



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 3725

**1. Project Title**

**2. Senate Sponsor**

**3. Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Funds will be used to purchase property along Carpenter Creek for stream and wetland floodplain restoration projects that have been identified in the Carpenter Creek / Bayou Texar Watershed Management Plan. Over \$6,000,000 in additional grant funds has already been allocated for construction of the stream and floodplain restoration projects. This project will reduce downstream flooding, improve water quality in impaired waters, improve riparian and aquatic habitat, improve community resilience, and increase recreational opportunities for citizens and tourists.

**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	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>

**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)	2,000,000	25%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	6,000,000	75%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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		
2025-26	0	2,000,000		Yes

**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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### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

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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?

12/30/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

6/30/2028

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

Escambia County Local Option Sales Tax and additional grant funding

**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.**

Various property owners along Carpenter Creek will receive funding for the purchase of their property. Two appraisals will be completed for each parcel to be purchased. There will be no relationship between the property sellers and the property purchaser (Escambia County).

**12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	\$6,000,000 in grant funds has already been obtained to construct stream and restoration projects identified and prioritized in the Carpenter Creek / Bayou Texar Watershed Management Plan. This legislative request is for property purchase to enable construction of the environmental restoration projects.	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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



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Purchase property along Carpenter Creek so that \$6,000,000 in additional grant funds can be used to construct environmental restoration projects to reduce downstream flooding, improve water quality in impaired waters, improve riparian and aquatic habitat, improve community resilience, and increase recreational opportunities for citizens and tourists.

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

State of Florida and Escambia County purchasing protocols will be followed for the property acquisition process. Two appraisals will be performed for the parcels to be purchased.

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

After property acquisition, \$6,000,000 in allocated grant funds will be used to construct environmental restoration projects to reduce downstream flooding, improve water quality in impaired waters, improve riparian and aquatic habitat, improve community resilience, and increase recreational opportunities for citizens and tourists.

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

Target populations to be served by this project include citizens of Escambia County and tourists who enjoy healthy natural resources and recreational opportunities such as fishing, swimming, and kayaking along Carpenter Creek and Bayou Texar. 50,000 individuals per year are expected to be served and enjoy the natural resources and recreational benefits of this project.

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

Outcomes of this project include reduction in downstream flooding, improvement of water quality in impaired waters, improvement of riparian and aquatic habitat, improvement of community resilience, and increased recreational opportunities for citizens and tourists. Outcomes will be measured by quantifying reduced downstream flooding events, measuring improvements in water quality (fecal coliform bacteria and nutrients), and quantifying utilization by citizens and tourists.

**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?**

Claw back 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



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LFIR # 3725

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):

### Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Resilient Florida Grant Program
- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants) RESTORE Council
- N/A

18. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

19. What is the status of construction?



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\$6,000,000 in grant funds have been allocated for construction

**20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

0%

**21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**

6/30/2028

**22. Requester Contact Information**

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**   
**b. Organization**   
**c. E-mail Address**   
**d. Phone Number**  **Ext.**

**23. 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.**

**24. 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.*