**Destination NEXT 2.0 Assessment – Visit Corpus Christi**

**Raw Open-ended Questions**

1. **Are there certain issues that Visit Corpus Christi should specifically address?**
   1. **Government Leaders**
      * Our bays and estuaries are our greatest assets so we should highlight these to draw tourists to this region.

Corpus Christi is the birthplace of two significant civil rights organizations (LALAC and the GI Forum). The city should highlight this important history much as Atlanta, GA does.

* + - Bigger Convention Center with hotel attached with meeting room spaces. More hotels are needed to attract the larger conventions.
    - Support local entities to increase the beach parking permit fee with the goal of using those funds to improve the beach experience for our visitors.
  1. **Visit Corpus Christi Industry Partners**
     + I feel more advertising should be happening near Texas' metropolitan cities.
  2. **Community Leaders**
     + Lack of protected bike paths. CC is ranked among the worst city in America for cycling.
     + homeless and litter
     + Facilities on padre Island, making visitors needs more available.
     + Visit Corpus Christi should engage the CC Airport and work with them to add affordable flights out of Corpus. Many people that travel for work or pleasure drive to Houston or San Antonio because of the price difference. Until that is worked out, air travel to Corpus is not an option for a lot of people.
     + Visit Corpus Christi should also work with the city to address the lack of qualified workforce to hire workers from. It's difficult to fill low or even medium management positions.
     + Lastly the streets and dated infrastructure need to be addressed. I know this is not going to sound good at all but its the truth. I am basing this opinion on the way Port A looked prior to the hurricane that hit them and the way it looks now. I am not advocating or wishing we would have a hurricane, but the truth is money would be reinvested in the community both commercial and residential. I saw this after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and Gulf Coast. I live on the island and the city has a long way to go. Growth is outpacing planning on all levels.
     + Including Black Chamber of Commerce as a partner organization
     + Walking/Golf Cart paths throughout Downtown, North Beach, and N. Padre Island
     + Downtown revitalization
     + Not sure if this is a CVB issue but a beach permit should be required to park/fish along the JFK causeway. his would also greatly help reduce the trash that is constantly left along the frontage road there.
     + North Beach needs a nice clean-up. It would also be great if Robert Rowling would finally sell his lots on Shoreline so that they don't just sit empty.
     + Blight caused by irresponsible or absentee owners of problem properties; Kevin Kieschnick's office should be encouraged to put these properties on the auction block sooner.
     + Assist with transportation and accessibility improvements. Supporting downtown revitalization through marketing.
     + Visitor behavior should treat this as a home not a trash can when they stay. Tourism can hurt local life and family values when forced into the same areas, try to make dedicated visitor areas.
     + Works create incentives to attract amenities to the Island.
     + I would recommend encouraging staff participation during community meetings to provide regular updates on CVB activities. The VCC is known for their creative culture, and it would be great for the team to increase collaboration with community partners for future events and programming.
     + More places to eat and shop.
  3. **Visit Corpus Christi’s Board of Directors**
     + Get restaurants on open table, it is so sad that you can't make reservations in this town.
     + Always room for improvement with leadership.
     + Downtown Development, cleanup of homeless, better policing.
     + less focus on things that cost money as long as we are not using what we have.
     + Building a Larger Convention Center and a 400 Room hotel next to it.
  4. **Visit Corpus Christi Team**
     + North Beach surrounding area not being "attractive". Homelessness problems, construction, lack of curb appeal overall in the general area that houses the top two tourist attractions in Corpus Christi.
     + eco-tourism sustainability, development of hotels/attractions, hospitality workforce development, and quality of life its residents.
     + Sustainability
     + Advocate for a higher wage and better benefits for members of the hospitality industry - restaurants, attractions, retail, hotels, etc.
     + Maybe putting together, a list of what they have to offer or all the different places we have to offer. Sometimes i am left looking things up or researching different things that come up and come to find out later that that information was already known and could have saved me a lot of time in the long run if i knew before hand. I love the communication, but it can be me know on the front end.
     + Visit Corpus Christi can work with local businesses and organizations to develop social responsibility programs that aim to reduce homelessness in the community. This may include initiatives such as sponsoring food drives, volunteering at local homeless shelters, or providing donations to support homelessness prevention programs.
     + one is roads conditions and there are not enough updated all inclusive hotels that create an experience
     + Continue the convention center hotel and convention center expansion advocacy. This entire area has so much exciting potential. The workforce development efforts - this is so important for the future of tourism in Corpus Christi.
  5. **Customers**
     + Be more attentive to what other local businesses leader are investing in and help them be successful. Use your marketing dollars to promote more than just sports teams. It's the little guys out here working hard that need the tourism added value.
     + You market pretty pictures of people windsurfing and biking in your publications, but it takes more than pictures to make these things feasible, safe, and enjoyable for visitors. There needs to be advocacy and funding for safe and accessible public places to do these outdoor activities that engage visitors and make the area iconic and irresistible.

Lastly, it can't be ignored that large industry is often working in direct opposition to tourism goals. Large corporations use huge shares of our water, pollute the bay and air, create ugly views, and give back little in proportion to what they take. The jobs they create, and community donations made are token compared with the risks and consequences borne by the region. The highest-ranking jobs and the vast majority of the profits from these large plants are funneled outside of this region.

* + - Lack of workforce training

1. **What one thing could Visit Corpus Christi do to become a better visitor destination?**
2. **Visit Corpus Christi’s Board of Directors**
   * + Enhanced density and variety of nightlife.

Luxury Hotel

Convention Hotel

Water Transportation connecting the island, north beach, and downtown.

* + - clean up the trash and fix the roads.
    - Get some upscale restaurants on the beach (North Beach and Padre Island included),
    - We need a salon for men (Boardroom, Roosters, V's, Scissors and Scotch, Hammer and Nails, Cowboy-Up).
    - year-round outdoor activities
    - Better diversify the Board. Identify aspirational cities and tourism boards and opportunities to emulate.
    - More engagement from politicians to truly understand VCC, not what they "think" it does. City in general should take recommendations from local experts.
    - Cleanup vagrants downtown and on north beach
    - Recruit new attractions.
    - Better advertisement (more plentiful) of things to do in CC, such as festivals, live music, etc.

1. **Visit Corpus Christi Industry Partners**
   * + Multi-purpose sports facilities attracting events and tournaments, families who spend above avg $$
     + Better roads and public transportation
     + More digital social media marketing in feeder cities would drive incremental business. Possibly have one or two events big annual events to bring more visitors.
     + Better public transportation to all attractions, not just downtown and north beach.
     + More flight options/ easier transportation to NPI
     + Enhance infrastructure. Demand owners of delipidated businesses/buildings rent, sell, or renovate structures within a specific timeframe.
     + Signage, better accessibility for attractions, better public transportation, more shopping downtown.
     + First and foremost, getting rid of the ghetto. Getting rid of the homeless and the drug addicts would do the city wonders most of corpus is Old and run down, especially as soon as you enter corpus Christi that whole side of town is gross and that is the first thing our visitors see. I think we could benefit from offering more things to do for families of small children other than just the beach. I think we need to offer more Play places that are of good quality,
     + We need the residents of Corpus Christi to allow Change and be more open to new ideas so that new attractions come try to come to our city.
     + We need the City of Corpus Christi to ease up on some of their rules for new private sector that want to come into market to do business to create new attractions.
     + We need to pursue having large businesses for ex Costco come into our city.
     + Boardwalk. High end shopping. High end dining.
     + More hotels in walking distance to ABC and the downtown area.
     + WWII Trail involvement is great - add more history to visitor destination plan - This is going to sound self-serving, but I think we could really help in the short-term - encourage visitors to take a tour with us so that we can make sure they know all the fun things to do - This will encourage additional nights in beds either by extending visit or adding visits.
     + We love and encourage all the downtown CC activities. Keep it up! Hope the Ritz is next.
     + Improve downtown area, it's depressing.
     + Better parking and transportation options for visitors.
     + Fix the bad roads.
     + Better shopping options, perhaps closer to the downtown or beach area. Maybe another mall with larger dept. Stores or an outlet mall.
     + A connecting Hotel for the Convention Center, nearer to the Venue for Overnight Guests at Major Concerts.
     + Better attractions and things to do downtown for visitors. A lot of locals know about downtown events but I wish there were more attractions to downtown besides bars. Maybe more downtown experiences or shopping options that are not bars or restaurants. I think this would attract more visitors to stay in downtown Corpus rather than staying at places on the Island or Rockport. If more tourists stayed in the downtown area, they are more likely to patronize the downtown businesses.
     + Become more outdoor friendly. We have a great sea wall, we even moved shoreline away from it to create green space but then no further development has happened. The existing road is still there, this could have been turned into a walking and biking path like Vancouver has for its waterfront.
     + Require property owners on the bayfront to clean up their empty lots. Do something productive with Norma Urban Park. Get the hurricane repairs done in the marina now rather than wait for the promised Marina Plan design team to be hired and wait another 6-12 months for the completion of the design.
     + Make significant investments into a more open and accessible downtown area.
     + The island should stop trying to fight capitalism. No one likes it, but it's the reality of the world we live in and that is not going to change. Let big businesses come to the island and spend their big money to make this town even marginally attractive to visitors. It is going to happen eventually, regardless. No mom-and-pop shop is ever going to be able to compete with the likes of corporate America. We will not win. We already lost our prime real estate to Starbucks and the 2nd Sonic Burger on the island (seriously, it's embarrassing).
2. **Visit Corpus Christi Team**
   * + Expand air service from Corpus Christi International Airport
     + Prioritize the environment and natural resources without letting a political agenda get in the way of that. If we don't have a beach, we do not have tourism.
     + Improve the quality of life for our local residents, so they would be better hosts to our guests.
     + Build more facilities to host visitors and renovate existing ones to stay competitive in the market.
     + Corpus Christi still desperately needs a 4-5 star hotel downtown with a major hotel flag that could tailor to convention guests and leisure travelers alike. We are really lacking in this area and do not have quality hotel accommodations that can keep up with other major Texas cities.
     + Homelessness and litter are problems city-wide.
     + Encourage more development of walkable areas, community-centered areas, and a variety of hotel options within walking distance of restaurants and shopping. Most importantly, the building of a headquarter hotel connected to the convention center.
     + Diversification of Offerings: Expanding the range of activities and experiences available can also make Corpus Christi more appealing to visitors. For instance, adding new attractions, developing new outdoor recreation opportunities, and hosting more cultural events can attract a wider range of visitors, making the destination more attractive and competitive.
     + A more intentional convention area with diverse live/work/play options. More hotel rooms.
     + Increase walkability. Increase public transportation downtown.
     + enhance the ability to stay at a hotel and walk from attractions and shopping and dinning and entertainment.
     + Increase sustainability efforts to become an eco-conscious destination. People will be willing to pay more as well if they understand their contributions will go towards good causes and helping grow locally owned businesses and destinations.
3. **Community Leaders**
   * + Our airport needs to encourage airlines to fly to and from San Antonio and Austin.
     + make it feel worth the trip. if was to stay at a nice hotel downtown and then walk to some of the destinations downtown i would walk past multiple open lots and empty building if i make a wrong turn. the improvements to water street have done amazing things to making it feel like its alive but aside from that it seems like no one and nothing is around.
     + Protected bike paths all along ocean drive, downtown and uptown all connected. Easy one time investment to attract international tourists!
     + Continue to revitalize Downtown (good job so far) and start revitalizing Padre Island.
     + Push the city and county to
     + Corpus Christi promotes itself as the "sparkling city". This is far from the truth. There is more trash on the sides of the highway/streets and on our beaches. The city should be doing more to pick up trash city wide. No one wants to come here and see a city that does not take pride in the way it looks. The beaches are another story. The city should have the large trash receptacles like the City of Port A purchased. With the amount of summer time traffic on the beach the cans fill up, the wind blows the trash all over and there is no crew to pick it up. On Sunday, all the cans are full and are not emptied until Monday. It's a total joke. Why aren't they using the funds from all the beach parking decals to hire people at least for the summer to empty cans and pick up trash. Instead, we send large expensive equipment to the beach to bury the trash in the sand.
     + Have specific Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging initiating in its Masterplan.

Get hotel closer to ABC.

* + - Make significant advancements in our Downtown area, including bars, restaurants, hotels, meeting destinations, etc.
    - Deter visitors from littering the beach! Have visitors behave instead of being rude and drunk in local establishments. Have better transportation for tourism peaks. Keep some areas as locals only, the small-town feel is the original culture or Corpus and is the reason people move here. Keep tourism in dedicated areas.
    - Expand regional and local public transportation to encourage tourism without the need for a vehicle.
    - SOMETHING TO DO ON THE BAYFRONT
    - More places to eat and shop.
    - "-Enhanced bike-ability (particularly the trails portion of the City's Bike Mobility Plan (www.coastalbendinmotion.org) + invite a new bikeshare provider downtown.
    - -Dramatically improved bayfront and bay access . . . the combination of private property and unsightly/unsafe riprap armoring are MAJOR deterrents.
    - Clean up the city. Tear down abandoned homes/buildings, keep vacant lots mowed. Get the homeless population out of the areas that see visitors.
    - It would be great if we could establish a place for the homeless population to keep them from sleeping in the downtown area. More public transportation would also be nice as well as more bike and running lanes. We've made good progress on Ocean Drive
    - convention center improvements
    - include tour groups and tour companies to visit.
    - Continue to promote re-development in downtown and growing our major attractions and convention center activities
    - Focus on transportation and accessibility.
    - "Make Corpus Christi a cleaner place, less trash on highways, broken down/boarded businesses
    - Higher variety of food choices that are not directly on SPID.
    - Encourage Redevelopment of North Beach with cleaner look and more shops/ hotels. More walking destinations on Island (a lot of which is already underway). Downtown Redevelopment to include more tourist related activities.

1. **Government Leaders** 
   * + The city should devote more resources to ecotourism.
     + Parking. More hotels. Not enough rooms in town for bigger venues. Need to expand convention center to hold bigger conventions but need more hotels. More upscale hotel with meeting rooms attached to convention center. But space is an issue.
     + More funding and resources for lifeguarding and beach safety/ maintenance. Increase the 12 dollar a year beach parking permit to fund it, people would easily pay 80-100 dollars. Provide a daily/ weekly option for those visiting ($5/10)..
     + The beach is our most valuable tourism asset and deserves more funding/ resources to improve the experience and safety.
     + Advocate for expanding regional hotel room count and infrastructure and amenities to attract larger conventions.
     + Also include a historical -destination promotion guide. Many people like to visit historical places-buildings.
     + Work with the city to get better air service.
2. **Customers**
   * + 1. Provide public kiteboarding/multisport water launches in flat water locations (Oso Bay, back side of Mustang Island, Padre Island National Seashore, Flour Bluff Laguna shores.). These launches also cater to kayakers/SUPs/fisher people, because in non-windy conditions the kayakers use it while in windy conditions the kiters use it.

2. Develop the pedestrian and bicycle connectivity network mapped in the CC MPO's Strategic Plan for Active Mobility. If all of that were developed, CC would have more miles of trail than any other city in the US. It would put us on the map for active tourism. Our bayfront is a shining possibility for a trail that could connect 8 parks, many homes, hotels, the university, and the beach with beautiful views. People gravitate toward CC Bay for recreation. Yet the route along Ocean Drive that the city calls the ""Corpus Christi Bay Trail"" is not a trail at all, and it's certainly not safe. There are literally signs along it is saying ""bike lane ends"" and you're on your own for stretches. You can't take kids there, and it's not relaxing even for adults. This needs to be improved.

* + - Keep promoting Tourism!
    - FIX THE STREETS
    - Partner with local businesses that are outside of their bubble of friends.
    - Offer more high-end hotel stays especially in Downtown Corpus Christi. We should also strive to have more well-known restaurant chains and shopping brands come to our area.
    - Additional hotels and restaurants downtown
    - More shopping and better restaurants, an out door mall. Family areas where you can have concerts and activities.

1. **Are there any markets Visit Corpus Christi is currently not capitalizing on?**
2. **Visit Corpus Christi’s Board of Directors**
   * + I have always believed that Laredo would be good. I have seen positive effects at our Water Park when we targeted Laredo before covid.
     + Young people
     + DOWNTOWN
     + Continue to reach further to our north for cold weather visitors.
     + I'd like to see greater collaboration with San Pat and Port A
     + Special interest groups with disposable income, e.g., social groups of 25-34; Corporate retreats; Yoga retreats.
     + use the billion-dollar assets we have and no one else does as attractions:

the real beach - 70 miles plus national park

3rd largest port and heavy industry / platforms/processes

1. **Visit Corpus Christi Industry Partners**
   * + I think there should be more accessible grocery stores and shopping experiences in downtown Corpus. Both for visitors who stay downtown and also for downtown residents.
     + Canadian and Mexico market
     + More festivals
     + I am encouraged to see VCC closing the gap on sports and entertainment.
     + Local art
     + Padre Island
     + Rio Grande Valley could have more impact on local tourism.
     + History - All southern (and northern for that matter) Gulf or Atlantic port cities are known for their history, and they promote their history - we are missing a great market.
     + Cultural Tourism in relation to history or architecture. CC has a large selection of mid-century modern architecture that cultural tourists love to see and learn about.
     + More living or short-term rentals downtown. I.E. Air BnBs or Overnight stays in converted boats on the Marina.
     + Currently I think we are doing well; gaming conventions is something that we may look into. But being a two-flight airport makes that difficult.
2. **Community Leaders**
   * + Cycling tourism. 60% of conquer the coast participants last year were from out of town. Cycle tourism in America is a growing industry. We have beautiful landscapes we are not capitalizing on.
     + 20-30 single adults in Texas
     + We must have an attraction that draws people here every year just as Austin has ACL, SXSW, Austin Film Festival, etc. CC7D is not a true film festival. Even Rockport and Marfa have true film festivals, and people love them!
     + Giving back in a meaningful way to the community and local business.
     + Luxury traveler. But we don't have the amenities.
     + There is opportunity to coordinate with the regional EDCs to attract business conferences (outside of the normal business industries). Festivals or unique experiences that can attract Gen Z and Millennials are an additional opportunity.
     + pop culture conventions and fitness expos. in the past we had some fitness expos and they seemed well attended and a lot of people traveled to be a part of them.
     + African American market
3. **Visit Corpus Christi Team**
   * + We can continue to promote the growth and development of downtown. The area is under utilized but is growing in the right direction. The promotion and growth of sports facilities is also very important.
     + Visit Corpus Christi may consider targeting niche markets such as solo travelers, LGBTQ+ travelers, and adventure travelers. By promoting experiences that cater to the specific needs and interests of these markets, Visit Corpus Christi can potentially attract a new segment of visitors.
     + Film, Non-Profits, Local animal rescues, humanitarian efforts.
     + Music festivals
     + We could be doing tons more for ecotourism and sustainability as an entire city.
     + We as an organization could be doing more to promote more nature clean ups and keeping areas clean.
     + maybe, branding more products and items to sell at visitor store.
     + Green initiatives, LGBTQIA+, and those with physical disabilities.
     + Currently, the Mexico market is due to lack of international air service and quality shopping options. This is a huge market that needs to be considered. Second - cities that do not have direct flight access to the destination but take a connecting flight to come here, such as Denver and Chicago.
     + I feel the there is a particular market for nightlife in Corpus that could be improved upon. There is a certain demographic of 20–25-year-olds who like to go out, but only have a select few of bars and nightclubs to choose from. Chaparral St. has an opportunity to become somewhat of a known "strip" of bars and nightlife. There may be an opportunity here to make this a walkable strip with more stores, bars and restaurants.
4. **Government Leaders** 
   * + Competitive computer gaming and sports tourism.
     + The city generally does little to court the international birding community though we are in the migratory path for numerous species of birds.
     + Would be nice to have more beach festivals. Need more festivals in general. Think Fredricksburg and New Braunfels. More music festivals.
     + Sports- i know were moving in that direction, but more investment is needed in our facilities to attract these events, were not even close when comparing to other TX cities venues that get a bulk of these amateur events.
     + Year-round boardwalk carnival for family entertainment like found in Destin, Fl and other coastal communities; biking, roller skating, and trails within the area (Flour Bluff-OREC) including outdoor recreation activities.
5. **Customers**
   * + 1. Wind sports are a huge untapped market. Corpus Christi has world-class year-round conditions for wing foiling, kiteboarding, and windsurfing/wind foiling. People participating in those sports are generally educated, healthy, active citizens with disposable income. They spend additional money on things like lodging and dining, and some move here and become great residents. Yet we don't have great public access for wind sport launches. It would be simple to enable more access (some easy things like a water spigot/shower, open space, parking, and bathrooms). Yet Corpus Christi does not have a public/accessible kiteboarding launch at the prime flat-water destinations they wish to visit (Oso Bay, back side of Mustang Island, Padre Island National Seashore, Flour Bluff Laguna shores.) Those sports are exploding in popularity, and Corpus Christi is pushing them out rather than marketing or catering to them.

2. People wishing to be able to walk or bike around this area are constantly disappointed.

* + - Padre Island Businesses and Events
    - We have a beautiful city we just have not invested the money in infrastructure. Fix our roads, make more areas appealing and accessible for families to enjoy. The downtown needs growth and development.
    - Cruise ships

1. **The state of Texas is considering legislation that would legalize casinos and sports betting. If either should become legal in our state, what is your opinion on how Corpus Christi might encourage, discourage, or otherwise engage in this type of activity in our destination?**
   1. **Visit Corpus Christi’s Board of Directors**
      * I'm in support of advocating for this type of activity in CC.
      * Use north beach to become a casino destination resort.
      * Encourage alternate eco-tourism for outside of Texas visitors.
      * I think it could benefit CC--I would see a casino hotel on the island as an opportunity.
      * Consideration of this action should include discourse and resolute consensus on the lingering national debate re: gun rights.
      * While this WILL NOT pass in our area during this session, It might pass in the next 5-10 years. We are closer, and YES Corpus will be great for this.
   2. **Visit Corpus Christi Industry Partners**
      * I would encourage this activity as it would bring more economic strength into our community thus bring more working capital to help improve and enhance the quality of life in the City!
      * Casino boats
      * I believe there is opportunity here.
      * I think if either one become legal it allows the opportunity for us as a city to capitalize on gambling, we could create avenue where the city is able to benefit and collect certain taxes and it would bring in outside money to corpus Christi where it otherwise wouldn't IE if we were to open a casino, we would have 1 more tourist attraction. On the flip side, the community of people who gamble can be unsavory. I believe that the rate of crime would skyrocket. We as a city already have a high presence of drug addicts and homeless by adding in gambling to the mix we would be asking for trouble. I have personally worked in the industry and have seen first had how violet these sorts of customers can be, not only to the people working in the gambling industry but also to the guests who at these places, I predict we see an influx of robberies, shooting, assaults. I do not believe that we are a city who can handle having facilities like this because of the residents that live here.
      * It would be a nice revenue source.
      * I think it should encourage the type of activity at our destination. It would give people a destination to visit with the availability of gaming. I would like to see the city place limits on the number of hotels added. Possibly a moratorium on new construction, in my opinion this allows existing inventory to be kept up instead of being run into the ground.
      * "Encourage! I came from AZ where sports betting is legalized and the economic impact on the community was massively substantial. Additionally, it opens an entirely new (and in my opinion, a much needed) sector of entertainment.
      * Unfortunately, addiction is everywhere these days... but at this point, it's truly up to the individual to manage their own behaviors. Nothing and no one but the individual themself is responsible for his or her own actions and addictions.
      * In my opinion, the billions of dollars that would be brought into the local economy far outweighs any negative connotation."
      * Although financially lucrative, we should look at how these businesses have impacted quality of life in states where gambling and casinos are legal.
      * I am neutral in this topic, but this will most definitely promote more travel to our city.
      * One large casino away from the city might be profitable and successful. Like a Mohegan Sun. I'm not sure the community would benefit from more than that.
      * Corpus should push this as quickly as they can to help our economy before the bigger cities do!!!
      * What it comes down to is what does the city want to be known for? I believe having this feature would negatively impact the tourism VisitCC has been working so hard to do.
      * Bring back the casino cruise!
      * I think one or two casinos or sports betting facilities would benefit CC but any more than that I think would be too much.
      * Be out front. Beaches and casinos done well have proven beneficial to areas in Florida
      * Horse racing during the cooler months
      * We have a dog track - not sure if I agree with that though.
      * A name brand casino on North Beach would be great.
      * Having a ship for gambling would be fun, too - failed in the past."
      * Texans that are planning to gamble can drive to Louisiana or Oklahoma to do so. It would be better to have them stay and spend in Texas.
      * casinos would be great.
   3. **Community Leaders**
      * CC should encourage taking advantage of the gambling industry and it's draw for visitors to the community.
      * Should be strongly regulated and revenue must benefit community.
      * Corpus Christi is a prime location to establish a casino and sports betting market. A casino facility would attract diverse demographics to the city and add to the tax base through HOT and sales tax. The CVB would be a great organization to lead a marketing campaign while working with community partners to identify land, attracting developers, incentive packages, etc. It would be great for a portion of the casino revenue to go towards wind and storm insurance fees for residents (where there's a will, there's a way).
      * I believe Corpus Christi along with other major cities that rely on tourism and visitor-based economies should take full advantage of legal gambling.
      * i believe that our location will encourage a casino and possible resort style facilities if some of the older generations will allow for the expansion of the tourism industry and understand that the small inconvenience of a boat load of people for a short period of time will benefit in the long run.
      * Change zoning to encourage casinos but have buffers.
      * a resort casino would work well here.
      * Tight geographic limitation to avoid the "game room" effect that we currently see diminishing the quality of place all over town.
      * I hope we would encourage. Downtown Corpus Christi would be a great place for a large casino hotel.
      * small gaming rooms seem to be classless and seedy, having a full casino that could host shows would be an amazing option.
      * Corpus Christi would be an excellent place for well-regulated casinos.
      * The funds from casinos or sports betting should be used for funding education, public safety, and help fix the terrible roads in CC.
      * If the city could keep its own revenue from such ventures, it would be great. Otherwise, it's probably more trouble than it's worth. And, we don't have an airport that caters to such traffic.
      * If legal, encourage development of industry in Corpus
      * I think that placing a casino along Mustang Island would invite and draw in tourists from all over and would be unique with a waterfront setting.
      * A great attraction for North Beach.
      * Texas needs legal casino resorts.
      * Chamber is in support.
      * i would encourage both, brings additional revenue to the city and provides additional opportunities within the entertainment sector.
      * we should encourage.
      * Go ahead but make sure these establishments are contained, properly policed, and kept at the edge of the city.
      * We should have a destination hotel/casino here.
   4. **Visit Corpus Christi Team**
      * Limiting options within city limits. Not allowed downtown.
      * Corpus Christi needs to think of the negative impact as well as the positive impact. Communities with Casinos that have love socioeconomic standing tend to fall prey to gambling addictions. Resources are necessary to minimize the risk to the community while maximizing return from tourists.
      * For encouragement, one option would be to develop new attractions and amenities, such as casinos, sports betting facilities, and hotels with attached entertainment complexes to appeal to visitors who are interested in gambling and sports betting.

For discouraging residents, the engagement of this activity would consider the potential impact of issues related to problem gambling, addiction, and crime. This would mean the city needs to work closely with law enforcement and public health officials to ensure that any new development or promotions related to gambling be carried out responsibly, keeping the residents top of mind.

* + - We would be able to utilize our racetrack instead of it just being there of no use.
    - We should have casinos with high end experiences and hotels and even boats with casinos like they do in other states.
    - I think if this becomes real, they will have to set certain rules and have set places before they allow. I think in the past there were places that ran this type of GAMBLING AND IT DIDNT PLAN OUT TOO MUCH BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTIVE RULES AND REGULATINS THAT DID NOT LINE UP WITH HOW THE COMMUNITY RAN.
    - I am neutral on this topic. I think there is a demand for this type of tourism, and we can capitalize on it if it were to happen.
    - One way Corpus Christi can encourage casino and sports betting activities is by partnering with existing gaming operators to develop high-quality facilities and experiences that cater to both locals and visitors. This may include offering special packages and promotions to attract more visitors to the destination and leveraging the destination's existing attractions and events to create a more immersive experience.
    - As long as the city has a plan to help those with obsessive gambling habits in place, then I feel that a casino would be beneficial bringing employment to the area.
    - "I believe Corpus Christi would:
    - Encourage- since visitors will already be coming to Texas, they should come visit Corpus as well to enhance their experience in the state of Texas. I personally have not been to a state that allows betting and has casinos so it's hard for me to put my personal opinion in this. "
    - Not a gambler, so on a personal level would not want to see this happen.
    - embrace it and bring awareness surrounding the positive and incentives and how it benefits the city of Corpus Christi to enhance a better way of life
    - I feel like it depends on the specific legislation, so I currently have no opinion on this.
  1. **Government Leaders**
* Identify appropriate locations and provide necessary infrastructure improvements to support (transportations, police, utility upgrades, etc.)
* If we put in a casino tourism would increase for our area-people like to go to casino-resorts for gambling but also the entertainment that is attached. More brand names coming to Texas and a variety of shows to include.
* Gambling brings with it a number of negative social consequences
* Through our excellent legislative delegation
* It will bring in tax dollars. Instead of people going out of state they will either stay or attract others to spend money in the state.
  1. **Customers**
     + Legalize gambling - bring casinos to the Island and utilize the Downtown.
     + encourage by promoting where it's located. Discourage if not in a specific location.
     + Engage by promoting like the Dog Track or a Gambling Boat.
     + I am in support of this legislation. I would like to see us be a destination for both.
     + Put the tax revenue back into rebuilding our eroded beaches.
     + Corpus Christi should encourage all types of entertainment, including casinos and sports betting, to garner more tourism.
     + If casinos are opened, they need to continue to be maintained. The revenue should go to improving the city and our schools.
     + I think gambling is dangerous for people who can't control themselves, but if it is legalized, sitting out on high moral ground won't solve that problem because people will just go neighboring communities to do it. So, if gambling is legalized, Corpus Christi should definitely engage in it. It attracts visitors and generates funds that could support positive things in this area.
     + Should be encouraged.