

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd. • Room 302 • Port St. Joe, Florida • 32456

850.229.6106 • Fax: 850.564.7503

www.gulfcounty-fl.gov • bocc@gulfcounty-fl.gov

DATE & TIME OF MEETINGS: Fourth Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m., E.T.

September 15, 2021

Joseph McCormick, FCCM
Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program | Application for Gulf County Channel Dredging

Mr. McCormick:

The Port of St. Joe (the Port) was severely impacted by Hurricane Michael, resulting in disruption to one of the most critical economic assets in the community and in the broader region. To return the Port to full operational capacity, Gulf County, on behalf of the St. Joe Port Authority (the Port Authority), proposes to utilize funding from the Rebuild Florida Hometown Revitalization Program for Hurricane Michael Recovery to dredge the Port's existing shipping channel and provide the spoil areas necessary for a dredge project of this magnitude.

Currently, the ship channel suffers from sedimentation that has rendered it inoperable to target vessels. By dredging the channel, this project will provide access for domestic and international trade activity at the Port, which is important to the economic prosperity and sustainability of Gulf County, the local region, and the State of Florida as a whole. This project will dredge the existing shipping channel to a depth of 35 feet (plus 2 additional feet to allow for future anticipated sediment deposits), which is sufficient depth for ocean-going ships to utilize the Port; the additional channel depth will increase port tonnage capacity, thereby stimulating the regional economy and accelerating regional recovery from Hurricane Michael. Moreover, increasing tonnage at the Port will open additional future funding opportunities for operations and maintenance.

A fully operational Port is essential to the economic diversification of the local community, Gulf County, and the panhandle region of the State of Florida, as Port St. Joe will function as the port of entry for the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistic Zone (FLZ), a four-county economic development initiative linking identified and vetted industrial development sites along the Apalachicola Northern Railroad from the Port to Interstate 10. These development sites serve as assets with immediate marketability once the channel has been dredged to the permitted depth.

Gulf County has lost countless industrial projects over the years due to the inadequate channel depth at the Port. The project is fully permitted and is truly "shovel" ready.

We genuinely appreciate your time and attention given to the review of this application and should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sandy Quinn Jr. - Chairman

DAVID C. RICH
District 1

WARD MCDANIEL
District 2

PATRICK FARRELL
District 3

SANDY QUINN
District 4

PHIL MCCROAN
District 5

Q1. Please note: There is not a "Save" button in this application. The application will save all inputted information as you go.

Do not click past the signature page (final question) if you have not completed all questions, as it will automatically submit.

Q93. General Information:

Local Government Applicant Name	<input type="text" value="Gulf County, Florida"/>
Official Project Title	<input type="text" value="Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging"/>
DUNS #	<input type="text" value="156591922"/>

Q2. Please select which qualifying county the project is located in.

- Bay
- Calhoun
- Franklin
- Gadsden
- Gulf
- Holmes
- Jackson
- Leon
- Liberty
- Wakulla
- Washington
- Taylor

Q3. Application Preparer: (This is the person that DEO will contact regarding any question within your submitted application.)

First and Last Name	<input type="text" value="Chris G. Gouras Jr."/>
Title	<input type="text" value="Grant Administrator"/>
Mailing street address	<input type="text" value="P.O. Box 1465"/>
City	<input type="text" value="Ridgeland"/>
State	<input type="text" value="MS"/>

Zip

Phone Number

Email Address

Q4. Does the Application Preparer also serve as the project lead?

- Yes
- No

Q5. Local project manager/lead contact: (This is the person who will lead the project locally.)

First and Last Name

Title

Mailing Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone Number

Email Address

Q6. Total CDBG-DR requested (in dollars):

Q7. Total Project Budget (in dollars):

Q8. Select which leveraged funds have been procured for the program or project, if any (select all that apply).

- FEMA
- Local Match
- State Funds
- Private Funds
- Other

Q9. If you selected "Other" in the previous question, please specify which leveraged funds have been procured.

Triumph \$15,000,000

Q10. Does the proposed recovery activity reside within any tribal governments?

- Yes
 No

Q11. Please state which tribal government(s) the project resides within.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q12. Does the proposed recovery activity exist within any municipality(s)?

- Yes
 No

Q13. Please state which municipality(s) the proposed project effects.

Port St. Joe

Q14. Does the proposed recovery activity involve any unincorporated area(s)?

- Yes
 No

Q15. Please state which unincorporated area(s) the proposed project effects.

Unincorporated Areas of Gulf County

Q16. Is the local government covered by the National Flood Insurance Program?

Applicants must be covered by the National Flood Insurance Program to receive CDBG-DR funding, or they will be disqualified.

- Yes
 No

Q17. Are there any co-applicants involved in this project?

Yes

No

Q18. Who are the co-applicants involved in this project?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q19. Are there additional co-applicants?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q20. Who are the additional co-applicants?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q21. Are there additional co-applicants?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q22. Who are the additional co-applicants?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q23. Location of Proposed Project:

Street Address

Port of Port St. Joe

City

Port St. Joe

State

Florida

Zip

Q24. Please give a brief description of the proposed project (1-2 sentences).

Gulf County proposes to utilize General Infrastructure grant funds, leveraged with other funding sources, to dredge the Port's existing shipping channel and provide the spoil areas necessary for a dredge project of this magnitude.

Q25. Please select which National Objective the project addresses:

Low-Moderate Income Area

Urgent Need

Q26. Total service area population served:

13,455

Q27. Total LMI Population served:

5,025

Q94. Percent % LMI:

37.35%

Q28. Total number of households served:

Q29. Total number of LMI households served:

Q30. How was the LMI data obtained for this project?

Survey Data

Census Block Data

Q31. Please specify which census blocks were used in calculating LMI area.

LMISD LOWMOD Percent 37.35% for GULF COUNTY

Q32. Please upload LMI survey data in following link.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q33. Select which Congressional District the Project or Program resides in (select all that apply).

District 1 District 2 District 5

-

Q34. Select which Florida Senate District the Project or Program resides in (select all that apply).

District 1 District 2 District 3

-

Q35. Select which Florida House District the Project or Program resides in (select all that apply).

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> District 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> District 9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District 6 | |

Q36. Please select which Eligible Activity that best describes the proposed program or project:

- Restoration of Infrastructure
- Public Facilities such as emergency community shelters
- Re-nourishment of protective coastal dunes systems
- Demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately owned commercial or industrial buildings
- Other

Q37. If you selected "Other" for the previous question, please specify what Eligible Activity best describes your program or project.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q38. Project Description

Write an overview/summary of the project being proposed.

What is the project purpose?

Describe how the work will be completed and the team that will be responsible.

Explain the method(s) used to determine project funding requirements.

Describe the anticipated outcomes.

Describe how the project will be maintained after it is completed.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

Overview/summary of the project being proposed: The Port of Port St. Joe (the Port) was severely impacted by Hurricane Michael, resulting in disruption to one of the most critical economic assets in the community and in the broader region. To return the Port to full operational capacity, Gulf County, on behalf of the St. Joe Port Authority (the Port Authority), proposes to utilize funding from Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program for Hurricane Michael Recovery to dredge the Port's existing shipping channel and provide the beneficial spoil areas necessary for a dredge project of this

magnitude. Currently, the ship channel suffers from sedimentation that has rendered it inoperable to target vessels. This sedimentation was severely exacerbated due to the impacts of Hurricane Michael. Prior to Hurricane Michael, the Port of Port St. Joe was able to use its deep-water seaport featuring a bulkhead nearly 1,900 linear feet to target bulk and cargo shipments and full multi-modal capabilities offering access to rail, the U.S. Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and state and U.S. highways. One of the port's greatest assets is the approximately 213 acres of combined ready-to-be-leased lands adjacent to the bulkheads and thousands of acres of land adjacent to the port available for immediate development. However, with the current condition of the channel, the Port cannot service the target ships and industries due to concerns about sedimentation in the dredge channel that will not allow ships to safely navigate it. By dredging the channel, this project will provide access for domestic and international trade activity at the Port, which is important to the economic prosperity and sustainability of Gulf County, the local region, and the State of Florida as a whole. This project will dredge the existing shipping channel to a depth of 35 feet (plus 2 additional feet to allow for future anticipated sediment deposits), which is sufficient depth for ocean-going ships to utilize the Port; the additional channel depth will increase port tonnage capacity, thereby stimulating the regional economy and accelerating regional recovery from Hurricane Michael. Moreover, increasing tonnage at the Port will open additional future funding opportunities for operations and maintenance. A fully operational Port is essential to the economic diversification of the local community, Gulf County, and the panhandle region of the State of Florida, as Port St. Joe will function as the port of entry for the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistic Zone (FLZ), a four-county economic development initiative linking identified and vetted industrial development sites along the Apalachicola Northern Railroad from the Port to Interstate 10. These development sites serve as assets with immediate marketability once the channel has been dredged to the permitted depth. Evidencing the projects support from local, regional, and state partners, the project has the written endorsement from the following entities: Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, Liberty County Board of County Commissioners, Gadsden County Development Council, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Florida's Great Northwest, Opportunity Florida, The City of Port St. Joe, Port St. Joe Port Authority, and The St. Joe Company. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has provided initial funding and there is a pending request for additional funds from FDOT. On Monday, September 13, 2021, Triumph has approved the County's request for \$15,000,000 for this project (Original budgets and public hearing documents provided indicate match under Triumph at original request of \$17,500,000). The total project budget is as follows: CDBG-DR Request of \$7,500,000, FDOT \$20,000,000, Triumph \$15,000,000, Landowner \$12,308,646, for a project totaling \$54,808,646. Gulf County has lost countless industrial projects over the years due to the inadequate channel depth at the Port. The project is fully permitted and is truly "shovel" ready. The St. Joe Company has committed to provide land for the disposal sites. The Port of Port St. Joe is located 1,534 miles from the Panama Canal which is closer than Houston (1,712) and Miami (1,573) making the Port competitive in the logistics industry. Presently, the County is pursuing multiple economic development projects with capital expenditures in excess of \$4.4B with over 550 jobs. Major elements of this project include: The scope of the dredging project is depicted in a detailed project map and includes dredging to a depth of 35 feet plus 2 feet across the 300-foot-wide channel. Description of how the work will be completed and the team that will be responsible: The project will be headed by Gulf County's County Administrator, Michael Hammond, and the County Engineer, Clay Smallwood, who both have years of experience administering projects for the County. The County has procured an experienced grant administrator, Gouras & Associates, to assist with application preparation and administration of the grant; Gouras & Associates has more than 15 years of experience in administration of CDBG-DR awards including several projects of this magnitude. The County will procure a professional engineering firm to oversee project implementation activities (i.e., planning and design, construction procurement, and related construction activities). The County will also procure a construction contractor during the bidding phase of the project. Method(s) used to determine project funding requirements: In accordance with the State of Florida Action Plan for Disaster Recovery – Hurricane Michael, Gulf County has considered the costs and benefits to select projects that provide the greatest impact within the confines of the budgeted grant amount. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), as the lead state agency and responsible entity for administering CDBG-DR funds allocated to the state, has encouraged subrecipients to identify and select projects that address remaining unmet needs; Gulf County has identified this project as a priority that will address the most urgent unmet recovery needs and have utilized professional service to help establish project funding requirements, using industry standard budgeting. Anticipated project outcomes: Dredging will facilitate the removal of sediments and debris from the channel. The Port's dredging project will increase the depth of the navigation channels, anchorages and berthing areas to ensure the safe passage of boats and ships. Vessels require a certain amount of water in order to float and not touch bottom. This water depth continues to increase over time as larger and larger ships are deployed. Since massive ships carry the bulk of the goods imported into the country, dredging plays a vital role in Florida's economy given its deep-water ports. Dredging is also performed to reduce the exposure of fish, wildlife, and people to contaminants and to prevent the spread of contaminants to other areas of the water body, thus creating immediate environmental benefits. This environmental dredging is often necessary because sediments in and around industrial areas are frequently contaminated with a variety of pollutants. These pollutants are introduced to waterways from point sources such as sewer overflows, municipal and industrial discharges, and spills; or may be introduced from nonpoint sources such as surface runoff and atmospheric deposition. NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration plays a major role in protecting and restoring marine natural resources when environmental damage occurs. The beneficial disposal of dredged material can also create new habitat or breakwaters. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issues permits for the disposal of dredged material; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides oversight and authorization for the disposal of dredged materials, helping to ensure that the dredge materials can be reused for benefit to the local environment and economy. Specifically, Gulf County and other rural counties in the surrounding region (Franklin, Liberty, and Gadsden Counties) have partnered to designate the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone (FLZ) in order to promote the planning and funding of infrastructure improvements, intermodal connectivity and to facilitate freight activities and services within the rural Panhandle region. The Port is the key to the success of the FLZ and will play a significant role in the generation of freight related activity and promote economic development competitiveness of the region. With the increasing depth requirements for ships involved in global commerce, this dredging project will allow the region to become more competitive with other regions, both nationally and internationally, who have made investments in their maritime logistics transportation infrastructure. The channel will also serve national security interests as a possible logistics lane for Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security operations, including training and post-disaster response, and as catalyst for the full realization of the regional FLZ plan. As part of the process to designate the Gulf to Gadsden FLZ, a Strategic Sites Inventory (SSI) project was conducted by Leotta Location and Design, (LL+D) in each of the four counties. The goal of the Strategic Sites Inventory project was to identify potential high quality industrial and commercial sites situated along or near key transportation assets in the area in order to market these sites for development of manufacturing and distribution projects that rely on multimodal transportation as means for receiving process inputs and delivery of products to market. The SSI search was tailored to meet the specific needs of each county in the region based on its location, natural resources, transportation assets, and economic interests. The exercise of evaluating sites in each county shows the region's commitment for sustainable economic development on a regional level, aimed at having far-reaching impacts on the state and southeastern US economies. Development and on-going operation of the Port of Port St. Joe is key to success of the entire proposed FLZ. A fully operational Port of Port St. Joe with capacity will serve as a catalyst for regional economic growth, attraction of new industries and the resulting effects of industrial suppliers and support services that will be attracted to the rural Florida panhandle region. The Gulf to Gadsden FLZ has significant potential to become an important hub for maritime logistics and movement of goods in northwest Florida. In fact, local, regional and state officials have been working on plans to support and promote economic development competitiveness, which includes redevelopment of the Port as a key component. The Port is in a prime location between the larger Ports of Jacksonville and Pensacola, both more than a three-hour drive away. The Port of Panama City is also approximately 40 miles to the west; however, the Port would provide additional capacity, service logistics and ease congestion in other Florida ports that harm competitiveness. Thus, the redeveloped Port will be a valuable "third port asset" on the Northwest Florida Gulf Coast. Not only is The Port locally and regionally important, but the Gulf to Gadsden FLZ has significant potential to become a prime corridor to move freight across the state and nation. Located between the Port of Tampa Bay to the southeast and the Ports of Panama City and Pensacola to the west, the FLZ serves as a centralized location to receive freight and move it through the nation's supply chains. Located within proximity to the regional transportation network, the Gulf to Gadsden FLZ has access to the Intracoastal Waterway, rail access and SIS roadways throughout the region. As a major component of the FLZ, the regional economic impact generated by this project would be transformational, including significant direct and indirect employment generated by the restoration of the Port. The Gulf to Gadsden FLZ is strategically located on the north gulf coast of Florida. With the widening of the Panama Canal, the FLZ would provide ships with another option for a port in north Florida thus reducing travel time for ships having to go up the Atlantic Coast (Figure 2) and reducing fuel costs for truck freight having to travel the length of the Peninsula to move Freight across state lines. The per capita income in Gulf County for 2015-2019 in 2019 dollars was \$23,252 which is \$10,851 dollars less than the national income per capita of

The per capita income in Gulf County for 2019-2019 in 2019 dollars was \$23,232 which is \$10,651 dollars less than the national income per capita of \$34,103 and the Gulf County median income of \$47,712 was \$15,131 less than the U.S. median income per household of \$62,843. The prospective businesses presently considering locating in Gulf County dependent on the increased depth of the shipping channel all pay a per capita income higher than the U.S. per capita income and almost twice Gulf County's income. Presently 5 projects with capital investments in excess of \$4.4B and approximately 500 jobs are considering locating at the Port. The deepening of the channel would enhance the prospects tremendously, and serve as a catalyst for successful development of the most important economic and industrial asset in Gulf County. Description of how the project will be maintained after it is completed: Modern Ports such as the Port of Port St. Joe aim to become lead components of the 21st Century inter-modal transportation system, fostering connectivity with various modes of transportation and allowing for the efficient transportation of goods globally. Seaports add to the to the comparative advantage of high value-added industries by lowering shipping costs to markets outside the local area. Despite a \$23 billion dollar loss due to COVID, Florida's Ports remain strong and have budgeted \$3.1 billion dollars in Capital Improvements in the next five years to service the increasing shipping business. The need for and sustainability of the Port dredging project is evidenced by nearby Port of Panama City embarking on a \$59 million dollar expansion that will double their amount of annual cargo shipped. Additionally, E-commerce has transformed the way shipping companies think about their business. Greater consumer spending on e-commerce platforms have led to increases in the shipping business, creating greater demand for operational ports in the Gulf Coast region. The dredging of the channel to 35' is the proverbial chicken before the egg solution to reopening the Port to domestic and international shipping and insuring sustainability of the deliverable jobs. Eastern Shipbuilding is currently servicing Staten Island Ferries at the Port and would benefit from a deeper channel for their future Coast Guard Cutter project. Additionally, Twin Rivers Land Development, which is now located at the bulkhead, will be able to ship wood chips to Honduras and return with aggregate rock. Those businesses and any one the five companies now considering locating in Port St. Joe along with the developing Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone provide significant justification for this project.

Q39. Damage Summary

Write an overview/summary of how Hurricane Michael's damage impacted the service area.

How did Hurricane Michael impact the service area?

Describe if and how Hurricane Michael exacerbated any previous service area issues.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

Damage Summary: Hurricane Michael caused significant damage to Gulf County and to the Port and its ship channel. The combination of the storm's surge, wave action and the runoff post-storm caused significant silting and sedimentation to the ship channel, thus rendering it inoperable to many of the large class of ships involved in international commerce. To address the specific impacts of Hurricane Michael, the Port Authority is currently focused on long term recovery of port assets and regional economic revitalization, all of which are directly dependent on the condition of the Port's channel – it's commerce lifeline. The proposed project is located in Gulf County, which was severely impacted by Hurricane Michael and is still recovering from the effects of the storm. Contiguous Franklin County, also a severely affected county, will benefit from direct and indirect job increases from this project, as the Port is less than a 25-minute drive from Apalachicola. Development sites in Gulf and Franklin County, Florida, previously vetted in a January 2017 Apalachee Regional Planning Council FLZ study funded by Department of Economic Opportunity, will enhance the opportunities to leverage the Port and Rail line reopening. Industrial sites in Liberty and Gadsden Counties also stand to benefit from the Port improvements creating a regional, multi-jurisdictional economic impact which will create job opportunities including low-to-moderate income job opportunities in multiple counties throughout the Hurricane Michael impacted area. All of the counties and communities surrounding this project were damaged, destroyed or otherwise negatively impacted by Hurricane Michael, and thus this project is a regional economic priority with support from many local units of government and from local private sector entities seeking to expand commerce. Overview/summary of how Hurricane Michael's damage impacted the service area (i.e., How did Hurricane Michael impact the service area?): Hurricane Michael made landfall in the project service area at 2 p.m. EDT October 10, 2018, with top sustained winds of 155 mph and a central pressure of 919 millibars. This makes Michael the strongest land falling mainland U.S. hurricane (by pressure) since Camille of 1969, and the strongest by wind speed since Hurricane Andrew of 1992, which had 165 mph winds. Hurricane-force wind gusts, torrential rains causing flooding in many low-lying areas, and a massive storm surge affected the service area as Michael moved inland after landfall. Hurricane Michael continued intensifying, with sustained winds of 150 mph and a central pressure of 919 millibars after landfall, which inundated many escape routes. Michael was one of the most intense hurricanes on record to make landfall in the U.S. The storm surge caused severe flood damage to residential, commercial, and public buildings and infrastructure. The storm tide high water marks in the service area (i.e., Gulf County) ranged in elevation between 7.8 and 21.2 feet according to USGS storm surge high water mark surveys. This project is located in Gulf County, where Hurricane Michael's impacts were extensive. FEMA assessment indicates that more than 20 percent of homes across the county sustained some level of damage from the hurricane; FEMA inspections estimate that more than 2,000 homes had high/severe damage. Nearly 50 percent of all FEMA applicant households in Gulf County had some level of FEMA verified damages. Gulf County's high number of FEMA applicants in the flood zone (1,940) means that recovery in this area will be challenging as rebuilding must address building code updates and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) guidelines. A total of 1,689 businesses are located in areas within Gulf County that experienced sustained winds of 57 mph or higher during Hurricane Michael, and these businesses are estimated to have sustained total damages and losses of \$331.6 million. Estimated insurance payouts for damage and losses to commercial structures and contents in Gulf County are \$20.51 million. In addition, a total of \$5.94 million in low interest loans has been disbursed by the SBA. Therefore, the total unmet needs for Gulf County are estimated to be \$211,221,966. The State Action Plan estimates that impact to infrastructure in Gulf County totaled in excess of \$124 million. Growing evidence suggests that the Hurricane Michael had both immediate and lasting adverse health and mental health consequences on the local population. For storm-affected populations, the psychological distress caused by the event and subsequent struggles of recovery can often last for years after the hurricane's landfall. This observation is borne out by abundant data collected by researchers over several decades. It is difficult, in the absence of baseline data, to account for variability in the physical and mental health outcomes among survivors. Even among the most vulnerable populations, there is often considerable variability in survivors' responses to traumatic events. However, exploration of the economic, social, and health and mental health consequences of the hurricane, alone and in combination, heighten vulnerability of Gulf County's citizens. Previous disaster responses have focused on the interrelationships between the severity of exposure and the resources available to the individual. Most of these models have posited that resources function to moderate or "buffer" the effects of hurricane experiences, influencing individuals' perceptions of and their responses to the disaster. Survivors with initially low levels of health, social or economic resources are more vulnerable to the negative consequences of the hurricane, both during the event and in the years to follow. The most vulnerable citizens often experience relatively steeper declines in emotional and physical health outcomes. Heightened recovery activities, including those that provide "positive recovery optics", such as a reopened and operating Port, can often have a buffer effect and improve physical and mental health outcomes. Moreover, the project will lead to increased employment opportunities and positive economic effects regionally, thereby combating joblessness and providing leveraging opportunities for additional economic expansion. Describe if and how Hurricane Michael exacerbated any previous service area issues. Hurricane Michael caused severe damage and disruption to all public infrastructure and facilities in the Gulf County region. The Port of St. Joe is the only port in the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone. The Port's channel depth has been decreasing over time due to normal sedimentation; however, the devastating effects of Hurricane Michael exacerbated sedimentation and ensured that the channel cannot be navigated by ocean-going shipping vessels. This has significantly harmed the region's competitiveness in transportation and logistics and made the region less attractive for industrial expansion.

Q40. Describe how the proposed CDBG DR-funded program and/or project will pro-actively invest in resilience to damage from future storms as specified in the Federal Register and Action Plan.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

In all components of the proposed project, the Port Authority will implement construction methods that emphasize quality, durability, efficiency, sustainability. Moreover, the project will be designed specifically to incorporate principles of resilience and mitigation against the impact of future disasters to the largest degree possible. Port improvements will use best available science and best practices to mitigate against future flooding risks. This project has an opportunity to provide transformational job creation opportunities across the region impacting Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, and Gadsden Counties. In connection with the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone, the proposed port project improvements will enhance the job creation opportunities for low-to-moderate income individuals and families throughout a significant geographic portion of the Hurricane Michael impacted area. The Washington Economic Group Inc. report dated January 24, 2014 projected an average of 803 annual equivalent jobs across a 10-year period resulting from the construction of the proposed port improvements. This project may be one of the most significant opportunities that the State of Florida has to get a maximum return on Hurricane Michael CDBG funds.

Q41. Describe how the proposed activity will address an Unmet Need tied to the impact of damage from the disaster (Note: All CDBG-DR activities must clearly address an impact of the disaster. Mitigation or

preparedness activities that are not part of rebuilding efforts are generally ineligible as CDBG-DR recovery activities.):

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

The proposed funding will address longstanding unmet needs economic needs in the Gulf County region. In recent years, many economic development opportunities have been lost due to the inadequate shipping channel depth. Currently, several companies are considering investing more than \$4.4B in capital in the region; the dredging of the channel to 35" is the key component to reopening the Port of Port St. Joe to domestic and international shipping and ensuring sustainability of the jobs created in the area.

Q42. Describe the roles of key staff, contractors and/or vendors in operations management of the proposed CDBG-DR funded program and/or project. List any additional staff to be hired and/or procured and for what roles. (REFERENCE IRMA ROUND 2 SUMMARIES ETC)

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

Gulf County has the capacity to successfully complete the project and the ability to perform required maintenance on the project improvements. The Management team is comprised of Michael Hammond, County Administrator, who will directly oversee the progress of the project and give guidance and oversight at the County level. County Engineer, Clay Smallwood, will lead engineering efforts and provide project controls specific to design and construction. The County will procure a project engineer as well as a construction contractor. The procured grant administrator, Gouras & Associates, shall coordinate grant activities, oversee citizen participation and procurement activities, coordinate the environmental review process, provide financial management and audit oversight, and assist with construction/bidding, and closeout procedures. Gulf County Public Works will operate and maintain the project improvements once complete for the useful life of the asset.

Q43. What is the experience and capacity of key members of the management team?

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

Key Members of the Management Team currently include the County Engineer, Clay Smallwood, and the procured grant administrator, Gouras & Associates, LLC. Mr. Smallwood has more than 15 years of experience and has been responsible for the design and permitting of various engineering projects for both public and private entities through local, state, and federal regulatory agencies. Mr. Smallwood has been responsible for contract administration, construction engineering and inspection, and project closeout responsibilities total more than \$48 million. His primary design responsibilities have involved stormwater management facilities, pedestrian facilities, road widening and resurfacing, new road construction, boat ramps, sewer collection systems, and water main extensions. Mr. Smallwood has full understanding of the environmental and construction permitting processes of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Army Corps of Engineers, and FDOT. Gouras & Associates' experience includes each aspect of grant administration, including, but not limited to, preparing and submitting proposals and the initial grant application; facilitating public hearings; assisting with the environmental review process and preparing the environmental review record; assisting with procurement; contract management, reviewing, processing and tracking cash requests and budget modifications; project recordkeeping, including records necessary for CDBG national objective compliance, Section 3 compliance, and labor standards compliance; and assisting with the grant closeout process. Gouras & Associates, LLC is comprised of the following individuals. Every employee in our firm specializes in one or more specific areas of compliance. Chris G. Gouras, Jr., Principal/ Consultant: Chris is the owner and principal of Gouras & Associates, LLC. Chris will be directly involved with, and personally responsible for, all of the day-to-day operations of the project. Christiana S. Sugg, Attorney, Grant Management and Implementation: Christiana is an attorney and regulatory specialist in the office of Gouras & Associates, LLC. She is licensed to practice law in the State of Mississippi and is in good standing with the Mississippi Bar Association. Corinne Graham, Associate Consultant, Financial Management, Procurement, and Monitoring: Corinne, Associate Consultant, handles Financial Management, Procurement, and Construction/Contractor Compliance. Mauree Gouras, Labor Standards Compliance: Mauree is the Labor Standards Compliance Officer for Gouras & Associates, LLC. Mauree's role is to ensure compliance with Labor Standards and Fair Housing requirements during the implementation of the project. Gouras & Associates, LLC's main CDBG grant experience and expertise includes Katrina Community Development Block Grant Program (KCDBG) 84 projects totaling \$759,504,416 focusing on Economic Development, Community Revitalization, and Long-Term Workforce Housing as well as Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG): 6 projects totaling \$2,958,504 including access roads, emergency sewer improvements, infrastructure improvements, a health department, and a senior center.

Q44. Describe any projects comparable to the one in this application that the applicant has administered in the last five (5) years.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

The County has recently completed more than \$20,000,000 in road construction, specifically investing \$11,000,000 in County Road 386; \$6,200,000 in County Road 387; \$2,500,000 in County Road 382; and a \$5,000,000 road bond that covered a number of roads throughout the County. For Building and Infrastructure projects, the County has completed a project totaling \$5,000,000 for the Old Mill site; \$800,000 project for the County Public Works Building; \$759,000 for the White City Fire Department; drainage improvements post Hurricane Michael totaling over \$5,000,000; and Hurricane Michael repairs over \$5,000,000 and counting.

Q45. Have you participated in the CDBG Small Cities Program in the past 5 years?

- Yes
- No

Q46. Are you a CDBG entitlement community?

- Yes
- No

Q47. Is the management team fully formed?

- Yes
- No

Q48. Please provide a description of the procurement process the Applicant will follow to cultivate program and project management capacity.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

The County follows the procurement processes and standards of the State of Florida as prescribed in Chapter 287, Procurement of Personal Property and Services and Chapter 67-49, Florida Administrative Code, Procurement of Commodities or Contractual Services. These include, but are not limited to, Section 255.0525, Florida Statutes (advertising for competitive bids or proposals), Section 287.055, Florida Statutes (Consultants Competitive Negotiations Act), and Section 287.133, Florida Statutes (public entity crimes). Additionally, the County will follow 24 CFR 135 (Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act to guide economic development to low- and very-low income local residents and the businesses that hire them) and comply with Minority and Woman-Owned Business Enterprises reporting requirements. Procurement procedures will include the following, which is not intended to be an exhaustive list and may be revised and supplemented based on State and Federal requirements and guidance: PRE-SOLICITATION: 1) An independent cost estimate or price analysis will be performed prior to bid opening for construction bids as well as RFP/RFQ (competitive negotiations). A) For bids, documentation in the file should include a detailed cost breakdown for the overall estimate providing the elements, such as labor and materials, of the total cost, along with documentation concerning the cost estimates B) For competitive negotiations, cost analyses will be used when there is no price competition or when price competition is not the only evaluation factor, such as in procuring A/E, professional, consulting, or program administrator services. The cost analysis should include: a detailed breakdown of the contractor's proposed cost, verification of the accuracy of the cost and pricing information submitted, and evaluation thereof. A cost analysis should include the following: (i) Are the costs (a) allowable under the grant; (b) allocable (are costs logically related to, or required in the performance of the contract); and (c) reasonable? (ii) Is the cost necessary? (iii) How does the cost compare with actual costs previously incurred or other, similar work received by the County? 2) Procurement Content A) Are the timeframes to respond reasonable and within the required timeframes? Does the RFP/RFQ/Bid contain a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product or services and scope of work. Specifications and solicitation must not contain features that unduly restrict competition such as unreasonable or unnecessary experience or bonding requirements. B) For competitive negotiation [Request for Proposal (RFP) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ)] such as for architectural or engineering (A/E) or program administrator (PA) contracts, the following will be addressed: (1) documentation of soliciting proposals from at least 3 qualified sources and documentation that the solicitation was adequately publicized; (2) a detailed list of tasks in the scope of work must be included; (3) all significant evaluation factors or selection criteria must be clearly stated (point system to be used for rating, past performance, the ability of professional personnel, willingness to meet time and budget requirements if applicable, related experience on similar projects, and recent and current work for the County). A/E professional services must be solicited with an RFQ. The method where price is not used as a selection factor, can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services. If this is not a solicitation for A/E professional services, does the RFP contain cost as an evaluation factor? Request for proposals for services other than A/E, shall always include cost and at least one non-cost qualitative evaluation factor such as experience with like projects 3) The following must be included solicitations IN ADDITION TO REQUIREMENTS UNDER 2 C.F.R. 200.326 and the CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED UNDER FLORIDA STATUTES CHAPTER 287, PROCUREMENT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AND SERVICES AND CHAPTER 67-49, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PROCUREMENT OF COMMODITIES OR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES: Notice of use of funding agency funds; Davis Bacon labor requirements AND WAGE RATE (applicable for construction projects in excess of \$2,000); Section 3 clause; Nondiscrimination, affirmative action, and equal employment opportunity in employment; and debarment certification. MINIMUM DOCUMENTATION IN PROCUREMENT FILE: 1) In addition to the documentation listed above, efforts in hiring minority-owned business enterprises and women-owned business enterprises for each solicitation will be included in the file. 2) Conflict of Interest Review. Are there any potential conflicts of interest? A conflict of interest could arise if the employee, officer or agent; any member of his/her immediate family; his/her partner; or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the above, has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for award. The file should contain documentation as to whether there is a conflict of interest and, if there is one, the resolution. 3) A copy of the newspaper advertisement in the file plus the solicitation included in the bid documents. 4) If a construction contract is in excess of \$2,000, a copy of the wage rate and evidence that the rate was checked 10 days before bid date. If the rate changed, the file should contain documentation that it was updated by addendum as required and sent to all holders of the bid documents. 5) List of proposed bidders and suppliers receiving copies of the bid documents if available. 6) Copy of all bid proposals. 7) Notes from Pre-Bid Conference(s) if held. 8) Copies of bid bonds received. 9) Record of respondents rejected as not responsible or not responsive and rejection reasoning documented in the file. 10) A price analysis is required for every sealed bid procurement. The tabulations of bids with date and time of bid opening notated; along with any evaluations of the proposals documented will meet this requirement. Price analysis is essentially price comparison. It is the evaluation of a proposed price (i.e., lump sum) without analyzing any of the separate cost elements it is composed of. Price analyses are used to compare lump sum prices (not estimates) received from contractors in a competitive pricing situation (when sealed bids are obtained). 11) If there are any disputes regarding the procurement, documentation of how the disputes were handled, resolved, and disclosed will be included in the file, including documentation of the protests filed and any responses to the protests. 12) Documentation of reason for rejecting any and all bids must be kept in the procurement file. Were any bids or offers rejected or otherwise excluded from the competitive range notified promptly in writing by the procurement officer? The notice shall state the basis for the determination and a proposal revision will not be considered. 13) If the procurement was a competitive negotiation, were unsuccessful offerors notified in writing within ten working days of contract award with the protest and debriefing procedures sent with the notification. (County of [INSERT NAME] current procedure is to include an award of bid notice with the items for the Chairman to sign. After the Chairman signs the form, the respective departments are given the bid notice to be sent out the unsuccessful bidders.) Prior to award, the proposed contractor's debarment check must be completed by accessing the System for Award Management (SAM) Web site at <https://www.sam.gov>, search records. The printed page from the SAM Web site with the date of the check must be included in the procurement file. The above is not an exhaustive list of what will be included in the procurement file and is subject to supplementation based on state and federal regulations and technical assistance from DEO and HUD. In the event additional project management or program capacity is required, Gulf County will perform the above analyses and follow State and Federal procurement guidelines for soliciting additional contractors.

Q49.

In what aspects of the project, if any, do you plan to augment existing staff with contractors or vendors? If so, please list.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

The County intends to procure a licensed engineer to assist with design and specifications and a qualified construction contractor during the bidding phase of the grant for the specific work proposed in the application and detailed by the plans and specifications prepared by the County Engineer. Any other service providers deemed necessary to carry out the requirements of the grant will be procured as required by the State and HUD procurement process as outlined in the previous section of the application.

Q50. Does the applicant have a citizen complaint policy, acquisition and relocation policy, housing assistance plan and procurement policy in place that meets HUD guidelines? (Select all that apply)

Citizen Complaint Policy

Housing Assistance Plan

Acquisition and Relocation Policy

Procurement Policy

Q51. Select "Yes" or "No" for key factors achieved to support that the program or project is ready to proceed. If "Yes" is selected, you will be prompted to provide any supporting documentation with the file upload link for the pertaining question.

Q52. Site Control

Yes

No

Q53. Please provide supporting documentation for Site Control.

[0 Site Control & Zoning App Narrative.pdf](#)

113.9KB
application/pdf

Q54. Zoning and Community Approval

Yes

No

Q55. Please provide supporting documentation for Zoning and Community Approval.

[0 Site Control & Zoning App Narrative.pdf](#)

113.9KB
application/pdf

Q56. Environmental Clearance

Yes

No

Q57. Please provide supporting documentation for Environmental Clearance.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q58. Have you procured and Contracted Members of Development and Construction Team?

Yes

No

Q59. Please provide supporting documentation for Procured and Contracted Members of Development and Construction Team.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q60. Commitment of Matching Funds

Yes

No

Q61. Please provide supporting documentation for Commitment of Matching Funds.

[0 Gulf County Match Resolution.pdf](#)

120KB

application/pdf

Q62. Upload the completed budget template into the following file link. Use the provided template attached:

[Budget Template](#)

Q63. Budget Template upload:

[0 Port Budget.pdf](#)

73.4KB

application/pdf

Q64. Provide any quotes related to the program or project in the link below. It is recommended that a combined PDF format is used for single submission of multiple quotes.

Q65. Provide any bids related to the program or project in the link below. It is recommended that a combined PDF format is used for single submission of multiple quotes.

Q66. Provide any schedules related to the program or project in the link below. It is recommended that a combined PDF format is used for single submission of multiple quotes.

[0 Port Project Schedule.pdf](#)

112KB

application/pdf

Q67. Provide any estimates related to the program or project in the link below. It is recommended that a combined PDF format is used for single submission of multiple quotes.

Q68. Describe how the proposed project shall not duplicate benefits as specified in CDBG-DR Action Plan.

Submit your response in the text box in 2,500 words or less.

The County will follow State and Federal guidelines regarding duplication of benefits, including the policies and procedures set forth in Office of Disaster Recovery Hurricane Michael Policy Manual, September 16, 2020, as amended and supplemented from time to time. The County will document the below analysis as part of this project and affirms that it does not create a duplication of benefits if funded. The policies and procedures include several steps and accurate recordkeeping. 1) The County will determine the total need for the project. 2) The County will review the "total assistance" received by the County. Total assistance includes all benefits available to the applicant including: other HUD programs, FEMA assistance, NFIP payments, SBA loans, private insurance proceeds, private donations or gifts of cash and/or other resources (at market value), and state/local/other grants. 3) The County identifies the assistance that was provided to the applicant that has been determined not to be available or excluded by the County for the activity (ie: assistance provided for a different purpose; funds used for a different, eligible purpose; funds not available to the applicant; funds from a private loan not guaranteed by SBA unless such a loan is forgivable; any other asset or line of credit available to the applicant). 4) The County then Performs a calculation determining the total funds available from other sources for the specific activity. This is calculated by subtracting the assistance not available to the applicant or excluded by the State or its subrecipient from the total assistance received by the applicant. 5) The County then performs a calculation determining the maximum award. This is calculated by subtracting available funds from other sources (as defined above) from the total need for assistance and comparing the result to the program cap (if applicable) and entering the lesser of the program cap or the maximum award. The County will maintain documentation supporting all benefits received for the specified purpose or activity to be undertaken with CDBG-DR funds, and the County will also identify reasonably anticipated assistance, such as future insurance claims payments or approved SBA loan proceeds. The County further agrees to notify DEO within five (5) business days of any additional or new payments, loans, grants, or awards by HUD, FEMA, the Small Business Administration, the state, or any other entity it has not specifically disclosed in this application. The County understands and acknowledges the State's right and responsibility to enforce this requirement by recapturing all or a portion of the CDBG-DR award if the funds received by the County are determined to be a duplication of the CDBG-DR benefit applied for with this application. It is not anticipated that the County will have applicants for subgrants associated with this application. However, the above policies will apply in the event the County receives applications from persons or entities for CDBG-DR funds. In addition, at the time of application, an applicant will be required to sign affidavit as follows: I/We agree to notify the [subrecipient] within five (5) business days of any additional or new payments, loans, grants, or awards by HUD, FEMA, the Small Business Administration, the state, or any other entity I/we have not specifically disclosed in this application. Further, I/we understand and acknowledge the state's or its subrecipient's right and responsibility to enforce this requirement by recapturing all or a portion of the CDBG-DR award if the funds I/we receive are determined to be a duplication of the CDBG-DR benefit I/we are applying for with this application. I/We have read and understand the foregoing statement. Date: _____ Applicant(s): _____ 2. At the time of application, all applicants will be required to sign second affidavit as follows: PENALTY FOR FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENT: U.S.C. Title 18, Sec. 1001, provides: "Whoever, in any matter, within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies . . . or makes any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both." I/We have read and understand the foregoing statement. Date: _____ Applicant(s): _____: Increases in need may be considered by the County (or applied for by the County) if, after needs are initially calculated and a CDBG-DR award has been made, an applicant for CDBG-DR assistance or the County can demonstrate a change in circumstances, such as vandalism, contractor fraud, an increase in the cost of materials and/or labor, a change in local zoning law or building code, or subsequent damage to a home or business that was partially repaired. It I understood that any reevaluation must be completed before the initial need for which the assistance was granted has been fully met (e.g., before the damaged property is fully repaired).

Q69. Please provide three (3) maps with an overlay that clearly shows each of the following criteria:

1. Project Location and/or Service Area
2. Low-and-Moderate-Income Service Area
3. Most Recent Flood Plain Map

Q70. Upload 1. Project Location and/or Service Area in the link below.

[0 Port Proposed Project Area Map.pdf](#)

385.6KB
application/pdf

Q71. Upload 2. Low-and-Moderate-Income Service area map in the link below.

[0 Gulf County LMI.pdf](#)

264.4KB
application/pdf

Q72. Upload 3. Most Recent Flood Plain Map in the link below.

[0 Gulf County FEMA flood zones port.pdf](#)

57.5KB

application/pdf

Q73. Fill out the attached Work Plan Template for the project and upload in the following link:

[Work Plan Template](#)

Q74. Work Plan Template upload

[0 Port Project Schedule.pdf](#)

112KB

application/pdf

Q75. Use the following template to complete and upload the Organizational Chart for the proposed program or project, and upload to the file box:

[Organization Chart](#)

[0 GULF COUNTY Organization Chart FINAL.pdf](#)

148.5KB

application/pdf

Q76. Upload either a Word document or PowerPoint document with up to ten (10) photos of the service area or any other relevant photos for the scoring team to review regarding the program or project.

[0 Port Pictures.pptx](#)

1.2MB

application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.presentationml.presentation

Q77.

Submit the project's public meeting notice, meeting minutes, meeting agenda, and any received public comments in the file box.

Q78. As authorized Executive Officer, I certify that staff, contractors, vendors and community partners of our storm recovery initiative:

A. Will comply with all HUD and Florida requirements in the administration of the proposed CDBG-DR funded activities;

B. Will work in a cooperative manner to execute the Subrecipient Agreement that provides the pathway for successful CDBG-DR program(s) and/or project(s) and;

C. Certify that all information submitted in this Application is true and accurate.

 M. Hammond

[clear](#)

Location Data

Location: ([32.46989440918](#), [-90.110198974609](#))

Source: GeoIP Estimation



GOURAS & ASSOCIATES

Gulf County, Florida
Hurricane Michael CDBG-DR Applications
Hometown Revitalization Program

READINESS TO PROCEED

Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging
Site Control and Zoning

This project will include dredging improvements to the existing channel at the Port of Port St. Joe located in local waters that are currently zoned and in use. The St. Joe Company has committed to provide land for the disposition of spoils. The dredging project is designed and fully permitted. The project is “shovel ready”.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUTHORIZING ACTIONS NECESSARY FOR HURRICANE MICHAEL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY
APPLICATION AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall as a Category 5 hurricane, causing catastrophic damage to communities in the State of Florida (the "State"), including Gulf County (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity ("DEO") is the designated State authority responsible for administering all U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery ("CDBG-DR") funds awarded to the State; and

WHEREAS, under Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-254) and the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20), the State has received an allocation of funds for eligible activities; and

WHEREAS, the State has designated \$223,032,145 (awarded in two application rounds with the second round equaling \$111,516,000) for the *Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program* (the "Infrastructure Program"); and

WHEREAS, under the Infrastructure Program funds will be made available to cities and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible activities; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of Commissioners (the "Governing Body") will submit applications to DEO for CDBG-DR funds under the Infrastructure Program to assist in the recovery efforts and to improve the quality of life of the citizens of the County and the State; and

WHEREAS, regulations governing the CDBG-DR program allow the utilization of said funds for removal of debris and other damage, water and sewer facilities, repair to public facilities such as emergency community shelters, demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately owned commercial or industrial buildings, repair of homeless shelters and disaster shelter facilities, renourishment of dunes and/or dune restoration, economic revitalization which includes any CDBG-DR eligible activity that demonstrably restores and improves some aspect of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the County published a notice on August 16, 2021 in the Panama City News Herald on the proposed projects which may utilize matching funds as allocated below; and

WHEREAS, after considering any and all public comments, concerns and input, it is in the best interest of the County to apply for CDBG-DR funds to accomplish the following projects and to provide local matching funds to augment each project's budget in the following amounts:

1. White City Water Plant Project: local match \$100,000
2. Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility Project: local match \$100,000
3. Airport Paving Project: local match \$100,000
4. Channel Dredging: local match \$49,808,646

WHEREAS, HUD regulations prohibit the duplication of benefits (“DOB”), which occurs if DEO provides assistance to a participant for the same purpose as any previous financial or in-kind assistance provided to that participant for the same purpose, and the State, the County and DEO CDBG-DR program are each prohibited from creating a DOB; and

WHEREAS, to prevent a possible DOB, the County will follow DEO’s DOB Policy as outlined in the *Office of Disaster Recovery Hurricane Michael Policy Manual, September 16, 2020*, as amended and supplemented from time to time; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application process and to facilitate the County’s receipt and use of funds from the Infrastructure Program it will be necessary and advisable for the County Administrator, acting as the Executive Officer for the Governing Body, to execute various documents and make certifications as required by HUD and DEO for the Infrastructure Program, and it is in the best interest of the citizens of the County and the best interest of the County to designate the County Administrator as the Executive Officer of the Governing Body to make such certifications and execute such documents which may include (but are not limited to) subrecipient agreements, all documents required as part of any environmental review process, Request(s) for the Release of Funds, requests for cash/funding, and any other documents and certifications necessary to accomplish the objectives contemplated hereby.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA:


SECTION 1: The foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated here by this reference.

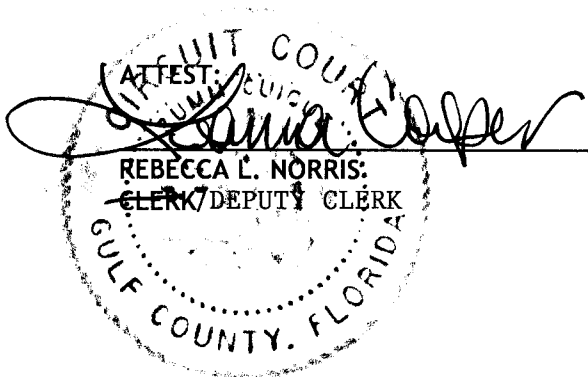
SECTION 2: The County authorizes the County Administrator, acting as the Executive Officer for the County to execute various documents and make certifications to facilitate the County’s application to the State and compliance with State and HUD regulations, including, but not limited to: certifying that that staff, contractors, vendors and community partners of the County’s storm recovery initiative will comply with all HUD and State requirements in the administration of the proposed CDBG-DR funded activities; will work in a cooperative manner to execute the Subrecipient Agreement that provides the pathway for successful CDBG-DR program(s) and/or project(s); and that all information submitted in the applications is true and accurate.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of Commissioners, Gulf County, Florida, this the 8th day of SEPTEMBER, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA


SANDY QUINN JR.
CHAIRMAN


ATTEST:
REBECCA L. NORRIS:
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

FL CDBG-DR Disaster Recovery
General Infrastructure Repair Program Project Budget

Project Name:	Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging
Primary Contact:	Clay Smallwood, County Engineer
Phone:	850-229-6106
Official Applicant:	Gulf County, Florida

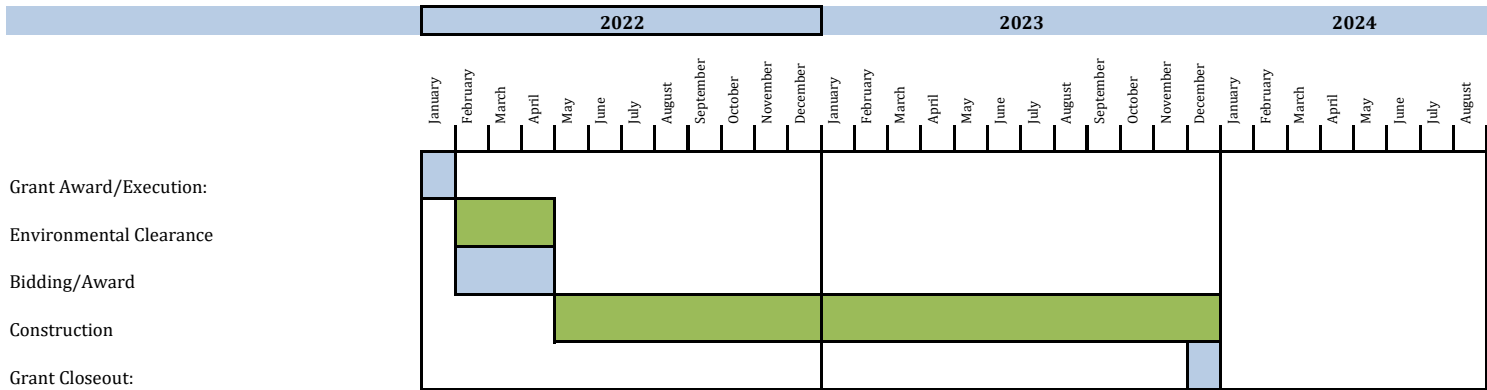
Project	Budget					Notes
Description	CDBG-DR Funds	FDOT	Triumph Funds	Land Owner	Total Project Funds	
Grant Administration	\$ 750,000				\$ 750,000	
Engineering		\$ 1,500,000			\$ 1,500,000	
Land				\$ 4,869,896	\$ 4,869,896	
Mitigation				\$ 7,188,750	\$ 7,188,750	
Permitting				\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	
Dredging	\$ 6,750,000	\$ 8,000,000	\$ 15,000,000		\$ 29,750,000	
Spoil Site Construction		\$ 10,500,000			\$ 10,500,000	
Contingency					\$ -	
Totals:	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 12,308,646	\$ 54,808,646	



PROJECT SCHEDULE

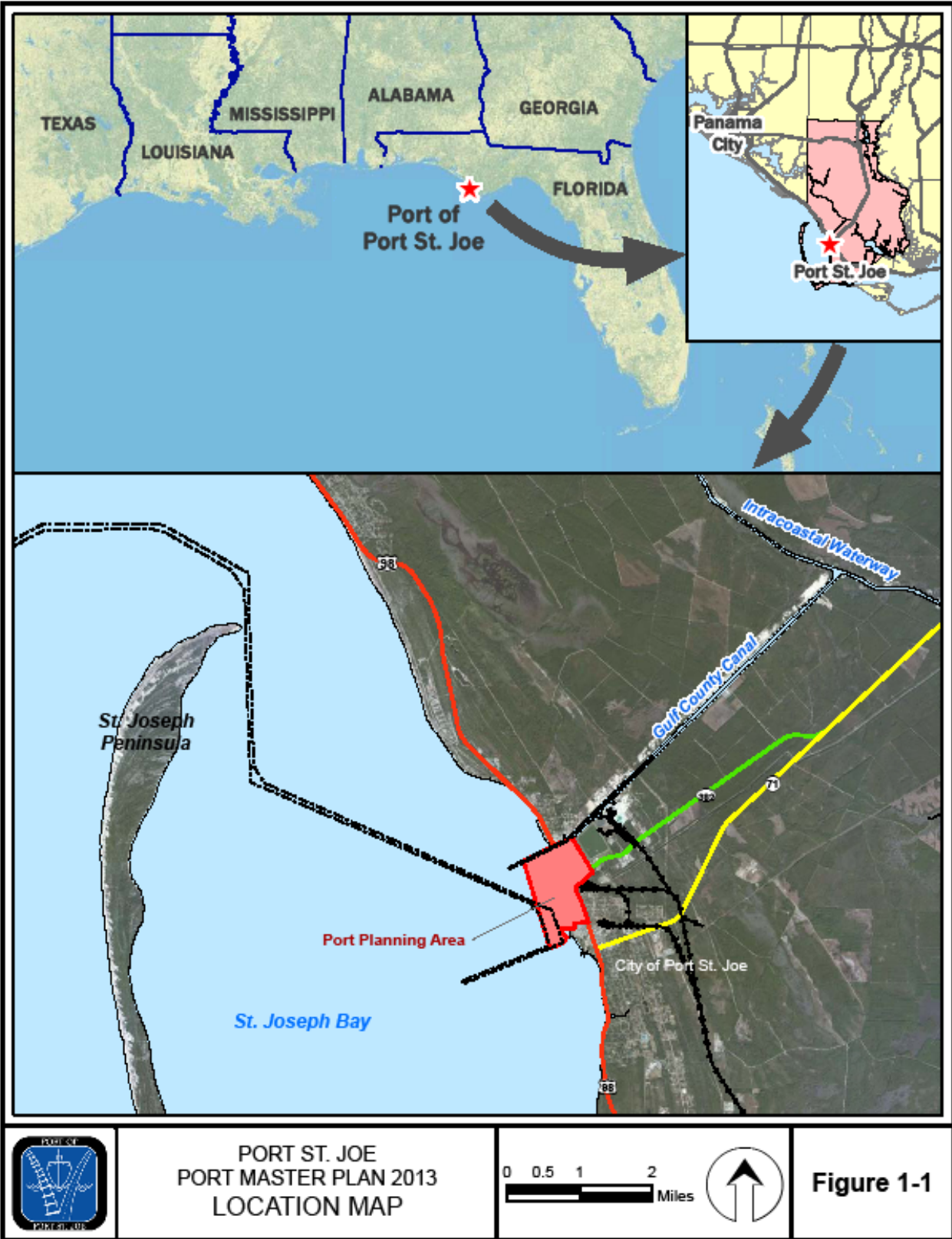
Gulf County Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging Project

Hurricane Michael CDBG-DR Application



Project Phase:	Responsible Entity:	Proposed Actions:
----------------	---------------------	-------------------

Grant Award/Execution:	DEO/Gulf County	Execute any and all necessary documentation to complete award process of grant funding from DEO.
Environmental Clearance	Gulf County Engineer/Gouras & Associates- Grant Administrator/Engineer-to be procured	Disseminate notices to all federal, state, and local agencies for review and comment on the proposed location and design aspects of the project. Run all notices and adhere to proper comment periods. Complete FONSI/RROF.
Bidding/Award	Gulf County Engineer/Gouras & Associates- Grant Administrator/Engineer-to be procured	Advertise and open bids with proper review by County Engineer to determine the best and lowest, most responsive and responsible bidder and award bid. Grant Administrator to Request Wage Decision and hold pre-Construction conference for Davis Bacon/Section 3 requirements.
Construction	Contractor (To Be Procured)	Dredge Channel at the Port of Port St. Joe
Grant Closeout:	Gouras & Associates - Grant Administrator	Work with Gulf County and DEO to submit all monitoring and compliance documentation from the life of the project to successfully closeout.



PORT ST. JOE
 PORT MASTER PLAN 2013
 LOCATION MAP

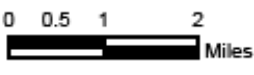
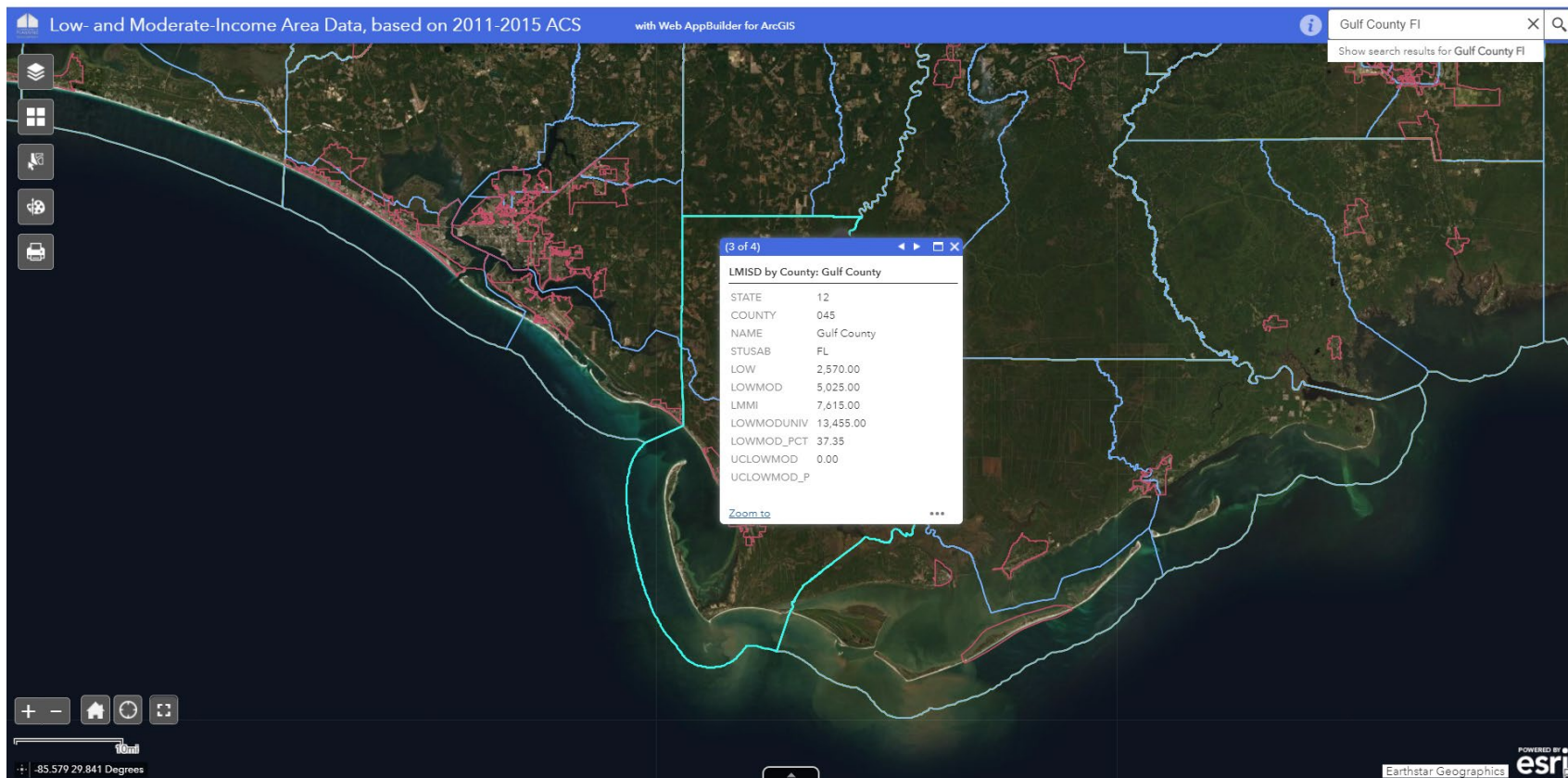


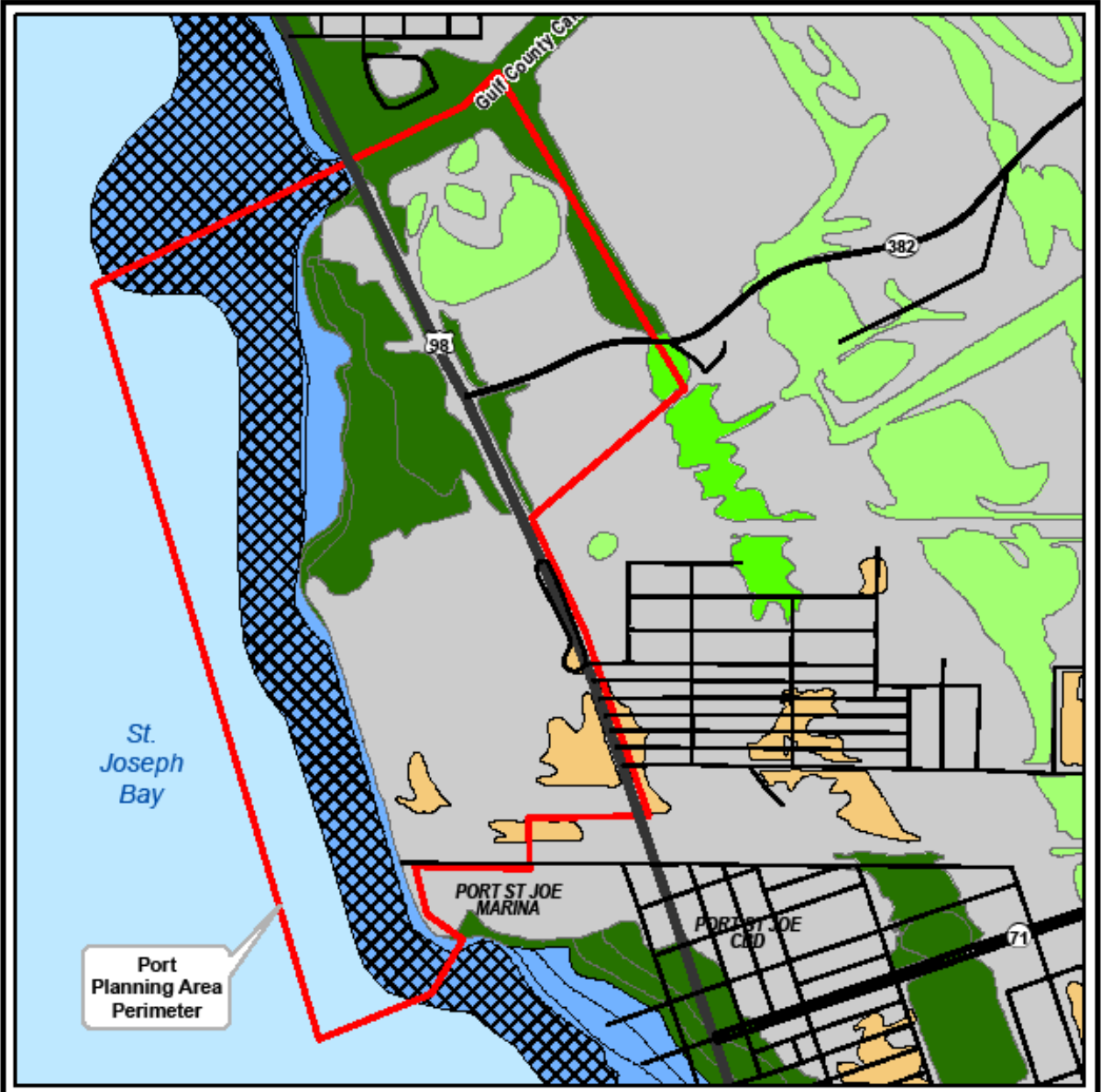
Figure 1-1



Gulf County Hometown Revitalization Grant Program Application

Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging Project

LMISD by County: Gulf County LMI 37.35%



FEMA Flood Zones			FEMA Flood Zone Descriptions	
	Flood Zone VE		Undeveloped Coastal Barriers *	Flood Zone A - No base flood elevations determined.
	Flood Zone A		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard	Flood Zone AE - Base flood elevation determined.
	Flood Zone AE		Flood Zone X	Flood Zone AH - Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); base flood elevations determined.
				Flood Zone VE - Coastal flood with velocity hazard (wave action); base flood elevations determined.
				Flood Zone 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard - Areas of 500 year flood with average depths of less than 1 foot.
				Flood Zone X - Areas determined to be outside the 500 year floodplain.



PORT ST. JOE
PORT MASTER PLAN 2013
FEMA Flood Zones

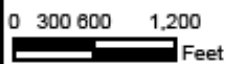


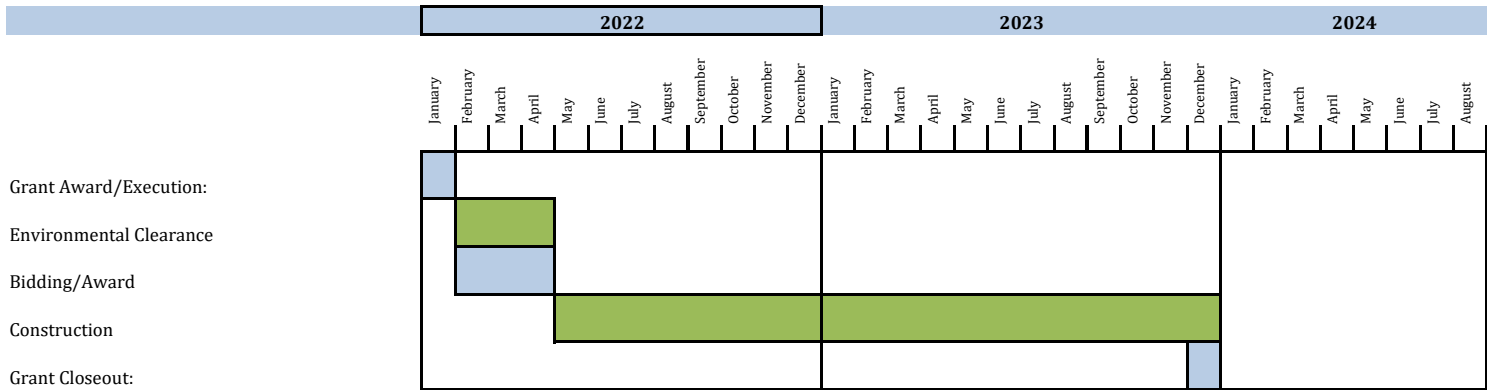
Figure 2-5



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Gulf County Port of Port St. Joe Channel Dredging Project

Hurricane Michael CDBG-DR Application



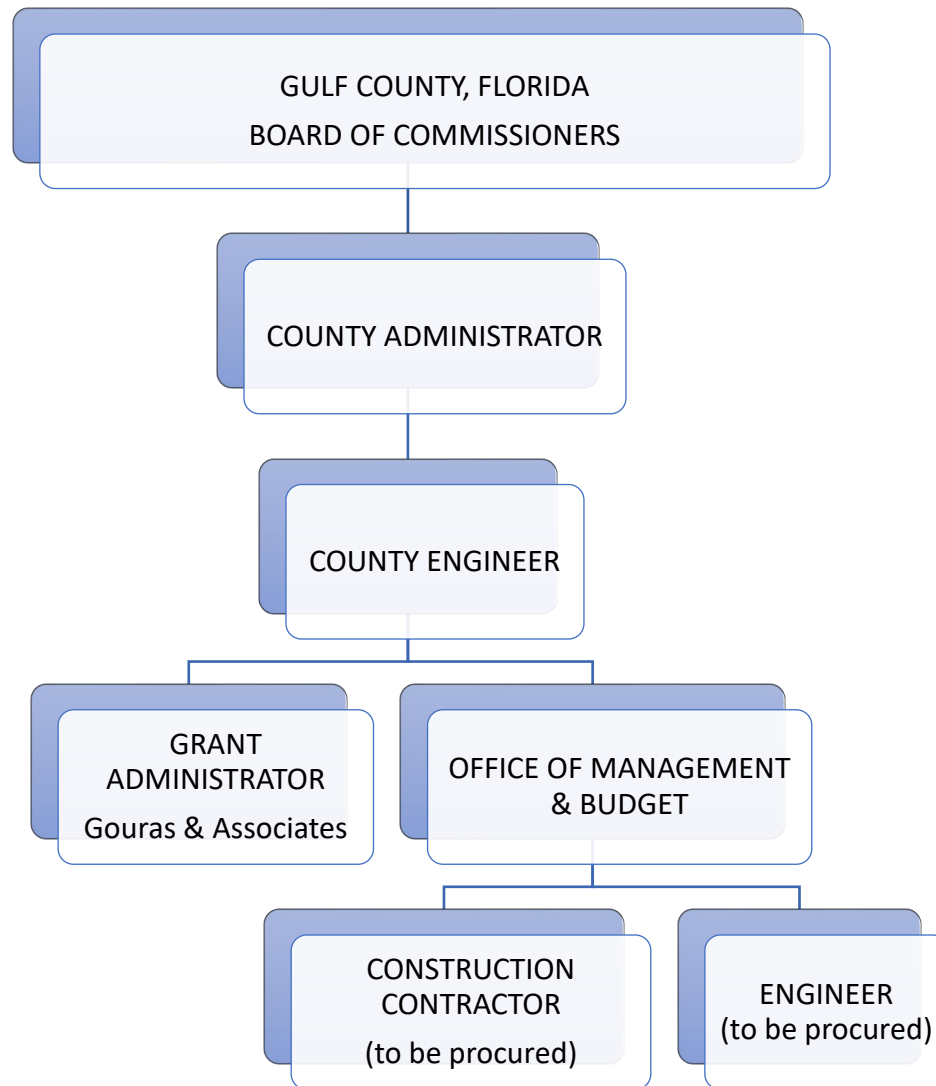
Project Phase:	Responsible Entity:	Proposed Actions:
----------------	---------------------	-------------------

Grant Award/Execution:	DEO/Gulf County	Execute any and all necessary documentation to complete award process of grant funding from DEO.
Environmental Clearance	Gulf County Engineer/Gouras & Associates- Grant Administrator/Engineer-to be procured	Disseminate notices to all federal, state, and local agencies for review and comment on the proposed location and design aspects of the project. Run all notices and adhere to proper comment periods. Complete FONSI/RROF.
Bidding/Award	Gulf County Engineer/Gouras & Associates- Grant Administrator/Engineer-to be procured	Advertise and open bids with proper review by County Engineer to determine the best and lowest, most responsive and responsible bidder and award bid. Grant Administrator to Request Wage Decision and hold pre-Construction conference for Davis Bacon/Section 3 requirements.
Construction	Contractor (To Be Procured)	Dredge Channel at the Port of Port St. Joe
Grant Closeout:	Gouras & Associates - Grant Administrator	Work with Gulf County and DEO to submit all monitoring and compliance documentation from the life of the project to successfully closeout.

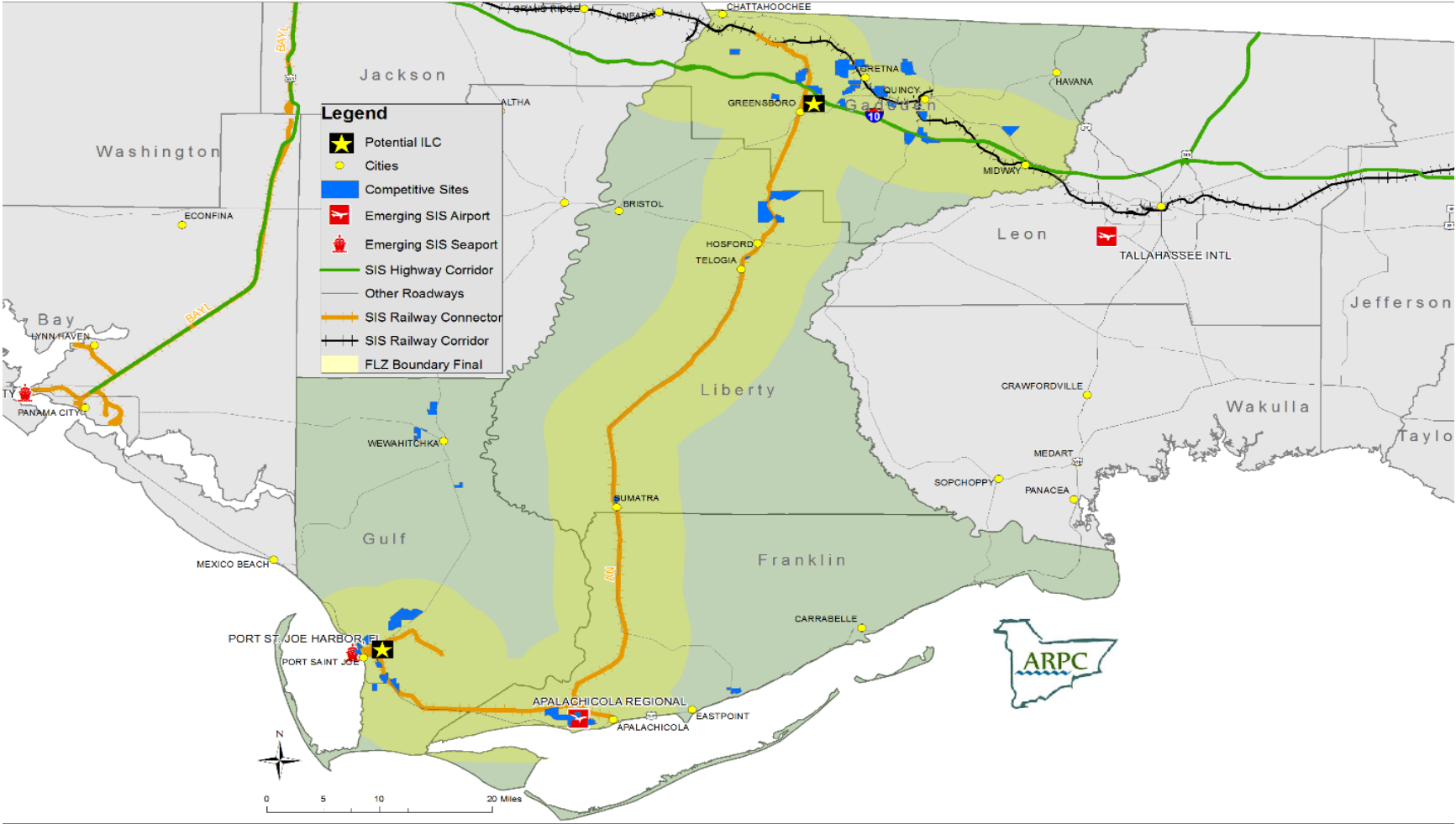
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

Hurricane Michael Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program

Organization Chart



The Port in relation to industrial sites located along the Gulf to Gadsden Freight Logistics Zone





The Port of Port St. Joe is located 1,534 miles from the Panama Canal which is closer than Houston (1,712) and Miami (1,573) making the Port competitive in the logistics industry.

Figure 2. Comparison of Maritime Travel Distances from the Panama Canal to Southeastern US Port Facilities.

Current view of the Port of Port St. Joe



Current view of the Port of Port St. Joe



Proposed Channel Dimensions after Dredging of Port of Port St. Joe



LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner
News Chief | Herald-Tribune | News Herald
Northwest Florida Daily News

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Gulf County Board Of Comm
Gulf County Board Of Comm
1000 CECIL G COSTIN, SR BLVD
Room 148
Port St Joe FL 32456

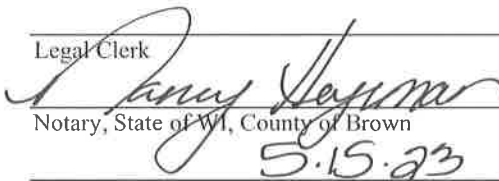
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF BAY

The Panama City News Herald, a newspaper printed and published in the city of Panama City, and of general circulation in the County of Bay, State of Florida, and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue dated:

08/15/2021

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 08/15/2021

Legal Clerk



Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

5.15.23

My commision expires

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Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

**NANCY HEYRMAN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin**

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Gulf County Board of Commissioners is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for Hurricane Michael Community Development Block Grant- Disaster Recovery funds under the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2. The Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program is designed to provide funding for local governments to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to rebuild and harden infrastructure to prevent or reduce losses in future disasters. This program is not designed for individual homeowner repairs or assistance.

The State of Florida has been allocated funds that will be made available to cities and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible activities. The total allocation under the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program is \$223,032,145 (awarded in two application rounds with this second round equaling \$111,516,000) These funds for Round 2 must be used for one of the following purposes:

1. benefit low and moderate (L/M) income persons; or
2. meet a particularly urgent community development need.

Applications are due to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity on or before September 17, 2021. Eligible activities include restoration of infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Michael, removal of debris and other damage, water and sewer facilities, repair to public facilities such as emergency community shelters, demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately owned commercial or industrial buildings, repair of homeless shelters and disaster shelter facilities, re nourishment of dunes and/or dune restoration, economic revitalization which includes any CDBG-DR eligible activity that demonstrably restores and improves some aspect of the local economy. Additionally, projects must demonstrate damage tie-back to Hurricane Michael and primarily serve L/M populations.

A public hearing to provide specific details regarding the proposed projects, program requirements, and the application process and to obtain citizen comments concerning the County's anticipated projects for the second round of applications shall be held at Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd Room 302, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 on August 23, 2021, at 3 p.m., E.T. For information concerning the public hearing, contact Clay Small wood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov

Any person requiring a special accommodation at this hearing because of a disability or physical impairment should contact Clay Small wood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov

If you are hearing or speech impaired, and you possess TDD equipment, you may contact the Clay Small wood, County Engineer using the Florida Dual Party Relay System, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) or 1-800-955-7661(TDD).

Any non-English speaking person wishing to comment or receive more information regarding this posting should contact Clay Small wood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov at least five calendar days prior to the end of the comment period and an interpreter will be provided.

Gulf County does not expect that anyone will be permanently displaced as a result of CDBGDR funded activities.

A public comment period to obtain citizen comments concerning the County's intent to apply for funds shall be open until 5:00 p.m. local time on Friday, September 3, 2021. Any comments must be received by Clay Small wood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov and will be incorporated into the application.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY: SANDY QUINN, CHAIRMAN

**GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY: SANDY QUINN, CHAIRMAN

Administrative information provided below and not part of notice content:

Ad #2021-81

Ad Dates: August 16, 2021

Publish: Block Ad – The News Herald

Invoice: GCBOCC

Posting per request and direction of County Administration and County Attorney's Office: Public Advertisement in the News Herald, Gulf County Courthouse, Gulf County Administration Building entrance, Gulf County Commission Website all before or on the dates provided for publication and notice.

Send Invoice and Notarized Affidavit of Proof of Publication to:

Leanna Cooper, Deputy Clerk

Executive Assistant & Clerk to Board

REBECCA L. NORRIS

Gulf County Clerk of Court and County Comptroller

1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd.

Room 149

Port St. Joe, FL 32456

(850) 229-6112

Send additional Notarized Affidavit of Proof of Publication to:

J. Corinne Graham

Gouras & Associates

P.O. Box 1465

Ridgeland, MS 39158-1465

601-605-8128



- Meetings
- Audits
- Agendas
- Bids
- Budgets
- Documents
- Live Streaming Meetings
- Minutes
- Past Meeting Links
- Public Notices

Gulf County, FL » Meetings » Public Notices



NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at 4:30 p.m., E.T. in the Donald H. Butler Commissioner Board Room at the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Gulf County Courthouse Complex, Port St. Joe, Florida to discuss the following:

- A) Highland View School Stormwater Pipe (Cothran * 9/7 * 9:11 a.m.)
- B) C.D.B.G.-D.R. Priorities (Hammond * 8/24 * 11:10 a.m.)
- C) Administrative Update & Report (Hammond * 8/24 * 11:10 a.m.)

SANDY QUINN, JR.
CHAIRMAN

Pursuant to F.S. 286.0105: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency or commission, with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Americans with Disabilities Act

If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact Gulf County by utilizing and making the necessary arrangements with the Florida Coordination Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 866-602-3275.

Additional postings per request and direction of County Administration and County Attorney's offices: Public posting on Gulf County Courthouse, Gulf County Administration Building entrance, Gulf County Courthouse, and other locations as directed.

**PUBLIC HEARING
AGENDA**

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

**HURRICANE MICHAEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
DISASTER RECOVERY**

Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2

Monday, August 23, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m.

I. Introduction and Welcome

II. Purpose of Meeting

- A. Inform the public of the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2 allocations
- B. To explain the County's proposed projects and application process
- C. Receive citizens' comments orally or in writing

III. Comments from the Public

- A. Deadline for receiving comments: 5:00p.m. local time, Friday, September 3, 2021

I WISH TO EXPRESS THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

EMAIL: _____

**PUBLIC HEARING
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
HURRICANE MICHAEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM -DISASTER RECOVERY**

Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2

Monday, August 23, 3:00 p.m.

FACT SHEET

A. National Objective of Hurricane Michael Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program | Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2

1. Project must benefit low and moderate (L/M) income persons; or
2. meet a particularly urgent community development need.

B. Round 2 Allocation

The State of Florida has been allocated funds that will be made available to cities and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible activities. The total allocation under the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program is \$223,032,145 (awarded in two application rounds with the second round equaling \$111,516,000)

Eligible activities include removal of debris and other damage, water and sewer facilities, repair to public facilities such as emergency community shelters, demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately owned commercial or industrial buildings, repair of homeless shelters and disaster shelter facilities, renourishment of dunes and/or dune restoration, economic revitalization which includes any CDBG-DR eligible activity that demonstrably restores and improves some aspect of the local economy. Additionally, projects must demonstrate damage tie-back to Hurricane Michael and primarily serve L/M populations.

C. Application Process

Applications will be considered from the County. Applications are due to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity on or before September 17, 2021.

Scoring Factors/Points:

Overall Low and Moderate benefit (Percent LMI benefit of the activity)	30
Stormwater Infrastructure	20
Project impact	20
Homeless Shelters and Facilities Serving as Shelters During Disasters	15
Management Capacity	10
Special Designation	10
Leverage of Funds	10
Project Readiness	<u>10</u>
Total Possible Points	125

D. Proposed Projects

- 1. White City Water Treatment Plant \$7,784,182.47 | Urgent Need**
- 2. Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant \$27,993,219.39 | Urgent Need**
- 3. Airport Paving Project \$5,688,890.49 | Urgent Need**

E. Displacement

There will be no activities proposed through the Hurricane Michael Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program | Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program-Round 2 Projects that will result in the displacement of any citizens of the County.

A public comment period to obtain citizen comments concerning the County's intent to apply for funds shall be open until 5:00 p.m. local time on Friday, September 3, 2021. Any comments must be received by Clay Smallwood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov and will be incorporated into the application.

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
HURRICANE MICHAEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM -DISASTER RECOVERY**

Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program- Round 2

Monday, August 23, 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chris Gouras, Jr. (Gouras & Associates), Kaci Rhodes (Gulf County), Sherry Herring (Gulf County), Todd Ellis, Guerry Magidson Sr., Chris Holley

Chris Gouras with Gouras & Associates opened the meeting and explained that the State of Florida has been allocated funds that will be made available to cities and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible activities. The total allocation under the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program is \$223,032,145 (awarded in two application rounds with the second round equaling \$111,516,000).

Eligible activities include removal of debris and other damage, water and sewer facilities, repair to public facilities such as emergency community shelters, demolition, rehabilitation of publicly or privately owned commercial or industrial buildings, repair of homeless shelters and disaster shelter facilities, renourishment of dunes and/or dune restoration, economic revitalization which includes any CDBG-DR eligible activity that demonstrably restores and improves some aspect of the local economy. Additionally, projects must demonstrate damage tie-back to Hurricane Michael and primarily serve L/M populations.

Applications are due to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity on or before September 17, 2021.

Proposed Projects would include:

- 1. White City Water Treatment Plant \$7,784,182.47 | Urgent Need**
- 2. Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant \$27,993,219.39 | Urgent Need**
- 3. Airport Paving Project \$5,688,890.49 | Urgent Need**
- 4. Channel Dredging **this was added during the public hearing**

The deadline to receive any further comments shall be open until 5:00 p.m. local time on Friday, September 3, 2021. Any comments must be received by Clay Smallwood at 850-229-6106 or by e-mail at csmallwood@gulfcounty-fl.gov and will be incorporated into the application.

Public Comment:

Guerry Magidson and Chris Holley spoke in support of the Channel Dredging project.

Todd Ellis spoke in favor of housing funding and the need to bring in raw materials.

No further public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 P.M.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**

1000 CECIL G. COSTIN SR. BLVD., ROOM 302, PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456
PHONE (850)229-6106 • FAX (850) 564-7503 • EMAIL: bocc@gulfcountry-fl.gov
DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS • FOURTH TUESDAY AT 9:00 A.M., E.T.

September 8, 2021

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Office of Disaster Recovery
Attn: Joseph McCormick
The Caldwell Building
107 East Madison Street, MSC-400
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Gulf County CDBG-DR Round 2 Projects

Dear Mr. McCormick,

Please accept this letter as certification that Gulf County published a public hearing notice for the following CDBG-DR project applications on the county's website and was also published in the local News Herald on August 16, 2021 and no public comments were received during that time period.

Potential projects included:

- 1) White City Water Plant
- 2) Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility
- 3) Airport Paving
- 4) Channel Dredging

If you need additional information please contact me at csmallwood@gulfcountry-fl.gov.

Sincerely,



Clay Smallwood, P.E.
Assistant Administrator