

City of Sanibel


PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Holly D. Smith was first selected to serve on the Sanibel City Council in December 2017, when City Councilmembers voted to appoint her to fill the unexpired term of City Councilmember Jim Jennings; and
- WHEREAS:** In March 2018 and March 2023, the registered voters of the City of Sanibel elected Holly D. Smith to serve 4-year terms on the Sanibel City Council; and
- WHEREAS:** On March 16, 2021, and on April 5, 2022, Holly D. Smith was elected Mayor of the City of Sanibel by her colleagues serving on the Sanibel City Council; and
- WHEREAS:** On September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall in Sanibel as a strong Category 4 hurricane, causing catastrophic damage to Sanibel island, the Sanibel Causeway, and other areas of Lee County; and
- WHEREAS:** Facing the unprecedented damage to Sanibel, then Mayor Holly D. Smith provided the leadership, steadfastness, optimistic outlook, resolve, humbleness, and grace that was so vitally needed as the City of Sanibel faced its greatest logistical, operational, and economic challenges since the City incorporated in 1974; and
- WHEREAS:** In the immediate aftermath of the storm, then Mayor Holly D. Smith spoke with Governor Ron DeSantis concerning the breach in the Sanibel Causeway, the catastrophic damage inflicted on the entirety of Sanibel island, and urged Governor Ron DeSantis to deploy the resources needed to restore transportation and electrical services to the island and to plan for Sanibel's long-term recovery needs; and
- WHEREAS:** Then Mayor Holly D. Smith, was highly effective in keeping Sanibel's significant recovery needs at the forefront of the Governor and State Legislators during the 2022 and 2023 Special and Regular Florida Legislative Sessions by leading several tours, making countless phone calls, and traveling frequently to Tallahassee, that resulted in Sanibel receiving millions of dollars in aid from the State of Florida; and
- WHEREAS:** The Sanibel City Council and the residents of Sanibel island will forever be grateful for the leadership then Mayor Holly D. Smith provided in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian and continues to provide today as a member of the Sanibel City Council.


NOW, THEREFORE, We, the City Council of the City of Sanibel, Lee County Florida, on behalf of the citizens of Sanibel, on this, the 433rd day after Hurricane Ian made landfall on Sanibel island, do hereby commend, and thank Holly D. Smith for her extraordinary leadership as Mayor of the City of Sanibel before, during and after Hurricane Ian's landfall.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have here unto set our hands and caused the seal of the City of Sanibel to be affixed here to.

This 5th day of December 2023


Richard Johnson, Mayor


Mike Miller, Vice Mayor


Dr. Scott Crater, Councilmember


John Henshaw, Councilmember