



CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of January 27, 2026

DATE: January 27, 2026
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation Department
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361-826-3133

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Grant Application for the Packery Channel Boat Ramp Renovation

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department under its Boating Access Grant Program in the amount of \$250,000.00 with a required City match of 25% total project costs, not to exceed to \$83,333.00, for Packery Channel Boat Ramp renovations.

SUMMARY:

The Parks & Recreation Department (PAR), in coordination with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD), propose to submit a grant application to the Boating Access Grant Program for Packery Channel Boat Ramp renovations. The Boating Access Grant Program provides assistance to plan and construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters for recreational boating. The Boating Access Grant Program consists of two phases: Phase 1- Planning & Design grant and subsequently Phase 2 – Construction grant. This grant application submittal seeks funding only for Phase 1 -Planning & Design grant, which involves the design of the two boat access ramps and a new restroom facility. TPWD requires that an authorizing resolution be submitted as part of the application process.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Packery Channel Boat Ramp, located at 11862 State Highway 361, 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 fenders and compliance with ADA requirements. These renovations will ensure the facility remains a safe and modernized hub for the Texas coastal community. Submitting a grant application for Phase 1 is a necessary step for the future pursuit of the TPWD Boating Access Grant for Phase 2, which involves the construction phase.

It is expected that TPWD will notify awarded recipients in September 2026 and will make a Planning Grant Agreement available to awarded recipients shortly thereafter. 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.

The funding for these improvements is a shared project cost between TPWD and the City. Upon execution, the City will contribute a cash match of 25%, while TPWD will reimburse 75%. The total grant amount is \$250,000, comprising \$166,667 from TPWD Funds and a City match of \$83,333 from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #2, allocated for the Packery Channel Capital Repairs CIP project.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for the application process. However, if awarded, a required City cash match up to 25% total project costs, not to exceed \$83,333.00 will be funded by Packery Channel TIF 2 in FY26.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund:	Packery Channel TIF2
Department:	27
Organization/Activity:	89 Grants & CIP
Project # (CIP Only):	24129 Packery Channel Capital Repairs
Account:	550970 Incidental Expenses
Amount:	\$83,333.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submission of the grant application, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution
Presentation