



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2913

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Gulf County / Port of Port St. Joe (MOR) floating Dry Dock is a transformational project that will create infrastructure, employ a skilled workforce and develop an ongoing ship repair and haul out facility on deep-water property in Port St. Joe, Florida. Necessary infrastructure includes a self-docking floating dry dock capable of handling vessels up to 10,000 LT weight and project will serve as catalyst to a myriad of additional business and industry for Gulf County and the region. This proposal also enables Port St Joe, Gulf County, and the region to become a vessel outfitting and vessel repair center for the northern Gulf of Mexico competing with the likes of Tampa, Mobile, New Orleans and related vessel outfitting and repair locations. Job creation in this State Rural Area of Opportunity will be greatly enhanced with the creation of 215 direct jobs and 563 indirect jobs in communities with few manufacturing jobs,

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	5,000,000

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)	5,000,000	7%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	23,000,000	32%
Other	44,000,000	61%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	72,000,000	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?** No
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**
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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

10/31/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

03/31/2027

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

The Maintenance, Overhaul and Repair Facility (Floating Dry dock) will pay their own operational Costs. Eastern Shipbuilding Panama City Florida is proposed operator.

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.

Gulf County and the Port of Port St. Joe will own the floating Dry-dock, appurtenances and infrastructure. Eastern Shipbuilding well lease the floating dry-dock form the Gulf County and the Port of Port St. Joe.

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	Floating Dry-dock	5,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		5,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The Gulf County / Port of Port St. Joe (MOR) floating Dry Dock will create infrastructure, employ a skilled to develop an ongoing ship repair and haul out facility on deep-water property in Port St. Joe Florida. Necessary infrastructure includes a self-docking floating dry dock capable of handling vessels up to 10,000 LT weight and project will serve as catalyst to a myriad of additional business and industry for Gulf County and the region.



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

This proposal will enable Port St Joe, Gulf County, and the region to become a vessel outfitting and vessel repair center for the northern Gulf of Mexico competing with the likes of Tampa, Mobile, New Orleans and related vessel outfitting and repair locations. Job creation in this State Rural Area of Opportunity will be greatly enhanced with the creation of 215 direct jobs and 563 indirect jobs in communities with few manufacturing jobs,

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

The project will create 215 skilled shipbuilding jobs and 563 supporting indirect jobs thereby diversifying the economic base to include manufacturing jobs nonexistent since the closing of the Paper mill and rail line in 1999.

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

The project will create 215 skilled shipbuilding jobs and 563 supporting indirect jobs thereby diversifying the economic base to include manufacturing jobs non existent since the closing of the Paper mill and rail line in 1999. The target population are the citizens of Gulf, Bay and Franklin Counties. The potential served could exceed 300 people.

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

The return of manufacturing jobs is the expected outcome of the project with 215 new job at the fledgling shipyard in Port St. Joe Florida.

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?

Claw-back of a percentage of funds for jobs not achieved after 5 years.

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:



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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) Special Purpose District

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.