



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3398

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

4. Project/Program Description

The San Carlos Institute is an educational and patriotic center founded in Key West, FL in 1871. It was the civic and educational center of Florida's first Cuban-American community and served as the cradle of Cuba's independence movement. The present San Carlos building was completed in 1924. It is an architectural jewel that serves as museum, library, art gallery, and 400-seat theatre that serves the entire Keys' community. It stands as a symbol of freedom and a monument to the perseverance of the Cuban people in their struggle for a free Cuba. The 101 year old building is in urgent need of structural repairs caused by water intrusion. It also needs upgrades in its electrical and plumbing systems. The building must be brought up to code for ADA compliance, including providing access to the second floor museum and library by the installation of an elevator. Interior finishes have been damaged by water intrusion and concrete spalling. The funds requested will address these issues.

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	1,946,275
Total State Funds Requested	1,946,275

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)	1,946,275	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	1,946,275	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		

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?

06/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/02/2026

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

The San Carlos has been generating an income stream for operations since it reopened in 1992. Rental income from theatre and parking lots, plus donations from visitors, are enough for regular operations. However, these funds are not enough to cover major capital outlays

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 San Carlos Institute is owned by Instituto Patriotico y San Carlos, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation dba San Carlos Institute, successor in title and interest to the unincorporated Instituto Patriotico y Docente San Carlos founded in 1871.

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	The principal benefit will be to stop the water penetration and concrete spalling that is threatening the structural integrity of this historic landmark. The emergency items covered in this project's scope of work will stop the water penetration and rapid deterioration that threatens the structural integrity.	1,946,275
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,946,275

13. Program Performance

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



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Please see answer to Question 4, above.

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable.

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

Thousands of persons from all over the world visit the San Carlos Institute annually. They come to learn about its history- and the history of Florida's Cuban-American community- and to admire the beauty of its architecture. In particular, persons of Cuban descent visit the San Carlos in a spirit of patriotic pilgrimage. They bring their children and grandchildren to learn about their Cuban heritage and their history in the USA.

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

The expected benefit is the restoration of the historic building so that it may continue to be a Florida historical landmark for many generations to come. In addition, the building is the principal theatrical facility in Key West, home of the most important events in the Florida Keys, including the Key West Literary Seminar, the Key West Film Festival, the Songwriters' Festival and the Pamella Connolly Theatrical Series. Hundreds of high school and college students visit the San Carlos in filed trips every year. The San Carlos has the tradition of hosting the ceremonial swearing in ceremony of the Florida Keys' member.

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?

The contracting agency may supervise the work and file a lien against the San Carlos Institute's property located at 526 Duval Street, Key West, Florida if the San Carlos Institute fails to meet performance measures provided in the contract with the State of Florida.

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

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#:



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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.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information



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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.