



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1867

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

SeaPort Manatee is a catalyst for state and regional growth. Population and industry growth is forecasted to increase demand for key SeaPort imports ranging from fruit to household appliances. To that end, the request of General Revenue Funds is to complete a 10-acre expansion (Part 1 of 3) of Seaport's container yard. This increases capacity by 45,000 TEUs toward a 135,000 TEU goal, enabling the port to handle more containerized cargo and meet the growing demand in Southwest Florida.

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	22,974,622
Total State Funds Requested	22,974,622

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)	22,974,622	74%
Matching Funds		
Federal	3,984,497	13%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	578,901	2%
Local	3,235,233	11%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	30,773,253	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



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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?

07/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

07/01/2025

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

Ongoing operations and maintenance of the capital projects typically comes from port revenue with the grants used thus far exclusively supporting the construction 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.

Port Authority.

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	The General Revenue funds will be used for construction, planning, and engineering services associated with the capital improvement.	22,974,622
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		22,974,622

13. Program Performance

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

SeaPort Manatee is a catalyst for state and regional growth. Population and industry growth is forecasted to increase demand for key SeaPort imports ranging from fruit to household appliances. To that end, the request of General Revenue Funds is to complete a 10-acre expansion (Part 1 of 3) of Seaport's container yard. This increases capacity by 45,000 TEUs toward a 135,000 TEU goal, enabling the port to handle more containerized cargo and meet the growing demand in Southwest Florida.

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



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Seaport Manatee is Southwest Florida's primary public seaport. Funds will be used to increase the port's capacity and generate economic activity in Southwest Florida.

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

Transportation costs account for approximately 35% of the costs of all goods and services. Expansion of the seaport will allow the public deep-water seaport to move cargo more efficiently while also protecting long term access to the port. This will result in cost savings that will be directly passed on to Florida residents and businesses.

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

The port's primary market service area is more than 8 million Florida residents.

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

The Container Yard Expansion will support increased agricultural export capacity and increased supply chain efficiency by reducing operational bottlenecks that contribute to product spoilage. Benefits will be measured by comparing pre- and post-construction operating data and evaluating how this expansion supports faster loading and unloading times and alleviates current operational congestion and chokepoints.

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?

Return of funds.

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.