



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on April 21, 2020
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on May 12, 2020

DATE: March 16, 2020
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Dan McGinn, Director, Planning and Environmental Services
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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Air Quality Grant

CAPTION:

Ordinance accepting \$281,250.00 Air Quality Planning Grant from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and appropriating in the Community Enrichment Grant Fund.

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain authority to accept and appropriate a grant for air quality planning services.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

From 1995 through 2017, the Texas Legislature appropriated funding to the TCEQ and directed funds via rider to near non-attainment areas (Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Granbury, Killeen/Temple, Longview/Tyler/Marshall, San Antonio, Victoria, and Waco) for ozone emission reduction planning and programs to remain in attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone established by the EPA. During this time the City of Corpus Christi received these grant funds with no City match required from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The City was responsible to administer the grant and oversee activities associated with air quality planning, monitoring and modeling.

Funding was reduced via a line-item veto of \$6,000,500 in the FY 2018-2019 General Appropriations Act for TCEQ. The veto stripped the nine near non-attainment communities of the only funding for programs documented to keep them in attainment of ozone standards. The city council passed a resolution recommending restoration for funding to TCEQ on February 27, 2019. During the 86th Legislative session, Governor Abbot restored the funding to near non-attainment areas. The TCEQ has made an additional \$281,250.00 available to the City. The City's Rider 7 Air Quality Planning grant provides for administration of the grant and the City to sub-contract near non-attainment monitoring and assessment with Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi.

The grant agreement must be executed by the City and TCEQ in order to ensure the funds are obligated and to accept the additional funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the ordinance authorizing the acceptance and execution of the grant.
2. Locally fund the air quality monitoring services without the assistance of the State of Texas

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant is a reimbursement grant for \$281,250.00 and will be appropriated into the Community Enrichment Grant Fund No. 1071

Funding Detail:

Fund:	Community Enrichment Grant Fund No. 1071
Organization/Activity:	806069S
Mission Element:	717
Account:	530000 – Professional Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the ordinance authorizing the acceptance and execution of the grant for air quality planning services.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
TCEQ Air Quality Cooperative Reimbursement Contract