



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2540

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Construction of STEM critical fisheries, sharks, & rays interactive exhibits & interactive laboratories for public engagement at the new Mote SEA. This state-of-the-art STEM infrastructure will provide annual public outreach & training opportunities for >700,000 visitors, students, & FL marine scientists focused on fish stock enhancement, aquaculture, critical habitats, species population tracking & monitoring.

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	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	62%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	3,000,000	38%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	8,000,000	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.

Competitive federal or non-governmental grants and requests for philanthropic donations will partially cover costs.

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.

\$2,318,359 for employee salaries and benefits

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

April 22, 2021

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

December 31,
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.

Mote Marine Laboratory

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	Construction of STEM critical fisheries, sharks, & rays interactive exhibits & public interactive labs at the new Mote SEA. This state-of-the-art STEM infrastructure will provide annual public outreach & training opportunities for >700,000 visitors, students, & FL marine scientists focused on fish stock enhancement, aquaculture, critical habitats, species population tracking & monitoring.	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Construction of STEM critical fisheries, sharks, & rays interactive exhibits & interactive laboratories for public engagement at the new Mote SEA, a nexus location within 60 minutes driving access for > 5 million FL residents. This state-of-the-art STEM infrastructure will provide annual public outreach & training opportunities for >700,000 visitors, students, & FL marine scientists focused on fish stock enhancement, aquaculture, critical habitats, species population tracking & monitoring.

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

Construction of STEM critical fisheries, sharks, & rays interactive exhibits & public interactive labs at the new Mote SEA. This state-of-the-art STEM infrastructure will provide annual public outreach & training opportunities for >700,000 visitors, students, & FL marine scientists focused on fish stock enhancement, aquaculture, critical habitats, species population tracking & monitoring.

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

Florida's ocean and coastal fisheries are significant economic drivers for Florida citizens. The Mote SEA STEM fisheries, aquaculture, shark, and ray exhibits and laboratories will provide basic marine resource education (e.g. habitat use, life cycles), applied outreach for resource users (e.g. population tracking, stocking techniques), and research training for scientists to enter the workforce.

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

Mote SEA exhibits and laboratories will serve the general public, anglers, and scientists. It is anticipated that Mote SEA Aquarium will draw approximately 700,000 visitors per year.

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

The Mote SEA STEM fisheries, aquaculture, shark, and ray exhibits and laboratories will provide basic marine resource education (e.g. habitat use, life cycles), applied outreach for resource users (e.g. population tracking, stocking techniques), and research training for scientists to enter the workforce. Number of visitors to exhibits, educational and outreach events/classes, interns, and fellowships.

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?

Funding would be withheld via a grant agreement with FWC for deliverables not achieved, e.g., percent of construction of exhibits and laboratories not completed.

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)



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- ☐ 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