



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1798

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site is a 42-acre heritage tourism destination in Northwest Florida that is endangered due to lack of funding for operations and preservation. The site was previously funded through a bill that was passed in 2006 to fund archaeology at the state level. This bill was vetoed in 2018 and since then operations have been reduced. The site is only open two days a week and all educational programs, public programming, and community outreach efforts were discontinued. Visitation has remained steady, over 15,000 annual visitors due to popular outdoor facilities including an ADA-compliant boardwalk system and nature trails that provide safe, outdoor recreation. This heritage tourism site is in great need of funding support for maintenance and preservation in addition to general operations. Without restored state support, Arcadia will be forced to close.

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	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	300,000	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 2021-2022	300,000	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.

Arcadia relies on admissions and minor, private donations to assist with expenses, but those are insufficient funds to fully operate the site and maintain preservation standards.



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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

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

West Florida Historic Preservation, Inc., who manages Arcadia Mill, received \$10,000 in CARES Act funding from the Florida Humanities Council to help cover the cost of our utilities. Arcadia Mill also received \$1,898.00 in CARES Act funding through the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs which covered utilities.

11. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Annual salary and benefits for Site Manager	86,600
Other Salary and Benefits	Annual salary and benefits for Museum Educator	56,533
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Hourly wages/fringe for student employees and groundskeeper	87,745
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Educational and public programs, maintenance and preservation, continued interpretive/exhibit development	69,122
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000

12. Program Performance

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

The funds will be used to support the continued operation of Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site. This 42-acre heritage tourism destination provides STEAM-focused educational programming for grades K-12, interactive indoor and outdoor exhibits, year-round public programming, and safe outdoor recreation. Without restored state support, Arcadia will be forced to close. The economic impact to the immediate community is \$543,449 annually. Arcadia has over 15,000 visitors annually and educates over 2,000 local students.

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

Arcadia provides robust educational and public programming throughout the calendar year in addition to facilitating daily visitor experience for both local citizens and tourists. In addition, the funds will provide continued maintenance and preservation of this 42 acre historic site and wetland ecosystem for future generations.

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

The project will deliver STEAM-focused educational programming in the form of school field trips for grades K-12, adhering to Florida's Next Generation Sunshine State Standards; public programming includes lectures, tours, seasonal programs, and hands-on interactive activities for children; and continued maintenance and preservation of a popular and significant community resource.

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



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Arcadia Mill is a multi-generational resource that provides education and outdoor recreation to both local citizens (K-12 school age, young adults, middle-age, and senior community) and out-of-town visitors. Arcadia hosts over 15,000 visitors from over 28 states with a breakdown of roughly 60% local citizens from the tri-county area and 40% out of town guests. In Fiscal Year 2018-2019, Arcadia hosted 2,087 local school tour students.

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

Benefits to the community include improved quality of education, enriched cultural experience, increased economic activity, increased tourism, job creation through career-related experiences for the next generation of professionals, preservation of environment/wetland ecosystem, and improved physical and mental health. Arcadia utilizes multiple methods for measuring success including, but not limited to, recording visitation data and use of outdoor facilities, program attendance, collecting visitor feedback through surveys, membership/donor statistics, and capturing demographic information for out-of-town guests.

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 contract penalties will be sufficient.

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.

The property is owned by the State of Florida and assigned to the University of West Florida. West Florida Historic Preservation, Inc. is a not for profit DSO of the university created by the Florida Legislature, (Florida Statute 267.173), with the mission of collecting, preserving and interpreting the history of Northwest Florida. WFHPI has an operating agreement with UWF to manage the properties for the university.



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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