



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1715

1. Project Title Lake County Agricultural Education and Expo Center

2. Senate Sponsor Dennis Baxley

3. Date of Request 11/09/2021

4. Project/Program Description

Construction of an Agricultural Education and Expo Center on the new fairgrounds property will provide space for numerous events, including the Lake County Fair, Lake County Farmers Market which features an average of 300 vendors per week, gun shows, conventions, festivals, agricultural exhibitions, and other state and regional level events.

In addition to its agricultural and event uses, this facility will be hurricane-proof and include administrative offices with classroom space for emergency responders training led by Lake Technical College, the Department of Health, the American Red Cross, and others. The building will also serve as a Point of Distribution (POD) for necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies during disease outbreaks, while functioning as a forward command center for the region in the event of a significant crisis, as well as providing cold weather sheltering and emergency sheltering for those with special needs.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

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 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,000,000	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 2022-2023	2,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

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?

No

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	The funding will be used for surveys and architectural and engineering services.	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?

Design and planning of the Agricultural Education and Expo Center

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

Once the building has been completed, activities will include the Lake County Fair, Lake County Farmers Market which features an average of 300 vendors per week, gun shows, conventions, festivals, agricultural exhibitions, and other state and regional level events. In addition to its agricultural and event uses, this facility will be hurricane-proof and include administrative offices with classroom space for emergency responders training led by Lake Technical College, the Department of Health, the American Red Cross, and others. The building will also serve as a Point of Distribution (POD) for necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies during disease outbreaks, while functioning as a forward command center for the region in the event of a significant crisis, as well as providing cold weather sheltering.

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

Agricultural education and numerous events, as well as training for emergency responders, emergency sheltering, and distribution site for PPE and medical supplies when needed

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

Lake County residents, as well as outside participants attending regional events. We currently serve over 117,000 local residents per year, and with the new building would have a much larger capacity.

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



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We expect to bring in more local and regional events and increased agricultural education opportunities with a larger and more modern building.

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 return any funding received for the project to the contracting agency.

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



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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