



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1623

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Fern Street Crossing Project involves construction of an at-grade rail crossing between Tamarind Ave and Clearwater Dr. including traffic signalization improvements, separated bike lanes, pedestrian crosswalks, and landscaping. The Project completes a 900 ft. gap of road, sidewalk, and bike trail on Fern Street at the South Florida Rail Corridor ("SFRC").

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	3,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,000,000

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)	3,000,000	18%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	13,800,000	82%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	16,800,000	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.

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?

05/04/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/29/2027

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

City annual maintenance 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.

City of West Palm Beach

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	Construction of roadwork, utilities and traffic signals for the new Fern Street railroad crossing.	3,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

To reduce traffic congestion on Okeechobee Blvd. and Banyan Blvd. located north and a south of Fern Street and to enhance multi-modal access for pedestrians, bicycles and transit services.

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

Construction of the roadway portion of the new Fern Street crossing.

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

Provide alternative means of accessing downtown West Palm Beach via automobiles, pedestrians and bicycles as well as access to transit services.



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

Residents of the entire City and visitors to downtown West Palm Beach.

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

The Fern Street Crossing project establishes a new access route across the FEC Railroad between Australian Avenue and Flagler Drive, reducing congestion on Okeechobee and Banyan Boulevard corridors. The design includes ADA-compliant facilities while addressing railroad trespassing through secured infrastructure including quad gates and designated crossing points. These improvements, along with separated bike lanes, LED lighting, and synchronized signals, create a safe multimodal connection serving all users and preventing unsafe railroad crossings.

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?

Penalties may include financial deductions of reimbursements from the State for the appropriated 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
- No, but intends to apply



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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.