



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1625

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

A pilot program to provide free fares for fixed routes within Manatee County's public transportation system. The program was created to promote transit usage to afford greater accessibility and mobility for the public, relieve increasing traffic congestion, to support fuel-efficient transportation, and to enhance to economic development of the County.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,200,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,200,000	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 2023-2024	1,200,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future 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.

Gas taxes and debt proceeds.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.



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Manatee County received \$70 million in CARES Act funding for costs incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding is being disbursed to four primary groups in the community including residents, business owners, nonprofits, local government partner agencies, and community partners. Manatee County has been designated a recipient of \$78 million from the American Rescue Plan.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction

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?

12. 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.

13. 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: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Operational expenses for enhancements to the MCAT transit system.	1,200,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,200,000

14. Program Performance

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

Promote transit usage to afford greater accessibility and mobility for the public, relieve increasing traffic congestion, to support fuel-efficient transportation, and to enhance to economic development of the County.

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



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Offer free fare (no cost) for fixed routes provided by Manatee County's MCAT.

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

Free access to readily-accessible means of transportation.

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

General population, transit users, and citizens looking for alternative means of transit.

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

Increased use of the public transportation by citizens, relief from increasing traffic congestion, increase economic development of the County. Data will be collected to analyze the effect the pilot program has on the expected outcome and will be used to recommend if the program should continue.

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 the contract?

The penalties for failing to meet deliverable or performance measures should include withheld disbursement, auditing measures, and potential loss of funds.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="Amanda Stewart"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Johnston & Stewart Government Strategies, LLC"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="amanda@johnstonstewart.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(813)345-4104"/>