



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: Town of Welaka

Government Federal Employer Identification Number: [REDACTED]

Primary Contact Name: Jamie Watts

Title: Mayor

Mailing Address: 400 4th Avenue
Welaka FL 32193

Phone Number: 386-467-9800

Email: jwatts@welaka-fl.gov

Secondary Contact Name: Meghan Allmon

Title: Town Clerk

Phone Number: 386-524-4010

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.

This project consists of the demolition of an aged .05 MGD metal wastewater treatment train and design and construction of a new .25 MGD wastewater treatment plant to connect to the Town's existing concrete treatment facilities to provide an additional .20 MGD of treatment capacity and an improved treatment process.

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

211 11th Avenue, Welaka, FL 32193
Putnam County, 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.

Town of Welaka

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

Yes No

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

Yes No

There are multiple entities who have expressed interest in opening or expanding businesses in the town.

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.

The Town of Welaka is located along the St. Johns River near the Rodman Reservoir and an area noted as the "Bass Capitol of the World". Interest in development of Fishing Resorts, RV Parks, and Golf Courses have been expressed but require the appropriate infrastructure to be a viable development area. The types of projects will offer jobs to area residents in an fiscally strained community and designated Rural Area of Opportunity. The Town is currently near the maximum capacity for their current wastewater treatment capability and without expansion of these facilities the community will not be able to support new businesses coming into the community to support job creation. The Town is also working with the Putnam County on redevelopment options within the Town. Finally, existing businesses will not be able to expand without expansion of the WWTP.

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 design of the project is anticipated to begin in July of 2022 with construction completion in December of 2025 (approximately 1250 days)

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

FDEP Wastewater Facility permit, an Environmental Resource Permit, and any required Town or County permits

- 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?

The permits have not been secured. All required permits will be secured as part of the design process including and Town of Welaka or Putnam County Permits.

- 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 current site is zoned for "Other Public Facilities" and will not need any revision.

- 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

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

Yes No

The Town is currently finalizing grant paperwork with the state and preparing to advertise for a design consultant for the project. Design would begin immediately with bidding and construction to follow.

- G. Does this project have a local match amount? Yes No

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

\$500,000 from a combination of American Rescue Plan Act Funds and Town reserves.

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

Area map and photographs of existing facilities documenting the need for improvements are included.

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	<u>\$ 3,500,000.00</u>	
Florida Job Growth Grant Fund		
A. Other Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:		
City/County	<u>\$ 200,000.00</u>	
Private Sources	<u>\$</u>	
Other (grants, etc.)	<u>\$ 9,800,000.00</u>	Please Specify: <u>State Water Quality Grant</u>
Total Other Funding	<u>\$ 10,000,000.00</u>	
B. Public Infrastructure Project Costs:		
Construction	<u>\$ 12,225,000.00</u>	
Reconstruction	<u>\$</u>	
Design & Engineering	<u>\$ 1,275,000.00</u>	
Land Acquisition	<u>\$</u>	
Land Improvement	<u>\$</u>	
Other	<u>\$</u>	Please Specify: _____
Total Project Costs	<u>\$ 13,500,000.00</u>	

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.

The Town has received a \$9.8 million Water Quality grant to support this project. It is anticipated that Design and Permitting will cost approximately \$1,250,000 and occur between 07/01/2022 12/31/2023; bidding and Contractor Selection will cost approximately \$25,000 and occur between 01/01/2024 04/30/2024; construction is will cost approximately \$12,225,000 and with project completion planned for 12/31/2025.

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)?

Approval of the Town Council

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.

Yes. The Town Council is willing to hold special meetings with 3 days notice required. The Town Council regularly meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

- 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.
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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: Town of Welaka

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Jamie Watts, Mayor

Representative Signature: Jamie W. Watts

Signature Date: 2-22-22