



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2198

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The former school building, significantly damaged during Hurricane Idalia, had its roof replaced using insurance funds. However, the interior remains water-damaged and non-compliant with current codes. The requested funding will support comprehensive renovations to meet code standards and fortify the structure for use as an evacuation shelter during future catastrophic events. The building will also serve as a small business incubator, a venue for community events, and a hub for youth athletic activities.

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	750,000
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	750,000	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



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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)? No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction? 10/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 12/31/2027

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

The operations and maintenance of the renovated building will be funded through revenue streams generated from leasing spaces to small businesses and from renting the venue for various events.

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.

The Town of Lee will receive the fixed capital outlay funding. The Town of Lee also owns the facility.

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	Contracted services for the architectural, MEP, and structural design of the building.	750,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

13. Program Performance

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

The former school building will be completely renovated and fortified to function as an evacuation shelter for residents of the Town of Lee during catastrophic events. During non-catastrophic events, the building will serve as a small business incubator, a venue for community events, and a hub for youth athletic activities.

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



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The architectural, MEP, and structural design of the building will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds.

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

The renovated building will directly benefit the citizens of the Town of Lee by serving as a fortified evacuation shelter during catastrophic events. During non-catastrophic times, it will provide a space to incubate locally-owned small businesses, host community events, and offer a hub for local youths to practice and compete in athletic activities.

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

The project will serve the Town of Lee, which has an estimated population of 389 citizens as of 2024.

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

The project aims to provide a strengthened evacuation shelter for the Town of Lee's citizens during catastrophic events, measured by the occupancy rate during catastrophic events. It will also enhance physical and mental health by offering a venue for physical activities and community events, tracked by participant and event numbers. Additionally, it will boost economic activity by renting space to small businesses, with success measured by rental revenue.

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?

Withholding of funds

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 Idalia

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)?



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- 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.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number



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The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.