



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1307

1. Project Title FSU - The John and Mable Ringling Museum Bayfront Hurricane Repair

2. Senate Sponsor Joe Gruters

3. Date of Request 11/21/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The destructive impact of Hurricanes Helene and Milton has underscored the urgent need to safeguard Florida's vulnerable coastal environments and the historic buildings on coastal waters. The Ringling Museum's bayfront campus in Sarasota sustained significant damage from wind action and storm surge, compromising critical infrastructure, including the seawall, pedestrian walkway, balusters, royal pal trees, and the terrace at Ca' d'Zan.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	600,000
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

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)	600,000	59%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	410,000	41%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,010,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? No

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?

07/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2027

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

Deferred maintenance funds

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.

State of Florida, with Florida State University as administrator of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art.

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 funding will be used to retain the services of three (3) consulting firms who will provide comprehensive project management to , among other things, - Prepare construction documents for the replacement of the concrete sidewalk, bollards and planting associated with the bayfront seawall, walkway, and the Ca 'd'Zan terrace damaged during Hurricanes Helene and Milton in 2024. The full proposal is available upon request	600,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		600,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funding request is critical to repairing and replacing critical infrastructure designed to protect coastal erosion along The Ringling Museum's campus along Sarasota Bay, and to preserve cultural and historic resources, such as the Ca' d'Zan's terrace, vital to the State of Florida

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



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Visitors to The Ringling Museum will have full access to the walkway along Sarasota Bay, including the terrace at Ca' d'Zan.

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

Access to the pedestrian walkway leading to Ca' d'Zan along Sarasota Bay, enhancing The Ringling Museum visitor experience A close-up view of a vibrant and healthy Sarasota Bay along The Ringling Museum's campus.

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

This Project serves the general population of the State of Florida. The Ringling Museum welcomes over 300,000 visitors annually.

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

The Project is expected to deliver a wide range of benefits, including the preservation of environmental quality, protection from coastal flooding, increased tourism and economic activity, improved physical and mental health, enriched cultural experiences, and enhanced educational outcomes. Methodologies to measure these benefits include 1) ticket sales, 2)customer surveys, 3)partner feedback, etc.

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?

The traditional measures and penalties from standard funding agreements will apply.

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 Helene and Milton

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#:

Project WS #80745,806246,959121,950371

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

1,087,000

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



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- ☐ 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
- 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.