



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2124

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The City is the sole provider of domestic wastewater collection and treatment to the City of Vero Beach, Indian River County's south barrier island (IRCSB) customers and the Town of Indian River Shores (TIRS). The new Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) project will include the design, permitting, construction, start-up and training services associated with a new membrane bioreactor (MBR) advanced water reclamation facility. The WRF will produce high quality reclaimed water that will be distributed to the existing reclaimed water customers via a new reclaimed water pump station and ground storage tank system to be constructed at the new location. The new WRF facility will be designed and constructed to meet Advance Wastewater Treatment (AWT) standards. The effluent quality is limited to CBOD of 5 mg/L, TSS of 5 mg/L, total nitrogen of 3 mg/L, and phosphorous concentrations of 1 mg/L, which will meet SB 712 requirements.

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	7,876,000
Total State Funds Requested	7,876,000

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)	7,876,000	9%
Matching Funds		
Federal	1,263,396	2%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	72,897,205	89%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	82,036,601	100%

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.**

Utility bonds and loans (with resulting debt service paid from utility customer rates)

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**



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Yes

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

In 2020, the City received \$652,736 in CARES Act funding as a pass-through from Indian River County, which was expended on eligible public safety and public health measures related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 In 2021, the City received an allocation of \$2,562,386 from the American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Of this amount \$500,000 has been programmed for stormwater projects and the rest has not yet been programmed for specific projects by the City Council.

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.

The owners of the facility and the entity are the same "City of Vero Beach."

13. 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	Subsequent two Fiscal Years will include capital costs, which will include construction and the procurement of the membranes for the new WRF, which will increase the efficiency of the biological treatment . The total estimated Project Cost is \$82 Million which includes engineering design, construction engineering and inspections, and construction. The construction cost is estimated at \$78.76 Million and the City of Vero Beach is requesting a total of \$7.88 Million or 10% in grant assistance for	7,876,000



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Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	7,876,000
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14. Program Performance

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

The replacement of the existing, waterfront WWTF with a new 5.0 MGD, advanced treatment Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) located at the upland water treatment plant property, will elevate the treatment process from sea level to approximately 14 feet NAVD88. This will eliminate the potential flooding of critical infrastructure due to storm surge and will greatly reduce the risk of flooding in general and reduce the potential for untreated wastewater entering the Indian River Lagoon. Also, the new WRF treatment protocol will reduce the effluent quality to meet AWT standards, which ultimately will reduce nutrient loadings in to the Indian River Lagoon by 116,800 lbs/year of TN, 36,500 lbs/year of TP, and 24,000lbs/year of Total Suspended Solids.

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

The FY 22-23 request will include include the capital costs for construction and the procurement of the membranes, motors, primary/secondary screening for the new WRF.

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

Improve/increase the resiliency of the existing WWTF by replacing with the new WRF will greatly reduce the risk of catastrophic failure of the treatment process, primarily due to flooding and major storm events such as hurricanes. This facility serves critical customers such as the Indian River Hospital, County Administration, City Hall & Police Dept, Fire stations, and several schools. Loss of service to and resulting back-ups of sanitary sewers to these customers can have significant health and safety impacts during hurricanes when the use of these facilities is of critical importance. Hardening the WRF against flooding reduces the risk of loss of service to these critical customers, as well as the City service area as a whole.

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

The target area would encompass the City of Vero Beach Water and Sewer Territory. The implementation of this project will benefit residents/customers beyond City limits. The City provides wastewater service to approximately 37,000 residents. Therefore, the project will provide multi-jurisdictional community resilience and reliability.

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

The new WRF facility will be designed and constructed to meet AWT standards. Typically, AWT includes advanced secondary treatment plus nutrient removal (nitrification, de-nitrification and phosphorous removal). On an annual basis, effluent quality is limited to CBOD of 5 mg/L, TSS of 5 mg/L, total nitrogen of 3 mg/L, and phosphorous concentrations of 1 mg/L. This project will also improve the overall reliability of wastewater service during a storm event and virtually eliminate the potential for flooding at the WRF site, as well as reducing the nutrient levels in the reclaimed water that is produced, providing environmental benefits in the surrounding reclaimed water system and marine ecosystem (due to potential nutrient loading from runoff).
Construction of the new WRF and effluent water quality sampling per FDEP requirements.

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 the portion of any funds for which performance standards are not met or deliverables are not achieved.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**



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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
- 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)



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- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

Not started

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0.0%

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

01/31/2027