



City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, Texas
forward.cctexas.com

Meeting Agenda - Final

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

5:30 PM

City Hall, Basement Training Room

The City of Corpus Christi promotes participation regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or political belief. Reasonable accommodation is provided upon request and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact (361) 826-3300 at least 48 hours in advance. Upon request, this information can be available in larger print and/or in electronic format.

A. Call To Order/Roll Call

B. Introduction of New Committee Members

C. Public Comment

Members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to speak during this period. When addressing the committee, please give your name, address & state your point as briefly as possible. Please be advised that the Open Meetings Act prohibits the board members from responding to or discussing your comments at length. The law only authorizes them to do the following:

- 1) Make a statement of factual information;*
- 2) Recite an existing policy in response to the inquiry; or*
- 3) Advise the citizen that this subject will be placed on an agenda at a later date.*

D. Approval of Absences: Duke Canchola

E. Approval of Minutes

1. [23-1382](#) Regular Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2023

Attachments: [DRAFT PRAC Minutes9-Aug-2023](#)

F. Director's Report

2. [23-1383](#) Parks & Recreation Department Updates - September

Attachments: [Directors Report - 9.13](#)

G. Unfinished Business for Discussion or Possible Action

3. [23-1276](#) Resolution Supporting the Prohibition of Smoking/Vaping in all Corpus Christi Parks.

Attachments: [Resolution in support of smoking ban](#)

4. [23-1316](#) Possible Change in PRAC Meeting Schedule - Second Wednesday of the Month vs. First Wednesday

Attachments: [2023 PRAC Meeting Calendar - AMENDED](#)

H. New Business for Discussion or Possible Action

5. [23-1315](#) Nominations & Action Regarding Vice Chair Elections

6. [23-1470](#) Election to Expand Type A Funding

Attachments: [PRAC-Election to expand Type A funding 08.24.23](#)

I. Subcommittee & Committee Liaison Reports

- *Island Strategic Action Committee*
- *Water Shore & Beach Advisory Committee*
- *Pedestrian & Bicycle Connectivity Subcommittee*
- *Adopt-A-Park Subcommittee*
- *Bayside Area Development Plan*
- *PRAC Strategic Action Plan Subcommittee*

J. Future Agenda Items

K. Adjournment



Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

5:30 PM

City Hall, Basement Training Room

A. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established with Duke Canchola absent.

B. Public Comment

John Weber at 609 Naples Street spoke to replacing or adding golfcarts/ATV's that are electric instead of diesel fueled golf carts. He believes electric golf carts are more affordable, have low maintenance and zero emissions. He also spoke to the need for more tree planting, the benefits of trees and how trees have more longevity compared to built shade structures.

Barton Bailey at 4006 Green Grove Drive spoke in support of the proposal to prohibit smoking in all City parks. He believes the Resolution will send a strong message to City Council that parks should be a clean/green space for residents to enjoy healthy activities. He felt that a majority of residents do not engage in smoking and the City can be considered a non-smoking community. This type of initiative encourages healthy behaviors and can give patrons the ability to ask others around them to refrain from smoking.

Jonathan Martinez, Coalition Coordinator for Project HOPE at the Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation spoke to a proposal of a City ordinance that would prohibit engaging in smoking or vaping in any City park. He stated he has communicated with certain experts like from the MD Anderson Cancer Center and concluded that health/safety codes are not subject to State House Bill 2127. He stated the Health District supports effective public health interventions to reduce second hand smoke. He felt that Parks and Recreation Facilities encourage healthy living and smoking/exposure to second hand smoke does not help with this strategy. He stated that adding proper signage/receptacles throughout parks for enforcement/education can aid in high ordinance compliance and reduce litter and negative peer pressure with youth.

Letters supporting the prohibition of smoking in all City parks were also submitted to the Committee from the following individuals which were read into the record:

- Claudia Rodas, Director - Southern Region Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
- Jaqueline Gutierrez at 6433 South Staples Street
- Sylvia Mejia at 279 West Longview Street

C. Approval of Absences: Duke Canchola & Chris Ardueser

A motion was made by Twila Stevens to approve the absences listed above and it was seconded by Adam Rios. The motion passed.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. [23-1274](#) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2023

A motion was made by Linda Lindsey to approve the minutes listed above and it was seconded by Flo East. The motion passed.

E. Director's Report

2. [23-1275](#) Parks & Recreation Department Updates - August 2023

Tyler Florence, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Department, gave the following updates:

- Community Engagement Meeting for the Commodore Park Master Plan
- Submarine Sail for Sherrill Park
- Veteran Beach Passes
- FY 24 Budget Priorities: Community Input Sessions
- Water Sport Launching Sites
- August Items for City Council
- Good News: Beach Wheelchairs

F. Unfinished Business for Discussion or Possible Action

3. [23-1276](#) Resolution Supporting the Prohibition of Smoking/Vaping in all Corpus Christi Parks.

Chair Mejia began discussion with a few points to consider. She mentioned that a large number of schools are closely adjacent to City parks which can encourage youth to traverse into park property to engage in smoking activities. She stated that the Committee received a letter from the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Health District supporting a resolution to prohibit smoking in City parks.

Lieutenant Kody Harrison with the Corpus Christi Police Department was in attendance and he answered Committee questions regarding enforcement through education. He felt that this type of ordinance should not be hard to enforce. Violations are not criminal and are similar to a parking ticket in which are resolved through the Municipal Court.

Continued discussion took place regarding consideration towards other open spaces like beaches/golf courses or more specifically using the term "Parkland" in the Resolution. It was clarified that some of these types of open spaces have their own

current ordinances allowing for enforcement. Thomas Cronnon suggested adding to the Resolution the phrase "with potential exemptions including beaches and golf courses". A motion was made by Flo East to approved the Resolution to include the suggested phrase above for potential exemptions. The motion was seconded by Twila Stevens and the motion passed unanimously.

G. New Business for Discussion or Possible Action

4. [23-1315](#) Nominations & Action Regarding Chair Elections

A motion was made by Thomas Cronnon nominating Linda Lindsey as Chair. No other nominations were presented. The motion was seconded by Flo East and the motion passed.

5. [23-1316](#) Possible Change in PRAC Meeting Schedule - Second Wednesday of the Month vs. First Wednesday

A motion to table this item was made by Howard Schauer so that new PRAC members coming on board in September can be made aware and participate in the vote. The motion was seconded by Thomas Cronnon and the motion passed.

6. [23-1310](#) PRAC Update to City Council

Chair Mejia will be giving a presentation on August 15, 2023 to City Council regarding Committee updates/accomplishments to date. She went over this presentation with the Committee to inform them of the specific items of importance. The presentation included the following information:

- PRAC Strategic Action Plan with Priorities including Pedestrian & Bicycle Connectivity efforts
- Communication: QR Code Signage throughout parks regarding Improvements/Adopt-A-Park.
- PRAC Webpage created to aggregate the Committee's information in one place.
- PRAC Playbook: A guide for PRAC members, by PRAC members.
- Adopt-A-Park: PRAC Subcommittee created to increase effectiveness of the program.
- Joint Resolution passed in January for an Erosion Response Plan
- Further projects the Committee is tracking.

No action was taken on this item.

H. Subcommittee & Committee Liaison Reports

Twila Stevens - ISAC Liaison Report:

- Public Comment Summary
- Commodore Master Plan Community Engagement Comments
- Packery Channel Clean-Up
- Beach Ops Efforts in Beach Clean-Up
- Relocation of Ballards at Michael Ellis Beach

- Packery Channel Restoration Project
- Island Mobility Survey

Howard Schauer - WBAC Liaison Report:

- Decline Beach Permit Sales
- Shoreline Erosion Survey
- Approval of Bylaws
- NPID Seawal (Erosion)
- Approval of a Resolution for a Rate of Pay Increase for Gulf Beach Lifeguards

A motion of support was made by Thomas Cronnon for the WBAC Resolution to increase the rate of pay for gulf beach lifeguards. The motion was seconded by Twila Stevens and the motion passed unanimously.

Adopt-A-Park - Linda Lindsey: The Ceremonial meeting recognizing Adopt-A-Park participants has been rescheduled to the August 29, 2023 City Council meeting; discussed suggestions to improve signage due to heavy winds.

I. Future Agenda Items

- Resolution prohibiting smoking in all City parks
- Harbor Bridge Parks

J. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:20:pm

Parks & Recreation Department Updates

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
September 13, 2023



PRAC Follow-Up Questions



Submarine Sail for Sherrill Park



Submarine Sail

- The Sherrill Park Master Plan has been posted on the PARD website.
- The Sea Turtles will be providing the Transportation Timeline.
- The Sea Turtles have agreed to pay all construction/installation costs associated with the sail & provide ongoing maintenance costs; a maintenance bond.
- Once the License Agreement is finalized, it will be shared with PRAC.



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Veteran Beach Passes



Veteran Beach Passes

Committee Member Suggestion: Two-year vs. One-year Passes:

- A two-year pass would not be feasible as a current year VA letter must be submitted to confirm a 50% or greater disability rating.



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Commodore Park Master Plan

Community Engagement



Community Input/Survey:

Survey Results for Outdoor Programs, Spaces & Amenities:

1. Swimming Pool
2. Walking/Exercise Trails
3. Splash Pad
4. Pickleball
5. Covered Pavilion/Shelter
6. Playground

Results from Community Engagement Meeting

1. Pickleball
2. Splash Pad
3. Community Center
4. Walking Trail



FY 2024 PARD Budget

September 5, 2023



Amendments

Community Amendment – General Fund

- Addition Blucher Park Amenities - \$17,250:
ADA Portable Toilet, Handwashing Station, Concrete Pad/Wooden Fence

Staff Amendments – General Fund

- Increased Operating Hours/Staffing at Senior Centers - \$103,200:
Etherl Eyerly & Northwest
- Remove Tree Canopy Study – (\$50,000)
- Additional Funding for Tree Planting - \$50,000

Staff Amendment - Grant Funds

- PARD Grants (Annual) - \$2,208,561:
Meals on Wheels, Beat the Heat, etc.

Staff Amendment – Future CIP Allocation

- Addition of Improvements to Wranosky Park - \$111,000:
Lighting, Parking Lot Design & Skate Park Improvements



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OTHER UPDATES:

WATER SPORT LAUNCHING SITES:

- Confirmed that another location is currently/informally used by kiteboarders - just northeast of Laguna Shores & Graham Road and is generally open to kiteboarders.
- PARD attended an on-site meeting at Dimmitt Park with Councilman Hernandez, Francisco Dao & other City Staff to assess the potential for kiteboarding access.

Next steps include:

- Surveying wetlands in that area
- obtaining a cost estimate for moving power poles
- looking at a longer-term project to create an accessible entryway into the water.



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Electric ATV's

PARD will initiate research to determine the feasibility of shifting from fueled ATV's to electric powered ATV's.

PARD Inventory

- 17 Kubota's - Diesel
- 15 Club Cars 1500 - Diesel
- 3 Club Cars 1700 - Diesel
- Oso Preserve - 2 Club Cars (Battery)
- Marina - 3 Gas Club Cars



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City Council

September 19, 2023

- Marina Update
- Instituto Cultura de Hispanica Lease Agreement for the Lichtenstein House at Heritage Park.



Good News 😊



Veteran Beach Permits

"My name is Martin Garcia, and I had the pleasure of visiting Whitecap beach in Corpus Christi, Texas, on 08/13/23. During my visit, I had an encounter with one of your beach patrol officers, Dominic, that I would like to bring to your attention.

I had parked on the beach with a permit that I had purchased earlier this year, unaware that my disabled veteran plates exempted me from needing one. Officer Dominic approached me and kindly informed me of this exemption. He also suggested obtaining a special parking permit that reflects my disability status, which would save me money in the future.

I would like to commend Dominic for his professionalism, courtesy, and willingness to go above and beyond to assist a visitor. His approach was not only informative but also conveyed genuine care and concern. It's clear that he is a valuable asset to your team, and I wanted to ensure that his efforts are recognized."

~Martin Garcia



Future PRAC Meetings

Discuss Food/Snack Provisions



Resolution in support of a prohibition on smoking or vaping at all Corpus Christi city parks.

WHEREAS, the use of tobacco and vaping products is addictive and remains the leading preventable cause of death in the United States;

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is harmful to health, even outdoors;

WHEREAS, parks are frequented by children, who can be exposed to the effects of tobacco products and/or pressured by peers to try tobacco products;

WHEREAS, cigarette products are one of the most frequently found types of litter in parks and are not biodegradable;

WHEREAS, the City of Corpus Christi devotes valuable staff time to the cleanup of litter in parks, and

WHEREAS, the natural beauty and cleanliness of Corpus Christi parks and beaches is a significant part of their value.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CIT OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee supports the prohibition of smoking or vaping at all Corpus Christi city parks with potential exemptions including golf courses and beaches.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 13th day of September, 2023:

Alissa Mejia _____

Christopher O. Ardeuser _____

Duke Canchola _____

Thomas Cronnon _____

Florence D. East _____

Linda Lindsey _____

Adam Rios _____

Howard Schauer _____

Twila Stevens _____

Kellie Summers _____

2023 Meeting Calendar *AMENDED* Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (Second Wednesday of the Month at 5:30 p.m.)	
City Hall - 1201 Leopard Street Sixth Floor Conference Room	
January February March April May June July August September October November December	 September 13, 2023 (9/6) October 11, 2023 (10/4) November 8, 2023 (11/1) December 13, 2023 (12/6)
Regular meetings shall be held monthly at the committee's discretion. Special meetings may be held by call of the Chair, or Vice-chair in the absence from town of the Chair, or by any three (3) members.	

Type A Expansion

PRAC

September 13, 2023

Heather Hurlbert, CPA CGFO

Assistant City Manager



Type A Expansion of Allowable Uses

Today

- 1/4 Cent Sales Tax
 - Arena-1/8 cent
 - Seawall-1/8 cent
- Expiration
 - Arena-2025
 - Seawall-2026
- Revenue
 - 1/4 cent produces approximately \$17.8M annually which continues to increase each year

Type A Expansion of Allowable Uses

Proposition

- Propose 1/4 cent allocation
 - Convention Center Complex as defined by resolution
 - Regional parks as defined by resolution
 - Commercial/industrial streets (including arterials and collectors)
 - New destination flight option enhancement
- If approved, collections can be used for the specific items approved by voters without expiration or until a change is approved by voters.
- Annually Parks, Streets and the Convention Center Complex will receive a minimum of 5% of the collections. The Airport will be allocated an annual amount not to exceed 5%

Type A Expansion of Allowable Uses

Today



1/8 Cent
for Arena only

1/8 Cent
for Seawall only

Proposed Expansion of Use



1/4 Cent for Parks, Airport, Streets and
existing and future Convention Center
Complex including the Seawall



Convention Center Complex

City Council approved a resolution defining the Convention Center Complex to include:

- Arena
- Convention Center
- Selena Auditorium
- New Headquarters Hotel
- Seawall

Convention Center Complex will receive a minimum of 5% of the total revenue annually

Current Type A Sales Tax Revenue Seawall Fund Use

Projects funded by the Type A Seawall Funding

- Seawall Capital Repairs & Maintenance \$49.5M
- Marina Restoration and Improvements \$24.0M
- Water Garden Restoration \$ 9.1M
- McGee Beach Nourishment \$ 3.5M
- Art Center Renovation \$ 2.8M
- Art Museum Improvements \$ 1.5M
- Science Museum Floodwall \$ 1.3M
- SEA District Water Feature Restoration \$ 1.1M

An estimated balance of \$14M is expected to remain at the completion of all current projects.

City Engineering Department recommends allocation of \$500,000 annually for the ongoing and future maintenance needs.

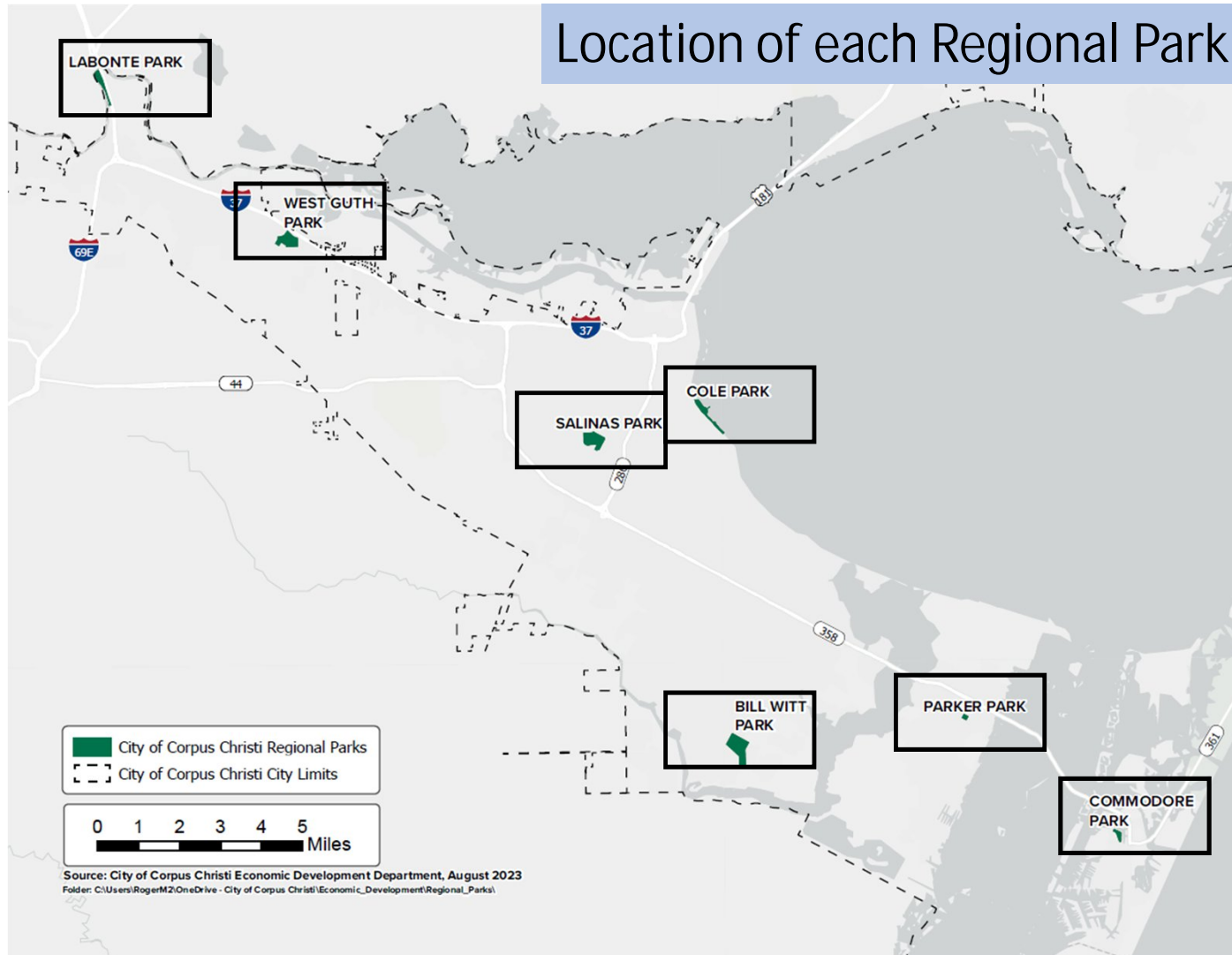
Regional Parks

City Council approved a resolution defining Regional Parks to include:

- Bill Witt
- Cole
- Commodores
- Labonte
- Parker
- Salinas
- West Guth

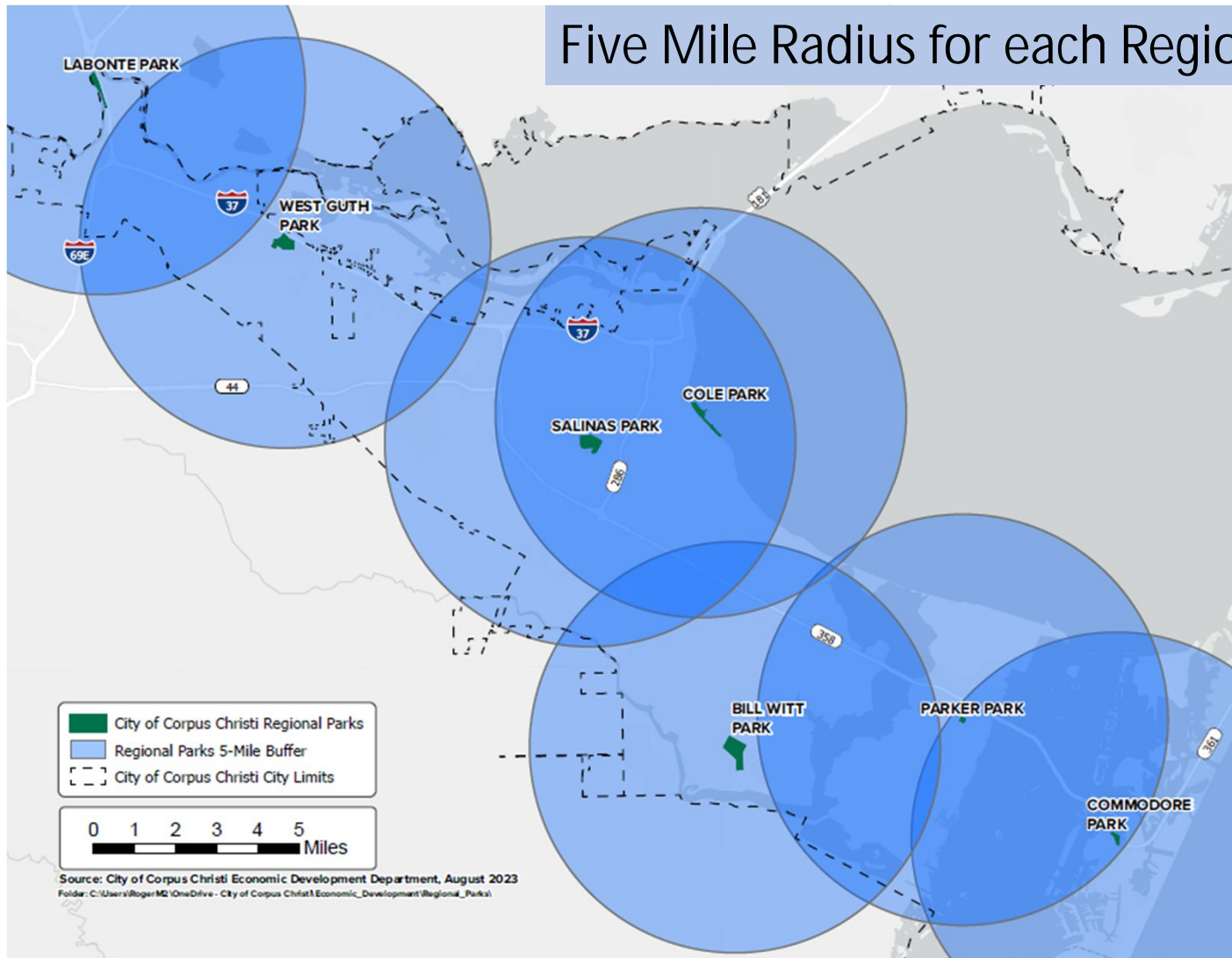
Regional Parks will receive a minimum of 5% of the total revenue annually

Location of each Regional Park



Each of the five districts have a minimum of one Regional Park

Five Mile Radius for each Regional Park



Commercial and Industrial Streets

Funding will be used for street projects in support of economic development in commercial and industrial areas

- ✓ Can be used for arterials and collector streets
- X Cannot be used for residential streets

Streets will receive a minimum of 5% of the total revenue annually

Corpus Christi International Airport

Funding will be used for the attraction and support of new destinations to and from the City

- ✓ Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) for new routes
- ✓ Capital improvements needed to support new routes

Airport will receive an amount up to 5% of the total revenue annually

Type A Expansion of Allowable Use

Process

- November 7, 2023 election to approve repurpose of 1/4 cent after existing debt is paid in full
- Election prior to expiration ensures no interruption in collection

Type A Expansion of Allowable Use

Proposition Ballot Language

Voters will vote "For" or "Against"

Replacing the expiring Type A sales and use taxes by adopting a sales and use tax at the rate of 1/4 of 1% (being 0.250 cents per \$1), maintaining the same sales and use tax rate that now exists within the City, with proceeds to be used for the construction, renovation, maintenance, and operations of Regional Parks (a term defined by the City of Corpus Christi, Texas Resolution Number _____), commercial/industrial streets, the Convention Center Complex (a term defined by Resolution Number _____), and new destination flight option enhancement at the Corpus Christi International Airport.

