

## Sustainable Environment

### Population Growth

Strategy SEN 1	<b>Steady Population Growth.</b> Identify ways to increase the region's population—in a steady and sustainable way—by encouraging more people to stay and by attracting new people to live here. <b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b>		
Strategy SEN 2	<b>Sustainable Infrastructure Growth.</b> Promote well-maintained infrastructure throughout the Coastal Bend region as it grows, supporting an expanded population in a sustainable manner.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 2.1	<b>Comprehensive Infrastructure Assessment.</b> Create an inventory and assess costs of communitywide infrastructure repair/replacement needs.	City of Corpus Christi Engineering Department	Underway
Action SEN 2.2	<b>Critical Locations for Environmental Health.</b> Identify and prioritize critical areas in which poor infrastructure may be contributing to environmental and regulatory issues such as the Oso Creek, Corpus Christi Bay and Oso Bay. Prioritize mitigation/repair/replacement and develop funding structures.	City of Corpus Christi Environmental Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 2.3	<b>Infrastructure Public Awareness Program.</b> Create a public awareness program illustrating quality of life (i.e., health, safety) impacts of deteriorating infrastructures providing impetus for voter-approved bond measures.	City of Corpus Christi Public Information Office	Not Started
Action SEN 2.4	<b>Infill Incentives.</b> Consider and develop incentives for infill and redevelopment opportunities to control sprawl and maximize use of existing facilities and infrastructure.	City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 2.5	<b>Existing Infrastructure.</b> Evaluate future land-use planning ordinances and regulations to improve efficient and cost-effective use of existing infrastructure (water, sewer, transportation) capacity.	City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department	Underway

### Natural Resources and Alternative Energy

Strategy SEN 3	<b>Managing Natural Resources.</b> Demonstrate responsible management of natural resources in the Coastal Bend to ensure access for future generations and improve our quality of life without harm to the environment.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 3.1	<b>Natural Resources Master Plan.</b> Develop a Natural Resources Master Plan identifying critical natural resource assets and stakeholder agencies. Overlay with local and regional master plans to identify key growth areas, protect natural resources and encourage eco-tourism development.	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Harte Research Institute and Center for Coastal Studies	Implemented/ on-going

# VISION ACTION PLAN

## Sustainable Environment

Strategy SEN 4	<b>Energy Self-Reliant Region.</b> Identify opportunities to meet all of the Coastal Bend's energy needs, as well as to export energy supplies, through locally-generated solar, wind, geothermal and other renewable energy resources. <b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b>		
Strategy SEN 5	<b>Sustainable Energy Production.</b> Promote the Coastal Bend as a leader in wind, solar, geothermal and Gulf current energy technologies, utilizing the local environment to generate sustainable energy.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 5.1	<b>Sustainable Energy Resources.</b> Identify, map and prioritize specific sites within the Coastal Bend most suitable for sustainable energy development projects.	Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	Underway
Action SEN 5.2	<b>National Sustainable Energy Expo.</b> Host an annual national sustainable energy exposition with representatives from sustainable energy companies, associations, and advocacy organizations throughout the United States.	Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	Implemented/ on-going
Action SEN 5.3	<b>Tax Incentives for Local Sustainable Energy Projects.</b> Incentives for Local Sustainable Energy Projects. Provide tax incentives to encourage investment in sustainable energy projects in the Coastal Bend.	Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	
Action SEN 5.4	<b>Residential and Commercial Incentives.</b> Encourage residential and commercial sustainable energy adoption through tax incentives and building code requirements.	City of Corpus Christi Intergovernmental Affairs Department	Underway
Strategy SEN 6	<b>Alternative Energy in Local Government.</b> Position local governments in the Coastal Bend as leaders in alternative energy through their utilization of alternative energy sources, as well as policies and incentives that encourage alternative energy use in the community.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 6.1	<b>Renewable Energy Policy.</b> Develop a local government energy use policy to promote purchase of electricity from renewable sources and promote its adoption by local governments in the area.	City of Corpus Christi Intergovernmental Affairs Department	Underway
Action SEN 6.2	<b>Alternative Vehicle Fuels Study.</b> Conduct an analysis of alternatives fuels for vehicles and equipment at all governmental units and public agencies in the region, including opportunities to collaborate with other large public and private fleets (e.g., State of Texas). Include an assessment of grants and other funding opportunities for conversion to alternative fuels.	Metropolitan Planning Organization	Underway

# VISION ACTION PLAN

## Sustainable Environment

Action SEN 6.3	<b>Alternative and Renewable Fuels Policy Committee.</b> Establish an Alternative and Renewable Fuels Policy Committee, representing government, business, the development community, environmental stakeholders, and other community members, to recommend policies promoting and supporting the use of alternative renewable fuels throughout the region.	City of Corpus Christi Gas Department	Underway
-------------------	---	---------------------------------------	----------

### Coast and Natural Settings

Strategy SEN 7	<b>Preservation of Natural Environment.</b> Promote conservation of the region's natural assets and environment while capitalizing on responsible ways to improve quality of life and increase visitors to the region.	Lead Partner	Status
Strategy SEN 7.1	Environmental Lands Protections. Develop a comprehensive map of environmentally significant lands in the Coastal Bend that identify existing protected lands and potential new land acquisitions, and incorporate strategies to reduce speculation on such properties.	CBBEP	Underway
Strategy SEN 8	<b>Clean Coastlines and Beaches.</b> Make clean coastlines and beaches a top priority, ensuring scenic views and enhancing enjoyment by residents and tourists alike.	Lead Partner	Status
Action SEN 8.1	<b>Community-Supported Coastal Bend Beach Stewardship.</b> Create a task force to develop and promote community-based beach stewardship through awareness-building and educational campaigns.	City of Corpus Christi Parks and Recreation Department, Nueces County Parks Department	Underway
Action SEN 8.2	<b>Storm Water Pollution Reduction.</b> Assess existing storm water management policies and condition of major storm water facilities in the Coastal Bend. Develop updated policies to address repair/replacement of aging systems and the design of new systems including the incorporation of new technologies.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 8.3	<b>Beach Pollution Regulations.</b> Enforce existing regulations to reduce beach pollution such as storm drain impacts from neighborhood grass/leaves cleanup, industry pollution contributions and littering.	City of Corpus Christi Environmental Services Department, Nueces County Island Park Board, City of Port Aransas	Underway
Action SEN 8.4	<b>Public Awareness Campaign to Protect Beaches.</b> Develop a public awareness campaign, including public service announcements (PSAs) and other outreach tools, to promote awareness of beach pollution sources such as littering and neighborhood monitoring of storm drain impacts from landscape practices.	City of Corpus Christi Public Information Office, Nueces County Island Park Board, City of Port Aransas	Underway

# VISION ACTION PLAN

## Sustainable Environment

Action SEN 8.5	<b>Local “Adopt-A-Beach” and “Adopt-A-Shoreline” Programs.</b> Develop and initiate a program providing local businesses and groups the opportunity to “adopt” a section of beach or shoreline to clean and maintain. The program should identify an application process, funding, and acknowledgement (such as signs) of the groups taking responsibility.	Lead Partner Pending	
-------------------	---	----------------------	--

### Pollution, Air and Water Quality

Strategy SEN 9	Pollution Regulation Enforcement. Promote and support proactive enforcement of air and water pollution regulations in the Coastal Bend region by responsible regulatory and enforcement agencies.	Lead Partner	Status
Action SEN 9.1	<b>Air Pollution Sources.</b> Conduct regular air pollution inventories and assessments/apportionments in the Coastal Bend, identifying both sources of emissions and types of “criteria air pollutants” (carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter and sulfur dioxide).	City of Corpus Christi Environmental Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 9.2	<b>Air Pollution Prevention Education.</b> Develop and deliver educational programs on identified sources of air emissions with recommendations for their reduction, focusing on industrial and workplace settings (i.e., development of training manuals, guidelines, best practices) as well as the general public, community awareness and schools (i.e., education through media coverage, exhibits, curricula).	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership	Underway
Action SEN 9.3	<b>Water Pollution Sources.</b> Identify, speciate* and apportion sources of water pollution through regularly conducted research including sampling, speciating, upstream Geographic Information Systems (GIS) research and tracking, testing and monitoring. *Speciation: breaking down an overall pollutant reading into its individual components by type and percentage.	City of Corpus Christi Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 9.4	<b>Water Pollution Prevention Education.</b> Develop and deliver educational programs on identified sources and types of water pollution with recommendations for their reduction, focusing on industrial and workplace settings (i.e., development of training manuals, guidelines, best practices, land and agricultural management practices) as well as the general public, community awareness and schools (i.e., education through media coverage, exhibits, curricula).	City of Corpus Christi	Implemented/ on-going
Action SEN 9.5	<b>Funding for Air and Water Pollution Reduction.</b> Dedicate a percentage of air and water pollution fines (whether by TCEQ, City or EPA) to local programs or initiatives that strive to reduce pollution.	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	

# VISION ACTION PLAN

## Sustainable Environment

Strategy SEN 10	<b>Planning for Air and Water Quality.</b> Encourage development and implementation of long-term plans to promote further reduction of air and water pollution in the Coastal Bend.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 10.1	<b>Corpus Christi Air Quality Group.</b> Resurrect the Corpus Christi Air Quality Group, a technical-based collaboration (City, Counties, Industry, University) to plan, model, and recommend actions to keep this region in attainment with accepted air quality standards.	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Pollution Prevention Partnership	Underway
Action SEN 10.2	<b>Storm Water Capital Improvements.</b> Include water quality criteria in the City of Corpus Christi Capital Improvement provisions prioritizing projects that protect Corpus Christi and Oso bays.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 10.3	<b>Storm Water Quality Standards.</b> Encourage development of storm water quality criteria in the Coastal Bend.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 10.4	<b>Construction Pollutant Mitigation.</b> Develop and implement model pollution prevention guidelines for future development and construction and disseminate this information throughout the region.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Implemented/ on-going
Action SEN 10.5	<b>Storm Water Pollution Enforcement.</b> Strengthen local enforcement of existing state and federal storm water requirements through improved coordination between local and State governments, increased funding for local compliance, and enhanced public information and outreach programs.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Implemented/ on-going
<b>Protection of Coastal Water Quality.</b>			
Strategy SEN 11	<b>Protection of Coastal Water Quality.</b> Maintain our coastal waters in pristine condition so that aquatic life is sustained and residents and visitors continue to enjoy the region.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 11.1	<b>Water Quality Monitoring.</b> Support an increased level of water quality monitoring of Coastal Bend bays and estuaries to ensure ecosystem health.	City of Corpus Christi Water Department, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Implemented/ on- going
Action SEN 11.2	<b>Low-Water Quality Improvement.</b> Implement plans to improve water quality in low-water quality areas in the Coastal Bend. Include Geographic Information Systems (GIS) studies focusing on the Oso Creek drainage and its flows in high-, low- and no-flow seasons.	Texas A&M University Corpus Christi –Center for Coastal Studies	
Action SEN 11.3	<b>Impaired Waters List.</b> Conduct ongoing evaluation of new data and coordinate with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on revisions to the 303(d) list (Impaired Waters List).	<b>Lead Partner Pending</b>	

## VISION ACTION PLAN

### Sustainable Environment

Action SEN 11.4	<b>Non-Point Contamination Management.</b> Implement plans to improve capture and management of non-point contamination during high runoff events. Provide on-going support and implement plans to address elevated levels of contaminants, trash and debris deposited into the bay from storm drains and non-point sources.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 11.5	<b>Compliance Support of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Non-Point Source Control Needs.</b> Provide on-going support of compliance assistance to small businesses and industries in the region that are subject to NPDES permit program or have non-point source control needs.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Underway
Action SEN 11.6	<b>Drainage and Dumping.</b> Improve our storm water drainage system and educate citizens on impacts of dumping.	City of Corpus Christi Storm Water Department	Implemented/ on-going
Strategy SEN 12	<b>Clean Industrial Development.</b> Solicit new, non-polluting industries to locate in the Coastal Bend, encouraging economic development that does not compromise the region's continued environmental quality.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 12.1	<b>Profiles of "Clean Industries".</b> Develop a "Clean Industries" profile for use by economic development commissions in their marketing efforts to specifically focus on business clusters that support other Coastal Bend sustainable initiatives.	<b>Lead Partner Pending</b>	
Action SEN 12.2	<b>Economic Development "Clean Industry" Marketing.</b> Expand, enhance and focus business development activities in the Coastal Bend on clean industry. Market the Coastal Bend to clean industry entrepreneurs looking for a location, including industries such as sustainable energy production, recycling, and desalination.	Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	Underway
Action SEN 12.3	<b>Sustainable Development Tax Incentives.</b> Provide tax incentives for local sustainable development projects to encourage investment in the Coastal Bend.	Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation	

### Sustainability, Recycling and Conservation

Strategy SEN 13	<b>A "Green" Minded Community.</b> Establish the Coastal Bend as a "green-minded" region where residents and businesses value and take responsibility for the environment and sustainability. <b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b>		
Strategy SEN 14	<b>Planning for Sustainability.</b> Integrate sustainability into local city planning, with green buildings and development that preserve open spaces and natural habitats.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 14.1	<b>Open Space and Natural Habitat Plan.</b> Develop an open space and natural habitat plan for the region (Nueces and San Patricio Counties) for presentation to the appropriate local governments for adoption.	<b>Lead Partner Pending</b>	

# VISION ACTION PLAN

## Sustainable Environment

Action SEN 14.2	<b>Green Building Code.</b> Develop model green building code amendments that can be presented to local communities. Implementation should focus on providing rewards and incentives for green building with major requirements held until the product reaches local acceptance.	City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department	Not Started
Action SEN 14.3	<b>Green Development Review.</b> Establish regional task force to review development regulations in Coastal Bend cities and counties determining amendments that would improve the sustainability of future development.	City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department	Not Started
Strategy SEN 15	<b>“Zero Consumption” Community.</b> Develop partnerships that help Corpus Christi become a self-reliant, “zero-consumption” community that recycles 100 percent of its waste and develops its own sustainable sources for water and energy. <b>No supporting actions are proposed at this time.</b>		
Strategy SEN 16	<b>Recycling Leader.</b> Encourage residents to participate in comprehensive, user-friendly recycling programs and position the Coastal Bend as a recycling leader.	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Status</b>
Action SEN 16.1	<b>Major Recycling Facility.</b> Recruit a major recycling facility that provides local jobs, processes materials from across the region, and reduces waste sent to landfills.	City of Corpus Christi Solid Waste Services Department	Implemented/ on-going
Action SEN 16.2	<b>Recycling Awards Program.</b> Implement a recycling awards program to provide incentives (gift certificates/cash rebates) for Coastal Bend residents.	City of Corpus Christi Solid Waste Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 16.3	<b>Recycling Campaign.</b> Support the City of Corpus Christi’s “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!” campaign through neighborhood coalitions such as the Neighborhood Watch Program. Expand campaign through the following:	City of Corpus Christi Clean City Advisory Committee	Underway
Action SEN 16.3A	>Increase annual E-Recycling events to a semi-annual and/or quarterly basis to increase awareness and participation in recycling unwanted computers, computer accessories, monitors, game consoles, printers, scanners, fax machines, cell phones, and other small electronics.	City of Corpus Christi Environmental Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 16.3B	>Implement “Recyclers of the Year” Awards for top individual, neighborhood, volunteer group, and business that go beyond curbside recycling; partner with local media to publicize winners as a public service.	City of Corpus Christi Solid Waste Services Department	Underway
Action SEN 16.4	<b>Recycling Performance Metrics.</b> Identify and implement communitywide performance measures to gauge the Coastal Bend’s recycling progress.	City of Corpus Christi Solid Waste Services Department	Underway