

The Florida House of Representatives
Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2022-23
For projects meeting the definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: Florida Aquarium Saltwater Treatment Facility for Endangered Coral and Aquatic Animals
2. Date of Submission: 10/21/2021
3. House Member Sponsor: Chris Latvala

4. Details of Amount Requested:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request.

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2021-22 <i>(If appropriated in 2021-22 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)</i>			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2022-23 <i>(Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)</i>		
Column:	A	B	C	D	E	F
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated	Recurring Base Budget	Additional Nonrecurring Request	TOTAL Nonrecurring plus Recurring Base Funds
Input Amounts:					1,000,000	1,000,000

- e. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2022-23 from all sources of funding (Enter "0" if amount is zero):

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent of Total	Are the other sources of funds guaranteed in writing?
1. Amount Requested from the State in this Appropriations Project Request	1,000,000	100.0%	N/A
2. Federal	0	0.0%	No
3. State (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column F)	0	0.0%	No
4. Local	0	0.0%	No

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5. Other	0	0.0%	No
TOTAL	1,000,000	100%	

5. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

No

6. Which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue requested? Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

a. Has the appropriate state agency for administering the funding, if the request were appropriated, been contacted? Yes

b. Describe penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures which the agency should provide in its contract to administer the funding if appropriated.

Unused funds will be returned to the State.

7. Requester:

a. Name: Roger Germann

b. Organization: The Florida Aquarium

c. Email: rgermann@flaquarium.org

d. Phone #: (813)273-4000

8. Contact for questions about specific technical or financial details about the project.

a. Name: Andy Wood

b. Organization: The Florida Aquarium

c. Email: awood@flaquarium.org

d. Phone #: (813)273-4000

9. Registered lobbyist working to secure funding for this project.

a. Name: Robert M Blair

b. Firm: Corcoran Partners

c. Email: matt@corcoranpartners.com

d. Phone #: (813)527-0172

10. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

a. Name: The Florida Aquarium

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- b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Hillsborough
c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Statewide

11. What type of organization is the entity that will receive the funds?

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government
- University or College
- Other (Please describe)

12. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds being requested?

This funding will support the construction of a salt water treatment facility for the Florida Aquatic Animal Conservation Program. The program's goal is to improve the environmental sustainability of Florida's ecosystems by caring for threatened and endangered aquatic animals, namely corals, sea turtles, and marine mammals with a focus on manatees.

13. Provide specific details on how funds will be spent. (Select all that apply)

Spending Category	Description	Amount Requested (Should equal 4d, Col. E) Enter "0" if request is zero for the category
Administrative Costs:		
<input type="checkbox"/> a. Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Other Salary and Benefits		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	10% indirect cost to support the administration of the program.	100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		

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<input type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction of salt water treatment facility at the Florida Conservation and Technology Center.	900,000
TOTAL		1,000,000

14. For Fixed Capital Costs requested in Question 13, what type of ownership will the facility be under when complete?

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government (e.g., police, fire or local government buildings, local roads, etc.)
- State agency owned facility (For example: college or university facility, buildings for public schools, roads in the state transportation system, etc.)
- Other (Please describe)

15. Is the project request an information technology project?

No

16. Is there any documented show of support for the requested project in the community including public hearings, letters of support, major organizational backing, or other expressions of support?

Yes

a. Please Describe:

The facility will be constructed at the Florida Conservation and Technology Center in southern Hillsborough County. FWC will provide additional resources to complete construction and its on-site fish hatchery will also benefit from the water treatment facility.

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17. Has the need for the funds been documented by a study, completed by an independent 3rd party, for the area to be served?

Yes

a. Please Describe:

Studies show that healthy coral reefs provide buffering from tropical storms and erosion that impacts property values and the safety of human life. They also provide a habitat for fish, lobsters, and other species that are harvested for food. Sea turtle and manatee conservation efforts contribute to healthy oceans and drive ecotourism, which has critical economic impact to the state's citizens.

18. Will the requested funds be used directly for services to citizens?

Yes

a. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the purpose of the funds?

A salt water treatment facility will be constructed to treat water from an existing well on site. The water treatment will remove calcium and other minerals in support of operations at Florida Conservation and Technology to care for coral, sea turtles, marine mammals, and at FWC's fish hatchery. FWC will use the water to maintain its fish hatchery on site.

b. Describe the direct services to be provided to the citizens by the funding requested.

The Florida Conservation and Technology Center is open to the public in November 2021 as a free attraction, appealing to visitors that want to learn more about the natural environment. This project is uniquely positioned to improve the future viability of Florida's marine wildlife while providing an immediate impact to citizens in the form of education, economic impact and community sustainability.

c. Describe the target population to be served (i.e., "the majority of the funds requested will serve these target populations or groups"). Select all that apply to the target population:

- Elderly persons
- Persons with poor mental health
- Persons with poor physical health
- Jobless persons
- Economically disadvantaged persons
- At-risk youth
- Homeless
- Developmentally disabled
- Physically disabled
- Drug users (in health services)

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- Preschool students
- Grade school students
- High school students
- University/college students
- Currently or formerly incarcerated persons
- Drug offenders (in criminal Justice)
- Victims of crime
- General (The majority of the funds will benefit no specific group)
- Other (Please describe)

d. How many in the target population are expected to be served?

- < 25
- 25-50
- 51-100
- 101-200
- 201-400
- 401-800
- >800

19. What benefits or outcomes will be realized by the expenditure of funds requested? (Select each Benefit/Outcome that applies)

Benefit or Outcome	Provide a specific measure of the benefit or outcome	Describe the method for measuring level of benefit or outcome
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education		

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality	Improve health of Florida's ecosystem by protecting and caring for threatened and endangered species of coral, sea turtles, and manatees.	A physical inventory will be taken of animals in Aquarium care; number of animals released to the wild will be documented.
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism	The Florida Conservation and Technology Center will be open to the public as of November 2021 as a free attraction, appealing to visitors that want to learn more about the natural environment.	Visitation numbers will be tracked.
<input type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency		
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism		
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse		
<input type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve wastewater management		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve stormwater management		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve groundwater quality		

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<input type="checkbox"/> Improve drinking water quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve surface water quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe):		