



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1577

1. Project Title

Winter Park - Mead Gardens- Lake Lillian Sediment Removal & Floodwater Improvements

2. Senate Sponsor

Jason Brodeur

3. Date of Request

2/13/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The Winter Park Chain of Lakes is fed via Howell Creek through Mead Gardens; a popular tourist destination. The purpose of the request is to utilize funding to remove organic sediments to increase storm capacity, restore vital wetland habitat currently impacted, and reduce nutrients entering the Chain of Lakes. As a regional project, City of Winter Park and both Orange and Seminole Counties would benefit from the water quality and quantity improvements. As headwaters to Lake Jesup and the St. Johns River, this project serves to aid an Outstanding Florida Waterway. Removal of organic, nutrient laden sediments address water quality concerns and leads to the overall improvement of environmental factors including fish and wildlife species richness. Removal of invasive plant species would improve current wildlife habitat including avians. Mead Gardens is a popular eco-tourism location for birding activities.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted?

No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>250,000</b>

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	250,000	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 2025-2026</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future-year 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.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1577

## Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 10. 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

### 12. 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</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	All requested funding is directly for conducting the nutrient and hydrological analysis via contracted services.	250,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>250,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

Infrastructure enhancements, resiliency, environmental improvements, and quality of life improvements.

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1577

The Winter Park Chain of Lakes is fed via Howell Creek through Mead Gardens. The purpose for this request is to utilize funding to remove organic sediments to increase storm capacity and reduce nutrients entering the Chain of Lakes and revegetate with beneficial native wetland plants. As a regional project, City of Winter Park and both Orange and Seminole Counties would benefit from the water quality/quantity improvements. As headwaters to Lake Jesup and the St. Johns River, this project serves to aid an Outstanding Florida Waterway.

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

Provide flood storage for storm events via conveyance of Howell creek into Mead Gardens. Additionally, having nutrient and hydrological improvements intended to address the impairment via nutrient reduction, reduce HAB occurrences, and attain surface water quality standards. Providing restoration to impacted wetland habitat will enhance water quality and habitat for generations to come.

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

Being multi-jurisdictional, this project would service a large portion of central Florida where multiple waters of special concern exists. This includes City of Winter Park, City of Maitland, Orange County Residents, Seminole County and municipalities within the Howell Creek TMDL basin. In addition, visitors from around the world visit Mead Gardens.

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

Many tourism/businesses depend on the water quality of the Winter Park Chain of Lakes and connecting systems. Having a healthy lake system increases economic activity from contracting basic lake management services companies, to hiring recreational fishing charter operations, to hosting sailing competitions that drives in visitors to enjoy the surrounding cities contributing to circular economics.

**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 in the contract?**

Reduction in percentage of funding provided.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?**

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

**b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):**

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:**

**b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1577

**16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):**

**Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.**

**17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?**

- ☐ Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- ☐ Resilient Florida Grant Program
- ☐ Wastewater Revolving Loan
- ☐ Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- ☐ Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- ☐ Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- ☒ N/A

**18. What is the population economic status?**

- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Rural Area of Economic Concern
- ☐ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- ☒ N/A

**19. What is the status of construction?**

design phase

**20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

0%

**21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

6/15/2026



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1577

#### 22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 23. 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  Ext.

#### 24. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

*The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.*