



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2972

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office is requesting \$3.8 million in funding to construct a modern driving pad and gun range, marking our agency's first request of this kind. These state-of-the-art facilities will be integrated into the new Hernando County training complex, providing essential resources to ensure our officers are fully equipped to serve the community effectively. This initiative will directly enhance our partnership with the Law Enforcement Academies, offering a training environment for current and future officers. In addition, these facilities will be made available to state partners, including the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Florida Highway Patrol, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, who have also faced difficulties finding suitable training locations following the potential closure of the Sand Hill Scout Reservation which previously accommodated these agencies.

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	3,350,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>3,350,000</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)	3,350,000	88%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	450,000	12%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>3,800,000</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.
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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?

09/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/01/2026

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

Agency budgeted funding through the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners.

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 Hernando County Board of County Commissioners. The Hernando County Sheriff's Office is a constitutional office of Hernando County.

### 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	All funding will be used for the construction of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office modern driving pad and gun range. Hernando County will provide the land for the facility as part of the Public Safety Training Facility.	3,350,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>3,350,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The driving pad and gun range will support growth and development for law enforcement within our agency as well as offer the best training resources available to students through our partnership with the Law Enforcement Academies. This investment will enhance the effectiveness and safety of law enforcement in our community which leads to strengthened public safety.

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

The driving pad will provide a controlled environment for high-speed pursuit training, defensive driving techniques, and emergency vehicle operation. The gun range will offer a modern, secure location for firearms training, including proficiency testing, tactical exercises, and scenario-based drills. This will support the growth and development for law enforcement within our community.

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

The driving pad will support community programs like the Teen Driving Challenge, which helps students become safer drivers by training them in vehicles they typically operate. The gun range will provide a secure facility for the Hernando County Sheriff's Office S.A.F.E. Program (Situational Awareness Firearms Education), a public firearm safety initiative available to our community. Additionally, both the driving pad and gun range will enhance training opportunities for students attending the law enforcement academies, further supporting the development of skilled and prepared officers.

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

The target population includes Hernando County law enforcement officers and the 218,000 residents of Hernando County. It will also benefit the Local Law Enforcement Academies, in addition to our state partners such as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Florida Highway Patrol, the State Attorney's Office of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

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

The expected benefit of this project is to improve the effectiveness, safety, and professionalism of law enforcement officers, leading to a safer community in Hernando County. The outcome will be measured through specific performance metrics, such as the accuracy and speed of officers' responses in driving and shooting exercises while under pressure. These metrics will include reaction times, decision-making accuracy, and adherence to safety protocols during simulated high-stress scenarios. Performance improvements will be tracked through pre and post training assessments, focusing on skills and decision making under pressure.

**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?**

We are committed to meeting all deliverables and performance measures outlined in the contract, and if we're unable to do so, we believe the standard contract penalties will be appropriate.

**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



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### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2972

- 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)
- Local Entity
- University or College



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LFIR # 2972

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.*