



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2777

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Installation of approx. 9,400 commercial & residential Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) telemetry water reading system--an automated two-way communication system between the meter, user & OUA. New meters provide operational detail such peak flows for each user, conserves water sources, reduces revenue loss from inaccurate metering, enhances security, resilience & detection of water leaks alerts on the homeowner's side of the meter can be identified/repaired efficiently by the homeowner.

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	3,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>3,000,000</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)	3,000,000	81%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	700,000	19%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>3,700,000</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**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2777

**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?** 10/01/2025

**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?**

general revenue

**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 Okeechobee Utility Authority is the owner and the entity.

**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	n/a	0
Other Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	n/a	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	n/a	0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Contractual professional services for design, survey, permitting, administration, construction/installation and training services Advance Metering Infrastructure digital water meters for commercial and residential users.	3,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>3,000,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

Goal is purchase and installation of approx. 9,400 commercial & residential Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) telemetry water reading system--an automated two-way communication system between the meter, user & OUA. New meters provide operational detail such peak flows for each user, conserves water sources, reduces revenue loss from inaccurate metering, enhances security, resilience & detection of water leaks alerts on the homeowner's side of the meter can be identified/repaired efficiently by the homeowner.

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2777

Activities include purchase and install of AMI Infrastructure digital water meters for commercial and residential users through the OUA's procurement policy and procedures.

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

Direct services to citizens is the capability to notify the OUA/customer 24/7/365 of high flow, therefore, saving excessive use of a natural resource while saving the customer financial resources.

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

The State through the protection of waters of the State in the Lake Okeechobee Estuaries and surrounding areas. Additional benefits is increased levels of service expected by visitors to and residents of Okeechobee County which are Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C.) that located in a Rural Area of Economic Concern/Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes).

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

Expected benefit is that the AMI water metering telemetry system improves water conservation including drinking water due to automated monitoring water usages and reduction of unaccounted for water losses. Early leak detection reduces unnecessary drinking water quality usage. Decrease of unaccounted water usage/leaks is expected as a result of the AMI digital telemetry system. Conserving and protecting drinking water sources.

**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?**

Non-payment of outstanding invoices, implementation of the corrective action plan, invoking the public construction bond or performance bond.

**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)
- 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:**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2777

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
- Other (please specify, ex. Alternative 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?

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2777

#### 22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 23. 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) Special District

d. First Name  Last Name

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.*