



Space Transportation Infrastructure Matching Fund

Program Information & Resources

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1 Introduction

The Space Transportation Infrastructure Matching Fund Application is used to solicit proposals to continue the development of space transportation infrastructure that supports Space Florida's legislative intent and Florida spaceport territory master plans. Space Florida is designated in section 331.3011(3), Florida Statutes, to be the "single point of contact for state aerospace-related activities with federal agencies, the military, state agencies, businesses, and the private sector."

Space Florida will use the qualifying applications to develop a proposed list of spaceport discretionary capacity improvement projects for submission to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Priorities are based on the 2018 Florida Spaceport System Plan, which reflects a sustainability framework to guide public and private investment into Florida's emerging and growing aerospace sector. Like other transportation modes, FDOT encourages spaceports to use Spaceport Improvement Program funds for projects that ensure financial sustainability and place a priority on projects that are common use and used by multiple partners. Prioritized spaceport projects may be included in the FDOT five-year work program of transportation improvement projects.

The application is mandatory before Space Florida can prioritize candidate projects for available funding. Projects are evaluated primarily on the following characteristics and applicants should address these items in their narrative:

1. Long term commitment to the State of Florida
2. Positive Return on Investment for the State of Florida
3. Sustainability - Revenue and Ownership Elements (see Item 6 – Project Eligibility Memo)
4. Job Creation

Applications must be complete, with clear documentation of project readiness and availability of matching funds to be considered for prioritization and potential inclusion in the FDOT work program. Applications will be accepted at any time on a continuous basis throughout the year. **However, to be included in the upcoming** FDOT work program, applications are;

DUE TO SPACE FLORIDA BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS ELECTRONICALLY (SINGLE ADOBE PDF FORMAT) TO:

Steven Bostel
Program Manager, Planning & Development
sbostel@spaceflorida.gov



PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Space Florida is governed by the State of Florida public records law. Applications, including contact information and any attachments and information received, might be disclosed to any person making a public records request. If you have any question about the Florida public records law refer to **Chapter 119 Florida Statutes**.

Call for Projects Process

All applicants should read the **Spaceport Improvement Program Handbook** prior to applying. The outline below is what a simplified ideal flow for the call for projects process looks like. Incomplete applications or ineligible projects would be removed from the process until the project is ready for comprehensive review.

Call for Projects is Launched

Applications must be submitted between January and March 15 to be included in the next work program funding cycle. Applications are accepted year round.

Application Review

Applications are reviewed by Space Florida. Additional project details may be requested at this time.

Board Approval

Once the conditions of the letter are met, the project is taken to the Space Florida Board of Directors meeting for discussion and approval.

FDOT Approval & Agreement

FDOT Central Office reviews and approves the project and submits the project to District 5 for execution.

Grant Contract Execution

The grant funding agreements are executed simultaneously once all other related contracts are executed.

Applicant Submits Application

Company submits a complete application with required supporting documents. During the Call For Projects cycle the applicant may meet with the Program Manager to review or ask questions.

Conditional Qualification Letter

Space Florida provides a letter to applicant that conditionally qualifies the project. If the project changes in anyway after this point, an updated application must be submitted and may effect the project eligibility.

Funding Request to FDOT

SF and Applicant will work on a scope of work that is acceptable to the program. A funding request is submitted to FDOT for review and approval.

Contracts

All required contracts that are a part of the overall project are lined up and prepared for execution between Space Florida and the applicant.

On to Active Grant Process

2 Tentative Program Schedule

A general timeline of application review, funding, approvals and how the program operates across Fiscal Years.

FY2025 – FY2029 Call for Projects	January 5, 2023	Space Florida releases Call for Projects, FY2024 – FY2028. It is required that previously submitted FY 2023 / 2024 applications be updated and resubmitted for final consideration. Updated applications shall document the steps the applicant has taken to advance the project such as securing property rights and completion of PD&E, design, and/or permitting.
	January - March 2023	Space Florida is available to meet with interested applicants. Pre-application meetings are encouraged. To request a one-on-one pre-application meeting, contact Lauren Farrell at lfarrell@spaceflorida.gov
	March 15, 2023	Applications are due for FY 2025 – FY 2029. Applications for FY 2025 – FY 2029 will be accepted on a continuous basis until December 2024. Applicants are encouraged to provide quarterly status updates to Space Florida on applicant's progress towards project execution.
FY2024 Funds Obligation FY2025-29 Work Program Request	March - April 2023	Space Florida reviews submitted projects and prepares recommended project list. Space Florida often requests additional information from the applicant such as a detailed scope of work, project benefits, and demonstration of project readiness. The recommended project list for FY2024 updates and FY 2025 – FY 2029 is then reviewed and approved by the Space Florida Board of Directors.
	June 2023	Space Florida submits FY2025 – FY2029 priorities to the local transportation planning organizations and FDOT for funding consideration in the FDOT Five Year Work Program. Governor approval of FY2024 budget.
	July 2023	Begin FY2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024). Earliest availability of FY 2024 funds (for previously submitted updated applications only) Space Florida formally requests FY2024 funding from FDOT and obligates funds through June 2024.
FY2026 – FY2030 Call for Projects	January 2024	Space Florida releases Call for Projects, FY2026 – FY2030. It is required that previously submitted applications should be updated and resubmitted for for final consideration.
	July 2024	Begin FY2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). Earliest availability of FY 2025 funds pending FDOT, Florida Legislature and Governor approval of FY 2024 budget. Space Florida formally requests FY2025 funding from FDOT and obligates funds through June 2025.

3 Goals & Objectives

Important resources that influence the program and the associated goals and objectives are listed below. All documents can be found on the Space Florida Call For Projects webpage at spaceflorida.gov/call-for-projects/

FDOT Spaceport Improvement Program Handbook

1. Address intermodal requirements and impacts of the launch ranges, spaceports, and other space transportation facilities.
2. Develop joint-use facilities and technology that support aviation and aerospace operations.
3. Integrate airports and spaceports to meet transportation-related needs.
4. Improve space transportation capacity and efficiency.

Florida Spaceport System Plan 2018

1. Create a stronger economy where Florida's spaceports and aerospace businesses can thrive.
2. Guide public and private investment into emerging and growing aerospace enterprises and maximize the use of existing aerospace resources.
3. Enrich our quality of life while providing responsible environmental stewardship.
4. Advance a safer and secure spaceport transportation system for residents, businesses, and others.

Cape Canaveral Spaceport Complex Master Plan 2017

1. Global Space Commerce
2. Modern, Efficient, and Adaptable Facilities and Infrastructure
3. Inter-connected Commerce and Mission Zones
4. Identity and Quality of Life

Cecil Spaceport Master Plan 2012

1. Maximize the potential for commercial success and community economic growth, while simultaneously minimizing infrastructure expense and safety risk.

4 Statutory Requirements & Policy Mandates

A brief summary of the mandates and goals of requirements and policies influencing the program. Links are provided for each resource. Keep the below goals in mind when filling out the application.

Space Florida Mandates – [SpaceFlorida.gov](https://www.spaceflorida.gov)

1. Improve launch complexes and space transportation facilities in order to attract new space vehicle testing and launch business to the state.
2. Address intermodal requirements and impacts of the launch ranges, Spaceports, and other space transportation facilities.
3. Advance aerospace technology to meet the current and future needs of the United States commercial space transportation industry.
4. Assist in the development of joint-use facilities and technology that support aviation and aerospace operations, including high-altitude and suborbital flights and range technology development.
5. Streamline access for commercial launch users.

Florida's 2045 Long-Range Transportation – [FloridaTransportationPlan.com](https://www.floridatransportationplan.com)

1. Safety and security for Florida's residents, visitors, and businesses – zero fatalities
2. Agile, resilient, and quality infrastructure
3. Connected, efficient, and reliable mobility for people and freight – seamless mobility
4. Transportation choices that improve equity and accessibility – universal accessibility
5. Transportation solutions that strengthen Florida's economy – connectivity for workforce, visitors, and commerce
6. Transportation solutions that enhance Florida's communities – strengthen diverse communities
7. Transportation systems that enhance Florida's environment – enhance and restore natural systems

Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Strategic Plan – [fdot.gov/planning/sis/](https://www.fdot.gov/planning/sis/)

1. Interregional Connectivity: Enhance connectivity between Florida's economic regions and between Florida and other states and nations for both people and freight.
2. Efficiency: Reduce delay on and improve the reliability of travel and transport using SIS facilities.
3. Choices: Expand modal alternatives to SIS highways for travel and transport between regions, states, and nations.
4. Intermodal Connectivity: Provide for safe and efficient transfers for both people and freight between all transportation modes.
5. Economic Competitiveness: Provide transportation systems to support statewide goals related to economic diversification and development.
6. Energy, Air Quality, and Climate: Reduce growth rate in vehicle-miles traveled and associated energy consumption and emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases.
7. Emergency Management: Help ensure Florida's transportation system can meet national defense and emergency response and evacuation needs.

National Space Policy – [Space.Commerce.gov](https://www.spacecommerce.gov)

The United States will pursue the following goals in its national space programs:

1. Promote and incentivize private industry to facilitate the creation of new global and domestic markets for United States space goods and services and strengthen and preserve the position of the United States as the global partner of choice for international space commerce.
2. Encourage and uphold the rights of nations to use space responsibly and peacefully by developing and implementing diplomatic, economic, and security capabilities and strategies to identify and respond to behaviors that threaten those rights.
3. Lead, encourage, and expand international cooperation on mutually beneficial space activities that broaden and extend the benefits of space for all humanity; further the exploration and use of space for peaceful purposes; protect the interests of the United States, its allies, and partners; advance United States interests and values; and enhance access to space-derived information and services.
4. Create a safe, stable, secure, and sustainable environment for space activities, in collaboration with industry and international partners, through the development and promotion of responsible behaviors; improved practices for the collection and sharing of information on space objects; protection of critical space systems and supporting infrastructures, with special attention to cybersecurity and supply chains; and measures to mitigate orbital debris.
5. Increase the assurance of national critical functions enabled by commercial, civil, scientific, and national security spacecraft and supporting infrastructure against disruption, degradation, and destruction through the development and fielding of materiel and non-materiel capabilities and rehearsal of continuity of operations practices.
6. Extend human economic activity into deep space by establishing a permanent human presence on the Moon, and, in cooperation with private industry and international partners develop infrastructure and services that will enable science driven exploration, space resource utilization, and human missions to Mars.
7. Increase the quality of life for all humanity through the cultivation, maturation, and development of space-enabled scientific and economic capabilities, including space and Earth resource discovery, management, and utilization; space and Earth weather and environmental monitoring and prediction; disaster monitoring, prediction, response, and recovery; and planetary defense.
8. Preserve and expand United States leadership in the development of innovative space technologies, services, and operations. Work with likeminded international and private partners, to prevent the transfer of sensitive space capabilities to those who threaten the interests of the United States, its allies, and its supporting industrial base.

Florida Statutes Relevant to Space Florida – leg.state.fl.us

- Chapter 331 Aviation and Aerospace Facilities and Commerce, Part II Space Florida
- Chapter 331 Aviation and Aerospace Facilities and Commerce, Part III Spaceflight

5 Definitions

Aerospace	The industry that designs and manufactures aircraft, rockets, missiles, spacecraft, satellites, space vehicles, space stations, space facilities or components thereof, and equipment, systems, facilities, simulators, programs, and related activities, including, but not limited to, the application of aerospace technologies in air-based, land-based, and sea-based platforms for commercial, civil, and defense purposes.	s. 331.303(1), F.S.
Corridor	Any land area designated by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two geographic points and is used or is suitable for the movement of people and goods by one or more modes of transportation. Highways rail lines, waterways and other exclusive-use facilities connecting major origin/destination markets within Florida or between Florida and other states/nations. Also see "Transportation Corridor."	2015 FTP Policy Element
Connector	Highways, passenger and freight rail lines, urban fixed guideway transit, or waterways linking hubs to corridors, linking hubs to other hubs, or linking corridors to major military facilities.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Economic competitiveness	A state or region's ability to compete in regional, national and global markets, as evidenced in the attraction of new businesses and the expansion of existing businesses.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Environmental stewardship	A philosophical concept of government, the public, resource users, and businesses all taking responsibility and working together to care for natural resources.	2015 FTP Policy Element
FDOT	Florida Department of Transportation	2016 SIS Policy Plan
F.S.	Florida Statutes	
FTP	A statewide plan defining Florida's long-range transportation goals and objectives for at least the next 20 years. The 2015 Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) Policy Element is the single overarching statewide plan guiding Florida's transportation future.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Goal	A long-term (20-50 years) desired result toward which programs and activities are ultimately directed.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Hub	Ports and terminals that move goods or people between Florida regions or between Florida and other origin/destination markets in the U.S. and the rest of the world.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Hub to Hub Connector	A connector allowing for transfers between modes and connecting two hubs, such as transit facilities connecting airports with intermodal passenger terminals or major cruise passenger seaports.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Impacts	The effects of a transportation project, including direct (primary) effects; indirect (secondary) effects; and cumulative effects.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Intermodal	Relating to the connection between any two or more modes of transportation.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Landing area	The geographical area designated by Space Florida within the spaceport territory for or intended for the landing and surface maneuvering of any launch or other space vehicle.	s. 331.303(9), F.S.
Launch pad	Any launch pad, runway, airstrip, or similar facility used for launching space vehicles	s. 331.303(10), F.S.
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)	An organization made up of local elected and appointed officials responsible for developing, in cooperation with the state, transportation plans, and programs in metropolitan areas containing 50,000 or more residents. MPOs are responsible for the development of transportation facilities that will function as an intermodal transportation system and the coordination of transportation planning and funding decisions.	2016 SIS Policy Plan

Military Installation	For the purpose of the SIS designation process, military installations refer to U.S. Department of Defense or Florida National Guard bases to which active duty soldiers, sailors or aviators are assigned.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Mode	Any one of the following means of moving people or goods: aviation, bicycle, highway, paratransit, pedestrian, pipeline, rail (commuter, intercity passenger and freight), transit, space, and water.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Need	A demand for a mobility improvement identified on the basis of accepted and adopted standards and other assumptions (e.g., land use) and documented in a formal long-range or master plan.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Objective	A long-term (20-50 years) general outcome that is achievable, measurable, and marks progress toward a goal.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Payload	Any property or cargo to be transported aboard any vehicle launched by or from the spaceport.	s. 331.303(12), F.S.
Partners, Transportation	Those parties with interests in transportation facilities and services, including the public, local governments, metropolitan planning organizations and public and private sector users and providers, Native American Nations, the Florida Department of Transportation, and other federal and state agencies.	2015 FTP Policy Element
PD&E	Project development and environmental study	
Range	The geographical area designated by Space Florida or other appropriate body as the area for the launching of rockets, missiles, launch vehicles, and other vehicles designed to reach high altitude.	s. 331.303(15), F.S.
Recovery	The recovery of space vehicles and payloads which have been launched from or by a spaceport.	s. 331.303(16), F.S.
Region	An area of distinctive communities, cities, and counties where residents share a geographic identity and are socially, economically, and culturally interdependent; a capacity for planning and function; and a capacity to create competitive advantage.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Spaceport	Any area of land or water, or any manmade object or facility located therein, developed by Space Florida under this act, which area is intended for public use or for the launching, takeoff, and landing of spacecraft and aircraft, and includes any appurtenant areas which are used or intended for public use, for spaceport buildings, or for other spaceport facilities, spaceport projects, or rights-of-way.	s. 331.303 (17), F.S.
Spaceport launch support facilities	Facilities that are located at launch sites or launch ranges that are required to support launch activities, including launch vehicle assembly, launch vehicle operations and control, communications, and flight safety functions, as well as payload operations, control, and processing.	s. 331.303 (11), F.S.
Spaceport territory	The geographical area designated in s. 331.304, F.S., and as amended or changed in accordance with s. 331.329, F.S.	s. 331.303 (18), F.S.
Spaceport launch support facilities	Spaceport territory. —The following property shall constitute spaceport territory: (1) Certain real property located in Brevard County that is included within the 1998 boundaries of Patrick Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, or John F. Kennedy Space Center. The territory consisting of areas within the John F. Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station may be referred to as the “Cape Canaveral Spaceport.” (2) Certain real property located in Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Gulf, and Walton Counties which is included within the 1997 boundaries of Eglin Air Force Base. (3) Certain real property located in Duval County which is included within the boundaries of Cecil Airport and Cecil Commerce Center. (4) Real property within the state which is a spaceport licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration, as designated by the board of directors of Space Florida.	s. 331.304, F.S.

	(5) Certain real property located in Brevard County which is included within the boundaries of Space Coast Regional Airport, Space Coast Regional Airport Industrial Park, and Spaceport Commerce Park.	
Spaceport territory	Space Florida shall designate new launch pads outside the present designated spaceport territories by statutory amendment of s. 331.304.	s. 331.329(4), F.S.
Spaceport user	Any person who uses the facilities or services of any spaceport; and, for the purposes of any exemptions or rights granted under this act, the spaceport user shall be deemed a spaceport user only during the time period in which the person has in effect a contract, memorandum of understanding, or agreement with the spaceport, and such rights and exemptions shall be granted with respect to transactions relating only to spaceport projects. ("Person" means any individual, child, community college, college, university, firm, association, joint venture, partnership, estate, trust, business trust, syndicate, fiduciary, corporation, nation, government (federal, state, or local), agency (government or other), subdivision of the state, municipality, county, business entity, or any other group or combination.)	s. 331.303 (13) (19), F.S.
Spaceport discretionary capacity improvement	Capacity improvements that enhance space transportation capacity at spaceports that have had one or more orbital or suborbital flights during the previous calendar year or have an agreement in writing for installation of one or more regularly scheduled orbital or suborbital flights upon the commitment of funds for stipulated spaceport capital improvements.	s. 331.303 (21), F.S.
Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)	Florida's transportation system comprised of facilities and services of statewide and interregional significance, including appropriate components of all modes.	2015 FTP Policy Element
Transportation corridor	Any land area designated by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two geographic points and which is used or is suitable for the movement of people and goods by one or more modes of transportation, including areas necessary for management of access and securing applicable approvals and permits. Transportation corridors shall contain, but are not limited to, the following: a) existing publicly owned rights-of-way; b) all property or property interests necessary for future transportation facilities, including rights of access, air, view and light, whether public or private, for the purpose of securing and utilizing future transportation right-of-way, including but not limited to, any lands reasonably necessary now or in the future for securing applicable approvals and permits, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water retention areas, rest areas, replacement access for landowners whose access could be impaired due to the construction of a future facility, and replacement right-of-way for relocation of rail and utility facilities.	2016 SIS Policy Plan
Work Program	The five-year listing of all transportation projects planned for each fiscal year by the FDOT, as adjusted for the legislatively approved budget for the first year of the program.	2015 FTP Policy Element

6 Project Eligibility Memo

May 8, 2019

MEMO

SUBJECT: Internal Memorandum Regarding FDOT Project Eligibility

Mr. Haug,

The purpose of this memorandum is to describe requirements related to spaceport capital projects under the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Florida Spaceport Improvement Program and to address eligibility requirements for projects requesting matching funding in FY 2020 and beyond.

As defined in the Florida Spaceport Improvement Program Project Handbook 2018, there are two primary categories of projects eligible to receive funding under the FDOT Spaceport Improvement Program: spaceport planning projects and spaceport capital projects. Spaceport capital projects are further delineated into two distinct sub-categories: those requiring matching funds, and those that are strategic space infrastructure investments pursuant to 331.371, Florida Statutes. This memorandum addresses eligibility requirements for the former sub-category of matching fund spaceport capital projects and does not specifically address strategic space infrastructure investments nor “common use” capital projects.

As background, the following references to the Florida Spaceport Improvement Program Project Handbook 2018 are provided:

- “FDOT encourages spaceports to use Program funds for projects that ensure the facility’s financial sustainability.”
- “FDOT emphasizes the Return On Investment (ROI) that the state will realize by contributing funds toward major modal transportation projects. Space Florida performs either an economic or financial analysis on spaceport capital projects before requesting FDOT funds.”
- Space Florida’s Project Analysis/Prioritization Process is a competitive process that includes within the qualifying phase the determining of benefits to the state and a return on investment.
- “When appropriate, Space Florida may require the aerospace partner to satisfy certain benchmarks as a condition of state funding participation on a project. Such requirements are commonly referred to as “recapture” provisions and are intended to ensure benchmarks are met and protect the public’s investment in a project.”

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As directed by the Space Florida Board of Directors and in compliance with Florida Statute 331.312, 331.316, and 331.360 Space Florida is required to furnish spaceport facilities and services, and establish and collect fees to recover costs. While prior projects were held to less stringent ROI and state benefit requirements due to significant economic stress caused by cancellation of major government programs, the current growth of Florida's Spaceport System now requires a focus on sustainability.

Specifically, to achieve the sustainability goals of the Spaceport Improvement Program, and to satisfy ROI and state benefit requirements necessary for spaceport capital projects to compete in an environment of high demand for limited FDOT resources in both the Space Modal Segment and other Transportation Modes, Space Florida and FDOT have determined that it is necessary to require "recapture" provisions, in addition to matching investment and other criteria, for matching fund spaceport capital projects to achieve eligibility. This requirement further serves to ensure that eligible projects achieve ROI and state benefit requirements by protecting against the risk of nonperformance by the recipient.

Recapture may be achieved through several means including but not limited to land use fees, lease payments, franchise fees, and/or other mechanisms, and typically requires that Space Florida have rights to the underlying property and ownership of the improvements. Matching fund spaceport capital projects that do not meet these requirements will not pass the qualification phase of Space Florida's Project Analysis/Prioritization Process.

Once qualified, project prioritization and the magnitude of funding a project is eligible to receive will be determined based on review of data that includes project justification, economic benefits, state benefits, project cost and level of funding requested, project schedule, launch schedule, and other economic development related data, in order to maximize the use of state funds.

Sincerely,



Jim Kuzma
SVP and General Manager, Space Florida

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