



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2875

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

4. Project/Program Description

Crime in Florida creates harm, fear, and instability. To expand ongoing, actionable anti-crime and violence research, the SaferPlaces Lab is proposing the State of Florida provide initial funding support to expand the research team's capabilities to create greater statewide impact. This center would be the only public-private crime prevention cluster of criminologists in the US.

The requested resources would support the team's expansion and expenses for 4 years with local, federal, and corporate funding coming online to provide ongoing payroll, logistics, and research travel over the long-term.

The SaferPlaces will spearhead organized retail crime, elder fraud, transient threat actors, post-disaster crime control, local crime prevention, and public-private safety and security R&D using AI, IoT, robotics, 5G, and joint crime mapping across the state of Florida.

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	2,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,000,000

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)	3,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	3,000,000	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.**



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2875

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?

6/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/2025

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

Retail and Retail Development Corporations funding requests, Federal DOJ Grants, Arnold Foundation Grants are being developed for subsequent years.

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.

University of 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	Director of the SaferPlaces Lab, Read Hayes, PhD, Criminologist	85,000
Other Salary and Benefits	2 Research Scientists, 2 Research Project Coordinators	430,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Utilities, internet, field research travel	110,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	AI, IoT, robotics, 5G, and joint crime mapping innovations and other technologies and protocols will be used to better safeguard vulnerable people and places. Utilities, internet, field research.	1,875,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Renovation existing service and research space for new innovations on sites through the University of Florida campus.	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2875

The SaferPlaces Lab will become a statewide research center spearheading public-private anti-organized retail crime and transient threat actors, elder fraud, disaster recovery crime control, and local crime prevention R&D. AI, IoT, robotics, 5G, and joint crime mapping innovations and other technologies and protocols will be used to better safeguard vulnerable people and places.

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

The SaferPlaces Lab will jointly design and conduct field research with law enforcement and state attorney agencies, retail and shopping center organizations, and protective technology companies to build, test, and demonstrate coordinated, comprehensive place, neighborhood, and community-level crime prevention improvements.

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

The SaferPlaces Lab will conduct cutting-edge public-private safety research and development across the State of Florida to reduce crime while boosting safety, stability, and economic opportunities.

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

Initial research areas include St. Lucie and Alachua Counties, expanding to Broward and Hillsborough Counties in year 2. Local stores, places of worship, and law enforcement agencies will participate in protective action R&D projects including training and crime-problem reporting. Additionally, research communities should realize greater safety levels.

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

Businesses and law enforcement agencies will receive more real-time crime problems and protective solutions impact feedback, increasing crime prevention and faster resolution and lessons-learned for further protective improvement. Citizen calls for service should decline over 2-3 years measured by computer-assisted dispatch and crime mapping systems.

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?

Funding adjustments including suspension as well as civil and criminal sanctions if intentional acts and omissions occur.

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#:



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2875

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)
- 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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2875

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.