



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: January 13, 2026

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: January 5, 2026

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a grant from Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard Intersection Study

BACKGROUND:

On April 2, 2024, the City Council approved a proposal and scope of services submitted by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to complete an intersection evaluation and study of Periwinkle Way, Lindgren Boulevard, and Causeway Boulevard. The Kimley-Horn consulting team was tasked with analyzing traffic conditions and presenting findings and recommendations to the City Council.

At the August 20, 2024, City Council meeting, the consultants provided a progress report and solicited City Council input regarding traffic congestion issues. This meeting concluded the initial public engagement phase of the project. Based on that input, the Kimley-Horn team developed two alternative intersection designs for consideration by the public, the Planning Commission, and the City Council. These alternatives were presented at two public workshops held on October 23, 2024.

On November 19, 2024, Kimley-Horn presented its findings and recommendations to the Planning Commission. Following discussion, the Planning Commission approved the following motions:

1. A motion to recommend that the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard Intersection Study proceed to the next steps, approved by a 4–2 vote.
2. A motion to recommend that the City Council engage in discussions with Lee County regarding potential improvements to the Punta Rassa intersection, approved unanimously (6–0).

At the December 3, 2024, City Council meeting, Kimley-Horn presented its analysis of potential improvements to the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard intersection. The study concluded that a roundabout represented the preferred option. Following discussion, the City Council directed staff to obtain a proposal from Kimley-Horn to proceed with design survey work, 30 percent design, and an updated project cost estimate based on the next level of design.

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At the February 4, 2025, City Council meeting, staff presented Kimley-Horn's proposal to complete the 30 percent design. After discussion, the City Council tabled the appropriation of funding for the design work and directed Mayor Johnson to continue discussions with Lee County regarding the feasibility of providing two off-island travel lanes on the Sanibel Causeway.

At the June 3, 2025, City Council meeting, the City Council approved a proposal from Kimley-Horn to study the feasibility of providing two off-island travel lanes on the Sanibel Causeway. On December 16, 2025, the City Council received Kimley-Horn's report, which concluded that it is not feasible to create three travel lanes within the existing dimensions of the causeway.

On March 18, 2025, the City Council approved by consensus the submission of a grant application to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Priority Project Program under the Congestion Management category. The application requested \$740,000 to complete 100 percent design of improvements at the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard intersection in Fiscal Year 2030–31. The application was submitted to FDOT through the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

At the October 21, 2025, City Council meeting, Councilmember Henshaw reported that he attended the October 17, 2025, MPO meeting on behalf of Mayor Miller and that the MPO approved funding for the City to study improvements at the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard intersection. Following that meeting, staff spoke with MPO Executive Director Don Scott, who advised that while the City had applied for design funding in FY 2030–31, the MPO had available transportation planning funds in the current year and voted to allocate \$160,000 to advance the project to the 30 percent design level. Mr. Scott further advised that a formal grant agreement would not be required for City Council approval and that the MPO would retain a consultant from its approved consultant library. Kimley-Horn is one of the MPO's approved consultants.

Because the City Council tabled further action on the roundabout intersection study on February 4, 2025, and did not anticipate that funding would be available for additional study of the Periwinkle Way/Causeway Boulevard intersection until FY 2030–31, staff is requesting City Council approval to accept the MPO funding and to select Kimley-Horn to complete the 30 percent design for the project.

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion. City Council vote to accept or decline the MPO grant in the amount of \$160,000 to complete the intersection improvement design to the 30% design level and to select Kimley Horn to complete the study.

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