



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2675

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Veterans Memorial Park, nestled in the cradle of Naval Aviation, is visited by hundreds of thousands of people from all around the country every year. The park is in desperate need of repair work to memorials and the construction of a permanent restroom facility for the comfort and care of visitors who visit the park for healing, respite, meditation, and remembrance. The park is home to numerous memorials and monuments to nearly every conflict our nation has fought in, including the popular Wall South Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a memorial that will observe its 30th Anniversary in the fall of 2022. These repairs and improvements are sought to dignify this hallowed ground. Two critically needed repairs are the WWII Memorial to replace cracked granite and the Marine Aviation Clock Tower which needs both external and internal repairs. Another critical need is to build a permanent restroom facility to accommodate the thousands of visitors annually.

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	30,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	325,000
Total State Funds Requested	355,000

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)	355,000	81%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	85,000	19%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	440,000	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.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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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	Foundation management is provided by an uncompensated working board. 100% of funds received go towards the maintenance and care of the park.	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	Grounds keeping, supplies, tools, utilities, insurance, and internet for the kiosk which allows visitors to search for the location names on the Wall South, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Security services for the park to thwart vandalism or other undesired activities not appropriate for Veterans Memorial Park. Engineering, cost assessments/field review estimates for projects.	5,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Repair work to memorials and the construction of a permanent restroom facility. Physical repair and renovation of park. Engineering plans, bid development, and project management. Equipment and mobilization.	325,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		355,000

12. Program Performance

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

The health, wellness, and healing that the park provides so many is priceless. Hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the nation come to Veterans Memorial Park annually. The goal of requesting these funds is to make needed repairs, upkeep and to build a permanent restroom facility to accommodate the visitors. The ultimate goal is to maintain the park first and foremost for veterans. On a daily basis, individual veterans as well as groups utilize the park for remembrances, reunions, or just to sit on the benches to honor friends and reflect. With an average of 22 veterans taking their lives daily, the benefits of the park can not be understated. The park is an important aspect of tourism for the region as well, having been featured in a national documentary as well as books, Facebook groups, podcasts, veteran websites, and much more.

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

Numerous events and ceremonies are conducted annually at Veterans Memorial Park, including Veterans Day and Memorial Day observances, Gold Star Remembrances, 911 Remembrances, military promotion and retirement ceremonies, Bell Tower Marine Aviation Commemorations, school field trips, military reunions, and daily personal commemorations. Veterans Memorial Park is a featured stop on a historical tour that is offered daily, bringing visitors to see the numerous memorials and monuments. The 30th anniversary of the dedication of the Wall South will occur in October of 2022. Thousands of visitors from all over the United States and many dignitaries are expected to attend the festivities planned and the funds provided will allow the park's board of directors to make necessary repairs and improvements in time for this important anniversary.

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



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Veterans Memorial Park provides a place for healing, education, health, and well-being. The park is also a source of tourism as well as economic development, resulting in significant community financial impact from the hundreds of thousands of visitors who visit the park each year. Restroom facilities are especially important as well as necessary to enhance the draw and overall experience of visitors.

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

Citizens, veterans, active duty military, and families. Annually, hundreds of thousands of visitors come to visit Veterans Memorial Park.

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

With the enhancements we intend to make, there will be greater draw and opportunity to educate people who visit and want to learn about the ultimate sacrifices of American's throughout the nation's history. With the addition of a permanent restroom facility, school field trips can be scheduled and conducted. The board of directors is in the process of developing educational curriculum to be utilized by teachers and students who visit the park, This will help them learn about each memorial, and the history behind them.

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?

All standard contracting provisions will be in place and the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation will enforce accountability. If a contractor fails on their deliverables and/or performance, the Veterans Memorial Park Foundation would have the option to correct and fix the issues or use other vendors that will be able to fulfill the project in its entirety and continue serving our community.

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.

Veterans Memorial Park Foundation operates the park, which is owned by the City of Pensacola. The foundation board is comprised of volunteers, including veterans, Gold Star family members, and civilians, none of which will be related to providers of goods and services pertaining to this request.



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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