



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1892

1. Project Title Tavares - Golden Triangle Regional Park-West Campus (Woodlea Sports Complex Expansion)

2. Senate Sponsor Keith Truenow

3. Date of Request 10/15/2025

4. Project/Program Description

As a part of a public partnership with the Lake County Board of County Commissioners, the Golden Triangle Regional Park consists of an East Campus and a West Campus to comprise Lake County's regional park system, as identified in the adopted Parks & Trails Master Plan. The West Campus is a 58-acre site located at the Woodlea Sports Complex in Tavares. Improvements to the park started more than a decade ago in 2013 with the addition of two (2) adult-size baseball fields. To maximize space, they were constructed on the far end of the park, away from the existing youth fields and other amenities. The following year field lighting was installed to allow for night-time play. Other improvements such as new irrigation throughout the park, laser grading, and re-sodding the existing youth-size fields have been major projects completed. We request this appropriation to expand on the park amenities with a new restroom/concession facility, parking, a

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Environmental Protection

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	600,000
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	60%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	400,000	40%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? 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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

11/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/01/2027

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

City of Tavares General fund.

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.

City of Tavares

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	Engineering, design and construction of restroom/concession buildings, trails, parking, and related amenities	600,000
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?



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Construction of a restroom/concession building with related facilities and parking, including but not limited to shade structures, pathways, adjacent trail, and amenities such as benches, bike racks, water fountain, and trash cans. Public Partnership between Lake County and the City of Tavares and supports the County's adopted Park Master Plan. This is also an expansion of projects already funded and completed by both the City of Tavares and Lake County such as new sod, sports lighting, and laser grading of the existing fields.

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

This project will provide needed recreational support facilities for the existing Woodlea Sports Complex baseball fields.

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

This project will provide support services for residents and visitors of Lake County and the City of Tavares in support of the regional park as approved in the adopted Lake County's Park Master Plan.

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

This project will serve all citizens throughout the Golden Triangle region of Lake County and beyond. An estimated 100,000 residents live within close proximity of the park service area.

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

This project will have many benefits, such as increased physical and mental health for the citizens of Tavares, Lake County and surrounding counties, through outdoor exercises. This can be measured by scheduled events and data collection. The project is also expected to increase and/or improve economic activity in the area and increase tourism by providing a space for large events, as well as family friendly events. The outcome can be measured through monitoring hotel, restaurant, retail, and event sales, as well as vehicle count data.

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?

The City of Tavares Procurement Department, in coordination with the Recreation Department contracting officer will include the appropriate penalties (financial penalties including bond forfeiture) to ensure quality.

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.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="Ashley Ellis Spicola"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Continental Strategy"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="aspicola@continentalstrategy.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)999-8468"/>

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