



Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Public Infrastructure Grant Proposal

Proposal Instructions: The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Proposal (this document) must be completed by the governmental entity applying for the grant and signed by either the chief elected official, the administrator for the governmental entity or their designee. Please read the proposal carefully as some questions may require a separate narrative to be completed.

Governmental Entity Information

Name of Governmental Entity: City of Vero Beach, Florida

Government Federal Employer Identification Number: ██████████

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Name: James R. O'Connor

Title: City Manager

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1389, 1053 20th Place
Vero Beach, FL 32961-1389

Phone Number: 772-978-4710; 772-978-4930

Email: joconnor@covb.org; emenger@covb.org

Public Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

Pursuant to section 288.101, F.S., the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was created to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training. Eligible governmental entities that wish to access this grant fund must submit public infrastructure proposals that:

- Promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification or economic enhancement in a targeted industry. (View Florida's [Targeted Industries here.](#))
- Are not for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity.
- Are for infrastructure that is owned by the public and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.

1. Program Requirements:

Each proposal must include the following information describing how the project satisfies eligibility requirements listed on page 1.

- A. Provide the title and a detailed description of the public infrastructure improvements.

Aviation Boulevard - Complete Streets Re-design Project

- B. Is this infrastructure owned by the public?

Yes No

- C. Is this infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public?

Yes No

- D. Will the public infrastructure improvements be for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity?

Yes No

- E. Provide a detailed explanation of how the public infrastructure improvements will connect to a broader economic development vision for the community and benefit additional current or future businesses.

[SEE ATTACHED]

Aviation Boulevard is an existing public 2-lane non-divided urban minor arterial roadway which lies inside the City of Vero Beach and connects to County, State, and Federal roadways. The roadway was completed in 1995 and has not been widened to allow for rapidly increasing automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic. The roadway was planned and designed to widen to a 4-lane divided highway but funding has not been available. To move this project forward, it is proposed to use a modern "complete streets" re-design to limit the overall roadway width to 3 lanes with a center turn lane, timed signalization, bike paths, and pedestrian walkways to improve the efficiency and overall usefulness of the roadway at reduced cost.

This roadway is in immediate need for improvement due to growing businesses in the airport commercial park, including a new airline and proposed hotel. The community's vision and the airport's master plan, approved by FAA, include expansion of the airline.

F. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating, how the proposed public infrastructure project will promote:

- Economic recovery in specific regions of the state;
- Economic diversification; or
- Economic enhancement of a Targeted Industry (View Florida's [Targeted Industries here.](#))
 - As part of this response, describe how the project will promote specific job growth. Include a description of the number of jobs that will be retained or created, the average wages of such jobs, and in which industry(ies) the jobs will be created using the North American Industry Classification System ([NAICS](#)) codes. Where applicable, you may list specific businesses that will retain or grow jobs or make capital investment.
 - Further, include the economic impact on the community, region, or state and the associated metrics used to measure the success of the proposed project.

Targeted industries positively impacted by this project:

Aviation/Aerospace; Aircraft and Aircraft Parts Manufacturing; Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) of Aircraft; Corporate Headquarters; Flight Simulation/Training; Banking; Engineering.

[SEE ATTACHED]

Aviation, especially as it relates to manufacturing, is one of Indian River County's targeted industries. The county's largest public airport, the Vero Beach Regional Airport, is a major economic engine in our county. The Vero Beach Regional Airport has a direct and indirect economic impact of \$468-million, employing 3500+ residents with a payroll of over \$124-million. Recently, Elite Airways began commercial air service at the Vero Beach Airport, allowing thousands of passengers to visit our county for business or pleasure, experiencing the quality of life local residents enjoy. Elite currently offers direct non-stop jet service to/from Newark, NJ and to/from Asheville, NC - with more destinations expected this year.

Piper Aircraft maintains its headquarters and sole manufacturing facility at the Vero Beach Airport, employing 720 residents. FlightSafety International, Inc., also has a large presence at the airport (FlightSafety Academy), with its classroom and in-flight



2. Additional Information:

A. Is this project an expansion of an existing infrastructure project?

Yes No

B. Provide the proposed commencement date and number of days required to complete construction of the public infrastructure project.

1 NOV 2017; project to be completed in 180 days.

C. What is the location of the public infrastructure? (Provide the road number, if applicable.) **[SEE ATTACHED]**

Vero Beach Regional Airport/Indian River County; connects to US1 directly and to SR60

D. Who is responsible for maintenance and upkeep? (Indicate if more than one are applicable.)

Federal State County City Other _____

E. What permits are necessary for the public infrastructure project?

Permitting requirements included in Phase 1; permits to be gained during Phase 2

F. Detail whether required permits have been secured, and if not, detail the timeline for securing these permits. Additionally, if any required permits are local permits, will these permits be prioritized?

All permitting will be accelerated when construction funding is assured.

G. What is the future land use and zoning designation on the proposed site of the infrastructure improvements, and will the improvements conform to those uses?

Current and future zoning is for a public roadway; all future improvements will conform to this use, based on the City Comprehensive Plan and Airport Master Plan.



H. Will an amendment to the local comprehensive plan or a development order be required on the site of the proposed project or on adjacent property to accommodate the infrastructure and potential current or future job creation opportunities? If yes, please detail the timeline.

Yes No

I. Is the project ready to commence upon grant fund approval and contract execution? If no, please explain.

Yes No

J. Does this project have a local match amount?

Yes No

If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.

City of Vero Beach/Vero Beach Regional Airport

K. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

[SEE ATTACHED]



3. Program Budget

Estimated Costs and Sources of Funding: Include all applicable public infrastructure costs and other funding sources available to support the proposal.

A. Public Infrastructure Project Costs:

Construction	\$ _____	
Reconstruction	\$ _____	
Design & Engineering	\$ 750,000	
Land Acquisition	\$ _____	
Land Improvement	\$ _____	
Other	\$ _____	Please Specify: _____
Total Project Costs	\$ 750,000	

B. Other Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:

City/County	\$ 75,000	
Private Sources	\$ _____	
Other (grants, etc.)	\$ _____	Please Specify: _____
Total Other Funding	\$ 75,000	
Total Amount Requested	\$ 675,000	

Note: The total amount requested must equal the difference between the public infrastructure project costs in 3.A. and the other public infrastructure project funding sources in 3.B.

C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding and any other pertinent budget-related information.

- 01 SEP 2017 Grant Approval (Phase 1)
- 19 SEP 2017 City Acceptance of Grant
- 01 NOV 2017 Advertise for Professional Engineering Services
- 01 JAN 2018 Notice to Proceed
- 01 JUN 2018 Design Project Complete
- 01 AUG 2018 Apply for 2018-19 Public Infrastructure Grant (Phase 2)



4. Approvals and Authority

- A. If the governmental entity is awarded grant funds based on this proposal, what approvals must be obtained before it can execute a grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (e.g., approval of a board, commission or council)?

Vero Beach City Council (elected body)

- B. If approval of a board, commission, council or other group is needed prior to execution of an agreement between the governmental entity and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:

- i. Provide the schedule of upcoming meetings for the group for a period of at least six months.

First and third Tuesday of each month.

- ii. State whether that group can hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.

Yes; within 7 days' notice.

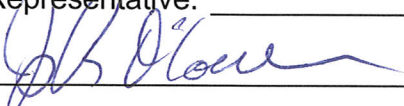
- C. Attach evidence that the undersigned has all necessary authority to execute this proposal on behalf of the governmental entity. This evidence may take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: a delegation of authority, citation to relevant laws or codes, policy documents, etc.



I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on behalf of the above-described governmental entity.

Name of Governmental Entity: City of Vero Beach

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: James R. O'Connor, City Manager

Representative Signature: 

Signature Date: 01 AUG 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXT – INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION

City of Vero Beach – Aviation Boulevard

Section 1(E):

Aviation Boulevard is an existing public 2-lane non-divided urban minor arterial roadway which lies inside the City of Vero Beach and connects to County, State, and Federal roadways. The roadway was completed in 1995 and has not been widened to allow for rapidly increasing automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic. The roadway was planned and designed to widen to a 4-lane divided highway but funding has not been available. To move this project forward, it is proposed to use a modern "complete streets" re-design to limit the overall roadway width to 3 lanes with a center turn lane, timed signalization, bike paths, and pedestrian walkways to improve the efficiency and overall usefulness of the roadway at reduced cost.

This roadway is in immediate need for improvement due to growing businesses in the airport commercial park, including a new airline and proposed hotel. The community's vision and the airport's master plan, approved by FAA, include expansion of the airline service and growth of Piper Aircraft and FlightSafety Academy. In addition, a new brewery, bank, boat manufacturer, several restaurants, rental car companies, and many other businesses add significantly to the airport's employment base of about 3,500 people.

Aviation Boulevard is a lifeline for the airport and its many businesses, with key access points between the community and major arterial roadways such as U.S. 1 and SR60. Using these funds for redesign of the roadway (Phase 1) will save costs and ensure a path to re-construction of the road in the near future (Phase 2).

Section 1(F):

Aviation, especially as it relates to manufacturing, is one of Indian River County's targeted industries. The county's largest public airport, the Vero Beach Regional Airport, is a major economic engine in our county. The Vero Beach Regional Airport has a direct and indirect economic impact of \$468-million, employing 3500+ residents with a payroll of over \$124-million. Recently, Elite Airways began commercial air service at the Vero Beach Airport, allowing thousands of passengers to visit our county for business or pleasure, experiencing the quality of life local residents enjoy. Elite offers direct non-stop jet service to/from Newark, NJ and to/from Asheville, NC - both key locations in attracting new businesses and visitors to our county.

Piper Aircraft maintains its headquarters and sole manufacturing facility at the Vero Beach Airport, employing 720 residents. FlightSafety International also has a large presence at the airport, with its classroom and in-flight training bringing in hundreds of students and their families each year. Several small but expanding FBOs and MROs are tenants at the airport, adding to the airport's growing employment base. The average wage for aviation-related jobs in the tri-county region (Workforce Region 20) is \$58,708, which is 47.5% higher than the region's average annual wage of \$39,780.

Increasing our employment base, i.e. encouraging new job creation, is one of our primary goals. The current unemployment rate in Indian River County is 5.4% - 8th highest in the state.

Upgrading and widening Aviation Boulevard, along with related intersection improvements, will provide greater ease of access for prospective new businesses locating to the airport, and their employees, as well as visitors coming in and out of the airport.

Section 2(C):

Vero Beach Regional Airport/Indian River County; connects to US1 directly and to SR60 via 43rd Avenue. SR60 connects to I-95.

Section 2(K):

This project is considered Phase 1 (design only). Upon approval, an engineer will be selected to re-design existing plans using modern "complete streets" approach. The new design will feature new traffic efficiency technology (timed signalization, smart roadways ready to accept self-driving cars, electric charging stations, etc.), bicycle lanes, walk paths and green space to allow better traffic flow with less pavement.