



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1034

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The funds will be used for the renovation and repurposing of a historic building in downtown Sarasota. The renovated building will have a new 200 seat theater, spaces for the education program and library, new rehearsal spaces, and office space for the company staff.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

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)	1,000,000	3%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	34,000,000	97%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>35,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  No

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?  No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

## Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction



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a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning    
  Design    
  Construction    
  N/A

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

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

04/01/2027

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/01/2028

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

Continuing operations and maintenance will be funded from Sarasota Opera's ongoing operations budget.

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.

Sarasota Opera Association, Inc.

12. 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</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design and construction costs for the renovation of the Sarasota Opera Pavillion Building	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

13. Program Performance

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

The funds will be used for the renovation and repurposing of a historic building in downtown Sarasota. Built in the early 1930s, the Sarasota Opera pavilion building was purchased in 1995. It currently houses the company's education programming and rehearsal spaces. The renovated building will have a new 200 seat theater, spaces for the education program and library, new rehearsal spaces, and office space for the company staff.

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

The new 200 seat theater will be a performance, lecture, and event space for Sarasota Opera activities and available for rental by other community groups. The education program spaces, including office and rehearsal rooms, will be used by the children who participate in the Sarasota Youth Opera and other educational programs.



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

Sarasota Youth Opera is a year round after school program serving 70-100 young people from the ages of 8-18. Performances by the Youth Opera, the Sarasota Opera main company and other community groups will take place in the 200 seat theater. This will include lectures and other educational programming. Additional jobs will be created to provide programming.

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

Citizens of Sarasota and Manatee counties will be the primary users of this facility. In addition, a significant number of tourists attend Sarasota Opera events and will benefit from the performances in the new theater. We estimate serving approximately 100 and 5,000 performance attendees annually.

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

Sarasota Opera will be able to provide more performance opportunities and performance related jobs to residents of the community as well as visitors. It will also provide more space and better educational programs to adults and children. We will measure the attendees through ticket purchases and student participation in the education programs. We will also track additional wages for performance related jobs.

**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?**

Notification and opportunity to cure.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**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)?**



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- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- 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**



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