

Franklin County & Gulf County Triumph Co-Application
 Floating Dry Dock and Ship Repair Facility at the Port of Port St. Joe

ACTION REQUESTED: Gulf County hereby requests the Franklin County Commission schedule a workshop to discuss this proposal as soon as possible.

Proposal

Gulf County is requesting Franklin County to partner with them as a co-applicant in applying for a combined total of \$31 million in Triumph dollars to fund a \$57 million dollar project to acquire a floating dry dock and construct a ship repair facility at the Port of Port St. Joe. It is proposed that Gulf County will request/allocate \$26 million of their Triumph allocated funds to the project and Franklin County as a co-applicant will request/allocate \$5 million of their remaining \$53 million in Triumph allocated funds. Gulf County will bond \$20 million dollars in support of the project (to be paid back in lease payments from Eastern Shipbuilding) and a \$6 million dollar State appropriation has been received. The project will create a guaranteed minimum of 215 full time medium to high paying jobs.

Project Funding

Funding Source/Entity	Type Funding	Amount
Gulf County	Issued Bonds	\$20,000,000
Gulf County	Allocated Triumph Dollars	\$26,000,000
Franklin County	Allocated Triumph Dollars	\$5,000,000
State of Florida	Appropriation Received	\$6,000,000
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET		\$57,000,000

Budgeted Expenses

Expense	Amount
Floating Dry Dock Acquisition	\$48,750,000
Dredging	\$3,500,000
Mooring Dolphins	\$4,000,000
Heavy Moorings	\$750,000
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	\$57,000,000

Answers to questions asked by Commissioners in our individual meetings.

Would Gulf County participate as a co-applicant for Triumph dollars in a project primarily proposed by Franklin County? YES-- Gulf County has a track record of funding Triumph applications from other entities. See table below of Triumph projects supported by Gulf County Triumph allocation request by other entities that already benefits Franklin County and a current request with great potential:

Applicant	Project	Gulf Amount	Jobs Created	Franklin residents employed	# of Franklin residents'	Comment
Gulf Franklin Center	Nurse Simulation Center	2.2 million	Yes	Yes	1	Full time Faculty
Gulf Franklin Center	Unmanned Aerial System Center	2.3 million	Yes	To be determined	Not known	15,000 drone pilot in panhandle by 2030
Gulf Franklin Center	Emergency Response Center	5.1 million	Yes	To be determined	Not known	Franklin will benefit from airship/drones in time of emergency
Port St. Joe Port Authority	Channel dredging	17.5 million	To be determined	To be determined	Not known	May open rail line in Franklin County. Part of Gulf/Gadsden Freight zone

Will there be guaranteed jobs for Franklin County residents? NO—there are a minimum of 215 full time jobs guaranteed by the project, but none are guaranteed to either county. That said the history of the mill jobs held by Franklin County residents (some family members on the commission) and those currently employed by the Sacred Heart Hospital support Franklin County benefitting more than the 16% level of their financial participation in the project (+ 35 of the 215 jobs). The sales tax implemented by the Gulf County Commission to incentivize Sacred Heart Hospital to locate in Port St. Joe is another example of Franklin County resident's finding good jobs in Gulf County.

Does Eastern Shipbuilding have a prohibition of more than one family member working at the shipyard? NO

What type of jobs will be available at the Eastern Shipbuilding Facility?

- Shipfitters
- Structural Welders
- Pipe Welders
- Equipment Operators
- Pipefitters
- Quality Assurance Technician
- Material Handlers
- Outside Machinists
- Marine Electricians
- Painters/Sandblasters
- Carpenters
- Shipfitter & Pipefitter Trainees
- Warehouse/Shipping & Receiving
- Inside Machinists
- Mechanics
- General Labor
- Safety Technicians
- Welding Trainees

Why Should Franklin County support a project located in Gulf County? In addition to the regional connection to jobs between counties discussed above the following should be considered.

The Project aligns with the new Franklin County welding and digital tool training programs - funded by Triumph and located at the Apalachicola Bay Charter School, that program provides training and certifications in careers. Without the jobs created by this project the trained person would have to leave Franklin County to become employed further exacerbating the outmigration of our young people.

The Project will serve as a catalyst for additional businesses to locate in Franklin County - including the services sector, management companies, architectural, engineering, professional services, employment services, and business support services.

The project broadens the Franklin County's Economic Base - providing some balance to an ever-increasing dependency on tourism and vacation rentals.

Project Description

The Floating Dry Dock project proposes to create infrastructure, create a skilled workforce, and develop an ongoing ship repair and haul out facility in Port St. Joe. Necessary infrastructure includes a self-docking floating dry dock capable of handling vessels up to 10,000 LT weight and serve as catalyst to a myriad of additional business and industry for the Gulf and Franklin County region. The project will enable our Port to become a vessel outfitting and vessel repair center for the northern Gulf of Mexico competing with the likes of Tampa, Mobile, New Orleans. The dry dock and Infrastructure will be located at the recently opened Eastern Shipyard in Port St. Joe that is now working on Staten Island Ferries and via this grant will begin work on Coast Guard Cutters in 2023.

Franklin County Commissioners and Administration

It is our hope that you will schedule a workshop soon to discuss Franklin County partnering with Gulf County as a co-applicant to Triumph for the needed project funding of this mutually beneficial project. Please let us know if you require any additional information. We are available to meet with you at your earliest convenience.

Jim McKnight, Director Gulf County Economic Development Coalition

Michael Hammond, Gulf County Administrator

Patrick Farrell, Gulf County Commissioner

