



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2437

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

4. Project/Program Description

The requested funding will go towards the construction and renovation of the Venice Theatre that was heavily damaged in Hurricane Ian.

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
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	8%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	0%
Other	22,900,000	92%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	25,000,000	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

10. Status of Construction



The Florida Senate

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Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2437

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

05/01/2023

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

05/01/2026

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

Private Fundraising

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 Venice Theatre is the owner, and is a 501 (c) 3 organization

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	The requested funding will go towards the construction and renovation of the Venice Theatre that was heavily damaged in Hurricane Ian.	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

Venice Theatre, one of downtown Venice's oldest businesses needs support to restore itself as an economic driver of Downtown Venice. Hurricane Ian caused millions of dollars of damage to the Venice Theatre thus ceasing much of its operations. As a center for volunteer engagement for those of all ages, the loss has cost millions to not only Venice Theatre but the entire Venice community and economy. The goal is to make Venice Theatre whole again.

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

The funding will allow for the Venice Theatre to continue to provide theatrical Productions, classes and volunteer engagement to residents and visitors to the region.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2437

The Venice Theatre is a center for volunteer engagement, which provides educational opportunities, quality of life and mental health opportunities for all ages. This funding will not only provide immediate employment opportunities, but will generate tax revenue for the state and local economy. The loss of due to storm damage, has cost millions to the Theatre and local economy.

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

The Venice theatre serves all ages from school age children to retired adults. The Theatre serves thousands of visitors and residents every year.

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

Venice Theatre tracks the number of actors, volunteers, and students participating in hours of auditions, rehearsals, productions, set- and costume building, and classes/camps, which provides a physical and educational outlet for the volunteers. In partnership with the EDC of Sarasota County, Venice Theatre will track the economic impact and jobs coming into the economy as a result of this investment.

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 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 Ian

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2437

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



The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2437

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