



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1365

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The Town of Ponce Inlet is undertaking a \$10.4 million septic-to-sewer conversion project to protect water quality and the environment. While the infrastructure is funded, 390 homes still need to connect to the new system, with an estimated cost of \$5,000 per home. Many residents face financial challenges covering these costs. The requested funding will ensure full participation, minimize financial impact to residents, and maximize the project's environmental benefits.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,950,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,950,000

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)	1,950,000	16%
Matching Funds		
Federal	10,400,000	84%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	12,350,000	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.**
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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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.

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	To fully fund the plumbing services and materials for the proper abandonment of existing septic tanks and connection of residents' homes to new sewer service.	1,950,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,950,000

13. Program Performance

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

The Town of Ponce Inlet is undertaking a \$10.4 million septic-to-sewer conversion project to protect water quality and the environment. While the infrastructure is funded, 390 homes still need to connect to the new system, with an estimated cost of \$5,000 per home. Many residents face financial challenges covering these costs. The requested funding will ensure full participation, minimize financial impact to residents, and maximize the project's environmental benefits.

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



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The funds will directly support connecting 390 residential properties to the newly constructed sewer system, replacing outdated septic systems to improve environmental and public health outcomes, and increasing community resiliency against future hurricanes. This transition reduces nutrient pollution into the groundwater, improving water quality in the Halifax River and Indian River Lagoon.

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

The funds will be used to offset the costs to private property owners, who are responsible for the permitting and removal of existing septic tanks and for installing the plumbing to physically connect their homes to the new sewer line.

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

Approximately 800 individuals of the general population.

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

The project will connect 390 homes to a centralized sewer system, The project will improve the community's ability to weather significant flooding and storm events, such as those experienced by Hurricanes Ian in 2022 and Milton in 2024, where floodwaters kept septic tanks and drain fields from functioning properly. Document the number of completed sewer connections and monitor the reduction of septic-related environmental impacts.
Decrease in groundwater contamination from failing septic systems. Monitor groundwater samples for reduced levels of pollutants, bacteria, and harmful pathogens.
Significant reduction of nutrient runoff, estimated at 11,745 lb./year, including nitrogen and phosphorus, into the Halifax River and Indian River Lagoon. Conduct water quality testing in affected water bodies to track nutrient levels.

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?

The contracting agency may consider withholding payments until milestones are met, imposing liquidated damages for delays, and terminating the contract for significant non-performance. Other penalties include requiring corrective action at the contractor's expense, enforcing performance bond forfeiture, restricting future bids, and publicly reporting non-compliance to maintain accountability and protect public resources.

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):

Hurricane Ian and Milton

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#:



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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?

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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.