permit the proposed improvements.	200,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>200,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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Improvements will streamline access to Pensacola Beach for both tourists and residents, resulting in fewer backups across the Bob Sikes Bridge into Gulf Breeze congesting US Hwy 98. This would eliminate backups during normal tourist season weekends excluding Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Blue Angels Weekend.

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

A competitive solicitation for a design consulting firm will be conducted by Escambia County. Once contracted, Escambia County will work with the consultant to facilitate public input into the design.

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

Once designed and constructed, the new toll-by-plate facility will move traffic in a more efficient manner than the existing traditional toll booth facility that subconsciously encourages motorists to stop and slow traffic flow.

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

The target population is the tourists visiting Pensacola Beach and the residents that live on the island. In 2022, there were almost 4.9 million vehicles processed through the toll booth.

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

Elimination of traffic backups on the Bob Sikes Bridge and into Gulf Breeze on US Hwy 98. Escambia County receives daily reports on traffic congestion through camera systems on the bridge and US Hwy 98; measurement how many times traffic congestion is caused by slowing at the booth will be reported on a daily basis throughout the tourist season.

**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?**

The County has strict penalties in its contracts for not meeting performance standards. The high profile of this project, including public participation, will result in direct and indirect consequences to any design firms capability to procure future work in the area if it does not meet its deliverables in the contract.

**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) Local government

**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**