



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3010

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

4. Project/Program Description

Restoration and preservation of the Historic Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Hall. The GAR Hall was the meeting place of the Grand Army of the Republic Post 38, comprised of a colony of Union Veterans. GAR members constructed the building with their own hands using "heart of pine" materials over a period of 6 weeks in 1912. Two years later, the GAR Hall hosted the vote to incorporate Zephyrhills, as well as the signing of the city charter. Since 1938 the Hall has been the home of the American Legion Post 118 organized by World War Veterans. On January 11, 1979, Historical Preservation Board placed a plaque acknowledging the profound history including the heart of Pine lumber. The nearly 115 year old GAR Hall is in need of repairs.

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	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	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)?

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
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	Restoration of building, repair of water damage to ceiling, HVAC system upgrade and maintenance, restoration of flooring, replacement of stairs, other needed updates to historic building	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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

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



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Restoration of building, repair of water damage to ceiling, HVAC system upgrade and maintenance, restoration of flooring, replacement of stairs, other needed updates to historic building.

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

The GAR Hall houses American Legion Post 118, offering community and services for veterans. Additionally, the GAR Hall currently hosts ROTC programs as well as Boys and Girls State programs. Repairs and renovations to the building will allow for hosting increased programs for veterans and youth, including Scouting troops, Civil Air Patrol, etc.

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

Since construction in 1912, the GAR Hall has housed veterans organizations. Originally the building housed the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization for Union veterans of the Civil War. Since 1938 the GAR Hall has housed American Legion Post 118. The mission is to offer community to veterans while fostering and perpetuating Americanism. Additionally, the American Legion supports youth programs such as the ROTC and Boys and Girls State, providing benefits to the entire community through such programs.

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

By repairing, restoring, and preserving the GAR Hall, the American Legion Post 118 will be able to continue supporting veterans and the larger Zephyrhills community by offering the many programs supported by the American Legion.

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?

If the project cannot be completed in a timely manner, state funding should be surrendered.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No Yes

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):

Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton

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)?



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- 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) Non-Profit 501(c)(19)

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 Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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