



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1779

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

This funding would support the purchase of water quality sampling equipment, including the maintenance and/or the replacement of existing ambient water quality sampling equipment used in monthly sampling across Biscayne Bay as well as new equipment to support pollution source tracking investigations and telemetry for continuous monitoring to better understand drivers of pollution in real-time such as during and after storm events and throughout the water column as well as ascertain potential benefits of current and future nutrient reduction projects. With much-needed equipment replacement and in key areas the addition of newer technology, such as the use of telemetry, county scientists can continue current ambient monitoring projects as well as identify where the greatest water quality benefits can be yielded by through better understanding of sources. Data from the County's 40-year-old program is central to the state in its biennial water quality assessments to determine impairments.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	250,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes 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?** Yes No

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

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?

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	This funding would support the purchase of water quality sampling equipment, including the maintenance and/or the replacement of existing ambient water quality sampling equipment used in monthly sampling across Biscayne Bay as well as new equipment to support pollution source tracking investigations and telemetry for continuous monitoring to better understand drivers of pollution in real-time such as during and after storm events and throughout the water column as well as ascertain potential ben	250,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

13. Program Performance



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

The need to better document in real-time, how extreme weather events, rainfall, water management activities, and other ambient issues like prolonged higher temperatures impact Biscayne Bay and its tributaries is central to the County's and state's ability to understand of how and what pollution is impacting Biscayne Bay water quality and contributing to impairments under the Clean Water Act, habitat loss such as seagrass die off, and emergencies such as fish kills and algal blooms. Additionally, equipment used to collect data that the state uses as part of its biennial analysis to determine if water quality is impaired is in need of repair or replacement.

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

Regular monthly sampling results as well as placement of sondes with telemetry services so that county and state staff can gather and interpret data in real time from their workstations during storm events or any point in time.

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

The general public will be served by this project by way of improving water quality in Biscayne Bay.

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

The project area encompasses southern Miami-Dade County but will benefit all users of Biscayne Bay.

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

Repair or replacement of equipment as well as the addition of telemetry services that allow staff to receive data at any time and in real-time will continue to inform the status and health of the bay, pinpoint activities that exacerbate pollution being received by the Bay and its tributaries, as well as help staff ascertain potential benefits of current and future nutrient reduction projects.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables will result in nonpayment.

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#:



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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?

Not ready.

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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0%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 12/31/2026

22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Lisa Last Name Spadafina
b. Organization Miami-Dade County
c. E-mail Address spadal@miamidade.gov
d. Phone Number (305)372-6754 Ext.

23. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization Miami Dade County
b. Municipality and County Miami-Dade

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 Rashid Last Name Istambouli
e. E-mail Address Rashid.Istambouli@miamidade.gov
f. Phone Number (305)372-6754 Ext.

24. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name Jess M. McCarty
b. Firm Name
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The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.