



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 2025

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

LearJet's new, state-of-the-art aerospace service center will employ 250-300 full time jobs at an average salary of \$75,000 with additional benefits averaging \$30,000 annually. LearJet has entered a 30-year lease and will return the facility, with new infrastructure and resources, back to Miami-Dade County at the end of the lease period. State funding is requested to help to defray lease expenses associated with the new facility, which are in addition to the cost of building the service center, accelerating the development of the facility and supporting job growth and business travel within the region.

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	6,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	6,000,000

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)	6,000,000	6%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,000,000	1%
Other	94,000,000	93%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	101,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	0	1,000,000	1989A	No

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.

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	Defray lease expenses associated with the new facility, which are in addition to the \$100 million private investment in building the new service center.	6,000,000
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)		6,000,000

12. Program Performance

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

Efficient and reliable connectivity to global markets, between Florida's diverse regions and within regions, is essential in promoting the state's economic competitiveness. LearJet is building a new service center at the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport (OPF) in Miami-Dade County, which is owned by Miami-Dade County. The new service center will more than double the company's current customer service footprint in Florida with new capabilities, including a paint facility for the center's vast customer base spanning the U.S. and Latin America.

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

Florida's statewide economic development strategy focuses on clusters of innovation-oriented industries such as life sciences, aerospace and information technology. The new service center in Miami will be fully equipped to perform scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, aircraft modifications, avionics installations, and aircraft on ground support (AOG) for Bombardier/Learjet, Challenger, and Global aircraft. Once the facility is fully operational, the new service center will nearly double LearJet's employment in Florida to close to 300 employees.

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

The quality of transportation and economic opportunity are highly interdependent. Florida's economic competitiveness depends heavily on the state's ability to attract businesses, skilled workers and visitors. The facility will be located at the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport in Miami-Dade County, an important business aircraft hub in the region. The new service center will feature an expert team of highly-trained customer experience specialists and technicians; the center will employ 250-300 full time employees at an average salary of \$75,000 per year with additional benefits averaging \$30,000 annually.

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



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Located in Miami-Dade County, the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport (OPF) is the largest of the county's general aviation airports. LearJet's \$100-million investment in this new service center will bring significant benefits to Miami-Dade County, including the development of a comprehensive aerospace cluster and the establishment of talent development partnerships with local colleges.

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

FDOT's study, Macroeconomic Analysis of Florida's Transportation Investments (July 2020), estimates that every dollar invested in transportation in Florida results in a return of \$4.00 in long-term benefits to residents and businesses. Increased economic activity derived from this project will be measured by 300 new jobs created at the facility and increased travel to the region, boosting tourism, business, and service industry sectors.

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?

LearJet would return unspent funds to the state.

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.

N/A



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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