



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2211

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

**4. Project/Program Description**

Southside Park Phase 1 renovation was completed in 2022 with funding assistance provided by a \$50,000 FRDAP grant. The park is heavily used and is located in the immediate area of several residential neighborhoods who do not have access to any other public playgrounds within walking distance. Southside Park has direct access to the Old Dixie Highway paved walking trail. There is a great deal of public demand for pickleball courts in the County . The project scope of work includes: two pickleball courts with fencing, adaptive swings at the playground, a picnic area near the pickleball courts, parking improvements, a nature study kiosk, security lighting and landscaping. The County has submitted a FRDAP grant application for the proposed project.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  Yes

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	124,830
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>124,830</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	124,830	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>124,830</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

As a fiscally constrained rural County who suffered catastrophic loss from Hurricane Idalia, the County does not have funding for the project. The County has submitted a FRDAP grant for the proposed project. The County is a RAO and REDI designated area.



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

Yes

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

The County received \$3.7M was used for public safety payroll costs and the purchase of PPE and associated supplies. The American Rescue Plan funds are designated for critically needed stormwater facilities.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning   
  Design   
  Construction   
  N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

Taylor County Board of Commissioners owns, operates, and maintains the facility.

13. 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	All funding will be used for Phase 2 renovation of Southside Park which includes construction of two pickleball courts with fencing, adaptive swings at the existing playground, a new picnic facility near the pickleball courts, parking facility renovations, security lighting, nature study kiosk, and landscaping. Taylor County owns the park site and will provide all project management services.	124,830
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>124,830</b>



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#### 14. Program Performance

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

The Phase 2 renovation of Southside Park includes the construction of much needed pickleball courts. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America and the County currently has no regulation size pickleball courts . Southside is the ideal location as the park is heavily used and in a safe and family friendly location with direct access to a paved walking trail. The scope of work also includes the addition of adaptive swings at the playground for accessibility and inclusiveness of all children. The new picnic facility and nature study area will provide additional outdoor recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities.

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

The construction of new pickleball courts is the primary goal of the project as Taylor County currently has no regulation courts in the County. The lack of pickleball restricts opportunities for local citizens to participate in this very popular, inclusive of all ages sport. Pickleball leagues have become very popular and local citizens currently travel outside the County to play this sport. Southside Park has been developed to be a family-centric facility and the addition of the adaptive swings will ensure for accessibility for all children.

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

Direct services will provide outdoor recreation facilities to accommodate all ages and abilities promoting an active and healthy lifestyle in a family friendly neighborhood which does not have walkable access to other public parks. Due to the success of Phase 1 of the Southside Park renovation, there has been a great deal of public demand for additional recreational opportunities to be added to Southside. In addition to use by local citizens, Southside Park is within walking distance of several hotels and the Phase 2 improvements will provide recreational opportunities to the many visitors to the area.

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

Southside Park is open to all citizens with the target population being families and children who live in the nearby neighborhoods. Many of these families are lower income and do not have direct access to any other public recreational facilities. It is also anticipated the pickleball courts will be heavily used by all ages due to the popularity of the sport and the age inclusiveness of the sport. 5,000+ will be served.

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

The project will provide much needed pickleball courts as the County currently has no regulation size pickleball courts for this ever-growing very popular all age inclusive sport. The addition of the adaptive swings will provide recreational opportunities for all children. Southside is in a safe, family location and is easily accessible and walkable via the Old Dixie Highway paved trail. Use of Southside Park increased substantially after the Phase 1 renovation and with the Phase 2 recreational opportunities, use of the park site will greatly increase providing family friendly outdoor opportunities promoting a healthy lifestyle.

**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?**

Due to the high demand of the public for the pickleball courts, The County will move forward with the project immediately after approval of funding. All performance measures will be met to contract terms and requirements.

#### 15. Requester Contact Information

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**

**b. Organization**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**  **Ext.**

#### 16. Recipient Contact Information



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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

**17. Lobbyist Contact Information**

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number