



City of Corpus Christi
1201 Leopard St
Corpus Christi, TX. 78401

July 2, 2024

Dear Mayor & City Council,

On behalf of the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, we are writing to express our strong support for the continuation of the 1/8th cent sales tax for the Seawall. Additionally, we advocate for the allocation of the soon-to-expire 1/8th cent sales tax to support the American Bank Center, which is comprised of the Arena, Convention Center, and Selena Auditorium, and the SEA District facilities, which include the Museum of Science and History, Art Museum of South Texas, the State Museum of Asian Cultures, and the Harbor Playhouse.

The recent severe weather events have highlighted the critical importance of robust flood protection infrastructure. The Seawall is a vital tool in safeguarding our city from the devastating impacts of storms and coastal flooding. Its maintenance and enhancement are essential for the protection of both our residential areas and our commercial districts. The continuation of the 1/8th cent sales tax dedicated to the Seawall is a necessary investment in the resilience and safety of Corpus Christi. In addition to protecting property and infrastructure, seawalls help ensure business continuity, attract investment, and boost tourism. They contribute to the long-term resilience and sustainability of our community, allowing for confident planning and implementation of economic development projects.

Furthermore, as we look to the expiration of the other 1/8th cent sales tax, we see an opportunity to bolster our local economy by supporting the American Bank Center and SEA District facilities. These community assets attract visitors, stimulate tourism, and provide venues for events that bring substantial revenue to our local businesses. It is important to note that many locals also utilize the Convention Center and Arena for various events, contributing to the community's vibrancy and cohesion.



United Corpus Christi
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Tourism is a major economic driver for Corpus Christi. Events hosted at these venues draw significant numbers of tourists who spend money on lodging, dining, and other local services. This influx of visitors not only boosts our hospitality industry but also generates substantial tax revenue and creates jobs for residents. By allocating the expiring 1/8th cent sales tax to these assets, we can ensure that Corpus Christi becomes a premier destination for tourism and events.

In conclusion, we urge the City Council to prioritize the continuation of the 1/8th cent sales tax for the Seawall and to allocate the expiring 1/8th cent sales tax towards the American Bank Center and the SEA District assets. These measures are critical for protecting our city, promoting economic growth, and ensuring that Corpus Christi remains a thriving community for businesses and residents alike.

Sincerely,

Al Arreola, Jr.
President & CEO

Amy Granberry
Board Chair

