



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Finance Department

City Council Regular Meeting Date: April 1, 2025

To: City Council
From: Steve C. Chaipel, Deputy City Manager/CFO
Date: March 4th, 2025

SUBJECT: Sanibel Causeway Traffic Counts – February 2025

As reported to the City by Lee County, the January 2025 Sanibel Causeway inbound vehicle counts decreased by 1.16% as compared to February 2024.

The Causeway is open to vehicular traffic after needing significant temporary restoration following the effects of Hurricane Ian on Sanibel. However, the causeway remains an active construction site during the rebuilding phase of the bridges and the spoil islands. Vehicular traffic is expected to be affected for the foreseeable future.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 vs 2024	
January	282,778	311,596	190,919	252,892	261,462	8,570	3.39%
February	293,554	317,584	207,699	260,436	257,419	(3,017)	(1.16%)
March	352,029	363,863	246,296	285,946			
April	330,664	332,323	226,212	259,576			
May	323,157	303,569	226,250	243,399			
June	300,788	279,042	212,373	214,950			
July	307,599	299,834	212,189	227,658			
August	252,803	257,717	210,811	207,418			
September	233,764	199,312	200,549	184,669			
October	269,353	-	223,326	187,618			
November	281,379	-	213,918	224,479			
December	307,355	130,165	208,065	235,203			
YTD Total	3,535,223	2,795,005	2,578,607	2,784,244	518,881	5,553	(1.16%)
Total Year	3,535,223	2,795,005	2,578,607	2,784,244	518,881	5,553	(81.36%)

The tables on the following page compare the current year with the last five fiscal years for both fiscal year to date and total year to date counts.

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	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Change from Prior Month
October	253,144	246,035	269,353	-	223,326	187,618	1.60%
November	266,766	242,527	281,379	-	213,918	224,479	19.65%
December	284,979	270,520	307,355	130,165	208,065	235,203	4.78%
January	318,315	282,778	311,596	190,919	252,892	261,462	11.16%
February	321,085	293,554	317,584	207,699	260,436	257,419	(1.55%)
March	265,546	352,029	363,863	246,296	285,946	-	
April	123,130	330,664	332,323	226,212	259,576	-	
May	221,665	323,157	303,569	226,250	243,399	-	
June	252,000	300,788	279,042	212,373	214,950	-	
July	255,010	307,599	299,834	212,189	227,658	-	
August	233,491	252,803	257,717	210,811	207,418	-	
September	218,338	233,764	199,312	200,549	184,669	-	
Total FY	3,013,469	3,436,218	3,522,927	2,063,463	2,782,253	1,166,181	

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
October	253,144	246,035	269,353	-	223,326	187,618
November	266,766	242,527	281,379	-	213,918	224,479
December	284,979	270,520	307,355	130,165	208,065	235,203
January	318,315	282,778	311,596	190,919	252,892	261,462
February	321,085	293,554	317,584	207,699	260,436	257,419
March	265,546	352,029	363,863	246,296	285,946	-
April	123,130	330,664	332,323	226,212	259,576	-
May	221,665	323,157	303,569	226,250	243,399	-
June	252,000	300,788	279,042	212,373	214,950	-
July	318,315	282,778	311,596	190,919	227,658	-
August	233,491	252,803	257,717	210,811	207,418	-
September	321,085	293,554	317,584	207,699	184,669	-
FYTD	1,444,289	1,335,414	1,487,267	528,783	1,158,637	1,166,181

Notes

- Hurricane Milton affected the island on October 9-10, 2024. The causeway was closed to traffic for most of the day on October 10, 2024.
- Hurricane Helene passed the island in the Gulf of Mexico on September 26, 2024.
- On March 9, 2020 Governor DeSantis declared a state of emergency for the State of Florida due to COVID-19. On March 17, 2020 Lee County declared a local state of emergency related to the same. The City Council declared a local state of emergency on March 18, 2020. As a result of these actions, visitation and traffic to the island was significantly negatively impacted starting in March 2020. The state of emergency ended in June 26, 2021.
- On September 28, 2022 Hurricane Ian made landfall in Sanibel causing catastrophic damage. The causeway was significantly damaged and vehicular traffic did not resume travel until late October 2022. Traffic counts resumed in December 2022; however, tolls did not resume until January 1, 2023.

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Lee County Toll System
PERIODIC DAILY AVI TRAFFIC REPORT
Sanibel Island

Start Date: 02/01/2025

End Date: 02/28/2025

Revenue Date	Prepaid Variable			Prepaid			AVI Exempt	Total
	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full		
02/01/2025	0	0	0	2630	1590	1125	18	5363
02/02/2025	0	0	0	2186	1312	799	16	4313
02/03/2025	0	0	0	2801	1761	1665	49	6276
02/04/2025	0	0	0	3064	1838	1743	51	6696
02/05/2025	0	0	0	3071	1888	1725	51	6735
02/06/2025	0	0	0	3213	1901	1736	50	6900
02/07/2025	0	0	0	3049	1824	1753	38	6664
02/08/2025	0	0	0	2602	1576	1129	17	5324
02/09/2025	0	0	0	1980	1267	818	18	4083
02/10/2025	0	0	0	2896	1803	1644	51	6394
02/11/2025	0	0	0	3005	1824	1768	50	6647
02/12/2025	0	0	0	3043	1922	1758	54	6777
02/13/2025	0	0	0	3145	1918	1740	51	6854
02/14/2025	0	0	0	3184	1870	1737	41	6832
02/15/2025	0	0	0	3109	1563	1069	17	5758
02/16/2025	0	0	0	2649	1325	793	21	4788
02/17/2025	0	0	0	3347	1796	1484	41	6668
02/18/2025	0	0	0	3333	1918	1694	47	6992
02/19/2025	0	0	0	3205	1895	1722	48	6870
02/20/2025	0	0	0	3147	1969	1718	38	6872
02/21/2025	0	0	0	3192	1923	1727	41	6883
02/22/2025	0	0	0	2778	1542	1130	16	5466
02/23/2025	0	0	0	2857	1346	849	21	5073
02/24/2025	0	0	0	2379	1724	1565	53	5721
02/25/2025	0	0	0	3134	1897	1788	53	6872
02/26/2025	0	0	0	3248	2037	1776	64	7125
02/27/2025	0	0	0	3220	1971	1765	62	7018
02/28/2025	0	0	0	3143	1859	1739	41	6782
Total:	0	0	0	82610	49059	41959	1118	174746

PERIODIC DAILY LANE TRAFFIC REPORT

Sanibel Island

Start Date: 02/01/2025

End Date: 02/28/2025

Date	Lane 1	Lane 2	Total
02/01/2025	3,716	4,395	8,111
02/02/2025	2,978	3,317	6,295
02/03/2025	4,518	4,556	9,074
02/04/2025	4,732	4,963	9,695
02/05/2025	4,486	5,322	9,808
02/06/2025	4,726	5,237	9,963
02/07/2025	4,546	5,273	9,819
02/08/2025	3,656	4,370	8,026
02/09/2025	2,841	3,119	5,960
02/10/2025	4,318	4,977	9,295
02/11/2025	4,488	5,183	9,671
02/12/2025	4,640	5,166	9,806
02/13/2025	4,658	5,274	9,932
02/14/2025	4,658	5,409	10,067
02/15/2025	4,163	4,810	8,973
02/16/2025	3,501	3,804	7,305
02/17/2025	4,425	5,559	9,984
02/18/2025	4,858	5,493	10,351
02/19/2025	4,713	5,457	10,170
02/20/2025	4,675	5,452	10,127
02/21/2025	4,386	5,776	10,162
02/22/2025	3,914	4,520	8,434
02/23/2025	3,048	4,620	7,668
02/24/2025	3,581	4,545	8,126
02/25/2025	4,551	5,461	10,012
02/26/2025	4,321	5,988	10,309
02/27/2025	4,625	5,629	10,254
02/28/2025	4,037	5,985	10,022
Total:	117,759	139,660	257,419