



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2893

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

IRSC currently operates two full-market radio stations serving Florida's Treasure Coast. The transmission tower for 91.1FM WQCP is in critical need of replacement. The steel is rusted and key parts of the bracing system are failing. In 2022, an independent tower engineer analyzed the structure and deemed it 'critical' and 'nearly unsafe to climb.' During a wind storm strike, the tower is at risk for collapse. This project would safely dismantle the failing tower and replace it with a cost-effective, modern tower that would host the 91.1 FM transmission line and antenna, and IRSC's back-up internet connection. This is a significant piece of IRSC's emergency broadcasts and FPREN service in the region.

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	733,600
Total State Funds Requested	733,600

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)	733,600	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 2025-2026	733,600	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.



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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2026

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

IRSC Public Media - WQCS FM operating funding.

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.

The Indian River State College District Board of Trustees, a body corporate and political subdivision of the State of Florida, are the owner/operators of IRSC Public Media and all affiliated stations and property.

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	Safe removal of deteriorating tower and replacement with guyed-tower.	733,600
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		733,600

13. Program Performance

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



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The funds requested will benefit public safety. First, it will enable IRSC the opportunity to safely remove the WQCP FM radio station tower which was built in 1973 and has deteriorated to a point it is unsafe to climb or maintain, particularly in a residential area around S 37th street in Fort Pierce. Second, it will allow for the construction of a replacement tower, ensuring that IRSC's Public Media network, the region's emergency broadcast service provider, stays operational for the residents in the northern portion of the college's service region.

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

Complete demolition of the failing WQCP 91.1 FM radio tower off S 37th Street in Fort Pierce, Florida, AND new construction of a modern, safe, cost-effective, guyed tower that will provide more reliable and efficient emergency broadcasts in Fort Pierce and beyond.

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

On a daily basis, 91.1 FM serves as a part of IRSC Public Media, specifically the area's only minority-serving station on Florida's Treasure Coast. In times of emergency, the station is an expansion of IRSC's emergency services broadcasts, and serves residents with important and timely emergency briefings/warnings.

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

General public. Residents and listeners in and around the Fort Pierce/Vero Beach areas. 50-75k+

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

Improved safety of the tower, and effectively improved safety for the region in times of impending weather or disaster. Measurable outcome will be the safety rating of the new tower which will be deemed 'safe to maintain' for many years into the future.

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?

Return of state funding if project cannot be completed.

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#:



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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
- ☐ 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



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b. Firm Name

The P5 Group LLC

c. E-mail Address

kenpruittp5@gmail.com

d. Phone Number

(772)485-0693

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