



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2328

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The project will consist of the construction of a hurricane rated fire station and public safety facility at Keaton Beach in Taylor County. The existing facility suffered considerable damages from Hurricanes Idalia and Helene as it is not a hurricane rated or hardened structure. Personnel currently evacuate the facility prior to coastal weather or potential flooding events leaving no fire rescue or emergency support services in the Keaton Beach area. The new facility will not only be a hurricane rated structure, it will be constructed to code elevations to prevent flooding of the facility. The station will allow for the continuity of operations and disaster recovery efforts.

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	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,000,000</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)	2,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>2,000,000</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.



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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?

05/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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

Taylor County Board of Commissioners will own, operate, and maintain the facility. Taylor County will provide the land the facility will be located on.

### 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.

Taylor County owns, operates, and maintains the facility.

### 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	All funding will be used for the construction of the facility. The County will be providing the land and project management services.	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

Construction of a hurricane rated, elevated structure will provide for the continuity of operations of fire rescue and emergency support services at Keaton Beach as well as the communities of Dekle Beach, Dark Island, Spring Warrior, Cedar Island, and the southern end of the County. The Keaton Beach area is located 23.1 miles from the primary Fire Station in Perry as well as other emergency services. Steinhatchee offers limited fire and emergency services and is 19.3 miles away on roads which are often impassable during coastal events.



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

The new building will serve as a public safety facility with the primary use being Fire Rescue services. In addition to fire protection and emergency services, the site will serve as a disaster recovery staging area.

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

Direct services will include but not be limited to fire protection, emergency support services, and disaster recovery, The new facility will provide services to the communities of Keaton Beach, Dekle Beach, Dark Island, Cedar Island, Spring Warrior, and Yates Creek as well as the south end of the County. In addition to direct services provided on a daily basis, the facility will ensure for rapid recovery efforts in the event of a disaster or weather related event.

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

The target population is Keaton Beach and the surrounding coastal communities as well as provide support for Steinhatchee. Approximately 5,000 citizens will be served year round with double that number being served in the very busy recreational boating, fishing, and scalloping seasons. The County also provides mutual aid to the nearby counties of Lafayette and Dixie.

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

The project will provide a hurricane rated, resilient structure which will enable Fire Rescue to provide services in all types of conditions and weather events. Fire Rescue personnel, vehicles, and equipment will be able to shelter in place to provide fire and emergency services during minor events or immediately after major events. Emergency response times will be substantially reduced with a resilient facility with adequate equipment and apparatus storage areas.

**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?**

The County will move forward immediately with the facility design when funding is secured. As the existing structure suffered substantial damage from the hurricanes, the new facility is critical to Keaton Beach and the nearby communities for adequate fire protection and emergency support services. All deliverable and performance measures will be met per contract timelines and requirements. The County owns the land where the facility will be located. The County will provide project management services.

**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):**

Hurricanes Idalia and Helene

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply



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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)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name  Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number  Ext.



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#### 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.*