



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: August 18, 2026

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: July 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Second Reading of Ordinance 26-011 to specify speed limits on publicly owned roads by amending Chapter 66, Traffic, Article III, Speed Limits.

BACKGROUND: On March 3, 2026, the City Council received the Sanibel Island Roadway Speed Study and Passing Zone Analysis, prepared by Johnson Engineering with support from City staff. The study evaluated existing roadway speed limits, traffic volumes, operating speeds, crash history, and speed limit signage to determine whether changes to posted speed limits were warranted on selected City roadways in accordance with Section 316.183(2), Florida Statutes.

Following its review of the study, the City Council directed staff to prepare amendments to Chapter 66 of the Sanibel Code of Ordinances to establish roadway-specific speed limits and to return with recommendations regarding potential speed limit reductions on selected roadway segments.

At its April 21, 2026, meeting, the City Council discussed draft Ordinance 26-011, which proposed authorizing roadway speed limit changes by resolution. Following discussion, the City Council directed staff to revise the ordinance to require that all future roadway speed limit changes be adopted by ordinance.

The City Council subsequently reviewed revised drafts of Ordinance 26-011 on May 5, 2026, and June 16, 2026, providing additional direction regarding proposed speed limits for specific roadways and roadway segments. During those discussions, the City Council also:

- Determine that no public roadway shall have a speed limit greater than 35 mph.
- Determined that no speed limit reductions on Sanibel-Captiva Road would be incorporated into the ordinance.
- Determined that no speed limit reduction on Rabbit Road was warranted.
- Incorporated the Beachview Neighborhood Association's request to reduce the speed limits on Birdie View Point and Par View Drive from 30 mph to 25 mph.
- Retained existing speed limits on all other publicly owned roadways where no changes were warranted

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The current draft of Ordinance 26-011 incorporates the consensus direction provided by the City Council on June 16, 2026. The ordinance establishes roadway-specific speed limits for all publicly owned roadways within the City, retains the existing 10 mph speed limit on the Buell Creek Bridge, establishes a default speed limit of 30 mph for publicly owned roadways not otherwise identified, and requires that future changes to roadway speed limits be adopted by ordinance following applicable traffic engineering studies and in accordance with state law.

Since the June 16, 2026, City Council meeting, staff identified an existing 20 mph speed limit sign on Atlanta Plaza Drive that was inadvertently omitted from the draft ordinance. The ordinance has been revised to reflect and maintain the existing 20 mph speed limit on Atlanta Plaza Drive.

The table below summarizes the City Council's direction and compares the current and proposed speed limits reflected in the Ordinance 26-011, which was approved at First Reading on July 21, 2026.

Road	Current Speed Limit	Proposed Speed Limit
Palim Ridge Rd.	35	35
Periwinkle Way (westerly) from Causeway Blvd. to Tarpon Bay Rd.	35	35
Sanibel-Captiva Rd. (westerly) from Tarpon Bay Rd. to the Santiva area near Pine Ave.	35	35
Periwinkle Way (easterly) from Skiff Place to Lighthouse Beach Park	35/30	30
Birdie View Point – The Beachview Subdivision	30	25
Par View Dr. – The Beachview Subdivision	30	25
Periwinkle Way (easterly) from Causeway Blvd. to Skiff Place	35	25
Sanibel-Captiva Rd. in Santiva	25	25
Albatross Rd. – The Dunes Subdivision	20	20
Atlanta Plaza Dr.	20	20
Baltusrol Ct. – The Sanctuary Subdivision	20	20
Sand Castle Rd. – The Dunes Subdivision	20	20
Troon Ct. – The Sanctuary Subdivision	20	20
Wulfert Rd. (northerly) from Wildlife Dr. to the cul-de-sac – The Sanctuary Subdivision	20	20
Buell Creek bridge on Bay Dr.	10	10
All Other Publicly Owned Roads	30	30

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Ordinance 26-011, as submitted.

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