



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1610

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The enhancements requested from the legislature will specifically fund the enhancement of educational and restroom structures along the boardwalk at the SDOC Environmental Center. This enhancement will also supplement the existing classroom space at the head of the boardwalk. The interactive new education spaces along the boardwalk will allow students and the public to learn more about the natural environment in Osceola County, aligned with the life, earth, and physical science standards taught in Florida's public schools.

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               | 1,000,000        |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>1,000,000</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)       | 1,000,000        | 36%         |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                |                  |             |
| Federal  | 0                | 0%          |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0                | 0%          |
| Local  | 0                | 0%          |
| Other  | 1,800,000        | 64%         |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b> | <b>2,800,000</b> | <b>100%</b> |

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

| Fiscal Year<br>(yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific<br>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?

09/01/2026

##### d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

07/31/2027

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

General 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.

The School Board of Osceola County - The Owners

#### 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                      | Construction of the outdoor classroom spaces along the boardwalk and supporting structures/furniture as well as connected walkways. | 1,000,000        |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b> |   | <b>1,000,000</b> |

#### 13. Program Performance

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

The enhancements requested from the legislature will specifically fund the educational and restroom structures along the boardwalk at the SDOC EC. This enhancement will also supplement the existing classroom space at the head of the boardwalk. The interactive new education spaces along the boardwalk will allow students and the public to learn more about the natural environment in Osceola County, aligned with the life, earth, and physical science standards taught in Florida's public schools.

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



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An environmental center boardwalk in Osceola County would play a direct role in enhancing, preserving, and improving environmental and fish/wildlife quality by combining conservation science, education, and community engagement.

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

By providing hands on learning with STEM integration, Agricultural literacy, community workshops, cultural connections, career pathways, and public awareness campaigns.

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

All elementary students in Osceola County as well as the general public on the weekends.

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

This project can improve agriculture by promoting sustainable practices, offering farmer education, and connecting communities with conservation-based production methods. They act as hubs where science, outreach, and cultural heritage meet to strengthen both farming and environmental stewardship. This project will teach habitat restoration, water conservation and native plant programs. Species monitoring and aquatic ecosystem protections are also outcomes that can be realized.

**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?**

Bonds will be required to ensure project completion as well as the possibility of liquidated damages.

**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:**

**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



# **The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2026-2027**

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