

CITY OF SANIBEL  
**DRAFT** ORDINANCE 26-011

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANIBEL, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 66, TRAFFIC, ARTICLE III, SPEED LIMITS, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, SECTION 66-121, THIRTY-FIVE MILE PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT, DELETING SECTION 66-122, BRIDGE AT BUELL CREEK; SPEED LIMIT AND RENUMBERING SUBSEQUENT SECTIONS; TO SPECIFY SPEED LIMITS ON PUBLICLY OWNED ROADWAYS WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 66-121 of the Sanibel Code of Ordinances currently establishes the maximum speed limit on Periwinkle Way from Ferry Road (east) to Tarpon Bay Road (west) as 35 miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 66-122 of the Sanibel Code of Ordinances currently establishes the maximum speed limit for any vehicle traversing the bridge at Buell Creek on Bay Drive (formerly known as Old Bayshore Road) as ten miles per hour; and

**WHEREAS**, at their April 21, 2026, meeting, the City Council expressed their intent to establish speed limits for all public roadways on Sanibel by Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 316, Florida Statutes, authorizes municipalities to establish speed limits based upon appropriate traffic engineering studies; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council received “The City of Sanibel Speed Study and Passing Zone Analysis” (speed study) on March 3, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the referenced speed study, the City Council wishes to amend the Code of Ordinances to establish speed limits for all public roadways on Sanibel by Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing public roadway speed limits by Ordinance ensures there will be adequate notice for residents, business owners, and other interested parties to provide input to the City Council prior to amending speed limits in the future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANIBEL, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and made a part hereof.

**SECTION 2.** Sanibel Code of Ordinances, Chapter 66, is hereby amended with ~~strikethrough~~ language indicating deletions and underlined language indicating additions as follows:

**Chapter 66 - TRAFFIC**

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**ARTICLE III. – SPEED LIMITS**

## DIVISION 1. - GENERALLY

**Sec.66-121. - Speed Limits**~~Thirty five mile per hour speed limit.~~

- (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in Section 66-121(i), any amendment to an existing speed limit on a publicly owned roadway shall be established by ordinance and adopted in accordance with applicable provisions of state law, including, but not limited to, section 316.189(1), Florida Statutes, and any required traffic engineering studies.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle at a speed in excess of the speed limits established herein on publicly owned roadways.

- (b) The maximum lawful speed limit on publicly owned roadways shall not exceed thirty-five (35) miles per hour.

- (c) The maximum lawful speed limit on the following publicly owned roadways shall be thirty-five (35) miles per hour:

- (1) Westerly along Sanibel-Captiva Road, from the intersection with Tarpon Bay Road to a point approximately 900 feet east of the intersection with Rabbit Road; and
- (2) Westerly along Sanibel-Captiva Road, from the western terminus of the Sanibel School speed zone to a point approximately 900 feet east of the intersection with Pine Avenue.

- (d) The maximum lawful speed limit on the following publicly owned roadways shall be thirty (30) miles per hour:

- (1) Westerly along Sanibel-Captiva Road, from a point approximately 900 feet east of the intersection with Rabbit Road to the western terminus of the Sanibel School speed zone;
- (2) Westerly along Periwinkle Way, from Causeway Boulevard, west to Tarpon Bay Road.

- (e) The maximum lawful speed limit on the following publicly owned roadways shall be twenty-five (25) miles per hour:

- (1) Easterly along Periwinkle Way, from the intersection with Causeway Boulevard to Lighthouse Beach Park; and
- (2) Westerly along Sanibel-Captiva Road, from a point approximately 900 feet east of the intersection with Pine Avenue to the western boundary of the City of Sanibel's corporate limits (Santiva area).

- (f) The maximum lawful speed limit on the following publicly owned roadways shall be twenty (20) miles per hour:

- (1) Albatross Road;

- (2) Baltusrol Court;
- (3) Sand Castle Road;
- (4) Troon Court; and
- (5) Wulfert Road.

- (g) The maximum lawful speed limit on the bridge at Buell Creek on Bay Drive (formerly known as Old Bayshore Road) shall be ten (10) miles per hour.
- (h) Except as otherwise specifically provided in Section 66-121(c) through (g), and (i), the maximum lawful speed on all publicly owned roadways within the City shall be thirty (30) miles per hour.
- (i) The city manager, unless otherwise directed by the city council, is authorized to designate reduced speed limits for specific sections of publicly owned roadways where curves, bridges, culverts, and other conditions warrant such reductions in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. The city manager is further authorized to install and maintain appropriate speed limit signage, whether advisory, temporary, or permanent, reflecting such reduced speed limits.

~~The maximum speed within the city shall be 35 miles per hour along the following routes:~~

~~Westerly along Periwinkle Way beginning at the intersection of Ferry Road and terminating at Tarpon Bay Road; generally north and westerly along Palm Ridge Road from the intersection at Periwinkle to the intersection at Tarpon Bay Road; and thence westerly along Sanibel Captiva Road to the western most corporate limits of the city.~~

~~**Sec. 66-122. Bridge at Buell Creek; speed limit.**~~

~~The maximum rate of speed for any vehicle traversing the bridge at Buell Creek on Bay Drive (formerly known as Old Bayshore Road) shall be ten miles per hour and it is unlawful and prohibited for any person to exceed such speed limit.~~

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~~**Secs. 66-131-132 - 66-140. - Reserved.**~~

**SECTION 3.** Codification. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to indicate these amendments in future City Code publications.

**SECTION 4.** Conflict. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith shall be and the same hereby repealed. If any part of this ordinance conflicts with any other part, it shall be severed, and the remainder shall have full force and effect and be liberally construed.

**SECTION 5.** Severance. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance, or application hereof, is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion or application shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion or

application hereof.

**SECTION 6.** Effective date. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

**SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING IN OPEN AND REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANIBEL, FLORIDA THE 21ST DAY OF JULY 2026.**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scotty Lynn Kelly, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Miller, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Agnew, City Attorney

Date filed with City Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote of Council Members:

Miller	_____
Henshaw	_____
DeBruce	_____
Johnson	_____
Smith	_____

First Reading: June 16, 2026

Publication Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_