



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1256

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Broadband access has become a critical aspect of modern life, but many Americans remain without basic broadband services. This project includes the installation of fiber optic cabling to specific demarcation locations positioned at twenty county fire stations. This new fiber will connect to existing infrastructure to create a backbone of cabling that lessens the distance that private internet service providers must build out before they can offer service. The objectives include increased service using public-private partnerships, and fostering additional partnerships, programs, and incentives that will provide carrier neutral broadband services to small towns and rural communities. Each of the locations will be used as an interconnect point for non-discriminatory and carrier-neutral broadband providers to service individuals in the areas including the unserved and underserved.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,375,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,375,000

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)	3,375,000	16%
Matching Funds		
Federal	14,875,000	70%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	3,000,000	14%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	21,250,000	100%

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?



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Yes

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

Total Spend--\$319,840,915. Funds received were used to cover costs associated with PPE, COVID related services within the county as well as relief for hospitals. In addition, funds provided assistance for County Government infrastructure improvements as well as assistance to small businesses, individuals, Local Government/Elected Officials.

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.

Polk County Information Technology Division and RFP recipients. Polk county will issue requests for proposals to evaluate vendors and contractors to complete the construction and management of the infrastructure. The selected vendors and contractors will complete their portion of the project as providers to the County.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		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
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Project includes the installation of fiber optic cabling to specific demarcation locations positioned at twenty county fire stations. This new fiber will connect to existing infrastructure to create a backbone of cabling that lessens the distance that private internet service providers must build out before they can offer service.	3,375,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,375,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The objectives include increased service using public-private partnerships, and fostering additional partnerships, programs, and incentives that will provide carrier neutral broadband services to small towns and rural communities. Each of the locations will be used as an interconnect point for non-discriminatory and carrier-neutral broadband providers to service individuals in the areas including the unserved and underserved.

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

Create middle mile interconnects between cities, connect critical public safety infrastructure using a resilient and redundant fiber optic path, provide infrastructure to unserved and underserved neighborhoods, and increase competition for internet service in unserved and underserved communities.

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

Increased availability and speed of Internet services with resilient and redundant paths for safety and security.

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

The general population will benefit and specifically the internet and broadband unserved and underserved rural populations in Polk county

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

Improved access to broadband and internet services. Increased resiliency and redundant broadband services to unserved and underserved communities. Improvement will be measured by increased scores on the FCC broadband test dataset through the Measuring Broadband America (MBA) program, an ongoing nationwide performance study of broadband service in the United States.

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?

Additional penalties will be developed during the RFP process for any required over and above the standard county policy penalties.

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)



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- Local Entity
- 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