



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1469

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funds are needed for preliminary engineering, planning, and design of new sewer infrastructure to serve the eastern portion of Wakulla County. The project will consolidate and expand three existing smaller sewer systems — Opportunity Park/Winco, St. Marks, and River Plantation Estates — into a unified regional wastewater system. The improvements will protect the Wakulla Springs Basin, reduce nutrient loading, support septic-to-sewer conversions, and enhance environmental and public health in this designated Rural Area of Opportunity.

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	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	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	750,000	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.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1469

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)?

No

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	N/A	0
Other Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	N/A	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	N/A	0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	N/A	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contractual services for preliminary engineering, planning, and design of sewer infrastructure to serve the eastern portion of Wakulla County.	750,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

13. Program Performance

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

Goal is to improve life, health, safety, property and the environment with the design of sewer infrastructure that consolidates and expands three existing systems into a unified regional sewer system that improves wastewater management and reduces nutrient loads and for protection of the Wakulla Springs Basin (BMAP), State protected water resources.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1469

To seek contractual services through the County's procurement policies and procedures for engineering design, permitting, and planning services to prepare bid-ready plans for future construction of the East Side Sewer system for regional wastewater treatment meeting permitting agencies regulations.

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

Direct service is improved wastewater management, protection of the environment and public health, and long-term reduction of nutrient loading through future central sewer connections; Improving the quality of life, health, safety, protection of natural resources and property in eastern Wakulla County, including Opportunity Park/Winco, St. Marks, and River Plantation Estates.

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

State of Florida is served by this project as removal of TMDLS, protection of Wakulla Springs Basin addresses State & Federal permitting agencies water quality/quantity priorities; Wakulla County is designated as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern per Executive Order #11-81; and as outlined in F.S. 288.0656 Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) as a Rural Area of Opportunity;

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

Benefit is improved wastewater management and water quality/quantity throughout eastern Wakulla County by completing the design and permitting necessary for future construction of a unified regional sewer system. Once implemented, the system will replace aging and failing septic tanks with connections to central sewer, reducing nutrient loading and bacterial contamination in the Wakulla Springs Basin. These improvements will protect surface/groundwater and drinking water quality, safeguard public health, enhance environmental conditions, and strengthen the local economy by lowering household maintenance costs, increasing property values, and supporting long-term sustainability within this designated Rural Area of Opportunity.

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?

Withhold payments until contractual milestones are achieved; require corrective action plan for delayed or incomplete deliverables.

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#:



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1469

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
- ☒ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- ☐ N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

not ready

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1469

0

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2029

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

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.