



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3447

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

In 2021, Leon County's Essential Libraries Initiative (ELI) was launched to serve as a long-range plan for the re-envisioning of the County's Library System to address the changing needs of residents and trends in library use. The ELI includes a capital improvements element to the County's Main Library to modernize more than 40,000 sq. ft. of space allowing the library to better align programs and services with the community's evolving needs. An improvements study was completed in 2021 that resulted in a multiphase project for the library's capital improvements. This request will support Phase 2 of improvements including the 1st floor renovation of the library to provide a Library of Things Showroom, Library Cafe, Maker Space/Lab, and more to build upon Phase 1's additions of 14 multi-use/gathering rooms; career center/simulator lab; accessible shelving; recording studio, and more.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,600,000</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)	2,600,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	2,600,000	50%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>5,200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  No
- 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?  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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

10/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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

County General Revenue

**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.**

Leon County Government

**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	This request will support Phase 2 of improvements at the Leon County Main Library including the 1st floor renovation of the library to provide a showroom for the Library of Things which is a collection of items such as tools, gardening equipment, mobile hotspots, etc. that are loaned to Library card holders at no charge. Phase 2 will also provide a new Maker Space to provide a common area for patrons craft hands-on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge.	2,600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,600,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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



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This funding request will support capital improvements to advance the County's Essential Libraries Initiative (ELI) for the re-envisioning and renovation of the Leon County's Main Library to address the changing needs of residents and trends in library use. Through the completion of the ELI, the County will modernize more than 40,000 sq. ft. of space allowing the library to better align programs and services with the community's evolving needs.

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

This funding request will specifically support Phase 2 of capital improvements at the County's Main Library including the 1st floor renovation of the library to provide a Library of Things Showroom and Maker Space, as well as new youth services and teen spaces; a family-friendly computer area; more tutoring spaces and a library cafe style and lounge spaces. These improvements will build upon Phase 1's additions of 14 multi-use/gathering rooms, a Career Corner workforce development hub with a career center and simulator lab, soundproof recording studio, public computer areas, comfortable seating, accessible shelving, wider aisles, and more.

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

The renovation, which is being implemented as part of the Essential Libraries Initiative, will enhance library services offered to the community and allow the library to meet the community's current and emerging needs by incorporating flexible, forward-thinking designs that increase accessibility for residents of all ages and abilities. The renovated library space will offer something for everyone, with improvements including an open floor plan, new seating, enhanced directional signage, new youth services and teen space, a family-friendly computer area, more tutoring spaces and a library cafe style and lounge spaces.

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

This project will benefit all residents of Leon County.

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

Since implementation of the plan began in 2021, the library has continued to offer innovative programming and services that inspire and connect Leon County's diverse population and engage citizens in new and exciting ways. Additionally, facility enhancements at all library locations, including the two-phase renovation at the Main Library to modernize more than 40,000 square feet of space, allows the Library System to better align programs and services with the community's evolving needs. The benefits and outcomes of this project will be demonstrated by the increase of patrons connected to essential services through the Main Library, the measurable increase in attendance at library programming; and increases in checkouts and usage of library services, items, and offerings.

**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?**

Deobligation of funds.

**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



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- 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
- 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



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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

d. Phone Number

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