



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Finance Department

City Council Regular Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

To: City Council
From: Steve C. Chaipel, Deputy City Manager/CFO
Mark Harmon, Grants Manager
Date: December 30, 2025

SUBJECT: CDBG-DR Grant Agreement for the Sanibel Police Department

BACKGROUND: Hurricane Ian destroyed the lower level of the Sanibel Police Station and rendered the remaining portions of the Police Station and City Hall uninhabitable between September 28, 2022, and March 30, 2023. Because of the damage, City Hall and the Police Station complex could not serve as the on-island Unified Command Center that is critical when coordinating the emergency response efforts to a catastrophic event by multiple responding jurisdictions. While FEMA provided a temporary Unified Command Center by erecting a tent to serve as the Hurricane Ian Unified Command Center, there were multiple challenges due to weather, noise, and heat. An adequate on-island facility is urgently needed to manage emergency and disaster response efforts efficiently, effectively, and safely.

In order to meet multiple community needs, the City determined that a resilient police station is required. The Police Station must provide safe and ADA compliant public access for daily interactions with residents, business owners and visitors, functional space for daily police operations, and be able to transform quickly into a Unified Command Center when faced with community emergencies and threats. Sanibel must have a facility that can accommodate space for multiple agencies during emergency operations, such as the Sanibel Fire & Rescue District, the Captiva Fire & Rescue District, Lee County Sheriff, FEMA, Florida DEM, US Fish and Wildlife Services, the Island Water Association, and LCEC, particularly when faced with large-scale catastrophic events such as Hurricane Ian.

The construction of this modern and resilient Police Station and Emergency Operations Center will safeguard the dedicated first responders who serve the Sanibel Community, strengthen the island's ability to effectively respond to future natural and manmade disasters and emergencies. The City funded the design (100% construction drawings) of a new Police Station that will meet current FEMA and Florida Building Codes. It also meets all the requirements of Sanibel's Land Development Code. The Sanibel City Council approved the final design on May 7, 2024.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

BUDGET AND FUNDING: Project planners have established a budget of \$17,040,689.00. Funding has been secured from two sources:

- \$ 2,000,000 from the Florida Dept of Law Enforcement (FDLE). This was the results of two \$1.0 million appropriations from the State of Florida.
- \$15,040,689 from the U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) administered through Lee County. The Lee County Board of Commissioners approved the funding on September 16, 2025.

As the funds are administered through Lee County, the City is required to enter into a subrecipient agreement with the County for these federal funds.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept grant number B-23-UN-12-0002 from the HUD CDBG-DR program via subrecipient agreement DR10680 with Lee County and authorize the City Manager to execute same.