

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

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. ("Triumph Gulf Coast") has created a pre-application process to provide initial consideration of eligibility for potential ideas of projects or programs that may seek an award of funding. Applicants are required to participate in the pre-application process. Notwithstanding the response from Triumph Gulf Coast on the pre-application form, an Applicant may still elect to submit an Application.

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

**Name of Individual/Entity/Organization:** Navarre Beach Fire Rescue  
**Proposal Title:** Project Safe & Sound  
**Amount of Triumph Funds Requested:** \$500,000  
**Total Estimated Project Cost:** \$500,000

### **Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:**

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue ("NBFR") is located on the barrier island of Navarre Beach which is between the Gulf of Mexico and the Santa Rosa Sound. NBFR was formed in 1989 to provide fire operations and emergency medical services to the residents and visitors of Navarre Beach and the Gulf Island National Seashore. Services include structure fires, MVA response and rescue, water patrol and rescue services, EMS, Basic Life Support, and public education. NBFR is also responsible for managing the Navarre Beach Lifeguards. In addition, NBFR provides mutual aid to other local fire districts and is a member of Florida's State of Emergency Response Plan ("SERP").

### **Contact Information -**

**Primary Contact:** Daniel Fureigh  
**Title:** Fire Chief  
**Mailing Address:** 1413 Utility Drive  
**City:** Navarre **State:** Florida **Zip Code:** 32566  
**Telephone Number:** 850-939-2448  
**Email Address:** [chief@navarrebeachfire.org](mailto:chief@navarrebeachfire.org)  
**Website:** [navarrebeachfire.org](http://navarrebeachfire.org)

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

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue is the only applicant that will have a role in this project.

### **REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Please see the attached Executive Summary page.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**This pre-application process will not result in an award of funding by Triumph Gulf Coast. Rather, this process is designed to facilitate submission of ideas for potential projects or programs before the Applicant expends time and/or resources to complete a full Application. All Applicants for funding are required to complete an Application, which will be review and then considered for award at the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.**

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue understands the pre-application process as outlined above.

**Please Select the Proposal's Eligibility Category(s)**

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.

**Please Select the Priorities this Proposal's Outcomes will Achieve**

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.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - Navarre Beach Fire Rescue**

- (i) Amount of funds sought: \$500,000
- (ii) Other sources of funds: None
- (iii) Location of project: Navarre Beach, Navarre, Florida
- (iv) Summary description of proposed project:

### **PROJECT SAFE & SOUND**

The Santa Rosa County Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies Hurricanes and Flooding as the greatest threat to Navarre Beach. Over the more recent years, Navarre Beach has experienced numerous hurricanes -- Hurricane Erin and Opal in 1995, George in 1998, Ivan in 2004, Dennis in 2005, Michael in 2018 and Sally in 2020. In addition to natural disasters, Navarre Beach experienced a devastating military disaster on March 10, 2015. In a dense fog that evening, a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed in the Santa Rosa Sound near Navarre Beach. All eleven military personnel on board were killed. Navarre Beach Fire Rescue ("NBFR") were the initial responders to this disaster which required them to first commandeer a boat in order to begin the search and rescue.

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue is seeking funding for a project called, Safe & Sound. This project will involve the purchase of a fire-rescue boat with trailer, dock, truck, and scuba equipment plus required classes for scuba diver certifications. The fire-rescue boat will have firefighting capabilities as well as water rescue and scuba equipment. The boat and trained personnel will be deployable not only for emergencies within our response area (for the residents, visitors and tourists) but also to any natural disasters that occur within the State of Florida. In addition, Project Safe & Sound will help us assist the three military bases located nearby that have water access and in our partnership with the Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge to rescue injured animals and marine mammals.

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue is located on Navarre Beach which is on the Gulf Coast in the Panhandle of Florida. Navarre Beach is an unincorporated, compact beach community just four square miles and is geographically isolated. It is nestled between Gulf Islands National Seashore and Navarre Beach Marine Park on Santa Rosa Island. Navarre Beach is a barrier island with the Gulf of Mexico to the South and the Santa Rosa Sound to the North. It is located 25 miles east of the Pensacola pass and 22 miles west of the Destin pass placing Navarre Beach halfway between these two areas.

The heavily traveled Intracoastal waterway passes through Navarre. Each year, thousands of barges utilize this waterway carrying anything from fuel and construction materials to anything that can be transported via water. In addition to commercial use, fishing and recreational vessels (boats, jet skis, kayakers, paddles boards, etc.) also use this waterway.

Navarre Beach has pristine beaches that have been named among the best in the nation year after year. Relaxation is the main attraction on Navarre Beach. It attracts over one million

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - Navarre Beach Fire Rescue**

visitors per year. Navarre Beach Fire Rescue is a non-profit fire department funded by a MSBU paid by the residents of Navarre Beach. Navarre Beach Fire and Rescue is a combination department with 11 operational firefighters and 1 volunteer firefighter. The station is equipped with one Engine, one 75-foot Ladder, three 4x4's (for beach rescues) and two Jet-skis with rescue sleds. Automatic Aid agreements with Holley-Navarre Fire District and Midway Fire District ensures a multi-engine company response to all structure fires in our coverage area. Mutual aid is provided by Escambia County Fire and all Santa Rosa County Fire Departments. Both Destin and Pensacola beaches have boats equipped for firefighting and rescue operations. NBFR provides both fire protection and EMS services, which includes structure fires, MVA response and rescue, water patrol and rescue services, EMS, Basic Life Support and public education. NBFR is also responsible for managing the Navarre Beach Lifeguards.

The department was established in 1990 by members of the community to ensure Navarre Beach had quality, responsive fire and emergency services readily available inside the district. The department began as an all-volunteer force and later transitioned to a combined career firefighter and volunteer. The fire district serves 4,400 permanent residents, 12,000 seasonal residents and over one million visitors per year. During the tourist season, there are an additional 6,000 tourism workers in the coverage area. Navarre Beach consists of private homes, townhomes, high-rise condominiums, a hotel, restaurants, a convenience store/gas station, a souvenir shop, a marine park and Florida's longest fishing pier. In addition to relaxation, the beach community also offers many water attractions including three public diving reefs.

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue understands that we must learn from past disasters and implement strategies for pre-disaster mitigation in order to best protect life and property. NBFR must also be fully prepared if/when a disaster does occur. Therefore, Project Safe & Sound has been created to assure that NBFR is ready to respond to all disasters that readily occur in this region. Being prepared enables responders to act quickly and decisively in the face of a disaster, preventing deaths and injuries, minimizing loss of property and enabling successful recovery.

Project Safe & Sound will benefit both the residents and visitors to Navarre Beach. It would create a sense of security and comfort to those that live and visit the beach community. This would then have a positive effect on tourism which directly benefits the Santa Rosa County Tourist Development office and overall economy.

(v) Timeline:

1. Submit pre-application: October 2021
2. Submit final application: January 2022
3. Upon approval: June 2022 to June 2023
  - i. Order boat/trailer, truck and dive equipment
  - ii. Build dock with lift
  - iii. Schedule scuba diving training certification classes
  - iv. Place in service



# SANTA ROSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Offices | 6495 Caroline Street, Suite M | Milton, Florida 32570-4592

SAM PARKER, District 1  
ROBERT A. "BOB" COLE, District 2  
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DAN SCHEBLER, County Administrator  
Brad Baker, Interim - Asst. County Administrator

August 20, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

## **RE: Fire Boat Grant Request Support Letter**

The Navarre Beach Fire Rescue (NBFR) station is in Navarre Florida, on the Gulf Coast in the Panhandle in an unincorporated, compact beach community east of Pensacola at the far northwestern tip of the state is nestled between Gulf Islands National Seashore and Navarre Beach Marine Park on Santa Rosa Island. It is located on a barrier island with the Gulf of Mexico to the South, and the Santa Rosa Sound to the North, it is 25 miles East of the Pensacola pass, and 22 miles West of the Destin pass placing Navarre Beach halfway between these two areas. The Intracoastal waterway passes through Navarre and thousands of barges utilize this waterway carrying everything from fuel to construction materials and most anything that can transported via the waterway. Its pristine beaches are named among the best in the nation year after year with relaxation being the main attraction in Navarre. NBFR covers 4 square miles of the beautiful Santa Rosa Island.

NBFR station is a non-profit fire department funded by a MSBU paid by the residents living on Navarre Beach. The fire department is a combination department with eleven operational firefighters and one volunteer firefighter. The station is equipped with one Engine, one 75 ft ladder, three 4x4's (for beach rescues) and two jet-skis with rescue sleds. Automatic Aid agreements between NBFR and the Holley-Navarre Fire District and Midway Fire District help to ensure a multi-engine company response to all structure fires in our coverage area. Additionally, mutual aid is provided by Escambia County Fire and all Santa Rosa County Fire Departments if needed. NBFR provides fire protection and EMS services, which include structure fires, MVA response and rescue, water patrol, rescue services, basic life support, and public education within the community and is responsible for managing and training the Navarre beach lifeguards.

NBFR was established in 1990 by members of the community to ensure Navarre Beach has quality responsive fire and emergency services readily available inside the district as an all-volunteer force. By 2004 NBFR transitioned to a combined career firefighter and volunteer department and in 2005 became a fully paid/career department. The fire district has 4,400 permanent residents and 12,000 seasonal residents and during the tourist season an additional 6,000 tourism works in the area to protect. NBFR is also charged with providing support to the hotels, restaurants, and souvenir shops located along Gulf Boulevard. This is quite a bit of responsibility that the NBFR takes very seriously. With all these area coverages in place, it is important to note that the Navarre Beach Causeway is the only way to gain direct access to the community in Santa Rosa County.

I understand the importance and severity of having a responsive emergency services team and support their need to be proactive and learn their needs to be able to implement strategies for pre-disaster mitigation. The Santa Rosa County Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies Hurricanes and Flooding as the greatest threat to the area. NBFR makes every effort to protect life and property before disaster occurs. This means it is crucial for the station to have access to the tools and resources necessary to be prepared enables responders to act quickly and decisively in the face of disaster and in turn help preventing deaths and injuries while minimizing loss of property and enabling successful recovery.

Both Destin and Pensacola beaches have a boat equipped for Firefighting and Rescue operations. The Navarre Beach Fire Rescue is seeking funding for the purchase of a Fire Boat, dock, and trailer. The boat will be deployable to natural disasters that occur anywhere in the State of Florida, it will have firefighting capabilities, as well as, water rescue, and

Fire Boat Grant Request Support Letter

August 20, 2021

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scuba equipment. Having a firefighting boat will also allow the NBFR to assist with three nearby military bases that have water access. Finally, it will allow NBFR to assist us with our partnership with the Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge with rescuing injured animals.

With all the community in mind, I support the grant request being made by the NBFR. I look forward to a favorable response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David C. Piech". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "P".

David C. Piech

Chairman of the Board

Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners

CC: Navarre Beach and Fire Rescue



## SANTA ROSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Offices | 6495 Caroline Street, Suite M | Milton, Florida 32570-4592

SAM PARKER, District 1  
ROBERT A. "BOB" COLE, District 2  
JAMES CALKINS, District 3  
DAVE PIECH, District 4  
COLTEN WRIGHT, District 5

DAN SCHEBLER, County Administrator  
BRAD BAKER, Interim Asst. Administrator

August 19, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Please consider supporting the Navarre Beach Fire Rescue's grant application to help them with funding for the purchase of a Fire Boat, dock and trailer. This boat will be deployable to natural disasters that occur anywhere in the State of Florida. This boat will have Firefighting capabilities as well as water rescue, and scuba equipment. The boat will also help us assist with 3 military bases that are near our area and have water access, along with assist us with our partnership with the Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge with rescuing injured animals.

I am proud of the service that Navarre Beach Fire Rescue provides to our citizens and the tens of thousands of tourists that visit our beaches annually. They are a first-class organization. Any financial assistance you can help provide them, will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sam Parker  
District 1  
Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners





**SANTA ROSA COUNTY  
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

8543 Navarre Parkway | Navarre, Florida 32566

JULIE WHITE  
Tourist Development Director  
julie@santarosa.fl.gov

August 18, 2021

To whom it may concern:

I would like to write a letter of support for the Navarre Beach Fire & Rescue grant submission for a new fire boat, dock, and trailer for water rescues amongst other uses.

Navarre Beach Fire & Rescue is a vital part of our community. The services they provide to our residents and over one million visitors a year that visit Navarre Beach as a premier vacation destination are immeasurable. We have quickly become a top destination in the panhandle of Florida. With that brings a larger influx of tourists that utilize our waters and incidents happen that require the assistance continuously of Navarre Beach lifeguards and Navarre Beach Fire & Rescue.

As the Tourist Development Director for Santa Rosa County for the past seven years I have watched firsthand the dedication Navarre Beach Fire & Rescue provides to our community. They are the best, they bring so much education, qualifications, and experience to the table; we are proud to have each one of them serving our community. Chief Fureigh tirelessly works to maintain the utmost professionalism within that department, and it shows.

With prior hurricanes and street flooding on the island of Navarre Beach we have saw a need for a rescue boat. We support the efforts of Navarre Beach Fire & Rescue applying for this grant and are in hopes that they will be granted this opportunity which will better equip them in their mission.

Sincerely,

Julie White

Tourist Development Director

Santa Rosa County Government



To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today in support of the Navarre Beach Fire Rescue (NBFR) and their current endeavor to fund the purchase of a fire boat, dock, and trailer. The work that NBFR does is not only invaluable to our community of citizens, but to our natural community and ecosystem as well. They will not hesitate to assist Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge (ECWR) when called upon for an animal in need and are an incredible asset to the safety of our staff, volunteers, and public bystanders in those situations. ECWR responds to terrestrial wildlife that is orphaned, injured, or sick, but also is the area's responding team for marine mammals that strand or need assistance.

As a very public and community-involved organization, I believe that NBFR will be responsible stewards of the equipment they seek and the funds that they will hopefully be awarded. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of Navarre Beach Fire Rescue's request.

Respectfully,

Crystie Baker, Executive Director  
[crystie@emeraldcoastwildliferefuge.org](mailto:crystie@emeraldcoastwildliferefuge.org)