



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3273

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The funds will be used to construct and new tower site with transmit and receive equipment for improved law enforcement and public safety communications. The significant increase in new housing and businesses in Hendry County has resulted in a 231% increase of calls for service by the Sheriff's Office in the last 15 years. The housing expense in Collier and Lee County has resulted in over a 1,000 new building permits between 6/2022 and 6/2023. Many of these new structures are without portable radio or cell phone coverage. Ten public schools which are dual purposed as disaster shelters along with a hospital do not have appropriate radio coverage.

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	3,758,353
Total State Funds Requested	3,758,353

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)	3,758,353	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	3,758,353	100%

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	750,000	1297A	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.



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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?

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?

Tower and equipment will be transferred to the Department of Management Services and become part of the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) network.

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 State of Florida as part of the state's SLERS communications system.

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 of radio tower and communications equipment for transmission and receive. Funds to complete engineering and environmental studies were provided by FY 2024-25 appropriations.	3,758,353
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,758,353

13. Program Performance

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



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Improved communications for law enforcement and first responders in Hendry County and southern Glades County. Public safety communications were analyzed for Hendry and the adjacent counties by radio frequency engineers. The studies show significant coverage gaps in areas of growth and development in Hendry County. The growth and development have resulted in additional calls for services by first responders. The additional infrastructure to support radio coverage is necessary to maintain public safety.

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

Providing public safety communications to law enforcement, rescue, and fire personnel in areas of the county which currently do not have in building radio coverage.

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

Provide critical response services to assure protection of life and property of Hendry County residents and businesses.

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

All residents and visitors of Hendry County and southern portion of Glades County, including Moore Haven.

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

Improved radio communications that can be measured by engineers and users.

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?

Return of funds to state or the withholding percentage of funds until deliverables are achieved.

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:



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LFIR # 3273

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.**

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address



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LFIR # 3273

d. Phone Number

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