



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3051

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The funds for this combined Environmental & Oceanographic Sciences (EOS) Research & Training Facility, will be used to renovate an existing facility (MSL) on the USF St. Petersburg campus that was substantially impacted by the hurricanes to ensure its long-term useful life & to construct a new storm-hardened EOS Research & Teaching Facility in an updated location further inland to safeguard the state's investment in both of those facilities. USF St. Petersburg is an ideal location for this facility due to the proximity to a hub of marine and environmental science partners, including federal and state agencies, municipalities, and private enterprise.

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

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	10,000,000

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)	10,000,000	22%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	24,339,226	53%
Local	0	0%
Other	11,450,000	25%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	45,789,226	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	24,339,226	18	No

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	Construction manager, new construction, relocation, & renovation costs (building costs, environmental impacts, site preparation, electrical services, etc.), other project costs (professional fees, building and fire permit fees, inspection services, surveys and tests, project contingency, etc.) as well as fixtures, furnishings, and equipment for the renovated and newly constructed spaces.	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The funds for this combined EOS project will be used to renovate an existing facility (MSL) on the USF St. Petersburg campus that was substantially impacted by the hurricanes to ensure its long-term useful life & to construct a new storm-hardened EOS Research & Teaching Facility in an updated location further inland to safeguard the state's investment in both of those facilities. This project is designed to be phased with efforts to most efficiently meet university and community needs.

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

The combined funds from all sources will pay for construction to renovate the MSL facility as well as the construction of a new facility and/or new building addition further inland to include teaching laboratories and research laboratories and associated fixtures, furnishings and equipment on the USF St. Petersburg campus.

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

This facility will house individuals conducting nationally renowned research in flood mitigation, resiliency and environmental and oceanographic sciences. High-achieving, cross-disciplinary USF students will be obtaining their degree in Marine Science and STEM undergraduate/grad programs offered at the facility.

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

University students, Counties, municipalities, and citizens of Florida affected by coastal and inland flooding. >800

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

Improve quality of education - Expand undergraduate and graduate programs in marine and environmental sciences and other high-demand STEM areas at USF/Increased students graduating with high-demand undergraduate and/or graduate degrees to fill critical workforce needs. Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality - Expand nationally renowned research in flood mitigation, resiliency and, environmental and oceanographic sciences/Increased research in critical areas for the state including examining the environmental impacts of hurricanes, as well as assist the state better prepare for future storms.

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?

Reduced or discontinued funding. This is a PECO project and there are already substantial statutory and BOG Regulations in place to ensure compliance.

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):

Hurricanes Helene and Milton

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply



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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
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.



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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.