



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1567

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The tourism development project is the construction of lighting, sidewalks, and seating at the new softball field at Taylor County Sports Complex which will enable the County to host larger scale tournaments and events. The softball field is essential for tourism development. It is anticipated each tournament the County hosts will have the ability to bring in over 1,200 visitors per event. Per tourism development studies, each visitor brings in an average of \$87 per day for overnight stays, thus bringing in \$104,400 per day on average for each event. As a rural, fiscally constrained County, this will have a tremendous economic impact on the local economy.

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	750,000
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.



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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?

08/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

03/31/2026

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

The County owns, operates, and maintains the Sports Complex.

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.

Taylor County owns and operates the Sports Complex.

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	Installation of lighting, sidewalks, and seating at the County's new softball field.	750,000
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?

The installation of lighting, sidewalks, and seating at the new softball field will enable the County to host large scale tournaments which will be beneficial and essential for tourism development in the community. The estimated economic impact is \$104,400 per day for each tournament, a substantial amount for a fiscally constrained County. The Complex is the ONLY public facility in the County which has the ability to host tournaments and promote tourism.

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



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The installation of lighting, sidewalks, and seating at the new softball field will enable the County to host large scale tournaments, thus benefiting the local economy and the promotion of tourism. As a fiscally constrained REDI community and RAO, the development and creation of economic and tourism opportunities is critical. The additional softball field will also ensure the County has the facilities needed to accommodate all local children and provide the opportunity for all to participate in softball and associated recreational events.

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

At this time, there is not sufficient facilities available to accommodate all who wish to participate in local softball programs and the new field will provide adequate recreational facilities to all who wish to participate. The Sports Complex has been key in providing tourism development opportunities for the community and is heavily used year round. Hosting multi-day events has the potential to have a daily economic impact of more than \$104,400 per day on the community. As a RAO and REDI community, economic and tourism development is critical.

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

The target population is children and families however, one of the key goals of the continued development of the Sports Complex is the ability to host tournaments and events to benefit the local economy. As the Sports Complex is heavily used year round, more than 250,000 are expected to be served.

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

The installation of lighting, sidewalks, and seating at the new softball field will aid in the continued development of the Sports Complex and associated economic and tourism development. In addition, the existing fields are used to capacity at this time and the additional field will allow more children and youth to participate in outdoor recreational opportunities.

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 County will move forward with the installation of the lighting, sidewalks, and seating immediately upon availability of funds. The design, engineering, and permitting is complete. Construction of the new softball field will be complete by March 31, 2026. All performance measures and deliverables will be met within funding contract timelines.

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#:



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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.



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19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	<input type="text" value="None"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text"/>

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