



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1723

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Pinellas County completed a Preliminary Engineering Study focused on improving capacity, operational efficiency, and transportation safety on East Lake Rd in northern Pinellas County. The County is currently coordinating with FDOT to complete a full PD&E study. The corridor parallels US 19 and is a major arterial roadway that serves as a primary connector between Pinellas and Pasco Counties and as an evacuation route. This request (Phase I) includes capacity improvements between Curlew Rd to Tarpon Woods Blvd; intersection improvements and bridge widening.

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	15,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	15,000,000

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)	15,000,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	15,000,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	30,000,000	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		

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.

We are matching with Penny for Pinellas, a one cent infrastructure sales tax. We are also completing a PD&E to ensure the project is eligible for federal funds and will apply when grant programs open up.



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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?

10/1/2028

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

9/30/2030

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

Gas taxes, general fund, and stormwater 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.

Pinellas County Government.

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	Construction services	15,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		15,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The preliminary engineering study indicates that widening the roadway and bridges and implementing intersection improvements along the corridor will significantly improve the traffic level of service during peak periods (capacity) and reduce the number and severity of crashes.

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



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The county is currently funding the PD&E and the design services for several of the improvements which are all underway. The specific activities are the construction services necessary to implement the structural improvements and the operational elements of the intersections are handled by the county through both equipment and technology.

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

Improved roadway capacity, more efficient transportation services, and intersection improvements that are safer and more effective.

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

Residents of the East Lake area and commuters from Pasco, Hillsborough and Hernando Counties as well as those within Pinellas County.

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

Reduced congestion, travel delays and number of crashes. The county utilizes IVA and other traffic technology to monitor and report traffic outcomes. This system will be utilized to compare pre to post project benefits.

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?

Contracts for design and construction will have specific schedules for completion of each phase of work. Consultants falling short of meeting the required design schedule may be removed from the project and another consultant hired to complete the work. Incentives/disincentives, in addition to liquidated damages, may be used within to construction contract to encourage the contractor to remain on, or ahead, of schedule.

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



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