



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2212

1. Project Title Nassau County Tourism Expansion via Ecotourism/Water Access Improvements

2. Senate Sponsor Clay Yarborough

3. Date of Request 02/17/2023

4. Project/Program Description

In support of Florida's tourism economy, Nassau is working to expand Amelia Island's robust tourism trade to mainland Nassau. The Amelia Island Tourist Development Council & BOCC have developed a hub and spoke model that will leverage the natural resources in mainland Nassau to expand tourism & drive more out of state visitors to Nassau. One of the most popular off-island activities for tourist is exploring the County's canopy covered black water creeks and marshland areas. The proposed improvements expand the overall blue way system & provides critical connectivity along the Nassau River with water access points in the Four Creeks State Forest. These efforts will have a positive impact on the state-wide tourism economy through the construction of a publicly accessible kayak launch & community dock designed to support commercial adventure outfitters serving the tourist trade. State funding @ \$600,000 represents a 43% match against the current secured project funding of \$800,000.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	600,000
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

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)	600,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	200,000	17%
Local	400,000	33%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,200,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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

Yes

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

Nassau County BOCC has received approximately \$23.9 million in CARES and ARPA funds. Nassau used the funds to provide support to small businesses, provide individual rent and foreclosure prevention assistance, acquire PPE, facilitate virtual public meetings, expand remote work capacities, and other similar eligible expenditures allowed by the US Treasury.

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?

10/1/2023

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

05/01/2024

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.

Nassau County Board of County Commissioners - Owner

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	Materials, labor of 400ft. Elevated boardwalk, viewing platform and kayak launch facility	600,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		600,000

14. Program Performance

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



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To increase access to the local blue way system that stimulates ecotourism, fishing, sightseeing, exercise, etc.

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

Nature viewing, kayaking, fishing, health & wellness

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

Provide direct access to the area's river system that may otherwise be unattainable from other areas

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

This project will provide additional amenities to support Florida's robust tourist economy and drive new out of state visitors to Nassau County.

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

Increased commercial adventure outfitter use in support of Florida's robust tourism trade. Number if out of state visitors accessing the river.

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?

Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

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
☐ University or College
☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name
e. E-mail Address



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f. Phone Number (904)530-6010

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name Mark W. Anderson

b. Firm Name Mark W. Anderson

c. E-mail Address Mark@ConsultAnderson.com

d. Phone Number (813)205-0658