

June 20, 2024

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

On behalf of the Corpus Christi Downtown Management District Board of Directors, I am writing to express our support for the continuation of the 1/8th cent sales taxes for Seawall Flood Protection and the expansion of the Arena allocation to the public facilities in the SEA District including the Convention Center.

The Downtown Seawall, constructed in the late 1930s, protects our historic built environment and our businesses. We are grateful for the improvements made and urge the Council to prioritize the upgrades to the area surrounding the Museum Flood Wall, to reinforce the system and ensure it functions properly in place of a storm. We also support elevation of the breakwater, and overall improvements to the Seawall Structure itself. As there is more work to be done, we believe this sales tax use is integral to our future economic development.

The Arena Sales Tax has provided us with an economic driver that fills our restaurants, bars and hotels. We believe that the cultural facilities in the SEA District and the Convention Center Complex are deserving of modernization and upgrades to continue the revitalization momentum. These facilities generate significant economic activity and create civic pride. They are essential to the vibrancy our neighboring Downtown Marina Arts District.

We understand the Council is considering other maintenance-oriented functions on the ballot in November and that the passing of this sales tax is of the utmost importance. We ask that the initiatives listed above remain top priorities for the next 15 to 25 years, to ensure these community assets are available for future generations. We are grateful for the vision of the Councils, Type A Boards and Type B Boards that have wisely invested these dollars to date. We aim to provide support to continue this vision and ensure a vibrant Corpus Christi for decades to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alyssa Barrera Mason Executive Director,

Corpus Christi Downtown Management District

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