



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1820

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

4. Project/Program Description

Holmes County Board of County Commission is pursuing funding for the construction of a new Holmes County Agricultural Center. The current facility suffered significant damage from Hurricane Michael in 2019 when the facility had to be closed due to water damage. Professionals deemed that in its present state, the building was not fit to be occupied by the public and to date the building remains closed due to structural deficiencies and high mold counts. When operational, the center houses the University of Florida/IFAS Holmes County Extension Office and is the only facility in Holmes County to hold large public events and educational programs. The property is located in the Holmes County enterprise zone and is designated as a rural area of economic concern.

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	1,400,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,400,000

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)	1,400,000	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	1,400,000	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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Yes

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

Approximately \$3.4 million has been received in CARES Act funds. These funds have been utilized for ambulances, hospital equipment, Feeding the Gulf, and PPE.

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	The land and current building are owned by the state (DACS) and maintained by the county. Full construction of a new building is estimated to be \$1,400,000.	1,400,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,400,000

12. Program Performance

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

Construction of the Holmes County Agricultural Center will be designed to provide an adequate facility for educational programming needed within the county for the promotion of Holmes County's number one industry: agriculture. The current facility has been deemed uninhabitable for the public due to major structural damage from Hurricane Michael and similar events.

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

Currently, due to the state of the facility and its inability to serve the needs of attendees, large educational events are often hosted outside the county. Large groups are often encouraged to seek other facilities, but the new facility will allow for Holmes County to host these events.

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

The new center will provide space for the Holmes County Extension Office to provide educational leadership for agricultural, family and consumer science, horticulture, community development, as well as youth programs, specifically through its 4-H system.

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

The Holmes County Extension Office is part of a statewide program that reaches thousands of youth and adults each year, helping them learn and make informed decisions regarding various aspects of community and personal involvement. Climate controlled classrooms and meeting space will drastically increase the number of youth programs that can be offered.

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



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be measured?

Poverty and unemployment in Holmes County are greater than the national average, due to less than eleven percent of the population over 25 years of age having any post-secondary education. Therefore, there is a tremendous need for educational programming for all residents and there will be measurable opportunities provided.

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 county will award the contract through a bid process and documents will spell out liquidated damage costs for project overruns. The bid documents will also require the selected contractor to provide performance and payment metrics to the county.

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.

Holmes County would receive the funds, contract for the building services, and continue to maintain the property. The county believes the current building and land have been leased to the county by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services through a long-term land lease.



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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