



**MEETING DATE:** September 15, 2020  
**NAME/DEPARTMENT/AGENCY:** Alan Pierce, Consulting Report  
**TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:** 1

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**Consulting Board Report**

**Information Items**

1. Inform Board that Mr. Shuler and I have reviewed a draft agreement generated by TRIUMPH staff for our \$1M TRIUMPH airport project. At this time, the county's airport project is on the Sept. 24 TRIUMPH Board agenda for approval. If the TRIUMPH Board approves the draft prepared by their own staff then it will be sent to the county for approval.

Mr. Shuler may have some additional comments, but the essential change to this draft is that the clawback risk has been substantially reduced because the TRIUMPH agreement now includes as a match only the FDOT project that is currently under construction at the airport, the access road. The previous draft agreements included several million dollars worth of FDOT projects the county expects to materialize but are not guaranteed, so TRIUMPH staff agreed to remove those projects from the clawback conditions.

The county commission will need to vote on the TRIUMPH agreement after the TRIUMPH Board approves it. The county should receive the TRIUMPH agreement sometime in October. Once the agreement is fully executed, the next step will be for the county to complete the design of the fuel farm improvements. The TRIUMPH agreement allows for the county to use existing consultants (AVCON) to complete the design work and supervise the construction, so the only part to be bid out will be the construction phase. AVCON was selected through a competitive bid process, and the county will have to provide TRIUMPH proof of the selection process, but I have spoken directly to TRIUMPH staff about the need and the logic for using AVCON and they understand that is the county's intention.

In order to get the draft TRIUMPH agreement through the review of the TRIUMPH staff, I had to revise the county's original TRIUMPH application. Attached is the letter that I approved, and had Michael Moron sign, amending the county's TRIUMPH application. This was necessary so that the county's application was consistent with the terms and conditions that were ultimately put into the TRIUMPH agreement.

2. Inform Board that I have made phone calls and emails to Corps of Engineers personnel to get an update on the status of the Eastpoint Channel dredging project, and the Two Mile project. As soon as I hear I will forward any information to Mr. Moron.

3. Update on Alligator Drive. The project is still in the funding queue. I did complete the close-out of PW 591, which was the relocation of Gulf Shore Blvd, a project that had started in 2014!

4. Inform the Board that I have spoken with Mike Dombrowski, MRD Associates, and he is planning to make another funding request to FDEP for design money for a beach renourishment project on Alligator Point to protect the road. The project would be the same as what I have described in the past, and it would be submitted to FDEP for funding in the 2021 Legislative session. The problem for the county is that FDEP has changed the scoring for beach renourishment. Projects with a federal sponsor, like a project wanted by the USACOE get more points, and projects that provide have a large economic benefit also get more points. The Board will need to pass a Resolution in support of the project, and Mr. Dombrowski will provide a draft Resolution to Mr. Moron when he has it prepared. Mr. Dombrowski will not charge the county for preparing the FDEP funding request so the county has nothing to lose by trying.

5. Inform the Board that a drone manufacturer has been in contact with me about setting up a training and demonstration site at the Apalachicola Airport. The drone manufacturer has visited the airport, and has been in contact with the Franklin County School system to learn more about the drone certification program offered at the school. The drone manufacturer is looking at other airports in Florida but our airport is in the running. The drone manufacturer is considering a future relocation of their manufacturing plant to Florida so it will be beneficial to have them start their Florida operations at our airport. I have also discussed potential TRIUMPH funding with the company in the event they do relocate manufacturing to Florida.