

**TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM**

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. (“Triumph Gulf Coast”) has created a pre-application process to provide initial consideration of potential ideas for projects or programs that may seek an award of funding. Applicants are required to participate in the pre-application process. Notwithstanding the response from Triumph Gulf Coast on the pre-application form, an Applicant may still elect to submit an Application.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: City of Apalachicola

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: The City of Apalachicola is located within Franklin County, one of the eight disproportionately affected counties in Northwest Florida.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Lee Mathes  
Title: City Administrator  
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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: \_\_\_\_\_

**Duke Energy Florida, Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, Vermont Law School, local volunteer groups**

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In a maximum of three (3) pages, please describe the proposed project or program, including (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast; (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program; (iii) the location of the project or program; (iv) summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties, and (v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This pre-application process will **not** result in an award of funding by Triumph Gulf Coast. Rather, this process is designed to facilitate submission of ideas for potential projects or programs before the Applicant expends time and/or resources to complete a full Application. All Applicants for funding are required to complete an Application, which will be scored, and then considered for award in the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.



**City of Apalachicola . 1 Avenue E . Apalachicola, FL 32320**  
**[www.cityofapalachicola.com](http://www.cityofapalachicola.com)**

**Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application**  
**City of Apalachicola Solar Project**

The City of Apalachicola seeks to enhance the economic well-being of the community with a series of solar power farms that are projected to immediately reduce utility costs and save the city more than \$1.9 million over the next 30 years.

These solar projects will transform the local economy and promote economic recovery by introducing a sustainable and reliable local source of clean energy. This project can be expanded in the future to include county and tourism-related sites.

The city of Apalachicola has suffered severe long-term damage to the traditional local fishing economy because of Georgia's excessive water use, and economic harm from the BP Oil Spill. This project will help the city survive these challenges; will compliment an emerging tourism-related economy; will reduce city and ratepayer bills; and will provide job training for local young people.

**i) Funding Requested**

The city seeks \$900,000 in funding for the first phase of this project.

**ii) Local Match**

The city is providing matching support estimated to be worth more than \$100,000 through city-owned land and buildings, local staff and volunteer technical support, pro-bono technical analysis from nationally recognized solar experts at the Vermont Law School, and input from Duke Energy Florida, the Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, and other utility experts.

**iii) Locations**

The project features locations designed to provide maximum returns to the city, citizens, and the environment. One solar array will be at the city wastewater treatment plant located at 991 U.S. Highway 98. The second will be at the Mayor Van W. Johnson, Sr., Recreation and Community Complex at 190 14th Street, Apalachicola.

**iv) Summary**

The project will transform the existing energy dynamic away from a system that imports power, and towards one that generates sustainable electricity, revenue, and jobs locally.

The project consists of a 496kW solar system at the wastewater site with 1,440 ground mounted commercial solar panels and related hardware, covering about 2.5 acres; and a 89kW system with 260 commercial solar panels at the Recreation and Community Complex. Projected costs are \$800,00 for the wastewater portion and \$200,000 for the Recreation and Community Complex.

These systems are projected to save the city and taxpayers \$1,985,000 over the next 30 years (\$71,000 per year initially; declining slightly over time), by reducing major utility bills more than 50% each year. The financial projections are based on estimates from nationally known solar installers who have built similar systems for many other municipalities, such as Valdosta, Georgia, and Jacksonville, Florida.

The sustainable long-term operational savings will benefit the environment, reduce utility bills, free up funds for critical infrastructure maintenance for the wastewater plant, and support multiple community service programs based at the 14th street location.

The solar wastewater portion will provide 811,000 kWh of electricity per year, reducing those monthly bills by more than 50 percent. The Recreation and Community Complex portion will provide 137,000 kWh per year.

The project will also include a workforce development component, to train young people in the rapidly expanding solar power field.

Detailed cost-saving and technical specifications are available.

**v) Timeline**

The projects can be completed within four (4) to five (5) months of a final contract, potentially producing power and immediate savings before the end of 2018.