



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2299

1. Project Title Veterans Memorial Railroad Liberty County

2. Senate Sponsor Lorraine Ausley

3. Date of Request 12/20/2021

4. Project/Program Description

Veterans Memorial Railroad operates in Veterans Memorial Park, located in Bristol, FL. VMRR is the largest tourist attraction in Liberty County, drawing thousands of visitors to Bristol for holiday train rides, special occasion rides, and free run Saturday's. The trestle over the wetlands area needs to be replaced in order to continue operations of the train.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	400,000
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	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 2022-2023	400,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	0	75,000		No

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.

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.



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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	Rebuild the railroad trestle originally built in 2007.	400,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		400,000

12. Program Performance

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

To rebuild the railroad trestle at Veterans Memorial Railroad.

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

VMRR is the largest tourist attraction in Liberty County. The railroad provides holiday train rides, special occasion rides, and free run Saturdays to thousands of visitors each year.

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

Theme park type train rides are offered to citizens of the state of Florida as well as tourist from other states and countries.

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

Families in Northwest Florida

6,000-10,000 per year

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

The rebuild of the trestle will allow VMRR to continue providing a historic theme park style train ride that is both an educational and fun experience for families.

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?

No Penalties anticipated. However, possible withholding of payment or partial payment if contractor fails to complete deliverables, etc.



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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.

As a non-profit VMRR is not owned but governed by a local board.



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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