

---

## **Ordinance**

Ordinance accepting \$424,212.00 for an increase in the Air Quality Planning Grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to provide air quality planning activities for fiscal year 24/25; appropriating \$424,212.00 in the Health Grant Fund; and authorizing an amendment to an interlocal cooperation agreement with Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi to add \$381,791.00 for air quality monitoring services through December 31, 2025.

City Council  
March 19, 2024

---

# Summary & Background

---

## **Nueces County Public Health District in partnership with TAMU-CC continued Air Quality Monitoring.**

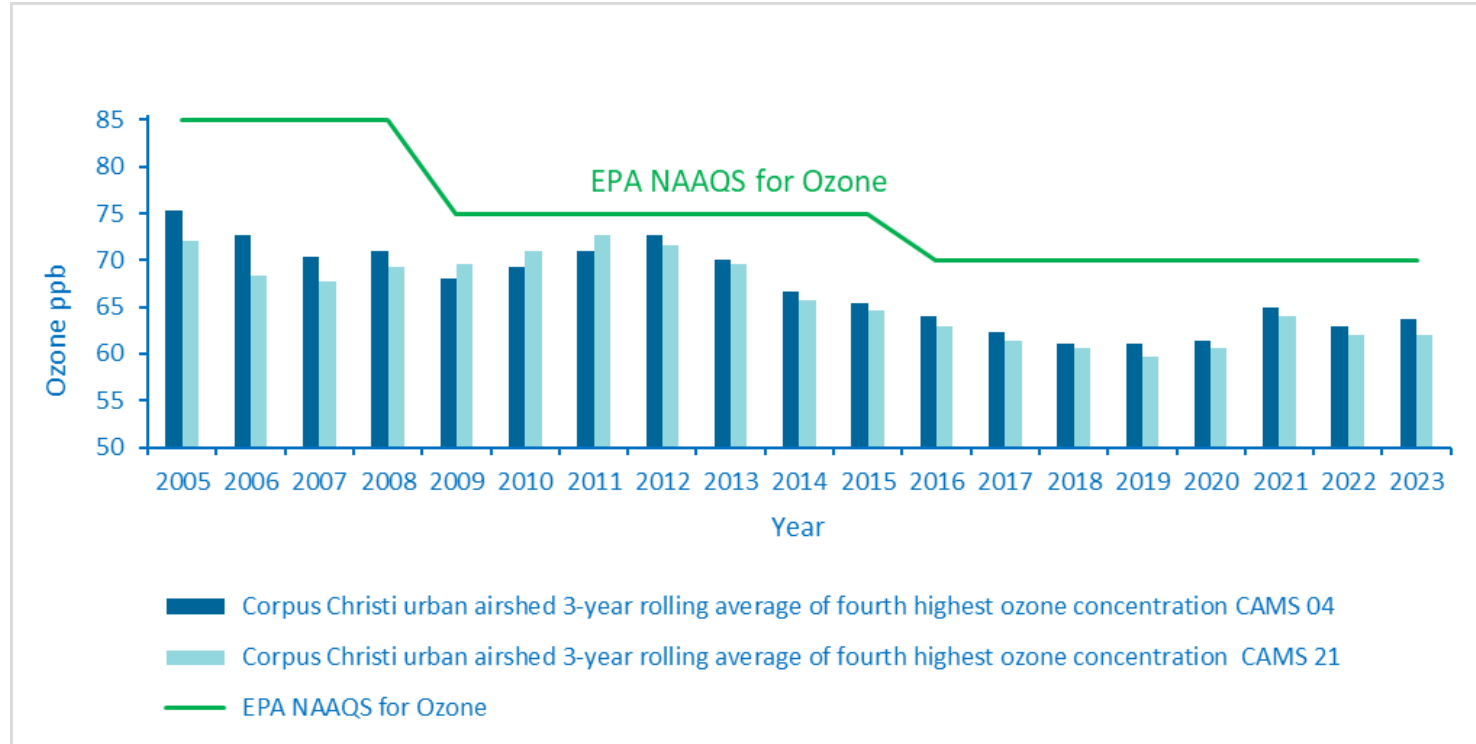
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) provides funding to monitoring Air Quality in Texas through the Rider 7 State and Local Air Quality Planning Program.
- The Rider 7 program began in 1995 to support local efforts to improve air quality and attaining Federal Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- The goal of the Rider 7 program is to ensure airsheds in Texas do not enter “nonattainment” status. Nonattainment occurs when an airshed does not meet the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standards as established by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Entering nonattainment can have significant regulatory and fiscal consequences for businesses within the airshed

# Summary & Background Continued

---

- TCEQ extended the existing Rider 7 grant for two additional years through December 31, 2025 (FY2024/2025).
- TCEQ allocated \$424,212 for FY2024/2025 to conduct air quality monitoring of the local airshed.
- The grant required Air Quality monitoring is conducted by the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences at the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC)
- Air quality data is gathered, reviewed, analyzed, by a team of environmental scientists and reported to the Public Health District and TCEQ monthly

# Corpus Christi Urban Airshed 3-year rolling average for ozone trending



# Findings

---

## **TAMU-CC completes the following tasks for the Air Quality Monitoring (Rider 7) Program:**

1. Create a Quality Assurance Project Plan for the monitoring of air quality
2. Operating 6 air monitoring sub-stations throughout the local airshed
  - a. Holly Road, Aransas Pass, Odem, Annville, TAMU-CC Campus, Health District
3. Creation of a new air monitoring station at the Public Health District
4. Implement a mobile air monitoring campaign in Corpus Christi
5. Conduct a detailed analysis of ambient air quality monitoring including:
  - a. Evaluation of wind speeds, wind directions, relative humidity and temperature associated with background and high ozone events to determine the local conditions and sources associated with high/low ozone levels
  - b. Determine trends associated with background and high ozone levels
  - c. Determine 24-hour air mass back trajectories using NOAA HYSPLIT software to determine source regions likely to affect local area ozone.
  - d. Perform weekday vs. weekend analysis to evaluate the potential effectiveness of reduced levels of local industrial and mobile source activity
  - e. Address questions listed in Section 11.1.1 of EPA's ozone modeling guidance document, Guidance on the Use of Models and Other Analyses to Demonstrating Attainment of Air Quality goals for Ozone, PM2.5, and Regional Haze.
  - f. Investigate ozone trends and determine the annual frequency of high ozone days
  - g. Create ozone isopleth (Figure 3) by plotting ozone concentrations vs. NOx at all five sites and VOC (CAMS1024) concentration data in order to determine NOx vs. VOC limited scenarios in the Corpus Christi airshed.
6. Conduct a detailed analysis of soil biogenic NOx flux characterization
7. Complete and deliver quarterly progress reports and financial status reports to TCEQ
8. All other contractual obligations as described by TCEQ statement of work

Continued participation in the Air Quality Monitoring (Rider 7) program and the TAMU-CC partnership is in accordance with historical and best practices for air quality monitoring.

# Fiscal Impact and Staff Recommendation

---

## **Fiscal impact**

- TCEQ Contract No. 582-20-11981 has a total value for FY24/25 of \$424,212.
- Appropriates the \$424,212.00 in the Health Grant Fund.
- No match is required for this contract.

## **Staff Recommends Approval**