



RANK: INFRASTRUCTURE- 4, OVERALL- 6

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In Escambia County there are at least 54,000 persons with disabilities, plus 15% of the population is over the age of 65 years. Project Universal Access will produce a needs assessment based off of current public access points in Pensacola Beach, Perdido Key, and Pensacola ferry landings. Additionally, four project sites have been identified to become model destinations for persons with disabilities through the use of innovative universal design concepts and environmental practices that provide enhanced opportunities to access both the natural and built environments.

The use of enhanced technology will provide visitors who are visually and hearing impaired with the ability to access information that is integral to enjoying and experiencing various amenities, such as kiosks that provide educational and engaging information about the environment. Phase I requires an ADA evaluation of project sites and will produce a needs assessment of people with various disabilities to determine the present level of “usability” of the various elements of the project sites. Phase II- collaborative strategic design. Phase III- implementation of the plan. Phase IV- monitoring.

PROJECT DETAILS

Phase 1 (MYIP Activities)- \$300,000
Evaluation & Plan

- ADA Evaluation of Public Access Points on Pensacola Beach, Perdido Key, and Ferry Landings
- Accessibility Evaluation of beach access points, trails, parking lots, sidewalks, and restrooms
- Produces a Needs Assessment for persons with disabilities going beyond legal requirements

Future Phases- \$3,500,000
Design, Construction, & Monitoring

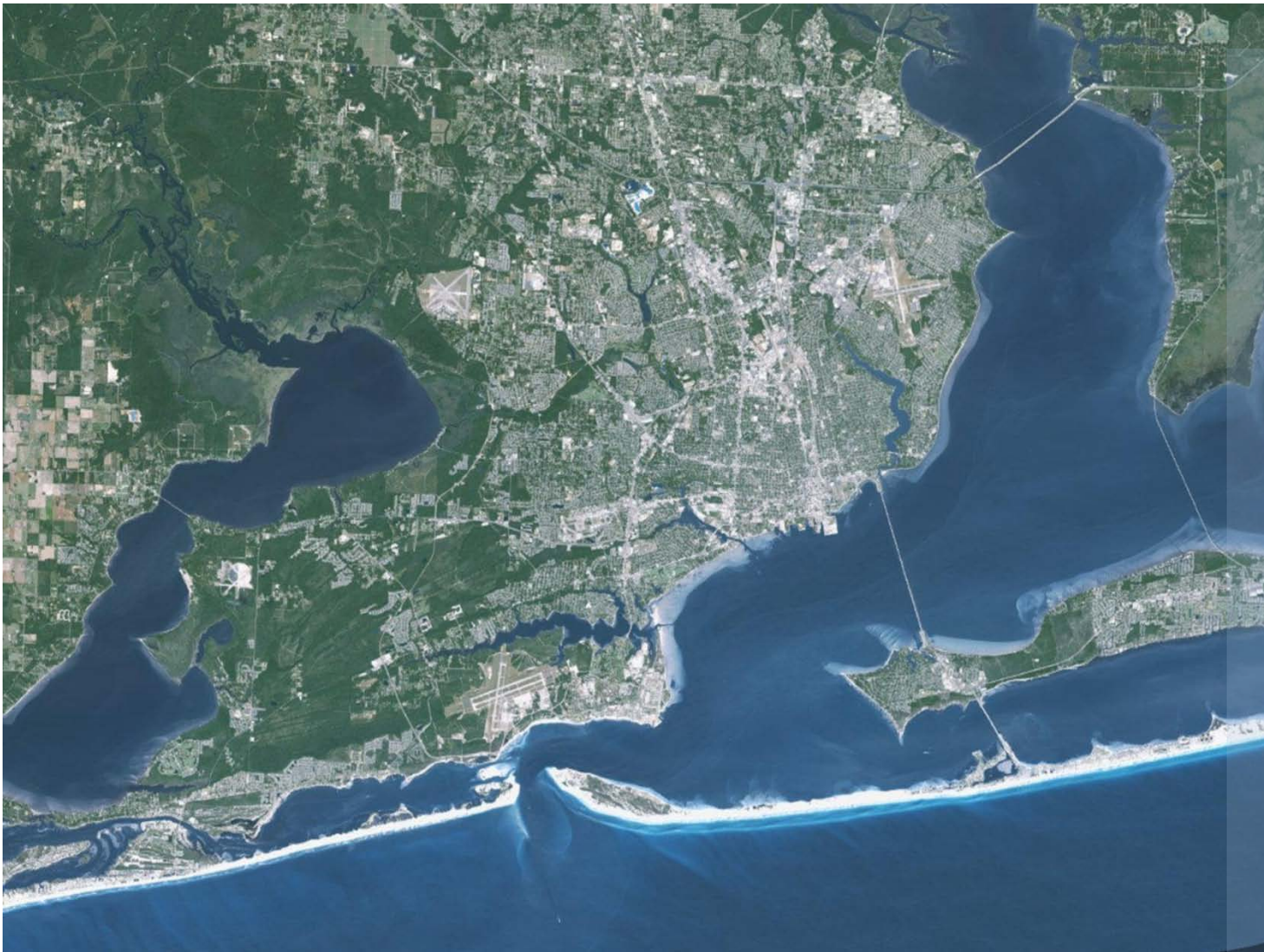
- Strategic Design- Retrofits, Improvements, and Location Identification
- Disabled Community Input
- Construction
- Monitoring

Total Project Cost: \$3,800,000

Leverage: None

Primary Eligible Activity: Planning Activities





Benefits:

- Construct/ Enhance ADA Trails/ Walkovers
- Provide ADA Connectivity; Construct ADA Parking
- Enhance Educational Signage (Multi-Sensory)
- Improves Recreational Opportunities for Disabled Locals (54,000 persons) and Visitors
- Construct Walkovers on Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Key Facts:

- Disabled persons do not have adequate access to recreational public access points
- Escambia County has 54,000 persons with disabilities
- Pensacola Beach currently undergoing some updates

