



CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of July 21, 2026
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of July 28, 2026

DATE: July 28, 2026
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation Department
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361-826-3133

Acceptance of a Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Grant for the Packery Channel Boat Ramp Renovation

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department under its Boating Access Grant Program, in the amount of \$249,990.00, with a required cash match of \$83,330.00, for Phase 1 of the Packery Channel Boat Ramp Renovation Project; appropriating \$249,990.00 in the Parks & Recreation Grants Fund; and amending the FY 2026 Capital Budget.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a grant from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) for the Packery Channel boat ramp renovations. The Resolution to apply for this grant was approved by City Council on January 27, 2026. The Boating Access Grant Program helps plan and construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters. The grant funds will be allocated for Phase 1, which involves the design of the two boat access ramps and a new restroom facility.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Packery Channel boat ramp, located at 11862 State Highway 361 in Council District 4, serves as a premier coastal gateway for boaters seeking direct access to the Laguna Madre and the Gulf of Mexico. Packery Channel and its boat ramps were constructed in 2006. This high-traffic facility is a critical infrastructure asset that provides essential deep-water access and serves as a key launch point for offshore excursions that support local tourism and the fishing culture. With its proximity to natural coastal habitats and fishing grounds, the boat ramp is a vital component of the City's commitment to provide high-quality and accessible waterfront amenities for the public.

The Packery Channel Boat Ramp is included in the City's adopted FY 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The proposed renovations align with the objectives of the FY 26 CIP and will comprehensively rehabilitate the facility's core infrastructure to improve efficiency and safety.

There have been no major improvements to the Packery Channel boat access ramps since construction was finished in 2006. There are currently no permanent restroom structures in place, thus portable toilets are employed to meet the need. The boat ramps feature fixed docks on both sides. The overall project involves the renovation of two boat access ramps, as well as supporting infrastructure, to facilitate smoother water entry and includes a new restroom facility to enhance the boater experience. Infrastructure renovations will improve the slope of the ramps, the fenders, and compliance with ADA requirements. These renovations will ensure the facility remains a safe and

modernized hub for the Texas coastal community.

This grant involves a shared project cost between TPWD and the City. The City will contribute a cash match of 25%, while TPWD will reimburse 75%. The total grant amount is \$249,990.00 from TPWD Funds and a City match of \$83,330.00 from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Two, allocated for the Packery Channel Capital Repairs CIP project.

The next step includes carrying out a Planning Grant Agreement with TPWD. Recipients will be allowed to begin the planning/design process within 90 days of the executed Agreement. Reimbursement requests will be accepted once the agreement is executed by TPWD and the City. Completing Phase 1 is a necessary step for the future pursuit of the TPWD Boating Access Grant for Phase 2, which involves the construction phase.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative would be not to accept the grant. However, not accepting the grant will delay necessary improvements to the boat access ramps, and the City will need to use operating funds for the improvements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is a required City cash match of up to 25% of the total project cost, not to exceed \$83,330.00 which will be funded by the TIRZ 2 Fund in FY 2026.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund:	1111 TIRZ #2
Department:	57 Economic Development
Organization	60000 Operating Transfers Out
Project:	26045 Packery Channel Boat Ramp Renovation
Account:	548500 Operating Transfers Out
Amount:	\$83,330.00
Fund:	1067 Parks & Recreation Grants Fund
Department:	27 Parks & Recreation Department
Organization	89 Grants & CIP
Project:	260451067S Packery Channel Boat Ramp Renovation
Account:	550950 Outside Consultants
Amount:	\$249,990.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend acceptance of the grant, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Presentation
Award Letter
CIP Page