



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1095

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The requested funds will enable the construction of a vital reverse osmosis facility on Crawl Key, Marathon, FL. This facility serves a dual purpose; first, it acts as a crucial backup water source during emergencies, safeguarding against disruptions caused by disasters or damaged transmission lines. Secondly, it addresses the pressing need for additional water supply due to population growth and restrictions on Biscayne aquifer withdrawals.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	10,000,000

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)	10,000,000	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 2026-2027	10,000,000	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		
2025-26	0	7,500,000		No

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?

09/25/2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/30/2029

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

Water-generated revenue.

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.

Special District.

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 funds will be used for construction of the reverse osmosis facility.	10,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		10,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will directly support the establishment of a reverse osmosis facility on Crawl Key, Marathon, FL. This critical infrastructure will provide a reliable and secure water source, ensuring uninterrupted service to citizens during emergencies and times of increased demand due to population growth and aquifer limitations.

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

The funding will be used to design, bid, permit, and construct a new reverse osmosis facility to provide uninterrupted access to safe and reliable drinking water during emergencies and periods of heightened demand. This facility acts as a crucial lifeline in times of need, enhancing overall community resilience.



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

The funding will enable the operation of a new reverse osmosis facility, ensuring citizens have uninterrupted access to safe and reliable drinking water during emergencies and periods of heightened demand. This facility acts as a crucial lifeline in times of need, enhancing overall community resilience.

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

Residents and visitors to the Florida Keys will all benefit from this project.

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

Provision of a reliable and secure water source to provide uninterrupted service to visitors and residents during emergencies and increased demand.

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?

If performance measures and deliverables are not met, withholding of funds is the recommended penalty.

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):

Hurricanes

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):

Appropriations request through FDEP

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) FY26 Alternative Water Supply

☐ 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?

Ready

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

5%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/30/2029

22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Gregory **Last Name** Veliz

b. Organization Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority



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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) Special District

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.