

Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility Effluent Disposal Expansion

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: Okaloosa County

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: County government

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager
Mailing Address: 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 102, Shalimar, FL 32579
Telephone Number: 850-651-7521
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: BCC, Okaloosa County EDC, Okaloosa County Public

Works, Okaloosa County Airports, FDEP, FDOH, and NFWFMD.

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.

Executive Summary
Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility
Effluent Disposal Expansion
Okaloosa County Water & Sewer (OCWS)

Project Description

- To pave the way for economic development projects to occur in areas throughout the unincorporated Okaloosa County service area east of Crestview, Florida, wastewater disposal capacity must be expanded. This includes future development of the Bob Sikes Industrial Park, residential/commercial growth west of the Shoal River and north of Airport Road, residential/commercial/industrial growth east of the Shoal River, and a potential future industrial park at the Shoal River Ranch. In order to be proactive and posture for this growth, the effluent disposal capacity at the Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility (BSWRF) should be expanded from 0.4 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.1 MGD, matching the capacity of the BSWRF itself. The BSWRF is located at the economically booming Bob Sikes Industrial Park (BSIP) surrounding the Bob Sikes Airport east of Crestview.
- The wastewater treatment facility itself has been previously upgraded to a capacity of 1.1 MGD, producing high quality effluent, suitable for disposal via subsurface absorption fields. In order to increase the disposal capacity to 1.1 MGD, the absorption fields must be expanded and the effluent force main must be upgraded in diameter. The expanded absorption fields would be constructed on County-owned property around the existing fields and the runway at the Bob Sikes Airport.
- This expansion of wastewater disposal capacity will support local economic activities (particularly DOD-related industries) at and around the rapidly growing industrial park, as well as other industrial, commercial, and residential development throughout OCWS' Mid County Service Area. With expanded wastewater disposal capacity, this project opens the door for future wastewater collection system improvements to be built or upgraded, which will in turn protect the delicate local ecosystem by discouraging the installation of thousands of individual septic tanks.
- In addition, the nature of absorption beds leads to increased local groundwater recharge with no wasted water via evaporation (as with a sprayfield). There will be no loss or change of habitat as the area of construction is currently grassed and will remain so after construction. The grassed area in the vicinity of the expanded fields will be healthier after construction as it will receive a constant supply of water.

(i) Funds Being Sought from Triumph Gulf Coast

- **Total funding request for this shovel-ready project is \$1.5M.**
- This request includes all estimated construction costs for all phases of the project.

(ii) Other Sources of Funds for the Project

- If this request is accepted, no additional funding will be necessary for the successful completion of this critical infrastructure project.
- **OCWS has previously expended over \$560K** for the construction of the first phase of effluent disposal as well as planning, design, and permitting for this expansion project.
- Okaloosa County has already invested heavily in the existing water and sewer facilities in this portion of unincorporated Okaloosa County. Examples include the relatively new BSWRF upgrade, numerous sewer pump stations, and water/wastewater transmission mains.

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us, 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

(iii) Project Location

- The Bob Sikes Industrial Park (BSIP) is east of Crestview, Florida, and is located within OCWS' Mid County Service Area. To be more specific, the BSIP is located south of Airport Road, west of Fairchild Road, north of Highway 90, and east of John Givens Road. Both the BSWRF itself and the effluent disposal fields are location in and adjacent to the BSIP. The expanded fields have been designed and permitted to use land that is unavailable for other above ground structures due to proximity to the runway, which is an added benefit to expansion of the BSIP. In addition, a new entrance to the Airport and BSIP has been planned and designed for construction in the near future to further spur growth. The proposed roadway construction is being designed in proximity to the area dedicated for the effluent disposal capacity expansion, and neither project should interfere with the other.



(iv) Description of Project Benefits

- Okaloosa County is an important working-class community. The people who live in the County support the military mission, members of the armed forces, and thriving nearby tourist industries. The activities of Bob Sikes Airport, BSIP, and the surrounding areas provide a significant portion of the local economy, particularly in the area north of Eglin AFB. Modern, public water and wastewater infrastructure in the area is important, given increasing DOD contracts and USAF partnerships. Providing for these partnerships is leading to heightened demand for water and wastewater infrastructure in the unincorporated County service area east of Crestview, including the multimodal Highway 90/I-10/CSX railroad corridor, stretching to the Walton County line. Improvements to the availability, capacity, efficiency, and reliability of the wastewater infrastructure for this growth area

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will not only affect commercial and industrial expansion, but provide further opportunities for residential development that will follow increased business opportunities.

- Florida's economy is deeply intertwined with its airport system and aviation industry. Okaloosa County serves as an important element of this system due to its aviation investments that support tourism, local endeavors, and the military. Okaloosa's gross economic impact is \$8.8 billion, providing over 71,780 jobs. The Bob Sikes Airport, serviced by Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility, houses an 8,000-foot runway. This runway accommodates large military support aircraft, such as the U.S. Air Force Boeing C-28, which is used to transport helicopters to local and regional airspace. Additionally, the Air Force and Navy use the airport for extensive flight training purposes due to its Instrument Landing System. In Okaloosa County, defense-related spending exceeds \$3.1 billion dollars—73% of economic activity. Bob Sikes is a key player for the local community, providing over 2,700 jobs, which host a total payroll of about \$108M per year. These impacts come from the airport itself, its tenants, and visitors utilizing general aviation aircraft. These visitors alone generate an indirect impact of \$1.85M per year to the community. Infrastructure improvements to the BSIP service area along the Highway 90 corridor will help to ensure long-term financial stability for the community and region. Fitting with Northwest Florida FORWARD goals, completion of this project would help to keep Florida's infrastructure state-of-the-art and further improve Florida's diverse and vibrant economy.
- Additionally, this project would support the goals established by the Northwest Florida Greenway Project, which represents the partnership between military, government, and non-profit organizations for the enhancement of the military mission in Northwest Florida while enhancing the local economy and conserving ecosystems. In addition, investing proactively in centralized public water and sewer is the responsible approach in keeping the environment and water supply sustainable, preempting the installation of thousands of septic tanks and individual water wells spread throughout the area, particularly in the watershed of the Shoal River which traverses across Okaloosa and Santa Rosa Counties before eventually emptying into the Gulf of Mexico in Escambia County.

(v) Project Timeline

- Design and Permitting – completed in 2009
- Review, Update Design, and Produce Bid Documents – 2 months
- Bidding – 4 months
- Construction – 12 months
- All above durations are approximate

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