



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Pinellas County Waterborne Transportation Capital Grant Program

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Jack Latvala

3. **Date of Submission:** 10/26/2017

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Growing Pinellas County's waterborne transportation industry is an integral part of the solution to Tampa Bay's transportation challenges. In the past couple of years, several entrepreneurs have invested their own dollars to establish waterborne transportation services that are currently operating and filling a gap in the area's public transportation needs. As the metropolitan planning organization and land use planning agency for Pinellas County, Forward Pinellas is uniquely positioned to facilitate the strategic investment of public dollars to more effectively use the area's more than 46 miles of navigable intercoastal waterways as a means to move people from place to place. It is in this context that Forward Pinellas requests legislation to fund the creation of a pilot discretionary capital grant program which will be used to assist local governments and/or service providers in funding the infrastructure that supports water taxi and/or ferries.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** Yes

a. If yes, which state agency? Department of Transportation

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
	500,000	500,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	0	0.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 500,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**



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- Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)
- What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18		
	(If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
Column:	A	B	C
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *	Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)
Input Amounts:			

10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

- If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

If this waterborne transportation pilot discretionary grant program is successful, Forward Pinellas would hope that future state funds would be allocated for \$500,000.

11. Program Performance:

- What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

This project would authorize Forward Pinellas, in its roles as the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), to establish a pilot discretionary grant program which is designed to support the development and expansion of waterborne transportation in Pinellas County. Forward Pinellas is working with FDOT to implement a performance-based, outcome driven planning process to better measure the effectiveness of our transportation investments. We will work to integrate performance measures and targets for waterborne transportation into our overall planning program. Measures such as total ridership, benchmarks for service reliability, as well as commuting and leisure trip trends over the pilot program period, will be monitored and reported to our Board on an annual basis. The ultimate goal is to use this data to facilitate strong ridership growth and resilient public-private partnerships in this transportation sector.

- What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Forward Pinellas will have the responsibility of coordinating the administration of this capital grant program. Eligible recipients include water taxi and/or ferry service providers as well as local governments that have an agreement with a water taxi and/or ferry service provider to operate in their community. Eligible activities are capital projects including the purchase of water taxi and ferry vessels, construction of terminals, related



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support infrastructure such as parking facilities, pedestrian and bicycle connections in the immediate area, wayfinding signage, etc. Funds made available may not be used to fund operating expenses, planning activities or preventative maintenance. The project must be consistent with the transportation priorities identified in the long range transportation plan and/or local government comprehensive plan.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Under this competitive pilot grant program, eligible activities are capital projects including water taxi and ferry vessels, and terminals. Eligible capital projects also include, but are not limited to, the purchase, replacement, or rehabilitation of ferries and terminals and related support infrastructure such as parking facilities, pedestrian and bicycle connections in the immediate area, wayfinding signage, etc.	500,000



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TOTAL		500,000
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d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Citizens and visitors will benefit from expanded transportation options when traveling the gulf beaches in Pinellas County.

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

The target population is anyone who travels to the gulf beaches in Pinellas County. The Clearwater Ferry has provided service from downtown Clearwater to Clearwater Beach since March 2015 and they are projecting 103,755 riders in 2018. This estimate does not include riders with passes or employees that are part of their Employer Program nor does it include ridership from new service that may be initiated if the capital grant program is available to them and/or other waterborne transportation service providers such as Tampa Bay Water Taxi & Ferry that operates out of Madeira Beach.

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

Forward Pinellas is working with FDOT to implement a performance-based, outcome driven planning process to better measure the effectiveness of our transportation investments. We will work to integrate performance measures and targets for waterborne transportation into our overall planning program. Measures such as total ridership, benchmarks for service reliability, as well as commuting and leisure trip trends over the pilot program period, will be monitored and reported to our Board on an annual basis. The ultimate goal is to use this data to facilitate strong ridership growth and resilient public-private partnerships in this transportation sector.

g. 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?

Withholding of funds.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

Forward Pinellas.

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Rodney Chatman
- b. **Organization:** Forward Pinellas in its role as the Pinellas County MPO
- c. **Email:** rschatman@forwardpinellas.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (727)464-8214

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Forward Pinellas in its role as the Pinellas County MPO
- b. **County:** Pinellas
- c. **Organization Type:**



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- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (Please specify) Government agency

d. Contact Name: Rodney Chatman

e. E-mail Address: rschatman@forwardpinellas.org

f. Phone Number: (727)464-8214

15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.

a. Name: None

b. Firm: None

c. Email:

d. Phone Number: