



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2813

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The AERO (Advanced Emergency Response & Operations) Command Unit is a cutting-edge mobile command vehicle designed to enhance emergency operations, crisis response, and drone deployment capabilities. This initiative represents a new era in public safety, integrating advanced technology with rapid response solutions to better serve the community.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

| Type of Funding                    | Amount         |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Operating                          | 300,000        |
| Fixed Capital Outlay               | 0              |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>300,000</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)       | 300,000        | 50%         |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                |                |             |
| Federal  | 0              | 0%          |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0              | 0%          |
| Local  | 300,000        | 50%         |
| Other  | 0              | 0%          |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b> | <b>600,000</b> | <b>100%</b> |

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

| Fiscal Year<br>(yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific<br>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**



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**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)?**

**c. What is the estimated start date of construction?**

**d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

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

**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.**

**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  | Salaries, benefits, and training for (3) three additional Public Safety Aides.   | 125,000        |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                | CRU-22 Mobile Command Vehicle - New Ford Transit-350 High Roof, Extended, Cargo Van. The CRU-22 emergency response vehicles are highly customizable and provide robust, high-performing communication proficiencies for aerial surveillance, active shooter response, hostage negotiations, crime scene investigations, HAZMAT incidents, and weather crises. Included workstation/communication consoles. | 175,000        |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |  | 0              |
| <b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>                    |  |                |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering                      |  | 0              |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b> |  | <b>300,000</b> |

**13. Program Performance**

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

The AERO (Advanced Emergency Response & Operations) Command Unit is designed to enhance situational awareness, crisis management, and community engagement through cutting-edge technology and rapid deployment capabilities. This specialized command vehicle will serve as a mobile hub for emergency operations, drone response, and multi-agency coordination, ensuring a more effective and proactive approach to public safety.



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

Rapid deployment to critical incidents such as natural disasters, search-and-rescue operations, hostage situations, and major accidents. Provides a centralized command center for real-time decision-making, improving coordination between responding agencies. Advanced Drone Deployment & Aerial Surveillance. Serves as a drone launch and monitoring platform for aerial reconnaissance, missing person searches, traffic incident management, and tactical response. Equips officers with real-time intelligence from aerial footage, improving operational awareness in dangerous or complex situations.

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

Deployed at community events, the AERO Unit serves as an interactive engagement platform, allowing residents to learn about drone technology, public safety initiatives, and emergency preparedness. Strengthens trust between law enforcement and the community by demonstrating transparency and innovation in modern policing.

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

The AERO (Advanced Emergency Response & Operations) Command Unit is designed to serve a broad spectrum of individuals and groups within the community, including General Public – Residents, visitors, and businesses who benefit from enhanced emergency response, crisis management, and public safety initiatives. Emergency & Crisis Victims – Individuals affected by disasters, missing persons, high-risk incidents, and large-scale emergencies. Law Enforcement & First Responders – Officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and emergency management teams who rely on AERO for real-time intelligence, aerial surveillance, and coordinated response efforts. Community Event Participants – Attendees at public events, festivals, and educational outreach programs where AERO is deployed for engagement and safety monitoring. Vulnerable Populations – Missing persons, individuals with special needs, or those affected by natural disasters and hazardous incidents.

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

The AERO (Advanced Emergency Response & Operations) Command Unit is designed to significantly enhance public safety, emergency response, and community engagement through innovative technology and coordinated operations. The key benefits and expected outcomes include:

1. Faster Emergency Response & Crisis Management.
2. Enhanced Situational Awareness & Officer Safety.
3. Increased Community Engagement & Public Trust.
4. Improved Inter-agency Collaboration & Operational Efficiency.
5. Reduction in Crime & Enhanced Public Safety.

To ensure the AERO Command Unit meets its objectives, the following performance metrics and evaluation methods will be used: Compare emergency response times before and after AERO implementation. Track number of drone-assisted operations and cases where drone footage contributed to successful resolutions.

**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 is open to any proposed penalties for failure to meet deliverables.

**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):**



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**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):**

**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)



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