



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3502

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

4. Project/Program Description

Two Marine Emergency Response vessels will provide Monroe County's Fire Rescue Department the capability to provide emergency medical and life-saving services for the thousands of boaters that live in and visit the Keys from all over the State. With these vessels, Monroe County Fire Rescue will establish a new marine-based emergency response unit consisting of two vessels operated by medically trained firefighters to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The emergency response vessels will operate from strategic areas throughout the Keys to provide the greatest life saving impact. The vessels will respond to water-based medical emergencies, fire emergencies (vessels provide 1,000 gallon per minute fire suppression services), can rapidly deliver crews to remote marine areas, and provide support for search and rescue operations. These new vessels, within the new marine-based emergency response program, will protect and save lives.

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	1,100,500
Total State Funds Requested	1,100,500

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)	1,100,500	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	1,100,500	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?

08/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

08/01/2025

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

Monroe County will local taxes as the funding stream for the 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.

Monroe County is the owner of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding.

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	Two Marine Fire Rescue Emergency Response Vessels	1,100,500
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,100,500

13. Program Performance

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



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The purpose of the funds is to enhance safety and save lives. The vessels purchased with these funds will provide advanced life support, marine fire rescue, search and rescue, and assist other agencies with emergency medical and fire suppression services in Atlantic Ocean and Florida Bay that are not currently present within Monroe County Fire Rescue. Establishing marine emergency response capabilities will enable Fire Rescue personnel to respond to water-based medical and fire emergencies, and provide support for search and rescue operations delivering crews with life saving medical care and fire suppression capabilities rapidly to remote areas and provide assistance for special water-based events.

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

The vessels will enable the creation of a new emergency response program consisting of two vessels manned by two medically trained firefighters operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Fire/Rescue boats will operate from strategic areas to provide the greatest life and property saving impact. The intention is to mitigate tragedies on the water such as the death of Harlie A. Smith who died on August 11, 2017, in the Atlantic Ocean just a few miles from Cudjoe Key. While on vacation with her family of four, she was accidentally hit by a boat propeller. Medical assistance could not be provided in time on the water, and she died as a result. Additional resources will assist to avert these types of incidents.

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

The value to citizens is increased capacity to provide medical, life-saving and fire suppression services on the water. This will add protection for the many visiting boaters and their families, as well as our resident boaters, and waterfront recreational areas such as docks, marinas, and water based properties. Monroe County is surrounded by many small inhabited islands and fire rescue is extremely limited in its ability to reach these remote areas. These boats may also assist in time of evacuation of potentially impacted areas that have no connection to the roadways and provide a valuable resource following a disaster with entry within these areas.

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

The target population are those who work, live and visit within the Florida Keys. There are 26,500 registered vessels in Monroe County. Additionally, there is a significant impact from trailered boats vacationing in Monroe's waters from other communities, particularly the boating community of neighboring Miami-Dade County, with 73,663 registered vessels.

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

The primary benefit is a water-based lifesaving service that is currently not available to the community. The method will mirror that of our state incident reporting, for incident types, response times, and emergency response actions that are able to be performed solely through the incorporation of a marine emergency response unit.

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?

Should the vessels not be purchased in a timely fashion, no draw down of State funds will occur.

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) Local County government

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.