



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1033

1. **Project Title** Naples Botanical Garden- Horticulture Campus2. **Senate Sponsor** Kathleen Passidomo3. **Date of Request** 09/27/20194. **Project/Program Description**

Naples Botanical Garden is developing a three-phase, 75,000-square-foot Horticulture Campus to replace its dated and insufficient growing facilities. State-of-the-art greenhouses, well-equipped laboratories, expansive nurseries, and new technology will propel the Garden into the future while better serving the Southwest Florida community and contributing to global plant conservation efforts. The Garden currently is advising environmental organizations, local governments, and peer institutions on growing techniques, storm resilience, storm water management, and climate change adaptation. The Horticulture Campus will open new opportunities for the Garden to produce plants that are beneficial to Southwest Florida's unique environment but difficult to find in the commercial landscape trade.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Agriculture and Consumer ServicesState Agency contacted? ☐ Yes ☒ No6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

| Type of Funding | Amount |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations | 000 |
| Fixed Capital Outlay | 5,000,000 |
| Total State Funds Requested | 5,000,000 |

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

| Type of Funding | Amount | Percentage |
|--|-------------------|--------------|
| Total State Funds Requested (from question #6) | 5000000 | 50.0 % |
| Matching Funds | | |
| Federal | 00 | 0 % |
| State (excluding the amount of this request) | 00 | 0 % |
| Local | 00 | 0 % |
| Other | 5,000,000 | 50 % |
| Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 | 10,000,000 | 100 % |

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

| Spending Category | Description | Amount |
|--|--|-----------|
| Administrative Costs: | | |
| Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits | | |
| Other Salary and Benefits | | |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | | |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | |
| Operational Costs: Other | | |
| Salary and Benefits | | |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | | |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation: | | |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering | State funds will support construction of the campus' core facilities, including the greenhouse, shade house, propagation house, potting house and sun nursery. | 5,000,000 |
| Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6) | | 5,000,000 |



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11. Program Performance

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

The Horticulture Campus will enable Naples Botanical Garden to:

- a) research and introduce environmentally-friendly, sustainable landscaping plants best suited for subtropical South Florida that can enhance water quality, reduce beach erosion, and provide wildlife habitat and other environmental benefits.
- b) identify, grow, and share plants that thrive in nutrient-poor environments, withstand storms, and tolerate rising temperatures.
- c) expand community partnerships with environmental organizations and local governments.
- d) educate citizens, landowners, and landscaping professionals about new sustainable landscaping options and techniques.

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

The campus will support the full spectrum of our horticultural operations: taking plants from seed to maturity; banking the seeds of endangered plants; researching growing techniques; and sharing our knowledge with industry professionals, community groups, local governments, and visitors. Our current partners include Florida Gulf Coast University, Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida and UF-IFAS. We are also working with Collier County government, which has approved a landscape pilot project demonstrating environmentally-friendly, sustainable landscape techniques at the Collier County Sports Complex and Events Center currently under construction.

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

Southwest Florida faces numerous environmental threats, ranging from hurricanes to floods to sea-level rise to nutrient pollution to disease-bearing pests. Naples Botanical Garden educates local governments and environmental groups on how to use plants to mitigate these threats, protecting citizens' quality of life and the region's economy. The Horticulture Campus will advance these goals.

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

The expanding growing capabilities ultimately will benefit:

- a) The citizens of Southwest Florida (more than 1 million residents in Lee and Collier alone).
- b) The Garden's 250,000 annual visitors.

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

In tandem with the horticulture center's opening, we intend to expand our educational offerings on topics such as using plants to purify storm water, lessening environmental impact by choosing plants that are designed for the region's subtropical climate, and growing plants that are known to tolerate stressors such as storms and heat. Our target audiences will include: landscapers and other industry professionals; public entities such as county/municipal natural resources and storm water management departments; and homeowners associations. We will track participants and offer post-workshop assessments to measure learning gains.

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 in the contract?

We will return state funds that are not matched by private donor funds.



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12. **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.**

Naples Botanical Garden, a 501(c)(3) organization, will own this facility outright.

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. **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

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.