



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2212

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Fairgrounds Beautification and Improvement is a visionary project designed to maximize the property's potential as a dynamic community hub. This request will support improvements to the North FL Fairgrounds including new Capital Park ballfields; central green with pavilions; parking improvements around Gene Cox Stadium; improved fair operations; stormwater/utility upgrades; pad-ready redevelopment sites; and renovations to existing buildings with new meeting space and restrooms.

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	13,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>13,500,000</b>

**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)	13,500,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	13,500,000	50%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>27,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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)?**

**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?**

The Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency is a City of Tallahassee-Leon County agency established to implement an ambitious plan funded by a local government one-cent sales surtax. Endorsed by the Tallahassee-Leon County voters who approved the surtax in 2000 and again in 2014 to efficiently execute large, transformative, and generational projects.

**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.**

Leon County Government

**12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Design and construction related to improvements to the North Florida Fairgrounds property including a new building with meeting space and restrooms, a central green with pavilions, renovations to existing restrooms, new Capital Park ballfields, parking improvements around Gene Cox Stadium, utility upgrades, and new stormwater ponds with walking paths.	13,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>13,500,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

This funding request will support improvements to the North Florida Fairgrounds property transforming an under-utilized space into a vibrant, equitable community hub that fosters development, attracts residents, and supports local businesses.



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

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

The Fairgrounds Beautification and Improvement is a visionary project designed to maximize the property's potential as a dynamic community hub. Through this investment, into a vibrant, equitable community hub that fosters Job creation during construction and on-going operation; economic resilience through diversified event offerings; and support for local cultural and community events.

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

All residents of and visitors to Leon County will benefit from this project.

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

Focused investments at the existing North Florida Fairgrounds could generate additional economic impacts, such as increased direct spending by visitors staying in paid accommodations, by supporting new or expanded fair uses. The improvements also include constructing stormwater ponds with beautification, walking paths, and amenities, and upgrades to water, sewer, and electric utility infrastructure. These improvements are needed to meet current land development regulations as improvements are made on the site. The Fairgrounds Master Plan and Market Feasibility Report identify measurements of benefits within the stormwater and utility upgrades design and the economic impact analysis sections respectively.

**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?**

Deobligation of funds.

**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):**

**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):**

**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**



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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.*