



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1588

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

An extension of the Wekiva Trail is needed to complete the 26-mile paved multi-use Regional Wekiva Trail in Lake County. By filling a critical west-east gap and completing the Regional Wekiva Trail, the project will connect central Lake County, Seminole County, and Orange County to the greater trail networks, including the Heart of Florida Loop and the statewide Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Network. The purpose is to design, engineer, and permit remaining portions of the trail.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,000,000	78%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	560,000	22%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	2,560,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

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

The county, in general, received relief. However, this project received no COVID-19 funding. \$64 million: Business and rental assistance, government response and compliance (PPE, sanitization, technology enhancements, social distancing enhancements, personnel costs, medical supplies, expanded testing, public information), emergency operations center associated costs, Lake County School Board (safety enhancements), workforce/education assistance, food banks, and not-for-profits.

11. 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	Planning, engineering design, permitting, construction bid documents, and right-of-way to construct a portion of the Lake County Wekiva SUN trail to complete a 26 mile shared-use, nonmotorized trail.	2,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

12. Program Performance

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

This phase of the project will enhance connectivity to alternative transportation modes such as walking and biking. The project offers a low-cost mode of transportation that escalates mobility by providing a safe route to several schools and parks, connecting to the greater trail network in Orange County and Seminole County, and serving as the west-east "interstate" for walking and biking with "off-ramps" to other bicycle and pedestrian facilities for northeast Lake County. The project is estimated to provide a \$16 million annual economic improvement to the area, through increased tourism, sales taxes, ad valorem taxes, property values, and business expansions.

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

Engineering, design, and permitting for the the Wekiva Trail within Lake County will be provided. Right of way acquisition and construction will follow the design phase.

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

A trail system to provide an alternate mode of transportation, improve physical health, improve mental health, and improve air quality. The trail will also expand the economic base of the community, attract visitors and tourist to the area, spur economic revitalization, and increase the tax base. The project is expected to generate a benefit/cost ratio of approximately 59:1, which is a great return on investment.

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

Residents of Lake County (370K), Seminole County (472K), and Orange County (1.39 million), totaling 2.2 million individuals. Plus over 500,000 visitor trips are expected annually.



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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 is that the project would generate an economic impact of \$16 million every year for the City of Mount Dora and a similar amount for the City of Tavares. The project would provide over 100 new jobs, \$5.6 million in increased property values, a total of \$1.75 million in sales tax and ad valorem revenue, \$6.4 million in retail spending, and \$2.40 million in personal income based on projected 57,140 annual visitors and almost half a million visitor trips annually. Success would be measured based on business occupancy percentages and sale and ad valorem tax increases near the trail.

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?

The contracting agency may consider liquidated damages for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures. Could impact other grant opportunities including the potential to receive a \$25 million federal BUILD Grant.

13. 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.

Lake County Board of County Commissioners is the owner of the facility,



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name
b. Organization
c. E-mail Address
d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name
b. Firm Name
c. E-mail Address
d. Phone Number