



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3223

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Lee County seeks funding to construct four radio towers to enable a microwave interconnection between adjacent Charlotte County to support the Next Generation 911 Network, improve the resiliency of the Public Safety Radio Network, and to reduce county reliance on leased commercial tower capacity in emergency situations.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	5,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	5,000,000	83%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,000,000	17%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

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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\$134,459,744 - CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds used to provide community aid and government services. Expenditure and outcome reports located at:  
<https://leeflcares.com/transparency#documents>

\$41,679,062.80 - Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA1 & ERA2) for rent and utility assistance provided to income qualified residents.

\$149,675,549 - American Rescue Plan Act allocations at  
<https://www.leegov.com/ARPA/Documents/Approved%20ARPA%20Allocations%20May%2026%202023.pdf>

## 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    
  N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)? No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction? June 1, 2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? June 30, 2026

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.

Lee County Board of County Commissioners

### 13. 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: Other</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	Design, permitting, construction, equipment acquisition and installation.	5,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>5,000,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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- Improve resiliency of tower network supporting Public Safety's Government Communication Network and Next Generation 911 Network connectivity to adjoining counties. Increased up-time during natural and man-made disasters. Reduce long-term taxpayer costs for leasing towers.

- For cellular providers that co-locate on the towers, their consumer networks will also be more resilient during disasters.

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

The radio towers will replace leased towers and infrastructure, reducing the cost of operation and improving resiliency in the face of disasters. The towers will be constructed to standards defined by the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council, and will have both redundant data connections (fiber and microwave) and redundant power (generator) to power all local government functions, as well as consumer networks operating on the tower.

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

While no direct services are scoped in the project, co-located cellular providers would have more resilient infrastructure to support their communications networks, improving access to commercial cellular data and voice communications during disasters.

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

The project will improve communications for the entire county radio and 911 networks, which cover a resident population of 822,000.

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

The primary measure will be increased up-time during disasters. This will be measured by monitoring the up-time metrics for these tower sites during a natural disaster.

Alternatively, a reduction in the cost of operation of the radio network will be realized as long-term lease agreements are terminated and equipment is moved to these new locations. Ad valorem taxes fund this cost today.

**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?**

While the time to completion is variable based on the availability of tower components, the contracting agency could consider penalties based on failure to meet certain time benchmarks.

**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)



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Non Profit 501(c)(4)

Local Entity

University or College

Other (please specify) Local Government

**d. First Name**  **Last Name**

**e. E-mail Address**

**f. Phone Number**

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

**a. Name**

**b. Firm Name**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**