



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2616

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The requested funds will serve to expand the footprint of the Florida Severe Weather Mesonet into additional counties, provide maintenance for new and current systems in the Mesonet, and provide for upgrades on existing hardware and software for the Florida Severe Weather Mesonet.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,476,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,476,000

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)	1,476,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,476,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	971,400	2623	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

None

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.

\$62,195 of PPP loan used for payroll expenses



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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.

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	Purchase of weather monitoring stations and additional equipment for connectivity including cameras, solar panels, modems, batteries, and mounting hardware. Enhancements for existing units.	730,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Maintenance agreements for (3) years on the new equipment from the date of installation. Extension of maintenance agreements on existing units in the Mesonet. Data storage, software access, maintenance, and data plan included in maintenance agreements. Enhancements for software platform.	746,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,476,000

14. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will serve to expand the footprint of the Florida Severe Weather Mesonet into additional counties, provide maintenance for new and current systems in the Mesonet, and provide for upgrades on existing hardware and software for the Florida Severe Weather Mesonet.

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



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Weather stations with high resolution cameras will be installed in strategic locations for monitoring severe weather. Stations will connect through cellular networks and be solar powered with battery backup. Stations will report every second to a public facing platform that includes station data and imagery, lightning, and hurricane information. Maintenance will be provided to ensure connectivity.

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

Citizens will benefit from receiving real-time information and targeted responses before, during, and after severe weather events. The data is used to help local, state, and federal partners, including local emergency management, FDEM, and National Weather Service with crucial decision making and reporting.

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

All Florida citizens

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

Provides FDEM and local government data to inform the public on local weather conditions, especially during severe weather events. The vital data will support the decision-making process when state and local resources are required to respond to a natural disaster. The data collected from the mesonet stations is also used for training, research, and public awareness. The success of the program can be illustrated through a review of the installation and operation of the mesonet, and how FDEM and local communities benefited from the additional data reported during future weather events.

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 contractual 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)



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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