



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1572

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Public Safety Complex will be constructed to be a Cat. 5 hurricane rated structure. The Complex will house Emergency Management, EMS, Fire Rescue services, and a portion of law enforcement. The existing EOC is not large enough to accommodate essential personnel in a severe weather or disaster event and can only seat a maximum of 14 in the conference area. The Complex will offer special needs sheltering services. Currently, there are no special needs sheltering facilities in the County. Taylor County suffered catastrophic losses from both Hurricanes Idalia and Helene and is a RAO and REDI area.

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	52%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	9,400,000	48%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	19,400,000	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	9,400,000		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.



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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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

10/01/2026

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?

Taylor County will own, operate and maintain the facility. The design, engineering, and permitting for the Complex is currently underway. The facility will be shovel ready by 07/01/2026.

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 will own, maintain, and operate the Public Safety 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	All funding will be used for the construction of the Public Safety Complex. The facility will be constructed on land owned by the County. The County will provide project management services. A FDEM grant is funding the design and engineering of the Complex. The project has an estimated cost of \$20M.	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?



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The goal of the Public Safety Complex is to have a facility large enough to efficiently and effectively operate in the event of a disaster or catastrophic event. The existing EOC does not have the capacity to accommodate multiple agencies or have sufficient area for pre and post disaster planning and recovery. The new facility will provide a special needs sheltering area. The Complex will offer combined services which will enable the County to better serve and provide for the safety and welfare for the community.

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

Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Rescue, and law enforcement will be co-located in the Complex with the primary focus being Emergency Management. In addition to these services, special needs sheltering facilities will be available in the Complex. The proposed Complex will be constructed to Cat 5 hurricane rated standards ensuring for the continuity of operations and services.

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

Direct services will be Emergency Management services including pre and post-disaster planning and recovery. EMS, fire protection, and law enforcement services will also be provided. Currently there are no special needs sheltering facilities in the County. Those with special needs must be transported out of County for sheltering during an emergency or catastrophic event. The Complex will provide a sheltering area and associated services.

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

The entire population of Taylor County will be served. In addition, the facility would be available to other counties in the region should they need support or mutual aid. The Complex will benefit the entire Big Bend region.

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

Taylor County will have an adequate facility for Emergency Management to effectively operate and ensure the continuity of operations and disaster recovery efforts. In addition, the facility will offer EMS, Fire Rescue and law enforcement services. The Complex will offer sheltering facilities for special needs as well as essential personnel. It has become very obvious during pre-landfall and post-recovery efforts resulting from Hurricanes Idalia and Helene, the facility is critically needed by Taylor County.

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?

There is a critical need for the facility and when funding is secured the County will move forward with the project immediately. The County was awarded a FDEM grant in the amount of \$472,727.27 for the design and engineering of the Complex which will be complete when funding is received. This will enable the County to move forward with construction immediately. The County owns the land where the facility will be located. All deliverables and performance measures will be met per the terms of 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):

Hurricane Idalia and Hurricane Helene

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#:

The County has submitted a CDBG-DR grant requesting funding assistance.

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

0

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):

Budget appropriations in the amount of \$9.4M have been awarded.

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name LaWanda **Last Name** Pemberton

b. Organization Taylor County Board of County Commissioners

c. E-mail Address LPemberton@taylorcountygov.com

d. Phone Number (850)843-5381 **Ext.**

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization Taylor County Board of County Commissioners

b. Municipality and County Taylor

c. Organization Type

☐ For Profit Entity

☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)

☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)

☒ Local Entity

☐ University or College



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☐ 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

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