



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3355

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

4. Project/Program Description

The project is to fund professional design services for an addition of approximately 22,000 sqft. to the morgue and administrative areas of the Medical Examiner's Office serving Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties, and construction of a new 12,500 sqft. Environmental Lab building. The Environmental Laboratory collects, tests and assesses samples of water, soil, hazardous and biological materials.

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	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,500,000

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)	3,500,000	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	3,500,000	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		
2023-24	0	1,000,000	2341A	Yes

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.**

Total project cost for design and construction is approximately \$38,000,000. Local funds will provide the balance of cost.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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? 05/31/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 12/31/2027

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

Annual Lee County budget appropriations for Department of Natural Resources and the Medical Examiner's Office.

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.

Lee County Board of County Commissioners

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	Professional design services for the expansion of the Medical Examiner's Office and construction of the new Environmental Lab.	3,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,500,000

13. Program Performance

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

The request is to fund professional design services for an addition of approximately 22,000 sqft. to the morgue and administrative areas of the Medical Examiner's Office serving Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties, and construction of a new 12,500 sqft. Environmental Lab building. The Environmental Laboratory collects, tests and assesses samples of water, soil, hazardous and biological materials.

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



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Lee, Hendry, and Glades counties are facing rapidly expanding caseloads for both routine and emergency services which exceed the capacity of the current facility. Funding will allow for services to be conducted in a timely manner expected by our residents.

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

Improvements to Medical Examiner's Office serving Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties to expedite services to residents. And construction of a new 12,500 sqft. Environmental Lab building which collects, tests and assesses samples of water, soil, hazardous and biological materials to ensure citizens are living in a safe environment.

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

General (The majority of funds will benefit no specific group). >800 people.

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

The Lab's purpose is to provide the highest value and quality of environmental testing, monitoring, assessment and information services to benefit both residents and the natural environment, including water quality testing for residents. Water quality and biological monitoring of surface waters is also conducted. The new lab will better serve the public by increasing capacity. Number of tests completed or clients served. Water quality indicators, such as, TMDLs for nutrient and bacterial loads. The expansion of the ME's Office will increase capacity for the three counties served. The rapidly expanding caseloads for both routine and emergency services exceed the capacity of the current facility. Improved case management times.

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?

Failure to adequately fulfill deliverables as contractually agreed can lead to non-payment and/or contract termination.

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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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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d. Phone Number

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