



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1771

**1. Project Title**

**2. Senate Sponsor**

**3. Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Fernandina Beach is a 200-year old city located on Amelia Island between the Atlantic Ocean and the Amelia Riverfront. The Fernandina Beach Downtown Historic District consists of a flourishing downtown commercial district, bustling with stores, restaurants and breweries, and cultural sites, and 60 blocks of expertly-preserved Victorian-era homes. In 2021, over 513,000, or 77.4%, of Amelia Island's 662,900 overnight visitors, ranked the Historic District as a "Top Activities Enjoyed," scoring higher than the beaches. To protect this thriving tourist, residential, and business district and economic engine from future sea-level rise flooding, the Fernandina Beach Historic Downtown Riverfront Resiliency Plan consists of 9 phases of seawall construction, one of which is completed. This funding request is needed to construct an additional segment of the resiliency seawall toward the goal of preserving Fernandina Beach, one of Florida's top historic gems, into her second 200 years.

**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	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</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)	1,000,000	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 2023-2024</b>	<b>1,000,000</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	1,000,000	1665A	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.**

Fernandina Beach can issue bonds or create a dedicated Resiliency Fund, both of which would require increases to local taxes.



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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.

\$6,595,742 which was allocated to City police and fire department first responders' salaries and benefits, as allowed by the American Rescue Plan Act Agreement Final Rule stipulations.

## 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.

All fixed capital outlay funding will be for construction on property fully-owned by the City of Fernandina Beach.

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	In 2023, Fernandina Beach will complete engineering and permitting of a 9-phase construction project to install a protective sea wall along the entirety of Fernandina Beach's 1.1 historic downtown riverfront. Through this new Appropriation, Fernandina Beach will complete seawall construction of the 2nd, and a portion of the 3rd, phase seawall.	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

14. Program Performance



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

Project Goal: In 2023, Fernandina Beach will complete engineering and permitting of a 9-phase construction project to install a protective sea wall along the entirety of Fernandina Beach's 1.1 historic downtown riverfront. The City has completed the 1st phase construction of the project. The project goal of this Appropriation, titled the "Historic Downtown Fernandina Beach Resiliency Seawall" will be to complete seawall construction of the 2nd, and a portion of the 3rd, phase seawall.

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

Construction of a seawall along the Amelia Riverfront historic downtown Fernandina Beach will protect businesses and citizens located in this popular, densely-populated business, residential, and tourist location.

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

This project will provide physical protection of persons and property. Additionally, this project will preserve specific immediate job opportunities for local residents. Tourism is Nassau County's largest job creator, creating 32% of all jobs and paying 38% of all sales taxes. Given that 77.4% of Amelia Island visitors ranked visiting the historic Fernandina Beach downtown as one of their favorite activities when visiting, protection of the Historic District from flooding and destruction equates to local resident job protection and creation.

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

The City of Fernandina Beach has 13,199 residents (2021 population.) Travel publications consistently rank Amelia Island one of best islands and beach destinations in the U.S. The Amelia Island Tourism Development Council estimated that Amelia Island's tourism generated more than \$1 billion, 27 million dollars in 2021. Project will preserve Downtown Fernandina Beach as a major contributor to Fernandina Beach's and Florida's economy.

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

The benefit of this project will be increasing the sea level rise resiliency of historic Downtown Fernandina Beach, a business and residential district populated with Victorian-aged business structures and homes which hosts cultural events and festivals that attract hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. The outcome of this project can be measured through comparative downtown Historic District flooding-related road closure and event cancellation data.

**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?**

Failure to fully-satisfy each deliverable of the "Historic Downtown Fernandina Beach Resiliency Seawall Construction" project would make Fernandina Beach ineligible for reimbursement from the State of Florida.

**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



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- 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

### Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

#### 18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify)
- N/A

#### 19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

#### 20. What is the status of construction?



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21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

11%

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/30/2024