

INDIAN RIVER LAGOON WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS Call for Suggestions

The following general information concerns the Indian River Lagoon Water Quality Improvement Projects grant funding opportunity.

ELIGIBLE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Counties and municipalities (i.e., local governments) within the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) watershed in the St. Johns River and South Florida Water Management Districts (see project location map), as well as nonstate entities. Nonstate entities include public universities/colleges, regional planning councils, non-profit groups, and the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program.

TIMEFRAME FOR SUBMITTING A PROJECT SUGGESTION

The deadline for submitting a project application is August 21, 2020.

AMOUNT OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

\$25 million under line item 1641A, General Appropriations Act Fiscal Year 2020-2021. These funds are provided to the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) for the Indian River Lagoon Water Quality Improvement Projects. Approximately \$22 million will be available for local government projects and up to \$3 million will be available for nonstate entities.

LOCAL MATCH REQUIRED

Match is not required but highly encouraged and is a consideration during application evaluation. Nonstate entities' match can be in-kind services.

TYPES OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE

Water quality improvement construction projects including septic to sewer conversions; stormwater treatment; dredging; wastewater treatment plant expansions or upgrades; in-lagoon projects (e.g., living reefs); green infrastructure; and low impact development projects with a net water quality benefit. Other water quality improvement construction projects not listed may be discussed with the SJRWMD Project Manager (listed below) for consideration.

KEY FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

- Project must have quantifiable water quality improvement benefits to the IRL
- Readiness to construct
- Project scope and budget are feasible, and the project can be completed within 24 months of contract execution
- Project is geographically located in a water quality restoration plan (e.g., reasonable assurances plan or basin management action plan)
- Cost effectiveness
- Local commitment to project (match funding and public support)

Please see the application and funding guidance manual on the project solicitation page at <https://www.sjrwmd.com/localgovernments/funding/indian-river-lagoon/>



PROTECTING TOGETHER

FUNDING PROCESS NEXT STEPS

Project applications shall be submitted to the SJRWMD or South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) for evaluation. The SJRWMD, SFWMD, and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) shall review applications and decide on the project rankings and level of funding. The ranked list will be presented to DEP leadership for finalization of ranking. The SJRWMD and SFWMD shall also make recommendations for consideration of approval to their governing boards regarding project rankings and the level of funding.

SELECTED PROJECT NEXT STEPS

If your project is approved by the SJRWMD or SFWMD governing boards for funding, you will receive an email requesting a scope of work (SOW) for the project including tasks to be accomplished, detailed budget information, timelines and deliverables. The approved SOW will be made part of the project contract. The funding is provided as a cost-reimbursement grant with the SJRWMD or SFWMD.

For questions about the Indian River Lagoon water quality improvement program, please contact:

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