

Proposal for Selection of RESTORE ACT Projects in Escambia County, FL

RESTORE ESCAMBIA -
A Citizen's Coalition for Sustainability

Presented by Susan Bleiler, Susan Feathers, and Mary Gutierrez

- Barbara Albrecht
- Susan Bleiler
- Susan Feathers
- Mary Gutierrez
- Elaine Sargent
- Bruce Vigon
- Bill Young

Contributors

- Mike Aymond
- Peggy U. Baker
- Elizabeth Benchley
- Daisy Boyd
- JJ Bachant Brown
- JD Brown
- Kimberly Bremner
- Jerry and Brenda Callaway
- Patrick Callaway
- Kim Casson
- Vernon Compton
- Mike and Lou Courtney
- Bob and Lucy Duncan
- Ann and Dan Forster
- Rebecca Grass
- Amy Hines
- Francine Ishmael
- Laura Jolley
- Valerie Kendrick
- Tara Kirby
- Iris Knoebl
- Ed and Pattie Krakowski
- Jackie Lane
- John LeRoy
- Janet R. Lloyd
- Jay Massey
- Tony McCray
- Carl Mohrherr
- Sherri Myers
- John Naybor
- Leah Oliver
- Judy Olson
- Kathryn Palmore
- Beverly Perry
- Emily Peterson
- Raymond Piel
- Trish Taylor
- Carole Tebay
- Nicole Tscheligi
- Christian Wagley
- Mike Wernicke
- 350 Pensacola
- Audubon Florida
- Archaeology Society
- Bayou Chico Association
- Bream Fishermen Association
- Citizens Against Toxic Exposure
- Earth Ethics, Inc.
- Francis M. Weston Audubon Chapter
- Friends of Perdido Bay
- League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area
- Panhandle Watershed Alliance
- Pensacola Archeological Society
- Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
- Sustainable Boating Council
- Sustainable Gulf Coast
- Sustainable Town Concepts
- The Longleaf Pine Chapter of the Native Plant Society
- The Stella Maris Consortium
- WriteforChange

Supporters & Organizations

- We are reminded of the interconnection, intricate balance and the value of all living things. As we move forward, we strive to restore, protect and enhance our natural and economic resources for the benefit of future generations and for the health and vitality of northwest Florida's citizens and its natural ecosystems.
- We envision that all the funds that come to Escambia County from the RESTORE ACT will be used wisely and in the spirit that they were intended. We believe that the criteria that are set forth should be applied to all projects without bringing harm to our natural environment.

Overarching Criteria

Vision Statement

Our vision is to build an ark of resilience, sustainability, and quality of life that carries into the future every person and every living creature reflecting the rich diversity of our community and our natural environment.

Mission Statement

Support a process to solicit and evaluate project proposals under the provisions of the RESTORE Act that benefit all Escambia County residents.

Our Community

- Projects should benefit all citizens with an effort to increase access to traditionally underrepresented residents and neighborhoods;
- The final projects submitted to the State should work collectively to leverage the overall impact of each and be presented as a “package” from the County;
- Every project recommended should address all three funding categories to a greater or lesser extent (i.e. economic development and job creation, environmental, and infrastructure);
- Workforce projects should be a collaborative effort among county, city, education, and business sector partners coordinated with other recommended projects for maximum community impact.

Our four basic principles

1. The project promotes or enhances economic development and job creation.
2. Development projects include green infrastructure, building design and standards.
3. The project targets typically underrepresented groups [elderly, disabled, low-socio economic, rural, or urban core/Community Redevelopment Area (CRA)].
4. The project restores, enhances, or protects natural resources or cultural resources in our community (watershed restoration, land acquisition, biodiversity, etc.)
 - a. Restores and Conserves Habitat – Restores and conserves the health, diversity, and resilience of key coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats.
 - b. Restores Water Quality – Restores and protects water quality of the Gulf Coast region’s fresh, estuarine, and marine waters.
 - c. Replenishes and Protects Living Coastal and Marine Resources – Restore and protect healthy, diverse, and sustainable living coastal and marine resources.
 - d. Enhances Community Resilience – Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short- and long-term changes.
 - e. Restores and Revitalizes the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.
5. The project promotes, protects, or educates the community toward health/resilience. (Mitigates threats to human health and ecosystems that support human health; educates the community toward better health outcomes; provides infrastructure, services, business that improves citizen health).
6. The project documents and plans for successful completion of goals (cites community assessments, economic or workforce reports or other published data; includes reasonable objectives and clear measurements to evaluate progress and outcomes; provides a timeline for project activities; outlines reasonable project goals.)
7. The project link partners, land and ecosystems, across areas, cities, counties or states affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.
8. The project leverages other existing city, county, or state plans.
9. The applicant demonstrates capacity to carry out the project? (Experience & public track record, financial audits, most recent 990?)
10. The project meets expectations for sustainability after funding.

Specific Overview Criteria ⁷

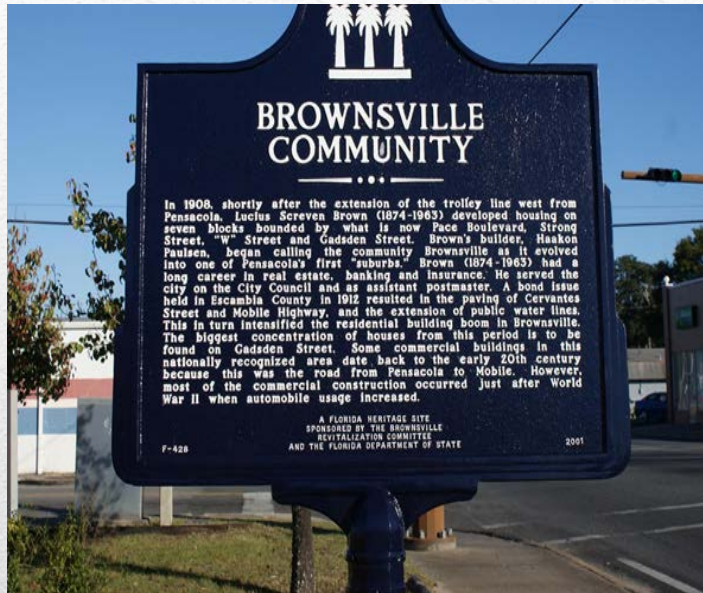
- Step 1: A Letter of Intent (LOI) and Review Questionnaire must be submitted as a first step.
- Step 2: Project Applications must be completed in entirety to be considered as eligible.
- Step 3: Technical Review for Final Selection Projects that have met criteria in Steps 1 and 2 will be assessed with a Scoring Rubric to quantify and objectify the selection process.
- Citizen's "Great Idea".

Selection Process Overview



BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

Redevelopment = Regrowth



Projects should benefit all citizens with an effort to increase access to traditionally underrepresented residents and neighborhoods.



Brownfield Redevelopment



Main Street in downtown Pensacola & West Cervantes



HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

Importance to our ecosystem and our economy



Projects should restore, enhance, or protect natural resources or cultural resources in our community



Watershed restoration, biodiversity, and land acquisition 15



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Moving our community forward



Projects should promote or enhance
economic development and job creation

- Includes providing job services, training and employment assistance to people looking for work, at the same time as it works with employers on finding the necessary workers to fill current job openings.
- Should, at a minimum, range from securing jobs for people with disabilities, assisting former welfare recipients as they make a transition into work, promote employment in the county and state through job centers, and link youth with the jobs of tomorrow.

- Minicozzi, J. (2009). The Value of Downtown: A Profitable Investment for the Community. Urban3
- Smart Growth America (2013). Building Better Budgets: A National Examination of Fiscal Benefits from Smart Growth Development. <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/building-better-budgets>
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Centers for Disease Control
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Sources



Questions or Comments?
