



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1760

1. **Project Title** Okeechobee Utility Authority Okee-Tantie Wastewater Improvements2. **Senate Sponsor** Ben Albritton3. **Date of Request** 11/07/20194. **Project/Program Description**

Demolition of old/damaged failing package plant & to design & construct a safe reliable collection & pumping system at Okee-Tantie campgrounds/RV park on Lake Okeechobee & Kissimmee River for potential economic development project creating a destination resort/marina property. The wastewater infrastructure improvements will serve living, bath & laundry facilities, clubhouse, restaurant, retail space, marina, bait & tackle shop. Provides increased service, reliability & provides for a reduction of pollutants entering State Waters due to the improved water quality resulting from centralized sewer system. The project augments U.S. EPA water quality rules & restoration plans of FDEP & SFWMD to assist in providing effort towards clean-up of the Northern Everglades Ecosystem, Lake Okeechobee Watershed Basin & the entire Everglades Ecosystem. Nutrient reductions are one of the key elements required to prevent harmful algal blooms. Submitted to FDEP Lake Okeechobee BMAP update.

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	000
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

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)	2500000	24.0 %
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	8,000,000	76 %
Other	00	0 %
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021</b>	<b>10,500,000</b>	<b>100 %</b>

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Engineering design, permitting, construction, and construction services/inspections	2,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,500,000</b>



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#### 11. Program Performance

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

Removal of the nutrient load to reduce the potential for harmful blue-green algal blooms. It's estimated that per year, 5.7 tons of nitrogen & 1.4 tons of phosphorus removed from septic tanks. Demolition of old/damaged failing package plant & to design & construct safe, reliable treatment & disposal system on County owned waterfront campground/RV facility providing economic development opportunity for a community resort/marina venue to develop, creating job opportunities, increase tourism & State/local revenues; protection of State endangered water resources with centralized sewer system versus current old/failing package plant, potentially leaching into the Kissimmee River & Lake Okeechobee Watershed Basin where this facility is located.

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

Contractual engineering services for design, permitting, construction and construction services/ inspections of safe, reliable treatment & disposal system & demolition of old/damaged failing package plant through the OUA procurement policies. Construction of new collection, pumping, & treatment facilities. Removal of nutrients to limit formation of algal blooms.

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

Once constructed, the wastewater collection/pumping system will provide for improved life, health & safety of the citizenry with improved water quality/quantity, reliable service, improved environment with reduction of pollutants entering State protected water resources. Connections to the piping system will be encouraged by other wastewater generators along the pipeline route.

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

The State through the protection of waters of the State in the Lake Okeechobee Estuaries and surrounding areas. Additional benefits in increased levels of service expected by visitors and residents of Okeechobee County.

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

Expected results & benefits associated from the requested funds include protection of life, public health, the environment, increased service, reliability, protection of State endangered waters (Lake Okeechobee & Kissimmee River) due to improved water quality resulting from the removal/replacement of the existing old/failing wastewater package plant/infrastructure & constructing new wastewater infrastructure/sanitary forcemain. It's estimated that per year, 5.7 tons of nitrogen & 1.4 tons of phosphorus removed from septic tanks. This project is located in a Rural Area of Opportunity & expected outcome includes creating job opportunities, increase tourism & State/local revenues; Project submitted to FDEP Lake Okeechobee BMAP update.

- 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?

Non-payment of outstanding invoices, implementation of the corrective action plan, invoking the public construction bond or performance bond.



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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.**

The Okeechobee Utility Authority is the entity requesting the funding and is the owner of the facility receiving the funding benefit.

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.



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

**16. 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

**17. 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

**18. What is the status of construction?**

**19. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

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

***The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.***