



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1921

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Lake Willie Boardwalk Project will transform the existing structure into a modern, resilient, and secure pedestrian corridor. Through a comprehensive assessment and complete reconstruction, the project will enhance public safety, accessibility, and user experience. The new design incorporates weather-resistant composite decking, durable materials, and vandal-resistant features to ensure long-term reliability with emphasis on a family-friendly environment. Beyond infrastructure improvements, this renovation reflects a reinvestment in community pride, environmental stewardship, and the shared well-being of residents and visitors.

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	350,000
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	350,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	700,000	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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2027

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

City of Eustis

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 Eustis

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	Demolition of current decking, installation of new decking, kayak launch pad, repair or replacement of any piles or support features.	350,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funds will be used to structurally repair Lake Willie Boardwalk for vital safety, accessibility, connectivity of pedestrians, and recreational access between Carver Park and Cardinal Cove, two major community recreation areas in our city. In addition to the repairs, security and mitigation for vandalism needs to be addressed to reduce infrastructure damage. When completed, the boardwalk will be adequately lit with solar lights and up-to-date security features. Structural improvements will minimize travel disruptions, ensuring consistent and dependable mobility for the community.



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

Carver Park is the City's largest park, offering basketball courts, BBQ and picnic tables, a variety of playground equipment, and a sports pavilion. Cardinal Cove compliments these offerings with tennis and pickle ball courts, paved walking/jogging trails, improved fishing access, and upcoming improvements for intercity youth water sports, including a kayak dock addition.

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

This project will provide residents of Cardinal Park and Carver Park communities with a safe and reliable pedestrian and cycling route by repairing and rehabilitating the Lake Willie boardwalk. It will directly enhance services for the public, particularly teenagers and adults, who use the boardwalk daily for commuting to school, work, recreational parks, neighboring communities, and local business on both shores. In addition, the project will improve consistent and dependable mobility for pedestrians, helping to minimize travel disruptions to for residents who rely on public transit in this area.

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

The target population served by the Lake Willie boardwalk project is approximately 4,917 disadvantaged residents and pedestrians from Carver Park and Cardinal Cove communities who reside within a 10-mile radius of Lake Willie. This includes the City of Eustis' Parks and Recreation enrolled students who regularly utilize this boardwalk for outdoor activities.

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

The expected benefits of this project will be improved quality of life for residents, students and recreational users who regularly utilize the Lake Willie boardwalk. Enhancements will include increased safety, improved mobility, elevated aesthetic appeal, and support for the continued economic growth. We commit to a six-month progress/status report and/or completion within one year. When completed, residents of the Carver and Cardinal Park communities as well as the general public, students, and recreational users will have full access to utilize the renovated boardwalk.

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 Eustis will repay the funds appropriated for the Lake Willie Boardwalk Project if it fails to meet associated deliverables or performance measures.

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



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☐ 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

☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)

☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)

☒ Local Entity

☐ University or College

☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name



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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.