



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2085

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The West Palm Beach Fire Department (WPBFD) needs to increase its emergency medical, hazmat and dive rescue team capacity by purchasing new equipment. Additionally, some of our equipment is obsolete and some would not be cost-effective to repair. The team has a unique opportunity to trade in older equipment and receive credit towards a new purchase. The request also contains equipment needed to keep our team on par with the industry standards, keeping our firefighters in the safest gear in this high hazard environment. The rapid chemical detection monitor will be used on suspicious packages, chemical spills and other threats to public and dignitary safety.

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	254,766
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	254,766

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)	254,766	40%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	382,150	60%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	636,916	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

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	The WPBFD has quotes from multiple vendors and have arrived at a reasonable and customary price of \$151,029. Full Face Masks – \$30,634; Drysuits – \$59,073; Diver Comms System - \$41,713; Switch Blocks – \$11,254; Surface support equipment (Ropes and Buoys) - \$8,354; Defibrillators \$393,441; Chemical Detection Monitor - \$92,446	254,766
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)		254,766

13. Program Performance

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



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The purpose of this project is to replace dated and obsolete technical equipment. This new equipment would also allow for our team to do some service in-house, resulting in long-term cost savings for maintenance. The request also contains equipment needed to keep our team on par with the industry standard. The gear is used when there is any emergency medical call, suspicious package, chemical spill, car in a canal, a swimmer goes under, a boating accident occurs, and other sub surface rescue situations.

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

Firefighters are trained in emergency medical response, hazmat response and dive rescue. Once the new equipment is delivered, firefighters will be trained on it and policies will be updated. The gear will be maintained by a contracted vendor on a set schedule. Firefighters will check the equipment daily during their tour of duty, ensuring it is full of air and all components are in good working order. If used on a call or in training, the firefighters maintain and inventory all equipment. The gear is then placed back on the truck for the next call.

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

The direct service received by the citizen would be daily in the instance of the defibrillators, and weekly for the dive and hazmat equipment. In the instance they are exposed to hazardous chemicals as a result of an accident or an intentional release, rapid identification of the contaminant will save lives by categorizing the way the WPBFD decontaminates them and what the department administers for an antidote. The actionable information will allow hazmat techs to relay crucial information to law enforcement and federal agencies. Evacuation and sheltering decisions can be made more quickly with a device of this caliber.

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

The target population will be those in need of emergency medical assistance and anyone affected by a chemical or toxic agent release. If in the unfortunate circumstance that they are trapped underwater in a submerged vehicle, firefighters will have top of the line equipment to improve their chances of survival. WPBFD has over 50 dive rescue trained personnel that would use this gear not only for training, but on every water related emergency with a submerged victim. WPBFD is the first due hazmat team to many targets of national importance such as two railroads, a seaport, an airport, FBI offices, U.S. Marshals' office, a federal courthouse, and we are the first due hazmat team to Mar-A-Lago. We respond to over 30,000 calls for service each year.

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

The outcome will be firefighters safely rescuing submerged victims with no equipment malfunctions or failures. Further, the firefighter will be utilizing new, technologically advanced equipment thereby minimizing any potential injury or death as a result of intentional or accidental chemical or toxic releases. Dive rescue is the most dangerous rescue type as firefighters are alone under the water. By purchasing communications equipment, the diver will be able to verbally talk to personnel on the surface of the water rather than relaying on rope tugs for signaling a message. New defibrillators allow us to have a shorter curve on critical decision making for medical patients. These calls and data are captured in our emergency reporting system.

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?

Reversion of funding to the State.

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):



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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

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)



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- 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.