



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

*City Manager*

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**City Council Regular Meeting Date: June 2, 2026**

**To:** City Council  
**From:** Ashlee Painter, Chief Resilience Officer  
**Date:** May 13, 2026

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**SUBJECT:** Energy Vision for the Strategic Energy Plan

**BACKGROUND:** On December 16, 2025, the Sanibel City Council approved a grant awarded by the National Lab of the Rockies (NLR) to complete a Strategic Energy Plan.

The grant enables the City to participate in the fifth cohort of the Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project (ETIPP). ETIPP helps coastal, remote, and island communities move toward the energy resilience goals they set for themselves. The program provides technical assistance through a community-driven process that identifies and plans solutions tailored to each community's unique energy and resilience challenges.

Regional Partners and technical experts will collaborate directly with our community throughout the planning process. Together, we will create a strategic energy plan that includes:

- A high-level assessment of Sanibel's current energy conditions;
- A baseline of existing energy use;
- Customized community goals; and
- A detailed action plan that outlines steps to improve energy resilience and affordability in the near, mid, and long term.

On April 20, 2026, a public workshop was held to develop an Energy Vision for the plan. The result of the workshop is the following vision:

*"Sanibel strives for reliable, resilient, affordable, redundant, and plentiful energy systems within the community, while preserving the community's natural areas and wildlife as a sanctuary island."*

A public survey was conducted after the workshop to gather additional feedback on the vision statement. A total of 180 people participated, with 83% agreeing with the Energy Vision. Approximately half of respondents recognized that the draft Energy Vision Statement represented a compromise among the diverse opinions of residents. Among those who suggested revisions, the most common request was to place greater emphasis on renewable energy.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discussion. Approve the Energy Vision as written or as amended.

*Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary*