



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
Citrus County Board of County Commissioners  
Executive Offices**

**3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461  
Phone: (352) 527-5205 Fax: (352) 527-5204**

*"We will be a user-friendly and common sense organization dedicated to responsive citizen services."*

EOL 19-3

August 2, 2019

Ms. Ryan Fierst  
Division of Strategic Business Development  
Department of Economic Opportunity  
107 East Madison St.  
Caldwell Building, MSC 160  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Florida Job Growth Grant Fund program

Dear Ms. Fierst:

Citrus County is requesting \$5,161,101 under the Department of Economic Opportunity's Job Growth Grant Fund program to develop the infrastructure for an industrial park property the County owns adjacent to the Inverness Airport. The vision is for a business park with permit ready land to assist the County economic development efforts toward a future for Citrus citizens with a more diverse and vibrant economy.

A rural county in the Tampa Bay Area without direct interstate access, Citrus County is characterized by persistently high levels of unemployment, (currently one of the highest in the State), flattening population growth and low wages. The growth in labor force is weak and proportionately small due to the large population of retired citizens. While Citrus County is famously known as the Nature Coast, an international tourist destination, the community is also challenged by a shortage of industrial land with access to central water and sewer infrastructure. Stewardship of the environment is important to Citrus citizens, and managed efforts to protect our pristine waterways are critical, including eliminating individual traditional septic systems for new development.

Recently, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners moved forward to hire an economic development director, develop and initiated implementing an economic development strategic planning process as first steps forward for addressing the community's challenges. As part of that economic development strategic planning process, a citizen driven SWOT analysis has identified that the County remains at risk due to the Duke nuclear facility closing (major employer loss) and a slow recovery from the national recession. In addition, the Policy Division of DEO has identified Citrus as one of 12 Florida counties with persistent economic development challenges. The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund is a very rare but realistic opportunity to implement a vision for future economic development successes in Citrus County

that is consistent with citizen objectives of environmental sustainability and achieving robust economic growth in a community. These citizen objectives have been confirmed by recent citizen input of two public workshops for establishing a refreshed economic development strategic plan for Citrus County.

The County Administrator or his designee will manage the grant if awarded, and all expenditures will be strictly contracted services and material purchases, no County staff or in house expense reimbursement will be sought.

The award of this grant will help Citrus County meet the economic and environmental challenges that the County faces in today competitive climate. We appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal, and will be glad to respond to any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Charles R. Oliver  
County Administrator  
CRO/ds



## 2019-2020 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. If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.

### Governmental Entity Information

Name of Governmental Entity: Citrus County, Florida; Political Subdivision of State of Florida  
Government Federal Employer Identification Number [REDACTED]

Primary Contact Name: Bruce Register  
Title: Economic Development Director  
Mailing Address: 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 267  
Lecanto, Florida 34461  
Phone Number: 352-527-5537  
Email: bruce.register@citrusbocc.com

Secondary Contact Name: Randy Oliver  
Title: County Administrator  
Phone Number: 352-527-5467

### 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.

Upgrade and improvement of existing access road to Inverness Airport, design and new construction of internal roadways, parking, water and wastewater, stormwater drainage, telecom fiber and electric utilities.

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

Inverness Airport, 7140 E. Watson St., Inverness, Florida.

**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.

Citrus County BOCC

**E.** Is this infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public?

Yes  No

Roadway and utility infrastructure will enable commercial activity within a County owned aviation and industrial park of approximately 75 acres.

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

The answer is no.

Yes  No

The improvements will provide benefits that will accrue to the many current tenants and future tenants of the Inverness Airport and be instrumental in realization of the broader economic development vision for the community to diversify the economy.

**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.

Improvements to the 75 acre Inverness Airport Industrial Business Park will promote the diversification of Citrus County's economy by adding up to 650,000 square feet of infrastructure ready industrial space with four lane highway access (US 41 & 44) within 16 miles to an interstate in a County with little suitable sites with both water utilities and adequate transportation infrastructure. Equipped with the improved park and prime business location, Citrus County is anticipating attracting over 350 new jobs in the first phase of 200,000 square feet of industrial space in the park occupied by Florida targeted industries including Aviation #48, Manufacturing #31-33 and Wholesale #42, Admin #56, Prof Svc #54.

## 2. Additional Information:

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

- A.** Is this an expansion of an existing training program?  Yes  No

The answer is no.

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

June 2020, 365 days

- C.** What permits are necessary for the public infrastructure project?

SWFWMD for stormwater attenuation, FDEP for water and wastewater, FDOT for roadway connection permits.

- D. 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 would be required, including Stormwater, 6 months; Water Utilities, 9 months; Roadway access 18 months.

- E. 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?

Park is zoned industrial with future land use defined as compatible for a industrial business park in a planned urban development authorized in 2015, conforming to all proposed uses.

- F. 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.

The answer is no.

Yes  No

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

The answer is no.

Yes  No

Beyond permits from listed agencies, marginal additional right of way for the access roadway widening will be acquired from the local publicly owned Fair Authority, with expectations of a very cooperative and smooth transaction.

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

Yes  No

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

Existing project improvements include tree clearing and partial distance of access roadway widening completed in 2016 equal to \$1.5 mm, County in kind labor match for Water & Sewer system is expected to exceed \$1 mm.

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

Exhibit A: Proposed layout of access roadway improvements to Airport Road  
 Exhibit B: Park schematic depiction or Internal roadways, stormwater attenuation, taxiway extension, water wa  
 Exhibit C: Infrastructure Project Cost Estimates

**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**      \$ 5,161,101  
 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund

**A. Other Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:**

City/County                      \$ 2,566,671

Private Sources                      \$ 0

Other (grants, etc.)                      \$ 0

Please Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Other Funding**                      \$ 0

**B. Public Infrastructure Project Costs:**

Construction                      \$ 7,627,772

Reconstruction                      \$ 0

Design & Engineering                      \$ 100,000

Land Acquisition                      \$ 0

Land Improvement                      \$ 0

Other                      \$ 0

Please Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Project Costs**                      \$ 7,727,772

**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.

Citrus Water Utilities and Public Works department will commence planning and programming sufficient funding to begin in house design & engineering and proceed with any procurement of materials and contracting required for construction within 30 days of grant execution.

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#### 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)?

BOCC Chairman signature approval authorized by the Citrus County Board of County Commission.

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

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- 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 Citrus County Board of County Commissioners meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

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- 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, am authorized to sign this proposal on behalf of the above described governmental entity.

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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: Citrus County Board of County Commission

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Charles R. Oliver, County Administrator

Representative Signature: Charles R. Oliver

Signature Date: 8/2/2019



# Inverness Airport

S AIRPORT RD

S FLORIDA AVE

41



Legend



## Exhibit "A" S. Airport Rd. Improvements

### Geographic Information Systems

Prepared By R.W. Voak  
Date: September 25, 2018  
Source: Enterprise Geodatabase  
Map Number: BV000676

Jim Faulkner  
Director



This information is to be used for general reference only. The Citrus County Geographic Information System (GIS) data is provided as a service and is not intended to be used for legal purposes. Citrus County is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this information. Citrus County is not liable for any damages, including lost profits, arising from the use of this information. Citrus County is not liable for any damages, including lost profits, arising from the use of this information.





CITRUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION OF ENGINEERING	3600 SEVERSON PATH SUITE 201 LEONIA, FLORIDA 33441 (305) 377-0446	DATE: _____	REVISION: _____	APPROVAL: _____	DATE: _____	REVISION: _____	APPROVAL: _____	DATE: _____	
		INVERNESS BUSINESS PARK Watson St., Inverness, FL							
CONCEPT PLAN PRIMARY INFRASTRUCTURE				LAURA BORGESL, PE, PSM, MPA CITRUS COUNTY ENGINEER FLORIDA P.E. LIC. NO. 74596					

Exhibit "B"

EXHIBIT 'C'

<u>ELEMENT</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Value</u>
Roads					
	36' wide taxi-way extension	4,400	SY	\$ 45	\$ 198,000
	24' circulation roads	13,000	SY	\$ 45	\$ 585,000
	Curbing	9,000	LF	\$ 17	\$ 148,500
	Markings	2	GM	\$ 3,200	\$ 6,400
	Signs	20	EA	\$ 350	\$ 7,000
	Collection System 8" Gravity with Manholes	3,700	LF	\$ 40	\$ 148,000
	Reconstruction of Airport Rd	3,115	LF	\$ 190	\$ 591,850
					\$ 1,684,750
Stormwater					
	Inlets	30	EA	\$ 6,000	\$ 180,000
	Pipe 30"	7,000	LF	\$ 120	\$ 840,000
	DRA	100,000	CY	\$ 8	\$ 800,000
	Mitered Ends	2	EA	\$ 2,600	\$ 5,200
					\$ 1,825,200
Water (Materials Only)					
	Connections	2	EA	\$ 1,667	\$ 3,333
	Booster Pumps	2	EA	\$ 5,000	\$ 9,999
	Interconnection	1	EA	\$ 9,999	\$ 9,999
	Extension - 10" Floral City	7,000	LF	\$ 20	\$ 139,986
	Extension - 8" Inverness	2,500	LF	\$ 20	\$ 49,995
	Distribution System 10" w/Hydrant every 500'	6,000	LF	\$ 20	\$ 119,988
					\$ 333,300
Sanitary Sewer (Materials Only)					
	Lift Station	1	EA	\$ 166,668	\$ 166,668
	Force Main 6"	3,500	LF	\$ 19	\$ 67,667
					\$ 234,335
Utilities					
	Underground Electric	4,000	LF	\$ 15	\$ 60,000
	Fiber Optic Communications	4,000	LF	\$ 20	\$ 80,000
					\$ 140,000
					<b>Subtotal \$ 4,217,585</b>
Contingency					
		20% Contingency on \$ 4,217,585			\$ 843,517
					<b>Total \$ 5,061,101</b>
County In-Kind					
	Water System (Labor Only)				\$ 800,000
	Sanitary Sewer (Labor Only)				\$ 140,600
	Design and Engineering				\$ 100,000
					<b>Total \$ 1,040,600</b>