



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1637

1. Project Title School Dist. of Lee County - Student Transportation System and Safety Equipment Update

2. Senate Sponsor Jonathan Martin

3. Date of Request 12/1/2025

#### 4. Project/Program Description

This project will modernize the School District of Lee County's student transportation system by implementing a fully integrated system that incorporates real-time GPS and GIS data, enabling precise routing, live bus tracking, and streamlined operational adjustments. The upgraded platform will support multi-user collaboration, improve workflow efficiency, and offer enhanced communication tools that provide parents and guardians with accurate and timely updates. The initiative includes professional implementation, staff training, and ongoing support to ensure a smooth transition and sustained long-term success. In addition, the project provides funding to maintain and expand the district's existing weapons detection program and equipment, ensuring systems remain operational at all school entry points and that backup units are available for coverage during equipment downtime and after-school events to support continued student, staff, and community safety.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

#### 6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	2,500,089
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,500,089</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)	2,500,089	44%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	3,200,000	56%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>5,700,089</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? No

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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LFIR # 1637

## 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)?

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Costs include integrated routing software, GPS, tablet device management and 5G data plans, system installation and training services.	1,446,089
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Costs include hardware for all-in-one bus routing system including Geotab GO9, Samsung Galaxy Tab Active5 and the Student Scanning Kits.  Additionally, this includes funds to maintain and expand the district's existing weapons detection program and equipment.	1,054,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,500,089</b>

### 13. Program Performance



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LFIR # 1637

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

The funds will be used to modernize the district's student transportation system by implementing a fully integrated platform with real-time GPS and GIS capabilities. This investment will reduce manual work, improve routing efficiency, enhance communication with families through accurate bus tracking, and strengthen coordination among transportation staff, resulting in a more reliable, efficient, and transparent transportation system that better serves students, families, and school operations. Additionally, the funds will support maintaining and expanding the district's existing weapons detection program and equipment to ensure consistent screening at school entry points and provide backup units for use during equipment downtime and after-school events, enhancing the overall safety of students, staff, and the community.

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

Activities will include procurement and installation of an all-in-one transportation routing system, configuration of routes and data, staff training, and ongoing technical support to ensure lasting operational improvements. Additionally, funds will support maintaining and deploying weapons detection systems & equipment at school entry points, including securing additional or backup units to ensure consistent screening during equipment servicing and to provide coverage for after-school events, strengthening daily student and staff safety.

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

The project will provide families with real-time bus location updates and more reliable transportation service, improving safety, predictability, and communication. It will also enhance student and staff safety through the continued use of weapons detection systems & equipment at school entry points and events.

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

The project serves K–12 students who ride district school buses, as well as their families who depend on timely transportation communication. Additionally, the weapons detection systems and equipment will protect students and district staff as well as members of the community.

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

The project will improve the reliability, efficiency, and safety of student transportation and provide families with real-time bus updates. This will be measured by improved on-time arrivals, reduced parent call volume, and usage of the real-time communication app. The project will also support maintaining fully operational weapons detection systems at school entry points, with backup units available to ensure continuous coverage during the school day and after-school events. This will be measured by maintaining uninterrupted coverage.

**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?**

Remit funds back to the state agency.

**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?**



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## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1637

- ☐ 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)?

- ☐ 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



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LFIR # 1637

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