



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2884

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Hertz Arena, which is currently utilized by Lee County as a place of refuge during extreme weather events, has undergone a third party engineering study which demonstrates the need for building improvements. Improvements will include replacement of windows and window systems, doors and door systems, mechanical equipment and louvers that create openings through the facade, and roofing.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,200,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,200,000

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)	2,200,000	88%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	300,000	12%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

10/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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

Privately maintained

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.

Hertz Arena owners would indirectly receive benefits from capital improvements. Lee County has a lease agreement to use the arena for emergency shelter and staging operations during emergency activations.

12. 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		
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	The County paid for design from its general fund. Hertz will install a new roof and associated systems. This request is for the unfunded cost of construction for the building improvements.	2,200,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,200,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funding is intended to enhance the envelope of the Hertz Arena which is currently utilized by Lee County as a place of refuge during extreme weather events. This will be through the replacement of windows and window systems, doors and door systems, mechanical equipment and louvers that create openings through the facade, and roofing upgrades that will allow the ability to isolate the protected area from the unprotected areas of the arena facility.

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



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Lee County will operate the facility as an emergency shelter.

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

Improved safety at evacuation shelter during natural disasters.

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

All evacuees who need to use a public shelter during hurricanes or other emergencies.

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

Protect the general public from harm, The enhancements will be accomplished by replacing the current systems with materials and systems that exceed the current building code requirements for this area. The design parameters are as follows: 180 mph wind speed (Ultimate 3 sec. bursts), Risk Category IV, Importance Factor 1.0, Exposure C, and Interior Pressure Coefficient +/- 0.1.

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?

Failure to adequately fulfill deliverables as contractually agreed can lead to non-payment and/or contract termination.

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:

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

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received



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☐ No

☐ No, but intends to apply

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

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

18. 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.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number



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