



2021-2022 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Public Infrastructure Grant Proposal

Proposal Instructions: Please read this document carefully and provide the information requested below. Some questions may request that a separate narrative be completed. If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.

Governmental Entity Information

Name of Governmental Entity: Fort Pierce Utilities Authority

Government Federal Employer Identification Number: [REDACTED]

Primary Contact Name: Rachel Tennant

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Secondary Contact Name: Ashley Levin

Title: Sustainability Program Associate

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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 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:

(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

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

A. Provide a detailed description of the public infrastructure improvements.

FPUA requests \$3,800,000 to construct a Master Lift Station to assist with the primary project of relocating the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) located on the Indian River Lagoon. The Master Lift Station is needed to transport wastewater from South Hutchinson Island to the new WRF located five miles inland.

B. Provide location of public infrastructure, including physical address and county of project.

The WRF is located in St. Lucie County at 403 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce, FL, 34949 (27.457854, -80.315487). The Master Lift Station will be built at this address to convey the wastewater from South Hutchinson Island to the new WRF, also in St. Lucie County, located at 4515 Energy Lane, Fort Pierce, FL 34981 (27.38666, -80.37741).

C. Is this infrastructure currently owned by the public? Yes No

If no, is there a current option to purchase or right of way provided to the County?

D. Provide current property owner.

Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, a municipal utility, is currently the owner of the property.

E. Is this infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public? Yes No

The Master Lift Station will predominately benefit the public. Wastewater treatment is a critical service for public health and safety. This specific infrastructure collects wastewater from homes and businesses via gravity mains and then pumps the collected wastewater to the wastewater treatment plant for processing and disposal.

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

Yes No

No, the infrastructure will be utilized as a public benefit and will create economic opportunities for revitalization efforts in the downtown Fort Pierce area. FPUA is a municipal utility provider that serves all Fort Pierce citizens and some St. Lucie County citizens with wastewater collection and treatment. The primary responsibility of FPUA's Wastewater infrastructure is to operate, maintain, and protect the system that collects, treats, and disposes of sewage generated from domestic and industrial customers within its service area.

G. 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.](#))
 - Describe how the project will promote specific job growth. Include the number of jobs that will be retained or created, and in which industry(ies) the new net jobs will be created using the North American Industry Classification System ([NAICS](#)) codes. Where applicable, you may list specific businesses that will retain or create jobs or make capital investment.
 - 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 Addendum G

2. Additional Information:

(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

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

The commencement of this project will begin within 12 months of acceptance and be completed within 27 months from date of acceptance. The design phase is anticipated to take 6 months, the permitting phase is expected to take 3 months, and the construction phase is expected to last 18 months.

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

The permits that have been identified as required are from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the City of Fort Pierce.

- C. 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?

Permits will be secured between 6-9 months, depending on entity, from acceptance of grant. All local permits will be prioritized.

- D. 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?

The site is currently zoned "opened space" but has a Future Land Use (FLU) designation that would allow development. It is located within a special FLU designation, Hutchinson Island Mixed Use, which is intended to provide for mixed-use, residential and tourism-related uses at lower densities to protect the island's character.

- E. 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

FPUA is currently in discussions with local government and interested private parties in order to determine the highest and best use for the property that will net the most amount of job creation while also protecting the existing character of the island. Local government includes the City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County, as well as the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency.

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

Yes No

- G. Does this project have a local match amount?

Yes No

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

FPUA will provide a local match of \$1 million.

- H. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal. Maps and other supporting documents are encouraged.

Please see attached "Visual Deck"

3. Program Budget

(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

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

1.) **Total Amount Requested** \$ 2,800,000.00
 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

A. Other Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:

City/County \$ _____

Private Sources \$ _____

Other (grants, etc.) \$ 1,000,000.00

Please Specify: Local FPUA funds _____

Total Other Funding \$ _____

B. Public Infrastructure Project Costs:

Construction \$ 3,205,000.00

Reconstruction \$ 150,000.00

Design & Engineering \$ 265,000.00

Land Acquisition \$ _____

Land Improvement \$ 180,000.00

Other \$ _____

Please Specify: _____

Total Project Costs \$ 3,800,000.00

Note: The total amount requested must be calculated by subtracting the total other public infrastructure project funding sources in A. from the total public infrastructure project costs in B.

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

Please see attached Budget Narrative.

4. Approvals and Authority

(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

- 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)?

The FPUA Board of Directors must approve the grant agreement. The Board of Directors meet every two weeks, and if needed, the FPUA Director of Utilities may call a special meeting.

If board authorization is not required, who is authorized to sign?

- 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.
- ii. State whether entity is willing and able to hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.

The FPUA Board of Directors meets every first and third Tuesday of each month. The Director of Utilities may call a special meeting as needed. This will require up to one week 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.

Attached please find a letter executed by the Chairman of the FPUA Board, Frank Fee, confirming him as the authorized designee to execute this proposal.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on behalf of the above-described entity and to the best of my knowledge, that all data and information submitted in proposal is truthful and accurate and no material fact has been omitted.

Name of Governmental Entity: Fort Pierce Utilities Authority

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Chairman Frank Fee

Representative Signature: 

Signature Date: 10-5-22

