



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2643

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Partnership with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program and Walton County to provide continued efforts for improving and protecting the Choctawhatchee Bay and watershed. The proposed project will include planning, design and permitting for water quality improvements projects, planning, design and permitting for habitat restoration projects, and continued implementation cost for oyster reef restoration activities in the Choctawhatchee Bay.

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	600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>600,000</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)	600,000	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>600,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

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.



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Walton County was allocated the following federal assistance with related to the COVID-19 pandemic:

CARES Act Funding = \$12.9 Million  
 American Rescue Plan Act Funding + \$14.4 Million  
 CARES ACT Funding specifically for housing assistance = \$169,460  
 Local Tribal Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund = \$100,000.00

## 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?

1/1/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

1/1/2026

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.

Walton County will be the owners of the facility when construction is complete.

Walton County will partner with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance and the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program to implement the oyster gardening and sub-tidal reef component of the proposal.

### 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	Walton County will procure engineering services to provide planning, design and permitting of water quality improvement projects within the Choctawhatchee Bay watershed.  Walton County will also partner with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance and the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program for continued efforts with the oyster gardening and sub-tidal reef projects within the Bay.	600,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0



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<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>	<b>600,000</b>
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**14. Program Performance**

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

The purpose of this project is to improve water quality in the Choctawhatchee Bay and aide in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster in the Choctawhatchee Bay.

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

Walton County will procure engineering services to provide planning, design and permitting of water quality improvement projects within the Choctawhatchee Bay watershed.

Walton County will also partner with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance and the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program for continued efforts with the oyster gardening and sub-tidal reef projects within the Bay.

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

The proposed project will provide opportunities for water quality improvements to the Choctawhatchee Bay and habitat restoration to the Eastern Oyster species.

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

All citizens and visitors of Walton and Okaloosa Counties, Florida

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

Completion of this project will provide aide in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster population in the Choctawhatchee Bay and provide publicly accessible information on the Choctawhatchee Bay. The outcome will be measured by the planning design and permitting of water quality improvement projects and sub-tidal reef permits.

**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?**

If Walton County fails to meet the deliverables to this appropriation all funds will be returned to the State.

**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**

### 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?

#### 21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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0%

**22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

1/1/2026