



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1051

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) seeks funding for water vessels and trailers in order to increase the readiness/ability to respond to water related incidents. PBC is specifically mentioned in the County's Hazard Specific Plans for Dike Failure of the Herbert Hoover Dike as well as for flooding. Our most vulnerable populations are at risk. There are over 33,000 flights over Lake Okeechobee each month, numerous boaters and fishing tournaments, as well as other activities that occur monthly. These boats will allow the PBCFR the ability to respond to any emergency on the water.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

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

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	200,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	200,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	400,000	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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1051

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)?

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
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	The boat and trailer for Lake Okeechobee will be utilized and supported mainly from PBCFR Station 73 in Belle Glade. This station is staffed with 13 crew members and 2 command officers. It is backed up with Stations 72 (7 crews members) in Canal Point and 74 (6 crew members) in South Bay. The airboat, trailer and tow vehicle for the Arthur Marshall Wildlife Reserve will be utilized and supported mainly from PBCFR Station 49. St. 49 is currently a 3-person temporary station, a permanent sta	200,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		200,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1051

To increase the readiness/ability to respond to water related incidents. PBC is specifically mentioned in the County's Hazard Specific Plans for Dike Failure of the Herbert Hoover Dike as well as for flooding. Our most vulnerable populations are at risk. There are over 33,000 flights over Lake Okeechobee each month, numerous boaters and fishing tournaments, as well as other activities that occur monthly. These boats will allow the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) the ability to respond to any emergency on the water.

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

Emergency response by boat to incidents in areas that cannot be serviced quickly in emergencies with current equipment. For example, the Rib Boat/Hard bottom boat is capable of traversing the deeper locations on Lake Okeechobee. The airboat(s) is capable of crossing the swamp and shallow parts of lake but is not capable of covering the larger open water areas of the lake in adverse conditions.

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

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue will be able to drastically improve the available resources, provide for the safety of our personnel as well as the timeliness of responding to emergency calls on Lake Okeechobee. The PBCFR will also be able to provide a valuable resource to the Ag Reserve area which is currently not available.

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

The 1.5 million residents of Palm Beach County, the millions of visitors to the county each year, and potentially the residents and visitors of other jurisdictions located around Lake Okeechobee and the Arthur Marshall Wildlife Reserve.

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

The PBCFR will be able to drastically reduce response times and patient contact times to areas with limited access. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue will be able to drastically improve the available resources, provide for the safety of our personnel as well as the timeliness of responding to emergency calls on Lake Okeechobee. The PBCFR will also be able to provide a valuable resource to the Ag Reserve area which is currently not available.

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?

No payment of invoices; corrective action plan.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1051

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
- ☐ 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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1051

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	Sean A. Pittman
b. Firm Name	Pittman Law Group PL
c. E-mail Address	sean@pittman-law.com
d. Phone Number	(850)216-1002

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