



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3470

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funds will be used to construct a new gateway structure with an electronic tolling system at the south end of the Bob Sikes Bridge. The new structure and tolling system will allow vehicles to move more efficiently onto the island while collecting the necessary tolls and provide quicker evacuation off the island during natural disasters. Along with new landscaping and pavement improvements this will also provide an aesthetic greeting to keep tourism thriving on Pensacola Beach.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	70%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	125,000	6%
Local	500,000	24%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,125,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	125,000	2069A	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

Local Entity Funds

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)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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

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.

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 the designed and permitted gateway structure and electronic tolling system.	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funds will be used to construct a new gateway structure with an electronic tolling system at the south end of the Bob Sikes Bridge. The new structure and tolling system will allow vehicles to move more efficiently onto the island while collecting the necessary tolls and provide quicker evacuation off the island during natural disasters. Along with new landscaping and pavement improvements this will also provide an aesthetic greeting to keep tourism thriving on Pensacola Beach.

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

More efficient tolling system which will allow local residents and tourists to move quicker on and off Pensacola Beach, especially for evacuations during natural disasters.



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

The new structure and tolling system will allow vehicles to move more efficiently onto the island while collecting the necessary / required tolls and provide quicker evacuation off the island during natural disasters.

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

This project will benefit no specific group, but rather will serve all Escambia County residents as well the increasing tourism demand from other areas. >800 in the target population are expected to be served.

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

Expected benefit is lowering transit time experienced by vehicles accessing Pensacola Beach and during evacuations off the island during natural disasters. This outcome will be measured by video surveillance / traffic cameras and vehicle counting devices.

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?

Contracting agency will consider higher than normal liquidated damages should the contract time be exceeded. This is a daily monetary penalty until the project is substantial completion of the project.

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):

Local Transportation Project Grant, CSFA 55.039 - Department of Transportation

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**
- d. Phone Number**



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