



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2771

1. Project Title Avon Park Executive Airport Improvements (Highlands County)

2. Senate Sponsor Erin Grall

3. Date of Request 02/23/2023

4. Project/Program Description

The funds requested will be used for road and utility improvements and right of way acquisition on approximately 3+/- miles of HWY 64 near HWY 27 for 3 turning lanes entering and exiting the Avon Park Executive Airport. Additionally the funding will provide ingress and egress for the western boundary of airport to support economic development, a BioTech Center, and Logistical Staging area for emergency for disaster relief.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Transportation

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	4,500,000

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)	4,500,000	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	4,500,000	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?

No

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



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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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2023

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/1/2024

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.

The Avon Park Executive Airport is owned by the City of Avon Park.

Highlands County owns and maintains the roads along the western boundary and HWY 64.

State of Florida owns and maintains HWY 64.

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	Construction of multi-modal roadway improvements to provide increased safety and capacity for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic on 1+/- miles of HWY64 between Cole Ave and HWY 27. Improvements include construction of sidewalks, road widening for 3 turning lanes and road improvements to S. Cole Ave, W Reed Rd, S Reed Rd street lighting, drainage, utilities and landscaping.	4,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Avon Park Executive Airport is looking to partner with Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) as a full time single location resource center. The site can quickly deploy named storm relief and accommodate a Type 1 and possible a Type 1A LSA. Having the turning lane ingress and egress will provide more efficient and safer access of personnel and heavy equipment.

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

Avon Park Executive Airport (AVO) is a public use airport that serves the general aviation community. AVO also supports FDEM when needed and is bringing more commercial aviation activities as well as, a proposed biotech innovation center to support alternative crops to replace citrus.

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

Ensure that the traveling public life safety and security is at its best. This funds will also provide the appropriate arteries for optimal economic development. This can create abilities for an improved Fixed Based Operator, hotel, food and commercial activity. The Highlands County region can benefit greatly in the event of a named storm to provide enhanced ability to properly stage Duke Energy trucks, as well as, be of serve to FDEM as needed.

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

Avon Park Executive Airport has been designated as a state recognized "catalyst" site for economic development. This site can serve thousands of residents and businesses.

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

Reduce traffic congestion and provide an alternative route for local traffic. Increased safety, improved multi-modal/bimodal access and capacity, upgraded utilities, enhanced aesthetics and reduced travel times to businesses and residential areas. Measure traffic congestion and intersection performance at locations impacted by the project.

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?

Standard penalties including liquidated damages and the potential failure to be awarded future contracts due to poor or lack of performance.

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