



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2269

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

One of our primary goals at Tampa Bay Watch is to encourage community stewardship by involving the public in our restoration activities. By doing so, volunteers develop a sense of ownership for these sites that expands to the surrounding environment. Growing research emphasizes the additional benefits of involving local citizens in the research and monitoring process as well as the restoration process. After our restoration projects are implemented, monitoring of project sites has traditionally taken place by Tampa Bay Watch staff and can only be done for a short period due to staff size and resource limitations. In order to be effective restoration practitioners, our team has recognized the need to collect long-term data at our restoration sites so we can evaluate project performance, adapt and improve our methodology, and build stronger relationships with peers, partners and the local community.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>250,000</b>

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)	250,000	65%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	5,000	1%
Other	131,327	34%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023</b>	<b>386,327</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

\$434,872 were received in PPP loans. These loans were both forgiven in 2021. All of the funds were used to cover payroll costs during the pandemic.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Restoration Director (20% of first 2 years salary): \$27,868 payroll taxes and benefits: \$4,877	32,745
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Software (Statistical Analysis Software {SAS}): \$10,500 Audio/Visual production: \$9,000 Laminator and supplies: \$400	19,900
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Full Time Citizen Science Coordinator (3 year annual salary): \$139,449 Restoration Specialist (10% of 1 year salary at start up): \$3,203 Combined payroll taxes and benefits: \$24,964	167,616
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Field Materials (GPS devices, collection equipment, cameras, monitoring supplies, water quality supplies, calipers, etc.): \$9,219 Lab Materials (Muffle furnace, slides, analysis materials, lab scale, etc.): \$15,220 Travel (Mileage and Boat use): \$5,300	29,739
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>250,000</b>

#### 12. Program Performance

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

This project will contribute to the restoration and improvement of Tampa Bay through the implementation of a robust monitoring program which will allow for objective and direct analysis of shoreline restoration projects. With this data, institutions can analyze restoration methods in a more empirical manner thus they can alter current and future approaches to shoreline preservation. In doing so, it will be possible to improve design and implementation strategies using collaboration and citizen input. By collecting field data using citizen scientists, data can be collected from a vast number of sites in a timely and efficient manner. Additionally, it allows for a larger number of individuals to take a vested interest in our local waters and support global oceanic impact. Using citizen science will open data sets, from collection to analysis, to a large number of individuals from varied backgrounds.

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

Activities and services will include citizen science monitoring of shoreline restoration sites throughout Tampa Bay. This will include training and guidance provided by Tampa Bay Watch for the citizen scientists to effectively and efficiently collect the desired data on a semi-annual basis. The information will be analyzed and reported on by Tampa Bay Watch staff.

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



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The direct services provided to citizens will be the involvement of the public in our restoration activities. By doing so, citizens develop a sense of ownership for the restoration sites that expands to the surrounding environment. Growing research emphasizes the additional benefits of involving local citizens in the research and monitoring process as well as the restoration process. Evidence suggests that citizen scientists gain environmental education, increase trust in the scientific community, and are more likely to become environmental advocates and share their knowledge with others.

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

The target population served by the project is the Tampa Bay community. Evidence suggests that citizen scientists gain environmental education, increase trust in the scientific community, and are more likely to become environmental advocates and share their knowledge with others. Additionally, the information collected through allows for the innovative approaches to restoration efforts by bringing in new and unexplored perspectives. In addition to including a wealth of diverse skills and knowledge, using citizen scientists will help further the understanding and support of conservation and restoration efforts throughout the entire Tampa Bay watershed.

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

The expected benefit or outcome of this project is the collection and analysis of monitoring information across restoration sites throughout Tampa Bay. To be more effective restoration practitioners, it is recognized that there is a need to collect long-term data at restoration sites so that project performance can be evaluated, adapted and improved. Additionally, the collection and dissemination of this information helps to build stronger relationships with peers, partners and the local community. There are three ways in which this outcome can be measured: by the data collected on an annual basis, the number of community members engaged in the program on an annual basis, and the sharing of information about the data collected.

**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?**

Tampa Bay Watch (TBW) is now entering its 29th year and has successfully completed hundreds of projects and initiatives. To further demonstrate the commitment to this project, TBW is pledging other fundraising dollars to meet the project goal. If the organization were unable to meet its commitments, TBW understands that funds would be reclaimed/due to the agency, and also recognizes funding for future initiatives would not be considered due to this precedent.

**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 applicant, Tampa Bay Watch, will develop the program and provide ongoing support for this initiative. Tampa Bay Watch is a 501(C)3 organization with a community based volunteer board. All proceeds requested will be used to fund this program.



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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