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FROM: City of Mexico Beach City Council
William A. Cathey, Mayor

December 2, 2019

TO: Gulf Coast Triumph (GCT)

SUBJECT: Proposal 155, City of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef

The City of Mexico Beach continues to support Proposal 155, City of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef project for the Casino Boat submitted on 17 Oct 2017.

Hurricane Michael devastated our area on 10 Oct 2018 and the City is moving ahead in its recovery efforts to come back stronger! Water recreation activities, such as diving and fishing, are a huge part of what attracts tourism to our area to enjoy over 250 artificial reefs we've developed along our part of the Gulf Coast. Diver and fishermen surveys show that large vessels are the most preferred artificial reefs to dive and fish. Projects like this will enhance our economy through increased tourism promoting future development, growth of our community, and aid our recovery.

The City continues to support this proposal. Please contact me if there's anymore information needed to support GCT funding for this project.

Respectfully,

William A. Cathey, Mayor

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. Application for Funds

February 2019

***** IMPORTANT *****

Required for ALL Projects in Bay, Franklin, Gulf and Wakulla Counties

Hurricane Michael Application Addendum

For ALL regular project applications not yet approved by the Triumph Gulf Coast Board in Bay, Franklin, Gulf and Wakulla counties:

Please provide documentation of support or continued support for the proposal as a component of the county's post-Hurricane Michael recovery efforts made by the Board of County Commissioners (for each Hurricane Michael impacted county included in the project) on a date after October 10, 2018.

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. Trust Fund Application for Funds

Proposal Instructions: The Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. Trust Fund Grant Application (this document) must be completed by the entity applying for the grant and signed, as applicable, by either the individual applying for funds, an individual authorized to bind the entity applying for funds, a chief elected official, the administrator for the governmental entity or their designee. Please read the Application carefully as some questions may require a separate narrative to be completed. In addition, please complete all Addendums that may be applicable to the proposed project or program.

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. will make awards from available funds to projects or programs that meet the priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties. Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. may make awards for:

- Ad valorem tax rate reduction within disproportionately affected counties;
- Local match requirements of s. 288.0655 for projects in the disproportionately affected counties;
- 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 local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
- 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; encourage industry certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission of Education; encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single employer; and
- Grants to the tourism entity created under s. 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism and Fresh From Florida, and grants to promote workforce and infrastructure, on behalf of all of the disproportionately affected counties.

Pursuant to Florida Law, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. will provide priority consideration to Applications for projects or programs that:

- Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long-term economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected counties may be enhanced by the investment.
- Increase household income in the disproportionately affected counties above national average household income.
- Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
- Partner with local governments to provide funds, infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.
- Benefit the environment, in addition to the economy.
- Provide outcome measures.
- Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.
- Are recommended by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the project or program will be located.
- Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the disproportionately affected counties.

Additionally, the Board of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. may provide discretionary priority to consideration of Applications for projects and programs that:

- Are considered transformational for the future of the Northwest Florida region.
- May be consummated quickly and efficiently.
- Promote net-new jobs in the private sector with an income above regional average household income.
- Align with Northwest Florida FORWARD, the regional strategic initiative for Northwest Florida economic transformation.
- Create net-new jobs in targeted industries to include: aerospace and defense, financial services/shared services, water transportation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, information technology, manufacturing, and robotics.
- Promote industry cluster impact for unique targeted industries.
- Create net-new jobs with wages above national average wage (*e.g.*, similar to EFI QTI program, measured on graduated scale).
- Are located in Rural Area of Opportunity as defined by the State of Florida (DEO).
- 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.
- Enhance a targeted industry cluster or create a Center of Excellence unique to Northwest Florida.
- Create a unique asset in the region that can be leveraged for regional growth of targeted industries.

- Demonstrate long-term financial sustainability following Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. funding.
- Leverage funding from other government and private entity sources.
- Provide local investment and spending.
- Are supported by more than one governmental entity and/or private sector companies, in particular proposed projects or programs supported by more than one county in the region.
- Provide clear performance metrics over duration of project or program.
- Include deliverables-based payment system dependent upon achievement of interim performance metrics.
- Provide capacity building support for regional economic growth.
- Are environmentally conscious and business focused.
- Include Applicant and selected partners/vendors located in Northwest Florida.

Applications will be evaluated and scored based on compliance with the statutory requirements of the Triumph Gulf Coast legislation, including but not limited to the priorities identified therein and the geographic region served by the proposed project or program.

Applicant Information

Name of Individual (if applying in individual capacity): _____

Name of Entity/Organization: City of Mexico Beach , FL

Background of Applicant Individual/Entity/Organization: Gulf Coast beach community in Bay County.

Population of 1,072 serving over 10,000 tourists annually with outdoor recreation such as fishing & diving.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Federal Employer Identification Number: 59-1220917

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: Mario Gisbert
Title: City Administrator

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 13425
201 Paradise Path
Mexico Beach, Florida 32410

Phone: (850) 258-6179 and (850) 648-5700

Email: m.gisbert@mexicobeachgov.com

Website: mexicobeachgov.com/

Identify any co-applicants, partners, or other entities or organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program and such partners proposed roles.

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA), Inc, 501c(3): Artificial Reef Program

Management/Grantor.

St Joe Community Foundation (SJCF): Grantor/Supporter

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Total amount of funding requested from Triumph Gulf Coast: \$970,000

Has the applicant in the past requested or applied for funds for all or part of the proposed project/program?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please provide detailed information concerning the prior request for funding, including:

- the date the request/application for funding was made;
- the source to which the request/application for funding was made,
- the results of the request/application for funding, and
- projected or realized results and/or outcomes from prior funding.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Describe the financial status of the applicant and any co-applicants or partners:

See attachment and Exhibit 1

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

In a separate attachment, please provide financial statements or information that details the financial status of the applicant and any co-applicants or partners.

Has the applicant or any co-applicants, partners or any associated or affiliated entities or individuals filed for bankruptcy in the last ten (10) years?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please identify the entity or individual that filed for bankruptcy and the date of filing.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Eligibility

Pursuant to Section 288.8017, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. was created to make awards from available funds to projects or programs that meet the priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties. The disproportionately affected counties are: Bay County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Walton County, or Wakulla County. *See*, Section 288.08012.

1. From the choices below, please check the box that describes the purpose of the proposed project or program (check all that apply):

- ☐ Ad valorem tax rate reduction within disproportionately affected counties;
- ☐ Local match requirements of s. 288.0655 for projects in the disproportionately affected counties;
- ☒ 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 local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
- ☐ 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; encourage industry certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission of Education, encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties;
- ☐ Grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single employer; and
- ☐ Grants to the tourism entity created under s. 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism and Fresh From Florida, and grants to promote workforce and infrastructure, on behalf of all of the disproportionately affected counties.

- See attachment and Exhibit 2.**

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

3. Explain how the proposed project or program is considered transformational and how it will effect the disproportionately affected counties in the next ten (10) years.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

4. Describe data or information available to demonstrate the viability of the proposed project or program.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

5. Describe how the impacts to the disproportionately affected counties will be measured long term.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

6. Describe how the proposed project or program is sustainable. (Note: Sustainable means how the proposed project or program will remain financially viable and continue to perform in the long-term after Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. funding.)

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

7. Describe how the deliverables for the proposed project or program will be measured.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Priorities

1. Please check the box if the proposed project or program will meet any of the following priorities (check all that apply):

- ☒ Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long-term economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected counties may be enhanced by the investment.
- ☒ Increase household income in the disproportionately affected counties above national average household income.
- ☒ Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.

- ☒ Partner with local governments to provide funds, infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.
- ☒ Benefit the environment, in addition to the economy.
- ☒ Provide outcome measures.
- ☒ Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.
- ☒ Are recommended by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the project or program will be located.
- ☒ Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the disproportionately affected counties.

2. Please explain how the proposed project meets the priorities identified above.

See attachment and Exhibit 3.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

3. Please explain how the proposed project or program meets the discretionary priorities identified by the Board.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

4. In which of the eight disproportionately affected county/counties is the proposed project or program located? (Circle all that apply)

Escambia Santa Rosa Okaloosa Walton **Bay** **Gulf** Franklin Wakulla

5. Was this proposed project or program on a list of proposed projects and programs submitted to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., by one (or more) of the eight disproportionately affected Counties as a project and program located within its county?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list all Counties that apply: City of Mexico Beach in Bay County.

6. Does the Board of County Commissioners for each County listed in response to question 5, above, recommend this project or program to Triumph?

☒ Yes ☐ No **See Exhibit 2.**

****Please attach proof of recommendation(s) from each County identified.**

Approvals and Authority

1. If the Applicant is awarded grant funds based on this proposal, what approvals must be obtained before Applicant can execute an agreement with Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.?
None. The project location is permitted for construction by the US Army Corps of Engineers.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
2. If approval of a board, commission, council or other group is needed prior to execution of an agreement between the entity and Triumph Gulf Coast:
- A. Provide the schedule of upcoming meetings for the group for a period of at least six months.
- B. State whether that group can hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.
None required.
- (If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
3. Describe the timeline for the proposed project or program if an award of funding is approved, including milestones that will be achieved following an award through completion of the proposed project or program.
See attachment.
- (If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
4. Attach evidence that the undersigned has all necessary authority to execute this proposal on behalf of the entity applying for funding. This evidence may take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: a delegation of authority, citation to relevant laws or codes, policy documents, etc. In addition, please attach any support letters from partners.
See attachment.

Funding and Budget:

Pursuant to Section 288.8017, awards may not be used to finance 100 percent of any project or program. An awardee may not receive all of the funds available in any given year.

1. Identify the amount of funding sought from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. and the time period over which funding is requested.
\$970,000.00. Time period requested: Upon contractor/vendor completion and invoice for payment.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
2. What percentage of total program or project costs does the requested award from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. represent? (Please note that an award of funding will be for a defined monetary amount and will not be based on percentage of projected project costs.)
88%.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
3. Please describe the types and number of jobs expected from the proposed project or program and the expected average wage.
See attachment.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
4. Does the potential award supplement but not supplant existing funding sources? If yes, describe how the potential award supplements existing funding sources.
☒ Yes ☐ No
MBARA and St Joe Community Foundation have pledged \$130,000 (12%) in matching funds.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)
5. Please provide a Project/Program Budget. Include all applicable costs and other funding sources available to support the proposal.

A. Project/Program Costs:

Example Costs (Note: Not exhaustive list of possible Cost categories.)

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Construction | <u>\$ 1,085,000</u> |
| Reconstruction | <u>\$</u> |
| Design & Engineering | <u>\$</u> |
| Land Acquisition | <u>\$</u> |
| Land Improvement | <u>\$</u> |
| Equipment | <u>\$ 10,000</u> |
| Supplies | <u>\$ 5,000</u> |
| Salaries | <u>\$</u> |

Other (specify) \$ _____

Total Project Costs: \$ 1,100,000

B. Other Project Funding Sources:

Example Funding Sources (Note: Not an exhaustive list of possible Funding Sources.)

City/County \$ _____

Private Sources \$ 80,000

Other (e.g., grants, etc.) \$ 50,000

Total Other Funding \$ 130,000

Total Amount Requested: \$ 970,000

Note: The total amount requested must equal the difference between the costs in 3A. and the other project funding sources in 3.B.

C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding and any other pertinent budget-related information.

See attachment and Exhibit 4.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Applicant understands that the Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. statute requires that the award contract must include provisions requiring a performance report on the contracted activities, must account for the proper use of funds provided under the contract, and must include provisions for recovery of awards in the event the award was based upon fraudulent information or the awardee is not meeting the performance requirements of the award.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Applicant understands that awardees must regularly report to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. the expenditure of funds and the status of the project or program on a schedule determined by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Applicant acknowledges that Applicant and any co-Applicants will make books and records and other financial data available to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. as necessary to measure and confirm performance metrics and deliverables.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Applicant acknowledges that Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. reserves the right to request additional information from Applicant concerning the proposed project or program.

☒ Yes ☐ No

ADDENDUM FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSALS:

1. Program Requirements

- A. Is the infrastructure owned by the public?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- B. Is the infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- C. Will the public infrastructure improvements be for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- D. Provide a detailed explanation of how the public infrastructure improvements will connect to a broader economic development vision for the community and benefit additional current and future businesses.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed public infrastructure project will promote:
- Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

See attachment.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. Is this project an expansion of existing infrastructure project?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- B. Provide the proposed beginning commencement date and number of days required to complete construction of the infrastructure project.
Mexico Beach started building its artificial reef infrastructure in 1997. The completion

date is indefinite because increasing population/urban sprawl continues to increase demand.
(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. What is the location of the public infrastructure? (Provide the road number, if applicable.)

This public reef infrastructure location ranges 2.25 to 34.5 nautical miles West to Southwest of the Mexico Beach Canal (navigable inlet).

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- D. Who is responsible for maintenance and upkeep? (Indicate if more than one are applicable.)

The City is the permit holder for its reef sites and contracts with qualified reef builders to construct reefs. Upon construction completion, no maintenance or upkeep is required.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. What permits are necessary for the infrastructure project?

US Army Corps of Engineers Artificial Reef Permit. No other permits required.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

Detail whether required permits have been secured, and if not, detail the timeline for securing these permits. Additionally, if any required permits are local permits, will these permits be prioritized?

US Army Corps of Engineers Artificial Reef Permit SAJ-2006-1340-IP issued on 27 Nov 2006. Expiration and Renauthorization will occur on 1 Nov 2022.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- F. What is the future land use and zoning designation on the proposed site of the Infrastructure improvement, and will the improvements conform to those uses?

Designation: Federal Waters Fish Haven. Artificial reef improvements will comply with NOAA Artificial Reef Guidelines.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- G. Will an amendment to the local comprehensive plan or a development order be required on the site of the proposed project or on adjacent property to accommodate the infrastructure and potential current or future job creation opportunities? If yes, please detail the timeline
☐ Yes ☒ No
-

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- H. Does this project have a local match amount? If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.
☒ Yes ☐ No

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association: \$80,000.00

St Joe Community Foundation: \$50,000.00

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- I. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

See Exhibits.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

ADDENDUM FOR WORKFORCE TRAINING PROPOSALS

1. Program Requirements

- A. Will this proposal supports programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties? If yes, please identify where the campuses are located and provide details on how the proposed programs will prepare students for future occupations and at which K-20 institutions that programs will be provided.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Will the proposed program (check all that apply):

- ☐ Increase students' technology skills and knowledge
- ☐ Encourage industry certifications
- ☐ Provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements
- ☐ Strengthen career readiness initiatives
- ☐ Fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors
- ☐ Encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties (similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission on Education)

For each item checked above, describe how the proposed program will achieve these goals

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Will this proposal provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills but not confined to a single employer? If yes, please provide details.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- D. Identify the disproportionately affected counties where the proposed programs will operate or provide participants with workforce skills.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed project or program will promote:
- Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. Is this an expansion of an existing training program? Is yes, describe how the proposed program will enhance or improve the existing program and how the proposal program will supplements but not supplant existing funding sources.
- ☐ Yes ☐ No

This project will provide an excellent platform for all levels of diver training as well as underwater experimental and research stations.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Indicate how the training will be delivered (e.g., classroom-based, computer based, other).
- If in-person, identify the location(s) (e.g., city, campus, etc.) where the training will be available.

If computer-based, identify the targeted location(s) (e.g., city, county) where the training will be available.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Identify the number of anticipated enrolled students and completers.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- D. Indicate the length of the program (e.g., quarters, semesters, weeks, months, etc.) including anticipated beginning and ending dates.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. Describe the plan to support the sustainability of the proposed program.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- F. Identify any certifications, degrees, etc. that will result from the completion of the program.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- G. Does this project have a local match amount? If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.

☐ Yes

☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- H. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.
-

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

ADDENDUM FOR AD VALOREM TAX RATE REDUCTION:

1. Program Requirements

- A. Describe the property or transaction that will be supported by the ad valorem tax rate reduction.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Provide a detailed explanation of how the ad valorem tax rate reduction will connect to a broader economic recovery, diversification, enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties and/or enhancement of a targeted industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Provide a detailed description of the quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed ad valorem tax reduction will promote:
- Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. What is the location of the property or transaction that will be supported by the ad valorem tax rate reduction?

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Detail the current status of the property or transaction that will be supported by the ad valorem tax rate reduction and provide a detailed description of when and how the ad valorem tax rate reduction will be implemented.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Does this proposed project have a local match amount? If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.
☐ Yes ☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- D. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

**ADDENDUM FOR LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 288.0655,
FLORIDA STATUTES**

1. Program Requirements

- A. Describe the local match requirements of Section 288.0655 and the underlying project, program or transaction that will be funded by the proposed award.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Provide a detailed explanation of how the local match requirements and the underlying project or program will connect to a broader economic recovery, diversification, enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties and/or enhancement of a targeted industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed local match requirements will promote:
- Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. What is the location of the property or transaction that will be supported by the local match requirements?

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Detail the current status of the property or transaction that will be supported by the local match requirement and provide a detailed description of when and how the local match requirement will be implemented.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

ADDENDUM FOR LOCAL ACTION PLAN

1. Program Requirements

- A. Describe how the proposed award will establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters.
- B. Describe the type and amount of equipment and trained personnel that will be established or maintained by the proposed award.
- C. Identify the specific local action plans (*e.g.*, Coastal Impacts Assistance Program) that will benefit from the proposed award.
- D. Provide a detailed explanation of how the proposed award will connect to a broader economic recovery, diversification, enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties and/or enhancement of a targeted industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. Provide a detailed description of the quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed will promote:
 - Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. What is the location of the local action program that will be supported by the proposed award?

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Detail the current status of the local action plans (*e.g.*, new plans, existing plans, etc.) that will be supported by the proposed award and provide a detailed description of when and how the proposed award will be implemented.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

ADDENDUM FOR ADVERTISING/PROMOTION

1. Program Requirements

- A. Is the applicant a tourism entity created under s. 288.1226, Florida Statutes?

☐ Yes ☐ No

- B. Does the applicant advertise and promote tourism and Fresh From Florida? If yes, provide details on how it advertises and promotes tourism and Fresh From Florida.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Does the proposed award promote workforce and infrastructure on behalf of the disproportionately affected counties? If yes, describe how workforce and infrastructure is promoted on behalf of the disproportionately affected counties.

☐ Yes ☐ No

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- D. Provide a detailed explanation of how the proposed award will connect to a broader economic recovery, diversification, enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties and/or enhancement of a targeted industry.
-

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- E. Provide a detailed description of the quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed will promote:

- Economic recovery,
 - Economic Diversification,
 - Enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties,
 - Enhancement of a Targeted Industry.
-

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

2. Additional Information

- A. Describe the advertising and promotion mediums and locations where the advertising and promotion will occur.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- B. Detail the current status of the advertising and promotion (*e.g.*, new plans, existing plans, etc.) that will be supported by the proposed award and provide a detailed description of when and how the proposed award will be implemented.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

- C. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal.

(If additional space is needed, please attach a Word document with your entire answer.)

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on my behalf or on behalf of the above-described entity, organization, or governmental entity:

Name of Applicant: Mario Gisbert

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Mexico Beach City Administrator

Representative Signature: 

Signature Date: 10-6-20

10/13/2017 FINAL

Attachment for Application Responses

Applicant Information

Financial Statements Response on Page 5

City of Mexico Beach: Audit 30 Sep 2018. Financial Statements conform with US accounting principles (See Exhibit 1). Full report is available at https://flauditor.gov/pages/mun_efile%20rpts/2018%20mexico%20beach.pdf

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association: Certified Public Accountant 18 Feb 2017. Financial Statement conforms with US accounting principles. (See Exhibit 1)

St Joe Community Foundation: Audit 31 Dec 2018. Financial Statements conform with US accounting principles (See Exhibit 1). Full report is available at <http://ir.joe.com/static-files/148a6f3d-7a7d-4483-ae94-f12e0b596c7e>

Eligibility

Item 2 Response on Page 7

Title and Description: Artificial Reef/Casino Boat Wreck

Walter Marine/Reefmaker offers a salvaged Casino Boat (see photos in Exhibit 2) as a candidate for a large-scale artificial reef/shipwreck project. The vessel is constructed of heavy gauge steel with dimensions of 215' length X 66' wide X 70' tall. It will be prepared according to the Best Management Practices for Preparing Vessels Intended to Create Artificial Reefs published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency & The U.S. Maritime Administration Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Guidelines for Marine Artificial Reef Materials to meet US Army Corps of Engineers artificial reef permit requirements.

Location of the Project: (see map attached): Gulf coastal waters off Bay and Gulf Counties 15.6 nautical miles (nm) west of the St Joseph Peninsula (Gulf County); 18.8 nm southwest of the Mexico Beach Canal (Bay County); and, 22.5 nm south of St Andrews Pass (Bay County/Panama City). The location is in the Bridge Span Permit Site (federal waters) issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers at coordinates of latitude N29 44.498 and longitude W85 42.173 at a water depth of 102 feet.

Project Purpose: This artificial reef project will provide a new transformational marine habitat for environmental conservation of marine resources promoting regional economic trade related to tourism/ecotourism, boating, commercial/recreational fisheries, and SCUBA diving activities. This project will also diversely impact and enhance all community services such as hotels, restaurants, marinas, fishing/diving charter boats, tackle shops, dive shops, and numerous other entities supporting both commercial and recreational activities.

Attachment for Application Responses

Economic Impact: It has been shown that other artificial reefs create jobs, income and government revenue. Through tourism, research, fishing and diving, we expect that this artificial reef will have very positive benefits for the local area.

A recent study, “Impacts of Artificial Reefs and Diving Tourism” (www.dgt.uns.ac.rs/turizam/arhiva/vol_1704_2.pdf) confirms the economic benefits of artificial reefs in new jobs, increased wages and millions of dollars of increased spending on recreation. The sinking of the *USS Spiegel Grove* in Monroe County, Florida, created 70 new jobs and led to an income of \$32M for the county. The sinking of the *USS Vandenberg* helped create an estimated 105 new jobs in recreation and other related industries. Recreational revenues were boosted by \$6.5M. Other nearby locations have reported improvements to the local economy thanks to artificial reefs also. For example, “Escambia County Florida invested \$1 million in sinking the USS Oriskany, that \$ was back in the bank 3 days after the sinking. International tourists are now coming to Pensacola. The reef generates \$1-1.4 million per month in tourism commerce. Bed-tax collections up 17% as a result” (Source: Artificial Reefs International). “Travel cost models indicate an average use value of \$1,215 per diver with current Oriskany dive trips. Expected annual use value increases to \$2,596 with the bundling of a second vessel.” (Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Center for Environmental Economics). Diving Equipment Marketing Association (DEMA) studies show **Florida ranks number 2** in the number of newly certified scuba divers each year, surpassed only by California. More than **154,000 Florida residents** have become certified scuba divers since 2007. (Source: 2018 DEMA “Fast Facts: Recreational Scuba Diving and Snorkeling”)

How Much Money Does Scuba Diving and Snorkeling Bring to Florida?

- Recreational scuba diving and snorkeling contribute about \$11 billion to the US gross domestic product
- Coral reefs in the Caribbean, including Florida generate about \$2.1 billion in revenue each year.
- Snorkeling in Florida accounts for about 4.24 million visitor-days per year.
- Scuba Diving in Florida accounts for about 4.56 million visitor-days per year.
- Scuba Diving and Snorkeling create about 26,000 full-time equivalent tourism-related jobs each year.
- Visitors participating in recreational scuba diving and snorkeling contribute about \$904.4 million to the Florida economy each year.
- In 2009 residents learning to dive in Florida contributed about \$20 million in additional sales of equipment, education and travel to the local economies.
- While much of Florida has natural reefs, artificial reefs also contribute to the local economy. For example, estimates from research submitted by The University of West Florida indicate there are more than 4,200 chartered dive trips taken to the artificial reef/aircraft carrier Oriskany off of Pensacola Florida annually, carrying divers from all over the world. Annual revenue generated from visitors traveling from Escambia and Baldwin Florida counties alone is estimated at \$2.2 million, and dive-related expenditures drive an economic impact of \$3.6 million in local output and additional

Attachment for Application Responses

jobs while generating \$1.4 million in local income. (Source: 2018 DEMA “Fast Facts: Recreational Scuba Diving and Snorkeling”)

Affected Counties Impacted by the Project: Bay and Gulf Counties.

Project Timeline:

Day 1 Award of funding to the City.

Day 15 Initiate procurement.

Day 45 Award contract to vendor.

Day 60 Vendor initiates transportation and preparation of vessel for sinking as artificial reef/wreck.

Day 425-790 Vendor’s estimated completion date for sinking vessel at designated location.

30 Days after vessel sinking: MBARA’s deadline to submit Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Artificial Reef Placement Report and public posting of reef’s/wreck’s location.

Item 3 Response on Page 8

Using the USS Oriskany of Escambia County as a model, this project is predicted to generate \$1-1.4 million per month in tourism commerce for Bay and Gulf Counties. And, increase Bed-tax collections by 17% (Source: Artificial Reefs International). Travel cost models indicate an average use value of \$1,215 per diver with current Oriskany dive trips. (Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Center for Environmental Economics).

Increased Bed and County sales tax collections create potential for reducing property (Ad Valorem) taxes in Bay and Gulf Counties.

Item 4 Response on Page 8

The Empire Mica was sunk approximately 24 miles offshore south of Gulf County in 1942; 77 years ago. It’s still a viable reef today and continues to attract divers and fishermen.

The proposed project is expected to be a viable reef for 50+ years without need for maintenance costs after sinking.

Item 5 Response on Page 8

Revenues and taxes are measured for economic impact by:

Attachment for Application Responses

Bay County Tourist Development Council

Gulf County Tourist Development Council

Mexico Beach Community Development Council

Ecological impacts are measured by MBARA divers performing underwater periodic reef monitoring surveys assessing reef stability, durability, and performance observing fish species and counts.

Item 6 Response on Page 8

Like other artificial reefs/wrecks, no maintenance or funding will be required after placement on the seafloor. Reefs/wrecks provide an excellent foundation/substrate for marine organisms to attach and grow setting up habitat and ecosystems mimicking natural reefs. Overall, nature takes over maintenance and sustainment of the reef/wreck.

Upon completing the project at the time of sinking the vessel, no further maintenance or funding will be required. The project will be indefinitely financially viable supporting the growth of recreation and tourism depending on our marine resources.

Item 7 Response on Page 8

The MBARA sustains and maintains the City's artificial reef program. The organization has a 20-year history of successfully and promptly providing deliverables required to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission for State and Federal grants.

Priorities

Item 2 Response on Page 9

1. The project will generate increased economy. Escambia County Florida invested \$1 million in sinking the USS Oriskany, that \$ was back in the bank 3 days after the sinking. International tourists are now coming to Pensacola. The reef generates \$1-1.4 million per month in tourism commerce. Bed-tax collections up 17% as a result" (Source: Artificial Reefs International).
2. The project will increase household incomes attracting increased recreation and tourism increasing local economy revenues and create new jobs for diving and fishing activities/services supporting local citizens and tourists.
3. The project will leverage and enhance educational institutions by providing an excellent platform for all levels of SCUBA diver training. It will also provide military training opportunities to the United States Naval Support Activity Panama City's Diving Salvage and Training Center. It

Attachment for Application Responses

will also provide leisure opportunities for military members locally assigned to Naval Support Activity Panama City and Tyndall Air Force Base.

4. Partnerships have been formed between City of Mexico Beach, Mexico Beach Community Development Council, Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Bay County Tourist Development Council, Gulf County Tourist Development Council, St Joe Community Foundation Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, local merchants/businesses, and sponsors providing assistance through donations/matching funds, administrative and technical support, and field support.

5. This project will benefit the environment, in addition to the economy. Artificial reefs benefit the environment in numerous ways. First, they attract divers and fishermen reducing pressure on natural reefs. Natural reefs are very scarce in our region with the sea floor vastly being loose/soft sand bottom unsuitable for natural reef development to support fisheries. Artificial reefs provide solid/hard substrates/foundations necessary for marine organism attachment and growth developing healthy productive habitat. Most important, they become habitats and ecosystems providing shelter and complete food chains, like natural reefs, supporting ecotourism and fisheries (commercial and recreational).

6. Marine resource user surveys indicate divers and fishermen prefer large vessels as artificial reefs. MBARA will continue to measure outcome of artificial reef performance and utilization to tailor future reef construction to meet increasing marine resource demands. Additionally, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) conducts periodic user surveys at boat ramps, marinas, and navigable inlets. They use passive detection devices to monitor reef use. Additionally, FWC reaches out to user via mail/online surveys.

7. The project will provide greater opportunities for K-20 educational institutions. On 7 Nov 2019, 24 students in grades 7th through 12th and 5 teachers from the Ohana Institute earned their underwater diving certifications in Bay County waters. State Representative Chris Latvala says the way they focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and the arts can be replicated at other schools. "What they do here is fascinating and can certainly be used in other education settings around the state of Florida," said Latvala (Source: WJHG Channel 7 News 7 Nov 2019).

Current and Past NOAA Gulf of Mexico B-WET Projects

Since its beginning in 2008, the NOAA Gulf of Mexico B-WET Program has funded 58 awards reaching teachers and students across the five Gulf States. Abstracts of current and past Gulf B-WET projects are listed below by state:

Children as Watershed Stewards

The Science and Discovery Center of Northwest Florida received funding to assemble a course of study to introduce young children to the wonders of their northwest Florida watershed system based on the most current earth science, climate and ocean studies and using the most appropriate technology; field test, gather feedback and revise CAWS Curriculum; and produce and disseminate (digitally when possible) the curriculum, assisted by the Panhandle Area

Attachment for Application Responses

Educational Consortium, throughout the 19 counties within our watershed and throughout the Gulf of Mexico Alliance as appropriate.

Preserving our Underwater Pastures (PUP): Researching human impact on local historic artificial reef structures

Florida State University received funding to support sixteen high school students, 15 years or older, and two teachers for three weeks each of two summers to gain science dive certification while studying three historical artificial reef sites in local waters. Both students and teachers will gain the knowledge and experience that allows them to enter the underwater world safely and competently and to successfully employ data gathering strategies to study the reefs for degradation by human factors as well as to catalog the kinds of fauna that inhabits the reefs. During the school year this group will meet one Saturday a month to continue to hone their research skills and to gather and interpret data. Students and teachers will utilize state-of-the-art monitoring and data gathering equipment that FSU Panama City already uses, and will analyze data to identify kinds of degradation and causes of degradation as well as rates of degradation. Once all data is gathered, formal analyses will be completed and presented to NOAA and other interested organizations with suggestions based on research that might mitigate the identified challenges to these reefs. Teachers involved in this program will return to their classrooms to develop their own Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) based on their experience and will be able to utilize their new network of FSU Panama City experts and the student experts with whom they have worked.

Advanced Science Diving Program

The mission of Florida State University Panama City's Advanced Science Diving Program (ASDP) is to educate and support excellence in underwater research. To this end, the ASDP provides academic courses in support of other university programs, develops and delivers professional dive training programs, engages in industry partnerships with public and private organizations, and conduct a variety research and outreach programs in the furtherance of safe and productive scientific diving. The core function of the program is to train and educate university students, faculty, and staff, as well as members of other agencies involved in maritime work, in the techniques related to scientific diving according to the standards established by the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (<https://www.aaus.org/home>) (AAUS).

FSU Panama City is an active member and supporter of AAUS and complies with all of its policies and procedures. The ASDP operates under strict standards for training that allows a working reciprocity between us and other underwater research facilities around the globe, specifically organizational members of AAUS.

8. The project is recommended by the Mexico Beach City Council. See Exhibit 3 for letter of support from the Chairman/Mayor.

9. Partnerships: See attached letters of support from the Mexico Beach Community Development Council, Bay County Tourist Development Council (TDC), and Gulf County TDC

Attachment for Application Responses

Item 3 Responses on Page 9

1. The project is transformational for the future of the Northwest Florida as it will be a candidate for the Florida Panhandle Shipwreck Trail (see floridapanhandledivetrail.com). The Trail is sponsored by the Bureau of Archaeological Research, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State and the Florida Public Archaeology Network in partnership with the waterfront communities in Northwest Florida. The current twelve shipwrecks along the Trail were selected from a consensus of local dive shops and charter boat operators as the best destinations for various levels of diving. Visitors can obtain an official passport from our partners, the dive shops and charter boats of the Florida Panhandle. After completing each shipwreck dive, the passport will be validated with a sticker, encouraging divers to visit all twelve sites and complete the trail.
2. The project will be consummated quickly and efficiently. Upon award of funding, procurement will be initiated. Walter Marine will transport, prepare the vessel, and sink it at the designated location within 12-24 months project funding.
3. The project will create new jobs in Bay and Gulf Counties recreation and tourism industries to meet increased interests and business/services demands.
4. The project aligns with Northwest Florida Forward's economic transformation by taking advantage our marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico. Commercially, the seafood industry is highly dependent on our fisheries. Recreationally, diving and fishing industries depend on tourism services that continues to grow. These increasing and competing demands on marine resources makes artificial reef development necessary for conservation and business/tourism growth throughout the Panhandle.
5. The project will provide platform opportunities to support defense diving and salvage research, development, testing, and training at the Naval Support Activity Panama City.
6. The project will promote financial cluster impact for banks, credit unions, and mortgage companies support business expansions serving diving, fishing, associated retail merchants, and tourism services.
7. Gulf County, the closest County to the project site, is in a Rural Area of Opportunity as defined by the State of Florida (DEO).
8. The project will provide a wider regional impact such as being part of the Florida Panhandle Shipwreck Trail stimulating travel and tourism. And, transient vessels from ports throughout the region will have public access and use of the resource.
9. As part of the Florida Panhandle Shipwreck Trail, the project will align with other similar programs across the Panhandle for greater regional impact, and not be duplicative of other existing projects or programs.

Attachment for Application Responses

10. The project provide a platform opportunity for underwater testing and research at Naval Support Activity Panama City and Florida State University Panama City.
11. Upon completion, the project will long-term financial sustainability because the project does not require any maintenance other requirements requiring funding. Sink it and let nature take over.
12. The Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association Inc (MBARA) is nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization representing its, members, donors, and sponsors supporting Mexico Beach's artificial reef program. The MBARA pledges \$80,000 in matching funds for the project. In addition, the St Joe Community pledges another \$50,000 for the project for a total of \$130,000.
13. The project will provide local investment and spending through matching funds from MBARA.
14. The project is supported by the City of Mexico Beach, Bay County, Gulf County, St Joe Community Foundation, local merchants, MBARA and its supporters.
15. MBARA divers perform periodic underwater monitoring surveys assessing reef durability, stability, and habitat performance by fish species identifications and counts. Local Community Development/Tourist Development Councils track and measure revenues and tax collections.
16. The MBARA will monitor and report project progress to include deliverables as requested. Based on all previous reef construction projects, the contractor is paid lumpsum upon satisfactory project completion. Interim draws/payments to the contractor are not expected.
17. The project has capacity building support for regional economic growth. Examples are Panhandle travel and tourism promoted by the Florida Ship Wreck Trail stimulating regional, national, and international visitors.
18. The project is environmentally focused on enhancement and sustainment of marine resources and provides opportunity for business facilitating recreational diving and fishing.
19. The applicant is City of Mexico Beach in Bay County. Partners: Mexico Beach Community Development Council, Bay Count Tourist Development Council, Gulf County Tourist Development Council, St Joe Community Foundation, MBARA. Vendor: Walter Marine.

Attachment for Application Responses

Approvals and Authority

Item 3 Response on Page 10

Project Timeline:

Day 1 Award of funding to the City.

Day 15 Initiate procurement.

Day 45 Award contract to vendor.

Day 60 Vendor initiates transportation and preparation of vessel for sinking as artificial reef/wreck.

Day 425-790 Vendor's estimated completion date for sinking vessel at designated location.

30 Days after vessel sinking: MBARA's deadline to submit Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Artificial Reef Placement Report and public posting of reef's/wreck's location.

Item 4 Response on Page 10

MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA CODE OF ORDINANCES

CITY OFFICIALS; GENERAL PROVISIONS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

31.43 POWERS AND DUTIES.

The City Administrator, subject to control of the City Council, shall have charge of all general administration, including ESU, Police and Fire Departments, except for the City Clerk, unless otherwise provided by the City Charter or City Council direction. The City Administrator's responsibilities are subject to change at the discretion of the City Council.

(Ord. 486, passed 4-12-2005; Ord. 596, passed 12-11-2012)

Funding and Budget:

Item 3 Response on Page 11

Regional Northwest Florida diving and fishing jobs supported: 8,253. Average wage: \$24,354 (Source: Measuring Florida Artificial Reef Economic Benefits: A Synthesis. Bill Huth, Ph.D, University of West Florida; Ash Morgan, Ph.D, Appalachian State University; and Chris Burkart, Ph.D, University of West Florida. 2014.)

Attachment for Application Responses

Item 5C Response on Page 12

Step 1: Triumph Gulf Coast awards \$970,000 to the City of Mexico Beach. (Day 1)

Step 2: City initiates procurement. (Day 15)

Step 3: City awards contract to vendor. (Day 45)

Step 4: Vendor initiates transportation and preparation of vessel for sinking as artificial reef/wreck. (Day 60)

Step 5: City monitors vendors progress towards project completion. (Day 60-790)

Step 6: City certifies project completion and requests vendor invoices for payment. (Day 60-790)

Step 7: City requests funds distribution from Triumph (\$970,000) and MBARA (\$130,000) to pay vendor invoices. (Day 60-790)

Step 8: Upon receipt of funds, City pays vendor invoices. (Day 60-790)

ADDENDUM FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSALS:

Item 1D and 1E Responses

Florida reportedly has the largest complement of permitted artificial reefs in the nation. These reefs have been shown to be beneficial to the local economies. Large ships have greater value as large artificial reefs enabling capacity for large groups of divers and fishermen aboard recreational chartered vessels. For example, the primary purpose for deployment of the *USS Oriskany* was to enhance the coastal economic activity associated with the recreational dive industry located in the Baldwin County (Alabama) and Escambia County (Florida) regions. Analyses on both single- and two-county scenarios indicated significant economic activities and impacts were realized during the year immediately following the deployment of the *Oriskany* (Haas Center 2007). Approximately 4,200 chartered dive trips were taken to the *Oriskany* during the first year after the sinking. Average expenditures for dive trips originating from non-local destinations were estimated to be \$463, while an average local dive trip resulted in expenditures of \$352. Dive activities originating from Baldwin and Escambia Counties combined resulted in dive-trip related expenditures of \$2.2 million, with an economic impact of \$3.6 million, the creation of 67 jobs, and the generation of \$1.4 million in local incomes. Dive activities originating from Escambia County only resulted in dive-trip related expenditures of \$1.2 million, with an economic impact of \$2 million, the creation of 37 jobs, and the generation of \$740,000 in local incomes. (Source: University of Florida IFAS Extension ***The Economic***

Attachment for Application Responses

Benefits Associated with Florida's Artificial Reefs--Chuck Adams, Bill Lindberg, and John Stevely)(2017).

This project, using a large vessel, provides a new transformational marine habitat for environmental conservation of marine life promoting regional economic trade related to tourism/ecotourism, boating, commercial/recreational fisheries, and SCUBA diving activities. This project will diversely impact and enhance all community services such as hotels, restaurants, marinas, fishing/diving charter boats, tackle shops, dive shops, and numerous other entities supporting both commercial and recreational activities.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manages the state's artificial reef program. On a regional scale, County and City Artificial Reef Coordinators annually plan reef construction, request funding, and execute reef construction creating an evolving and interconnecting marine ecosystem/infrastructure to increase/improve commercial/recreational resources for public diving/snorkeling and fishing along Florida's Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Diving and fishing are highly popular recreational activities in Florida providing 39,118 jobs to Floridians; generating \$3.1 billion of economic output; accruing \$1.3 billion in income to Floridians; producing \$250 million in state revenues for Florida; and endowing reef users with a use value or consumer surplus of over \$700 million. For Northwest Florida region, these activities provide 8,253 jobs; generate \$533 million of economic output; and, accrues \$200.56 million of income. (Source: Measuring Florida Artificial Reef Economic Benefits: A Synthesis. Bill Huth, Ph.D, University of West Florida; Ash Morgan, Ph.D, Appalachian State University; and Chris Burkart, Ph.D, University of West Florida. 2014.)

Exhibit 1

Financial Reports

Vance CPA LLC

Certified Public Accountant

219-B Avenue E • Apalachicola, FL 32320
Phone (706)278-1221 Fax (866)-406-7422

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City of Mexico Beach, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund, of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Mexico Beach, Florida's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 28, 2019.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City of Mexico Beach, Florida's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City of Mexico Beach, Florida's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Vance CPA LLC

Vance CPA LLC

October 28, 2019

Kim Davis CPA
78 Eleventh Street, Suite 4
Apalachicola, FL 32320
850-653-6875
Kim32328@gmail.com

Independent Accountant's Review Report

To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed the accompanying Statement of Financial Position of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc. (MBARA), a nonprofit corporation, as of December 31, 2016, and the related Statements of Activities and Cash Flows for the year then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of company management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

My responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require me to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. I believe that the results of my procedures provide a reasonable basis for my report.

Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Davis CPA". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kim Davis, CPA

February 18, 2017

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc.
PO Box 13006
Mexico Beach, FL 32456

February 18, 2017

To: Kim Davis CPA

We are providing this letter in connection with your review of the Statement of Financial Position of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc. (MBARA), a nonprofit corporation, as of December 31, 2016 and for the related Statements of Activities and Cash Flows for the purpose of expressing limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation in the financial statements of financial position, results of operations, and cash flows in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person using the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of February 18, 2017, the following representations made to you during your review.

1. The financial statements referred to previously are fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.
2. We have made available to you all:
 - a. Financial records and related data.
 - b. Minutes of the meetings of stockholders, directors, and committees of directors, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
3. There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements.
4. We acknowledge our responsibility to prevent and detect fraud.
5. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving management or others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements, including any communications received from employees, former employees or others.
6. We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying amounts or classification of assets and liabilities.
7. There are no material losses (such as from obsolete inventory or purchase or sales commitments) that have not been properly accrued or disclosed in the financial statements.
8. There are no:
 - a. Violations or possible violations of laws or regulations, whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency;

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association
Statement of Financial Position
Unrestricted Net Assets

| | As of December 31, | |
|---|--------------------|---------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash | | |
| Centennial Bank | 140,235 | 98,247 |
| EverBank | 150,799 | - |
| PeoplesSouth Bank | 39,289 | 238,789 |
| Total Cash | 330,323 | 337,036 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 330,323 | 337,036 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | |
| Net Assets | | |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | 337,036 | 209,828 |
| Change in Net Assets | (6,713) | 127,208 |
| Total Net Assets | 330,323 | 337,036 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | 330,323 | 337,036 |

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association
Statement of Activities

| | For the Years Ending December 31, | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Income | | |
| Donations-Memorial Reefs | 20,898 | 30,732 |
| Fund Raising Activities | 10,346 | 8,075 |
| Tournament Receipts | 95,845 | 99,788 |
| Other Income | 18,423 | 45,629 |
| Total Income | 145,512 | 184,224 |
| Expenses | | |
| Reef Building | 91,700 | 64,306 |
| Tournament Expenses | 44,711 | 52,078 |
| Administrative Expenses | 861 | 1,470 |
| Education and Publicity | 1,838 | 6,484 |
| Fund Raising | 6,125 | 1,231 |
| Legal Fees | - | 24,726 |
| Research and Diving | 6,990 | 2,688 |
| Total Expenses | 152,225 | 152,983 |
| Other Income | | |
| Settlement Receipts | - | 95,967 |
| Total Other Income | - | 95,967 |
| Change in Net Assets | (6,713) | 127,208 |
| NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 337,036 | 209,828 |
| NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR | 330,323 | 337,036 |

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association
Statement of Cash Flows

| | For the Years Ending December 31, | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| Operating Activities | | |
| Change in Net Assets | (6,713) | 127,208 |
| Net Cash Provided by (Used by) | | |
| Operating Activities | (6,713) | 127,208 |
| Net Cash Increase (Decrease) for the Period | (6,713) | 127,208 |
| NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 337,036 | 209,828 |
| NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR | 330,323 | 337,036 |

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc.
PO Box 13006
Mexico Beach, FL 32456

- b. Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion that must be disclosed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 450, *Contingencies*; or
 - c. Other material liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by FASB ASC 450.
- 9. The company has satisfactory title to all owned assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets, nor has any asset been pledged as collateral, except as disclosed to you and reported in the financial statements.
 - 10. We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
 - 11. The following have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements:
 - a. Related party transactions, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties.
 - b. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the company is contingently liable.
 - c. Significant estimates and material concentrations known to management that are required to be disclosed in accordance with FASB ASC 275, *Risks and Uncertainties*.
 - 12. We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries you have recommended, and they have been posted to the company's accounts. [if applicable]
 - 13. To the best of our knowledge and belief, no events have occurred subsequent to the balance-sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.
 - 14. We have responded fully and truthfully to all inquiries made to us by you during your review.


Carol Cox, Treasurer

THE STJOE COMPANY

2018 Annual Report





The St. Joe Company
133 South WaterSound Parkway
WaterSound, Florida 32461

April 1, 2019

Dear Fellow Owners,

All of us at St. Joe are excited about the future. Northwest Florida is growing. We have been positioning ourselves to meet short, medium, and long-term demand over a broad cross section of projects and demographics. We believe this will create value for shareholders. Investments in residential homesites and apartments in a community like Watersound Origins create demand for commercial activity at Watersound Origins. More commercial activity will in-turn typically create more demand for residential homesites and apartments. We believe this same virtuous cycle can be replicated in many business areas, given the scale of our land holdings and entitlements.

We are accelerating residential, commercial, and hospitality segments in our Northwest Florida coastal communities and surrounding areas. We have a strong pipeline. As our Annual Report Form on 10-K outlines, we have thirty new projects or phases that we plan to initiate in 2019, with many already in various stages of execution. For example, at year-end, we had approximately 684 residential home sites under contract for anticipated gross revenue of approximately \$68 million at closing of the homesites, expected over the next several years. In comparison, the year before, we had approximately 211 residential homesites under contract for gross revenue of approximately \$7 million. The increase is due to increased builder contracts for residential homesites, higher pricing and different product mix.

We have been growing operating income without selling large amounts of our land holdings, while also managing our operating expenses. We have the land, capital, entitlements, knowledge of the region, and human resources necessary to provide for such growth for many years. In 2018, we estimate approximately 79% of our revenue was generated from sales, activities, and operations related to approximately 2% of our land holdings. This provides a long runway of low cost basis land in a growing region with a company that has focus to execute.

When everyone wins, we win. We expect our plans will create significant long-term value for our shareholders and for all that do business with us. Our goal is to earn solid annual returns on capital employed over time.

The necessary ingredients for prosperity exist in Northwest Florida. Judge for yourself by visiting. We are diligently working for you. I am pleased with St. Joe's upward trajectory.

Thank you for your trust and confidence.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and a small loop at the end.

Jorge Gonzalez
President and Chief Executive Officer

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Stockholders
The St. Joe Company

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of The St. Joe Company (a Florida corporation) and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2018, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes and financial statement schedules included under Item 15(a) (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2018, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”), and our report dated February 27, 2019 expressed an unqualified opinion.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ Grant Thornton LLP

We have served as the Company’s auditor since 2018.

Tampa, Florida
February 27, 2019

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
The St. Joe Company:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of The St. Joe Company and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2017, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income (loss), changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes and financial statement schedules III to IV) (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG

We served as the Company's auditor from 1990 to 2018.

Jacksonville, Florida
March 1, 2018

Exhibit 2

Project

Information

Map

Photos

Casino Boat



- Owner: Walter Marine
- Located in Lafitte, Louisiana

Dimensions



- Length: 210 feet
- Width: 66 feet
- Height 70 feet.

Weight: Approx. 2,165 tons

- Can be reduced to 55'-60' height with removal of wheelhouse.



Timelines and Cost

- 12-24 months for cleaning, preparation, towing, and sinking after contract award.
- \$1.1M Proposed



7























SNACK BAR



PLAYERS CHOICE
CASINO CLUB







A detailed nautical chart of St. Andrews Sound and the surrounding region. The chart shows the coastline of Panama City, Florida, and the Gulf of Mexico. Key features include St. Andrews Pass, Mexico Beach Canal, St. Joseph Peninsula, and the Bridge Span Site. A purple polygon outlines a specific area of interest. A red circle highlights a point on the Bridge Span Site. Callout boxes provide distances from a central 'site' to these locations. The chart includes depth soundings, navigational aids, and various geographical labels.

St Andrews Pass
22.5 nm N of site.

Mexico Beach Canal
18.8 nm NE of site.

Bridge Span Site
102 feet deep

St Joseph Peninsula
15.6 nm E of site.

Exhibit 3

Letters of Support



P.O. Box 13425 • Mexico Beach, Florida • 32410
PHONE: 850-648-5700 • FAX: 850-648-8768

FROM: City of Mexico Beach City Council
William A. Cathey, Mayor

December 2, 2019

TO: Gulf Coast Triumph (GCT)

SUBJECT: Proposal 155, City of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef

The City of Mexico Beach continues to support Proposal 155, City of Mexico Beach Artificial Reef project for the Casino Boat submitted on 17 Oct 2017.

Hurricane Michael devastated our area on 10 Oct 2018 and the City is moving ahead in its recovery efforts to come back stronger! Water recreation activities, such as diving and fishing, are a huge part of what attracts tourism to our area to enjoy over 250 artificial reefs we've developed along our part of the Gulf Coast. Diver and fishermen surveys show that large vessels are the most preferred artificial reefs to dive and fish. Projects like this will enhance our economy through increased tourism promoting future development, growth of our community, and aid our recovery.

The City continues to support this proposal. Please contact me if there's anymore information needed to support GCT funding for this project.

Respectfully,

William A. Cathey, Mayor



December 10, 2019

Dear Triumph Gulf Coast Board of Directors,

One of the amazing unique characteristics that Mexico Beach has to offer is the short time restraint for direct access to the Gulf of Mexico. In less than three minutes, boaters, anglers, divers and those seeking adventure through eco-tourism will find themselves in the Gulf of Mexico. This is something that cannot be easily achieved anywhere else along the Florida Panhandle. It is because of this great access that many come to Mexico Beach to really explore all the vast wonders that the Gulf has to offer.

The Mexico Beach Community Development Council, a component unit of the Bay County Tourism Development Council, recognizes the impact that eco-tourism has on our community and has a long partnering history with the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA). The MBARA has been able to deploy over 200 artificial reefs since 1997. It is because of this organization's conservation and environmental improvements that the Gulf of Mexico has thrived over the years, bringing back marine life as well as continuing to grow and strengthen both natural and artificial marine reef systems.

The MBARA continues to create artificial reefs that not only enhance the marine population but also drives recreational activity that enriches economic dollars for Mexico Beach and Bay County. With both day-trips and overnight lodging to our area, this increases tourism dollars in our area from those seeking this activity. With this increase comes the economic increase in jobs and income for businesses and local government.

The ability to utilize the salvaged Casino Boat to create an underwater eco-system and unique landmark will enhance not only Mexico Beach but also Bay County and the entire region. With this structure being created into an artificial reef the education component and tourism drive that can be developed will be an enhancement for economic growth and development, a factor that is needed in our region. Mexico Beach Community Development Council will be able to include this unique underwater landmark in our marketing material that will drive regional, national and international visitors to our area.

On behalf of the Mexico Beach Community Development Council, we would appreciate full consideration towards the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association's Triumph Grant Application. The deployment of this great vessel will generate a boost in economic growth for the city from visitors and residents.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Shoaf
President
Mexico Beach Community Development Council



Ms. Susan Skelton, Executive Director
Florida Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.
P.O. Box 12007
Tallahassee, Fl. 32317

January 2, 2020

Dear Ms. Skelton,

Please accept this letter as our confirmation of support for the Mexico Beach's Triumph Gulf Coast grant application for the Casino Boat artificial reef project. In partnership with the City, the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA) has done an outstanding job of deploying and monitoring over 250 reef projects off the coast of Bay and Gulf Counties since 1997.

Northwest Panhandle coastal communities are blessed with the Gulf of Mexico as a rich natural resource facilitating commercial and recreational interests. In Bay County, over 500 boats a day have been observed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission surveyors exiting the St Andrews Pass for diving, commercial and recreational fishing, pleasure boating, and snorkeling.

The Bay County Tourist Development Council markets our community as an adventure travel destination promoting recreational and eco-tourism activities for our residents and visitors. Fishing, diving, and snorkeling with easy access to suitable aquatic sites in our area are an important amenity. Bay County provides over 70 dive/fishing charter boats, 7 dive shops, and numerous boating and fishing tackle merchants facilitating water recreation. Furthermore, our lodging, restaurant, and shopping industries highly benefit from these very popular public activities.

The proposed project would also create and improve environmental habitats for many local fish/marine species. The benefits of this project will have a lasting positive effect on the local community, economy and visitors.

The MBARA is one of the most active and successful volunteer artificial reef organizations in Florida. They have the experience and passion to bring this project to life. With this grant from Triumph Gulf Coast, they will be able to expand our offerings in fishing/dive sites for Bay County visitors and surrounding areas as well as create habitats and improve our coastal communities.

Your consideration to award this grant to Mexico Beach is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Rowe", written over a light blue wavy background.

Mr. Dan Rowe, President/CEO
Bay County Tourist Development Council
17001 Panama City Beach Pkwy.
Panama City Beach, Fl. 32413

Gulf County Tourist Development Council

November 25, 2019

Dear Triumph Gulf Coast Board Members:

Please accept this letter as a confirmation of support for the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association's Triumph grant application for the Casino Boat artificial reef project. The MBARA has done an outstanding job of deploying and maintaining over 200 reef projects since 1997.

Gulf County Tourist Development Council markets Gulf County as an adventure travel destination and boasts the eco-tourism activities available for visitors. The sport of diving and the easy access to dive sites in our area are an important amenity. Gulf County TDC also supports sustainable tourism and activities. The proposed project would also create and improve habitat for many local species. The benefits of this project will have a positive affect on both the local community and economy and visitors as well.

The Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association is proud to promote diving and boasts a volunteer board that have the knowledge and passion to bring this project to life. With this grant from Triumph Gulf Coast they will be able to expand their offerings in dive sites for Gulf County visitors and surrounding areas as well as create habitat and improve our coastal communities.

Your support is very much appreciated.

Regards,



Kelli Godwin

Executive Director, Gulf County Tourist Development Council



Sandy Quinn

Chairman, Gulf County Board of County Commissioners

Exhibit 4

Cash Match

Pledges



WWW.MBARA.ORG

FROM: Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 13006
Mexico Beach, FL 32410-3006

18 Nov 2019

TO: City of Mexico Beach

Subject: Matching Funds for the Casino Boat Artificial Reef Project

The Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA) will contribute a minimum of **\$80,000.00** in matching funds for this Casino Boat Artificial Reef project. The MBARA currently has the funds in a bank account reserved for the project. In addition, MBARA has a pledge from the St Joe Community Foundation for **\$50,000.00** for a **total of \$130,000.00** in matching funds for this project.

We look forward to completion of this project that will benefit the community and our regional economy.

Robert L. Cox, President
Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association, Inc

July 3, 2018



Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association

Attn: Robert Cox, Jr.

390 Highway 98

Mexico Beach, FL 32410

RE: Mexico Beach – Casino Boat Reef Project

Dear Mr. Cox;

On behalf of The St. Joe Community Foundation, Inc. (the "Foundation"), I am pleased to report the Foundation's pledge of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) for the proposed Casino Boat Artificial Reef project in Mexico Beach, Bay County, FL. This pledge is contingent on your organization's raising the amount to \$1,000,000 for the proposed project and expires on July 1, 2020 the remaining funds for the project not be obtained. Please provide documentation of additional funds or grants contributed to this project on a quarterly basis.

To complete the pledged grant process, please sign this agreement letter and return acknowledging and agreeing to the conditions of the pledged grant signed and dated by you. Please retain one original for your files and return the other original letter to The St. Joe Community Foundation, Inc. Your grant check will be mailed, once 100% of the funding for this project, as described in your January 2018 application, has been documented and provided to me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Wilkes".

April Wilkes, Executive Director

Acknowledged and Agreed to:

By: A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Robert L. Cox".

(President)

Date: 19 JUL 2018

ROBERT L. COX

