

PORT OF PENSACOLA WAREHOUSE 4 REPURPOSE

Project Title: Port of Pensacola Warehouse 4 Repurpose
Budget: \$15 Million
Applicant: City of Pensacola, Office of the Mayor

Broad Regional Partnership to progress Marine STEM

A broad interest group of the Institute of Human and Machine Cognition, University of West Florida, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Naval Sea Systems Command - Panama City and the City of Pensacola are seeking to partner on a marine research, development and education facility to be located at Warehouse 4, Port of Pensacola. The facility will provide research for: military or commercial autonomous vessels, product development and commercialization to market; intelligent subsea structures, environmental and ecosystem assessment with classroom and laboratories supporting those activities. It is also anticipated the facility will support actual marine research vessels for both offshore and inshore operations and possibly the FWC Enforcement Division operations relocated from the landing site of the new Pensacola Bay Bridge.

Warehouse 4 is approximately 45,000 ft sq and historically used for bulk storage of raw materials. The warehouse would be repurposed and renovated to accommodate the research space, classrooms, laboratories, manufacturing areas, storage and offices in modern recycled containers for mobility, flexibility and reusable workspace. This type of modern workspace and manufacturing energizes creativity in rapidly developing technology STEM fields. The building needs some renovation and repairs in addition to infrastructure improvement supporting the new functions.

The engagement of a regional university, panhandle wide military, an award-winning robotics and artificial intelligence research facility, a state agency combined with the private sector to commercialize developed products in a City owned facility has the absolute potential to provide regional impacts on economic transformation of the panhandle.

