



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1784

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) will purchase two prefabricated mobile training towers to expand regional training capacity, enhance preparedness, and improve interagency response at local, regional, and state levels, addressing a critical gap in regional training infrastructure. The towers will address the need for additional training space, reduce first responder training related downtime from travel outside service areas, and support MDRF personnel in maintaining Insurance Service Office (ISO) compliance.

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	600,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

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)	600,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	600,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,200,000	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.
-

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1784

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
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	Funds will be used to purchase two mobile prefabricated training towers that can be deployed to the north and south ends of the county and will expand access to training. Currently, training capacity at the MDRF HQ training facility is limited due to the need for continuous recruit trainings to meet staffing requirements. These towers will also enable MDRF to maintain ISO compliance.	600,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		600,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1784

The purpose of this project is to enable MDRF to expand training capabilities and opportunities to first responders and partner agencies throughout South Florida to respond effectively to complex incidents that directly impact the safety and well-being of the community. MDRF's current training facility is state of the art, however it has become limited in capacity to support trainings for purposes outside of recruitment due to the county's personnel attrition rate. Purchasing the prefabricated mobile training towers will bring trainings to the first responders, alleviating the competition for use of the MDRF training facility while also ensuring that there is a realistic environment for firefighters to practice live fire suppression techniques, search and rescue, survival, self-rescue, and ventilation strategies.

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

The funds will be used to purchase mobile prefabricated training towers that will provide first responders within South Florida with an accessible controlled realistic environment for essential fire training scenarios such as live fire training, search and rescue, hose management, roof operations, forcible entry, and ladder operations. Partner agencies within South Florida can also request to use the training towers as needed.

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

After implementing this project, citizens will benefit from improved interagency operability and response to complex threats and emergencies. First responders will be able to use the multi-level configurable towers to improve firefighting skills and incident command by simulating a wide range of emergency conditions such as live fires, structural collapse, building searches, aerial ladder operations, forcible entry doors, and maritime urban interface incidents. The training towers will also feature a configurable maze system and fire department connections for realistic water supply and hose hookups. The towers will also contain an observation and control room, allowing real-time feedback and safe monitoring, supporting dynamic and repeatable exercises that strengthen tactical decision-making, interagency coordination, and operational safety. This investment will yield significant returns in terms of enhanced public safety and a more resilient, prepared region.

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

This project will benefit the general population in Miami-Dade County of more than 2 million people as it will improve overall emergency response throughout the region to navigate a wide range of complex threats. First responders across multiple agencies including the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office, neighboring fire and law enforcement agencies, Special Response Teams, and the United States Coast Guard will have access to these training towers, enhancing interoperability and efficiency in a controlled, adaptable environment. These towers will function as additional training locations throughout the county, enabling personnel to meet facility training hours as required for ISO compliance.

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

The expected benefit of this project is to improve first responder access to training across the county in a controlled, adaptable environment. The towers will reduce competition for use of the existing training facility at MDRF HQ, allow more training repetitions, support larger or simultaneous classes, and meet the growing need for interagency training. The mobility of the towers will also reduce training downtime, enabling first responders to more quickly return to service following a training. These measures can be evaluated by the improved coordination and response provided when a large scale event occurs and requires multiple agencies for a unified command. MDRF can also measure how long personnel are in training and compare the data to how long it takes for first responders to return to service following a training.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables will result in non-payment.

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)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1784

- ☐ 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)?

- ☐ 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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1784

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