

**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 Apalachicola

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: The City of Apalachicola is located within Franklin County, one of the eight disproportionately affected counties in Northwest Florida.

**Contact Information:**

Primary Contact Information: Lee Mathes  
 Title: City Administrator  
 Mailing Address: 1 Avenue E, Apalachicola, FL 32320  
 Telephone Number: 850-653-9319  
 Email Address: leemathes@cityofapalachicola.com  
 Website: www.cityofapalachicola.com

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Bring Me a Book Franklin, Community Action Head Start Program, Children's Learning Center, Work Force Gulf Coast

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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**Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application**  
**City of Apalachicola Johnson Complex Proposal**

The City of Apalachicola seeks funding to renovate the Johnson Complex, transforming the building into a vital education and training center with safe and healthful working conditions. The Center would serve residents from their critical early years through adulthood, directed toward economic recovery for Franklin County and the broader Florida Gulf Coast area. This transformation would be accomplished by both restoring the complex and expanding the team of working partnerships to include The Children's Learning Center.

Located in Apalachicola, the county seat of Franklin County, the Johnson Complex is currently the center for non-profits serving Franklin County and surrounding area. Non- profits housed there include the Gulf Coast Work Force, Bring Me A Book Franklin (BMABF), Project Impact (PI), the Food Pantry and a community fitness center. The City Mayor's office is also in the building.

As Seafood Harvesting and Processing have declined due to fear precipitated by the BP oil spill and the lack of freshwater reaching the bay from the Apalachicola River, these non-profits have been working diligently to support the seafood workers and other impoverished residents as key participants in building a strong local economy.

The Johnson Complex is the former Apalachicola High School and is an existing facility. It is essentially sound but in great need of restoration. Employees and volunteers serving these non-profits, the people they serve (including children) and the mayor of the largest city in Franklin County are occupying a building with poor air quality, spotty air-conditioning and heating, roof leaks, out of date plumbing and electric, and no active fire alarm system.

As the seafood related economic base has declined, poverty has increased. For generations of Seafood Workers literacy was not required for the work force. With tourism fast becoming the economic base, there is a desperate need for a literate, educated work force including the hospitality, service and Tech support industries. For skilled workers, literacy is a basic requirement.

A huge body of research supports the facts that children who are exposed to a stimulating and vocabulary rich environment, learn to read, do well in school and are best able to financially support themselves and their families as adults. Many of Franklin County's children do not receive this early stimulation, entering kindergarten two years behind in expected development and failing to learn to read. Beyond third grade reading is needed to learn. Consequently, Franklin County has one of the highest school drop-out rates in Florida.

Head Start(HS) provides this supportive environment. However, in April, 2017, Capital Action which is the agency contracted to support Head Start withdrew Head Start from Franklin County. A task force of local citizens initiated actions to reverse this decision. The City offered a temporary facility for the school year (2017-18) and donated the permanent use of Wing A, approximately 25 % of the Johnson Complex for The Children's Learning Center. This availability of space was critical to retaining HS for Franklin County.

The Children's Learning Center will house Panama City based Early Care and Education Early Head Start, (ages birth to 3), Tallahassee based Community Action Head Start (ages 3-4) and Bring Me A Book Franklin (BMABF) which in partnership, will serve the children and families of Franklin County. Restoration of the Johnson Complex is a critical link to retaining a Head Start program in Franklin County.

The renovation of the Johnson Complex and the creation of The Children's Learning Center within the Complex will support and enhance the partnerships already developed among the non-profits housed there, in particular, Early Head Start, Head Start, Bring Me A Book Franklin, Project Impact and the Gulf Coast Work Force.

The Early Head Start and Head Start will provide safe child care from birth to four, early stimulation and education, including well and dental checks, lead testing and other services greatly needed by struggling families.

BMABF will add to the 8,000 plus children's books gifted to families through well-checks at 8 clinics throughout Franklin and Gulf Counties; provide weekly Read Aloud sessions in multiple early education settings, including Early Head Start, Head Start, pre-K and K classes in the Franklin County Consolidated School and the ABC Charter School; and provide parent involvement, education and training. BMABF maintains 50 open-faced community book cases, stocked regularly with children's books and placed in classrooms and clinic waiting rooms. These book cases were built by inmates at The Franklin County Correctional Institute (a Florida State prison) and materials were purchased and/or donated by the local Carrabelle and Apalachicola Ace Hardware stores.

Project Impact was established by Congress as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The local program serves a minimum of 167 children with programs for elementary, middle and high school students. The program is based at the Complex and is also carried out at the nearby ABC Charter School. After-school programs are focused on academic enrichment. The program also provides a full-day six-week summer camp, additional holiday camps when school is closed plus a 4 hour Saturday program offering Credit Recovery for 6-12th grade students. Project Impact students are trained by BMABF to become Read Aloud Readers to the younger children.

Early Head Start, Head Start and Project Impact, along with providing their respective education and health services, offer an invaluable service for working families. Without safe child care seafood workers and others who are unemployed cannot move out of welfare and seek training and employment. These child centered non-profits provide safe child care throughout significant hours of the work week. As parents and caregivers are now free to work, they are referred to the Gulf Coast Work Force for GED referral to the Franklin County Consolidated School, education and training.

The Children's Learning Center and the Gulf County Community College are exploring a partnership whereby college students, interested in careers in early education, social work and health services, would be provided an opportunity for internships.

The Gulf Coast Work Force operates under the Oyster Recovery Fishery Failure grant and serves seafood workers and anyone affected by the 2012 BP Oil Spill. The Work Force's services include referral for GED prep, career match for job seekers, referrals for education, training, veterans and ESL services. Career referrals include CDL (commercial driver's license), Corrections, Heavy Equipment, Auto Mechanics, Welding, Electric, Plumbing, Air-conditioning and Refrigeration, Digital Design (IT), LPN (nursing) and Welding, compensation for which exceeds the average hourly rate. Follow-up services along with tools and equipment are provided free of charge to the workers.

**i) Funding Requested** The amount of funding requested is. \$1,750,000 of which \$400,000 is designated for

The Children's Learning Center.

**ii) Local Matches and Sustainability** The value of local matches from private donations, city, state and federal grants exceeds \$1,934,000 as follows:

- The City of Apalachicola building donation valued at \$577,000, \$25,000 cash towards renovation of The Children's Learning Center wing and the City does not charge rent, (only utilities, insurance and maintenance fees) to non-profits. At \$1 per square foot this represents an annual match of \$252,000.
- Early Education and Care (EEC) spends \$12,000 and Capital Action (CA) \$11,000 per student to cover administration, rent, utilities, direct services including meals, health services and therapy. This amounts to a total match of \$566,000 annually for the children enrolled at the Children's Learning Center.
- EEC and CA are seeking supplementary Head Start funding from the US Dept. Health and Human Service for classroom renovation and outfitting.
- Bring Me A Book Franklin has been assured by its founding family that private financial support of an annual budget of \$41,000 for the foreseeable future will be provided. An additional \$4,000 is provided for The Children's Learning Center.
- The City of Apalachicola has received a 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (CCLC) grant established by congress which funds Project Impact. The grant goes through 2019 and is approximately \$435,000.
- The Gulf County Work Force is funded by the Oyster Recovery Fishery Failure Grant.
- The Early Learning Task Force is organizing fundraising events with the first event 12/12/ 2017.
- Professional in-kind donations for the Children's Learning Center total to date \$35,000

Volunteer workers have been recruited for renovation preparation and room outfitting.

**iii) Location** The Van Johnson Complex is located at 192 Coach Wagoner Blvd, Apalachicola, FL, 32320

**iv) Summary** Renovation of the Complex will provide a safe and healthful working environment for the key non-profits that provide services for seafood workers and their families. Services will be expanded to include The Children's Learning Center providing early education, child literacy and health services directed toward promoting success in school and increased graduation rates. The proximity of services will facilitate referrals of parents and caregivers to the Gulf Coast Work Force for help with training, education and job placement. and promote the partnership with the Franklin County Schools and the Gulf Coast Community College to provide training and employment opportunities. Early Head Start, Head Start and Project Impact will continue to provide child care during working hours so that seafood workers can, with the help of the Gulf Coast Work Force, and these other partnerships, pursue education training and employment. Within the renovated Johnson Complex, these partnerships will work side by side promoting sustainability of a skilled work force needed for a thriving economy.

General improvements throughout the Johnson Complex will consist of roof repairs, plumbing and drainage pipe repairs, mold inspection and treatment if needed, fire safety system, updating of heating and air conditioning and renovation of the kitchen. Additional program support and repairs to the Children's Learning Center include children's books for distribution, materials for community book cases, general renovations for health and safety, restrooms, HVACs, playground areas, fencing, driveway and parking.

**v) Timeline** If funded, the proposed project can be initiated immediately and would be complete within 18 months.

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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Save Our Shotguns Apalachicola, Inc., Franklin County Land Trust

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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**Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application**  
**City of Apalachicola Work Force Housing Proposal**

Apalachicola needs reasonably priced housing for its' workforce to sustain the City's economic development. There is an unmet need for privately- owned housing for low and moderate-income individuals and families in the City. Teachers, nurses, medical support staff, and police officers are in need of housing affordable at their salary levels that does not presently exist. Study and research on this issue in Apalachicola over a two-year period shows that restoring or building a 800 to 1000 SF house at \$100/SF yields a mortgage rate that would be affordable for low to moderate income earners in the City. This proposal would provide an economic boost to the region in that reliable housing stock that will attract, sustain and expand our workforce resulting in economic growth for the area.

**Funding Requested**

This is a proposal to fund a \$400,000 revolving fund that would be used to preserve, reproduce and make energy efficient the housing stock in the Hill neighborhood of Apalachicola. Acquisition and construction costs would be recouped when the home was sold to an eligible buyer, with the process continuously repeating.

**Local Match and Sustainability**

The grant request is \$400,00, which would be matched by a \$100,000 line of credit and additional in-kind contributions. The \$400,000 grant plus the \$100,000 match and additional in-kind contributions would initially establish a pilot program. Grant requests over the life of the Triumph Fund could be used to expand the program's geographic reach to the entire county. The program could become a model for other NW Florida counties eligible for Triumph funding.

Partners would be a collaboration between the City of Apalachicola and a local non-profit, formed with this mission, Save Our Shotguns Apalachicola, Inc. and the Franklin County Land Trust. Additional collaboration will be sought with the Franklin County School District and Gulf Coast Community College for apprenticeship opportunities for their vocational education students.

Save Our Shotguns is already active in the affordable housing area. For more than three years the group has been active in research and awareness programs and the group recently began construction of a new shotgun style energy efficient house with a projected cost of \$100 per SF, achieved through design features and in-kind contributions. Additional information about Save Our Shotguns can be found at [saveourshotguns.org](http://saveourshotguns.org).

Save Our Shotguns would provide a \$100,000 match in the form of a line of credit to the requested \$400,000 grant. Build-out of projects would provide apprenticeship opportunities to vocational students and youth participants in City programs while at the same time reducing the labor cost of construction.

**Locations**

The location of the project would be concentrated in the historic north side of Apalachicola known as "The Hill." The program would preserve individual structures of historic value and the pattern of settlement that historically provided a rich and vibrant neighborhood of the City.

**Summary**

The program is best described as a workforce housing, vocational training and job creation program. It would confer benefits across many fronts important to the City and County.

At the requested level of funding, it is estimated that approximately four houses would be in the pipeline at any given point in time. Eligible buyers would be identified and approved through an independent, open selection process. Financing packages for buyers will include mechanisms to ensure continuing affordability status for the homes built under this program.

The restoration or build process would provide apprenticeship opportunities for vocational students in the Franklin County school system and will result in improved educational outcomes and ultimately sustainable job creation as the skill level of graduates improves.

Historic preservation and new construction consistent with historic preservation will sustain the City's tourism industry, which is based on the City's location and its unique distinction as one of the Gulf's coast most well preserved historic communities, and is necessary to revitalize a workforce traditionally dependent on the declining seafood industry.

The program would work in tandem with existing City and County programs that address housing issues. In particular, the existing SHIP program will be a down payment resource for home -buyers, while the vocation education program can take advantage of additional apprenticeship opportunities for SHIP recipients, lowering their overall cost as well. Additional opportunities may exist with Habitat for Humanity.

This is a plan the would provide workforce housing, workforce education, overall improvement in education quality, while preserving the historic structures and adding to them in a way that sustains tourism that is the evolving economic base of Franklin County.

**Timeline**

If funded, the proposed project can be initiated immediately and would be ongoing.

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

Duke Energy Florida, Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, Vermont Law School, local volunteer groups

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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**Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application**  
**City of Apalachicola Solar Project**

The City of Apalachicola seeks to enhance the economic well-being of the community with a series of solar power farms that are projected to immediately reduce utility costs and save the city more than \$1.9 million over the next 30 years.

These solar projects will transform the local economy and promote economic recovery by introducing a sustainable and reliable local source of clean energy. This project can be expanded in the future to include county and tourism-related sites.

The city of Apalachicola has suffered severe long-term damage to the traditional local fishing economy because of Georgia's excessive water use, and economic harm from the BP Oil Spill. This project will help the city survive these challenges; will compliment an emerging tourism-related economy; will reduce city and ratepayer bills; and will provide job training for local young people.

**i) Funding Requested**

The city seeks \$900,000 in funding for the first phase of this project.

**ii) Local Match**

The city is providing matching support estimated to be worth more than \$100,000 through city-owned land and buildings, local staff and volunteer technical support, pro-bono technical analysis from nationally recognized solar experts at the Vermont Law School, and input from Duke Energy Florida, the Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, and other utility experts.

**iii) Locations**

The project features locations designed to provide maximum returns to the city, citizens, and the environment. One solar array will be at the city wastewater treatment plant located at 991 U.S. Highway 98. The second will be at the Mayor Van W. Johnson, Sr., Recreation and Community Complex at 190 14th Street, Apalachicola.

**iv) Summary**

The project will transform the existing energy dynamic away from a system that imports power, and towards one that generates sustainable electricity, revenue, and jobs locally.

The project consists of a 496kW solar system at the wastewater site with 1,440 ground mounted commercial solar panels and related hardware, covering about 2.5 acres; and a 89kW system with 260 commercial solar panels at the Recreation and Community Complex. Projected costs are \$800,00 for the wastewater portion and \$200,000 for the Recreation and Community Complex.

These systems are projected to save the city and taxpayers \$1,985,000 over the next 30 years (\$71,000 per year initially; declining slightly over time), by reducing major utility bills more than 50% each year. The financial projections are based on estimates from nationally known solar installers who have built similar systems for many other municipalities, such as Valdosta, Georgia, and Jacksonville, Florida.

The sustainable long-term operational savings will benefit the environment, reduce utility bills, free up funds for critical infrastructure maintenance for the wastewater plant, and support multiple community service programs based at the 14th street location.

The solar wastewater portion will provide 811,000 kWh of electricity per year, reducing those monthly bills by more than 50 percent. The Recreation and Community Complex portion will provide 137,000 kWh per year.

The project will also include a workforce development component, to train young people in the rapidly expanding solar power field.

Detailed cost-saving and technical specifications are available.

**v) Timeline**

The projects can be completed within four (4) to five (5) months of a final contract, potentially producing power and immediate savings before the end of 2018.

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Website: www.cityofapalachicola.com

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Apalachicola Main Street, Local Volunteer Groups

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**Triumph Gulf Coast Pre-Application  
City of Apalachicola Infrastructure Proposal**

The City of Apalachicola is seeking Triumph Gulf Coast Funding to bring deficient critical infrastructure up to the level required to support economic growth in the City and improve water quality to the Apalachicola Bay system. The project also contains a proposal for an innovative method for treating stormwater in the City's downtown district through the use of green-initiative pervious parking.

The City is currently experiencing deficiencies in the wastewater conveyance lines, deteriorating water mains in the downtown commercial district and nonexistent stormwater treatment outfalls along the Apalachicola River. These infrastructure deficiencies, combined with a general lack of sufficient parking, has resulted in a stoppage of new commercial construction in the downtown district because the City's infrastructure is not adequate to support proposed growth. Repair and replacement of critical infrastructure components are essential to the basic daily needs of local residents, but it is also fundamental to the region's economic diversification and recovery.

This proposal is targeted at funding wastewater and potable water facilities, stormwater and parking infrastructure improvements that serve the downtown commercial district. The infrastructure improvements are necessary to serve existing and future economic development within the City and are sustainable in that all elements are revenue generators as infrastructure services.

**(i) Funding Requested**

This proposal is seeking funding in the amount of \$2.66 million.

**(ii) Local Match and Sustainability**

The City is providing matching support through the use of city-owned land and buildings, mitigation fees, additional business development connection revenues and through the donated services of professional engineers and business professionals.

For wastewater and water improvements, both the City's wastewater treatment facility and water treatment plant are both operating at approximately one-quarter of their capacity generating an estimated combined revenue stream of \$105,000 in revenues annually. If improvements are made, the wastewater plant would be capable of generating an additional \$100,000 worth of revenue. Additionally, the value of the property proposed for the wastewater improvements is estimated at \$100,000. Additional funds have been requested to support the project from the Legislature and the Department of Economic Opportunity.

For stormwater improvements, the City recently adopted a stormwater utility program which is estimated to generate an initial \$30,000-\$50,000 worth of revenues annually to be used to maintain stormwater facilities.

With regard to parking, new commercial development would pay into the parking mitigation fund that would be used to maintain the original parking area and build additional green-initiative parking as mitigation fees accumulate. Additionally, the City is proposing the use of City Rights-of-Way for the parking pocket. The value of the property to be used for the project is estimated at \$290,000.

**(iii) Locations**

The project is located in the City’s downtown commercial district and at the City’s wastewater treatment facility located two miles west of the City limits.

**(iv) Summary**

The project consists of several components as identified below.

**Wastewater Facility Deficiencies - \$877,000**

Although the City’s Wastewater Treatment System is technically sufficient to accommodate additional connections to its 1.2 million capacity plant west of town, the conveyance lines and vacuum system that pumps effluent to the plant is no longer capable of handling the current nor any future development within the City’s downtown commercial district. Sewage consistently backs up into downtown businesses during large events or heavy rains. A new vacuum and pump station is required to adequately service the sewer system. A study of other elements of the sewer system is needed to maximize its efficiency. In addition, facilities at the wastewater treatment plant are seriously corroded and in need of replacement.

**Water Treatment Facility Deficiencies and Utilities Master Plan - \$93,000**

The City’s water supply lines are deteriorating in several parts of the downtown commercial area. A leaking water main under a major road is of particular concern to utility staff. Leaking water lines also result in an inadequate flow to the only fire hydrant that serves a section of the main commercial district including a building on the National Register of Historic Places. Finally, the City lacks a master plan to guide the sustainable maintenance and replacement of infrastructure to support needed economic development. In order to optimize resources and adequately plan for long-range economic growth, it is critical that the City develop a Master Plan for its utilities to meet the demands of new or expanding businesses. This will identify existing conditions, analyze projected growth, develop a sustainability plan, and make recommendations of options to meet future maintenance and replacement needs, including an economic analysis of each option. This will equip the City with the knowledge it needs to plan for projected growth, and plan for the costs associated with maintenance, upgrades, and replacement of utility components over time. A summary of associated costs for both is outlined below

<b>City of Apalachicola Infrastructure Needs</b>	<b>Est. Cost</b>
Market Street water line replacement	\$30,000
Wastewater treatment plant walkway	\$60,000
Sewer system upgrade with new vacuum and pump station	\$800,000
Inspection of air vac system	\$17,000
Creation of master plan	\$63,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$970,000</b>

**Stormwater Retrofit - \$1,310,000**

As originally identified in its 2007 stormwater master plan, the City proposes to implement a downtown stormwater retrofit plan for the City of Apalachicola that incorporates water quality monitoring, stormwater management retrofit design and green infrastructure design in identified priority areas. The stormwater/mitigation plan would involve the coordination of two separate infrastructure activities – water quality monitoring and stormwater retrofit design/permitting.

**Water Quality Monitoring - \$55,000**

The work plan to monitor water quality is patterned on work completed in 2000 by Lee Marchman and the Northwest Florida Water Management District. The monitoring work plan is also consistent with the basin analysis for infrastructure work identified in the 2007 Stormwater Management Plan created by Baskerville Donovan. The goal of the monitoring effort is to provide a baseline monitoring event and to document success of subsequent infrastructure projects that are implemented within the prioritized basins.

### *Structural Retrofitting Projects*

Based on the City's 2007 Stormwater Master Plan and updated information from City staff, there are a number of stormwater retrofit projects that need to be completed in order to better control runoff and improve water quality entering the Apalachicola River and Bay. The following is a list of the priorities, the recommendations and the costs.

<b>Basin Number</b>	<b>Improvement/Addition Location</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Cost</b>
5	Water Street & Avenue F	Replace/retrofit a section of existing outfall pipe system that is old and undersized	\$250,000
4	Water Street and Avenue G	Add inlets, pipe, water quality vault, and reconstruct crown Water Street	\$525,000
6	Water Street and Avenue E	Add inlets, pipe, water quality vault	\$525,000

### *Green Initiative Pervious Parking - \$325,000*

The City proposes to design and build green-initiative pervious parking within the City's commercial district to meet a demonstrated parking need in the downtown district. The project involves using approximately one-quarter acre of city-owned right of way in the City's Bowery district to design and build a small pocket of pervious parking to treat urban stormwater runoff and supply parking stock to support economic growth downtown. The project is sustainable in that it will be part of a fee-in-lieu-of parking mitigation plan that the city is adopting to encourage responsible development in the historic downtown district. This project will consist of creating one parking pocket totaling approximately 10,000 square feet and will create up to 50 new parking spaces along Commerce Street between Avenue G and H. The estimated cost of design and construction of pervious parking with appropriate stormwater treatment and landscaping is estimated at \$275,000. Lighting and appropriate signage is estimated at \$50,000.

### **Conclusion**

Nowhere is the City's tourist economy more important than in the downtown commercial district. The diverse collection of shops, restaurants, inns, galleries, pubs, fishing charter companies, and other businesses rely on tourism to thrive. Downtown is also ripe for infill development and rehabilitation of empty structures. However, the influx of new businesses and visitors strains our already aging infrastructure. Infrastructure that can meet the needs of the City today, and its growth in years to come, is the missing link in our economic recovery and diversification. With sound infrastructure as a base, the growth of our tourist economy and the infill development it supports will be transformational to our economy. Combined, all of the infrastructure projects identified above will be transformational in that they will allow the development of the City's downtown commercial area to occur with sufficient infrastructure to support growth in an efficient and environmentally responsible manner.

### **(v) Timeline**

All four projects can be initiated immediately and completed within between 12 – 18 months of a final contract.

**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  
 Website: 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

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Socialdesk Enterprises

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization:

Socialdesk Enterprises is a private sector organization established to promote Florida Gulf Coast entrepreneurial and innovation business development through collaboration, coworking and managed business development processes.

David Musselwhite is the former Director of Information Technology for the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners and was the leader of the Escambia Multi-Participant Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) ONEnet grant request (ID 6377) that was recommended for award by the Department of Commerce.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: David Musselwhite
Title: Manager
Mailing Address: 3695 North L Street, Pensacola, FL 32505
Telephone Number: (850) 435-4297
Email Address: damussel@pensacolasocialdesk.com/damussel@gmail.com
Website: http://socialdesk.us / http://entrepreneur-alliance.co

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

Socialdesk Enterprises, TechFarms and future members of the Gulf Coast Entrepreneur Alliance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Program Name: TriNet Middle-Mile Fiber-Optic Network
Project Name: TriNet Planning
Funding Amount Requested: \$ 600,000.00 in the following progress payments:
Feasibility study: \$150,000
Detailed GIS Route mapping: \$50,000
Engineering drawings: \$250,000
Legal agreements, interlocals: \$50,000
Rights-of-way/easements: \$100,000

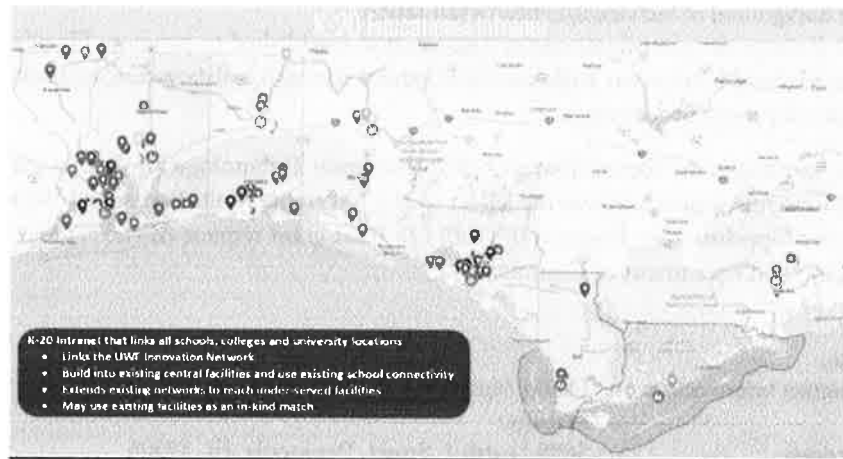
Other Sources of Funds: US Commerce Department – Planning & Assistance Grant

Location of Project:

This project is truly regional and will positively impact each of the 8 disproportionately affected counties. Using preliminary routing the network will include the following miles of fiber-optic cabling, Bay County-122 miles, Escambia County-78 miles, Franklin County-88 miles, Gulf County-61 miles, Okaloosa County-64 miles, Santa Rosa County-73 miles, Walton County-108 miles, Wakulla County-78 miles.

### **Summary Description:**

This project is part of the Gulf Coast Entrepreneur Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship Vision which consists of a tight alignment with the University of West Florida Innovation Network, the development of Innovation Locations through-out the Gulf Coast, the development of TriNet (this project) and the Triumph Angel Fund (Access to Capital). More information on this integrated vision can be found on this website: <http://entrepreneur-alliance.co>



The 670 mile TriNet middle-mile fiber-optic network spans each of the 8 Triumph Counties. This pre-application is for funding to conduct the detailed planning and preliminary engineering required. It is anticipated that the network will be built in multiple phases with the routes generating revenue being built first to provide “matching” funds for future build-out. Using cost information from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) which is a part of the US Department of Commerce, the total preliminary cost to construct and activate is \$42,129,100.

This network is envisioned to build into each County’s school district central office and use existing network capacity to reach each school or for under-served schools will build directly into those locations. The network will also use high-fiber count cabling that will allow provisioning of dark fiber strands to each School District and Board of County Commissioners in each county to utilize as they deem necessary.

### **Alignment with legislative intent, priorities and existing plans:**

#### **Alignment with Triumph Legislative Intent:**

- Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to support programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase students’ technology skills and knowledge

#### **Alignment with Triumph Gulf Coast Priorities:**

- Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
- Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.

#### **Alignment with Triumph Gulf Coast Discretionary Priorities:**

- Are considered transformational for the future of the Northwest Florida region.
- May be consummated quickly and efficiently.
- Align with Northwest Florida FORWARD, the regional strategic initiative for Northwest Florida economic transformation.
- Provide a wider regional impact versus solely local impact.

- Align with other similar programs across the regions for greater regional impact, and not be duplicative of other existing projects or programs.
- Enhance research and innovative technologies in the region.
- Create a unique asset in the region that can be leveraged for regional growth of targeted industries.
- Demonstrate long-term financial sustainability for Triumph funding.
- Include deliverables-based payment system dependent upon achievement of interim performance metrics.
- Provide capacity building support for regional economic growth

Alignment with Northwest Florida FORWARD Strategies:

- (2.6) Support the growth of microenterprises and small businesses in the region, particularly in rural areas and minority communities.
- (3.3.2) Support the public/private partnership to develop “The Bluffs”
- (3.6) Continue efforts to expand broadband infrastructure and adoption in rural and underserved area of the region.
- (4.1) Develop the region’s entrepreneurial hubs and connect them with industry clusters, assets, services, networks, facilities, tools and expertise.
- (4.5) Promote rural entrepreneurship.
- (5.1) Encourage the development of vibrant downtowns, new town centers, and mixed-use developments in the region.
- (5.3) Invest in the amenities and infrastructure in underserved communities.

Alignment with the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) Goals below:

**Catch Up – Stay Caught Up – Move Ahead – Take the Lead**

How the project will be transformational:

This network will provide for a **K-20 education intranet** securely connecting over 230 schools, colleges and university locations to each other enabling services not available when using the public Internet.

The network will also reach into the rural parts of the Counties and will offer an **open access network capability** that can be used by existing incumbent providers and competitive entrants to provide residential and commercial service in those under-served areas. These providers will pay for the service which generates revenue for operations, maintenance and expansion. Funding is available from the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to facilitate tele-health in rural communities.

The network is designed to **provide inter-connection points** near other northwest Florida counties including the non-Triumph Rural Areas of Opportunity counties (Calhoun, Holmes, Liberty and Washington), to allow those areas to easily connect in the future.

Finally, the network lays the foundation for the Florida Gulf Coast to offer **Internet access that is competitive** with leading cities, like Chattanooga, TN and others through-out the world.

How the project will promote economic recovery, diversification and enhancement:

Because TriNet is part of an integrated vision which includes the development of high quality of place Innovation Locations and will **provide massive connectivity speeds at world-wide competitive prices between these great places**, the Gulf Coast economic development agencies will be able to cooperate in seeking businesses rather than competing because we can offer prospective businesses the ability to locate in multiple areas and tap into multiple workforces without the significant cost of establishing their own private network connections.

Summary Timeline:

Socialdesk Enterprises is ready to begin. This project is anticipated to last approximately 6 months at which time we can provide a more detailed build-out and funding schedule.

Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility Effluent Disposal Expansion

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

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Okaloosa County

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: County government

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager  
Mailing Address: 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 102, Shalimar, FL 32579  
Telephone Number: 850-651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: BCC, Okaloosa Couny EDC, Okaloosa County Public

Works, Okaloosa County Airports, FDEP, FDOH, and NFWFMD.

**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**

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**Executive Summary**  
**Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility**  
**Effluent Disposal Expansion**  
**Okaloosa County Water & Sewer (OCWS)**

**Project Description**

- To pave the way for economic development projects to occur in areas throughout the unincorporated Okaloosa County service area east of Crestview, Florida, wastewater disposal capacity must be expanded. This includes future development of the Bob Sikes Industrial Park, residential/commercial growth west of the Shoal River and north of Airport Road, residential/commercial/industrial growth east of the Shoal River, and a potential future industrial park at the Shoal River Ranch. In order to be proactive and posture for this growth, the effluent disposal capacity at the Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility (BSWRF) should be expanded from 0.4 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.1 MGD, matching the capacity of the BSWRF itself. The BSWRF is located at the economically booming Bob Sikes Industrial Park (BSIP) surrounding the Bob Sikes Airport east of Crestview.
- The wastewater treatment facility itself has been previously upgraded to a capacity of 1.1 MGD, producing high quality effluent, suitable for disposal via subsurface absorption fields. In order to increase the disposal capacity to 1.1 MGD, the absorption fields must be expanded and the effluent force main must be upgraded in diameter. The expanded absorption fields would be constructed on County-owned property around the existing fields and the runway at the Bob Sikes Airport.
- This expansion of wastewater disposal capacity will support local economic activities (particularly DOD-related industries) at and around the rapidly growing industrial park, as well as other industrial, commercial, and residential development throughout OCWS' Mid County Service Area. With expanded wastewater disposal capacity, this project opens the door for future wastewater collection system improvements to be built or upgraded, which will in turn protect the delicate local ecosystem by discouraging the installation of thousands of individual septic tanks.
- In addition, the nature of absorption beds leads to increased local groundwater recharge with no wasted water via evaporation (as with a sprayfield). There will be no loss or change of habitat as the area of construction is currently grassed and will remain so after construction. The grassed area in the vicinity of the expanded fields will be healthier after construction as it will receive a constant supply of water.

**(i) Funds Being Sought from Triumph Gulf Coast**

- **Total funding request for this shovel-ready project is \$1.5M.**
- This request includes all estimated construction costs for all phases of the project.

**(ii) Other Sources of Funds for the Project**

- If this request is accepted, no additional funding will be necessary for the successful completion of this critical infrastructure project.
- **OCWS has previously expended over \$560K** for the construction of the first phase of effluent disposal as well as planning, design, and permitting for this expansion project.
- Okaloosa County has already invested heavily in the existing water and sewer facilities in this portion of unincorporated Okaloosa County. Examples include the relatively new BSWRF upgrade, numerous sewer pump stations, and water/wastewater transmission mains.

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, [mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us), 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

### (iii) Project Location

- The Bob Sikes Industrial Park (BSIP) is east of Crestview, Florida, and is located within OCWS' Mid County Service Area. To be more specific, the BSIP is located south of Airport Road, west of Fairchild Road, north of Highway 90, and east of John Givens Road. Both the BSWRF itself and the effluent disposal fields are location in and adjacent to the BSIP. The expanded fields have been designed and permitted to use land that is unavailable for other above ground structures due to proximity to the runway, which is an added benefit to expansion of the BSIP. In addition, a new entrance to the Airport and BSIP has been planned and designed for construction in the near future to further spur growth. The proposed roadway construction is being designed in proximity to the area dedicated for the effluent disposal capacity expansion, and neither project should interfere with the other.



### (iv) Description of Project Benefits

- Okaloosa County is an important working-class community. The people who live in the County support the military mission, members of the armed forces, and thriving nearby tourist industries. The activities of Bob Sikes Airport, BSIP, and the surrounding areas provide a significant portion of the local economy, particularly in the area north of Eglin AFB. Modern, public water and wastewater infrastructure in the area is important, given increasing DOD contracts and USAF partnerships. Providing for these partnerships is leading to heightened demand for water and wastewater infrastructure in the unincorporated County service area east of Crestview, including the multimodal Highway 90/I-10/CSX railroad corridor, stretching to the Walton County line. Improvements to the availability, capacity, efficiency, and reliability of the wastewater infrastructure for this growth area

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, [mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us), 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

will not only affect commercial and industrial expansion, but provide further opportunities for residential development that will follow increased business opportunities.

- Florida's economy is deeply intertwined with its airport system and aviation industry. Okaloosa County serves as an important element of this system due to its aviation investments that support tourism, local endeavors, and the military. Okaloosa's gross economic impact is \$8.8 billion, providing over 71,780 jobs. The Bob Sikes Airport, serviced by Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility, houses an 8,000-foot runway. This runway accommodates large military support aircraft, such as the U.S. Air Force Boeing C-28, which is used to transport helicopters to local and regional airspace. Additionally, the Air Force and Navy use the airport for extensive flight training purposes due to its Instrument Landing System. In Okaloosa County, defense-related spending exceeds \$3.1 billion dollars—73% of economic activity. Bob Sikes is a key player for the local community, providing over 2,700 jobs, which host a total payroll of about \$108M per year. These impacts come from the airport itself, its tenants, and visitors utilizing general aviation aircraft. These visitors alone generate an indirect impact of \$1.85M per year to the community. Infrastructure improvements to the BSIP service area along the Highway 90 corridor will help to ensure long-term financial stability for the community and region. Fitting with Northwest Florida FORWARD goals, completion of this project would help to keep Florida's infrastructure state-of-the-art and further improve Florida's diverse and vibrant economy.
- Additionally, this project would support the goals established by the Northwest Florida Greenway Project, which represents the partnership between military, government, and non-profit organizations for the enhancement of the military mission in Northwest Florida while enhancing the local economy and conserving ecosystems. In addition, investing proactively in centralized public water and sewer is the responsible approach in keeping the environment and water supply sustainable, preempting the installation of thousands of septic tanks and individual water wells spread throughout the area, particularly in the watershed of the Shoal River which traverses across Okaloosa and Santa Rosa Counties before eventually emptying into the Gulf of Mexico in Escambia County.

**(v) Project Timeline**

- Design and Permitting – completed in 2009
- Review, Update Design, and Produce Bid Documents – 2 months
- Bidding – 4 months
- Construction – 12 months
- All above durations are approximate

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, [mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us), 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547



Bridge to Bridge Multi-use Path

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

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Okaloosa County

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

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager  
Mailing Address: 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 102 Shalimar, FL 32579  
Telephone Number: 850-651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
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

**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**

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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

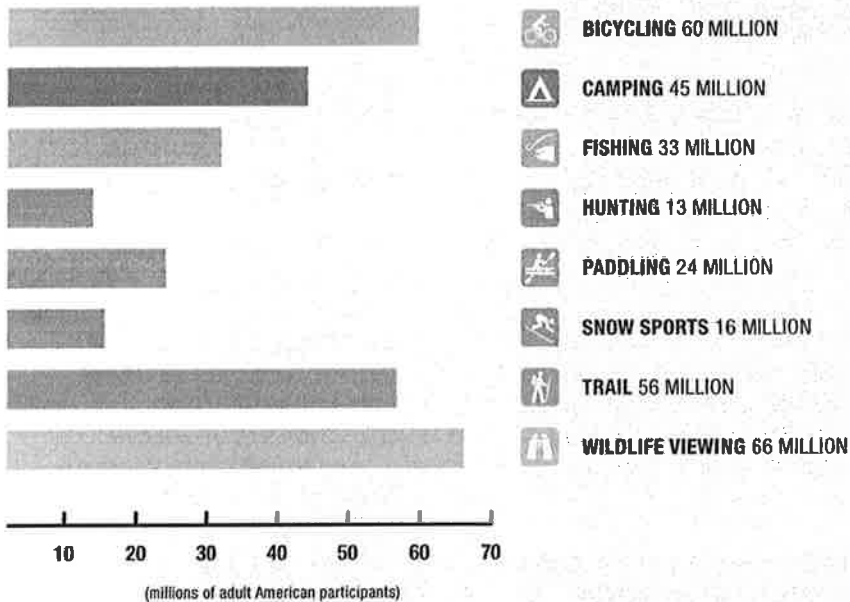
(v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program:

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.

40

BOCC

OKALOOSA

Digital Okaloosa Phase 1

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

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Okaloosa County

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: County government

**Contact Information:**

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager  
Mailing Address: 1250 N Eglin Pkwy Suite 102 Shalimar, FL 32579  
Telephone: 850-651-7521  
Number: Email: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Address: Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

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.

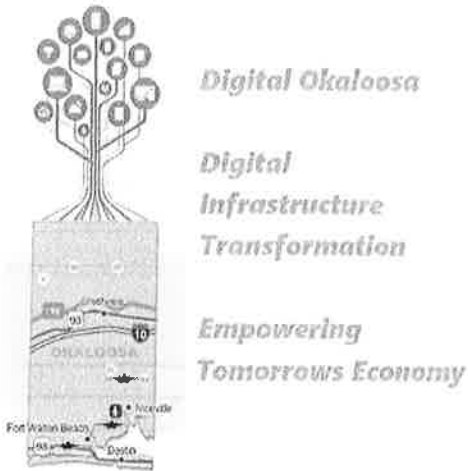
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# Triumph Required Executive Summary:

Pre-Application (Maximum of 3 pages)

Describe the proposed project or program: "**Digital Okaloosa**"



The digital age is here and now. Fundamental to economic growth is infrastructure. High-speed data and communications power today and tomorrow's business and communities. Dark Fiber is the foundation for broadband data, voice and Internet communications. Dark Fiber is often overlooked as critical infrastructure because people think of roads, water, and sewer. However, dark fiber, when it comes to economic development is not a nice to have, it is a critical piece of infrastructure. It is a critical factor in corporate site selection and an important variable in economic growth as well as a force multiplier for education. Okaloosa County proposes to leverage our existing investment in

fiber optic infrastructure to expand into the six industrial parks, and expanding current e-government capability. Our plan consists of 2 elements: 1. Connected Business, and 2. Connected Government. Every element of society benefits economically from this type of infrastructure. It elevates Okaloosa County and our region now and positions us competitively for the future.

(i)	The amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast:	
	1. <b>Connected Business:</b>	<b>\$3,852,814</b>
	2. <b>Connected Government:</b>	<b><u>\$2,500,000</u></b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,352,814</b>

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

Okaloosa County has already invested over \$11 million dollars designing, building and operating over 220 miles of existing high quality fiber optic infrastructure. Each of the proposed connected elements will utilize this existing backbone infrastructure. This "in-kind" contribution is significant and essential to any build-out of this nature. Additional funding will be available through the BCC for the length of the project.

- (iii) The location of the project or program: Okaloosa County, Florida:

**Connected Business:** campus conduit system and dark fiber capacity to the 6 industrial parks in Okaloosa County from a "to be determined" demarcation point. Laurel Hill Industrial Park, Destin Industrial Park, Fort Walton Beach Industrial Park, Holt Industrial Park, Okaloosa Industrial Air Park and Shoal River Ranch. Additional fiber is programmed for Baker, FL to support rural law enforcement, public safety, landfills, and future expansion for rural economic investment.

**Connected Government:** Eliminates several single point of failure segments on the north/south backbone through Eglin AFB, while leveraging existing fiber to 7th SFG compound and partial rings in the Crestview area. This will greatly increase reliability and mitigate downtime due to storms, power outages, utility cuts, and other unforeseen circumstances and is a must to provide robust communications to industrial parks.

- (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:

Communities that invest in dark fiber receive a 10x return in economic development for every dollar invested. A 2005 study, which focused on Lake County Florida, concluded that "broadband infrastructure can be a significant contributor to economic growth". The study "quantified the effect on economic development resulting from a community's investment in a broadband network". By quantifying the economic effects the study showed that when comparing Lake County with similar communities in Florida, that Lake County had "experienced 100 percent – a doubling – in economic growth relative to its Florida peer counties" since investment and deployment. It is a chicken and egg scenario. Economic development is less likely to happen if critical infrastructure is not planned and in place in advance. When communities lack good broadband access, corporate site selectors cross them off their lists and residents move away in search of better jobs. Cited in a 2011 article in Site Selection Magazine titled The Importance of Broadband to Economic Development: Site selectors report that communities that lack suitable broadband infrastructure are routinely eliminated from consideration as potential sites for location or relocation. Although the presence of a robust broadband network may not itself be sufficient to persuade an organization to come to or stay in a community, the absence of such a network guarantees that potential employers will go elsewhere. Okaloosa County has made a significant investment in dark fiber. This has facilitated e-government and connected county facilities. It has also tied into the Florida wide LambdaRail project that connects research and higher education facilities to provide the digital infrastructure to promote scientific research and development. While these initiatives have made

significant progress, they do not address the broader need to facilitate economic development. Digital Infrastructure is not just a tool that is used to manage growth in transportation systems, energy grids, and public services; it is a catalyst in driving economic growth. Today's communities are taking proactive steps to ensure that their communities are equipped with next-generation internet infrastructure. Like other communities, Okaloosa's economic livelihood depends on it. Our Triumph Project proposal is not only transformational and forward thinking, it is vital to Okaloosa County's long-term economic growth as well as the economic growth of Florida's Great Northwest Region and the State of Florida

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

Digital Okaloosa is to be a 3 year phased project:

**Year 1: Connected Business, Government:**

(FWB, Destin, Shoal River, Laurel Hill Campus, Air Park)

(Diverse buildout of backbone through Eglin AFB to Crestview)

(Increase fiber capacity on backbone segment)

\$2,507,340

**Year 2: Connected Business, Government:**

(Holt IP middle mile backbone)

(Baker, Old Bethel diverse ring)

\$2,145,474

**Year 3: Connected Business:**

(Laurel Hill middle mile backbone)

(Additional fiber capacity along key segments)

\$1,700,000

**Total:**

**\$6,352,814**



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Eastern Crestview Bypass

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Telephone Number: 850-651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

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

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# Triumph Required Executive Summary:

Pre-Application (Maximum of 3 pages)

Describe the proposed project or program: **Eastern Crestview Bypass PD&E**

An Eastern Crestview Bypass is needed to divert traffic from State Route (SR) 85.

SR 85 is a primary commuter route to military bases and tourist destinations. Monday through Friday, SR 85 backs up from I-10 to Duke Field; a distance of 6 miles.

The Eastern Crestview Bypass corridor is not set and a Plan Development & Environmental (PD&E) Study is needed to determine the best alignment for the roadway.



*Northbound motorists on SR 85 trying to enter Crestview during PM rush.*

- (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$4.5 Million.
- (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program:

Okaloosa County will commit \$500 Thousand towards the PD&E Study to identify the best route for the Eastern Crestview Bypass. Special attention would be needed for this PD&E to ensure the constructible options do not interfere with the military mission of Eglin Air Force Base, which bi-sects Okaloosa County.

- (iii) the location of the project or program:

A Bypass around Crestview is needed. The southwest portion of the Bypass has been studied and is set. Funds are allocated in the year 2020 for a PD&E study for the northwest portion of the Bypass. \$5 Million is needed for a PD&E study for the Eastern Crestview Bypass. It would start near the Shoal River Bridge south of Crestview, curve east and north towards I-10, continue north and cross US 90, curve west and north towards SR 85 and terminate near the intersection of SR 85 and Airport Road. The Eastern Crestview Bypass could be positioned on the east

or west side of the Bob Sikes Airport. The Eastern Crestview Bypass could also branch out towards the Shoal River Ranch and encompasses an interchange with I-10 as shown by the far right hashed yellow leg of the sketch below.



### **EASTERN CRESTVIEW BYPASS (PD&E STUDY)**

- (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:

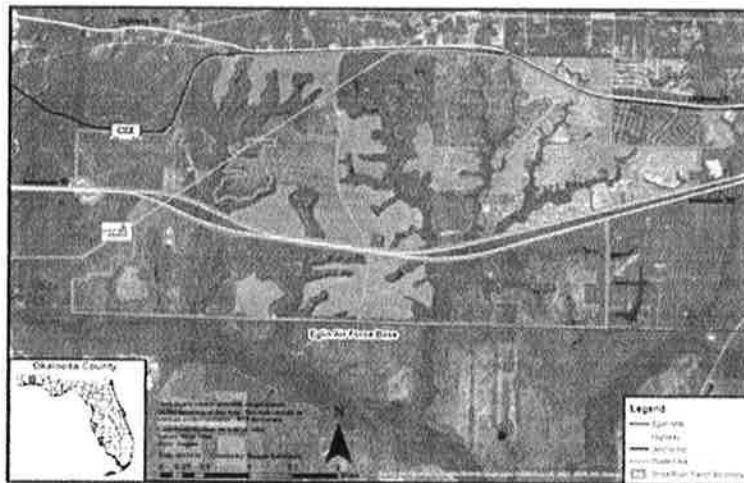
The Eastern Crestview Bypass is needed to allow traffic to flow through the City of Crestview. The Eastern Bypass would provide valuable connections to the Bob Sikes Airport, the Okaloosa Industrial Air Park, and the Shoal River Ranch.

The Bob Sikes Airport offers an 8,000 foot runway and offers an ideal environment for aerospace industry and component manufacturing. Okaloosa County's largest defense contractor currently operates a site at the airport.

The Okaloosa Industrial Air Park, shown right, is also located at Bob Sikes Airport. The Industrial Air Park contains 360 acres for general aviation and is located within an Enterprise Zone. The Industrial Air Park has also successfully completed Gulf Power's Park certification program, known as the Florida First Sites program.



The Shoal River Ranch, shown right, is located on the east side of Crestview and contains over 10,000 acres of developable land. The Shoal River Ranch contains railroad access and an FDOT maintained overpass at I-10 that could be converted into an Interchange.



The Eastern Crestview Bypass could provide transformational access to the Bob Sikes Airport, the Okaloosa Industrial Air Park, and Shoal River Ranch. Traffic congestion on SR 85 chokes potential development. The Eastern Crestview Bypass would accelerate development and economic opportunities that would move Okaloosa County towards high-paying jobs that are not dependent on tourism.

In addition, the Eastern Crestview Bypass would reduce response time for military initiatives and provide hurricane evacuation routes for citizens, military, and tourists.

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

The PD&E study for the Eastern Crestview Bypass would begin in 2019.

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Forensic Hospital Pilot Diversion Program

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

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Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: County government

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants & RESTORE Manager  
Mailing Address: 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 102, Shalimar, FL 32579  
Telephone Number: (850) 651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Not Applicable

**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.

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# Triumph Required Executive Summary:

Pre-Application (Maximum of 3 pages)

Describe the proposed project or program: \_\_\_\_\_

The Okaloosa County Forensic Hospital Diversion Pilot program will establish a county-wide crisis stabilization and pretrial mental health jail diversion program. This program will provide opportunities for persons in Okaloosa County to be stabilized during mental health and/or substance abuse-related crises that may otherwise result in low-level criminal charges. This period of stabilization further provides criminal justice stakeholders with additional time to properly assess the merits of treatment and/or continued prosecution. This program will provide treatment to individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance abuse-related crises in a clinical setting using licensed clinical mental health workers and appropriate security personnel. This program will improve the efficacy of local judicial processes, decrease recidivism, reduce jail overcrowding, lessen impacts to the Florida State Hospital, and reduce associated costs for taxpayers. A fully operational facility is expected to employ approximately 50 individuals in areas such as medical care, social work, mental health, and security.

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

The amount being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast for the Forensic Hospital Diversion Pilot program is \$5,000,000.00. These funds will be used to provide the critical infrastructure and initial staffing needed to begin servicing the affected area.

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

\*\* Additional funding has not been awarded at the time of this application \*\*

(iii) the location of the project or program: \_\_\_\_\_

The program will be located within the jurisdictional confines of Okaloosa County, Florida at a final location to be determined by the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners.

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(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: \_\_\_\_\_

The program will combat the growing number of mental health and substance abuse-related issues impacting Okaloosa County. These issues touch nearly everyone residing within the county, and they cross all racial, gender, and socioeconomic lines. Research suggested that psychological issues have been among the largest impacts to the health and well-being of those injured by the oil spill. Rates of clinical depression were found to have tripled in certain impacted areas; issues stemming from or amplified by spill-related income loss. Such financial loss was found in most industries in Okaloosa County. Unemployment and mental illness are significant indicators of behaviors leading to a person's involvement in the criminal justice system. For any program to be transformational and for it to promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement, the underlying social and community system and infrastructure must remain vibrant. Individuals suffering from such issues adversely impact economic growth within affected communities. These employees can be unreliable and cause safety concerns in the workplace. Employers need sober employees who are stabilized mentally to remain financially solvent. These individuals also place an emotional and financial drain on their friends and family members, which increases absenteeism. The Forensic Hospital Diversion Pilot program will provide a facility that will help these individuals remain productive, employed, and self-sustaining members of our local communities.

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OKALOOSA

Highway 90 East Water and Sewer Expansion

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

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Telephone Number: 850-651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: BCC, Okaloosa Couny EDC, Okaloosa County Public

Works, FDEP, FDOT, FDOH, NFWMD, and CSX Railroad

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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## Executive Summary

# Highway 90 East Water & Sewer Main Extensions

### Okaloosa County Water & Sewer (OCWS)

#### Project Description

- Extending OCWS' existing potable water main ~4.3 miles to the east, along Highway 90, from Shoffner Blvd to Jericho Rd.
- Extending OCWS' sanitary sewer force main ~3.0 miles to the east, along Highway 90, from Clint Mason Rd to Jericho Rd, and a portion on Fairchild Rd to the Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility.
- Water and sewer mains along Highway 90 have previously been designed and are shovel ready. Design is needed for the sewer force main portion on Fairchild Road. Okaloosa County has already invested heavily in the existing water and sewer facilities in this portion of unincorporated Okaloosa County. Examples include the relatively new Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility upgrade, numerous sewer pump stations, the existing sewer force main on Highway 90 to Clint Mason Rd, the water main bore already installed under the Shoal River, and numerous other water transmission mains.

#### (i) Funds Being Sought from Triumph Gulf Coast

- For the potable water main extension, the funding request is \$800K.
- For the sewer main extension, the funding request is \$700K.
- **Total funding request is \$1.5M.**
- This request includes: design fees associated with the Fairchild Rd portion of the project, local/state permitting fees, material procurement (pipe, fittings, etc.) for all construction phases, bore installation (under major roads and environmentally sensitive areas), and other construction-related services.
- Note that upon completion of the sewer force main extension, future pump stations would need to be designed and constructed that would "energize" the line, in order to transmit sewage from the specific developments to the Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility. The cost for these pump stations is not included in the above-mentioned request, as pump stations would be planned and designed as individual projects move forward.

#### (ii) Other Sources of Funds for the Project

- For the water main extension, the above-mentioned request is supplemented by an estimated \$640K in resources from Okaloosa County in the form of in-house labor and equipment.
- For the sewer main extension, the above-mentioned requested is also supplemented by an estimated \$620K in resources from Okaloosa County in the form of in-house labor and equipment. This makes the total **County contribution estimated at \$1.26M.**
- If this request is accepted, no additional funding will be necessary for the successful completion of this transformative infrastructure project. Expanding the transmission capacity for both water and sewer along the Highway 90 corridor and strengthening the public infrastructure offerings in the unincorporated area will ensure that further development can continue to be achieved in eastern Okaloosa County.

#### (iii) Project Location

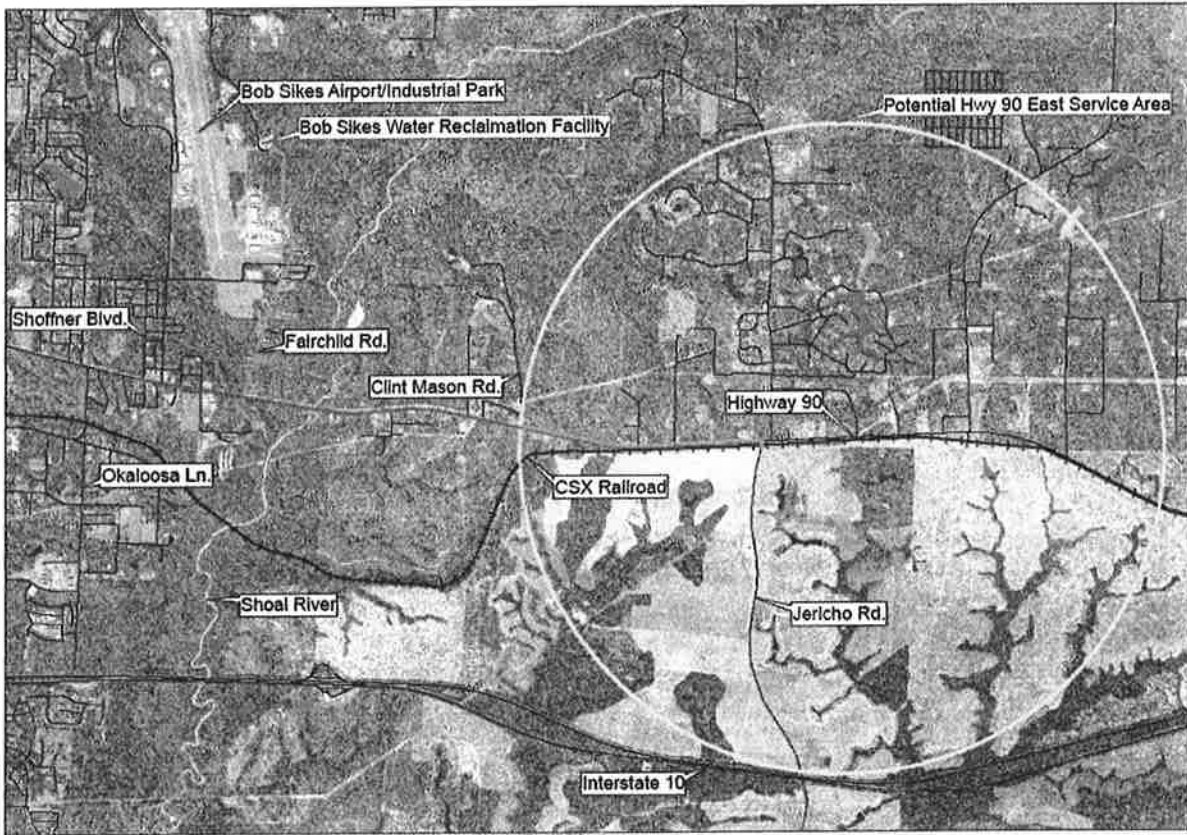
- Highway 90 East of Crestview, Florida, between the Shoal River and Walton County line. This area contains thousands of undeveloped acres that are prime for large scale industrial, residential, and commercial growth, including the 10,000-acre Shoal River Ranch property that straddles two major highways and a railroad. This area, marketed heavily by the Okaloosa County Economic Development Council (EDC), is served by multimodal transportation options including Interstate 10,

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, [mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us), 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

US Highway 90, the CSX Railroad, and the Shoal River, adding to the enormous potential for economic growth and job creation. For this growth and economic development to continue, public water and sewer infrastructure is a necessity.



**(iv) Description of Project Benefits**

- Over the past few years, there have been numerous development projects lost in the Highway 90 East Area. With these projects lost, the state of Florida missed on the opportunity for approximately 1,700 permanent jobs and a capital investment of \$1.15B, in total. These projects involve such industries as manufacturing, aerospace, and construction materials, most of which would have created technical jobs for a highly skilled workforce. This project increases the potential to end the trend of lost opportunities.
- Okaloosa County's EDC has had numerous pending projects in the manufacturing industry and corporate headquarters targeted for this area. These projects could create over 1,100 permanent jobs and a capital investment of approximately \$400M. Unfortunately, the projects cannot happen without water and sewer infrastructure. Water and sewer mains must be extended from existing systems in order to actually achieve job creation and economic diversification.
- Okaloosa County is an important working-class community. The people who live in the County support the military mission, members of the armed forces, and thriving nearby tourist industries. The activities of Bob Sikes Airport and the Bob Sikes Industrial Park (BSIP) provide a significant portion of the local economy, particularly in the area north of Eglin AFB. Modern, public water and wastewater infrastructure in the area is important, given increasing DOD contracts and USAF partnerships. Providing for these partnerships is leading to heightened demand for water and wastewater infrastructure serving the Highway 90 corridor east of the Shoal River. Improvements to

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the availability, capacity, efficiency, and reliability of the water/wastewater infrastructure will not only affect commercial and industrial expansion, but provide further opportunities for residential development that will follow increased business opportunities.

- Florida's economy is deeply intertwined with its airport system and aviation industry. Okaloosa County serves as an important element of this system due to its aviation investments that support tourism, local endeavors, and the military. Okaloosa's gross economic impact is \$8.8 billion, providing over 71,780 jobs. The Bob Sikes Airport, serviced by Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility, houses an 8,000-foot runway. This runway accommodates large military support aircraft, such as the U.S. Air Force Boeing C-28, which is used to transport helicopters to local and regional airspace. Additionally, the Air Force and Navy use the airport for extensive flight training purposes due to its Instrument Landing System. In Okaloosa County, defense-related spending exceeds \$3.1 billion dollars—73% of economic activity. Bob Sikes is a key player for the local community, providing over 2,700 jobs, which host a total payroll of about \$108M per year. These impacts come from the airport itself, its tenants, and visitors utilizing general aviation aircraft. These visitors alone generate an indirect impact of \$1.85M per year to the community. Infrastructure improvements to the BSIP service area along the Highway 90 corridor will help to ensure long-term financial stability for the community and region. Fitting with Northwest Florida FORWARD goals, completion of this project would help to keep Florida's infrastructure state-of-the-art and further improve Florida's diverse and vibrant economy.
- Additionally, this project would support the goals established by the Northwest Florida Greenway Project, which represents the partnership between military, government, and non-profit organizations for the enhancement of the military mission in Northwest Florida while enhancing the local economy and conserving ecosystems. In addition, investing proactively in centralized public water and sewer is the responsible approach in keeping the environment and water supply sustainable, preempting the installation of thousands of septic tanks and individual water wells spread throughout the area, particularly in the watershed of the Shoal River which traverses across Okaloosa and Santa Rosa Counties before eventually emptying into the Gulf of Mexico in Escambia County.

**(v) Project Timeline**

- Design of Highway 90 Portion – Complete
- Design of Fairchild Road Portion – 3 months
- Permitting – 3 months
- Material Procurement – 3 months
- Construction – 9 months
- All above durations are approximate

For more information, please contact:

Mark Wise, P.E., Deputy Director, [mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:mwise@co.okaloosa.fl.us), 850-685-0297

Okaloosa County Water & Sewer, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Suite 300, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

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Northern Gulf of Mexico Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Network

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## Triumph Gulf Coast Inc. Pre-Application Executive Summary

FADSPROJECT Name: Northern Gulf of Mexico Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Network

- i) Funding amount requested: \$500,000
- ii) \$500,000 of Restore Act funds through pot three (allocated to Okaloosa County) are being pursued for development of this network of FADs
- iii) Approximately 60-80 miles from the nearest point of land (Okaloosa County). Although, these FAD locations can be accessed from across Northwest Florida and Alabama with very little additional travel distance.
- iv) Okaloosa County proposes to deploy approximately eight (8) large mooring buoys also known as FADs to attract and provide pelagic habitat for highly prized pelagic game fish such as Marlin, Tuna, Mahi Mahi, and Wahoo just to name a few. This network of FADs will expand and increase access of this fishery to fishing entities located across the Northeastern Gulf of Mexico which encompasses the 8 disproportionately affected Florida counties from the Deepwater Horizon Oil spill as well as the states of Alabama and Mississippi. Additionally, this FAD system will provide habitat to a number of fish species that may have been directly affected by the oil spill. The main purpose of deploying this network is to expand and enhance recreational and sport fishing opportunities across the region which will result in a significant economic impact to not only the fishing industry in the region but to regional tourism. The current purposed placement of the buoys was a collaborative effort to ensure ecological qualities, legal constraints, and public interests were not omitted.

Anchored FADs are present around many Caribbean islands, Guam, West Indian Ocean islands, Australia, New Guinea...etc.; however, very few FADs occur in American waters and none have been deployed in the Gulf of Mexico. FADs are a very old technology, the use of buoys and other floating objects to attract fish and has garnered a great deal of interest especially to those groups participating in pelagic fisheries. The islands of Hawaii have an extensive anchored FAD system for recreational uses, in place for over 30 years and is the only currently active FAD system in the United States. Given the lack of documented FAD systems within the United States and the limited information available in other regions where FADs exist, the Hawaii program serves as a model for developing this project in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico.

A recent economic impact report funded by Okaloosa County, suggested that over the lifespan of the initially deployed FAD network (estimated 7-year period) it is estimated it will support 368 jobs, create nearly \$56 million in economic impact, and generate over \$2.6 million in government revenues (fiscal impact) across the 8-county region of Northwest Florida alone. What was not considered in this economic impact report was the potential for

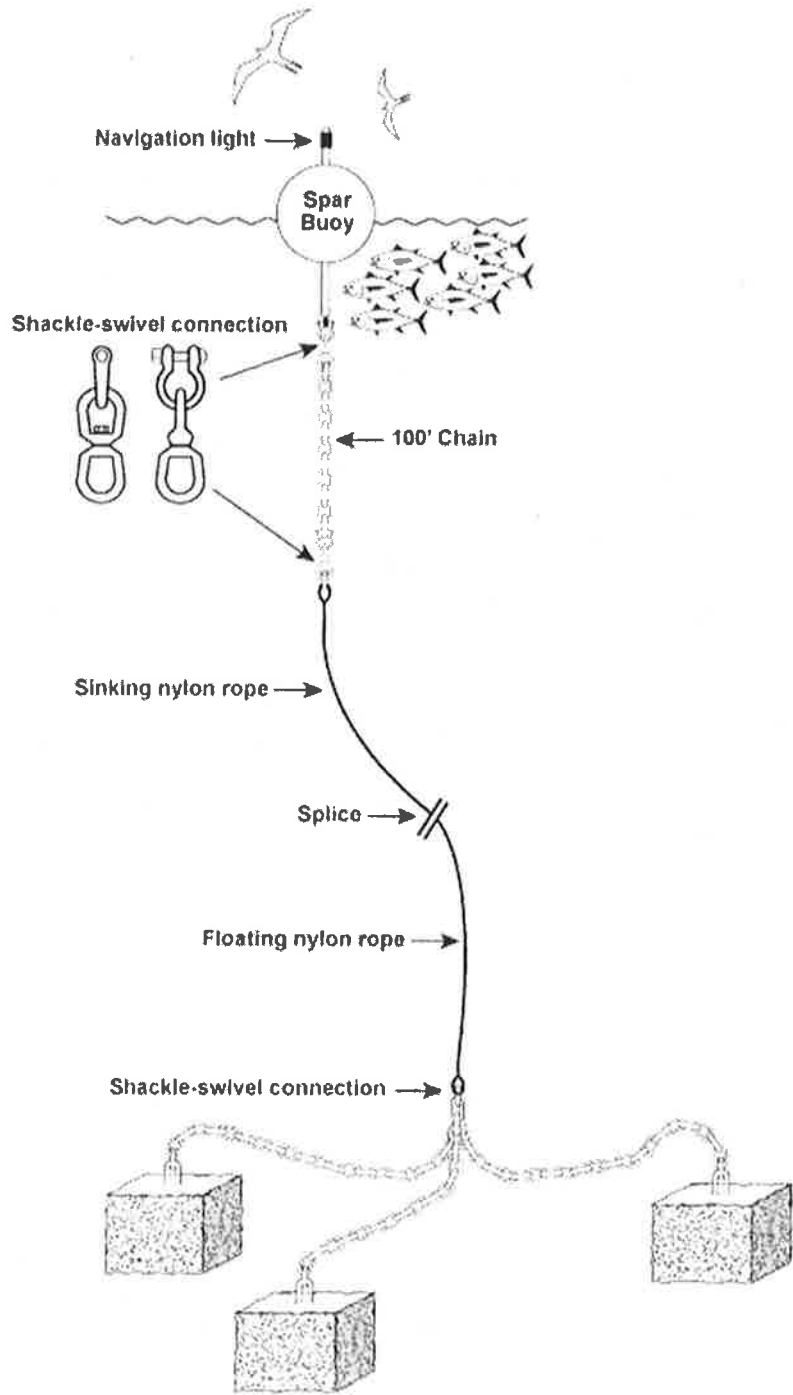
## Triumph Gulf Coast Inc. Pre-Application Executive Summary

increased visitation to northwest Florida for potential high dollar billfish tournaments and marina construction or modifications to support larger offshore pelagic fishing vessels. Therefore, the estimated economic impact is likely underestimated. Continued benefits from the deployment of this FAD network will be the collaboration with national and international universities and scientists to conduct required monitoring activities at these buoy locations. Offshore research is costly and when opportunities to couple initiatives among projects presents itself, mutually beneficial results can be achieved. For this project, monitoring the human use or visitation of these FADs will be important information to provide to fisheries managers. Additionally, these FAD buoys will provide a permanent, stable platform for above and sub-surface oceanographic and atmospheric equipment. This equipment can be installed to monitor synoptic oceanographic and meteorological conditions in the area and potentially provide real time data to the public which will be used to make safe and educated decisions about planning offshore, relatively long-range fishing trips. Additional equipment can also be installed to monitor biological conditions and even affix devices to detect and track movements of specific species of interest. In conclusion this unique FAD network will create 368 jobs, and generate nearly \$56 million in economic impact across the 8-county region of Northwest Florida while providing the region with enhanced pelagic sport fishing and other recreational fishing opportunities. This network will also provide collaboration opportunities with universities and scientists who would not have been able to conduct monitoring activities in the region otherwise. This project is ready to be implemented and if funded, delays in project implementation due to planning are unlikely and execution of this project will be immediate.

- v) To date approximately \$150,000 has been spent for various studies.. These include:
- Estimated economic impact of installation of this planned FAD system
  - Determined the feasibility and estimated costs associated with implementation of this project.
  - Submitted relevant permit applications for the installation of these FADs.
- Additional conversations since initial application submittal have resulted and permit issuance is imminent.

If funded, project implementation would be rapid as planning and regulatory requirements have already been completed or are nearly complete. Therefore, the solicitation and selection of a vendor for construction and deployment of the offshore FAD network can be completed within 6 months of being selected for funding. Further, FAD construction and deployment activities would occur within 6 months of contractor selection for an estimated project completion of less than one year.

# Triumph Gulf Coast Inc. Pre-Application Executive Summary





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BOCC

OKALOOSA

PJ Adams Phase IV Wildhorse to Antioch

**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

**Contact Information:**

Primary Contact Information: Jane Evans  
Title: Grants and RESTORE Manager  
Mailing Address: 1250 North Eglin Parkway, Suite 102, Shalimar, FL 32579  
Telephone Number: 850-651-7521  
Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us  
Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

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

City of Crestview

**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: **P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV**

A Bypass is needed around Crestview to divert traffic from State Route (SR) 85. The State, Okaloosa County, and the City of Crestview have been working on the Western Crestview Bypass to relieve congestion on SR 85. SR 85 is a Strategic Intermodal System roadway and is a primary commuter route to military bases and tourist destinations. Monday through Friday, SR 85 backs up from I-10 to Duke Field; a distance of 6 miles.



*View looking north on SR 85 from Duke Field Interchange at 4:30 PM*

P.J. Adams Parkway is currently the only Crestview option to cross I-10 besides SR 85. It is currently a 2-lane road and is over capacity. The picture right shows motorists going north on SR 85 stopped at P.J. Adams with a green light because of congestion. P.J. Adams Parkway is the first segment of the Western Crestview Bypass project that will widen and expand existing P.J. Adams Parkway from a two-lane undivided roadway to a four-lane divided urban collector.



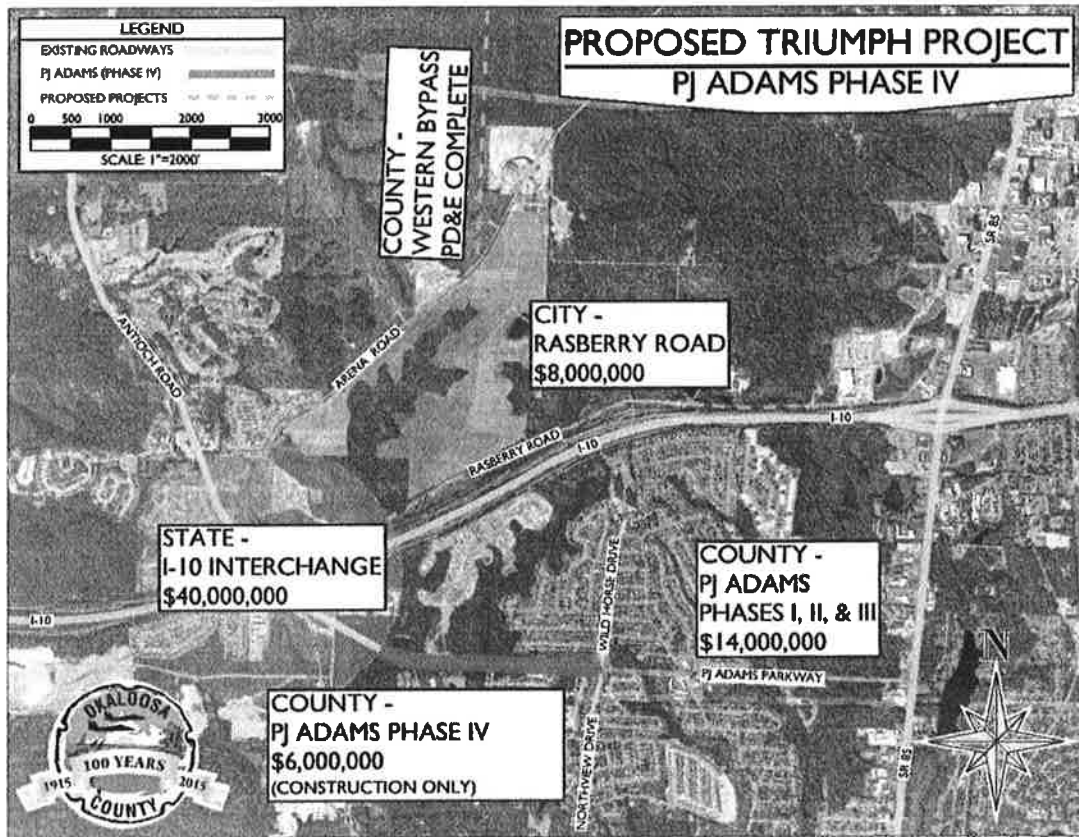
Increasing capacity on P.J. Adams Parkway will encourage more traffic to divert from SR 85 which is currently operating above capacity. The overall limits of the project are from State Route 85 to just south of the I-10 overpass. Funding for Phases I, II, and III of the P.J. Adams Parkway project are in place. \$6 Million is needed for construction of P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV.

- (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$5.5 Million.
- (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program:

Okaloosa County will commit \$500,000 towards the construction of P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV. The State and County have pooled resources and already committed over \$14 Million towards the design and construction of P.J. Adams Parkway Phases I, II, and III. The \$1 Million design for P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV is complete and was funded with \$500,000 in County funds combined with \$500,000 in State funds through a TRIP Agreement. The Federal Highway Administration has provided \$3.4 Million for Right-of-Way acquisition for P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV via Local Agency Program funds.

- (iii) the location of the project or program:

P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV is a portion of the Western Crestview Bypass. It runs between Wildhorse Drive and Antioch Road, and would extend into an interchange with I-10.



- (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:

P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV is one piece of a larger plan for a Western Crestview Bypass; which is necessary 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. Additionally, the City of Crestview is pursuing Rasberry Road, a frontage road to I-10 between the Western Crestview bypass and SR 85. The Western Crestview Bypass, new interchange and Rasberry Road will reduce congestion on SR 85 which is currently choked with traffic delays.

Currently commercial and residential development is restricted north of Crestview due to inadequate transportation infrastructure. If constructed, the Western Crestview bypass and widening of P.J. Adams will allow transformational expansion of development north of Crestview and another access to Interstate 10 which 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.

With our proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, SR 85 and P.J. Adams are both evacuation routes utilized by Okaloosa County citizens and the military installations. Currently there is grave concern that evacuations can be accomplished timely and effectively in preparation for a serious weather event. The proposed projects will provide increased capacity to move motorists out of the area and prevent loss of life. The increased transportation capacity will allow easier access to the area for our military and public safety personnel that will be critical to citizen protection, providing supplies, and recovery after a catastrophic weather event.

In addition, the short-range benefit of the P.J. Adams Parkway Phase IV project will stimulate construction jobs for 2 years.

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

Design of P.J. Adams Phase IV was completed in 2017.

Right-of-Way acquisition is scheduled to be complete in August of 2018, but could be accelerated to April of 2018.

The project could be advertised for construction in August 2018, but could be accelerated to April of 2018.

Construction is estimated to take 2 years.

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BOCC

OKALOOSA

Raspberry 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

Title: Grants and RESTORE Manager/ Okaloosa County

Mailing Address: 1250 North Eglin Parkway, Suite 102

Telephone Number: 850-651-7521

Email Address: jevans@co.okaloosa.fl.us

Website: www.co.okaloosa.fl.us

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.



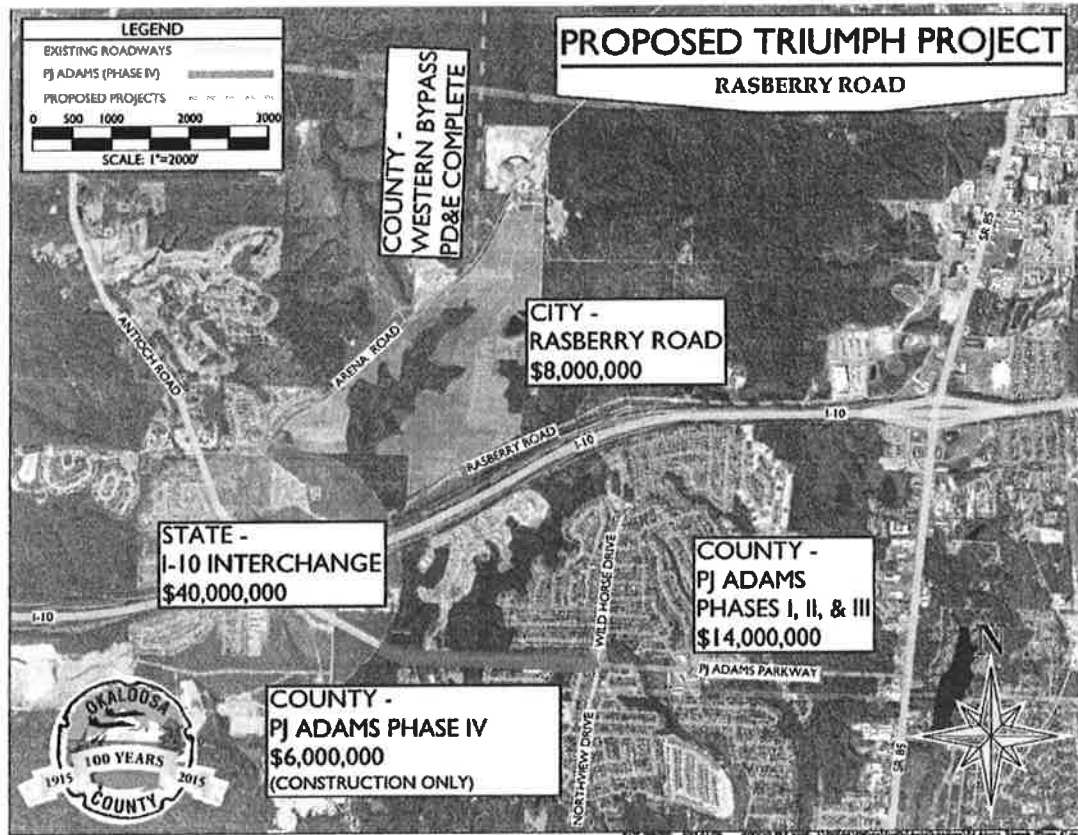
*SR 85 looking south from I-10*

- (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:

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

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

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

Design of Raspberry 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.



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BOCC

WAKULLA

**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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1263, Crawfordville, FL 32327

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 than 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



**BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Ralph Thomas**  
Chairman, District 1

**Mike Stewart**  
Vice-Chairman, District 3

**Randy Merritt**  
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

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Post Office Box 1263  
Crawfordville, FL 32326  
(850) 926-0919 x 705  
[www.mywakulla.com](http://www.mywakulla.com)

November 6, 2017

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.

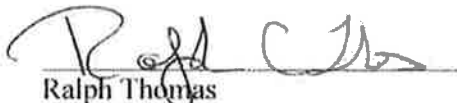
It is anticipated that the Board will update its list of recommended projects from time to time as projects are funded or as priorities shift

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

Organization	Project Title/Brief Description	Est. Project Cost	Board Priority
Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners	<p><b>First Responder Communication System:</b> 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><b>New Library:</b> 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><b>Medart Rec Park Improvements:</b> 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><b>Realignment of County Road 61/Shell Point:</b> 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><b>Camp Indian Springs Campground Partnership:</b> 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><b>New Rec Park – US 319:</b> 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

		#1
Wakulla County School Board	<p><b>Wakulla Career and Technical Education Center:</b> 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><b>Wakulla County Learning Center:</b> 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>	#2
City of St. Marks,	<p><b>ADA Compliant Kayak/Canoe Launch:</b> 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> <p><b>St. Marks WWTP</b> – 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 feasible and probable cost. Funds are needed for feasibility study/preliminary engineering report.</p> <p><b>St. Marks Board Walk:</b> 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>	#5
Wakulla Commercial Fishermen's Assoc, Inc.	<p><b>A Partnership Reviving Apalachee Bay Oyster Reefs:</b> 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><b>Marine Manufacturing Training Center:</b> 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

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BOCC

WAKULLA

**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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1263, Crawfordville, FL 32327

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: Wakulla County Sheriff's Office

**REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Wakulla County is seeking \$3 million in Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. (Triumph) funds to purchase a county-wide first responder communication system to be used by first responders, i.e., Wakulla County Fire and Rescue (WCFR) and the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office (WCSO).

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)(d) - "Grants to local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disaster, such as plans created for the Coastal Impact Assistance Program.

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 and Need***

WCFR and WCSO are using communication devices that are aging, incompatible and inoperable with communications systems used by several federal, state and many other local public safety agencies. The system and devices used are based on a microwave system installed in 2001. This situation creates serious gaps in our coverage footprint causing safety issues and concerns of putting citizens and property at risk during emergencies, and/or multi-jurisdictional situations if WCSO nor WCFR cannot receive or transmit calls with other public safety agencies within or outside Wakulla County.

During emergencies, disasters and/or accidents WSCO and WCFR work closely with the Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, State Forestry Service, National Forest Service, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge (SMNWR) and other local public safety agencies. This is in part due to the fact that Wakulla covers 736 square miles and is the first responder for 911 calls or for mutual aide, especially within the following areas:

- The coastline running from Taylor County to Franklin County and four major rivers: Ochlockonee, St. Marks, Wakulla and Sopchoppy; or approximately 129 square miles of water.
- Approximately 552 square miles of either state forest/park, national forest or SMNWR.
- Approximately 165 miles of state owned roads.
- Franklin, Liberty, Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson and Taylor counties are either contiguous or within close proximity to Wakulla County.

### ***Major Concerns with the Existing System:***

- No redundancy, if the current system becomes inoperable all communication within the County is lost and for an indeterminate period.
- ***Federal Narrow banding*** essentially reduced the coverage areas in Wakulla County leaving some areas without any coverage except landlines.
- Is not secure, information is not encrypted putting confidential and sensitive information at risk.
- Easily disrupted.
- Wakulla County cannot communicate with or receive communications with several federal, state, or other local public safety agencies.

Note that the County did explore building its own system with multiple towers as well as the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS), and found it be neither economical or feasible without further exploration of other systems. It is anticipated that a consultant will be hired to assist the County evaluate its current needs and the different P25 compliant digital radio systems, and make recommendations for a system that meets the following needs, at a minimum:



- + Improved communication with partner agencies.
- + Secure (encrypted - it is not able to be scanned), keeping law enforcement and patient information confidential.
- + Dual-band radios that can also operate on the RDSTF Grant 700 MHz System when equipped with P25 software.
- + Improved coverage area.
- + Provides redundancy, multiple towers so the loss of one site will not render communications fully inoperable.
- + Provides current technology and equipment that can be serviced, repaired and/or replaced, keeping with current technology and first responder requirements.

Wakulla County's population according to 2017 estimates is 31,909, and it is expected to increase to 35,367 by 2025, an increase of 3,458 citizens. While this growth may not seem significant to more populous counties, it has a major impact on the County's strained resources and adds to the chances of more auto crashes, residential and business fires, and emergency calls for law enforcement or medical assistance. Additionally, US 319 and US 98 offer the only north-south bound highways in and out of Wakulla County from Leon County to Franklin County. These highways experience extremely heavy traffic congestion during peak hours Monday-Friday due to residents traveling to and from Tallahassee where most of our population works. During holidays and weekends these same two highways experience congestion due to not only our citizens using them for local commutes, but due to those traveling to the area for outdoor recreational activities and those that are passing through to neighboring panhandle counties and beaches. These factors make it even more critical that Wakulla County has a current, dependable first responder communication system.

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, especially with response and preparedness to emergency/disaster events, we will certainly fall short of meeting demands of potentially 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 emergency/disaster response in a manner and timeframe that is congruent with increased population and business growth.

Wakulla County is seeking \$3 million in funding to purchase a system that meets the County's needs and provides a full coverage footprint, redundancy, and interoperability for the safety and welfare of its citizens.

***Project Timeline:*** Procure and implement new system within 12 months of award.



November 6, 2017

**BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Ralph Thomas**  
Chairman, District 1

**Mike Stewart**  
Vice-Chairman, District 3

**Randy Merritt**  
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

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Post Office Box 1263  
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(850) 926-0919 x 705  
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Mr. Alan Bense  
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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 8<sup>th</sup> 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><b>First Responder Communication System:</b> 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><b>New Library:</b> 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><b>Medart Rec Park Improvements:</b> 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><b>Realignment of County Road 61/Shell Point:</b> 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><b>Camp Indian Springs Campground Partnership:</b> 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><b>New Rec Park – US 319:</b> 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><b>Wakulla Career and Technical Education Center:</b> 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>	\$5.7 M	#1
	<p><b>Wakulla County Learning Center:</b> 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>	\$3.4 M	#2
City of St. Marks,	<p><b>ADA Compliant Kayak/Canoe Launch:</b> 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><b>St. Marks WWTP – Conversion of Grinders to Gravity Sewer:</b> First a feasibility study (i.e., preliminary engineer report) will need to be conducted to determine if conversion is feasible and probable cost. Funds are needed for feasibility study/preliminary engineering report.</p>	\$350 K	
	<p><b>St. Marks Board Walk:</b> 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><b>A Partnership Reviving Apalachee Bay Oyster Reefs:</b> 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><b>Marine Manufacturing Training Center:</b> 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	