



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1776

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

A multi-use rural facility supporting: Local agriculture and small businesses, Workforce training and food entrepreneurship, Community gatherings and youth agricultural education, Farmers market and farm-to-table commerce. The 9,000–10,000 sq. ft. Multi-Purpose Agricenter will include a 4,000 sq. ft. event hall for livestock shows, workshops, and community gatherings; a 1,500 sq. ft. commercial kitchen for shared food production; two classrooms totaling 1,000 sq. ft. for agricultural training and youth programs; an 800 sq. ft. office and conference suite; 1,000 sq. ft. for storage, restrooms, and mechanical needs; and a 700 sq. ft. lobby and display area highlighting local agricultural heritage..

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	1,200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,800,000
Total State Funds Requested	6,000,000

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)	6,000,000	86%
Matching Funds		
Federal	900,000	13%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	100,000	1%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	7,000,000	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.



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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?

08/01/2027

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

02/01/2030

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

County facilities - local surtax and Ad Valorem

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.

Gadsden County, self

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	Public Works staff to do landscaping and interior work salary/benefits	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Design/CMAR/construction manager	800,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	furniture/fixtures/building supplies	150,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	contract-procurement development	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Includes the total cost of construction, contingency, design, and Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) services	4,800,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		6,000,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funds will construct a Multi-Purpose Agricenter to support agricultural development, community events, educational programs, and small business growth, providing a centralized facility that strengthens local agriculture, workforce training, and economic opportunities in Gadsden County.

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



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The funds will construct and equip the Multi-Purpose Agricenter to host agricultural events, educational programs, youth training, and community gatherings. It will provide a commercial kitchen, classrooms, office space, and display areas to support local agriculture, small business development, and community engagement.

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

The Multi-Purpose Agricenter will provide citizens with access to agricultural education, youth programs, community events, and workshops. It will support local entrepreneurs and food businesses through shared-use kitchen facilities, offer spaces for public gatherings, and promote awareness of the county's agricultural heritage.

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

The project serves all residents, youth, farmers, and small business owners in Gadsden County, as well as visitors attending community and agricultural events. Estimated Number of Individuals Served: Approximately 47,000 residents and additional visitors are expected to benefit from educational programs, community events, and business support services provided by the Agricenter.

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

Expected Benefit or Outcome: The Agricenter will enhance agricultural education, support small businesses, and promote community engagement in Gadsden County. Methodology for Measuring Outcomes: Success will be measured by tracking program participation, events hosted, training sessions completed, and usage of the commercial kitchen, using attendance records and program reports.

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?

Conditions to bring agency back into compliance

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.