



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3298

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Town of Lake Placid is requesting 5,000,000 to help fund the cost of converting existing septic tanks to the Lake Placid Regional Utility's Advanced Wastewater Treatment facility. This grant would fund the abandonment of existing tanks, the cost of the E-One pump to be installed at most homes in place of their septic tank, and connection to the wastewater collection line.

Question 8 below asks about other state funding. The Town awarded \$40,000,000 by FDEP, but it is our understanding that money was Federal dollars administered by FDEP. Not sure how to answer Question 8. I am not aware of a specific appropriation number.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	50,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,950,000
<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	25%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	10,000,000	50%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	5,000,000	25%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	40,000,000		No

9. Is future 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.



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Most of the additional funding is requested to connect existing homes in unincorporated Highlands County to the Town's Advanced Wastewater Treatment plant. That requires destroying working septic systems. The Town or County will be asking for funding to run additional lines to serve homes on other impaired lakes. Without state funds, the County would need to create a special district to abandon existing working septic systems and retrofit the existing homes with sewer.

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

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

FDEP granted the Town \$40,000,000 for the septic to sewer project. It is our understanding that those were COVID-19 funds. Over half are being used to design and build the advanced wastewater treatment plant. The remaining funds will pay the cost of installing low pressure collection lines. And we need more lines. This grant is expressly for connections to the lines being installed with the COVID-19 funding.

## 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)?**

**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.**

These grant funds would be used to purchase and install the low pressure pumps at each home and to destroy the existing septic system. These pumps would be maintained by the Town's "Lake Placid Regional Utility."

**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	Part of the salary of the Town employee administering the project.	50,000
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



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<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Much of the collection system will be low pressure lines. We estimate an average cost of \$11,000.00 per home to purchase and install the low pressure pump/tank assembly, install any electrical upgrades, lawfully abandon the septic tank, connect the home, and extend the line to the street. That work will be contracted.	4,950,000
<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?**

The primary purpose of the grant is to connect the existing septic systems to the Town's new advanced wastewater collection (low pressure and gravity) and treatment system. Secondary purpose to extend more collection lines around additional area lakes.

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

These funds will pay the cost to purchase install and connect a low pressure pump and tank for each existing home to the Town's regional utility / advanced wastewater treatment plant.

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

The appropriation will fund the connection of existing homes to the Town's advanced wastewater collection and treatment system.

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

The target population would be existing homeowners regardless of income criteria because we are asking homeowners to abandon existing working septic systems.

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

The benefit will be the reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus in the Lake Okeechobee BMAP area; and the improvement in water quality for the area lakes. Lake Placid (formerly Lake Childs) and Lake Junes are now impaired waters of the State of Florida because of algae driven by nitrogen and phosphorus. We are having toxic algae blooms in both of these formerly pristine lakes. Water tests should show reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus over time.

**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 deliverable would be use of the grant funds to connect homes to the Town's advanced wastewater treatment system.

The FDEP could require the use of the funds only for this purpose (connection of existing homes).

**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**



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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) Town of Lake Placid

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

### Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify) Pending grant request to FDEP
- N/A

19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)



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N/A

**20. What is the status of construction?**

Plant construction starts 2024. Line construction starts June 2024.

**21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

Design only. Bidding should commence next month.

**22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

12/31/2025