



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1695

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

#### 4. Project/Program Description

Peanut Island, a 79-acre jewel in the Lake Worth Inlet, has been part of Palm Beach County's history since its creation in 1918. Once a dredging byproduct, it is now a treasured public park and ecotourism destination. At its heart sits the former U.S. Coast Guard Station (1936)—a site of national significance. This station played a vital role in coastal defense during World War II, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and houses the unique John F. Kennedy Military Presidential Bunker built in 1962 as an emergency refuge near the President's Palm Beach home. This project will restore the Coast Guard Station, Boathouse, Presidential Bunker, and surrounding grounds, creating a dynamic, interactive museum. Visitors will be able to explore educational, maritime, and environmental exhibits. By revitalizing these historic facilities, the project will preserve national history, expand educational opportunities for schoolchildren, veterans and visitors.

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	1,200,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,200,000</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)	1,200,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,200,000	50%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>2,400,000</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		
2025-26	0	500,000	2112A	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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The County will match the state's investment with 50% county funding. Federal funding is also being sought.

## 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?

3/1/2027

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

6/30/2028

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

County department operating funds and revenues received from user fees.

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.

Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department.

### 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	Renovation of historic Peanut Island facilities, including the vacant Coast Guard Station building, boathouse and historic John F. Kennedy fallout bunker. Funds will be expended on design, permitting and construction costs.	1,200,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,200,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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The requested funding will assist with the restoration of the Coast Guard complex and Kennedy Bunker which, at completion, is anticipated to become a historical tourist attraction as well as an environmental education center for local residents and school aged children.

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

At completion the restored structures are expected to serve a dual function as both a historical and environmental education center. Programming will focus on the history of the Coast Guard facilities and Kennedy Bunker, the Intracoastal Waterway and the Port of Palm Beach. Environmental education is expected to focus on the local reef system, local aquatic flora and fauna as well as efforts to restore the water quality within the Intracoastal Waterway.

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

The project will directly serve citizens by providing safe recreational facilities, a public education center with historical and environmental programming, opportunities for school and community engagement, and restored natural habitats that enhance both learning and quality of life for local residents and visitors.

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

Two distinct populations will be served by the project: 1) Local and regional residents, particularly those school aged students visiting on a field trip and those visiting other portions of the island. 2) Out of state residents visiting Palm Beach County for vacation. Over 75,000 tourists and local residents are expected to visit the facility annually upon completion.

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

The expected outcome of this project is for the facility to become a popular regional attraction for Palm Beach County. The Parks and Recreation Department uses Placer.ai to track park visitation. The Department will analyze data prior to and after the completion of the facility to accurately measure changes in visitation.

**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?**

Unused funds will be returned to the state.

**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):

**Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.**

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- ☐ Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- ☐ Resilient Florida Grant Program
- ☐ Wastewater Revolving Loan
- ☐ Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- ☐ Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- ☐ Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- ☒ N/A

18. What is the population economic status?

- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Rural Area of Economic Concern
- ☐ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- ☒ N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

Construction has yet to commence.

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?



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0%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

6/30/2028

#### 22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name   
b. Organization   
c. E-mail Address   
d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 23. 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.

#### 24. 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.*