



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2715

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The City of Inverness will build a campground on state land that the city manages. This campground will be a large economic driver for the area and for the nature coast. This campground would also allow for tourists to take better advantage of the state's Whispering Pines Park.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  Yes

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	67%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,000,000	33%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  No

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?  No

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



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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?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2026

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

The City will collect fees for camping which will go back into staffing the park. The City already has this business model operationally set up for whispering pines.

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 City of Inverness will own the improvements on the state land.

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	Funds will be used for construction and planning-engineering.	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?

The funds will be used to develop a new RV campground on state-owned land, expanding recreational access, promoting outdoor activity, and enhancing conservation efforts. This project will provide a desirable, managed access to natural areas, support local tourism and economic development, and encourage environmental education and community engagement, all while ensuring the land remains well-maintained and preserved for future generations.

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



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The funds will be used to develop and construct essential infrastructure for the park, including RV campsites, access roads, utility connections, and restrooms. Site preparation will involve grading, installing water and sewer lines, and setting up electrical hookups to accommodate visitors. Once completed, the park will offer camping, outdoor recreation, and nature exploration opportunities, providing a well-maintained and accessible space for residents and tourists to enjoy Florida's natural resources.

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

Recreational access for tourists and locals that want to better access the park.

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

The many, many tourists that come to the nature coast.

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

This project will expand public access to outdoor recreation, promoting tourism, local economic growth, and environmental appreciation while ensuring responsible land management for the state. The new park will provide safe and well-equipped camping facilities, attracting visitors and generating revenue for the local community. The success of the project will be measured by tracking visitor numbers, campsite reservations, and local economic impact, as well as monitoring environmental conditions to ensure sustainable land use and conservation efforts.

**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 City of Inverness will build tasks into the scope of work and only complete payouts after benchmarks are reached and work is completed, contract will have an appropriate retainage amount to withhold until all work is complete and final payment is made.

**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#:**

**b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:**



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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

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address



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d. Phone Number

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