



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1962

1. Project Title Tallahassee International Airport - Foreign Trade Zone Infrastructure Improvements

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 12/9/2025

4. Project/Program Description

Tallahassee International Airport (TLH) is establishing a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) spanning an 11-county area between I-75 and Port St. Joe to boost international commerce, attract businesses, enhance market competitiveness, and drive economic growth. To support operations, TLH will upgrade an existing facility to meet Customs and Border Protection standards, integrating logistics infrastructure and inventory control systems to manage freight and support business needs efficiently.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Transportation

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	5%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	29,000,000	95%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	30,500,000	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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1962

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?

10/01/2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/30/2025

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

The City of Tallahassee will utilize funds from its operations budget for ongoing operations and maintenance of the FTZ.

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.

The City of Tallahassee will own the facility.

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	To prepare for Zone operations at TLH, an existing facility will be modified to comply with Customs and Border Protection's stringent security standards necessary to facilitate the movement of bonded freight through the FTZ.	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

13. Program Performance

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

This project will provide necessary capital improvement in order to establish a Foreign Trade Zone in the region.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1962

To prepare for Zone operations at TLH, an existing facility will be modified to comply with Customs and Border Protection's stringent security standards. TLH's improved FTZ site will include a warehousing management system and computerized inventory control to track freight.

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

Shipping and manufacturing businesses that import and export merchandise can take advantage of the FTZ to significantly reduce the cost of customs duties, taxes, and tariffs and improve their supply chain operations.

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

The target population is businesses intending to import or export goods internationally and residents who will benefit from the increased goods and lower prices as a result. This would put the expected number of individuals to be served between 500,000 and 1,000,000.

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

The FTZ will increase and improve economic activity by encouraging international commerce and attracting shipping and manufacturing businesses to the Northwest and North Central Florida Region. The Zone will help forge partnerships between the public and private sectors and ultimately improve freight, transportation and logistics in the region. Increased and improved economic activity will be measured by tracking the number of aligning industries that are attracted to Northwest and North Central Florida as a result of the FTZ. The volume of regional freight activity can also be measured and tracked by entities such as the Florida Department of Transportation and the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency.

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 requested funding would be returned to the appropriate state agency.

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:



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1962

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

a. Name

b. Firm Name



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1962

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.