



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: April 21, 2026

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Fred Mittl, Public Works Director
Date: March 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Fishing Pier Temporary Repairs Pending Full Replacement

BACKGROUND: The Sanibel Fishing Pier was damaged by Hurricane Ian and has been unavailable for public use since the storm. As City staff and residents worked to refine the scope of work and cost estimates for repairs, residents proposed dividing the project into two phases. Phase 1 would consist of all necessary top-side pier repairs and access improvements, at an estimated total project cost of approximately \$200,000. This phase would allow the pier to reopen for public use while Phase 2 permanent repairs are designed and permitted. The previously proposed Phase 2 conceptual approach has been abandoned and changed to a full replacement of the fishing pier using a grant through the Tourist Development Beach and Shoreline Funding Program in the amount of \$2,148,209.00, pending City Council acceptance of the grant.

At the January 13, 2026 City Council meeting, Council voted to proceed with the City/Community Partnership model for the Sanibel Fishing Pier Phase 1 repairs. Staff proceeded with the following based on Council direction:

- Engineering Services Contract – Utilizing donated funds, Public Works staff contracted with Shoreline Engineering for design, permitting and bidding of the proposed repairs.
- Design Phase – Shoreline Engineering prepared the plans (attached) for temporary repairs that will allow for reopening of the pier.
- Permitting - Environmental permits through the FDEP will be required for the temporary repairs project, which is estimated to take several months.
- City Oversight – Public Works staff is managing the engineer, reviewing deliverables, and collaborating with the Sanibel Fishing Pier Committee to review the design plans.
- Construction Phase – If approved by City Council and once sufficient private funds are raised, staff will issue an Invitation to Bid for the pier repair work. The project will be awarded to the qualified bidder that submitted the lowest bid.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

The City Manager has authorized Public Works to solicit bids for the project based upon the completed design by Shoreline Engineering. Donated funds will be transferred to the City after bids are open and before a contract to complete the repairs is submitted to the City Council for approval. The temporary repairs are estimated to cost \$200,000.

The Donor Agreement between the City, the Fundraising Committee led by Richard Birney, and the Charitable Foundation of the Islands is included in the agenda packet for City Council's approval. The Donor Agreement is the same as approved for the Roots in Resilience initiative.

FUNDING SOURCE: Private donations solicited by the Sanibel Fishing Pier Committee. Donated funds (approximately \$30,000) has been transferred to the City to cover design costs. Donated funds (approximately \$200,000) will be transferred to the City to cover construction costs.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approve "Fishing Pier Temporary Repairs".
2. Approve Donor Agreement between the City, the Fundraising Committee led by Richard Birney, and the Charitable Foundation of the Islands.