



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1801

1. Project Title Gadsden County Emergency Operations Center and Public Safety: Final Stage

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 12/8/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose of the proposed project is to implement the final stage of the Gadsden County Emergency Operations Center and Public Safety Complex Project to include the Emergency Operations Center, E911 Office, 911 Communications Center and Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement and Administrative offices. The requested amount to complete the final stage of this project is \$750,000. The requested funds are critically needed to provide, furnishings, IT/Communications and Audiovisual equipment necessary to operate the new facility.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Division of Emergency Management

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	750,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2025-26	0	750,000		No

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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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?

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	Furnishings, IT/communications and audiovisual equipment for the Gadsden County Public Safety and Emergency Operations Center.	750,000
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)		750,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funding will be used to implement the final stage of the Gadsden County Public Safety Complex, which includes the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Communications Center and Sheriff's Office. The requested amount to complete the final stage of this project is \$750,000. The requested funds are critically needed to provide, furnishings, IT/Communications and Audiovisual equipment necessary to operate the new facility.

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



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The provision of disaster and emergency related activities and services that are normally associated with and provided by EOCs across the nation and those unique to Gadsden County. It will also provide a dedicated, unified EOC Command Center, E911 Office, 911 Communication Center and law enforcement for all disaster and emergency planning, response and recovery activity for Gadsden County.

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

All emergency and disaster planning, recovery, and response activities will be coordinated and implemented under one roof to include those of law enforcement, fire/EMS, and emergency management. This will ensure emergency and disaster related services, activities, communication, and information needs are conducted in a cohesive and timely manner to citizens, visitors, businesses, and partners.

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

Provides 24/7 services to all citizens, businesses and visitors of Gadsden County.

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

The EOC and Public Safety Complex will provide an efficient coordinated emergency response to natural or manmade disasters that affect citizens, businesses and visitors of Gadsden County. It will improve law enforcement and fire/ EMS response time and quality of life. The project will also improve the coordination, collaboration and training efforts of local first responders. This will be measured by increased efficiencies and effectiveness of emergency response through training, exercises and real event responses. The construction of a new EOC and public safety complex provides a multi-purpose facility which consolidates staffing of communications, law enforcement, fire and EMS to provide essential emergency and disaster services and activities (i.e., planning, response and recovery) to Gadsden County residents, businesses, visitors and public and private partners.

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?

Should Gadsden County fail to timely and properly meet deliverables or performance measures funding could be suspended until such time Gadsden County comes into full compliance through corrective action plan created, measured, and implemented with a success timeline for the state to continue funding the project. Funds will be returned to the State if facility is not completed in a timely fashion.

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):

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.



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19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	<input type="text" value="Alfred Lawson Jr."/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Lawson & Associates"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="allawsonjr@gmail.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)222-1286"/>

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