



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3072

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Expand utilities (potable water & sewer) to two communities within Estero there were impacted by Hurricane Ian storm surge. Estero River Heights and Cranbrook Harbor currently use groundwater wells and septic tanks. A study prepared by Florida Gulf Coast University indicates septic tanks are a source of nutrients and bacteria to the Estero River and Estero Bay. Due to over pumping, single family drinking water wells are becoming a less reliable source of water due to reduced water volumes and decreased quality. This project will have a regional impact by improving water quality in the Estero River and Estero Bay. This will improve public safety, recreation, and fishing in the area. The project will also benefit The Koreshan State Park, Mound Key Archaeological State Park, and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve which are all located along the Estero River and Estero Bay.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	7,400,000
Total State Funds Requested	7,400,000

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)	7,400,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	3,700,000	25%
Other	3,700,000	25%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	14,800,000	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.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3072

Yes

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

The Village of Estero received \$539,968.96 in COVID-19 pandemic assistance and used those funds for cleaning services, audio/visual equipment, information technology, testing center, personal protection equipment and hand sanitizing equipment.

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 Village of Estero will construct the facilities. After construction, the facilities will be turned over to Lee County Utilities. Lee County Utilities will own and operate the facilities.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	No appropriation funds will be used for Executive Director/Project Head Salary and benefits.	0
Other Salary and Benefits	No appropriation funds will be used for other salary and benefits.	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	No appropriation funds will be used for expense/equipment/travel/supplies or other.	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	No appropriation funds will be used for consultants/contracted services or studies.	0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	No appropriation funds will be used for salaries and benefits. When completed, the project will be owned, operated and maintained by Lee County Utilities. Operational costs will be handled by Lee County Utilities	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	No appropriation funds will be used for expense/equipment/travel/supplies or other. When completed, the project will be owned, operated and maintained by Lee County Utilities. Operational costs will be handled by Lee County Utilities	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	No appropriation funds will be used for consultants/contracted services or studies related to project operations. When completed, the project will be owned, operated and maintained by Lee County Utilities. Operational costs will be handled by Lee County Utilities	0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3072

Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Appropriation funds will be used to construct water and sewer infrastructure to extend municipal utility services to areas that currently use wells for water service and septic tanks for waste water disposal.	7,400,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		7,400,000

14. Program Performance

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

The purpose of the funds request is to improve the quality of water in the Estero River, Estero Bay and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve. The Estero Bay has been identified as impaired for nutrients and the Estero River has been identified as impaired for bacteria. Septic Tanks have been identified as sources of both within the watershed. Removing septic tanks will reduce the nutrient and bacteria load to the River and Bay helping to improve water quality and reduce the impairments.

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

The project will remove septic tanks from Estero River Heights and Cranbrook Harbor that drain to the Estero River/Estero Bay. Removing the septic tanks and sending the wastewater to a wastewater treatment plant will eliminate a source of nutrient and bacteria pollution to the Estero River/Estero Bay.

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

Citizens will see improved water quality in the Estero River and Estero Bay. Citizens in the project area will be provided central potable water and sewer which are safer and more reliable sources.

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

The target population service by this project are the with Estero River Heights and Cranbrook Harbor. Both communities were heavily impacts by Hurricane Ian. Approximately 197 properties within Estero are expected to be provided water and/or sewer service via this project. The improved water quality in the Estero River and Estero Bay will serve all residents in Estero, City of Bonita Springs, Town of Fort Myers Beach and Lee County.

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

The expected benefit from the project is improve quality of water in the Estero River and Estero Bay and improve reliability of water and wastewater services to residents.

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?

The project construction bid documents will require a bond to cover the bid amount to ensure the contractor completes the project. The Village proposes to include liquidated damages in the project's construction contract.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3072

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) Hurricane Ian Flood Mitigation Funding
- 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)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 3072

N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

Design and permitting is ongoing

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

9/30/2024