

**Cori Henderson**  
Program Administrator  
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May 19, 2021

Kathi Heapy  
Emerald Coast Fitness Foundation, Inc.  
114 Ready Ave NW  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

RE: Triumph Pre-Application No. 247 – Destin Aquatic Center

Dear Kathi:

Thank you for submitting a Pre-Application to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.

Based on an initial review by the staff of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., (“TGC”) and a concurrence of the Board your proposal does not appear to be statutorily eligible to receive funding as presented. The pre-application requests funds for construction of a pool to develop *youth diving programs* and develop a *Diving/Swimming Well that will enhance and promote the sport for not only the local community, but to reach regional and national athletes as well.*

According to Florida Statute 288.8017 (e) *careers and grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills.* Infrastructure grants can be awarded for (c) *public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties.*

Because the application does not prepare students for future occupations or provide transferable, sustainable workforce skills and is for private infrastructure the pre-application does not appear to be eligible at this time.

This is an initial opinion based only on your pre-application and is not intended to be any sort of final action by TGC. Further, despite the reservations set forth herein, you may choose to submit a formal Application or a revised Pre-Application.

Triumph Gulf Coast funding is intended to support programs that generate maximum economic activity. Applicants have asked how best to document the economic activity that would likely result from their proposed project. At the January 2018 Triumph Board of Directors meeting, Dr. Rick Harper discussed characteristics most often associated with higher levels of economic activity. These factors include things like amount of matching funds, and whether the project will become self-sustaining as Triumph dollars are used up. An audio transcript of Dr. Harper's remarks is available at <https://www.myfloridatriumph.com/meetings/> under the tab for the January 29, 2018 meeting.

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If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this letter or the TGC Application process, please do not hesitate to contact me at [chenderson@myfloridatriumph.com](mailto:chenderson@myfloridatriumph.com).

Thank you for your continued interest.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cori Henderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cori" being more prominent than the last name "Henderson".

Cori Henderson

*Program Administrator*