

RESOLUTION

RECOMMEND RESTORATION OF FUNDING TO THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND MITIGATION PROGRAMS FOR NEAR NON-ATTAINMENT COMMUNITIES ESSENTIAL TO REMAIN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL AMBIANT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS (NAAQS) FOR OZONE ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THROUGH THE CLEAN AIR ACT.

WHEREAS, Texas communities like Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Granbury, Killeen/Temple, Longview/Tyler/Marshall, San Antonio, Victoria, and Waco have efficiently and effectively utilized funding provided in the General Appropriations Act in a rider to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to implement air quality monitoring, and mitigation strategies to remain in compliance with current and proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as authorized in the federal Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Air Act directs the states to develop state implementation plans (SIPs), applicable to appropriate industrial sources in the state, in order to achieve ozone standards, the lack of funding for near non-attainment communities resulting from a line item veto by Governor Greg Abbott in the 2018-2019 General Appropriations Act prevents impacted communities to implement strategies in the adopted Texas SIP, and local governments do not have the financial capacity to assume the responsibilities of an unfunded mandate by the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the health and quality of life for millions of Texas residents in near non-attainment communities has benefitted greatly from the strategies, services and programs implemented at the local level by local governments, businesses, and industry to reduce ozone levels and remain in compliance with federal standards; and

WHEREAS, the Corpus Christi air-shed remains in attainment of the most recently established ozone standards announced by the EPA in 2015 of 70 parts per billion (ppb); and

WHEREAS, two programs in Corpus Christi served to ensure the Corpus Christi air-shed's continued attainment of ozone standards: Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program, and Texas A&M University Kingsville's ozone air monitor program; and

WHEREAS, both the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program, and Texas A&M University Kingsville's ozone air monitor program relied on funding through the TCEQ's Clean Air Account No. 151; and

WHEREAS, Rider funding to support the continuation of the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program and Texas A&M University Kingsville's ozone air monitor program was vetoed after adjournment of the 85th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature by Governor Abbott after it had been recommended by the Legislative Budget Board, and adopted without opposition by both the Texas House of

Representatives and the Texas Senate, stripping these critical programs of the funding needed to continue; and

WHEREAS, without restoration of funding by the 86th Texas Legislature, both the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program and Texas A&M University Kingsville's ozone air monitor program will cease to operate thereby risking Corpus Christi air-shed's continued attainment designation of ozone standards; and

WHEREAS, the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program protects Corpus Christi's attainment status of ozone standards by providing over 10 tons of reductions of ozone causing emissions each year at a cost of approximately \$4,700 per ton compared to the possible costs of \$50,000 a ton or more for offset emissions should a development choose to site in Corpus Christi that no longer attains ozone standards; and

WHEREAS, without the restoration of funding to the TCEQ by the 86th Texas Legislature, Corpus Christi is striped of the only program that works to reduce the mobile source emissions that are a significant 30 percent contributor to Corpus Christi's ozone causing emissions; and

WHEREAS, without the restoration of funding provided by the 86th Texas Legislature, Corpus Christi is striped of the ozone research monitors that support proving and documenting transported emissions that are not generated in our air-shed, and possible consideration for attainment designations; and

WHEREAS, the economic burden on the State of Texas to bring a non-attainment community back into attainment is far greater than the cost to restore funding that assists struggling attainment communities to remain an attainment community in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the economic burden for a business to obtain a permit to locate or expand in Corpus Christi is significantly increased should funding for the TCEQ not be restored by the 86th Texas Legislature and Corpus Christi loses the critical ozone attainment protection programs of the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership's vehicle emissions reduction program and Texas A&M University Kingsville's ozone air monitor program programs, and fall into non-attainment of ozone standards; and

WHEREAS, the Corpus Christi air-shed prides itself on being a national leader in voluntary actions and programs that work to keep our industrial based community in attainment of toughened ozone standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

Section 1. The Corpus Christi air-shed's continued attainment of ozone standards is critical to public and economic health, and

Section 2. Appropriations to TCEQ to provide for the continuation of air-shed programs that work to reduce emissions and monitor ozone sources must be restored by the 86th Texas Legislature; and

Section 3. We, the City of Corpus Christi, do hereby urge the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, the Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives to restore funding to the TCEQ in the FY 2020-2021 General Appropriations Act for air quality programs in all near non-attainment communities.

ATTEST:

Rebecca Huerta
City Secretary
Corpus Christi, Texas

Joe McComb
Mayor

On the __ (date) _____ of ____ (month), 2018.

The above resolution was passed by the following vote:

Joe McComb	_____
Rudy Garza	_____
Paulette Guajardo	_____
Michael Hunter	_____
Debbie Lindsey-Opel	_____
Ben Molina	_____
Lucy Rubio	_____
Greg Smith	_____
Carolyn Vaughn	_____