



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2306

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Wilderness Coast Museum will be a 2,000 square foot superstructure built on pilings. Overlooking Dickerson Bay in Panacea, Florida from an elevation of 14 feet, this hurricane-proof and environmentally constructed educational center will offer sectional displays that feature a variety of marine specimen. Attached to its own dock by a 200 foot walkway, its grounds will be surrounded by native Florida landscaping that leads to an oyster museum and display. Its interior will include terrain models that define the relationship between the wetlands and the deep sea, a 3-D shark display from the University of Florida's Museum of Natural History, and a 3-D light display from Florida State University Coastal Marine Laboratory's Sharklab.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	385,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,400,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,785,000

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)	1,785,000	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 2024-2025	1,785,000	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.

SBA EID loan: \$160,000.00 (operations)
 PPP loan: \$103,999.45 (wages)

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.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Jack Rudloe-President/Project Head	50,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Jane Brand-Finance/Project Manager	40,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Unknown	20,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Media/Marketing Specialist	25,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	26-foot Twin Motor deep sea specimen collection vessel for promotional/industry event travel	220,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	unknown	30,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Wilderness Coast Museum will be a 2,000 square foot superstructure built on pilings; overlooking Dickerson Bay from an elevation of 14 feet. This hurricane-proof and environmentally constructed facility will include sectional displays which feature 3-D terrain models that outline the relationship between the wetlands and the sea, and two 3-D shark displays.	1,400,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,785,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Wilderness Coast Museum will be an educational center that is supported by data from the foremost experts in the field of marine biology and aquaculture. Designed to engage visitors from the entire learning spectrum, it will offer an overview of the biodiversity of the marine ecosystem that is unique to the Gulf.

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

Wilderness Coast Museum will be the host location for GSML, Inc.'s guest speaker series. A self-guided museum powered by smart technology, it will include eco-friendly motion sensed equipment which manages light displays that replicate the bioluminescence emitted by deep sea creatures. Other displays will include aquaculture and 3D shark displays.

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

Wilderness Coast Museum will be the only one of its kind within a 200 mile radius. Its informative, educational, and entertaining displays will demonstrate the importance of the marine ecosystem. Interactive exhibits will focus on water quality and habitat preservation.

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

30,000 visitors come to Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratories, Inc. annually. 25,000 of them are a combination of elementary and highschool students from the 250 regional schools that visit the facility each year on fieldtrips.

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

Wilderness Coast Museum will be an educational center that is organized around the entire spectrum of learning modalities. Its interactive displays will include a combination of video, audio, closed-caption, and QR code features that will enhance the experience of each guest based on their learning style(s). A short follow-up survey from each visitor that will identify what they have retained will be used to make any necessary changes and/or improvements.

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?

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratories, Inc. suggests a percent based penalty for failure to meet each deliverable without securing a contract amendment in advance.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. 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



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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