



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2744

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Reconstruction and restoration of the Gondola Building which is listed on the Local and National Registers of Historic Places as part of the Biltmore Hotel Complex. Built in 1925 in the Mediterranean Revival style, the building was constructed to house Venetian Gondolas that would travel from the hotel through the Coral Gables Waterway to Tahiti Beach.

Due to a recent collapse of three walls, this historically significant structure is now in desperate need of reconstruction and restoration. Drawings of the original structure exist to ensure it can be accurately reconstructed using salvageable elements from the original structure.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	750,000
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	750,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	1,500,000	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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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

The City of Coral Gables received approximately \$5.2 million from Miami-Dade County under the CARES Act program for eligible COVID-related expenditures such as Personal Protective Equipment, Disinfection and Porter Services, Excess Waste Disposal, Telework Improvements, Social Distancing Activities, COVID-19 related salary costs and Hazard Pay to Fire and Police Employees. The city will be a direct recipient of approximately \$8.5 million in ARPA funds. That funding is going to be used on infrastructure projects such as Broadband.

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	Reconstruction and restoration of the Biltmore Hotel Complex Gondola Building which is listed on both the Local and National Registers of Historic Places. Using existing drawings and salvageable elements from the original design, the recently collapsed walls will be reconstructed and the structure will be restored.	750,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

12. Program Performance

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

The historic Gondola Building which is part of the Biltmore Hotel Complex and is listed on both the Local and National Registers of Historic Places will be reconstructed and restored using salvageable elements from the original structure. The restoration will contribute to the city's commitment to honoring and protecting its past for the enjoyment of future generations. The restoration will contribute to the integrity of the Biltmore Hotel Complex, which was recently restored, and will provide a valuable learning opportunity as this is thought to be a unique structure in Florida.

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

The city's Historical Resources and Cultural Arts Department has staff members experienced in historic preservation who will oversee the reconstruction for historical accuracy and will ensure the building is appropriately maintained in the future. Review and permitting will be expedited to successfully complete this project as quickly as possible.

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

The reconstruction will ensure this building is preserved for the enjoyment of current and future citizens who both reside in and visit the City of Coral Gables. This structure is thought to be unique in Florida and its accurate reconstruction will provide a valuable learning opportunity for both residents and students.

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



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Reconstruction of this building will primarily serve city residents. In 2019, the population of the city was 50,000. Other individuals who will benefit from this project are visitors to the city, guests of the Biltmore Hotel, and students of architecture and history. A conservative estimate is approximately 5,000 people per annum.

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

This project will result in the reconstruction of a significant historic structure which is thought to be unique in Florida and is an integral element of the Biltmore Hotel Complex. The methodology will be measured through the completion of phased work in a timely manner, the accuracy of the restoration, and the visitor numbers achieved on completion of the project.

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?

Non-disbursement of grant funds.

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 owner of the structure is the City of Coral Gables.



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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