



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: April 21, 2026

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: April 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion of reducing speed limits on Periwinkle Way, Rabbit Road, and a segment of Sanibel-Captiva Rd. between Rabbit Road and the western limit of the Sanibel School Speed Zone.

BACKGROUND: At its March 3, 2026, meeting, the City Council received the “[Speed Study and Passing Zone Analysis](#)” (the “Speed Analysis”). The Speed Analysis meets the requirements of Section 316.183(2), Florida Statutes, authorizing the City Council to reduce speed limits on City roadways. Following discussion and public comment, the City Council reached consensus directing staff to return with an action item to reduce speed limits on the following roads:

1. E. Periwinkle Way from Causeway Blvd. to Lighthouse Beach Park – reduce the speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph.
2. Periwinkle Way from Causeway Blvd. to Tarpon Bay Rd. – reduce the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph.

Because 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), the Code must be amended in order to reduce the speed limit on that roadway. Earlier today, the City Council received and discussed a draft ordinance that removes the existing text in Sections 66-121 and 66-122 and replaces it with provisions establishing a citywide maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour and authorizing the City Council to set specific speed limits by resolution.

If the City Council advances the ordinance to second reading at its May 3, 2026, meeting, staff will present a corresponding Resolution for consideration at that same meeting. Draft Resolution 26-012 is included in the agenda packet for this item.

The draft Resolution also establishes a maximum rate of speed of 10 miles per hour for the Bay Drive Bridge as currently provided for in Section 66-121.

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

On March 3, 2026, the City Council also asked staff to return the following speed limit reductions for discussion.

1. Rabbit Road from Sanibel-Captiva Rd. to West Gulf Drive – consider reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph and to provide information for wildlife mortality on Rabbit Road.
2. Sanibel-Captiva Rd. from Rabbit Road to the western limit of the Sanibel School speed zone – consider reducing the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph and to provide information for wildlife mortality on Rabbit Road.

The presentation included in the agenda packet for this item will be used to lead the discussion with City Council. The Wildlife Mortality Monitoring and Reporting Update presentation from the November 4, 2025, City Council meeting is also included in the agenda packet.

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion and direction.