

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: Washington County Broadband Project
2. Date of Submission: 11/17/2021
3. House Member Sponsor: Brad Drake

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 (If appropriated in 2021-22 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2022-23 (Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)		
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:					3,000,000	3,000,000

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	3,000,000	60.0%	N/A
2. Federal	0	0.0%	No
3. State (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column F)	2,000,000	40.0%	Yes
4. Local	0	0.0%	No

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5. Other	0	0.0%	No
TOTAL	5,000,000	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? Department of Economic Opportunity

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.

Failure to complete project will result in loss of funding for the project.

7. Requester:

a. Name: Jeff Massey

b. Organization: Washington County Board of County Commissioners

c. Email: jmassey@washingtonfl.com

d. Phone #: (850)638-6200

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

a. Name: Karen Shaw

b. Organization: Washington County Board of County Commissioners

c. Email: Kshaw@washingtonfl.com

d. Phone #: (850)638-6058

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

a. Name: Christopher L. Carmody

b. Firm: GrayRobinson PA

c. Email: chris.carmody@gray-robinson.com

d. Phone #: (407)843-8880

10. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

a. Name: Washington County Board of County Commissioners

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b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Washington

c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Washington

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?

Washington County is currently working to provide Broadband to every resident within its borders. Thanks to a \$1.5 million Rural Infrastructure Grant award letter, Washington County was able to begin the process with an innovative company that began installing like infrastructure in neighboring Walton County. Because the project is currently ongoing - with test homes expected in the coming days - typical funding sources will not allow for application. This request will complete the project.

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 type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<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	Installation of Broadband Internet Services	3,000,000
TOTAL		3,000,000

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?

Yes

a. Will this information technology project be managed within a state agency to support state agency program goals?

No

b. What is the total cost (all years) to design and build the project?

5,000,000

c. What are the ongoing (annual recurring) maintenance and operation costs once the project is completed?

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d. Can the state agency fund the ongoing annual recurring costs within its current operating budget?

Yes

e. What are the specific business objectives or needs the IT project is intended to address?

This project will provide all Washington County residents access to Broadband.

f. Based upon the identified business objectives or needs, what are the success factors that must be realized in order for the state agency to consider the proposed IT project a success?

When Washington County residents of all ages are able to access the Internet from their rural homes for purposes of distance learning, tele-medicine, remote working and other important reasons, the project will be deemed successful.

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:

Washington County has received letters of support from many different agencies, entities, schools, churches, and others. These letters are included in this packet.

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:

The Covid-19 Pandemic brought to light a serious need for reliable, affordable Internet service.

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?

Washington County will use the funds to complete its Broadband Infrastructure installation, and to provide low-income households with the necessary equipment for their homes.

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

Internet access will be provided for all residents. Equipment for low-income residents will be provided.

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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)
- 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)

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Benefit or Outcome	Provide a specific measure of the benefit or outcome	Describe the method for measuring level of benefit or outcome
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health	Many residents will benefit by being able to access their physicians via tele-medicine portals	Frequent user surveys will be utilized.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health	Currently, Washington County has many Veterans who are unable to access the Internet for their mental health virtual assessments. The County has often provided space and technology for these lengthy assessments.	Together with our Veterans Services Officer, the County will utilize frequent user surveys to obtain usage information.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience	Internet access is today's first step to broadening ones cultural experience. Every culture imaginable is available for research and enjoyment on the Internet with the simple click of a mouse.	Frequent user surveys will be utilized.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education	Farming and agriculture activities are not confined to the fields. Many local farmers, growers, and agriculture enthusiasts depend on the Internet for valuable information, bookkeeping, and	Frequent user surveys will be utilized.

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	research.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education	Covid-19 proved how valuable Internet access is in today's educational world. When our schools closed, along with the nation's, our local leaders provided Internet "hotspots" to areas not currently covered by Internet services.	Frequent user surveys will be utilized.
<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity	Reliable, affordable Internet access will allow more people to from their homes	Frequent user surveys will be utilized.
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism		
<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		

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