SANIBEL

RANGERS



Sanibel Ranger Program

- Budgeted 5 fulltime positions
- Program conceptualized in 2022 and first funded in FY23
- Positions hiring frozen in FY23/24
- Positions funded by City Council in FY25



Primary functions:

- Shared Use Path (SUP)
 - Education
 - Enforcement
 - Issue citations
- City Ambassador

Sanibel Rangers will patrol:

- On the Shared Use Path (SUP) using e-bikes
- On foot in the following locations:
 - Turner Beach
 - Blind Pass
 - Bowman's Beach
 - Gulfside City Park
 - Troast,
 - Lighthouse Beach
 - Boat Ramp
 - Causeway Beach

Sanibel Rangers engage with the public and answer a range of questions related to:

- E-bike education
- Post-hurricane recovery efforts
- Wildlife
- Shells
- Local history
- Payment assistance
- Restaurant locations

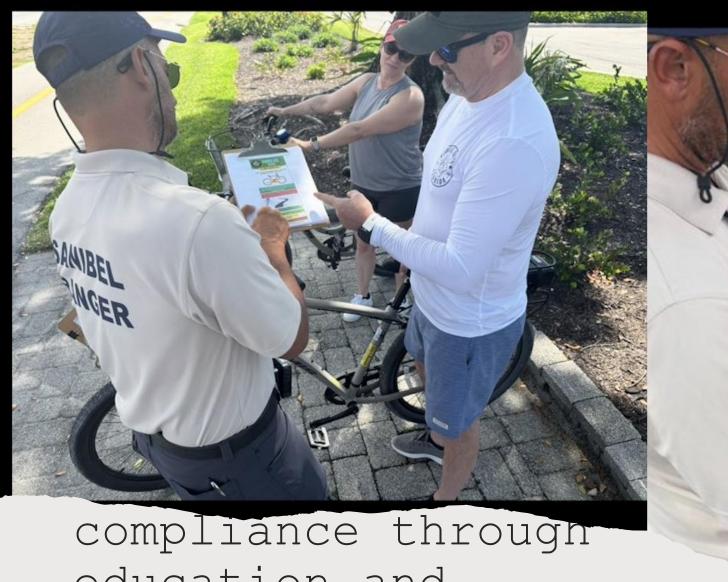
Sanibel Rangers will issue citations for Shared Use Path (SUP) and Park violations







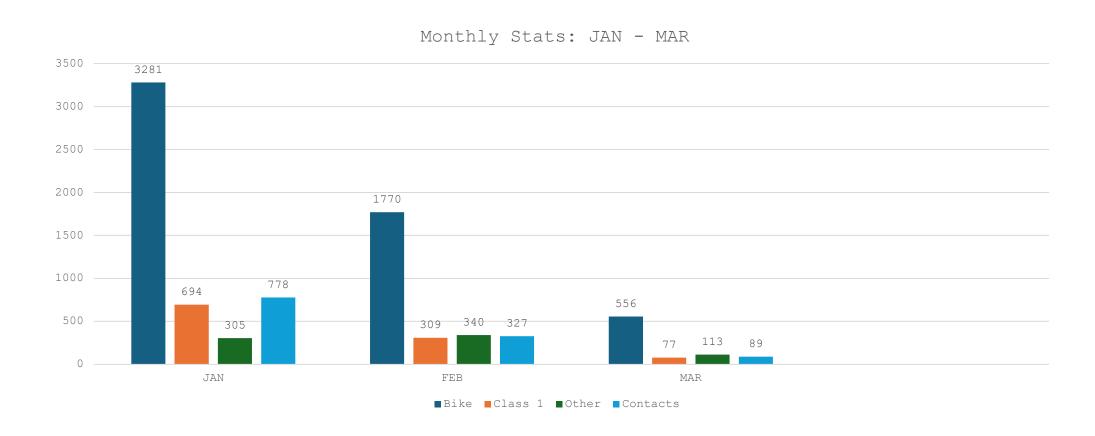




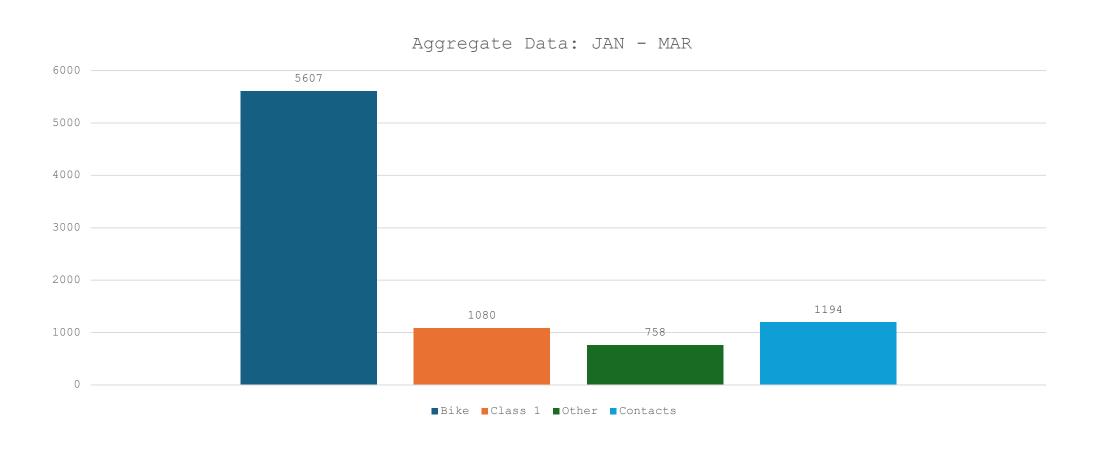
education and enforcement



Sanibel Ranger Monthly Observations and Interactions on the Shared Use Path (SUP): January to March



Sanibel Ranger Monthly Observations and Interactions on the Shared Use Path (SUP): Aggregate Data January to March



At this time, Sanibel Rangers have focused on "class-checking" e- bikes which is seen as policing the device itself-rather than enforcing speed limits and addressing reckless, aggressive behavior, both of which are essential for courteous riding and the safe integration of micromobility devices on the Shared Use Path (SUP).

Attempts to objectively identify e-bikes by class through spotting existing classification stickers have been ineffective. Stickers are often too small, blended into the bike's paint, or missing entirely. As a result, engagement relied on guessing a bike's class, then asking riders to self-identify—something many could not do accurately.

This method is inefficient, unreliable, and risks damaging public trust. Asking riders to self-identify, only to then issue a warning or citation, will likely feel deceptive and punitive, ultimately undermining both Sanibel Ranger credibility and broader leadership efforts around compliance.

Although illegal per Florida State Statute - there are multiple ways Class1 e-bikes can be modified to exceed 20 mph

Nearly five years of Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) injury data show that riders aged 65 + are consistently among the lowest-risk users of e-bikes, scooters, and other micromobility devices. Because adults 65 and older make up the majority of Sanibel's year-round population, directing this comparatively safe cohort off the Shared-Use Path and onto streets—where 40+% of e-bike injuries occur-would potentially raise their injury risk and conflict with the ordinance's safety objectives.

Engaging with riders and managing stops presents ongoing operational challenges. Sanibel Rangers frequently observe e-bikers avoiding interactions by using business parking lots as shortcuts. Despite this, the Rangers' presence throughout Sanibel Island provides invaluable benefits to the community. Their willingness to answer questions and offer assistance enhances the experience for both residents and visitors, fostering meaningful connections through these interactions.

Assuming an average of 60 public engagements per Ranger per week, a team of five Rangers would generate approximately 300 interactions weekly. This figure is expected to increase during peak season and decrease during offpeak periods. -The high volume of interactions increases the efficacy of gaining compliance through education.

Conclusion

Our goal is to establish a reasonable mileage benchmark for Rangers to cover by e-bike, which can be reliably tracked and documented using portable devices. Additionally, we will develop a concept for structuring Ranger patrols that ensures each shift throughout the week effectively addresses e-bike education, enforcement, diplomacy, wildlife conservation, and island education. This approach will enhance our efforts and create a meaningful impact in our community.