



## Texas Cultural District Program Overview

As authorized by H.B. 2208 of the 79th Legislature, the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) can designate cultural districts in cities across Texas. Cultural districts are special zones that harness the power of **cultural resources to stimulate economic development and community revitalization**. These districts can become focal points for generating businesses, attracting tourists, stimulating cultural development and fostering civic pride.

### Goals of Cultural District Program

TCA recognizes that a thriving creative sector is a powerful economic development asset. Cultural district development is one strategy that helps a community boost their economies while realizing other cultural and civic benefits. The outcomes of cultural districts extend beyond the arts and benefit all members of a community.

- Attracting artists and cultural enterprises to the community.
- Encouraging business and job development.
- Address specific needs of a community.
- Establishing tourism destinations.
- Preserving and reusing historic buildings.
- Enhancing property values.
- Fostering local cultural development.

### Downtown Corpus Christi Cultural District

The Downtown Corpus Christi Cultural District is the civic, corporate and cultural hub of the city. It is bounded by Corpus Christi Bayfront on the east. It is bounded by Furman Ave. on the south, and Tancagua St. on the west traveling northward to the Ship Channel. In addition, it is bounded by St. Rd. 181 north across the Harbor Bridge to Timon Ave. on North Beach. The Cultural District includes a number of successful Downtown neighborhoods that are a short walk or 5-minute drive from each other including:

- Water's Edge (Bayshore Park)
- Marina Arts District
- Uptown
- SEA District
- North Beach

### Benefits to Downtown Corpus Christi

- Bring prestige to Corpus Christi and Downtown and highlight the compelling collection of arts and cultural attractions Downtown has to offer visitors and residents.
- Help the Downtown community to focus messaging and develop strategic marketing partnerships that promote the critical mass of cultural offerings in a walkable, pedestrian-friendly environment.
- Obtain buy in and focus funding from City and County leaders, not-for profits and private funders to support making Downtown a vibrant cultural center and significant economic generator.
- Assist with attracting new businesses, development projects, and artists.
- Grow tourism and increase sales and HOT funds leading to significant economic growth and increased employment in the cultural and hospitality sectors.