



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1030

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Capital construction, improvements or the purchase of equipment that will address the current animal welfare crisis, elevate Florida to the forefront of humane practices, and ensure that every animal has a chance at a healthy and loving future. TAILS (Together Assisting in Lifesaving Services) is a groundbreaking program initiated by the Humane Society of Sarasota County (HSSC) to unite all animal welfare agencies across Florida in a concerted effort to transform the state into the leading advocate for animal welfare in the nation. With Florida currently ranked as the 4th worst state in animal welfare, TAILS aims to propel us to #1 by creating a no-kill state through innovative, sustainable, and collaborative strategies.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted?

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	789,000
Total State Funds Requested	989,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	989,000	13%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	6,800,887	87%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	7,789,887	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. **Is future-year 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.**



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

04/25/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/19/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

HSSC operating, grants, private donors

11. 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.

Humane Society of Sarasota County (HSSC)

12. 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	Collaborate with medical team on development and site planning	200,000
Operational Costs		
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, site work, - full budget available	789,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		989,000

13. Program Performance

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



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To meet the intended purpose of these funds, the following activities and services will be provided:

1. Facility Improvements and Expansion:
 - Construction and renovation of shelters to address overcrowding and improve living conditions for animals.
2. Collaboration and Resource Sharing
 - Work with a unified network of animal welfare agencies to share resources, best practices, and data.
3. Mobile Shelter Support Vehicle
 - Provide a classroom on wheels to provide essential shelter care in under-served and remote areas.
4. Establishment of a No-Kill Framework
 - Building the foundational elements for Florida to achieve its goal of becoming a no-kill state by 2026, setting a nationwide example in humane animal welfare practices.

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

1. Facility Improvements and Expansion
 - Development of climate-controlled kennels modernized veterinary facilities, and dedicated areas for training and rehabilitation.
2. Collaboration and Resource Sharing
 - Share databases for tracking adoptions, medical care, and animal welfare outcomes across the state.
3. Mobile Shelter Support Vehicle
 - Offer education and adopting training programs, as well as, exams, vaccinations, and wellness treatments to reduce overpopulation and improve animal health.
4. Establishment of a No-Kill Framework
 - Offer consultation and education, and training to ensure their no-kill establishment is sustainable.

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

Adoption Assistance Programs: Facilitated access to a wide range of adoptable animals through adoption fairs, cross-promotional events, and online platforms. Educational Workshops and Outreach: Public education programs on responsible pet ownership, including proper care, training, and the benefits of spaying/neutering. Emergency Pet Support: Temporary shelter and care for pets during natural disasters or crises, ensuring families have peace of mind knowing their pets are safe. Improved Shelter Conditions for Stray and Abandoned Animals: Ensuring that animals in the community are housed in humane, modern facilities while awaiting adoption or reunification with their owners. Community Engagement Opportunities: Create volunteer and foster programs for citizens to actively contribute to animal welfare efforts. Support for Animal-Related Public Health: Reduced stray populations through spay/neuter programs, contributing to fewer community health risks.

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

- The target population served by this animal welfare project includes:
1. Homeless and At-Risk Animals
 - o Dog and cats.
 - o Animals residing in local shelters within the project's service area, particularly those at risk of euthanasia due to overcrowding or lack of adopters.
 2. Special Needs Animals
 - o Animals with medical conditions or behavioral challenges that require additional support to become adoptable.
 3. Stray and Abandoned Animals
 - o Animals found in communities and brought into shelters to receive care, rehabilitation, and the chance for adoption.
 4. Potential Adopters
 - o Individuals and families seeking to provide loving homes to shelter animals, supported by adoption programs and counseling.

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



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Expected Benefits/Outcomes:

- Health and Well-being of Animals: Improve the overall health of shelter animals through timely, exceptional veterinary care.
- Reduced Shelter Time: Decrease the length of stay for animals in the shelter by enhancing their adoptability.
- Adoption Success: Increase the number of animals placed in loving, permanent homes.
- Community Impact: Expand access to veterinary care in under-served areas, improving animal health across Sarasota County.
- Engagement and Education: Foster stronger community involvement through educational outreach and public awareness efforts.

Methodology for Measuring Success:

1. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Number of animals receiving veterinary care. Percentage of treated animals successfully adopted. Reduction in euthanasia rates.
2. Mobile Veterinary Unit Metrics: Number of animals treated in remote areas.
3. Data Collection and Evaluation: Detailed records of adoption rates, and community outreach participation.

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 in the contract?

Repayment of funds

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No



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No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

18. 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

f. Phone Number **Ext.**

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.