



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of May 13, 2025  
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of June 20, 2025

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**DATE:** May 13, 2025

**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager

**FROM:** Drew Molly, P.E., Chief Operating Officer [DrewM@cctexas.com](mailto:DrewM@cctexas.com)  
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<p><b>Ordinance to add new Section 12-109 to Chapter 12 of the City Code to prohibit crossing of buoy markers at Choke Canyon Reservoir.</b></p>
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### **CAPTION:**

Ordinance to add new Section 12-109 to Chapter 12 of the City Code to prohibit crossing of buoy markers at Choke Canyon Reservoir; providing for a penalty not to exceed \$500 and publication.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department may enforce ordinances made under Chapter 31 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code which allows any incorporated city or town with respect to all lakes owned by it to designate restricted areas and to make rules and regulations necessary for the operation and equipment of boats which it deems necessary for public safety. The City Council finds it necessary to adopt regulations for public safety and protection of the Choke Canyon Reservoir dam infrastructure to prohibit the crossing of buoy markers placed by the City of Corpus Christi.

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:**

After recognizing the navigation of Texas's inland and coastal waters to be a public right and duty, the Texas Constitution provides that the Texas Legislature "shall pass all such laws as may be appropriate thereto." The legislature has declared a policy of promoting the uniformity of laws relating to water safety. A number of such laws are contained in the Water Safety Act, Chapter 31 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. The Water Safety Act applies to all public water of the state and to all watercraft navigated or moving on the public water. The basic authority for the enactment of boating regulations is reserved to

the state; limited local regulations consistent with the Water Safety Act are permitted under Parks and Wildlife Code § 31.092. By special statute the legislature may also grant regulatory powers to a specific authority. Chapter 31 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code has subchapters addressing general provisions, identification and numbering of vessels, titles for boats and motors, required equipment, boating regulations, enforcement and penalties, and boat ramps and buoys.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council could choose not to add this new section to Chapter 12 of the City Code; however, in doing so, the City could violate Chapter 31 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. Therefore, staff do not see any alternatives at this time. Furthermore, adoption ensures the health and safety of Corpus Christi and outside residents who visit Choke Canyon Reservoir.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact on Corpus Christi Water or the City of Corpus Christi.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

#### **LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Ordinance  
Agreement  
Presentation