



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1600

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project will allow Osceola County to advance the construction of 2 ramps at the Waterlin Boulevard Interchange which will provide critical new access to Florida's Turnpike in southern Osceola County, addressing one of the longest gaps between exits on any U.S. limited access facility, approximately 50 miles between exit locations. This investment will provide immediate congestion relief, improve safety, support regional growth, and generate significant new toll revenue for Florida's Turnpike Enterprise.

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	13,600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>13,600,000</b>

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)	13,600,000	89%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,600,000	11%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>15,200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**



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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)?

No

##### 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?

Maintenance and operations will be the responsibility of the Florida Turnpike Enterprise

#### 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.

Osceola County Board of County Commissioners will construct the ramps and dedicate the associated right of way to Florida Turnpike for maintenance and operations.

#### 12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	To be applied entirely to right of way, construction, and Construction Engineering & Inspections (CEI).	13,600,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>13,600,000</b>

#### 13. Program Performance

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

This project will allow Osceola County to advance the construction of 2 ramps at the Waterlin Boulevard Interchange which will provide critical new access to Florida's Turnpike in southern Osceola County, addressing one of the longest gaps between exits on any U.S. limited access facility, approximately 50 miles between exit locations. This investment will provide immediate congestion relief, improve safety, support regional growth, and generate significant new toll revenue for Florida's Turnpike Enterprise.

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



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The Waterlin Boulevard Interchange project will construct a half diamond interchange on Florida's Turnpike at the Waterlin Boulevard overpass, which is under design and planned for construction in Summer 2026. Construction of the interchange includes providing a northbound on-ramp and a southbound off-ramp.

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

The Waterlin Boulevard Interchange provides a proactive solution to meet near-term demand before the long-planned future Southport Connector or Mildred Bass Boulevard interchanges come online (15+ years out).

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

Current residents of St. Cloud, the Waterlin Mixed Use District, Canoe Creek Reserve, Lake Gentry Landings, and Southern Osceola County will be served by the construction of this project. Over ninety-one thousand (91,000) residential units, forty-five million (45M) square feet of non-residential (commercial/industrial) space, and over five thousand (5,000) hotel rooms are anticipated in this area by year 2040.

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

The benefits of the project will be manifested in improved transportation conditions, improved economic activity and job opportunities, diversification of the County's tourism-dependent economy, enhanced individual economic self-sufficiency, less traffic congestion, less stress, improves emergency response times, evacuation route connection, and system reliability.

**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?**

Denial and reimbursement of construction costs and/or return of funds.

**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#:**

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



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**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.**

**19. 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.*