

# Funding



## 11 Funding

Most Action Items do not require independent funding and can be accomplished through catalytic coordination through influencing the design of the projects of partners. For some Action Items, the local governments and the Transportation Planning Organization will play roles in providing funding through their associated general budgets. However, the most successful implementation of the Action Plan will result from leveraging funding from different sources.

Specific potential funding sources are identified for each Action Item, contained in *Section 2: Action Plan*. This section contains a more general description of the types of funding that are available to the Corridor Management Entity and its partners.

### Partnerships

Partnership opportunities and creative fundraising activities are abundant and varied when community involvement and support is overwhelming. Though there are numerous partnership opportunities, the following are a few examples:

- Local businesses fund landscaping in front of their buildings and façade improvements.
- Local businesses donate landscaping materials (i.e. plants, bollards, ropes, site furniture, etc.). Signage and on-site furniture could advertise the contributing business.
- The Corridor Management Entity and the Florida Department of Transportation create a corridor brochure that highlights the corridor's resources and advertises local businesses that contribute to the brochure development or other corridor improvements.
- The library or museum sponsors an environmental/historic resource fair with educational booths, a "walk-a-thon," community barbecue or cook-off to raise awareness for the corridor's resources and proposed improvements. Local businesses could donate food, drinks, or prizes. This type of community event would raise awareness and support for the scenic

highway, as well as raise funding for improvements (walk-a-thon, poster raffle, cook-off, etc.) and promote local businesses.

- Sponsored programs could include events such as bike-a-thons, car washes, car rally, marathons, triathlons, or bike rallies. Additionally, group sponsored festivals, carnivals, or a themed fair could occur along the corridor.

### Local Funding Sources

This section contains a listing of common methods for financing local government projects. Local funding opportunities for improvements and maintenance for the corridor could include some or all of the following:

#### *Pay as You Go*

*Sales and Use Tax:* A tax on sales of goods or services.

*Real Estate Transfer Tax:* Tax on the sale of property – increases with the size of the property being sold.

*Special Assessments Districts/Municipal Services Taxing Unit:* Separate units of government that manage specific resources within defined boundaries.

*Business Improvement District:* Assesses property owners within set boundaries for additional services. Establishes a partnership between property owners and businesses in downtown or commercial areas for the purpose of improving the business climate in a defined area.

*Benefit Assessment District:* Assessment and provision of benefits to a defined community – not a separate unit of government – levy on property.

*User Charges:* Fee charged to the end user of a service, for example park fees or gas tax.

*Reserves:* Funds reserved for specific use.

*Mitigation Financing:* Developer set-aside of land on or off-site.

*Negotiated Exactions or Impact Fees (hookups, systems development or capital fees):* One-time charge to offset cost of infrastructure caused by new development.

*Grants:* Funding provided by government agencies and foundations for a specific purpose.

*Public-Private Ventures:* Partnerships between private investor and public sector to provide a service on public land.

*Volunteering/In-Kind Services:* Donation of services or facilities in lieu of a monetary donation.

#### *Borrowing*

*General Obligation Bonds – Limited or Unlimited Tax:* Loan taken out by a city or county against the value of taxable property.

*Revenue Bonds (or "rate-supported" bonds):* Loan paid from the proceeds of a tax levied for the use of a specific public project, or with the proceeds of fees charged to those who use the facility that the bonds finance.

*Taxable Bonds:* Bonds subject to tax.

*Community Redevelopment Agency/Tax Increment Financing Bonds:* Financing mechanism used to stimulate economic development in a blighted area. The assessed valuation of real property within the redevelopment area is frozen. Taxes are paid at the base level while improvements are made. Any increase in the assessed value of the property or additional sales tax revenues makes up the tax increment, which is used to pay project costs or repay the bonds or other obligations that helped finance the project. Haines City and Lake Wales currently have Community Redevelopment Agencies with jurisdiction adjacent to SR 17.

*Lease Purchase and Certificates:* Lease-purchase agreement that allow a government to pay over time with immediate use of property.

*Revolving Loans:* Loan that is automatically renewed upon maturity.

*Bond Banks:* A state-sponsored entity that makes local infrastructure projects feasible by providing access of low-cost financing to localities primarily through debt issuance.

**State and Federal Funding Sources**

State and federal governments provide a variety of grants and loans, many targeted toward scenic highways and similarly organized citizen groups.

*General*

**Program:** **National Scenic Byways Grant**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Local governments  
 Fund projects associated with the development of Corridor Management Plans. Funds can be used for enhancements along roads designated as scenic highways, including safety improvements, construction of pedestrian and bicyclists facilities, access to recreational areas, and protection of historical, archeological, and cultural resources in the area adjacent to the scenic highway. A 20 percent match must be provided through local general purpose government funds.

**Program:** **Technical Assistance for Community-Based Organizations**  
**Agency:** Enterprise Florida  
**Funding available:**  
**Eligible Participants:** Economic development organizations or government entity  
**Contact Information:** Program Supervisor with Enterprise Florida, Inc. at (407) 316-4600, or [www.floridabusiness.com](http://www.floridabusiness.com).  
 Provide technical assistance. Technical assistance includes helping form an organization, identifying community development strategies, identifying financial resources for community development projects, and referring to other responsible agencies.

*Economic Development*

**Program:** **Advertising Matching Grants Program**  
**Agency:** Visit Florida  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipalities with a population of 50,000 or less, county governments with a population of 200,000 or less (All Ridge municipalities qualify, but Polk County does not.), or non-profit corporations  
**Funding Cycle:** Annual; deadline typically third Friday in April  
 Designed to help municipalities and counties publicize the tourism advantages of the State of Florida.

**Program:** **Florida Main Street Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Cycle:** Annual; deadline typically last Friday in July  
**Funding available:** One-time \$10,000 plus planning support  
**Eligible Participants:** State and local governments  
 Community Revitalization. Designed as a technical assistance program to aid communities in revitalization activities. There is a formal application to take part in the program. The criteria include:

- The area must be a historic commercial district, with buildings that are 50 years old or greater.
- The City must be willing to fund a full-time manager for at least three years.
- There must be community-based support for the program.
- The one-time \$10,000 can be used for facade improvements or signage program.

Haines City and Lake Wales have designated Florida Main Street programs.

**Program:** **Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Community Affairs  
**Funding Available:** The state is authorized to issue approximately \$160,000,000 in Section 108 Loan Guarantees for eligible activities. An eligible local government may apply for up to \$7,000,000 in loan guarantees.  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipal governments with a population of 50,000 or less and county governments with a population of 200,000 or less (All Ridge municipalities qualify, but Polk County does not.)  
 Funding to help address community development needs. Designed to provide grants to eligible municipalities and county governments for neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization, and economic development. Examples of activities that are eligible include:

- Rehabilitation and preservation of housing,
- Water and sewer improvements,
- Street improvements,
- Economic development activities,
- Downtown revitalization,
- Parks and recreation, and
- Drainage improvements.

**Program:** **Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative**  
**Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
**Funding Available:** \$50,000 - \$200,000  
**Eligible Participants:** Governments  
**Contact Information:** [www.epa.gov/brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/) or 202-260-9347  
 Funds redevelopment projects for abandoned or underutilized industrial or commercial and potentially contaminated lands. EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.

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**Program:** **Economic Development Assistance**  
**Agency:** Central Florida Regional Planning Council  
**Funding Available:** N/A  
**Eligible Participants:** Non-profit organizations, state and local governments  
Technical assistance for economic development. Requests for technical assistance from private and public sources are handled daily. These requests are for demographic data, U.S. Census data, and economic development assistance.

### *Education*

**Program:** **Environmental Education Grant**  
**Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency  
**Funding available:** There are two categories of funding:  
Greater than \$25,000 – Submitted to EPA Headquarters  
Less than \$25,000 – Submitted to Regional Offices  
**Eligible Participants:** Academic and non-profit organizations  
Increase public awareness of the environment. The EPA stresses that funds are for environmental education and not environmental information. The EPA's definition of environmental education is a project that increases public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and provides the skills to make informed decisions and take responsible actions. Environmental information simply provides facts or opinions about environmental problems or issues.

**Program:** **Community Education Grant**  
**Agency:** Southwest Florida Water Management District  
**Funding Available:** up to \$5,000  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipalities and county governments and non-profit environmental organizations  
Educate adults on ecosystem protection. The Southwest Florida Water Management District's Community Education Grant Program offers up to \$5,000 to support projects that provide opportunities for people to create community-based educational experiences that lead to the protection and conservation of Florida's ecosystem, specifically the water resources closest to their homes. To be added to the mailing list to receive information about the application process, call 1-800-423-1476, ext. 5967.

**Program:** **Polk County In-School Education Mini-Grant**  
**Agency:** Southwest Florida Water Management District  
**Funding Available:** up to \$5,000 per school  
**Eligible Participants:** Public school teachers in all subject areas within Polk County.  
To promote water education that teaches students about their watersheds and the water resources within them. Project categories include watersheds, water conservation and supply, water quality, and flood protection/drought education. For information, contact In-School Education Coordinator, Southwest Florida Water Management District, 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4774.

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**Program:** **Community Character Grant Program**  
**Agency:** The Dunn Foundation  
**Funding available:** Between \$500 and \$10,000  
**Eligible Participants:** Academic and non-profit organizations  
Fund educational programs that develop the awareness of community character and appearance. Provides program planning and design funds, as well as seed money for educational programs.  
The pre-application process consists of a letter of inquiry outlining the funding requirement for the project. After the pre-application is reviewed, the requesting agency may be invited to submit a formal funding proposal.

**Program:** **Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program Wildlife Risk Assessment**  
**Agency:** EPA National Center for Environmental Research  
**Funding available:** Up to \$175,000/year for two to three years  
**Eligible Participants:** Academic and non-profit organizations, state and local governments  
Fund research on the impacts of multiple stressors. Research to evaluate the relative and combined risks of multiple stressors (e.g. habitat alteration, chemical pollution, and presence of exotic species). Research should be targeted to two areas:

- Research to understand risks to a specific population or species of wildlife (threatened, endangered or of special interest to stakeholder groups), and
- Research to develop generalized approaches for assessing risks to wildlife populations. This research should result in methods and approaches useful for predicting risk to wildlife and modeling approaches for predicting how multiple stressors affect wildlife population dynamics.

## *Conservation and Recreation*

**Program:** **Florida Communities Trust/Florida Forever**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Community Affairs  
**Funding Available:** Varies, but recently funded at \$66 million per year, statewide  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipalities and county governments and non-profit environmental organizations  
Purchase public land for outdoor recreation. Designed to provide grant and loan assistance for the acquisition of conservation and outdoor recreation lands.

**Program:** **Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation, Bureau of Design and Recreation Services  
**Funding Available:** Maximum grant amount is \$200,000. The local match requirement depends on the total project cost:

<i>Total Project Cost</i>	<i>FRDAP Grant</i>	<i>Local Match</i>
\$50,000 or less	100%	0%
\$50,001 - 150,000	75%	25%
Over \$150,000	50%	50%

**Eligible Participants:** Municipal or county governments or other legally constituted entities with the legal responsibility to provide public outdoor recreation

**Contact Information:** Bureau of Design and Recreation Services, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station #585, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Phone: 850-488-7896  
 The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, or FRDAP, is a competitive program that provides grants for public outdoor recreation or to construct or renovate recreational trail. Funds from FRDAP may be used to acquire or develop land for public outdoor recreation or to construct or renovate recreational trails.

**Program:** **Land and Water Conservation Fund Program**  
**Agency:** Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks, Bureau of Design and Recreation Services

**Funding Available:** Varies. The matching ratio is one applicant dollar to one federal dollar (50% / 50%).

**Eligible Participants:** All local governmental entities with the legal responsibility for the provision of outdoor recreational sites and facilities for the use and benefit of the public.

**Contact Information:** Bureau of Design & Recreation Services, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS #585, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Phone (850) 488-7896  
 LWCF is a competitive program which provides grants for acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation use. LWCF Funds may be used for land for outdoor recreation purposes, or outdoor recreation areas and facilities such as beaches, picnic areas, trails, ball fields, tennis and basketball courts and playgrounds along with associated support facilities such as lighting, parking, restrooms and landscaping. Enclosed buildings and structures (except restrooms, restroom/concession buildings and bathhouses) are ineligible.

**Program:** **Trust for Public Land Conservation Services Program**  
**Agency:** Trust for Public Land  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Local governments, local land trusts, and citizen groups  
 Purchase public land for outdoor recreation. Designed to help local governments find creative solutions to buy land when there is no immediate funding or where the property owner has special requirements.



**Program:** **Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program**  
**Agency:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior  
**Funding Available:** (50% Federal/50% Local) Matching Grants for planning; (70% Federal/30% Local) Matching Grants for Rehabilitation  
**Eligible Participants:** Local governments  
 Rehabilitation of recreational areas. Eligible activities include resource and needs assessment, coordination, citizen involvement and planning, and program development activities to encourage public definition of goals. State, local, and private funds can be used as part of the local match. Community Development Block Grants may also be used as part of the local match. Funds can also be used for rebuilding, remodeling, or expanding existing facilities. Innovation grants (70% Federal/30% Local) can be used to demonstrate innovative and cost effective ways to enhance park and recreation opportunities at the neighborhood level.

**Program:** **Partners for Fish and Wildlife**  
**Agency:** United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)  
**Funding Available:** Up to \$10,000  
**Eligible Participants:** Landowners, businesses, farmers, ranchers, tribes, and schools  
 Restoration of wetland and riparian habitat  
 The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Since 1987, the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program helps accomplish this mission by offering technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land.

**Program:** **Florida Plant Conservation Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Division of Forestry  
**Funding available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Local governments, educational institutions, communities, and non-profit groups  
**Contact Information:** Florida Division of Forestry at (850) 488-4274 or [http://www.fl-dof.com/Conservation/plant\\_program.html](http://www.fl-dof.com/Conservation/plant_program.html)  
 Restore and maintain existing populations of listed plants. The goal of the Florida Plant Conservation Program is to restore and maintain existing populations of listed plants on public land and on private lands managed for conservation purposes. Previous or ongoing projects address demography, monitoring, reintroduction, germination, pollination, and other aspects of population ecology.

*Historical and Cultural*

**Program:** **Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions for Improvements to Historic Properties**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Sources:** Property tax exemption  
**Eligible Participants:** Properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or contributing to a National Register Historic District, or designated as landmarks  
 Encourage rehabilitation of historic properties. Designed to allow counties and municipalities to adopt an ordinance allowing ad valorem tax exemptions for improvements resulting from rehabilitation of historic properties.

**Program:** **Cultural Grants Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipal and county governments and non-profit corporations  
**Contact Information:** Bureau of Grants Services, Division of Cultural Affairs, Department of State. (850) 487-2980.  
 Funding to support organizations and governments engaged in cultural programming. Cultural disciplines include dance, folk arts, theater, visual arts, literature, and media arts. Matching grants are required, a portion of which may be donated materials or services.

**Program:** **Cultural Facilities Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipal and county governments and non-profit corporations  
**Contact Information:** Bureau of Grants Services, Division of Cultural Affairs, Department of State. (850) 487-2980.  
 Funding to support capital improvement projects. Designed to provide capital project funding for acquisition, construction, and renovation of cultural facilities

**Program:** **Historic Preservation Grants-in-Aid Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Available:** The maximum matching grant award is \$40,000; however, most grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The grantee will be required to provide a matching share of 50% in cash or in kind services  
**Eligible Participants:** Departments or agencies of the state (including universities), cities, counties and other units of local government, and non-profit organizations  
 Grant funds for historical surveys. To assist in the identification, excavation, protection, and rehabilitation of historic and archaeological sites in Florida; to provide public information about these important resources; and to encourage historic preservation in smaller cities through the Florida Main Street program.

**Program:** **Historical Museums Grants-in-Aid Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Available:** Grants for general operating support will not exceed 20% of a museum's operating expenses for the last fiscal year up to a maximum of \$75,000. Awards for educational exhibits will not exceed \$35,000. All funding is awarded as a 50/50 matching grant. Grantees may meet their 50% obligation with cash or donated materials and services having a specific cash value  
**Eligible Participants:** Government agencies, corporations, partnerships and other organizations; for exhibits, non-profit Florida History museums; for general operating support non-profit organizations and government agencies  
 Matching funds. These grants provide matching funds to assist Florida history museums with annual operating expenses and to support the development of educational exhibits relating to Florida history. General operating support grants underwrite technical, curatorial, administrative, and educational costs associated with the daily management of museum facilities.

**Program:** **Special Category Grants**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of State  
**Funding Available:** The majority of the Special Category grants awards are in the \$50,000 to \$250,000 range. Evidence of substantial local cost share over the previous five years must be demonstrated and a minimum amount of \$50,000 is needed to be eligible for consideration. A 50% or better local cost share is preferred.  
**Eligible Participants:** Departments or agencies of the state (including universities), cities, counties and other units of local government, and non-profit organizations  
 Funding Assistance. To assist major archaeological excavations, large restoration projects at historic structures, and major museum exhibit projects involving the development and presentation of information on the history of Florida.

**Program:** **Tourist Development Trust Fund**  
**Agency:** Polk County Board of County Commissioners  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:**  
**Contact Information:** The Polk County Tourist Development Council makes recommendations to the Polk County Board on the effective use of revenues as well as monitors revenue expenditures by the Board.  
 Tourist Development Tax dollars are distributed by the Tax Collector's Office to the Polk County Board of County Commissioners for its Tourist Development Trust Fund. These tax dollars are used to advertise and promote tourism in Polk County, fund special art and cultural events, sporting events, and capital improvements, such as, but not limited to, the Winter Haven and Lakeland Spring Training Baseball Facilities and the Lakeland Center.

*Balanced Transportation System*

**Program:** **Transportation Enhancement Program**  
**Agency:** Federal Department of Transportation  
**Funding available:** Up to \$25,000,000; smaller innovative projects are given priority  
**Eligible Participants:** The Department of Transportation, state agencies, federal agencies, statewide or national interest groups, metropolitan planning organizations, county commissions, municipalities, and local interest groups  
 Fund projects that go beyond what is routinely provided in transportation projects or in mitigation requirements associated with transportation projects. Funds can be used for the following:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles,
- Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites,
- Scenic or historic highway programs,
- Landscaping,
- Historic preservation,
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors,
- Control and removal of outdoor advertising,
- Archaeological planning and research, and
- Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality

The solicitation of applications for local projects occurs through the Transportation Planning Organization. The solicitation for applications for projects that qualify as statewide enhancement occurs through the Central Environmental Management Office. Federal Enhancement dollars can cover up to 100% of project cost on state roadways.

**Program:** **Local Agency Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation  
**Funding Available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipal and county governments  
 Funding and technical assistance for transportation improvement projects. Designed to provide funding and technical assistance to local governments interested in implementing federal aid transportation projects.

**Program:** **National Urban and Community Forestry Matching Grant Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
**Funding available:** Awards are made on a 50% cost-share basis.  
**Eligible Participants:** Local governments, educational institutions, communities, and non-profit groups  
**Contact Information:** Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
 Fund projects that go beyond what is routinely provided in transportation projects or in mitigation requirements associated with transportation projects. These funds are for projects that develop or enhance a community's ability to have a sustained, comprehensive tree care program.

**Program:** **Recreational Trails Program**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
**Funding available:** The current maximum grant amount for mixed-use and non-motorized projects is \$100,000. The maximum grant award amount for motorized projects it is \$250,000.  
**Eligible Participants:** Municipal or county governments and organizations approved by the State  
 Develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. This program provides funding to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users. Eligible projects may include maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trail facilities, purchase/lease of equipment, construction of new trails, acquisition of property for trails or trail corridors, state administrative costs, and the operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection.  
 States consider projects that provide for the redesign, reconstruction, nonroutine maintenance, or relocation of recreational trails to benefit the natural environment.  
 Federal-aid highway funds may be used to make up the matching fund requirements for RTP projects.

**Program:** **Florida Highway Beautification Council Grant**  
**Agency:** Florida Department of Transportation  
**Funding available:** Varies  
**Eligible Participants:** City and county governments  
**Contact Information:** [www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/beauty/council.htm](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/beauty/council.htm)  
 Fund landscaping beautification along Florida’s roadways. Grant applicants are required to submit construction-ready landscape plans, and if awarded a grant, agree to maintain the completed landscaped area in perpetuity.

## Conservation Funding

The following funding sources are used for conservation projects such as the purchase and management of environmental lands. Each presents specific advantages and disadvantages that differ in some ways from other types of projects.

### Real Property (Ad Valorem) Taxes

- Advantages
  - Typically most reliable source of local government revenue;
  - Easily bondable;
  - May be used for both capital and recurring maintenance;
  - May be voted millage tied to specific purpose;
  - Has proven track record of success in environmental lands programs; and
  - Requires voter approval, gives public voice in process.
- Disadvantages
  - Public hesitant to approve new property taxes;
  - Maintenance and non-bonded amount may be counted in ten mill cap;
  - Amount of payment not tied to benefit received; and
  - May compete with other public needs.

### Local Option Sales Tax

- Advantages
  - Reliable source of revenue;
  - May be bonded or pledged for debt service; and
  - Requires voter approval, gives voter voice in process.
- Disadvantages
  - Only available for capital expenditures;
  - Competition with other programs;
  - Often considered for schools, roads, parks; and
  - Requires voter approval, which may be difficult to get.

### Assessment

- Advantages
  - Ties benefit to burden;
  - Once implemented, reliable stream of income;
  - Easy to administer once established; and
  - May be bonded, but not as easily as other taxes.
- Disadvantages
  - Must show specific benefit to assessed property;
  - Difficult to equitably assess; and
  - Not conducive to land acquisition program.

### User Charge

- Advantages
  - Viewed as one of the most equitable forms of financing;
  - Direct beneficiary pays the cost;
  - Easily implemented and changed;
  - Politically popular; and
  - May be used for capital and maintenance.
- Disadvantages
  - Environmental lands project not “fee” type service;
  - Fees insufficient to support program; and
  - Fees would be difficult to bond.

### Matching Funds

- Advantages
  - State and water management district have active programs with successful track records for acquisitions;
  - May effectively expand acquisition program funded by primary revenue source;
  - Publicly popular, can enhance case for use of other revenues; and
  - Free money, well not quite...see Disadvantages, below.
- Disadvantages
  - Matching funds and grant money more easily acquired with primary funding source available;
  - Administrative costs of acquiring grants or funds;

- Administrative cost of grant administration, reporting and accounting;
- Additional costs of operations from funding requirements; and
- Possible loss of local control.

- frequency of revenue cannot be predicted;
- Cost of administering program, including creation and maintaining banks; and
- Competing onsite or off-site mitigation projects.

Mitigation Banking

- Advantages
  - Creation and subsequent sale of mitigation credits;
  - Scientific-based selection aspects of land acquisition program;
  - Would direct mitigation efforts to appropriate projects;
  - Little burden on taxpayer, trade-off may be less on-site mitigation;
  - If implemented successfully could be self-supporting; and
  - Few restrictions on revenues generated.
- Disadvantages
  - Difficult permitting issues;
  - Not reliable source of revenue until bank is established; amount and

Impact Fees

- Advantages
  - Enjoys public support;
  - No election required; and
  - Reliable source of partial funding as long as growth continues;
- Disadvantages
  - Can only be based on needs attributable to growth;
  - Must be backed by study justifying amount of fee to impact of growth;
  - Not readily bondable; and
  - May only be used for capital to offset impact of new growth.

### Additional Funding

Additional local, state and federal grants and programs, not detailed above that may be investigated include, but are not limited to, the following:

Arts, humanities, and environment	Community Foundation of Greater Lakeland
American Greenways DuPont Awards Program	The Conservation Fund
Institutional Conservation Program	Department of Community Affairs
Conservation and Recreation Lands Acquisition	Department of Environmental Protection
Ecotourism/Heritage Tourism	Department of Environmental Protection
Florida Advisory Council on Environmental Education	Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Trust Fund	Department of Environmental Protection
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program	Department of Environmental Protection
National Recreational Trails Funding Program	Department of Environmental Protection
Science Museum Program	Department of State
Nongame Wildlife Contracts Program	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Cooperative Assistance Program	Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)
Waterway Assistance Program	Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)