

## **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: South Walton Fire District

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: The South Walton Fire District, is a career, Fire based EMS system that has an established 911 Communications Center and an exemplary Beach Safety Program that provides emergency services for 84 square miles of the southern portion of Walton County.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Primary Contact Information: Rick Talbert

Title: Fire Chief

Mailing Address: 911 N. County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

Telephone Number: (850) 267-1298

Email Address: [rtalbert@swfd.org](mailto:rtalbert@swfd.org)

Website: [www.swfd.org](http://www.swfd.org)

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

### **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

- (i) *The amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast.*

\$ 3.3 million

- (ii) *The amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program.*

The South Walton Fire District (SWFD) has invested funds specific to this project including wetland mitigation, permitting, design fees, engineering fees as well as horizontal/infrastructure work. This equates to approximately \$1 million already spent by the SWFD. In preparation for the project and the remainder of the project, the SWFD has reserved \$2.7 million dollars in impact fees. The requested amount coupled with the reserves will allow the SWFD to accomplish this goal.

- (iii) *The location of the project or program.*

The SWFD project is located in the heart of South Walton and on the SWFD Headquarters property. The physical address of 911 N. County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459.

- (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.*

This project is 'shovel-ready' and would construct a four-bay fleet maintenance facility, a three-story logistics/office/classroom area that will include classroom areas as well as a four-story training tower. The SWFD has conducted the necessary mitigation, permitting and infrastructure improvements to the proposed site.

The area of south Walton is largely dependent on the tourism industry as the economic engine for the south Walton community. As witnessed in 2010, a disaster can certainly disrupt the perception of south Walton that directly disrupts its economy. The SWFD strives to plan and protect this valuable resource.

The SWFD, is a career, Fire based EMS system that has an established 911 Communications Center and an exemplary Beach Safety Program. SWFD is located in the southern portion of Walton County Florida, encompassing the area east of Okaloosa County Line to the Bay County line. SWFD provides emergency medical services, fire protection, 911 answering point and beach

rescue services to over 22,000 citizens in an 84 square mile area of Northwest Florida. With an emphasis on tourist destination, this population surges with over 3 million visitors annually. SWFD operates with approximately 175 employees such as Firefighters, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, Dispatchers and Lifeguards who are based in 5 stations, the 911 Communications Center and fourteen Lifeguard Towers.

The South Walton Fire District is currently partners with several public, as well as private agencies, to provide logistical storage, training, education, emergency and non-emergency responses to the 84 square miles that make up south Walton. Through cooperative agreements, the District provides additional services to the immediate, as well as extended, Counties throughout the panhandle. The current project presented for this type of assistance will allow the District to construct a training tower that will provide regional training opportunities with all of SWFD's partners to include unified command and high-fidelity training scenarios. The fleet maintenance/logistics building offers a wide variety storage and maintenance options. Currently, the SWFD houses logistical storage of equipment for regional mass medical care and treatment. This building will enhance SWFD's capabilities.

Examples of current partnerships include but are not limited to: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Walton County Tourist Development Council, Walton County Emergency Management, Walton County School District, Okaloosa County, Walton County Health Department, Bay County, Northwest Florida State College, Gulf Coast State College, Sacred Heart Hospital, the Florida Forest Service, the Sandestin Homeowner's Association and the Rosemary Beach Homeowner's Association.

(v) *A summary timeline for the proposed project or program.*

The SWFD Project began in 2008. There have been many milestones accomplished since this time, despite the economic downfall in 2010.

Wetland/Stormwater permitting – Completed

Walton County development order – Completed

Horizontal/Infrastructure work – Completed

Building Design and engineering – Completed

Contractor Selection – December 2017

Construction timeline – December 2017 – March 2018