

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

**The ESCAMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS approved the OLF8/OLFX Land Swap Project as one of five priority projects for Triumph first round submittal. The Escambia County BCC will provide a letter of support pending Triumph pre-application review and development of a full application.**

### **APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

**Name of Individual/Entity/Organization:** Escambia County Board of County Commissioners

**Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization:** The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners is one of the eight disproportionately affected counties in Northwest Florida.

### **Contact Information:**

**Primary Contact Information:** Taylor “Chips” Kirschenfeld  
**Title:** Escambia County Natural Resources Management Department Director  
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**Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program:** NAS Whiting Field, Santa Rosa County

### **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.

## **Proposed Project**

### **(i) Amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast:**

- 1) Final Phase of OLF X Site Preparation for US Department of Defense: \$6.7 million
- 2) Design and Permitting of OLF 8 Commerce Park: Estimated at \$3.4 million
- 3) Construction of OLF 8 Commerce Park: Estimated at \$19.8 million

The total requested funds for all proposed phases is \$29.9 million.

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

The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) has expended matching or leveraged funds totaling \$10 million to develop the OLF X/OLF 8 Land Swap. These expenditures include the purchase, rezoning, environmental, clearing, grading, planting, design, and sub-grade prep of the OLF X site in Santa Rosa County. The Escambia County BCC has an additional \$1.1 million allocated for OLF X site preparation (Phase 1). These funds were allocated from Escambia County's Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) funds for Capital Improvement Projects and Economic Growth.

The Escambia County BCC has also allocated \$1.5 million from RESTORE Direct Component (Pot 1) for the development of the OLF 8 Master Plan (Phase 2).

### **(iii) Location of the project or program:**

OLF X is located in Santa Rosa County near Naval Air Station Whiting Field. OLF 8 is located in Escambia County on Nine Mile Road adjacent to Navy Federal Credit Union.

### **(iv) Summary description of the proposed project:**

The Outlying Landing Field (OLF) Land Swap Project is a multi-phase and multi-site project between the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and the United States Naval Air Station Whiting Field (Navy). The existing OLF Site 8 in Escambia County is currently used for US Navy helicopter landing training. The BCC has a desire to obtain OLF 8 for development of a commerce park. Due to the rapid growth that is occurring in the Beulah area, the BCC believes OLF 8 would be better suited for development to serve the needs of the Beulah community.

The BCC approached the US Navy in 2013 with a proposal for this land exchange. The BCC would purchase and develop a new OLF Site X, located in Santa Rosa County closer to Whiting Field, in exchange for the aforementioned OLF Site 8 located in Escambia County. Both parties were interested in pursuing the project and began the process of drafting the Land Exchange Agreement (LEA) request to Congress.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2016 (NDAA) was signed into legislation in November 2015 which allowed the US Navy and the BCC to officially move forward with the LEA, and design and construct OLF Site X. The BCC broke ground on OLF Site X in August 2016 and is rapidly approaching completion of phase I construction, which is anticipated to be complete late November 2017. The BCC is currently finalizing the final phase of construction plans for OLF Site X with an anticipated completion date of December 2018. This phase includes:

- Installation of asphalt landing strips.
- Installation of gravel landing pads.
- Construction of an asphalt entrance road.
- Construction of a block house and apparatus bay.
- Construction of an observation tower.
- Construction of fueling pits.

The project is anticipated to bid in early 2018.

After OLF Site X is completed and accepted by the US Navy, the two parties could fully execute the LEA and perform the land swap. After the BCC has ownership of OLF Site 8, design for the new commerce park would begin using RESTORE Direct Component (Pot 1) funds allocated by the BCC.

With the proximity of OLF Site 8 to multiple interstate ramps and fronting on a major State secondary roadway (Nine Mile Road), the development of OLF 8 has the opportunity to create more than 1,000 jobs. The BCC will develop a publicly vetted master plan to meet the needs of the Beulah community and Escambia County. The new park could attract Northwest Florida targeted industries and build on the success of the neighboring property, Navy Federal Credit Union, by not only creating jobs in Escambia County but also neighboring disproportionately affected counties to the east and into Alabama. Santa Rosa County would benefit by the addition of numerous jobs and securing NAS Whiting Field as a US Navy mission ready installation for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). The development of OLF Site 8 would provide an anchor point for economic growth across the region.

Phase one of Triumph funds would complete construction of the final phase of OLF Site X to prepare the site for US Navy acceptance and completion of the land swap. Phase two funds would develop the design and master plan for the OLF 8 site (Site X must be completed and the LEA fully executed for ownership to swap). Phase three funds would construct the OLF 8 park and implement the master plan.

The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners approved the OLF8/OLFX Land Swap Project as one of five priority projects for Triumph first round submittal. The Escambia County BCC will provide a letter of support pending Triumph pre-application review and development of a full application.

**(v) Summary Timeline:**

Phase one of the OLF8/OLFX Triumph project will be shovel ready late December 2017. Phases two and three cannot begin until the final phase of OLF X has been completed and the LEA has been fully executed.