

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: Bay County Board of Commissioners

Proposal Title: Project “Maple”

Amount of Triumph Funds Requested:

11,250,000

Total Estimated Project Cost:

\$25,000,000

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:

The Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport opened in May of 2010 offering the Region new opportunities in air travel as well as aerospace manufacturing and repair. Air travel from Panama City prior to the opening of the Airport was from PFN, which served the City of Panama City and its surrounding communities with regional jet service to Atlanta. In May 2010, PFN closed and ECP opened with a 10,000 foot runway plus land for development. ECP brought to the Region, Southwest Airlines, United, American and the up-gauging of Delta aircraft, thus becoming the first Main Line Station for Delta Airlines in the Panhandle. Since the opening, United Airlines has added service to Houston’s George Bush Intercontinental Airport with connections to more than 160 cities worldwide and American Airlines to Charlotte, Dallas- Ft Worth, and Washington D.C. to more than 32 countries around the world. In addition to adding new service routes to locations, ECP has continued to surpass expectations for passenger traffic. In 2009, one of the final years of operation at the prior airport location, the airport saw approximately 312,000 total passengers. In 2022, the annual passenger traffic reached nearly 1.6M.

ECP continues to be in the spotlight of site consultants due to its close proximity to the beach, 4 lane highway system, quick and easy access to the global air traffic network.

Contact Information

Primary Contact:	<u>Becca Hardin</u>		
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Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the

proposed project or program:

- Panama City - Bay County Airport and Industrial District (Airport Authority/ECP/Airport)
- Bay District Schools – Tom P. Haney Technical College – Aviation Academy
- Bay Economic Development Alliance
- Bay County Commission
- CareerSource Gulf Coast
- Gulf Coast State College
- Florida State University – Panama City
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Space Florida

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In a maximum of two (2) pages, please describe the proposed project or program and anticipated outcomes including (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast; (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program; (iii) the location of the project or program; (iv) summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties, and (v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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:

Code Name: **Project Maple**, Industry: **Aviation MRO**, Location: **Bay County, Florida**

Project estimated investment: **\$25,000,000**

Job Creation: 250 by end of 2027, with average salary estimated at \$60,000 which is more than 115% of the average wage in Bay County.

The aviation industry is a key target market for recruitment in Bay County, Florida. Project Maple will be an excellent asset to the region and will complement the accelerated growth at our airport. The company is a leading full-service provider of airframe maintenance. They have become a leader in the aviation MRO by offering high quality, complete maintenance and services at a competitive price.

This project will create 250 new jobs in Bay County and will infuse more than \$28M into our community. The company plans to construct an 80,000sf narrow body hangar adjacent to the ECP 10,000ft runway. The hangar will contain 6 to 8 line of maintenance for regional/narrow body aircraft. Capacity is also required for back shops like avionics, interiors, sheet metal and machining. The company plans for the Bay County operation to become "The Center of excellence" on the Embraer products: EMB 145, EMB 175 and EMB 190 series aircraft.

Working with the Airport Authority, Bay County Commission and Space Florida, the Triumph funds will be used to help upfront costs of the construction of the hangar. The company will commit to paying more than half the costs of the hangar. The company will enter into a 30 year land lease with the Airport Authority. Space Florida will own the hangar and will enter into a 30 year lease with the company.

This project is not only important to Bay County because of the assets at our airport, the company plans to work closely with the existing FAA approved A & P aviation mechanics program at Haney Technical College. Due to the fact that Bay County does not have MRO services, we are training 40 to 50 aviation mechanics a year who have to leave our community to find work because we do not jobs for them currently in Bay County.

There are various factors that make the Bay County area favorable for MRO operations and Project Maple.

- There are No MRO operations in Bay County.
- Most of the jobs are in the service and hospitality industry and are seasonal.
- Gulf Coast State College, along with Haney Technical College will facilitate tailored training Courses for all employees.
- Career Source Gulf Coast has agreed to assist in advertising open positions & source candidates.
- Military bases in the areas also offer additional opportunities to create programs to hire veterans.
- In addition, this project will complement the growth at our airport where we had more than 1.6 Million passengers in 2022.

Description	Estimated Timeline	Status
Site review	Q4-2022	complete
Triumph Funding	Q1-2023	In progress
Building Contractor selection for hangar construction	Q2-2023	
Building commencement	Q3-2023	
New equipment ordered	Q3-2022	complete
Building complete	Q3-2024	
Installing machine/equipment	Q3-2024	
Start Production	Q4-2024	