



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1117

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project will remove organic muck from a deep pit near the FL-518 (Eau Gallie) Causeway in the Indian River Lagoon, which has accumulated over 248,000 cubic yards of muck. By removing the decaying muck, the entire project would reduce annual nitrogen flux by approximately 7,700 pounds and phosphorus flux by 900 pounds. Additionally, the removal of all the muck solids will eliminate about 1,100,000 pounds of nitrogen, significantly mitigating nutrient pollution. The project is partially funded. This state funding request will expand environmental dredging by about 42,000 cubic yards of organic muck. This will increase oxygen and reduce algae blooms, fish kills and the accumulation of toxic hydrogen sulfide as well as help preserve healthy, adjacent sediments that provide habitat for marine life and promote ecosystem services like coupled nitrification-denitrification to help mitigate excess nitrogen pollution.

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	3,410,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,410,000

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)	3,410,000	24%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	11,000,000	76%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	14,410,000	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		
2024-25	0	1,500,000	2002	Yes

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?

10/20/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/1/2026

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

The Brevard County Save Our Indian River Lagoon program is implementing projects to reduce the sources of muck and limit operation and maintenance costs. The program is also restoring natural filtration systems that sequester excess nutrients and mitigate muck accumulation.

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.

N/A - Does not pertain to environmental demucking of state submerged lands.

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	Funds are for construction & construction oversight. Data collection, engineering & permitting are complete. Construction is scheduled to begin October 2025 & is anticipated to take 1-2 years. The FY23-24 request was only partially funded, the FY24-25 request was vetoed, & the FY25-26 request was sponsored but not appropriated. The FY26-27 request combined with 50% local match will fund about 48,000 cubic yards of muck removal.	3,410,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,410,000

13. Program Performance

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



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This project will help remove accumulations of muck from an ~80-acre area of the Indian River Lagoon, just northeast of the FL-518 (Eau Gallie) Causeway by implementing environmental dredging. The site contains over 248,000 cubic yards of decaying muck, a major source of excess nutrient pollution. Current funding supports the removal of approximately 139,000 cubic yards of this muck. The requested state funds would be used to dredge roughly 42,000 cubic yards of muck containing roughly 205,000 pounds of nitrogen and reducing the annual flux into overlying waters by approximately 1,800 lbs/yr of nitrogen and roughly 200 lbs/yr of phosphorus. These efforts will increase dissolved oxygen levels which will help to mitigate harmful algal blooms, prevent fish kills, and reduce the accumulation of toxic hydrogen sulfide. The project will protect adjacent sediments that provide critical habitat for marine life & and promote ecosystem services to mitigate excess nitrogen pollution.

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

Environmental dredging to remove muck and restore healthy sediments needed to support vital marine habitat.

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

Restoration of healthy sediments for seagrass, marine habitat and to promote ecosystem services like coupled nitrification-denitrification; reduced turbidity, total suspended solids, nutrient release, sulfuric acid and sediment oxygen demand; improved water clarity, water quality, light penetration, and dissolved oxygen levels; decreased potential and severity for algal blooms and fish kills.

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

The entire population of Brevard County (~660,000), plus tourists engaging in lagoon-dependent activities, as well as local and state economic sectors tied to the health of the Indian River Lagoon.

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

The expected benefits of this project are the reduction of nutrient input, turbidity, and total suspended solids from muck in the Indian River Lagoon as well as preventing the degrading of nearby healthy, sandy sediments. Muck area, volume and associated nutrient content removed from the lagoon will be measured in acres, cubic yards and tons. Dredging the entire project area is estimated to reduce annual nitrogen and phosphorous flux by approximately 7,700 pounds and approximately 900 pounds, respectively. Dredging of all muck solids in the project area will remove about 1,100,000 pounds of nitrogen. Water quality improvements (nutrient concentrations, water clarity, turbidity, total suspended solids, light penetration, dissolved oxygen, and bloom levels) will be recorded using pre- and post-project data from monitoring stations located near the project and operated by SJRWMD or Florida Tech.

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?

Past performance should be taken into account by bill sponsors. Brevard County continues to meet its deliverables, however there could be a penalty of non-payment until contractual obligations are met.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? ☐ No

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



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- ☐ 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
- ☐ 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



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☐ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)

☒ N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

The permits have been acquired and a contractor has been selected.

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

~5%, agreements with FIND for dewatering site and with SJRWMD for final placement of the muck

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/1/2026

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



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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.