



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Finance Department

City Council Regular Meeting Date: June 3, 2025

To: City Council
From: Steve C. Chaipel, Deputy City Manager/CFO
Date: May 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Sanibel Causeway Traffic Counts – April 2025

As reported to the City by Lee County, the April 2025 Sanibel Causeway inbound vehicle counts increased by 3.66% as compared to April 2024.

The Causeway restoration Phase 1 project has been completed, and the islands are open to the public. As construction activities significantly decline, an increase in vehicular traffic is anticipated in the area until the next phase of activity begins. 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	269,069	9,493	3.66%
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	1,084,421	25,571	3.66%
Total Year	3,535,223	2,795,005	2,578,607	2,784,244	1,084,421	25,571	(61.05%)

* 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	269,069	(9.24%)
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	1,731,721	

* 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
April	123,130	330,664	332,323	226,212	259,576	269,069
FYTD	1,832,965	2,018,107	2,183,453	1,001,291	1,704,159	1,731,721

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

Notes

- Phase 1 of the causeway island rehabilitation project was completed in April 2025. The causeway island reopened to beach visitors on May 1, 2025.
- 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.

Lee County Toll System
PERIODIC DAILY AVI TRAFFIC REPORT
Sanibel Island

Start Date: 04/01/2025

End Date: 04/30/2025

Revenue Date	Prepaid Variable			Prepaid			AVI Exempt	Total
	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full		
04/01/2025	0	0	0	2860	1860	1815	56	6591
04/02/2025	0	0	0	2916	1891	1798	54	6659
04/03/2025	0	0	0	2883	1868	1806	54	6611
04/04/2025	0	0	0	3060	1814	1804	44	6722
04/05/2025	0	0	0	2896	1505	1178	19	5598
04/06/2025	0	0	0	2604	1317	900	22	4843
04/07/2025	0	0	0	2733	1741	1670	55	6199
04/08/2025	0	0	0	2366	1774	1766	43	5949
04/09/2025	0	0	0	2858	1842	1814	63	6577
04/10/2025	0	0	0	2902	1858	1831	52	6643
04/11/2025	0	0	0	2977	1810	1790	36	6613
04/12/2025	0	0	0	2715	1412	1155	19	5301
04/13/2025	0	0	0	2402	1267	853	25	4547
04/14/2025	0	0	0	2784	1742	1708	55	6289
04/15/2025	0	0	0	2859	1827	1805	50	6541
04/16/2025	0	0	0	2896	1881	1841	51	6669
04/17/2025	0	0	0	2990	1850	1833	46	6719
04/18/2025	0	0	0	3182	1724	1654	33	6593
04/19/2025	0	0	0	3130	1453	1150	30	5763
04/20/2025	0	0	0	2395	1097	786	22	4300
04/21/2025	0	0	0	2802	1635	1565	54	6056
04/22/2025	0	0	0	2726	1775	1768	59	6328
04/23/2025	0	0	0	2665	1750	1815	59	6289
04/24/2025	0	0	0	2835	1795	1811	66	6507
04/25/2025	0	0	0	2980	1736	1742	38	6496
04/26/2025	0	0	0	2743	1366	1124	25	5258
04/27/2025	0	0	0	2412	1101	862	23	4398
04/28/2025	0	0	0	2460	1617	1691	52	5820
04/29/2025	0	0	0	2490	1634	1807	51	5982
04/30/2025	0	0	0	2559	1713	1805	65	6142
Total:	0	0	0	83080	49655	46947	1321	181003

PERIODIC DAILY LANE TRAFFIC REPORT

Sanibel Island

Start Date: 04/01/2025

End Date: 04/30/2025

Date	Lane 1	Lane 2	Total
04/01/2025	5,034	4,524	9,558
04/02/2025	4,657	5,006	9,663
04/03/2025	4,440	5,238	9,678
04/04/2025	4,694	5,133	9,827
04/05/2025	3,887	4,937	8,824
04/06/2025	3,367	4,064	7,431
04/07/2025	4,077	4,980	9,057
04/08/2025	3,771	4,715	8,486
04/09/2025	5,270	4,307	9,577
04/10/2025	4,412	5,313	9,725
04/11/2025	4,464	5,350	9,814
04/12/2025	3,850	4,584	8,434
04/13/2025	3,346	3,768	7,114
04/14/2025	4,308	5,034	9,342
04/15/2025	4,393	5,144	9,537
04/16/2025	4,440	5,181	9,621
04/17/2025	2,890	6,897	9,787
04/18/2025	4,338	5,532	9,870
04/19/2025	4,132	4,855	8,987
04/20/2025	3,205	3,534	6,739
04/21/2025	4,098	4,929	9,027
04/22/2025	4,104	5,123	9,227
04/23/2025	4,313	5,013	9,326
04/24/2025	4,221	5,339	9,560
04/25/2025	4,254	5,369	9,623
04/26/2025	3,926	4,544	8,470
04/27/2025	3,173	3,632	6,805
04/28/2025	3,784	4,779	8,563
04/29/2025	3,832	4,738	8,570
04/30/2025	3,887	4,940	8,827
Total:	122.567	146.502	269,069