



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1914

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Design & construct 3-story fire safety training tower facility to address State fire safety training requirements on County owned parcel. Facility provides interior fire fighting simulation, exterior multi-story fire response, roof prop to practice venting roofs during fire fighting, technical rescue skills training (rope rescues) & smoke system installed to simulate reduced visibility from fire. Tower to have standpipe system to simulate fire hose operation. Allows fire apparatus to be local for more immediate response as opposed to the 45 minute commute to another facility that is 35 mile drive (one way). A multi-function training tower is intended to be used by area fire departments and law enforcement agencies. This facility will allow for more efficient & improved operations & for firefighters to maintain Insurance Service Office (ISO) training requirements, participate in advanced fire & rescue training situations & drills locally better serves the citizenry.

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	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	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.



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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.

Expenses incurred/to be incurred = \$7.8 million; funds used for hardening of County owned facilities/properties including social distancing equipment/products & supplies; sanitizing equipment/supplies, PPE, public program grants-relief for businesses, non profits, independent workforce for wages, bills and rent; technology hardware/equipment/software required for remote learning/working/teleconference meetings, etc.

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	Contractual preliminary engineering, design, permitting, bidding, project management and construction services	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

12. Program Performance

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

Design & construction of a 3-story public fire safety training tower facility on County owned property located in a Rural Area of Opportunity that addresses ISO fire training requirements. Provides firefighters the opportunity to maintain ISO training requirements, participate in advanced fire & rescue training situations & drills at a local facility. There is not a training tower available that will not cause additional payroll costs due to backfill coverage while the on duty firefighters must travel to more distant locations to train. Improved fire safety skills, efficiency to address emergencies & reduction of commuting training expenditures, fuel/maintenance costs. This facility will also allow use for training for local area law enforcement agencies.

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

Contractual services for design and construction for a 3-story public safety fire training tower facility through the County's procurement policy and procedures. Design is estimated to take 6 months with construction to be completed within 12 after design months.

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

Direct services to citizens in this Rural Area of Opportunity are improved fire safety skills due to enhanced training opportunities, efficiency & reduction of operational costs (i.e., lower fuel/maintenance costs for apparatus & personnel) as firefighters are able to seek ISO required training locally versus additional time & expenditures traveling to a facility 35 miles away. Improved services by keeping first responders (including law enforcement), personnel and apparatus locally to address emergencies in a moments notice.



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

Project will benefit greater than 60,000 citizens, residents, visitors and motorists utilizing the Hurricane Evacuation Routes, Florida's Turnpike, SR 710, SR 98, SR 70, SR 441.

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

Expected outcome is improvement in firefighting related skill, knowledge & experience whereby improving emergency services provided by fire & rescue to the citizens within Okeechobee County & surrounding communities including major roadways (i.e, Florida's Turnpike, SR 710, SR 98, SR 70, etc.) The ISO requires a minimum 18 hours of Fire facility training per firefighter each year. This new facility allows the County to keep personnel & fire apparatus local versus driving to a facility 35 miles away & experiencing a 45 minute drive each way. Allows neighboring communities the option of a closer training facility to their districts. There's not a training tower available that will not cause additional payroll costs due to backfill coverage while on duty firefighter travels away to train. Results in lower fuel/maintenance costs for apparatus plus having the personnel & apparatus available in a moments notice for emergency responses. Monitoring of repairs, fuel, payroll, etc.

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?

Implementation of corrective action plan, non payment of invoices until milestones achieved.

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.

Okeechobee County is the owner and the entity.



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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