

## FISCAL YEAR 2010 CIVILIAN APPROPRIATIONS INFORMATION

### OFFICE OF SENATOR BILL NELSON

I look forward to working with you to ensure that Florida's priorities are well represented and adequately funded in the fiscal year 2010 appropriations bills. Below are general information about the appropriations process and answers to frequently asked questions. You may also find my request form and detailed instructions for completing it on my website.

Please note that this information applies to projects that may be funded in any of the 9 *civilian* appropriations bills which are typically earmarked:

Agriculture  
Commerce-Justice-Science  
Energy and Water  
Financial Services and General Government  
Interior  
Homeland Security  
Labor-HHS-Education  
State & Foreign Operations  
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

Projects that may receive funding from the Department of Defense and Military Construction Appropriations bills will require a different form, which is also available on my website. In keeping with congressional custom, I do not usually request earmarks in the Legislative Branch appropriations bill.

### Questions and Assistance

Contact Katie Platt or Treon Glenn in my office at (202) 224-5274.

### Saving and Submitting Your Form

Please **complete** a separate form for each project for which you are requesting federal funding. While additional background materials are very helpful to me, I would appreciate it if you would limit supporting documents to five pages or less.

### Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Timeline

#### *January-Early February 2009*

Visit <http://www.billnelson.senate.gov> to download my request form. I also encourage you to contact Senator Mel Martinez and your Representative in the House regarding their appropriations request processes.

### ***February 27, 2009***

*Submit completed request forms on my website by this date. Additional supporting documents may be sent to [civilian\\_appropriations@billnelson.senate.gov](mailto:civilian_appropriations@billnelson.senate.gov).*

### ***March-April, 2009***

I review your projects, and express my support for many of these projects directly to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### ***Summer 2009***

The House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees write their bills. My office works with the staff of those subcommittees to ensure inclusion of projects requested by municipalities, universities, nonprofit organizations, and agencies in Florida.

### ***Fall to Winter 2009***

Appropriations bills are considered by the Appropriations Committee, and later, by the full Senate. These bills, which will include many projects that have been requested by Florida organizations, are reconciled with their House versions and are signed into law.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***Who can submit a funding request?***

Requests will only be accepted from government entities and non-profit organizations including colleges or universities.

### ***What is the due date for submitting these forms?***

The due date is Thursday, February 27, 2009. I base my deadline for receipt of civilian appropriations forms on the deadlines given to me by the Appropriations Subcommittee Chairs. The February 27<sup>th</sup> deadline allows sufficient time to review your requests prior to the mid-March and early April timeframe for the Senator's submission of request letters and forms to the Subcommittees. I am happy to continue to meet and accept additional documentation through mid-March, but it is important that I have your forms by February 27. *Please be aware that defense requests may have a different deadline.*

### ***How do I find out the status of my funding request?***

You are welcome to contact Katie Platt or Treon Glenn throughout the fiscal year to determine the status of the appropriations bills in general, or you may visit <http://thomas.loc.gov> for easy access to this information.

### ***Should I come to Washington, DC to discuss my funding request?***

It is not necessary to come to my Washington office to discuss your funding request. I would be happy to discuss your projects by phone – including via conference calls – and encourage you to

call me to review your project. If you'd like to schedule a time to meet with staff, these meetings are most beneficial when they take place by mid-March. Unfortunately, I am unable to accompany you to meetings with Appropriations Subcommittee staff.

***What kind of requests will you focus on?***

Since the Senate and House Appropriations committees have announced reductions in earmarks for FY2010, I have chosen to focus on those areas which are important to economic stimulus. Principally, I will look for funding requests that fulfill at least two of the following goals:

- Clean, Efficient, American Energy
- Transforming our Economy with Science and Technology
- Modernizing Roads, Bridges, Transit and Waterways
- Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Lowering Healthcare Costs
- Helping Workers Hurt by the Economy
- Saving Public Sector Jobs and Protect Vital Services.

Also, special consideration will be given to projects which are regional in nature, have more than one sponsor or supporter, and can show such support in the form of at least 2 letters or resolutions. Examples include: projects sponsored by a city and endorsed by the county and metropolitan planning organization, projects sponsored by university partnered with a non-profit organization and local school district, projects which span more than one city or county and are formally endorsed by most or all.

***What else must I identify as a justification for my request?***

For the bills below, the following questions must be answered:

*Energy and Water Development*

- For energy-related projects: Will funds be used to execute tangible research? Does the project demonstrate new technologies or established technology in a new way?
- For Army Corps of Engineers: Is this project authorized and is it a new start?

*Interior and Related Agencies*

- For STAG projects: Will you be able to provide the appropriate match?

*Transportation, Housing and Urban Development*

- For transportation: Is this project on FDOT's five-year plan, or have you submitted a project fact sheet to your local FDOT office?

***What happens if I do not include these specifics in the justification for my funding request?***

Your request may be considered incomplete and therefore withdrawn from consideration.