



CITY OF
CORPUS CHRISTI

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of May 19, 2026

DATE: May 12, 2026
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation Department
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Grant Application for the South Bay Park Erosion & Flood Mitigation Project

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for the Parks & Recreation Department to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, for the FY 2024 & 2025 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program for funding in the amount of \$2,017,500.00 with a cash match of \$672,500.00 for the South Bay Park Erosion & Flood Mitigation Project and \$295,900.00 for engineering services that will be funded by the Type B Corporation.

SUMMARY:

The Parks & Recreation Department propose to apply for a grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant program.

The BRIC program is designed to help communities implement hazard mitigation measures before disasters strike. The South Bay Park Erosion & Flood Mitigation Project aligns with the grant's eligible activities, specifically under Soil & Slope Stabilization and Non-localized Flood Risk Reduction.

Parks & Recreation will seek approval from the Corpus Christi B Corporation to receive matching funds for this project on May 11, 2026. Subsequent City Council authorization is needed to meet the June 1, 2026, deadline for the grant application submittal to FEMA.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

South Bay Park, located at 1013 Harbor Lights Drive, is a 5-acre community park adjacent to residential neighborhoods located in Council District 4. Based on historical aerial imagery, the park was acquired in 1958. South Bay Park is maintained by the Parks & Recreation Department and has the following amenities: basketball court, baseball field, shaded playground, concrete pavilion, walking trail, benches, and picnic tables.

South Bay Park features approximately 260 feet of shoreline along the Oso Bay. The existing

shoreline protection was installed in the mid-1990's and is constructed of a retaining wall consisting of stacked concrete bags and a reinforced concrete pad serving as a viewing and fishing platform along the bayfront. This infrastructure has exceeded its functional life, resulting in significant soil loss, structural displacement, and hazardous cracking that has forced the closure of public viewing areas.

The project proposes to replace the failing infrastructure with a 50-foot-wide nourished sand beach, stabilized by two, 100-foot rock groins on either end. The transition between the beach and the park uplands will be protected by a concrete block revetment. Access to the beach will be provided with a concrete, ADA accessible pedestrian ramp.

The project also includes storm drain improvements to the two pre-existing storm drains. These aging storm drains will be demolished and replaced with a single, modern system. This new drain will connect directly to an existing curb inlet on Sealane Drive, ensuring efficient neighborhood runoff, while keeping the improved shoreline area clear and protected from erosion.

The funding for this project is a shared project cost between FEMA and the City. Upon execution, the City will contribute a cash match of 25%, while FEMA will reimburse 75%. The total federal grant amount is approximately \$2,017,500.00 with a City match of \$672,500.00 and an additional \$295,900.00 for Engineering Services to be funded by Type B Corporation.

Source of Funding	Cost
Grant Funding Request (75%)	\$2,017,500.00
Grant Match Requirement (25%)	\$672,500.00
Total Grant Submission	\$2,690,000.00
City Engineering Services	\$ 295,900.00
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,985,900.00

The project is "shovel-ready", making it an ideal candidate for this grant cycle. Parks & Recreation have obtained preliminary design plans (100%) from HDR Engineering Inc. consultants. The project timeline is as follows:

PROJECT TIMELINE:

2024-2026	2026/2027	2028-2029
April – May	June - December	April - May
Design	Application Review/ Award	Construction

Project schedule reflects grant award in December 2027 with construction anticipated to begin in Spring 2028. The completion of the project is expected by May 2029.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative would be not to approve the grant submission for the South Bay Park Erosion and Flood Mitigation project. However, without funding assistance, structural degradation and severe shoreline erosion will continue unabated, leading to further land loss and the permanent closure of this public recreational space due to escalating safety hazards.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for the application process. However, if awarded, a City cash match of \$672,500.00 and an additional \$295,900.00 for Engineering Services for a total of \$968,400.00 will be budgeted and funded from the Type B Economic Development Fund in FY 2027.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1146 Type B Economic Development
Organization/Activity:	60000 Type B Transfer out
Department:	57 Economic Development
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	548500 Transfer from Type B Economic Development
Amount:	\$968,400.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Parks and Recreation recommend approval of the grant submittal for the South Bay Park Erosion and Flood Mitigation project. Approving the grant submittal to FEMA will allow the City to finalize the application and move forward towards protecting this community asset for future generations.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Presentation
Resolution
South Bay Park Erosion and Flood Mitigation Project Design Plans