



Economic Transformation through Triumph Escambia County Solicited Projects from Escambia County School District

Creating a diverse and vibrant regional economy where Northwest Florida residents and businesses have a wealth of opportunities.

Funding History

- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill ➡ \$18.5 Billion settlement in BP damages (FL, AL, MS, LA, & TX); **Florida's share was \$3.25 Billion** (Clean Water Act - \$572M, Natural Resource Damage - \$680M, **Economic Damages - \$2B**)
- **Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.** - Established in Florida Law through Gulf Coast Economic Corridor Act as a non-profit corporation charged with oversight of 75% of economic restoration funds for **8 disproportionately affected counties (Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Wakulla) = \$1.5 Billion**
- First appropriation was received in **2017 for \$300 million and the remainder will be distributed annually for 30 years** under guidelines established by legislature and awarded by Triumph Trustees



- **Each of the 8 Florida counties receives 5%** of \$300 million = 40% (min. \$15 million)
- Following statute, **Escambia County Board of County Commissioners solicited 5 project proposals from Escambia County School Board** (September 12, 2017) and the four other “elected boards.” One-page project proposals are due to BoCC September 15, 2017.
- **Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. is developing formal submittal and selection process** and will ultimately approve all awards--including **the remaining 60%** of \$300 million (\$180 million)
- Florida’s Great Northwest commissioned Haas Center and TIP Strategies, Inc. to gather economic data and facilitate development of “**Northwest Florida Forward, “A regional strategy for economic transformation.”**”



Target Industry Clusters

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Aerospace and Defense
- Cybersecurity
- Financial Services
- Water Transportation

SITE SELECTION FACTORS	2015	2013
RANKING		
1. Availability of skilled labor	92.9	95.1 (1)
2. Highway accessibility	88.0	93.5 (2)
3. Quality of life	87.6	62.1**
4. Occupancy or construction costs	85.4	87.4 (4)
5. Available buildings	83.7	83.3 (6)
6. Labor costs	80.8	90.8 (3)
7. Corporate tax rate	78.8	82.4 (7)
8. Proximity to major markets	76.3	75.6 (15)
9. State and local incentives	75.8	81.9 (8)
10. Energy availability and costs	75.3	80.8 (10)

Northwest Florida Forward - Regional Strategy for Economic Transformation

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Sustainable and enduring economic base
- ▶ Diversified industries and high wage employment growth
- ▶ Greater alignment of partner resources through regional collaboration
- ▶ Improving the vitality of all areas and populations in the region
- ▶ Strengthen beyond traditional economic engines



FOCUS AREAS

Northwest Florida Forward is built around five aspirational goals that serve as the key focus areas for future economic vitality and growth for the region.



Talent



Business Vitality



Infrastructure



Entrepreneurship & Innovation



Quality of Place



TALENT COUNCIL:

Talent Strategies

- ▶ Create a regional workforce training and development initiative designed to meet the needs of large employers relocating or expanding in Northwest Florida.
- ▶ Formalize a regional military talent pipeline survey and marketing program.
- ▶ Explore establishing an employer-driven workforce training initiative focused on assisting underemployed and long-term unemployed residents.
- ▶ Develop a regional talent recruitment program.
- ▶ Expand work-based learning and career exploration opportunities for students such as apprenticeships, internships, career days, job shadowing, and career fairs.
- ▶ Partner with cradle to career education system to expand the promotion of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs and technical skills development as early as grade school to build long-term talent supply in the region.
- ▶ Increase employability skills training programs to reduce employment barriers for all students and adults, with a particular focus on low-income populations.

Seven eligible funding activities in statute:

1. Ad valorem tax rate reduction
2. Local match for projects
3. Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification and enhancement
4. Grants to local governments to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans to respond to disasters
5. Programs that **prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions; 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 bachelor's and master's level; . . . **encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education** at a state university or Florida College System institution
6. **Programs that provide transferrable, sustainable workforce skills**
7. Grants to the tourism entity created for the purpose of advertising tourism and promote workforce and infrastructure

Escambia County - 5 Proposed Projects

1. **K-5 STEM Initiative** to incorporate computer **science, technology** via robotics, **engineering** and **mathematics** in elementary classrooms. (\$350,000)
1. Establish a **second Cybersecurity Academy** at a district high school to connect with the Pine Forest High School Cybersecurity Career Academy via ACCELETRAIN and provide funding for student internships for Cybersecurity Academy students. (\$233,500)
1. Enhance equipment and provide funding for student internships for the **Northview High School and Pensacola High School “Advanced Manufacturing” Academies** [\(\\$641,700\)](#)
1. Enhance equipment and provide funding for student internships for **Booker T. Washington High School Aviation Maintenance Academy** (\$250,000)
1. Construct an **Aviation Maintenance hangar, purchase equipment, and fund student A & P Mechanic certification vouchers for George Stone Technical Center’s Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic Programs** (\$300,000)

Creating a K-5 STEM Initiative

According to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, "economic projections indicate a need for approximately 1 million more STEM professionals than the U.S. will produce at the current rate over the next decade if the country is to retain its historical preeminence in science and technology." (2012)

Creating a K-5 STEM Initiative

- FIRST Robotics LEGO League Jr. (K-2)
- Escambia County School District's Elementary Science Olympiad (3-5)
- Florida state level participation for the Elementary Science Olympiad (3-5)
- Field trips to local businesses that utilize robotics, manufacturing, and STEM (IHMC, Ascend, Pensacola NAS, Pensacola Mess Hall) (K-5)
- Teacher STEM professional development (K-5)
- Intensified STEM lesson plan development (K-5)

Expanding Cybersecurity Academies

- 1.8 million shortage of cybersecurity professionals in US by 2022, high-skill/high-wage jobs
 - High demand for cybersecurity products and services, including defense contractors, aerospace manufacturers, and financial services.
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- Pine Forest HS Cybersecurity Academy is connected to Bellview MS IT Academy via ACCELETRAIN, a “Next Generation Connected Classroom Technology”
- Second Cybersecurity Academy will expand workforce training and industry certification attainments and ACCELETRAIN network
- Opportunities for students to work in paid internships in Cyber/IT

Transforming Advanced Manufacturing Academies

- There is a skilled manufacturing worker shortage
 - Manufacturers are seeing a mass-exodus of baby-boomers
 - Enrollment of these academies needs to grow to meet industry need
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- This program will expand our ability to prepare students with industry-specific technical skills
- Building on the foundation laid by NWFMC
- We want to create a learning environment that allows students to manufacture goods
- Create opportunities for students to work as paid apprentices in manufacturing

Transforming Aviation Maintenance Academy

- 400 High-skill and high-wage jobs in aviation maintenance are coming to Pensacola
- Recruitment for this academy has been a challenge

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- BTWHS Aviation Maintenance Academy prepares students to transition to GSTC A&P program
 - This project includes additional equipment to provide engaging hands-on training
 - Students will weigh and balance airplanes, troubleshoot electrical systems and repair retractable landing gear
 - Opportunities for students to work as paid apprentices in aviation maintenance

Enhancing GSTC's Airframe & Powerplant Mechanic Programs

- Current A & P Mechanic Programs occupy 3 classroom and 2 laboratory facilities
- Students prepare for 3 industry certifications: General Aviation Maintenance, Airframe Mechanic and Powerplant Mechanic = \$1,000 per student



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- Construct and equip Aviation Maintenance Hangar to serve as comprehensive training project facility and testing facility
 - Establish A & P Certification fund to assist students with cost of industry certification vouchers



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