

## CONGRESSMAN GRAYSON'S FY11 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

### Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

- **Requested \$5,600,000 for the Citrus Health Response Program for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).** This program will provide a regulatory framework that identifies minimum production standards to enhance the citrus industry's ability to produce fruit suitable for the marketplace, protects the integrity of the citrus nursery certification program, and provides a means by which citrus pests, diseases and disease vectors do not spread to other citrus-producing states. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it expands the U.S. Department of Agriculture's ability to research invasive pests on citrus crops. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is located at USDA/APHIS/AC 4700 River Road, Unit 84 Riverdale, MD, 20737-1234.
- **Requested \$600,000 for the Orange County Soil and Water District Commission, to develop a soil and water district strategic plan for coordination of a long-term USDA water-quality, conservation initiative and related activities for Orange County and soil and water District-related activities.** The Orange County Soil and Water District Commission will incorporate 4-H youth groups from local public schools to test water, air and soil in the district, and provide public education on water conservation and protecting the environment. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow the Soil and Water District Commission to work with the USDA and local environmental leadership on water-quality issues in Orange County, and educate people on water conservation and how to protect the environment. The Orange County Soil & Water District is located at P.O. Box 532094, Orlando, Florida, 32853-2094.
- **Requested \$499,870 to the University of Central Florida for the Florida Biomass to Biofuels Conversion Program in Florida's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.** Renewable lignocellulosic biomass from agricultural waste would be an ideal source for ethanol production. University of Central Florida (UCF) researchers have recently produced several biomass hydrolyzing enzymes in tobacco chloroplasts. The UCF team has demonstrated for the first time that plant-derived enzyme cocktails enhanced hydrolysis of filter paper, pine wood and citrus peel, and releasing fermentable sugars, equal to or better than commercial cocktails made through fermentation. These funds will allow UCF to express different classes of biomass degrading enzymes in chloroplast, including core and accessory enzymes from bacterial and fungal genes. Citrus processing plants in Florida annually yield about 5 million tons of waste, which could yield 200 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol. Likewise, sugarcane waste, bagasse is yet another major source of cellulosic ethanol in Florida. This project is directly relevant to the 2006 Florida Renewable Energy Technologies and Energy Efficiency Act because it seeks to develop a cost-effective, commercially viable, technology for production of ethanol from non-food citrus waste, which is abundantly available in Florida at no direct cost. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it fully supports the U.S. Department of Energy's "Biomass Feedstock Roadmap" objective by substantially reducing the hydrolysis costs of making cellulosic ethanol from waste biomass. The University of Central Florida is located at 4000 Central Florida Boulevard, Orlando, Florida, 32816.

- **Requested \$4,094,000 for the U.S. Agricultural Research Service Laboratory at Canal Point, FL.** The U.S. Agriculture Research Service award would be an increase of \$1,200,000 above the current funding base for personnel and equipment at the ARS Sugarcane Field Station, Canal Point, FL, which would enable continuation of ongoing research programs. All of the funds requested will be used immediately for operations and research at the laboratory in support of Florida's sugar industry. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it expands the U.S. Department of Agriculture's ability to research alternative uses for sugarcane, and its impact on the Florida economy. The U.S. Agricultural Research Services is located at 1400 Independence Avenue Southwest, Washington, DC, 20250-0002.

### Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- **Requested \$250,000 for the American Legion of Orlando, Florida to provide free life skills programming and assistance for returning veterans.** These funds will assist soldiers and their families to reintegrate into the community and workforce through mental health counseling, stress and coping strategies, education and training courses, and mentoring. This also will help individuals returning from war zones reintegrate into civilian life, work with soldiers and their families, and provide assistance to soldiers who haven't completed high school to complete their education and find local employment. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will assist veterans in finding employment and social services to reintegrate into the community. The American Legion of Orlando is located at 2101 Lee Road, Orlando, Florida, 32810.
- **Requested \$160,000 for the BETA Center's F.A.S.T. Track Program (Future Achievement and Success for Teens).** BETA Center is a social services agency offering school-based educational opportunities and social services to teen mothers. The program's service delivery model revolves around an alternative high school staffed by Orange County Public Schools (OCPS). OCPS provides the academic instruction while BETA Center provides the integrated social services (counseling, case management, life skills training, parenting education). These services will include case management, counseling, childcare, transportation assistance, and other services that address obstacles to success. This program is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will help assure that teen moms achieve their educational and vocational goals, are taught the life-skills to be good mothers and providers, and avoid a repeat pregnancy while in the program. The BETA Center, Inc. is located at 4680 Lake Underhill Road, Orlando, Florida, 32807.
- **Requested \$500,000 for the Children's Home Society of Florida to expand their work with foster youth at their Lake and Marion locations.** The Children's Home Society of Florida provides a safe haven for youth, specifically youth who have turned 18 in Florida's child welfare system. These funds will provide a home and a safety net for youth so they can focus on education, employment, and the keys to becoming successful adults. With help from an advisor, each youth will develop a "life plan" focused on skill and asset development in four main areas: housing, education, employment and transportation. The life plan helps ensure that they are successful when they complete the program. Additionally, advisors teach life skills such as budgeting and interviewing. Resident Advisors will help youth identify their goals, and steps to achieving those goals through education. The project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because the Children's Home Society will help

Central Florida youth make community connections with local business owners, who will mentor and teach youth the skills necessary for success in the workplace. The Children's Home Society of Florida is located at 1485 South Semoran Blvd, Suite 1402, Winter Park, Florida, 32792.

- **Requested \$250,000 for the City of Belle Isle to hire five new police officers and execute community policing and outreach programs for Belle Isle residents.** As unemployment in Orange County rises, crime has also risen in the Belle Isle community. Belle Isle's small police force has suffered staffing reductions and limitations on their ability to do community outreach and policing because of budget restrictions. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow the Belle Isle Police Department to hire five new officers and re-engage the community. The City of Belle Isle is located at 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, FL, 32809.
- **Requested \$264,000 in funding interoperable radios for the City of Ocoee, to ensure uninterrupted communications during emergency situations.** Ocoee police officers will be able to fully communicate with other Ocoee emergency response personnel, cover a much larger area and thereby deter crime with quicker response times to incidents. Interoperable radios will also allow Ocoee officers to communicate with federal, state, and local agencies, in an emergency situation, a functionality that is imperative in a major event or natural disaster. The radios would be not only Project 25-compliant and encryption-ready, but GPS-enabled, providing an extra level of security and safety for law enforcement personnel. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it enhances public safety through improved emergency communications equipment. The City of Ocoee is located at 150 North Lakeshore Drive, Ocoee, FL, 34761.
- **Requested \$400,000 for the Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida to provide comprehensive legal assistance to needy persons in the district such as the elderly, victims of domestic violence, and poor families.** These funds would provide free legal services to assist victims of crime. Specifically, Community Legal Services will provide legal counsel to elderly victims of consumer scams, help domestic violence victims and their children break free from abuse, work to ensure that poor families live in decent, safe and healthy affordable housing, and assist veterans who have been denied Social Security benefits. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will provide free legal services to victims of financial fraud. The Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida is located at 122 East Colonial Drive #200, Orlando, Florida, 32801.
- **Requested \$700,000 for The Covenant House of Florida to establish a Parenting Education and Health Support program that will serve pregnant or parenting homeless teen mothers in Central Florida.** This project, located at the Orlando Covenant House location, will provide specialized curricula for runaway and homeless youth (teen mothers and fathers) on parenting and parenthood, childbirth, infant feeding and breastfeeding promotion, baby-care basics, and education regarding risky behavior and other risk factors that may result in harm to fetuses and newborns (i.e. tobacco, alcohol and drug use). This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because educating disconnected youth who are young parents, particularly runaways, is essential to a healthy and safe developmental start for their children, and a way to prevent these children from repeating the lifestyle mistakes

of their parents. The Covenant House of Florida is located at 5931 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32807.

- **Requested \$400,000 in funding for the Devereux Kids Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Initiative Expansion to Orange and Lake Counties.** Federal funds will assist Devereux Kids in; (1) expanding an already successful program model in Florida, and, (2) improving existing programs to provide more effective services and evaluate results. In response to the decentralization of family support services in the area of child mistreatment, Devereux Kids has developed a community-based education, neighborhood-based prevention, and diversion strategies intended to instill a sense of civic responsibility for the well-being of youth. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will increase access to child abuse services and it increases neglect prevention initiatives. Devereux Kids Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Initiative is located at 5850 T. G. Lee Blvd., Suite 400, Orlando, Florida, 32822.
- **Requested \$750,000 for the Florida State Fire College (FSFC), Bureau of Fire Standards and Training.** This funding will assist in renovating the FSFC campus. The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training, within the Division of State Fire Marshal, provides certification and continued education training for a wide variety of fire-service and fire-safety professions. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FSFC is the number one urban search-and-rescue training facility in the nation. Even other states and countries have sent students to FSFC. This funding will help the facility address failures of the aging infrastructure, including equipment for operational training to ensure its continued safe use and safety for instructional and drill purposes. In addition, upgrades are needed in order to comply with recent changes to building codes, with regard to being able to withstand the impact of natural disasters most common in the region, as well as to enhance energy efficiency. The Florida State Fire College is requesting an initial appropriation in order to undertake a 12 month planning period to develop a rehabilitation plan. During that time, FSFC will hire an architecture/engineering firm to evaluate the existing facilities and prepare the rehabilitation plan to include a proposed design and scope of work, cost estimates and additive or deductive alternates. After this initial planning period, the structural or operational concerns outlined above will also be addressed. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create jobs, and make the necessary improvements to keep this important facility open for the training of hundreds of fire and rescue professionals. The Florida State Fire College (FSFC) is located at 11655 N.W. Gainesville Road, Ocala, Florida, 34482-1486.
- **Requested \$700,000 for the Harbor House of Florida to provide domestic violence assistance programs for battered women and their children, and for expansion of their shelter service hours.** The program has been in operation for 32 years, and serves over 20,000 individuals annually. Over 700 of these individuals are seeking shelter. The shelter is a renovated farm house and a rotting modular building. There are approximately two years left on the viable use of these properties. With these funds Harbor House will rebuild the existing 52-bed structure on the existing 5-acre campus, and expand their hours. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it provides funding to assist victims of domestic violence, and increases public awareness and education on the issue of domestic

violence. The Harbor House of Florida is located at P.O. Box 680748, Orlando, Florida, 32868.

- **Requested \$450,000 for Marion County Law Enforcement Technology.** Marion County needs to expand law enforcement technology to include fingerprint scans, interoperable telecommunications, and other investigative technologies. In addition to purchasing fingerprint scans and telecommunications equipment, law enforcement will also purchase software that collects demographic data, and completes automatic background checks. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow Marion County to purchase technology that will result in expeditious apprehension of criminals. Marion County Government is located at 601 Southeast 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida, 34471.
- **Requested \$3 million for Orange County for a public safety radio system and primary site upgrade.** This initiative will allow Orange County to properly manage a phased migration to the latest standards-based digital Public Safety Communication's technology. This first phase will upgrade the core of the radio system, the system "brains," and mitigate the risk of a system-wide failure. Subsequent phases will upgrade equipment located on the towers spread around the county, allowing the county and local agencies to preserve certain components, and maximize the useful life of the existing investment. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will enhance the safety of Orange County residents through updated and more efficient public safety communication. Orange County Government is located at 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32801.
- **Requested \$500,000 for Orlando Health's Children's Advocacy Center program.** This funding will ensure that the thousands of families that experience child abuse each year in Orange County, Florida are able to access the services needed to help them recover and heal. Funding will be used to sustain existing child advocates and therapists, and other costs, as well as expand the program's capacity to provide services, with the addition of two child advocates and four therapists. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will expand access to vital rehabilitation and recovery services for victims of child abuse. Orlando Health's Children's Advocacy Center is located at 1414 Kuhl Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806.
- **Requested \$673,931 for the PACE Center for Girls, Inc.'s Bridging the Gap Program.** BRIDGING THE GAP PACE Center for Girls, Inc. provides services for young women to successfully transition from school to post-school activities, so that all young women have the opportunity to become healthy, resourceful and economically contributing citizens despite their past history and challenges. The purpose of BRIDGING THE GAP is to reduce the number of girls in Florida entering the juvenile justice system and to increase the number of girls that are adequately prepared for the challenges of the new economy. BRIDGING THE GAP will ensure a quality gender responsive workforce in 19 counties in Florida (Alachua, Broward, Collier, Duval, Escambia-Santa Rosa, Hillsborough, Lee, Leon, Manatee, Marion, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, St. Lucie and Volusia-Flagler) that, in partnership with community leadership, will provide continuity of care to over 2,000 girls and their families annually. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because this program will provide education, care, and guidance to Florida's girls and young women, a great need as Florida incarcerates more girls and young women than 47 other states. The

PACE Center for Girls, Inc. is located at 728 Gear Lake Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32803-5226.

- **Requested \$7,500,000 for the University of North Florida's Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) and Hydrologic Cycle Coupled Modeling.** This funding will build a Florida modeling consortium based on five years of computer technology innovations, high-resolution hurricane and thunderstorm weather research and the expertise of Florida Universities in numerical weather prediction and hydrologic modeling. The University of North Florida and the University of Central Florida will provide collaborative leadership to the Meteorological and Hydrological portions of the project, as well as computer modeling and data assimilation work. The consortium will work to ensemble accurate forecast tracks and intensity error statistics in an efficient manner through multiple runs using the Florida Lambda Rail Network. Current technology does not provide the tools or resolution to forecast hurricane intensity, thunderstorm-scale quantitative rainfall or lightning probability – forecasts that Florida and the Southeast require. Current flooding and inundation models are not coupled to groundwater with river, runoff, estuarine and coastal ocean components. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will reduce damage to property and increase safety through quicker response to severe weather events by developing more accurate hurricane and severe weather forecasts including rainfall, intensity statistics, lightning probability, and groundwater and coastal storm surge. The University of North Florida is located at 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, Florida, 32224-7699.

### Defense

- **Requested \$2,500,000 for Orlando Health's Nano-medicine for Radiation Protection of U.S. Armed Forces.** Orlando Health will use these funds to support a drug discovery program to improve the survival of, provide faster recovery for, and limit or eliminate drug side effects experienced by US military men and women after exposure to high levels of radiation. The funding will be used to create a platform where scientists can study the effect of radiation on nanoparticles with or without cells. Specifically, scientists will identify the form of nanoceria that provides the most effective level of radioprotection. This research will ultimately lead to the development of an effective drug for the treatment of radiation exposure for military personnel who are exposed to high doses of radiation during service to our country. This will be the first feasibility study of the effect of nano-medicine for radioprotection. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will finance research on radioprotection for soldiers, and ultimately civilians, who must undergo radiation therapies for illnesses. The Orlando Health – M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is located at 1414 Kuhl Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806.
- **Requested \$3,830,000 for the National Center for Simulation's Civil Support Enhanced Responsiveness (CSER) Project.** A fundamental mission for the Florida National Guard (FLNG) is to provide emergency response and preserve public safety during man-made or natural disasters, such as hurricanes. In times of crisis, there is a lack of reliable communications. That breakdown inhibits the successful distribution of emergency supplies, and effective assignment of troops to maintain order and respond to emergency. This award will improve the CSER team's proof of concept system, which mitigates the issues mentioned above. It integrates commercial off-the-shelf tracking devices from a

variety of vendors utilizing multiple satellite constellations. The tracking data is displayed on a common geographical information system (GIS), and provides a data-reporting terminal with both satellite and cellular communications to support remote reporting, such as that needed at the emergency supply PODS. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create a number of high-tech jobs in Central Florida with job growth potential to include: possible follow-on contract support for production and logistics support, and the possibility of expansion to support other states, and possibly the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Additionally, these dollars will increase the Florida National guard's ability to distribute relief supplies, and provide reliable reporting and tracking systems for the arrival and distribution of relief materials. The National Center of Simulation is located at 3280 Progress Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32826-3229.

- **Requested \$5,250,000 for the Nicholson Center for Surgical Advancement (NCSA) Medical Robotics and Simulation Research Project to conduct research in Celebration, Florida.** By utilizing robotic and simulation technologies, NCSA's Robotics and Simulation Research Project will enhance military and civilian healthcare outcomes, increase patient safety, and reduce healthcare costs by both evaluating and inventing new robotic and simulation technologies, and training surgeons to use them. Through surgical robotic research, testing, development and evaluation, the project will revolutionize military and civilian medical capabilities in robotic tele-surgery, tele-mentoring and tele-broadcasting, while innovative simulation will more effectively train surgeons to benefit both the clinical learner and patient. The Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC) highlights the role of robotic surgery in their report "The Hospital of the Future." Robotic surgery offers less invasive and more precise procedures that produce better outcomes. When combined with telemedicine, robotic surgery offers vast potential for delivering advanced care in remote or dangerous locations, while keeping trained surgeons out of harm's way.
  - The Army Program Element Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO-STRI) in Orlando has a \$2.9 billion budget for advanced simulation and robotic surgery activities. Walter Reed, Tripler and Madigan DoD hospitals have all recently purchased DaVinci robotic surgery systems. However, the DoD does not currently have a curriculum or strategy for training military surgeons in the use of these systems, nor do they have the clinical and residency-training support systems to develop new procedures that address military health challenges.
  - The NCSA and the University of Central Florida Medical School can provide the clinical research elements and the world-class facilities that the DoD requires to achieve meaningful advances in military tele-health and robotic surgery. NCSA has trained over 29,000 surgeons. The NCSA will create at least 50 high-tech jobs over a five (5) year period (average wage of \$55,000) in Central Florida and the indirect creation of at least 20 high-tech jobs due to new collaboration initiatives between Florida Hospital, UCF Medical School, IST, RDECOM and PEO-STRI. At least 50 Medical Tourism jobs to support the purchase and service of equipment, conferences, and hotels also will be created, not to mention the temporary construction jobs that will be necessary to complete the new 40,000-square-foot

facility. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will bolster both knowledge and research as they relate to robotic surgery, and will aide in the recertification process for military surgeons.

The Nicholson Center for Surgical Advancement is located at 400 Celebration Place, Celebration, Florida, 34747.

- **Requested \$5,000,000 for the University of Florida's Center for Breast Cancer Nanotechnology, Education and Service project.** National and international experts agree that much of the affliction and economic impact from breast cancer could be resolved through the implementation of safe and effective cancer nanotechnologies. Housed at the University of Florida, the mission of the Center for Breast Cancer Nanotechnology Education and Service (CBCNES) is to provide the infrastructure, equipment, resources, and expertise required for supporting this statewide initiative aimed at eradicating suffering related to breast cancer through nanotechnology and educational outreach. The Center will function to facilitate and promote essential interdisciplinary, inter-institutional interactions that will enable transformative, nanotechnology-mediated solutions to the breast cancer problem. Synergistic, culturally-competent state-of-the-art breast cancer educational tools and services will be utilized to improve awareness, prevention, screening, detection, access, and treatment for breast cancer and breast cancer nanotechnology globally. The Center will facilitate knowledge and information dissemination as well as steward the development of nanotechnology-based tools and educational materials. The CBCNES facilities will include state-of-the-art equipment for safe and rapid deployment of promising nanotechnology-based solutions for breast cancer detection, treatment and education. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it provides funding for cutting-edge, non-invasive imaging equipment that will diagnose breast malignancies using safe nanomaterials, and detail treatment outcomes and options to patients based on nanotherapies. The University of Florida is located at 226 Tigert Hall, P.O. Box 113150, Gainesville, FL, 32611-3150.

### Energy & Water Development

- **Requested \$800,000 for the "green" reconstruction of the City of Mount Dora's Palm Island Boardwalk, resulting in a park destination that promotes conservation while providing a unique natural environment for citizens to explore the lakeshore.** The proposed funding would replace the 4' boardwalk with a 6' width to meet accessibility requirements, replace the walkway with a plastic wood material for weathering ability, and add two 20-foot fishing piers, add a 3-foot lower-level gangway for boater access, and replace the wooden pavilion and interpretive kiosks with green/energy efficient materials consistent with the environment and the mission of conservation. The Palm Island Boardwalk is a natural park at the south end of the Lake Dora waterfront, which serves the downtown community. It is about 13.5 acres, and is connected via a wooden boardwalk over the water and with various land trails on the island. The current boardwalk is a wooden structure that has deteriorated due to moisture and age. The joists and piles are overstressed, with much of the lateral bracing deteriorated. The City had to close half the boardwalk due to safety concerns. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it benefits the environment, creates jobs, and transforms the boardwalk into one that is safe and environmentally-friendly. The City of Mount Dora is located at 510 North Baker Street, Mount Dora, Florida, 32756-0176.



- **Request \$2,500,000 for Florida A&M University for the development of a Center for Sustainable Energy Solutions.** Funding will allow the Center to develop new ways to utilize diverse sources of biomass for fuel production. The biomass sources will include underutilized natural resources (agricultural waste, common household waste, municipal waste) and non-agricultural crops. In addition to the technical challenges of producing usable fuels from these sources, the center will also consider the environmental impacts, costs, and benefits of these alternative technologies. A second major focus will be student training and entrepreneurship. The center will endeavor to train students at the graduate level in biofuels science and technology to complement an ongoing undergraduate component, in collaboration with two Federal Universities in Brazil. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will help curb the United States' dependency on foreign fossil fuels by creating new biofuel energy alternatives, as well as prepare students for success in an exciting and quickly-evolving industry. Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University is located at 1700 Lee Hall Drive, Administration Center, Tallahassee, Florida, 32307.
- **Request \$1,000,000 for the Orlando Performing Arts Center's Green Building Initiative.** The performing arts center will use these funds to integrate sound energy and efficiency standards into the design of the building, saving millions of dollars over the 100-year lifespan of operations. The Dr. Phillips Center plans to incorporate green initiatives such as rooftop solar panels, indoor air quality systems and water efficiency techniques. This public-private partnership project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will serve as a catalyst for urban revitalization. It will attract commercial development and, in turn, create jobs and generate millions of dollars in revenue. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because the Dr. Phillips Center will be an engine for economic development for the district, generating approximately \$240,000,000 and 4,000 jobs locally. The City of Orlando is located at 400 South Orange Street, Orlando, Florida, 32801.
- **Request \$600,000 for RubeLab's Electric Vehicle Prototype Route.** RubeLab is a non-profit electric energy incubator for environmental innovation, specializing in solar-powered charging stations for electric vehicles. This funding would assist in leveraging the existing Rube station to provide a low-risk solution to a prototype EV route connecting the three cities of Mount Dora, Eustis, Tavares, and surrounding unincorporated areas in Lake County, Florida, historically referred to as the "Golden Triangle." This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it creates jobs, promotes environmental innovation, and educates citizens on the benefits of alternative electric vehicles. RubeLab is located at 707 Poinsettia Drive, Eustis, Florida, 32726.
- **Request \$1,000,000 for the Trout Lake Nature Center's Green Energy Building.** The Science Education Building will house information and materials detailing the 230-acre wildlife preserve located on the north edge of Eustis, Florida. These funds will assist the Trout Lake Nature Center's ability to expand their current Green Energy Science Education Building and the preservation of their 1,000-foot-long boardwalk extending into Trout Lake and its nature trails. In addition to doing educational programming and nature tours, the preserve protects the flora and fauna of a unique wetlands-forest habitat bordering Trout Lake. These funds will increase environmental awareness and education for the citizens of Lake County. Forty percent of the funds will go towards materials and sixty percent towards

construction labor. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it creates jobs, increases awareness and education on the environment, and provides funding to preserve natural eco-systems in Eustis, Florida. Trout Lake Nature Center is located at P.O. Box 641, Eustis, Florida, 32727-0641.

### **Financial Services and General Government**

- **Request \$225,000 for the City of Ocoee-University of Central Florida Small Business Incubator Program.** The City of Ocoee, in partnership with the University of Central Florida, will institute “economic gardening” in the downtown area to “grow” businesses. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because the incubator, administered by the City's Community Redevelopment Agency, will provide business development training, one-on-one consultations, and staff support to businesses participating in the incubator, thereby bringing additional economic growth to the area. The City of Ocoee is located at 150 North Lakeshore Drive, Ocoee, FL, 34761.
- **Request \$400,000 for the City of Winter Garden's Business Incubator at the Historic Fire Station.** The historic nature of the Fire Station and prime location in the Historic District of Downtown Winter Garden make this an ideal location for a business incubator. Funding will assist in the restoration of the fire station structure and area, and provide jobs to local contractors. These funds, coupled with city funds, will subsidize tenant's access to low interest micro-loans (through a partnership with BankFirst). There will be an expedited permitting process, business assistance (through a partnership with the local SCORE chapter) and assistance through the local Community Redevelopment Agency. Space would be leased to new businesses (retail, high-tech manufacturing, professional, etc.) at sub-market rates for a period of two years, to enable businesses to establish themselves. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will restore a site in the City of Winter Garden, which will not only be used to house and support new and innovative small companies, but also generate jobs and entice more businesses to open in the downtown area. The City of Winter Garden is located at 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida, 34787.
- **Request \$500,000 for the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando and the African American Chamber of Commerce to launch the Minority Entrepreneur Academy.** This Academy will measure Central Florida job creation at entrepreneurial ventures, and measure innovation within existing companies, to calculate a return from public and private investment. Academy graduates will be paired with mentors to improve the graduates' weaknesses and strengths, and assist in planning and cultivating their entrepreneurial spirit. Funds will finance an unprecedented customer satisfaction collection process, producing actionable data from all internal and external customer groups, including the applicants, instructors, graduates, mentors and the operational staff. Lastly, the Academy graduates will be tracked over an 18-month period to understand the Academy's impact on their entrepreneurial intent. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will educate minority businesses on ways to engage costumers and strengthen their customer service standards, promote innovation, and generate more businesses in distressed communities. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando is located at 315 E. Robinson Street #465, Orlando, Florida, 32801.

- **Request \$250,000 for the Latino Leadership, Inc. to execute a financial literacy program called From Red 2 Black: Taking Control of My Financial Future.** This program is targeted to minority homeowners, individuals living from paycheck-to-paycheck, and those seeking information to halt foreclosures. Latino Leadership will hold public workshops on financial literacy, planning and saving for homeownership, and financial foreclosure prevention. They will also provide targeted programming on savings and credit cards for children, teens and college students. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create a program to educate individuals on how to handle a broad range of economic situations and one that will enable them to take steps to rectify them. Latino Leadership, Inc. is located at 633 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32803.
- **Request \$300,000 for Score Orlando Chapter, to provide one-on-one counseling and financial planning with small business owners and individuals interested in launching their own small businesses.** These funds will be used to collaborate with the Orange County, Lake County and Marion County Chambers of Commerce to provide free small business workshops in the district for individuals wanting to open their own small businesses. The program will offer assistance on drafting a business plan, requesting SBA loans, and gaining technical assistance for franchising opportunities. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it is a collaborative effort that will provide free assistance and education to individuals interested in opening their own small business, and bring additional economic growth to Central Florida. The Score Orlando Chapter is located at 315 East Robinson Street #465, Orlando, Florida, 32801.

### Homeland Security

- **Request \$3,500,000 for the City of Eustis' Hurricane Emergency Operations and Public Safety Facility.** The shovel-ready project is to construct a new LEED-certified Fire Station, to include a designated area to be used as an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC will be used by fire, police, and public works personnel during hurricanes and other natural or man-made disasters. The construction of this facility is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will significantly reduce response time to fire and medical calls for service in the north, northeastern, and northwestern parts of the City. These areas have been identified as the most likely to see a significant increase in businesses and residential homes during the next ten years. Further, the State of Florida has ranked Lake County as the third most vulnerable to hurricanes in the state, making a dedicated EOC vital to providing continued operations during a hurricane, tornado, or other natural or man-made disaster. The City of Eustis is located at 4 North Grove Street, Eustis, Florida, 32726.
- **Request \$9,000,000 for a Hurricane Emergency Operations and Public Safety Facility for the City of Tavares, to house the Main Fire Station, the Police Department, and the Emergency Operations Center, and purchase hurricane and disaster equipment and supplies.** The new facility will allow the City's Public Safety divisions to be housed in an appropriate environment, to continue to provide critical protection and best services to citizens. The proposed shared-use facility would include an Emergency Operations Center (E.O.C.), a new fire station (replacing an existing, but antiquated fire station), a new police station and police dispatch center (moving the existing police station from a severely overcrowded City Hall), and a public meeting space and recreation facility (new facility). This

project will create 311 jobs, and is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because there is no emergency operations center in the City of Tavares, although the State of Florida has ranked Lake County third on a list of counties most vulnerable and in need of an emergency operations center. The City of Tavares is located at 201 East Main Street, Tavares, Florida, 32778.

- **Request \$1,250,000 for a Hurricane Emergency Operations and Public Safety Facility for Lake County, to house the Lake County Sheriff's Department, and purchase hurricane and communications equipment, and supplies.** A high priority for Lake County's Emergency Operation Center is to ensure that it is properly equipped, so that emergency response and communication is improved among police, fire, and EMS. \$750,000 of these funds will be used to purchase computer systems, data system hardening and backup, satellite communications, video and teleconferencing equipment, and internet connectivity between incident command centers and local facilities. With this technology in place, police, fire, and other emergency responders will maintain government operations, uninterrupted outreach to the public, and communication capabilities. The remaining funds will be used to construct a new South Lake District Sheriff's Command Center, and purchase law enforcement technology. The Command Center will enhance the presence and ability of the Lake County Sheriff's Department to serve the south Lake community and its residents. The construction of the Emergency Operations and Public Safety Facility is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create an interoperable communication system for emergency responders, and significantly reduce response time to emergency calls in Lake County. These areas have been identified as the most likely to see a significant increase in businesses and residential homes during the next ten years. Further, the State of Florida has ranked Lake County as the third most vulnerable to hurricanes in the state, making a dedicated EOC vital to providing continued operations during a hurricane, tornado, or other natural or man-made disaster. The Lake County Government is located at 315 West Main Street, P.O. Box 7800, Tavares, Florida, 32778.
- **Request \$1,500,000 for a Hurricane Emergency Operations and Public Safety Facility in Marion County.** These funds would assist in the expansion and modernization of a county-wide communications center and shelter. This facility will give Marion County and its five municipalities a continuity of operations on both a daily basis and during man-made and natural events that threaten our community. This project is a good use of taxpayers' funds because it expands the ability of public safety officers to communicate with one another during an emergency. The Marion County Government is located at 601 S.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida, 34471.
- **Request \$1,600,000 to Orange County for the purchase of emergency generators.** Currently, Orange County must contract with outside entities to be on a "stand by" list to order generators during times of emergency. When an actual emergency occurs, generators from the contractors are provided in order of request. Delivery of the needed generators can take from 48 to 72 hours. There is a continuing cost to the County to remain on the "stand by" list, in addition to the actual costs to rent the needed generators. These funds would allow Orange County to purchase 4, 1+ megawatt generators, each on a semi-trailer, with the necessary fuel tanks and electric cable lengths to power vital facilities during a disaster or other emergency. These mobile generators may be utilized at different emergency shelters

and related critical needs facilities around Orange County, as dictated by the unique situations caused by each emergency situation. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow Orange County to be more self-sustaining in emergency situations, save money, and get the needed power to the critical locations much faster. The Orange County Government is located at 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32801.

### **Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies**

- **Request \$1,300,000 for the Ocoee-Orange County Reclaim Interconnection for the installation of a reclaim water interconnection and the extension of reclaim water lines.** The Ocoee-Orange County Reclaim Interconnection will construct 15,300 linear feet of 16" force-main, 300 linear feet of 12" force-main and a regional master lift station. This force-main and regional master lift station is desperately needed because sixty percent of the City's sewage currently flows through one lift station. Additionally, this station and the transmission main are predominantly on the east side of the City, exceeding daily capacity limits during peak flows and frequently failing. The addition of a west-side transmission system would serve the western half of the city, and relieve the over-burdened eastern portion by immediately redirecting a half a million gallons of sewage. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because these funds will relieve an overburdened sewer system, and transition thousands of residents who rely on septic tanks to a more effective and efficient sewer system. The City of Ocoee is located at 150 North Lakeshore Drive, Ocoee, Florida, 34761.
- **Requests \$650,000 for the City of Orlando's storm-water improvements project.** This funding will allow the City to begin addressing critical storm-water, flooding, environmental and safety problems, including such critical problems as the Englewood/Monterey Under-drain Construction project. The Monterey and Englewood neighborhoods were constructed in the 1950s and 1960s in areas that had been previously considered marginal. The soils are poorly drained, with wet season groundwater elevations fairly close to the surface. This condition causes roadbed failure and hastens the time when the streets must be completely reconstructed. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will fund the installation of under-drains to control groundwater and extend the useful life of the road system in these neighborhoods throughout the City of Orlando. The City of Orlando is located at City Hall, 400 S. Orange Avenue, P.O. Box 4990, Orlando, Florida, 32802.
- **Request \$1,750,000 for the City of Winter Garden's Reclaimed Water Storage and Pumping Facility to monitor the conservation of potable water supplies.** An increase in ground water withdrawals has resulted in the St. Johns River Water Management District placing restrictions on ground water supplies. Reclaimed water is now routinely used for irrigation water, and is a requirement of local municipalities by their Consumptive Use Permits, regulated by the water management districts. The City of Winter Garden is promoting reclaimed water as a means of conservation, and an alternative for various household water needs. To date, the City has contributed funds for the first two phases of a three-stage reclaimed water storage plant, and these funds will assist in the final phase. The requested funds would cover a 1 million gallon storage tank and pumping station estimated to cost \$4,360,000, to serve the northwest area and provide general support to the system in the west. The tank will initially serve three existing neighborhoods which have reclaimed

water mains installed. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will provide the City of Winter Garden funds to promote conservation in the area, and address serious water issues plaguing the West Orange County community. The City of Winter Garden is located at 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida, 34787.

- **Requested \$3,000,000 in funding for the City of Winter Garden's Phase III Reclaimed Water Storage and Pumping Facility.** The City's current water demand is over 6 million gallons per day (MGD), which exceeds the St. John's River Water Management District Consumptive Use Permit of 5.29 MGD. The current water supply is ground water withdrawn from the Floridian Aquifer. Over 50% of the City's water demand is used for landscape irrigation. With reclaimed water being the most cost-effective alternative water supply to offset ground water withdrawals, the City developed a Reclaimed Water Master Plan to address this issue. The final, and most difficult phase, would be to provide reclaimed water to the older sections of the City that were not plumbed for reclaimed water. The storage tank and pumping station would cost \$2 million, and the cost to retrofit the older sections of the City is \$4 million. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because the project will reduce ground water withdrawals by 0.93 MGD. The project will create 25-30 temporary jobs and 4-5 permanent maintenance jobs. The City of Winter Garden is located at 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida, 34787.
- **Request \$750,000 for the City of Winter Park Gravity Sewer Improvement Project to improve and upgrade the sewer system along Fairbanks Avenue to include approximately 1 mile of gravity sewer, 2.3 miles of force mains and one master lift station.** Installation of the Winter Park Gravity sewer line will allow higher density redevelopment of adjacent residential and commercial properties, maximize the potential for a commercial corridor to increase business investment and tourism, transition properties from septic tanks to sanitary sewer lines, and protect against environmental hazards. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create both residential and commercial building opportunities, which will boost the economy in the area, while protecting it from environmental hazards. The City of Winter Park is located at 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida, 32789.
- **Request \$1,000,000 for the Lake Cane Restoration Society's Lake Cane Water Quality Restoration Initiative.** This funding will be used for nutrient-separating baffle boxes, a solar-powered aeration system, and the chemical inactivation of bottom muck. This project is a good use of taxpayers' funds because it will fund the Lake Cane Restoration Society's efforts to monitor the water quality of Lake Cane, and educate residents on ways to keep the Lake safer and cleaner for future reclamation uses. The Lake Cane Restoration Society is located at 5515 Turkey Lake Road, Orlando, Florida, 32819.
- **Requested \$500,000 for Marion County and its Silver Springs Pollution Abatement Program.** Funding will be used by the County to implement the Silver Springs Pollution Abatement Program. This project will protect the springs from further adverse impacts by implementing a septic tank abatement program. This program is intended to provide central sewer service to portions of the County near the springs where septic tanks are prevalent. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because this project will assist homeowners and businesses with the costs associated with connection to central sewer service, thereby

increasing the number of dwellings on the central sewer system, and reducing the potential environmental impact to the springs. The Marion County Government is located at 601 Southeast 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida, 34471.

### **Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies**

- **The Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida requested \$500,000 for housing counseling, specifically foreclosure prevention and education.** Community Legal Services provides housing counseling and direct legal services to homeowners about to lose their homes, and works with the community to provide public education and outreach activities on homeownership and foreclosure. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it provides legal services to thousands of homeowners who might otherwise lose their homes. Community Legal Services is located at 122 East Colonial Drive #200, Orlando, Florida, 32801.
- **The City of Eustis requested \$165,000 for the Wayfinding & Gateway Signage Project.** This signage will play a major role in improving the constituent's ability to find their way around the City of Eustis, Florida. The creation of this "wayfinding system" will improve directions for vehicles, pedestrians, and parking. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will fund a wayfinding master plan for community branding, help visitors find important destinations, and encourage people to walk throughout the city and its adjacent amenities. The City of Eustis is located at 10 North Grove Street, P.O. Box 68, Eustis, Florida, 32727-0068.
- **Lake County Requests \$1,500,000 for a Transit Mobility Center.** This funding will help Lake County to development a transit mobility center. LakeExpress serves all types of communities in Lake County, including the mobility needs of the disabled, and low-to-moderate income residents. Each function of the transit system is working out of different facilities, which is not conducive to meeting the operational, maintenance and service needs of the system. Additionally, there is lack of space to adequately store bus vehicles, perform necessary maintenance, or provide storage for supplies. The proposed center would centralize offices, meeting facilities, operations and dispatch for fixed route and para-transit services, as well as centralize vehicle maintenance and storage facilities. This project is estimated to provide employment for approximately 60 people for design and construction. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it creates jobs, and will enhance mobility and transit for local disabled and low-income residents. The Lake County Government is located at 315 West Main Street, Tavares, Florida, 32778-3813.
- **The Main Street Project of Mills 50 requested \$250,000 for renovations to enhance and encourage development of business in the downtown Orlando area, while preserving the historic nature of the community.** Main Street Project of Mills 50 is a grassroots organization made up of local business owners, residents and members of local government committed to making the Mills 50 District more pedestrian-friendly and safer for traffic, all while maintaining its unique urban character and charm. These funds will be used to renovate the streetscape, walking paths and parking/bus pick-up areas, promote marketing the district's unique characteristics to residents, shoppers, investors, new businesses, and tourists, and diversifying the existing economic base of the district. This

project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it reinvests in the historic and natural cityscape of a community whose economic base has been devastated. The Main Street Project of Orlando Mills 50 is located at 911 North Mills Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32803.

- **The City of Mount Dora requested \$800,000 for the “Green” energy-efficient renovation of the Mount Dora Community Center.** This renovation project restores the Mount Dora Community Center, a focal point for the Mount Dora community. The renovation project will accomplish the following: (1) The main auditorium will return to its original scope, with exposed wooden ceiling, new seating, and better stage and support access, (2) A new lobby will facilitate meeting space, provide modern restrooms, and upgrade all HVAC and other systems, (3) The basement area will have improved meeting rooms and support functions for the building, and (4) The lighting, audio and theatrical systems will be modernized. The end result will be a community building that restores a central source of public cohesion and meeting in downtown Mount Dora. It will also serve as an economic generator of activities and people to support business and tourist goals. The project has received over \$250,000 in community donations during trying economic times. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it renovates a much-needed community center in the City of Mount Dora, and creates a “green facility” whose community activities will center on demonstrating and expanding the environment, conservation, and new forms of energy. The City of Mount Dora is located at 510 North Baker Street, Mount Dora, Florida, 32757.
- **Marion County requested \$6,000,000 for the Sharpes Ferry Bridge in located on CR 314 crossing the Ocklawaha River.** The Sharpes Ferry Bridge is a single-lane bridge in a high-incidence hurricane area—serving as the only operationally-safe travel route heading from Ocala eastward. The CR 314 route serves as an alternate evacuation corridor, and desperately requires significant maintenance due to the numerous areas that are rusted through, and to minimize potential negative environmental impacts from the lead-base paint flaking off and falling directly into the Ocklawaha River. The Sharpes Ferry Bridge Replacement Project has been identified as a number one public safety and operational priority by the Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization and the Marion County Transportation Improvement Plan for several years. The State of Florida has prioritized this bridge and committed \$1,300,000 in State funds. This \$6,000,000 award will assist in the final completion of this project. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will provide a safe travel route for communities in Marion County, specifically Ocala, to evacuate in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster. The Marion County Government is located at 601 S.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida, 34471.
- **Marion County requested \$2,000,000 for the Southwest 95th Street phase 3B with Interchange at I-75 Project.** Funding will be used by Marion County for design (including PD&E) and right-of-way acquisition for S.W. 95th Street phase 3B project, which includes an interchange at I-75. This project is the last phase of an east-west corridor connecting S.R. 200 to I-75 midway between two existing interchanges southwest of Ocala. This new, four-lane divided roadway begins at S.W. 80th Avenue and goes east crossing S.R. 200, S.W. 60th Avenue, S.W. 49th Avenue and connecting to I-75 providing a most-needed interchange to relieve congestion and operational problems at the two existing interchanges at S.R. 200 and at C.R. 484. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will enhance the safety of



residents through roadway improvements, as well as create more efficient traffic flow through eased congestion. The Marion County Government is located at 601 S.E. 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida, 34471.

- **The Town of Oakland requested \$150,000 for the Hull Avenue Park renovation.** These funds will assist in the renovation of Hull Avenue Park, which is located in a lower-income section of town. The park has a dilapidated basketball court, and no other equipment on which younger children can play. The City of Oakland plans to add a playground, picnic tables and benches, and other park equipment to expand the park's use. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will assist a small, often-neglected community, and provide a safe alternative for children and families to play, learn and congregate. The Town of Oakland is located at P.O. Box 98, 220 North Tubbs Street, Oakland, Florida, 34760.
- **The City of Ocoee and Orange County requested \$2,000,000 for the Maguire Road Improvement Project.** These funds will assist with improvements to Maguire Road, including a widening of approximately a 0.75 mile section of Maguire Road between West Colonial Drive (SR 50) and Story Road. When completed, it will alleviate traffic congestion in the City of Ocoee and Orange County. The City has been seeking to address congestion along Maguire Road, a major north/south corridor, through a road-widening program since 1996. The roadway is a heavily-traveled artery providing connections to local toll roads and the Florida Turnpike. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will generate 209 jobs for Central Floridians, fund the construction of a 4-lane roadway with new sidewalks, new curbs and a closed drainage system, and safely distribute motorists, transit buses, bicyclists, and pedestrians to the surrounding county and state roadway systems. The City of Ocoee is located at 150 North Lakeshore Drive, Ocoee, Florida, 34761.
- **Orange County requested \$816,000 for their Central Receiving Center, Drop-In Program.** The Central Florida Regional Commission on Homelessness (CFRCH) has made a recommendation to develop four drop-in centers in the various jurisdictions to begin to engage and offer support to those who are chronically homeless. The CFRCH estimates that there are as many as 6,000 homeless people in the Orange County community on any given day, including children and veterans, who make up roughly 40 percent of the chronically homeless. This drop-in center would offer showers, mail pick-up, one-stop services for mental health screening and substance abuse services, and a midday meal in the northwest area of the county. The center would operate from 9 AM to 4 PM seven days a week. It would utilize 7,700 square feet of a 19,000 square foot building. The remainder of the building is being used as 15 units of permanent housing for the chronically homeless. This funding request of \$816,000 is crucial to address the areas of need within the County for an expanded drop-in center as recommended by CFRCH. The costs associated with this program include renovations to the 19,000 square foot building adjacent to the traditional and permanent supportive housing programs. The extension will allow for more outreach to be initiated with the numerous veterans living in camps and on the streets in Orange County and the surrounding areas. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will provide "basic needs" services, as well as provide mental health screenings and substance abuse services to Orange County's chronically homeless. The Orange County Government is located at 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orange County, Florida, 32801.

- **The City of Orlando requested \$1,000,000 for Semoran Boulevard Revitalization Project.** These funds will carry out strategic streetscape improvements along a 1½ mile section of State Road 436, also known as Semoran Boulevard. The Semoran Boulevard corridor (SR 436 from Broche Avenue to Grant Street) is a gateway between Orlando International Airport and the City of Orlando. This key corridor has experienced significant changes during the past decade. To stabilize the neighborhood, in 2009 alone, the City allocated \$596,000 to complete 16 residential rehabilitations. An additional \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grants will be used to construct a quarter-mile-long, eight-foot-tall wall, which will run along the west side of Semoran Boulevard. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because revitalization of this area will protect the residential community from traffic noise and visual distractions, and improve pedestrian safety. The City of Orlando is located at 400 South Orange Avenue, P.O. Box 4990, Orlando, Florida, 32802-4990.
- **Osceola County requested \$1,500,000 for the West Osceola Branch Library in Celebration, Florida.** The project would create approximately 300 jobs directly from the construction, and add to two new positions to the library staff. The branch will provide services for job seekers, such as free training classes and access to technology to boost marketable skills. It is estimated that there will be a first year book circulation of over 100,000 and computer use alone of over 87,085 users. The library will also serve as a meeting site and exhibition location for local artists and traveling collections. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will create local jobs, as well as create a widely utilized library that will improve the community through the education and training of its citizens. Osceola County Government is located at 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida, 34741.
- **The City of Tavares requested \$1,220,000 for a Rail Road Track and Intersection Crossing Upgrade Project.** The tracks and crossings in the project travel directly between a waterfront park and the businesses on Ruby Street. The intersections needing upgrades are on Sinclair Avenue and Joanna Street. The City has recently built a train platform that allows the train to make stops near the businesses. It also provides rides to neighboring cities such as Eustis, Mount Dora, and as far as Orlando. These trips bring about 700 passengers a day to our cities. The rail through Downtown Tavares is a huge economic engine that brings in business and visitors from all over Florida to a blighted area. The upgrades are part of a larger project to improve other connecting tracks and the Dora Canal Bridge. These upgrades will provide access to freight rail and passenger rail, while spurring density in the downtown area. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because these upgrades will attract new industry, and create jobs to accommodate demand from the city's planned freight village. The City of Tavares is located at 201 East Main Street, Tavares, Florida, 32778.
- **The Town of Windermere requested \$750,000 for the Resurfacing of the Collector Roads.** Windermere's two collector roads passing through the Town are being severely impacted by traffic generated from outside of the Town limits. These two roads are the main roads through Town. They split the Town into north-south and east-west, intersect in the center of Town, and totaling 3.2 miles of two-lane roads. The average traffic count on the two roads is 21,000 vehicles a day comprised of vehicles mainly traveling through Town to reach points beyond the Town limits. The roads are in extreme disrepair which creates a

road hazard and public safety issue. There are thirteen intersection aprons needed to make the intersections of roads to paved roads pedestrian friendly. The total cost to complete the project is \$952,830, of which the Town will contribute the required 20% local share. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will reduce traffic in a dangerously overburdened area that is hazardous for drivers and pedestrians, reduce traffic wait-times, and provide up to 70 local jobs. The Town of Windermere is located at 614 Main Street, P.O. Box 669, Windermere, Florida, 34786.

- **The City of Winter Garden requested \$600,000 for the East Winter Garden Affordable Housing Project.** The City of Winter Garden and the local Community Reinvestment Agency have been working for the past five years to revitalize the city's historically African-American neighborhood. These funds will help create new housing and renovate existing substandard housing in the East Winter Garden neighborhood. The current proposal is to build an eight-unit tandem housing project that would offer new, single family dwellings at approximately \$80,000/unit. All the units will be detached with garages and include attractive architectural features. The City will also partner with the Florida Realtors Association, BankFirst and the CRA to build the project and sell the homes at an affordable price. Once the homes are sold, the funds will be used to purchase other existing homes in the neighborhood that will also be refurbished and sold at an affordable amount. The City will reinvest those funds to start the process over again. The project will last ten years and create dozens of jobs each year over the life of the project. Furthermore, contractors will be expected to hire local residents to work on the projects. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will revitalize the community, create quality affordable housing, and provide jobs for ten years. The City of Winter Garden is located at 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida, 34787.

#### **Labor, Health & Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies**

- **The A. Philip Randolph Institute requested \$500,000 for Job Training and Pre-Apprentice Assistance via a One Stop Work Center.** These funds will help the A. Philip Randolph Institute serve as the community liaison for the City of Orlando Venues Project to educate, counsel, and place individuals in employment opportunities. The Institute will counsel and provide participants with life skills information for work to assure job placement, job retention, as well as advancement. 300-500 participants will also be assisted in overcoming barriers that may prevent their success for completion of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it bridges unemployed individuals with necessary training and assistance to get into new careers or apprenticeship programs. The A. Philip Randolph Institute of Central Florida is located at P.O. Box 32856, Orlando, Florida, 32856.
- **The American Legion of Orlando requested \$250,000 to provide free life skills programming and assistance for returning veterans.** Specifically, these funds will assist soldiers and their families to re-integrate into the community and workforce through education, training courses, and mentoring. This also will help individuals who haven't completed high school to complete their education, and find local employment. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will assist veterans in finding employment and social services to reintegrate into the community. The American Legion is located at 2101 Lee Road, Orlando, Florida, 32810.

- **The Beta Center requested \$200,000 for its Future Achievement and Success for Teens (F.A.S.T.) Track Program.** BETA Center is an Orlando, Florida-based social services agency that currently offers a school-based program of integrated educational and social services for adolescent mothers. The program's service delivery model revolves around an alternative high school staffed by Orange County Public Schools (OCPS). OCPS provides the academic instruction while BETA Center provides the integrated social services (counseling, case management, life skills training, parenting education). The F.A.S.T Track program would expand by offering additional supportive services after the teen mom leaves the BETA program through graduation or a return to her home school. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because services for teen mothers will include academic instruction and alternatives to complete their high school education, case management, counseling, childcare and transportation assistance, and other services that address obstacles to her success. The Beta Center Inc. is located at 4680 Lake Underhill Road, Orlando, Florida, 32807.
- **The Central Florida Joint Training Association requested \$1,500,000 for Construction Employment Recovery Program.** Funds will be used to secure employment and apprenticeship opportunities for disconnected youth, veterans, and workers over 54. The Central Florida Joint Training Association (JTA) will combine work and training opportunities to eliminate barriers to the recruitment, retention, and placement of people in those groups. The money will cover salaries for professional and paid apprenticeship positions, and trainers, as well as supplies and necessary equipment for workshop training. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will be used to ensure the continuation and expansion of successful apprenticeship training programs, create jobs, and repair Orange County schools. The Central Florida Joint Training Association is located at 2900 West Oakridge Road, Orlando, Florida, 32809.
- **Gardens of Life requested \$120,000 for the Adult Life Education and Community (ALEC) Gardens for Individuals with Autism.** The Gardens of Life program partners adults with autism to vocational training projects in Central Florida. These funds would allow the Gardens of Life Program to sustain jobs for program participants, expand continuing education programming, and provide essential hands-on social integration programming necessary for those living with autism. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it finances job training and education, and community integration for adults living with autism in Central Florida. Gardens of Life Inc. is located at P.O. Box 11206, Orlando, FL, 32803.
- **HOPE Inc. requested \$250,000 for the Health Options for Physical Education "HOPE" program.** These funds will expand the current program, executed by HOPE Inc., to increase Orlando youth participation in physical activity, targeted youth empowerment in low-income communities, and healthy eating and living. This is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because the program will improve the health of Central Florida youth by increasing opportunities to participate in physical activities through a wide variety of club team sports, camps, clinics, and after-school programs. "HOPE" Inc. is located at 8107 Vineland Oaks Boulevard, Orlando, Florida, 32835.

- **Jobs With Justice requested \$500,000 to expand its job training and readiness program.** The work-readiness skills program is designed to teach essential employment skills to youth planning to enter the workforce. The program aims to increase young people's awareness of the types of attitudes, skill and behaviors employers expect from new employees. Such attitudes and skills apply equally to success in full-time, part-time and summer jobs, as well as success in school and educational programs. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it invests in public libraries and programs for our Spanish-speaking community. Additionally, it links unemployed individuals with necessary training and assistance to get new careers or apprenticeship programs—specifically young people and the Spanish-speaking community. Jobs With Justice is located at 231 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32803.
- **The City of Ocala requested \$2,427,070 for the Ocala Police Department's Ocala Green Jobs Corp.** These funds will train and employ approximately 700 people with green jobs, including repairing houses, energy retrofitting, community beautification projects, and environmental design and construction. This project is a good use of taxpayers' funds because it will train and employ nearly 700 Central Florida residents in an economically depressed area, and educate program participants and the community on methods to protect the environment. The City of Ocala is located at City Hall, 151 S.E. Osceola Avenue, Ocala, FL, 34471.
- **Orange County requested \$385,000 for Concerned Citizens to Combat Cancer, Inc. Original Partnership for the Minority Health Education Initiative.** The Original Partnership for Minority Health Education Initiative is a collaborative project between several community groups and government agencies. Funds will finance medical/dental mobile units to deliver free medical services and screenings to the medically underserved. The screenings include prevention, latest treatment, clinical trials and education workshops, but are not limited to managing chronic illnesses such as diabetes, stroke, cancer and heart disease. Additional screenings are: AIDS/HIV, Asthma, prostate health, cardiovascular disease, cholesterol, chiropractic alternatives, Diabetes, glucose, Hepatitis C, High Blood Pressure, mental health evaluations and coping strategies, depression and stress, nutritional evaluations, and guidance on diet, weight and healthy living. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will provide targeted health services to minority communities dealing with rising public health disparities, test and diagnose chronic illnesses, and discuss traditional and non-traditional treatment options to Central Florida residents. Orange County's Concerned Citizens to Combat Cancer, Inc. is located at P.O. Box 2649, Orlando, Florida, 32802.
- **Orange County requested \$570,000 for Orange County's Health Care Center for the Homeless (HCCH) Health Care Facility Expansion.** Health Care Center for the Homeless (HCCH) is a non-profit community health center serving the medical needs of the homeless community in East Central Florida since 1993. The service area of HCCH is the tri-county area of Orange, Osceola, and Seminole in East Central Florida. HCCH currently provides primary and preventative medical, dental, mental health, substance abuse, vision, and pharmacy services. HCCH also operates a Tuberculosis (TB) Shelter for homeless individuals with infectious TB. The organization is pivotal in serving the estimated 9,880 persons deemed homeless. HCCH will use these funds to renovate, and expand their current

service delivery sites by adding 4 additional dental operatories, 3 additional medical exam rooms, 2 additional behavioral health counseling offices, and expanding the Center's pharmacy. It is estimated that this expanded access will result in 1,500 additional homeless patients receiving health care services. The expanded pharmacy will allow HCCH to safely store the increased number of free medications received from the various pharmaceutical companies through their respective Patient Assistance Programs. An expanded facility will also allow HCCH to accommodate an additional full-time dentist and medical provider, and 2 full-time behavioral health professionals. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow the Health Care Center for the Homeless to expand access to quality medical, oral health, mental health, and substance abuse services to Central Florida's homeless, create a medical home for the poor, and create construction jobs for the expansion of the HCCH facility. The Orange County Government is located at 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801.

- **The Orlando Museum of Art requested \$130,000 for the Model Art and Wellness Program.** The Orlando Museum of Art's Model Art and Wellness program was developed for visual and hearing impaired audiences, as well as those with other developmental disabilities. The Orlando Museum of Art will develop a gallery for the visually impaired with three-dimensional forms, Braille interpretive panels, and audio guides for its Permanent Collections of American, African and Pre-Columbia art. These new tools will accommodate the visually and hearing impaired, and provide sign-language interpreters for select several programs and gallery tours. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it allows all Central Florida residents to enjoy the Orlando Museum of Art, regardless of physical or mental disabilities. The Orlando Museum of Art is located at 2416 North Mills Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32803-1483.
- **Orange County requested \$1,000,000 for its Public Health Department's Greater Orlando Prevention Research, Informatics and Health Education Center (GO-PRIHEC).** These funds will establish a consortium of all collaborating social service agencies, and establish a "Better Weight For Your Baby" program to decrease mortality rates for nearly 4,000 babies born in Central Florida. It will also create a research-based model for community midwives to serve Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Lake Counties, establish an annual conference on maternal/child health and mortality, and execute a clearinghouse/data base to study health challenges and outcomes. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will promote healthier pre- and post-natal care, collect data on infant mortality rates in Central Florida, and work with non-traditional health providers to increase the rate of healthy babies born in Central Florida. The Orange County Public Health Department is located at 6101 Lake Ellenor Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32809.
- **Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District requested \$600,000 for the, in conjunction with local 4-H student groups, to test air, soil and water quality, provide public education on environmental conservation, and related activities for Orange County and soil and water District-related activities.** The Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District will incorporate 4-H youth groups from local public schools to test water, soil and air in the district, and provide public education on water conservation and protecting the environment. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it will allow the Soil and Water Conservation District to work with the USDA and local

environmental leadership on water-quality issues in Orange County, and educate people on water conservation and how to protect the environment. The Orange County Soil & Water District is located at P.O. Box 532094, Orlando, Florida, 32853-2094.

- **Osceola County requested \$350,000 for the Hispanic Health Initiative, “Taking Care of My Health/Cuidando Mi Salud” Project.** These funds will allow the Hispanic Health Initiative to expand culturally-appropriate and linguistically-responsive outreach, education and prevention programs in the 8th Congressional District of Florida. Additionally, the Hispanic Health Initiatives, Inc. (HHI) will expand and combine its Health Risk Assessment program, and the Type II Diabetes early detection, prevention and self-management programs. Data collected from this outreach initiative will be processed by HHI and the University of Central Florida to expand early detection, prevention and self-management health programs. This project is a good use of taxpayers’ dollars because it provides targeted, culturally-appropriate health screenings and treatment alternatives to minority residents in Central Florida. The Osceola County Government is located at 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida, 34741.
- **Rollins College requested \$350,000 to expand their Research Laboratory.** These funds will assist Rollins College to purchase critical new equipment and make facility improvements for their instructional science and research laboratories. This project is a good use of taxpayers’ dollars because it funds necessary lab improvements to enhance student learning in the sciences, facilitate additional undergraduate research experiences, and work to better train students to successfully enter Florida's emerging high-tech workforce. Rollins College is located at 1000 Holt Avenue, Winter Park, Florida, 32789.
- **The Translational Research Institute at Florida Hospital Orlando requested \$500,000 for Diagnostic Equipment and Facility Upgrades.** The Translational Research Institute (TRI) is a joint project of the Burnham Institute for Medical Research, Lake Nona and Florida Hospital, Orlando. The TRI combines scientists and clinicians with technologies to enhance translational research and bring new treatments to obesity and diabetes patients. This project will fund translational research into the origins of the obesity and diabetes epidemics, and improve local patient care. Additionally, these funds will purchase two key pieces of equipment to enhance the TRI’s research. The instrumentation will be housed in the new 35,000-square-foot Translational Research Institute for Diabetes and Metabolism on the campus of Florida Hospital in Orlando, FL. At the time of the installation of the instrumentation, approximately 3 new jobs will be created directly surrounding this instrumentation. This project is a good use of taxpayers’ dollars because it will advance Florida Hospital’s ability to diagnose and treat the incidents of aggressive heart disease and heart failures that occur in patients with obesity and diabetes, and create jobs. The Translational Research Institute at Florida Hospital Orlando is located at 601 East Rollins Street, Orlando, Florida, 32803-1483.
- **Valencia Community College, in coordination with the Orange County Association to Preserve African American Society, History, and Tradition (PAST) requested \$500,000 for Inc.’s Wells’ Built Museum of African American History and Culture.** These funds will assist in the programming and educational outreach of the museum, including a targeted campaign to increase the audience for the Wells’ Built Museum of

African American History and Culture and the Wells Heritage House in downtown Orlando, FL. This project will be undertaken in partnership with the Valencia Community College. These dollars will fund a series of public performances or entertainment events featuring local and national leaders in the topic's field. Each public event in the district will include a lecture developed by Central Florida and other national scholars. This will result in the development of free online access to digital materials for academic research and community and public education. This project is a good use of taxpayers' dollars because it assists an important African American landmark in Central Florida, creates jobs, and increases awareness on the rich history and contributions of African Americans to the Central Florida region. Valencia Community College is located at P.O. Box 3028, Orlando, FL, 32802.