



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3079

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Port LaBelle is one of the fastest growing areas in Hendry County. From 2017-2021 there was a 68% increase in the number of potable water service connections. The Port LaBelle Utility System (PLUS) Water Treatment Plant (WTP) needs expansion to provide additional plant capacity as rapid growth is expected to continue in the Port LaBelle area. This project would provide economic improvements, not only in Hendry County, but also in portions of adjacent Glades County, which is also served by the Port LaBelle Utility System.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	5,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>5,000,000</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)	5,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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		
2024-25	0	5,000,000	LI1732A	No

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.**

n/a



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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?

1/31/2027

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2029

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

Revenues from the sale of potable water by the Port LaBelle Utility System.

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.

Hendry County will receive the funding as the owners of the facility

### 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	Planning, design, construction, and construction engineering inspection (CEI) services.	5,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>5,000,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

To expand the Port LaBelle Utility System (PLUS) Water Treatment Plant (WTP) capacity from 1.2 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.8 MGD in order to provide additional potable water capacity for the PLUS service area which is one of the fastest growing areas in Hendry County. The WTP expansion will include additional ground wells, water treatment equipment, and high service pumps. The funding requested this year would provide for the water treatment equipment and pumps. Additional funding will be needed for the wells.

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



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Design, construction, and construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services for the expansion of the PLUS WTP.

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

The water treatment plant (WTP) improvements will provide additional water plant capacity to accommodate growth in Port LaBelle and as result will increase or improve economic activity in Port LaBelle. Currently the WTP is nearing its current permitted capacity and expansion of the WTP is necessary.

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

Users within the Port LaBelle Utility System service area of both Hendry and Glades Counties. There are over 10,000 platted residential lots in Port LaBelle.

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

Increased water treatment plant capacity. Documented by a FDEP permit and reporting volumes of treated water.

**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?**

Revocation of state funding

**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#:**

**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



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- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

### Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Resilient Florida Grant Program
- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- N/A

18. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization



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c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 23. 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.

#### 24. 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.*