



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1108

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The proposed project will improve water quality in Newnans Lake and reduce flooding in the surrounding watershed by restoring streams and wetlands. Grant funds for the project were requested from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The goal of the project is to increase flooding attenuation and to reduce algal blooms and improve water quality in Newnans Lake, which includes hydrologic and ecological restoration to increase storage in restored wetlands, and to reduce pollutant loads entering the lake from the contributing watershed utilizing multiple treatment techniques including stream restoration, wetland restoration, and floodplain restoration.

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	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	58%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	1,100,000	42%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,600,000	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.

At the time of this request, Alachua County is unaware of other funding sources 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)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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

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.

This project is expected be a Public Private Partnership per 255.065 F.S. The County will be the recipient of the funds which will be used to pay for the services rendered by the project provider. The project provider will arrange all land agreements, perform engineering design and permitting, procure and oversee construction, perform monitoring, and operate and maintain the project for up to 10 years after which it will be turned over to the County.

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		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	This project is expected be a Public Private Partnership per 255.065 F.S. This request is for the second phase of engineering design and permitting. Future work performed by the consultant (project provider) will include additional engineering design and permitting, construction, monitoring, and approximately 10 years of maintenance.	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The goal of the project is to reduce flooding and increase resiliency within the watershed and to improve water quality in Newnans Lake, which has an adopted TMDL and BMAP. This will be achieved by restoring approximately 3000 linear feet of streams, 400 acres of wetlands and 50 acres of floodplain. Reconnecting the stream to surrounding wetlands and floodplains will allow the water to disperse and be stored within the wetlands during high flow events reducing the stages within lake and reducing flooding within the watershed. These efforts should also result in the reduction of algal blooms within the lake.

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

The project will include additional design, permitting, and construction services. Future work performed by the consultant will include additional engineering design and permitting, construction, monitoring, and maintenance.

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

There are no direct services provided but the citizens of Alachua County but the surrounding communities will benefit from improved water quality and flooding attenuation. Those benefits include improved fishing, hunting and recreation.

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

The target population served by this project is the general population of Alachua County and surrounding counties. This is approximately 300,000 individuals.

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

The expected outcomes of this project is flooding attenuation ad improvement of water quality in Newnans Lake using stream, wetland and floodplain restoration. This project will assist the County in meeting the load reduction allocations for Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN) associated with the State adopted Basin Management Action Plan for the watershed. Nutrient removal potential of up to 600 lbs of TP and 1,500 lbs of TN. Water quality monitoring will be performed to measure project nutrient reductions.

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?

FDEP should include their standard contractual language for failure to meet deliverables or performance measures. Alachua County has received many grants from FDEP and is very familiar with their contract requirements.

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



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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
- No, but intends to apply

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

Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Resilient Florida Grant Program
- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- N/A

18. 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

19. What is the status of construction?



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Currently in design stage

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2028

22. Requester Contact Information

- a. **First Name** **Last Name**
- b. **Organization**
- c. **E-mail Address**
- d. **Phone Number** **Ext.**

23. 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.**

24. 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.