

December 19, 2025

Honorable Cecil Pendergrass  
Chair, Lee County Board of County Commissioners  
District 2  
P.O. Box 398  
Fort Myers, FL 33902-0398

Honorable Chair Pendergrass,

On behalf of the Sanibel City Council, we are writing to share the results of a recently completed feasibility study regarding the potential restriping of the Sanibel Causeway to accommodate an additional travel lane.

At the June 3, 2025, City Council meeting, the Sanibel City Council approved a proposal from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to evaluate whether the existing Sanibel Causeway could safely support three travel lanes. This study was initiated in response to repeated requests from residents seeking solutions to improve traffic flow and reduce peak-hour congestion, particularly during periods of high demand for vehicles exiting Sanibel.

As part of the feasibility analysis, Kimley-Horn conducted a detailed review of the current causeway cross-section and compared it against established lane-width and safety standards outlined in the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Design Manual, the Florida Greenbook, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines. Please see the attached Feasibility Study – Sanibel Causeway Lane Expansion for detailed findings and technical analysis.

Following this review, Kimley-Horn concluded that it is not feasible to safely create three travel lanes within the existing width and structural dimensions of the Sanibel Causeway. In short, restriping alone would not meet applicable safety standards and would not be advisable.

Given these findings, the City of Sanibel respectfully requests that the Lee County Board of County Commissioners consider adding the widening of the Sanibel Causeway to the County's list of transportation initiatives. Based on the study's conclusions, widening the causeway is the only viable option to accommodate an additional travel lane and meaningfully address congestion challenges, particularly during the busy tourist season when traffic conditions for residents, employees, and visitors exiting Sanibel and Captiva are most severe.

We appreciate the Board's continued partnership and consideration of this important regional transportation issue, and we look forward to further collaboration on long-term solutions to improve mobility for the residents and visitors of Sanibel and Captiva.



## City of Sanibel

800 Dunlop Road  
Sanibel, Florida 33957-4096

[www.mysanibel.com](http://www.mysanibel.com)

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NATURAL RESOURCES	472-3700
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POLICE	472-3111
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	472-3111
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RECREATION	472-0345
UTILITIES	472-3179

Sincerely,

Mike Miller

Mike Miller, Mayor

Holly D. Smith

Holly D. Smith, Vice Mayor

Laura J. DeBruce

Laura DeBruce, Councilmember

J. H. Henshaw

John Henshaw, Councilmember

Richard Johnson

Richard Johnson, Councilmember