



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1458

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Indian River Community Complex (IRCC) links all aspects of life in our county together. The IRCC will include an all-inclusive playground designed to serve children with disabilities and their families; an entrepreneurship center that will be utilized by the school district's Career and Technical Education Programs, and it will house the Jimmy Graves Sports Complex which will be the home of Vero Beach High School's boys' and girls' lacrosse, soccer, and track and field teams. Additionally, the complex will include open spaces that serve multiple purposes. Examples of such purposes include the potential for farmer's markets and other events intended to support local businesses, a venue for local performing artists, events where families and the community can gather to enjoy the outdoor and recreational beauty that Indian River has to offer, and a historical walking path that highlights the history of Vero Beach while connecting the community center to the downtown economy.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,420,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,420,000

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)	3,420,000	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	3,420,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

9. Is future 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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There has been a lot of planning and creative problem-solving that has gone into the IRCC. While the school district continues to search for additional sources of funding, the following sources of funding have been secured:

11.7 acre land donation from the Jimmy Graves Foundation
Significant financial donation from the city of Vero Beach.
Significant financial donation from private residents.
The school district is currently in discussions with Florida Power and Light regarding funding.

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.

The district has received approximately \$52M in CARES/ESSER/ARP COVID funding as a result of the pandemic. The funds were used for critical school based positions to support and provide mental health and various services to students and staff. Funding was also used to enhance technology access and functionality for remote learning. Funds were also used to purchase textbooks and technology to bridge the gap between students and teachers, as well as bridge the learning gap that occurred during.

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	Cynthia Emerson, Project Lead Director of Instructional Innovation	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		0



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Phase I Sports Stadium FHSAA Track/Lacrosse/Soccer Field \$1,613,208.00 LED Sports Lighting \$468,750.00 LED Scoreboard \$56,250.00 Field Site Work Allowance \$150,000.00 Utility/Power Allowance \$150,000.00 Security Fencing - Estimate \$79,000.00 Design Fee \$73,142.00 Inclusive Playground - Equipment \$379,215.00 Inclusive Playground - Installation \$510,435.00 Concession/Restroom/Locker room Building - Estimate \$1,400,000.00 Bleachers/Press Box - Estimate \$390,000.00	3,420,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,420,000

14. Program Performance

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

The specific goal of this project is to establish a community center that serves the entire population of Indian River County as well as the many tourists that visit the local area. Vero Beach is a truly special, one-of-a-kind, small-town community. This is perhaps most observable at the high school's yearly Homecoming football game when the PA announcer asks graduates from previous classes to stand and be acknowledged. The generations of graduates go back sixty plus years...and they still come out every Friday night to support Vero Beach High School! The IRCC will help to establish a focal point of the community that supports students academically and athletically, provides easy access to and supports local business and entrepreneurship, and provides a safe environment for all members of the community to gather.

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

The goal of the IRCC is to create a facility that helps link entrepreneurial education to practice and local business. The facility will have an immediate impact on the local economy through job creation and improved accessibility to the downtown economic center. The IRCC will also be a source of long-term economic growth as it seeks to establish a facility where Career and Technical and Entrepreneurial Education through the school district can flourish. This project will be tied together in a community complex that educates and highlights Vero Beach's rich cultural and artistic history and creates an all-inclusive playground for children and parents of children with disabilities. Careful attention will be given to incorporating Indian River County's natural beauty and environmental quality. The facility will also include a sports complex that is able to host FHSAA district, regional and state events. Local businesses will benefit from the thousands of spectators attending events.

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

Direct services that the IRCC will provide include:
 Career and technical academic and retail site.
 Vero Beach High School athletic facilities.
 Increased access and traffic to local community entrepreneurs.
 Inclusive recreational facilities.
 Source of community strength and pride.
 Support for local tourism.

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



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The IRCC will be available for our entire community to utilize. It will immediately support nine athletic teams from VBHS. In addition to being accessible to all 17,000 students in the School District of Indian River County, it will also support visiting teams and the FHSAA by providing a venue for district, regional and state competitions. The IRCC will also target the greater Indian River County population by providing access to local business, a historical walking trail, an all-inclusive playground, an open space amphitheater, and an entrepreneurial center. Finally, the complex will serve Indian River County's tourist population through its ability to host community events and provide access to the downtown business community.

We anticipate serving over 100,000 individuals annually through our diverse offerings.

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

The benefits of the IRCC are many. Vero Beach High School's soccer, lacrosse, and track and field teams will directly benefit by having a safe facility for practice and play. The complex will also be able to host FHSAA events such as district, regional and state competitions for the three sports. These events will bring thousands of spectators annually to the local downtown area. Outcomes can be measured by the total number of events and the attendance at each event. The benefits of additional events will be measured in similar fashion. As the complex hosts an event, the event will be recorded, and attendance will be measured. This may include school events, such as graduation, or Career and Technical Education activities that could serve students from all district schools, as well as charter, private and home school students.

In addition, this site will have the only inclusive playground in our entire county, serving thousands of students annually.

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?

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES. Time is of the essence in the performance of the Work. The Owner and Contractor agree that the losses suffered by Owner if Substantial Completion of the Work is not achieved, are not ascertainable at this time. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, since time is of the essence, the Owner will suffer financial and other losses if Substantial Completion of the Work is not achieved within the Contract Time, as the Contract Time may be adjusted pursuant to the terms of the Contract Documents. Should the Contractor fail to achieve Substantial Completion of the Work within the Contract Time, Owner shall be entitled to assess, as liquidated damages but not as a penalty, the sum of \$500.00 for each calendar day thereafter until Substantial Completion is achieved and \$250.00 for each calendar day thereafter until Final Completion is achieved.

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



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☐ University or College

☐ Other (please specify)

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