

## **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: Franklin County Board of County Commissioners

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization: Local Government that owns the airport

#### Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Alan C. Pierce

Title: RESTORE Coordinator

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

### **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.

## Apalachicola Regional Airport Fuel Delivery System Upgrade

I. Amount of funding requested: \$920,000

\*Design, purchase, install, and permitting of a new Fuel Storage Tanks and Pumps

II. FDOT grant for back-up generator specifically for Fuel System- \$150,000  
Centric Aviation Fuel Trucks to deliver fuel- \$120,000

III. Apalachicola Regional Airport  
8 Airport Road  
Apalachicola, FL 32320

IV. This project will upgrade the aging fuel delivery system at the county owned Apalachicola Regional Airport. The fuel storage tanks, pumps, and back-up generator will be owned by the county. Centric is the Fixed Base Operator (FBO), and will be the manager/operator of the fuel system. They provide the fuel trucks that are an integral part of delivering fuel to airplanes, helicopters, and any other purchaser of aviation fuel.

The existing system was first installed approximately 30 years ago and has outlived its life expectancy. The airport fuel system was under heavy pressure during the Hurricane Michael regional recovery effort, and only through extraordinary measures of Centric and the State of Florida did the airport continue to provide fuel when the regional power grid failed. For a period of time during the response and recovery period, Apalachicola Airport was the only facility able to provide fuel for search and rescue missions throughout the hurricane area. This airport was the only facility the US Coast Guard could get fuel during the hurricane response. The following missions were reported by the US Coast Guard as coming from the airport: Oct. 10- 15 lives saved; 59 assists; involving 7 USCG Helicopters, and 1 CBP H60. Oct 11- 11 lives saved; 169 assists; involving 12 USCG Helicopters, and 2 CBP H60s.

In the preceding 12 months before Hurricane Michael Centric pumped 83,000 gallons of jet fuel into aircraft via the fuel truck. During Hurricane Michael Centric preloaded 3,000 gallons into the jet fuel truck. When the regional power grid failed Centric was able to support the Coast Guard for search and rescue the night of Oct 10<sup>th</sup> because of the fuel trucks. That night Centric pumped 2,200 gallons into 7 Coast Guard helicopters from 10:00pm until the last fueling at 3:30am. The Coast Guard helicopters saved 15 lives and assisted 53 others during that time.

In the preceding 12 months Centric pumped 43,000 gallons of Avgas into aircraft via the fuel truck and another 2,000 gallons via the self serve fuel terminal located at the fuel farm. The preferred method of fuel delivery is via the full service fuel truck and therefore an important part in the fuel delivery system. In both cases it is the fuel trucks and the fuel farm that ultimately provide the jobs Centric is trying to retain. If Centric

did not have the fuel trucks and only utilized self service those jobs to operate the trucks and pump fuel into aircraft would be lost

The FDOT has recognized the valuable role Apalachicola airport played in the regional response and recovery and is providing a 100% grant for the purchase of a back-up generator for the fuel system.

Beyond the role the airport served as a mega-center and staging area during the immediate hurricane recovery effort, the airport is a vital part of the county's economic growth. The airport and the FBO are the gateway to the region. In 2018, the airport recorded 2000 arriving airplanes. Centric has increased based aircraft tenancy 30% in the last two years. According to a 2010 FDOT economic impact study, the airport was responsible for \$2,123,800 direct impact to the local economy; \$1,552,500 indirect impact; and 70 jobs with a payroll totaling \$1,967,000. The total impact of the airport was \$6,677,000 in 2010. The current total impact to the airport is now closer to \$10M.

The Apalachicola airport has 3 runways, each 5000 feet in length. The airport property includes over 1000 acres of land. It is the largest airport between Panama City and Tallahassee.

V. We anticipate the project to be completed within 12 months.