

Rasberry Road Connector (Okaloosa County in coordination with Crestview)

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 Crestview

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: City Government

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans
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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: _____

Okaloosa 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.

Triumph Required Executive Summary:

Pre-Application (Maximum of 3 pages)

Describe the proposed project or program: **Rasberry Road**

The City of Crestview, Okaloosa County, and State of Florida are collectively working to improve the transportation network in northern Okaloosa County to address traffic issues and concerns. An east-west connection is feasible, utilizing Arena Road and Rasberry Road, that would allow residents on the west side of the County to access the commercial areas in Crestview without driving on State Road (SR) 85 and without crossing Interstate 10 (I-10). Such a connection would be beneficial to all area citizens and visitors by reducing the amount of traffic and delay on SR 85 and P.J. Adams Parkway. In 2016, the City of Crestview and Okaloosa County signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the development of a concept for the improvement of Rasberry Road. The City and the County agreed to share staff resources to assist in the defining of a preferred alignment for Rasberry Road, to secure necessary right-of-way and to identify potential funding sources for the project.

Currently, residents west of Crestview must travel on P.J. Adams Parkway and cross I-10 twice to access the businesses along SR 85 near I-10. Adding Rasberry Road will allow this local traffic to remain on City Streets, via Rasberry Road and avoid using SR 85 and P.J. Adams Parkway.



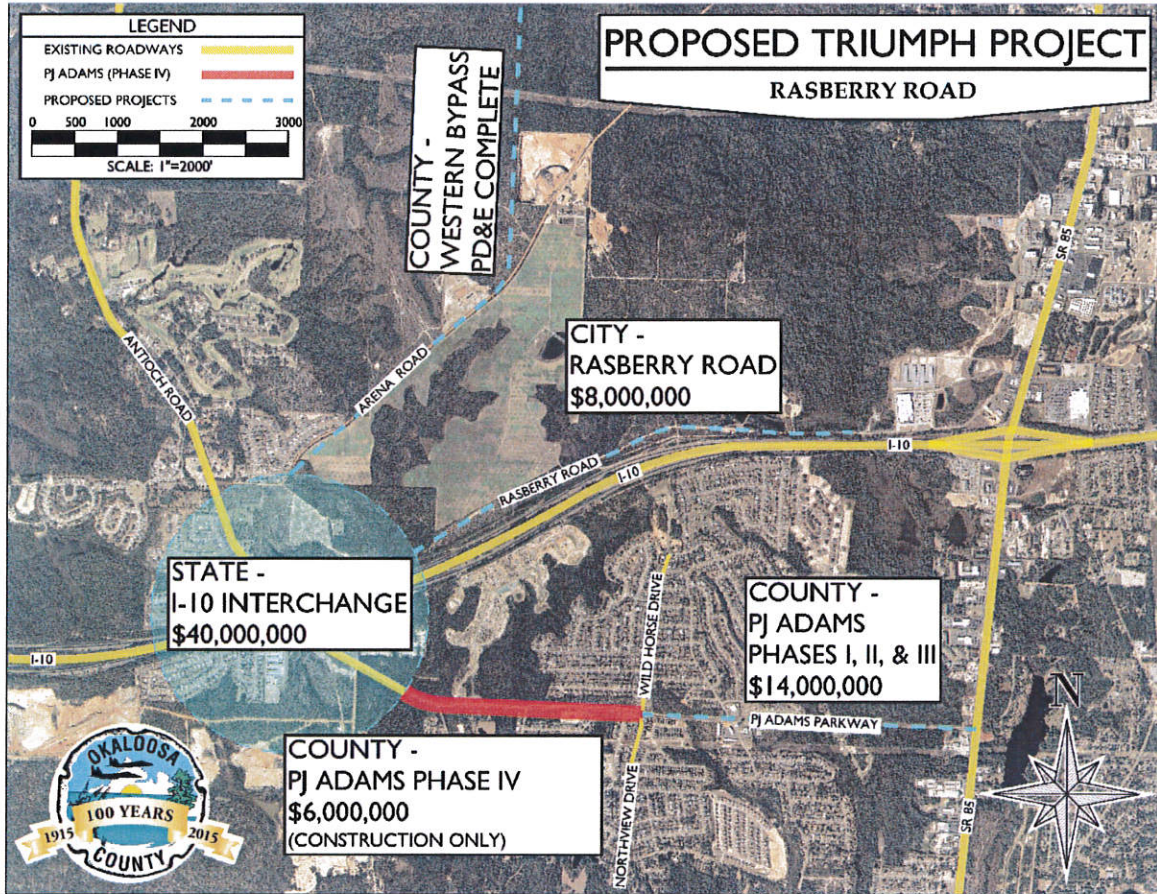
SR 85 looking south from I-10

- (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$7.0 Million.
- (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program:

The total project cost for Rasberry Road, including design, right-of-way, and construction is \$8 Million. Okaloosa County will commit \$500,000 towards the design of Rasberry Road. The anticipated funding source for the design is an existing Tax Increment Financing account which is collecting funds for transportation improvements in the vicinity of Rasberry Road and P.J. Adams Parkway. If the project is accepted, the City of Crestview could use \$500,000 in local option gas tax funds for construction of Rasberry Road.

(iv) the location of the project or program:

Raspberry Road would be a frontage road to I-10 just north of the interstate. The proposed roadway would be maintained by the City of Crestview and include a 22 foot wide pavement with curb and gutter, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes and/or a multi-use path to promote alternate modes of transportation. Raspberry Road would work hand in hand with the Western Crestview Bypass, P.J. Adams Widening Project, and the proposed interchange between the Western Crestview Bypass and I-10.



- (v) 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:

Rasberry Road is one piece of a larger plan to relieve traffic congestion on P.J. Adams Parkway and on State Route 85. P.J. Adams Parkway Phases I, II, and III are currently funded for construction. The Florida Department of Transportation is currently performing a Plan Development & Environmental (PD&E) study to determine the precise location of an interchange between the Western Crestview Bypass and I-10. A PD&E study has already been completed to take the Western Crestview Bypass from I-10 to US 90. The Western Crestview Bypass, new interchange and Rasberry Road will reduce congestion on SR 85 which is currently choked with traffic delays and accidents.

Currently, commercial and residential development is restricted north of Crestview due to inadequate transportation infrastructure. If constructed, Rasberry Road will allow transformational expansion of development north of I-10 in Crestview. Interstate 10 is a main route for east/west commerce. Okaloosa County is blessed with some of the world's most beautiful beaches and large military installations. Both tourism and our military drive our economy. Tourism is focused on our beaches and, therefore, seasonal. The ability to expand development near the interstate will allow opportunity for commercial and manufacturing commerce that will be supported year round and not limited to seasonal spikes. This expansion will create higher paying employment opportunities and allow long range planning for commercial and residential development to support our military installations. Development can be based on non-seasonal needs, therefore, transforming our economy to a more sustainable year-round platform.

In addition, Rasberry Road provides a parallel route and redundancy for I-10 during construction or traffic crashes and hurricane evacuations.

A short-range benefit of the Rasberry Road project is the generation of construction jobs for 1 year.

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

Design of Rasberry Road could occur in 2018 and 2019.

Right-of-Way acquisition could occur in 2020.

The project could be advertised for construction in 2021.

Construction is estimated to take 1 year.