



Sanibel Plan Update Community Workshop #2 Engagement Report

July 15, 2026



Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc.
A SAFEbuilt COMPANY

Meeting Overview

2nd Community Workshop held on June 3, 2026

62



Participants

3



Topics

Resiliency



Land Use



Transportation



Meeting Format



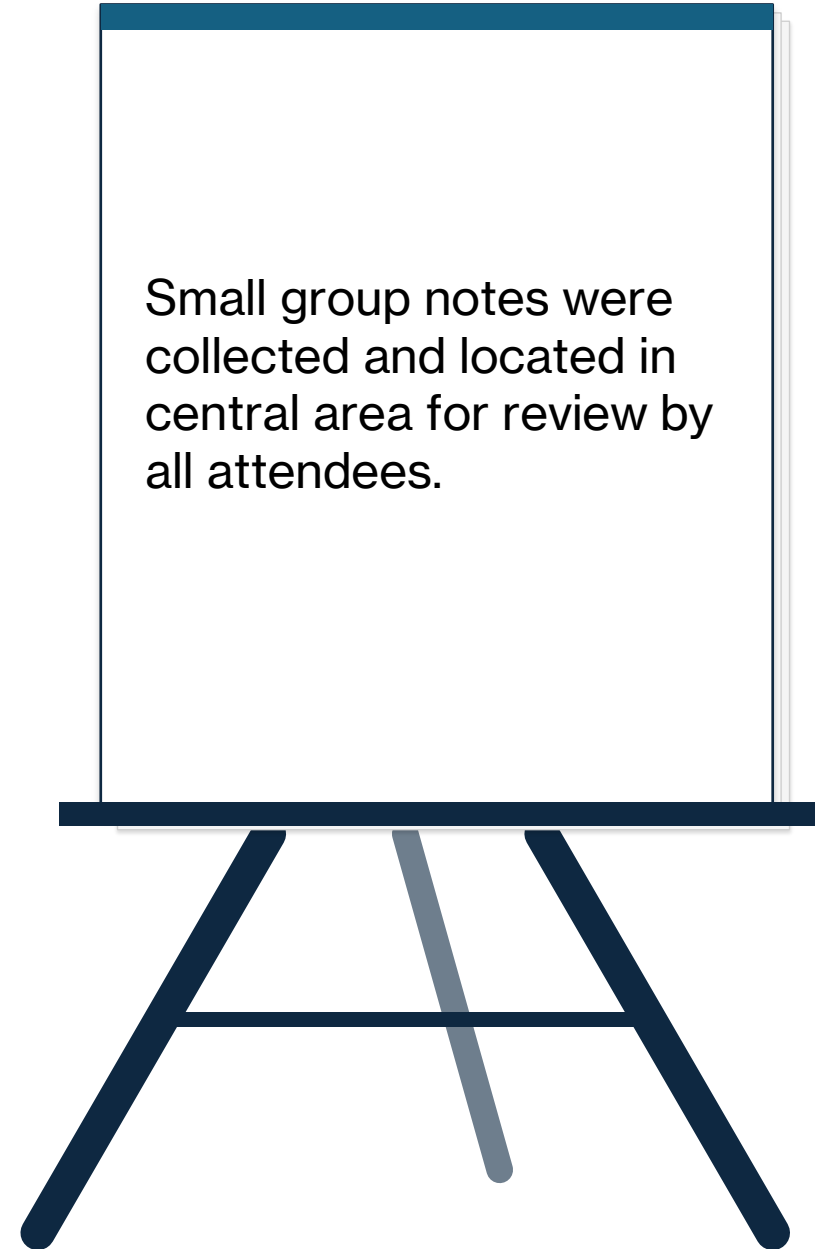
Three 15-20 minute discussion sessions

Facilitator – Guides group through questions and ensures all voices are heard

Spokesperson – Presents thoughts to entire group

Scribe – Record comments & ideas

Small group notes were collected and located in central area for review by all attendees.



Resiliency



- What does resiliency mean to you?
- Are there particular issues and shortcomings that come to mind of the current infrastructure?
- What kind of resilience projects would you like to see?
- Specifically for flooding resilience, what are the most important resources to you?
- What is the most important thing the City can do to increase its resilience to flooding and other climatic events?

Resiliency Feedback

FLOODING AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



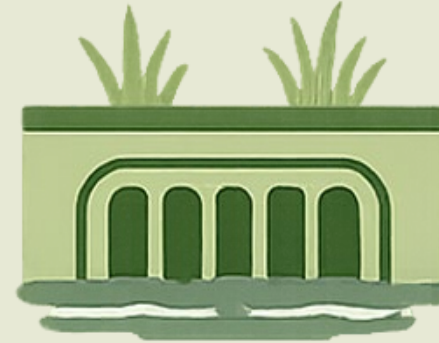
TOP RESILIENCY CONCERN ACROSS NEARLY ALL GROUPS

Flooding and **stormwater** management is a leading concern in the community.



PERSISTENT FLOODING AFTER HURRICANE IAN

Flooding issues have persisted long after the storm, impacting quality of life.



INADEQUATE AND AGING DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

Focus on swales, culverts, and weirs. Infrastructure may need upgrades to resolve persistent post-storm issues.



SUPPORT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE POST-STORM ANALYSIS

Identify root causes of flooding and develop a long-term drainage improvement plan.

Resiliency Feedback (cont'd)

NATURE-BASED GREEN SOLUTIONS



NATURAL BUFFERS

Use natural buffers such as mangroves, sea grapes, and coastal dunes.



UTILIZE CONSERVED AREAS

Utilizing the island's substantial conservation areas for water retention and flood mitigation.



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

Residents asked how personal landscaping could contribute to this effort.

Resiliency Feedback (cont'd)

HARDENING KEY INFRASTRUCTURE



RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

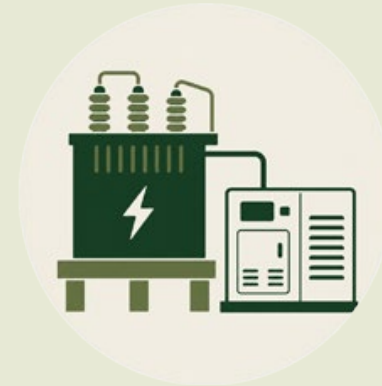
Emphasis on elevating, reinforcing, or hardening key utilities and infrastructure



PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- Roads
- Lift Stations
- Ferry Landings
- Sewage pump systems
- Emergency vehicle access routes

ENERGY RESILIENCY



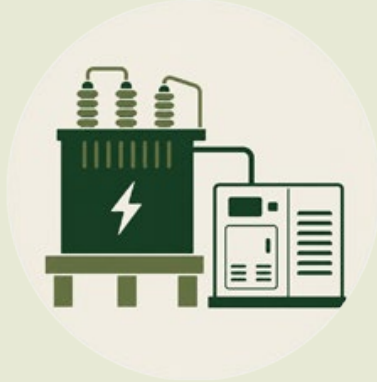
COORDINATED, LONG RANGE PLANNING WHICH COVERS CLIMATE ADAPTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND RECOVERY PROTOCOLS

Design and strengthen energy infrastructure to withstand extreme weather.

Lessons from Hurricane Ian should become forward looking policy and standards

Resiliency Feedback (cont'd)

ENERGY RESILIENCY



Underground power lines, renewable energy investment

Explore island-wide microgrid, elevated transformers, and backup generators for key facilities

Participants acknowledged grid hardening progress and urged it to continue

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



Repeated storms have taken a psychological toll

A strong shared identity and commitment has formed

Economic resilience is integral to sustaining the community

- Stabilizing property values
- Supporting local businesses



Land Use



- What types of non-residential uses does Sanibel need?
- What resources and policies would help drive local workforce and businesses?
- Do most of the workers live on the island or commute to work from another city? Why? What impacts does that have?
- What housing options are needed most in the community?
- What activities are there on the island for people of all ages?
- As a significant number of lots on the island are already built out, how can Sanibel better develop/redevelop on what exists to meet its' goals?

Land Use Feedback

REIMAGINING THE TOWN CENTER

- Currently viewed as a simple corridor
- Desire for a walkable hub that is pedestrian-friendly
- Encourage low-scale development made in the “Sanibel Way”



COMMERCIAL PRIORITIES

- Needs to address gaps in service
 - Urgent care clinics, mom-and-pop shops, early childcare programs, family nightlife options
- Create workforce housing to retain the on-island workforce



REDEVELOPMENT AND INFILL

- Rigorous environmental guidelines and standards
- Perceived complex approval process and long permitting timeline
- Issue with resort area getting back to pre-lan capacity for restaurants and retail viability



Land Use Feedback (cont'd)

INCENTIVES AND INVESTMENTS

- Participants noted that the city should actively encourage investment
 - Low-interest loan programs
 - Expedited permitting for qualifying projects



PRESERVING SANIBEL'S CHARACTER

- Strong desire to protect Sanibel's unique identity, noted as the "Sanibel Way"
- Concern with overdevelopment may not be opposition to growth, but desire for new development to respect the island's low scale and community character.



Transportation



- With one point of access to the island and subsequently to Captiva, what steps can the City take to improve vehicle traffic?
- What car alternatives work in the City? Where is improvement needed?
- What does the dream transportation system look like to you?

Transportation Feedback

SHARED-USE PATH UPGRADES



- Sanibel's multi-use paths are celebrated, yet experience high congestion and safety
- Must address the use of high-speed E-bikes

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES



- Consistent interest in expanding public transit and alternative transportation options
- Trolley, park-and-ride lots, circulator shuttle, water taxi

EMERGENCY ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY



- Concern about situations in which the causeway bridge becomes impassable
- Must explore barge landings, ferry service, and emergency vehicle staging options

Transportation Feedback (cont'd)

SEASONAL TRAFFIC AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT

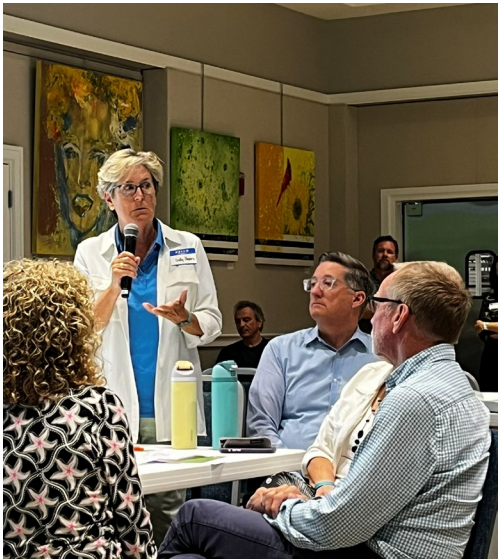


- Congestion is concentrated during peak tourist season
- Year-round residents have adapted
- Potential solution include incentives for day-trippers to stay longer and educating new residents on traffic patterns

CAUSEWAY, BRIDGE, & ACCESS MANAGEMENT



- Causeways' vulnerability as the island's sole access point was a major concern
- Discussion around redesigning traffic flow and dynamic toll pricing
- Potential toll discounts for off-island workers





City of Sanibel Planning Efforts

Based on input received from the first two public workshop meetings for the Sanibel Plan, there is widespread support for planning efforts underway or completed by the City

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

SHARED USE PATH MASTER PLAN UPDATE



Adopted June 2024

- Potential projects ranked August 2025
- First projects identified for engineering analysis June 2026

POST HURRICANE IAN SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN UPDATE



Adopted October 2025

Included review of
weir control policy

CITY OF SANIBEL COMPREHENSIVE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT



Adopted January 2026

Identified critical assets
and their exposure to
flood risk

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

CITY OF SANIBEL ADAPTATION PLAN



IN PROGRESS

Identify adaptation strategies for identified critical assets (including roadways, lift stations)

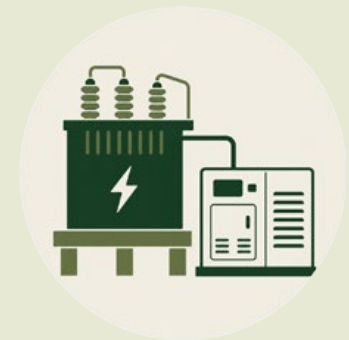
TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN



**IN PROGRESS
EXPECTED COMPLETION
DECEMBER 2026**

Identify potential improvements to the transportation network

STRATEGIC ENERGY PLAN



**IN PROGRESS
EXPECTED COMPLETION
OCTOBER 2026**

Strengthen the island's energy resilience