



Roots in Resilience: A 50/50 Tree Initiative

Mission Statement:

To re-green public spaces on Sanibel with 50 large and resilient native trees and other vegetation yearly for the next 50 years, restoring our sanctuary island's sub-tropical appearance and natural feel.

Through a public-city partnership, raise funds to purchase 50 native trees and other vegetation annually selected by SCCF and the City's Natural Resources Department. The City of Sanibel will purchase, plant, and maintain the plantings.

Goal:

Collect sufficient funds to purchase at least 50 native trees and other vegetation each year for the next 50 years to be planted in public spaces throughout Sanibel by mutually agreed upon landscape architectural plans.

Process/Scope:

A citizen-driven committee has been established to lead the initiative. The committee includes three Sanibel residents, one SCCF staff member, two city staff members, one CFI staff member, and one landscape architect.

2025 Roots in Resilience Committee

Sanibel Residents - Kate Sergeant, John Henshaw, and Diana Taylor

City of Sanibel - Dana Souza or Holly Milbrandt, and Craig Chandler or Savannah White

SCCF - James Evans or Jenny Evans

CFI - Savannah Kelly or Dolly Farrell

Landscape Architect - Leigh Gevelinger

Sanibel Captiva Chamber of Commerce - John Lai or Aaron Walton

A donor-directed account will be established with the Charitable Foundation of the Islands (CFI) to collect contributions from the public. Roots in Resilience Funds collected will be accrued and

invested in accordance with CFI policies and practices to establish a corpus from which annual disbursements can be made to purchase 50 trees and vegetation each year.

Disbursements will be made in accordance with the Committee's direction, as set forth in the service agreement between CFI and the City of Sanibel.

The Roots in Resilience Committee will conduct campaigns to solicit public contributions in support of the initiative. They will meet regularly to review all aspects of the solicitation campaign and overall initiative, including providing input on each re-greening project's location, scope, and design. The amount of funding available each year will be determined by the Roots in Resilience Committee and dictated by the Roots in Resilience fund balance.

The City of Sanibel will select, purchase, and plant materials according to the design and will be responsible for maintaining the plantings.

The Committee will annually evaluate and select planting projects, focusing on city and public properties. The Committee may consider adding non-profit-owned properties to the scope if sufficient funds are raised.

Initial Projects:

- The Causeway Blvd Corridor

Future Projects:

- Lindgren Blvd.
- Segments on Periwinkle Way
- Beach Accesses
- Segments of SanCap Road