



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2718

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The recommended improvements contained within the Conceptual Design Report completed by CPH Inc, are necessary at the city's water reclamation facility in order for the city to appropriately treat projected wastewater flows in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The project has two components: improving the existing infrastructure to address aging equipment and increasing the wastewater treatment capacity to 5.5 million gallons per day. This BNR facility will meet Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) standards set by the Department of Environmental Protection and will help protect our environment by reducing nutrient loading to water bodies and wetlands. In addition, these improvements will support residential/commercial growth and economic vitality within the City and Sumter County.

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	4,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	4,000,000

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)	4,000,000	3%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	36,000,000	24%
Local	24,000,000	16%
Other	86,000,000	57%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	150,000,000	100%

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?** Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

Local and federal funding, grants



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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?

02/10/2025

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?

Utility Revenue Fund

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.

City of Wildwood, Florida.

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	Requested funds are for replacement of an failing/aging facility to keep pace with rapid growth by constructing of a new regional WRF (serving Wildwood, The Villages, Coleman Prison) that will produce an AWT quality reclaimed water that is low in nutrients, improve and protect the Rainbow/Silver Springs BMAP area and regional environment, and reduce the potential for SSO's, sludge overflows, odors and aerosols.	4,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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This is a multi-faceted, regional project to replace aging infrastructure (~50 years old) and increase treatment facility capacity by the construction of a new AWT treatment facility to keep pace with the rapid population growth within the City's service area (City of Wildwood, The Villages, and Coleman Prison (federal)). Reclaimed water will be used throughout the regional area. These funds will allow the City to: (1) meet current and future regional wastewater demands; (2) reduce nutrient loadings to the regional environment and springs (BMAP area); (3) enhance, preserve and improve the water quality of the groundwaters, surface waters, Rainbow/Silver springs (BMAP area), and wetlands; (4) protect the public from environmental harm; (5) increase economic activity; and (6) create job opportunities.

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

The requested funds are for construction of a new regional AWT treatment facility to replace the failing/aging facility infrastructure (~50 years old), and to increase treatment capacity to keep pace with the rapid population growth. The City provides a regional solution to wastewater treatment and effluent disposal by treating wastewater generated within the City's service area (City of Wildwood, The Villages, and Coleman Prison (federal)). The reclaimed water produced will be used throughout City's regional reclaimed water service area (City of Wildwood and The Villages/North Sumter Utilities). The project will also: (1) reduce nutrient loadings to the local area and the Rainbow/Silver Springs BMAP area; (2) prevent sanitary sewer and sludge overflows; (3) reduce groundwater demand (for drinking water) and increase groundwater quality; and (4) enhance and improve wildlife habitat.

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

The improvements will provide the needed wastewater treatment capacity and infrastructure required within the City's regional service area due to the rapid population growth being experienced as well as the following: protect critical water resources in the regional area (surface waters, wetlands, groundwater, Rainbow/Silver springs (BMAP area)); protect regional residences and property; protect the general public from harm; and enhance, preserve and improve the environment, wildlife quality and resources used by the regional residents and tourists by reducing sanitary sewer and sludge management system overflows. This project is critical to the citizens and businesses (both current and future) within the regional area (City of Wildwood, The Villages, Sumter County).

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

The current City of Wildwood population is ~31,000. The population has doubled since the 2020 census and is estimated to increase to 131,000 by 2050. The rapid population increase requires substantial utility system improvements. The regional AWT treatment facility is the first major utility project and involves replacement of the existing antiquated treatment facility with a new facility capable of meeting Class I Reliability criteria, AWT standards, and significantly reducing effluent nutrient concentrations. The capacity will be expanded to account for rapid growth and increased wastewater flows. Financial assistance from the State is requested due to the rapid increase in population growth; the need to protect the general public and thereby all of the regional natural water bodies from environmental harm.

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

These funds will allow Wildwood to provide the following benefits/outcome for the regional citizens/tourists: (1) enhance, preserve and improve the environment and wildlife quality within the regional area; (2) protect the general public from environmental harm and the degradation of regional water resources; (3) protection of public and private property (yards, streets, structures, etc.); (4) increase tourism; (5) increase and improve economic activity within the regional area (Wildwood, the Villages, Sumter County); (6) improve groundwater quality; (7) improve surface water quality; and (8) improve drinking water quality. Outcomes will be measured by the decrease nutrient concentrations, and the reduced number of sanitary sewer and sludge management system overflows.

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?

Fines and clean-up costs associated with sanitary sewer and sludge management system overflows.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)



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- 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:

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):

Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Resilient Florida Grant Program
- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant



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Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants) native Water Supply Grants

N/A

18. What is the population economic status?

Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)

Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)

Rural Area of Economic Concern

Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)

N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

Construction to begin in February 2025

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

1%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2027

22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Jason **Last Name** McHugh

b. Organization City of Wildwood

c. E-mail Address jmchugh@wildwood-fl.gov

d. Phone Number (352)330-1330 **Ext.** 112

23. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization City of Wildwood

b. Municipality and County Sumter

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 Jason **Last Name** McHugh



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e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

24. 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.