



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1220

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Egmont Key Pilot Station was completely decimated from the combined impacts of hurricanes Helene and Milton rendering it completely non-operational. The site is leased from Hillsborough County and will require extensive cleanup and mitigation prior to the lease expiration in 2027. Due to the extensive damage and location on a weather exposed, diminishing barrier island rebuilding is not practical for current or future sustainability. The Tampa Bay Pilots Association commenced design of a proposed new Pilot Station in late 2023 to be located on the Pinellas side of the Skyway Bridge north of the Skyway Fishing Pier. The site is within FDOT jurisdiction, and they have approved the preliminary plan. The original Skyway plan was for a modest fueling station with minimal office space, and dedicated, resilient fuel supply for pilot boats but with the loss of the Egmont Station the need for an upgraded full-service station is now warranted.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	37%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	8,600,000	63%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	13,600,000	100%

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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1220

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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

January 1, 2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

March 31, 2027

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

Funds collected from state approved tariffs charged to ship owners for pilotage services.

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.

Tampa Bay Pilots LLC. Owners and operator of the physical site improvements and capital assets.
Tampa Bay Pilots LLC is the owner of assets utilized by the Tampa Bay Pilots Association.

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		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Contractor and consulting services for cleanup and mitigation of the destroyed Egmont Key Pilot Station. Construction - Contractor TBD.	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1220

Cleanup and mitigation of hurricane damaged pilot station.
 Construction of new resilient Pilot Station which upon completion will allow the Tampa Bay Pilot Association to provide a statutorily mandated modern, resilient pilotage operation to the ports and citizens of the Tampa Bay region. Ensuring expedited return to business after hurricane events to facilitate inbound vessel transits to replenish regional motor and aviation fuel supply.

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

Reliable pilotage service for all vessels calling within the Ports of Tampa Bay.

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

Supply of motor and aviation fuels.
 Supply of materials, good and fresh produce to the region.
 Timely, reliable pilotage services.

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

Target population are the citizens of west central Florida, over 9 million residents as well as the tourist population.
 Vessel owners and operators.
 Port Authorities within Tampa Bay.

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

The benefit will be a dependable, sustained pilotage operation for decades to come, able to quickly return to business after storm events or other natural disasters.
 Reliable pilotage service for vessel owners and operators that provides efficient, timely transits from sea to berth which translates into significant cost savings for those customers.
 Port-wide economic benefits that make ports within Tampa Bay more competitive.

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?

We are regulated under FS 310 and required by statute to provide a modern, reliable pilotage operation. Failure to meet the statutory requirement and any penalty thereof would be determined by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

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

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):

Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton

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

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1220

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):

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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1220

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.