



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

*Finance Department*

**City Council Regular Meeting Date: May 6, 2025**

**To:** City Council  
**From:** Steve C. Chaipel, Deputy City Manager/CFO  
**Date:** April 24, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Sanibel Causeway Traffic Counts – March 2025

As reported to the City by Lee County, the March 2025 Sanibel Causeway inbound vehicle counts increased by 3.68% as compared to March 2024.

The Causeway restoration project is nearing its completion and is expected to open to the public within the next few months. As construction activities significantly decline, an increase in vehicular traffic is anticipated in the area. This transition phase may require adjustments to current traffic management to ensure smooth traffic flow and minimize congestion.

	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	296,471	10,525	3.68%
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	815,352	16,078	3.68%
Total Year	3,535,223	2,795,005	2,578,607	2,784,244	815,352	16,078	(70.72%)

\* Table compares prior year's monthly activity with current year's monthly activity

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.

	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	296,471	15.17%
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	-	
<b>Total FY</b>	<b>3,013,469</b>	<b>3,436,218</b>	<b>3,522,927</b>	<b>2,063,463</b>	<b>2,782,253</b>	<b>1,462,652</b>	

\* Table compares prior month's activity with current month's activity for current fiscal year

	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	296,471
<b>FYTD</b>	<b>1,709,835</b>	<b>1,687,443</b>	<b>1,851,130</b>	<b>775,079</b>	<b>1,444,583</b>	<b>1,462,652</b>

\*Table compares current fiscal year-to-date (YTD) with prior years fiscal YTD

#### 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.

## PERIODIC DAILY LANE TRAFFIC REPORT

## Sanibel Island

Start Date: 03/01/2025

End Date: 03/31/2025

Date	Lane 1	Lane 2	Total
03/01/2025	4,050	5,088	9,138
03/02/2025	3,452	4,028	7,480
03/03/2025	4,431	5,483	9,914
03/04/2025	4,796	5,339	10,135
03/05/2025	4,505	5,174	9,679
03/06/2025	4,755	5,530	10,285
03/07/2025	4,773	5,702	10,475
03/08/2025	4,453	5,419	9,872
03/09/2025	3,605	4,103	7,708
03/10/2025	4,219	4,876	9,095
03/11/2025	4,754	5,645	10,399
03/12/2025	5,072	5,621	10,693
03/13/2025	4,292	4,928	9,220
03/14/2025	4,875	5,688	10,563
03/15/2025	4,414	5,286	9,700
03/16/2025	3,544	4,018	7,562
03/17/2025	4,696	4,954	9,650
03/18/2025	4,682	5,932	10,614
03/19/2025	5,364	5,334	10,698
03/20/2025	4,736	5,833	10,569
03/21/2025	4,167	5,927	10,094
03/22/2025	4,196	5,011	9,207
03/23/2025	3,570	4,113	7,683
03/24/2025	4,576	5,418	9,994
03/25/2025	4,686	5,478	10,164
03/26/2025	5,258	5,240	10,498
03/27/2025	4,865	5,527	10,392
03/28/2025	4,649	5,453	10,102
03/29/2025	3,988	4,674	8,662
03/30/2025	3,252	3,617	6,869
03/31/2025	4,273	5,084	9,357
Total:	136,948	159,523	296,471

Lee County Toll System  
**PERIODIC DAILY AVI TRAFFIC REPORT**  
**Sanibel Island**

Start Date: 03/01/2025

End Date: 03/31/2025

Revenue Date	Prepaid Variable			Prepaid			AVI Exempt	Total
	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full		
03/01/2025	0	0	0	3113	1571	1201	22	5907
03/02/2025	0	0	0	2748	1400	830	12	4990
03/03/2025	0	0	0	3187	1829	1692	64	6772
03/04/2025	0	0	0	3085	1831	1794	75	6785
03/05/2025	0	0	0	2930	1951	1812	58	6751
03/06/2025	0	0	0	3233	1897	1815	64	7009
03/07/2025	0	0	0	3334	1951	1754	54	7093
03/08/2025	0	0	0	3542	1622	1194	27	6385
03/09/2025	0	0	0	2764	1328	837	26	4955
03/10/2025	0	0	0	2769	1825	1700	49	6343
03/11/2025	0	0	0	3320	1919	1809	52	7100
03/12/2025	0	0	0	3393	1953	1834	60	7240
03/13/2025	0	0	0	2799	1764	1720	52	6335
03/14/2025	0	0	0	3506	1881	1739	41	7167
03/15/2025	0	0	0	3268	1619	1175	25	6087
03/16/2025	0	0	0	2691	1322	870	15	4898
03/17/2025	0	0	0	3054	1779	1609	45	6487
03/18/2025	0	0	0	3549	1807	1688	58	7102
03/19/2025	0	0	0	3472	1881	1731	61	7145
03/20/2025	0	0	0	3514	1924	1731	86	7255
03/21/2025	0	0	0	3213	1813	1665	64	6755
03/22/2025	0	0	0	3071	1536	1152	33	5792
03/23/2025	0	0	0	2681	1307	854	24	4866
03/24/2025	0	0	0	3094	1780	1677	50	6601
03/25/2025	0	0	0	3073	1843	1771	41	6728
03/26/2025	0	0	0	3350	1927	1833	72	7182
03/27/2025	0	0	0	3231	1897	1800	63	6991
03/28/2025	0	0	0	3170	1850	1745	62	6827
03/29/2025	0	0	0	2801	1585	1138	24	5548
03/30/2025	0	0	0	2373	1258	856	17	4504
03/31/2025	0	0	0	2948	1736	1670	49	6403
Total:	0	0	0	96276	53586	46696	1445	198003