

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners

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

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Sheree T. Keeler

Title: Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

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Telephone Number: 850-926-0919 x 705 (office) 850-228-5526 (cell)

Email Address: skeeler@mywakulla.com

Website: www.mywakulla.com

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

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Wakulla County is seeking \$2.9 million in Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. (Triumph) funds to assist the County in designing, permitting and constructing a new Library.

This project can be implemented quickly and efficiently, provides a regional impact and does not duplicate any other existing programs or projects. We feel this project is an allowable use of Triumph funds pursuant to section 288.8017, (1)(c) - "Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties."

This project was recommended to Triumph for funding by the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) (see Attachment #1). Wakulla County is a designated Rural Economic Opportunity Area.

Summary of Project

A new County Library constructed at the County's Community Center is a priority of the BoCC. The current Library is not large enough to accommodate the current demand for meeting space,

collection development, or capacity for participation in the many events and classes held at the Library. The Community Center would also provide a more central location so that even more citizens could participate in free programs and services. The current Library (located on US 319) would be repurposed for a much needed FIRE/EMS station.

The current Library is a dynamic hub, continually evolving with new library services that are innovative, fun and citizens are asking for more. Over the last 12-24 months the Library has added the following programs and events in addition to their already vital public services:

- A teaching garden complete with chickens.
- 31 on-going programs and services for k-12 and adults, e.g., Storytime in the Park, STEAM activities, knitting classes, etc.
- 7 signature events that happen throughout the year such as the Story Walk and Trick-or-Treat Trail held in October.

The Library is averaging a 13% increase per year in registered Library patrons. There has been a 37% increase in programs over last year with over 8,000 kids attending, which is a 56% increase in attendance from the previous year.

A new, larger, centrally located Library could serve more people and offer more innovative activities and classes. One idea is that the non-traditional student could access web-based classes or certifications not offered or planned at existing educational institutions. The Library could also increase its k-12 STEM activities that supplement and enhance school studies.

In order to remain competitive with other counties and cities, Wakulla must constantly improve on services and infrastructure. If we cannot meet demands of current citizens we will certainly fall short of meeting demands of potential new or expanding businesses or individuals looking to relocate. To transform from a rural area dependent on day visitors, locally caught Gulf seafood and outdoor recreation we must provide citizen programs and amenities that break from the traditional norm.

Wakulla County is seeking \$2.9 million in funding for a new centrally located Library.

Project Timeline:

Design and permit: 12 months from date of award
Procurement-contracts awarded: 18 months from date of award
Construction completed: 24-36 months from date of award



November 6, 2017

**BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Ralph Thomas
Chairman, District 1

Mike Stewart
Vice-Chairman, District 3

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District 2

Jerry Moore
District 4

Charles Hess, Ph.D.
District 5

J. David Edwards
County Administrator

Heather J. Encinosa
County Attorney
(850) 224-4070

Mr. Alan Bense, Chairman
Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.
Post Office Box 12007
Tallahassee, Florida 32317

Dear Chairman Bense,

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners (Board) held a workshop on October 30, 2017, for the purpose of discussing Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. (Triumph) funds, project criteria, and to provide a venue for our boards of elected officials and citizens to present projects for Board consideration and recommendation to Triumph pursuant to statute.

We were very appreciative of Jason Shoaf and Scott Remington taking time to attend our Workshop. Their input and response to questions certainly exceeded expectations and contributed to the success of our Workshop.

The Board met on November 6, 2017, to finalize its initial list of recommended projects for Triumph funding and identified five priority projects that can be implemented quickly and provide optimum results for the funding being requested. The County's five priority projects below align with existing local strategic and planning documents and the Great Northwest Florida Forward strategic plan.

1. Wakulla Career and Technical Education Center
2. Wakulla County Learning Center
3. First Responder Communication System
4. New County Library
5. ADA Compliant Kayak/Canoe Launch – St. marks City Park

Summary information on each project is provided in the enclosed list of Board recommended projects for Triumph funding as of November 6, 2017. The forth coming Pre-Screening Application for each of the projects will provide further information.

It is anticipated that the Board will update its list of recommended projects from time to time as projects are funded or as priorities shift

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Mr. Alan Bense
Page Two
November 6, 2017

to reflect current needs and conditions. Your consideration of each of our projects is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to hosting the November 8th Triumph Board meeting in Wakulla County. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Ralph Thomas
Chairman

RT/stk

Enclosure

Cc:

Mr. Bobby Pearce, Wakulla County School Board

Ms. Gail Gilman, City of St. Marks

Ms. Dana Peck, Wakulla Commercial Fishermen's Association

Mr. Bob Ballard, WEI

WAKULLA COUNTY LIST OF RECOMMENDED PROJECTS FOR TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. FUNDING

November 6, 2017

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Project Title/Brief Description</i>	<i>Est. Project Cost</i>	<i>Board Priority</i>
Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners	<p>First Responder Communication System: Replace existing aging and unrepairable first responder communication system with one that can communicate with all federal, state and local first responder agencies as well as extending the range of communication within the County, i.e., national/state forest, metal building, etc. Our County is working with other 7-counties for potential regional project – with each County submitting their own application.</p>	\$2 M	#3
	<p>New Library: Construct a new, larger more centrally located library at the community center to meet the growing demands for new programs and provide space for participation at current and new events. The existing library will be repurposed and used for a much-needed Fire/EMS station in the Medart area, south of Crawfordville. A new library also has the potential to provide virtual classes not provided elsewhere in the County and could target underprivileged populations needing workforce skills. The County owns the property. Funds are needed for design, permitting, construction and furnishings.</p>	\$3.5 M	#4
	<p>Medart Rec Park Improvements: Improve the parking lot, restroom and concession facilities, and sports fields of Wakulla County's only recreation park for organized outdoor youth and adult sports. The County owns the Park. Funds are needed for any design, permitting and construction.</p>	\$2.0 M	
	<p>Realignment of County Road 61/Shell Point: The County has only two north-south bound highways from Capital Circle (Leon County) to US 98 (Wakulla County): US 319 is on the eastern side of the County and US 27 is on the western side. High traffic on both of these highways is attributed mainly to travelers working in Tallahassee and living in Wakulla. Internal arterial roads off of these highways leading to residential areas become clogged at peak times creating extremely hazardous conditions. Additionally, these highways provide the only access to Wakulla's coast, rivers, forest, etc. creating heavy traffic conditions on weekends and holidays. This proposed realignment would provide a north-south bound County Road centrally located in Wakulla County and would ease congestion and increase safety conditions. Funds are needed for design, permitting and construction.</p>	\$2.5 M	
	<p>Camp Indian Springs Campground Partnership: This project proposes a partnership with Department of Environment Protection (DEP), in the event they purchase the Camp Indian Springs Property. The County proposes seeking funds for the improvement of existing buildings on the Camp Indian Springs Campground property and the design, permitting and construction of a RV/Tent camp ground.</p>	TBD	
	<p>New Rec Park – US 319: The County is in need of land to design, permit and construct a larger outdoor multi-use recreational Park on the north side of the County. This park has the potential to serve the region for youth and adult outdoor sports, i.e., softball tournaments, soccer tournaments, etc. Funds are needed for land acquisition, planning, design, construction and furnishings.</p>	\$20 M	

WAKULLA COUNTY LIST OF RECOMMENDED PROJECTS FOR TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. FUNDING

November 6, 2017

Wakulla County School Board	<p>Wakulla Career and Technical Education Center: This project would provide training and job skills for the non-degree seeking student for emerging or high-demand jobs. WCSB owns the property and will staff the center once constructed. Funds are requested for design, permitting, construction and furnishings.</p> <p>Wakulla County Learning Center: This project proposes a partnership with TCC for a campus in Wakulla County where students and adults may pursue an AA degree. WCSB owns the property and will staff the center once constructed in partnership with TCC. Funds are requested for design, permitting, construction and furnishings.</p>	\$5.7 M	#1
		\$3.4 M	#2
City of St. Marks,	<p>ADA Compliant Kayak/Canoe Launch: To provide kayak/canoe access to the Wakulla River via the City Park. Increase recreational opportunities and enhanced visitor experience. Will also relieve kayak/canoe launching at the St. Marks Boat Ramp. The City of St. Marks owns the property. Funds are requested for design, permitting and construction.</p>	\$65 K	#5
	<p>St. Marks WWTP – Conversion of Grinders to Gravity Sewer: First a feasibility study (i.e., preliminary engineer report) will need to be conducted to determine if conversion is feasibly and probable cost. Funds are needed for feasibility study/preliminary engineering report.</p>	\$350 K	
	<p>St. Marks Board Walk: Construct a boardwalk that will connect to the terminus of the St. Marks Bike Trail and provide an off-road multi-use pedestrian to the Fort, St. Marks Board Ramp, and back to the St. Marks Bike Trail terminus. The City of St. Marks own the property and the project is designed and permitted. Funds are requested for construction.</p>	\$900 K	
Wakulla Commercial Fishermen's Assoc, Inc.	<p>A Partnership Reviving Apalachee Bay Oyster Reefs: Shoreline restoration on oyster reefs to enhance commercial and recreational fishing; provide tidal, storm surge and coastal erosion protection, improve water quality; strengthen economy, social and environmental capital. Funds are requested for all stages of the project.</p>	\$2.6 M	
Wakulla Environmental Institute	<p>Marine Manufacturing Training Center: A state of the art multi-purpose facility that will function as an auditorium, conference center, manufacturing center, oyster seed hatchery and commercial kitchen for processing local Gulf Coast seafood products. WEI owns the property. Funds are needed for design, permitting, construction and furnishings. Total estimated project cost is \$22.7 M, seeking \$15M Triumph funds.</p>	\$15 M	