

Surfrider Foundation Texas Coastal Bend Chapter 122 Whiteley Drive Corpus Christi, TX 78418 (361) 937-2115 www.coastalbend.surfrider.org email:surfridertxcbc@yahoo.com

Letter of Support

Implementation Plan for One Total Maximum Daily Load for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (*I-Plan*)

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; the General Public; Civic and Governmental Organizations Interested in Bay Beaches Safety and Marine Surface Water Quality in the Corpus Christi Area

FROM: The **Texas Coastal Bend Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation**, the local chapter of an international organization with vision to keep our beaches open to everyone, promote smart coastal development that avoids coastal impacts, protect special ocean and coastal places, ensure the water is clean to surf and swim and the beaches are free of plastic litter.

Background: Beginning in April, 2012, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sponsored a series of public meetings to address elevated levels of bacteria in specific parts of Corpus Christi Bay. The target areas were bay waters receiving storm water from outfalls at Cole and Ropes Parks. These problem segments include beach areas adjacent the parks. And, the segments had been designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to join other polluted waters on the national 303(d) impaired waters list, bodies unfit for recreational use in violation of the federal Clean Water Act under applicable water quality standards.

In June 2012, attendees at the third public meeting elected stakeholder participants to collaborate in work groups over four years to devise a bacteria reduction plan to help bay water adjacent Cole and Ropes Parks comply with recreational standards. The stakeholder participants, who dubbed themselves CARP (Coles and Ropes Park Coordination Committee), entered into an action Guideline agreement that pledged their continued work and plan review into the future in additional five (5) year increments. The current plan was finalized in March, 2016.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: Primary goals of the Surfrider Foundation and its Texas Coastal Bend Chapter are the preservation of our shorelines, their water

quality and their access to all. For about ten years our chapter has conducted regular storm stenciling events within the City of Corpus Christi, including the Cole and Ropes Park watersheds, to remind our community that what is on our streets ends up in our Bay. The Texas Coastal Bend Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation strongly supports the proposed Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan (I-Plan) and its voluntary approach for reducing bacteria levels in Corpus Christi Bay at Cole and Ropes Park. Our chapter and its volunteers will also continue to be ready to assist our community in improving our bay's and coastline water quality.

Respectfully,

Ciff M. Schedoce

Cliff Schlabach Chair, Texas Coastal Bend Chapter of Surfrider

Letter of Support Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan For Cole and Ropes Parks, Corpus Christi, Texas

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; the General Public; Civic and Governmental Organizations Interested in Bay Beaches Safety and Marine Surface Water Quality in the Corpus Christi Area, City of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Coastal Bend Council of Governments.

FROM: Bay Area Smart Growth Initiative.

Background: Beginning in April, 2012, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sponsored a series of public meetings to address elevated levels of bacteria in specific parts of Corpus Christi Bay. The target areas were bay waters receiving storm water from outfalls at Cole and Ropes Parks. These problem segments include beach areas adjacent the parks. And, the segments had been designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to join other polluted waters on the national 303(d) impaired waters list, bodies unfit for recreational use in violation of the federal Clean Water Act under applicable water quality standards.

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STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: Bay Area Smart Growth Initiative (BASGI) supports the Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan for Cole and Ropes Parks. Improved recreational water quality in the target segments of Cole and Ropes Parks is consistent with Smart Growth principles supporting benefits to the general public and preserving critical environmental areas.

Bv: Telge Judy Fa¢i tator

Date: August 6, 2016

Bay Area Smart Growth Initiative

Letter of Support Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan For Cole and Ropes Parks, Corpus Christi, Texas

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; the General Public; Civic and Governmental Organizations Interested in Bay Beaches Safety and Marine Surface Water Quality in the Corpus Christi Area.

FROM: The Corpus Christi Taxpayers Association, a watchdog society active since the 1920s, organized to keep taxes, fees, and utility bills at reasonable rates that all taxpayers in the City of Corpus Christi and Nueces County can afford. Our association is an effective voice of citizens, carrying a message to elected officials that the community expects wise, not wasteful, use of tax dollars.

Background: Beginning in April, 2012, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sponsored a series of public meetings to address elevated levels of bacteria in specific parts of Corpus Christi Bay. The target areas were bay waters receiving storm water from outfalls at Cole and Ropes Parks. These problem segments include beach areas adjacent the parks. And, the segments had been designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to join other polluted waters on the national 303(d) impaired waters list, bodies unfit for recreational use in violation of the federal Clean Water Act under applicable water quality standards.

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STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: The Corpus Christi Taxpayers Association supports the Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan for Cole and Ropes Parks. Improved recreational water quality in the target segments of Cole and Ropes Parks is consistent with our policy to support projects that benefit a majority of individuals and communities in the area affected at reasonable costs.

By:

Dr. Gerald Sansing, President Corpus Christi Taxpayers Association

Date: August 6, 2016



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1227 Agnes, Ste. B-1 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 P. (361) 882-3439 F. (361) 882-5625 E. cbbf@baysfoundation.org

A Partnership for Conservation www.baysfoundation.org July 29, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

Please accept this letter of support from the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation for the "*Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan).*" When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final *I-Plan*.

We believe the *I-Plan* lays out reasonable and measurable steps to improve water quality at the Parks' beaches. We also believe that implementation of this commonsense, voluntary approach, would benefit residents and visitors alike to the city of Corpus Christi, by reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches. Cleaner, safer water at our City park beaches is both a highly desirable and achievable outcome of this *I-Plan*.

We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

Jace Tunnell President



July 15, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PO Box 9277 Corpus Christi Texas 78469-9277 Phone 361-826-3460 Fax 361-880-3864 www.cctexas.com www.ccparkandrec.com

Live. Learn. Play!

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

Please accept this letter of support from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of the City of Corpus Christi for the "Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)." The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 and voted unanimously to support the *I-Plan*. When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012, a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee [CARP], which has been meeting since then to create the *I-Plan*.

We believe the *I-Plan* lays out reasonable and measurable steps to improve water quality at the Parks' beaches. We also believe that implementation of this common-sense, voluntary approach, would benefit residents and visitors alike to the city of Corpus Christi, by reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches. Cleaner, safer water at our City park beaches is both a highly desirable and achievable outcome of this *I-Plan*.

We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

Ata or

Stacie Talbert Anaya O Parks & Recreation Interim Director



7/15/16



615 N. Upper Broadway, Suite 1200, Corpus Christi, TX 78401-0749 • 361-336-0304 • 361-400-5362 (fax)

July 28, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

On behalf of the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, I am writing to offer my support for the "Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)." When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final *I-Plan*.

We believe the *I-Plan* lays out reasonable and measurable steps to improve water quality at the Parks' beaches. We also believe that implementation of this common-sense, voluntary approach, would benefit residents and visitors alike to the city of Corpus Christi, by reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches. Cleaner, safer water at our City park beaches is both a highly desirable and achievable outcome of this *I-Plan*.

The efforts within Cole and Ropes Parks are an important step towards reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, and supports the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program Coastal Bend Bays Plan, specifically our Water and Sediment Quality Action Plan, Habitat and Living Resources Action Plan, and our Human Uses Action Plan. We have been and will continue to work with the CARP to provide our technical and scientific expertise as needed, and we look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches.

Sincerely,

Ray Allen

Ray Allen Executive Director Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program www.cbbep.org

Letter of Support

Implementation Plan for One Total Maximum Daily Load for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (*I-Plan*)

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; the General Public; Civic and Governmental Organizations Interested in Bay Beaches Safety and Marine Surface Water Quality in the Corpus Christi Area

FROM: Coastal Bend Windsurfers, a group of windsurfers (list attached) who have regularly enjoyed practicing their sport at Cole and Ropes Park, some for over 25 years.

Background: Beginning in April, 2012, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sponsored a series of public meetings to address elevated levels of bacteria in specific parts of Corpus Christi Bay. The target areas were bay waters receiving storm water from outfalls at Cole and Ropes Parks. These problem segments include beach areas adjacent the parks. And, the segments had been designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to join other polluted waters on the national 303(d) impaired waters list, bodies unfit for recreational use in violation of the federal Clean Water Act under applicable water quality standards.

In June 2012, attendees at the third public meeting elected stakeholder participants to collaborate in work groups over four years to devise a bacteria reduction plan to help bay water adjacent Cole and Ropes Parks comply with recreational standards. The stakeholder participants, who dubbed themselves CARP (Coles and Ropes Park Coordination Committee), entered into an action Guideline agreement that pledged their continued work and plan review into the future in additional five (5) year increments. The current plan was finalized in March, 2016.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: Coles and Ropes Parks are some of our nation's premier windsurfing locations. Several regional and international competitions were held at Cole Park since the early eighties including the 2016 US Windsurfing Nationals organized by the US Windsurfing Association. The nearshore water quality of these parks is an obvious concern to this group and to other recreational users. For example windsurfers typically abstain from launching from these parks after rain events. Coastal Bend windsurfers wholeheartedly support the proposed Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan (I-Plan) and its voluntary approach for reducing bacteria levels in Corpus Christi Bay at Cole and Ropes Park. Improved recreational water quality will reduce the risk of negative health impact from practicing our sport. These benefits will extend to other recreational users who enjoy these wonderful parks. Better water quality in our parks is also important for our city as our waterfront is a wonderful resource well known regionally and, in the case of Oleander Point at Cole Park, known internationally in the windsurfing community.

By: Coastal Bend Windsurfers (see attached signatures)

Below Coastal Bend Windsurfers signatures expressing their support for the Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan for Cole and Ropes Parks.

Residence Name, First Name Signature (Street & City if not Corpus Christi) Laurence Palreiro 1508 64 5+ Chip Ducrest 314 Mello Park Dr. Horence Tidsot 3560 Avonsoo St. Monika Caldwell 1008 FURMAN AUE. BRENDT MAIN 3938 SURFSIDE BLVD ERRY CALDWELL 1008 FURMAN AUE 314 Meldo Park Dr. TARA DUCREST Hueno Philippe Tissot 3560 Aransas St 15357 CARAJEL 78418 OBER LONACE 16114 Covalvine Dr hodes andy Larry Schneicler shuro Xary (408 Grindstone, Ra ERESINHALADA Fliesto le 789R 13517 QUARW DURAMA CC MAIN ACKSO OULABA SAULA ELSS WINDBROOM CC 78419 Kobert M bonigle 334 PHISCH Chad Allen 302 Wilshipe TATIRICK 15854 El Sociorro OLEP t (Ann FOLE

Below Coastal Bend Windsurfers signatures expressing their support for the Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan for Cole and Ropes Parks.

Residence Name, First Name Signature (Street & City if not Corpus Christi) 78414 5626 M COle 15813 e150000101000 0 TX 78418 SOLT W ENANCER AUTO IX 78731 11 NILFURN 2059 Parkview ecr naleside, i 78362 url un 508 FURMAN AUTINUT , ALDWEL 13517 Queen Joh Ellen Blomentha CC TX 78418 4302 Ocean X 68 Dr Corpus Christi, TX 78412 RICA all 322 Canterburg Dr ams CC TX 15340 Leeward Dr., Unit 314 on E. B Corpus Christi, TX 78418 3016 TOPCKA CCTX 70104 609 McClehdon



August 30, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

On behalf of the United Corpus christi Chamber of Commerce's 1100 members, please accept this letter of support for the "Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)." When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final *I-Plan*.

We believe the *I-Plan* lays out reasonable and measurable steps to improve water quality at the Parks' beaches. We also believe that implementation of this common-sense, voluntary approach, would benefit residents and visitors alike to the city of Corpus Christi, by reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches. Cleaner, safer water at our City park beaches is both a highly desirable and achievable outcome of this *I-Plan*.

We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

ette Midton

Annette Medlin, IOM

President and CEO

1501 N. Chaparral Corpus Christi, Texas



League of Women Voters - Corpus Christi Area

P. O. Box 8276 • Corpus Christi, TX 78468 (361) 445-4436 htt://www.lwv-cc.org

Letter of Support Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan For Cole and Ropes Parks, Corpus Christi, Texas

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; the General Public; Civic and Governmental Organizations Interested in Bay Beaches Safety and Marine Surface Water Quality in the Corpus Christi Area [ADD OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OR SPECIFIC GOVERNMENTAL BODIES, SUCH AS THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS; AREA COGS, etc. that the SENDER may additionally identify.]

FROM: The Corpus Christi League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, political Organization, that encourages informed and active participation in government, Works *to increase understanding of major public policy issues*, and influences Public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Background: Beginning in April, 2012, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sponsored a series of public meetings to address elevated levels of bacteria in specific parts of Corpus Christi Bay. The target areas were bay waters receiving storm water from outfalls at Cole and Ropes Parks. These problem segments include beach areas adjacent the parks. And, the segments had been designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency to join other polluted waters on the national 303(d) impaired waters list, bodies unfit for recreational use in violation of the federal Clean Water Act under applicable water quality standards.

In June 2012, attendees at the third public meeting elected stakeholder participants to collaborate in work groups over four years to devise a bacteria reduction plan to help bay water adjacent Cole and Ropes Parks comply with recreational standards. The stakeholder participants, who dubbed themselves CARP, entered into an action Guideline agreement that pledged their continued work and plan review into the future in additional five (5) year increments. The current plan was finalized in March, 2016.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: We, the League of Women Voters of Corpus Christi, Texas, support the Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan for Cole and Ropes Parks. Improved recreational water quality in the target segments of Cole and Ropes Parks is consistent with the League of Women Voters' Policy Positions for Natural Resources, developed over the years, reviewed and affirmed by members at the May 2016 Annual Meeting.

By:

Dr. Mary Jane Garza, President

Date: July 28, 2016

Corpus Christi – Nueces County Public Health District Support Services Division-Administration 1702 Horne Rd., Corpus Christi, TX 78416

Phone: 361-826-7205



August 10, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Fax: 361-826-1343

Dear Mr. Loft,

Please accept this letter of support from William Burgin JR MD for the "Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)." When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final I-Plan.

We believe the *I-Plan* lays out reasonable and measurable steps to improve water quality at the Parks' beaches. We also believe that implementation of this common-sense, voluntary approach, would benefit residents and visitors alike to the city of Corpus Christi, by reducing bacteria in the water at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches. Cleaner, safer water at our City park beaches is both a highly desirable and achievable outcome of this *I-Plan*.

We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

Wilin a Bayin MD

William Burgin JR MD Name

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CC-NCPHD Tittle

August 10, 2016

Date

NNB



August 8, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

Please accept this letter of support from Corpus Christi Convention & Visitors Bureau for the "Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)." When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final I-Plan.

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We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes **Parks** beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

Paulette kluge CEO

Sierra Club Coastal Bend Group PO Box 3512 Corpus Christi, TX 78463

August 8, 2016

Mr. Chris Loft Total Maximum Daily Load Program Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-203 P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087

RE: Letter of Support for Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan)

Dear Mr. Loft,

Please accept this letter of support from the *Sierra Club Coastal Bend Group* for the "*Implementation Plan for Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks Beaches in Corpus Christi Bay (I-Plan).*" When water testing at the Cole and Ropes Parks beaches revealed that bacteria levels in the water exceeded water quality standards for recreational use, the beaches landed on EPA's 303(d) list for polluted waters. In July 2012 a community-led stakeholder group was formed, the Cole and Ropes Parks Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee (CARP), which has been meeting since then to create the final *I-Plan*.

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We look forward to the positive results this *I-Plan* will have for reducing bacteria at Cole and Ropes Parks beaches, thus ensuring the safety and health of our community members and visitors.

Respectfully,

Lois Huff

Lois Huff, Chair Sierra Club Coastal Bend Group