



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2136

1. **Project Title** Suncoast Humane Society's Capital Campaign2. **Senate Sponsor** Joe Gruters3. **Date of Request** 11/05/20194. **Project/Program Description**

Suncoast Humane Society exists to reduce the number of homeless animals and improve the quality of life in the region. Suncoast Humane Society is one of Florida's few "open admissions" animal shelters and is committed to never turning an animal away regardless of health, temperament, age, size, or breed. The shelter launched a critically needed capital campaign to build a new facility after purchasing 11.5 acres of land. Over \$5 million has been raised towards a campaign of \$10 million (soft costs not included). The current animal care facility lacks proper space, ventilation, drainage, and segregation of animals, storage, and meeting and training areas. The service to the counties of Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee (Boca Grande), and DeSoto goes beyond health and safety. The shelter is driven to create a humane society and the plan is to donate the existing building to the Charlotte County Boys & Girls Club, an ideal location for their needs.

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1500000	15.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	8,500,000	85 %
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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2136

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	Acoustic ceiling, panels, flooring, toilet partitions, fire sprinklers, plumbing and gas piping, HVAC, electric, landscape & irrigation, and fencing	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2136

11. Program Performance

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

The specific goal is to operate in a safe and welcoming environment that is functional for the shelter's mission and for the communities served. These funds will allow the shelter to build a new animal care center, expanding the impact to reduce the animal population and provide homes to healthy animals and improve the lives of those that care for them. In addition, with the approval of the Charlotte County Commissioners, the shelter plans to donate the existing building to the Charlotte County Boys & Girls Club. This location will place the Boys & Girls Club in the midst of athletic and playing fields, a roller park, and a county pool. It will also allow the organization to hold art, cooking, individual tutoring classes, with enough space to grow. In speaking to community leaders, who approached Suncoast Humane Society with this idea, the shelter knew that the community would be helping two very deserving organizations further their impact and serve a wide variety of community needs.

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

The services include an open admission animal shelter, adoptions, lost & found, preventive health care clinic, spay & neuter surgeries, shelter angel program, therapy dogs, pet food pantry, disaster program, volunteer program, Fido Fixer Mobile Spay & Neuter (low income areas are the target), foster care, humane education, behavior training and work with people with disabilities, children, and adults of all ages with a special focus on seniors.

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

Animal welfare that affects the health and safety of citizens, low cost preventive health including spay and neuter and micro-chipping. Volunteer opportunities to work with animals directly or in three thrift stores. Training citizens to utilize their dogs as therapy dogs for hospitals, hospices, and reading programs for children (literacy improves when children read to dogs), giving citizens the opportunity to donate to the food pantry, helping others who cannot afford to feed their pets, working with those in domestic abuse situations that require a removal of a pet from harm, ensuring that animals in the shelter's care have the best chance to be adopted by citizens, after careful assessment of their health and temperament.

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

The shelter serves over 37,000 citizens annually with another 347,000 visiting the website every month. From young individuals and families to seniors over 90+. The shelter also collaborates with businesses, other nonprofits, and other animal welfare organizations to ensure that the target population is well informed about animal welfare. After acquiring a mobile spay and neuter van, the shelter now assists low income families with reduced fees for these surgeries.

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

The shelter will be able to work in an environment that will support enhanced health and wellbeing for the animals in its care. The shelter will benefit from better work environments for key staff such as the Vet, Facility Manager, & Shelter Manager and have meeting spaces to train staff and volunteers. The adoption area will be bright and air-conditioned; the meet and greet areas for potential adopters will have privacy; there will be room for thrift store donations, trucks, files, and the capacity to add equipment that will help the Vet diagnose conditions (such as a radiology room). The entire adoption experience will be calmer and encourage citizens to consider and adopt a rescue animal. The shelter will invite other non-profits to use the multi-purpose room for their meetings or events. The methodology will be measured by those animals that have been successfully adopted, by the number spayed & neutered, and by the overall impact of reducing homelessness in the animal population.

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?

Withholding delivery of funds unless or until compliance can be confirmed.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2136

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.**

Suncoast Humane Society, Inc., is a (501c3) nonprofit organization and would be the owners and occupants of the facility.

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.