

Bridge to Bridge Multi-use Path

**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

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Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager  
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Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.com

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: n/a

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**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.

Describe the proposed project or program:

The Bridge to Bridge project would construct an approximately 5 mile, multi-use paved pathway from Brooks Bridge in Fort Walton Beach, FL to the Marler Bridge in Destin, FL along the north right of way along Highway 98. The pathway would be available to pedestrians as well as cyclists and provide a safe and scenic alternative transportation and recreation route for local citizens and tourists alike.

(i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast:

\$5.5 million  
Approximate cost breakdown:  
\$4 Million Construction cost  
\$600k design  
\$600k inspection  
\$300k admin

(ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program:

\$102,168 already committed to preliminary design work from the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Tax

(iii) the location of the project or program:

The multi-use pathway will be located in Okaloosa County along the northern right-of-way of Highway 98 from the Brooks Bridge in Fort Walton Beach, FL to the Marler Bridge in Destin, FL.

From 30° 23' 59.82" N, 86° 35' 58.9164" W  
To 30° 23' 28.1544" N, 86° 31' 23.4912" W

(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:

See attached

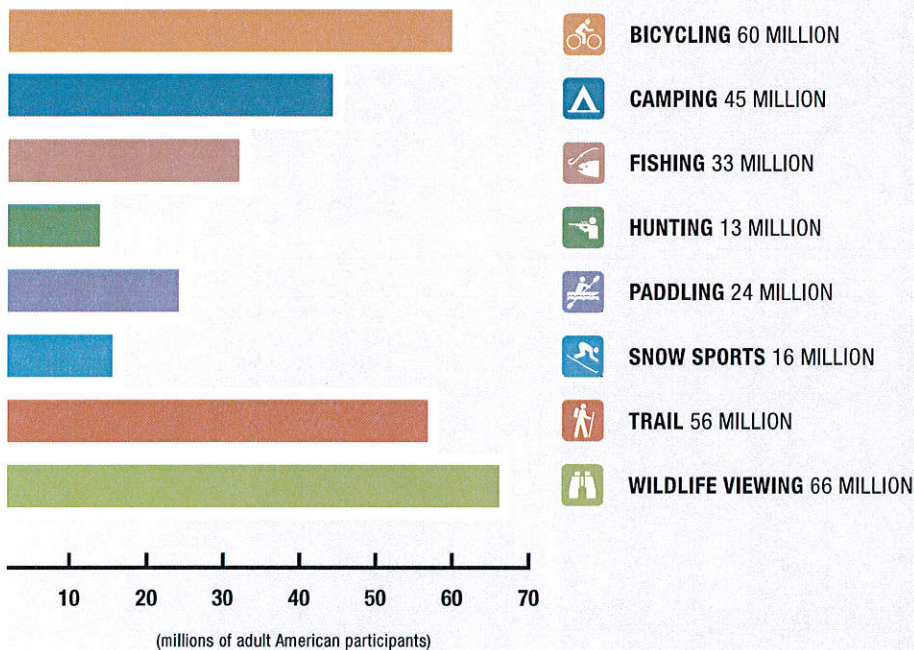
(v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program:

Preliminary work including surveys, 30% design and environmental assessment is almost complete. Upon receipt of funding it is anticipated that construction would be complete within 24 months.

## Who Drives the Recreation Economy?

The Active Outdoor Recreation Economy begins with millions of Americans who come from all walks of life and geographical regions across the country. More than three out of every four Americans engage in healthy outdoor activities, ranging from bird watching to ice climbing, hiking to bass fishing. When Americans get out and participate in these activities, they aren't just having fun and staying fit, they're also pumping billions of dollars into the economy.

### ACTIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTICIPANTS BY THE NUMBERS



### FAST FACTS

- ★ More Americans camp than play basketball.<sup>1</sup>
- ★ The number of Americans who participate in bicycling is double the population of Canada.
- ★ More Americans paddle (kayak, canoe, raft) than play soccer.<sup>2</sup>
- ★ The number of Americans who recreate in the snow each year is greater than the combined populations of Ireland, Costa Rica, New Zealand, and Mongolia.
- ★ The number of New Englanders who participate in trail-based recreation annually is greater than the combined attendance for all 81 Boston Red Sox home games.<sup>3</sup>
- ★ The number of annual participants in snow-based recreation is more than double the combined annual attendance for NASCAR's two premier series.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sporting Goods Manufacturing Association (SGMA) estimates 32 million Americans 6+ played basketball in 2005.

<sup>2</sup> SGMA estimates 17 million Americans 6+ played soccer in 2005.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.justmarketing.com/index.asp?pid=series>, 2005

<sup>4</sup> NASCAR's premier series—the 2005 Busch Grand National Series and NEXTEL Cup Series; <http://www.justmarketing.com/index.asp?pid=series>



#### SECTION (iv)

MULTI-USE TRAILS HAVE BEEN SHOWN TIME AND TIME AGAIN TO PROVIDE POSITIVE SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR THE REGIONS WHERE THEY ARE LOCATED. SOME OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS INCLUDE BOOSTING TOURISM AND THE ECONOMY AND EXTENDING VACATION STAYS AND ENCOURAGING RETURN VISITS. ADDITIONALLY, CYCLING TOURISTS TEND TO EARN HIGHER INCOMES. FINALLY, RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF BICYCLING FACILITIES OUTWEIGH THEIR COSTS.

MULTI-USE PATHS HAVE ADDITIONAL POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS BY BENEFITING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ITS USERS. STATES WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF BICYCLING AND WALKING TO WORK SEE LOWER LEVELS OF DIABETES, OBESITY, AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, AND SEE HIGHER LEVELS OF THE POPULATION MEETING RECOMMENDED WEEKLY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEVELS. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT AS THE PERCENTAGE OF TRIPS TO WORK BY BICYCLE INCREASES, THE NUMBER OF FATALITIES PER 10,000 BICYCLISTS DECLINES

AS PART OF THE GREAT NORTHWEST COAST REGIONAL CONNECTOR AND AS GAPS IN THIS CONNECTOR ARE FILLED, THERE WILL EVENTUALLY BE AN UNBROKEN, MULTI-USE PATH FROM ESCAMBIA COUNTY TO WAKULLA COUNTY TRANSFORMING THE CURRENTLY SEGMENTED PATHWAY INTO A SINGLE, SAFE AND CONTINUOUS TRAIL FOR COMMUTERS, RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO PREDICT THAT THE CREATION OF A SAFE AND SCENIC ROUTE OF OVER 200 MILES ALONG THE BEAUTIFUL EMERALD COAST WOULD GENERATE NUMEROUS BUSINESSES FOCUSED ON CYCLING AND HIKING EFFECTIVELY DIVERSIFYING OUR BEACH-CENTRIC TOURISM INDUSTRY.