



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2369

1. Project Title Key Biscayne Sargassum Seaweed Removal and Composting Project Support

2. Senate Sponsor Alexis Calatayud

3. Date of Request 02/06/2023

#### 4. Project/Program Description

The problem of year-round seaweed accumulations on Key Biscayne's beach is a costly public health concern. The seaweed causes bacteria growth resulting in swim advisories. Currently, the Village pays to collect the seaweed from the beach every morning and transport it to a landfill. However, there is a more sustainable and beneficial means of removing seaweed from the beach. The Village, in collaboration with Miami-Dade County, is initiating a seaweed composting program. Composted seaweed would be used by the Village and County as a soil supplement in parks and other municipal properties. The composting program would be used as a STEM educational opportunity at a local high school. The program would demonstrate the viability of composting as an alternative and spur more communities to participate in composting seaweed instead of disposing of it in landfills.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>350,000</b>

#### 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)	350,000	38%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	580,000	62%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>930,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.



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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 Village received \$531,000 of CARES Act funding through Miami-Dade County to reimburse the Village for expenditures related to the pandemic such as COVID related overtime, legal expenses, and PPE.

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Village beach maintenance contractor to rake sargassum seaweed and load into trucks to be taken to the composting project site. Beach contractor to turn and manage the seaweed composting piles as well as mix in vegetative wastes delivered to composting site by the Village landscape contractor.	350,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>350,000</b>



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#### 14. Program Performance

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

The purpose of the funds requested will be to initiate the seaweed composting program and demonstrate to regional partners that there the program is a viable alternative to contributing to landfill waste.

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

Activities and services to meet the intended purpose of these funds include program development with Miami-Dade County, selection of a composting site, development of that site to receive seaweed and process it as compost, monitoring nutrient levels in the compost created, educational opportunities for local high school students in STEM programs, and distribution of compost to participating communities to be used in landscape maintenance.

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

Local high school students will have the opportunity to learn about ocean ecosystems, currents, and hydrodynamics that bring seaweed to the shoreline, nutrient composition of seaweed, and the composting process.

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

All residents (15,000), visitors, and businesses in the Village are served by this project since it would provide a more environmentally sustainable and potentially financially efficient means of processing the seaweed that accumulates on the beach. High school students in particular will be served by this project through the educational opportunity offered.

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

The expected outcome of the project is the initiation of a successful seaweed composting program for the Miami-Dade region. The success of the program can be measured in cubic yards of seaweed removed and resulting volume of compost created as well how much of that compost is reused. The number of communities participating is another measure of success. Another outcome is the educational opportunity for high school students which can be measured in participation and student reviews.

##### 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?

Failure to meet deliverables will result in the forfeiture of funds or financial penalties as described in the contract.

#### 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)



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- ☐ 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

### Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

#### 18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- ☐ Waste Water Revolving Loan
- ☐ Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- ☐ Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☒ N/A

#### 19. What is the population economic status?

- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Rural Area of Economic Concern
- ☐ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- ☒ N/A

#### 20. What is the status of construction?

#### 21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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0

**22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

12/31/2024