



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 2, 2021
TO: Sanibel City Council
VIA: Judie A. Zimomra, City Manager
FROM: Steven C. Chaipel, Finance Director
SUBJECT: Sanibel Causeway Traffic Counts – December 2020

Please find attached the December 2020 Sanibel Causeway inbound vehicle counts. The total inbound vehicle count in December 2020 (270,520) decreased by 5.07% compared to December 2019 (284,979). The highest recorded traffic for December was experienced in 2015 when 288,846 vehicles crossed during the month.

The coronavirus pandemic continues to affect island traffic. Total calendar year traffic finished at 11.12% below the previous calendar year. The State and Local states of emergency were still in effect as of this memorandum.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 vs 2019	
January	305,957	301,565	305,372	318,315	12,943	4.24%
February	307,537	313,409	310,367	321,085	10,718	3.45%
March	353,755	355,410	355,759	265,546	(90,213)	(25.36%)
April	317,735	311,012	314,979	123,130	(191,849)	(60.91%)
May	283,150	262,653	283,526	221,665	(61,861)	(21.82%)
June	252,600	262,365	256,840	252,000	(4,840)	(1.88%)
July	279,305	266,178	265,024	255,010	(10,014)	(3.78%)
August	245,991	206,903	234,099	233,491	(608)	(0.26%)
September	129,701	184,237	207,956	218,338	10,382	4.99%
October	257,307	239,426	253,144	246,035	(7,109)	(2.81%)
November	274,306	261,399	266,766	242,527	(24,239)	(9.09%)
December	286,545	275,964	284,979	270,520	(14,459)	(5.07%)
YTD Total	3,293,889	3,240,521	3,338,811	2,967,662	(371,149)	(11.12%)
Total Year	3,293,889	3,240,521	3,338,811	2,967,662		

For purposes of revenue projection, it is also useful to compare vehicle counts presented on the City's fiscal year (which runs October to September) to identify issues that affect the forecast trends. The current fiscal year count of 270,520 vehicles (December) is lower than the previous fiscal year November total of 284,979 due to the previously mentioned pandemic.

The charts on the next page compare the current year with the last five fiscal years for both fiscal year to date and total year to date counts.

Total fiscal year and fiscal year to date causeway counts:

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
October	255,097	257,644	257,307	239,426	253,144	246,035
November	268,749	274,382	274,306	261,399	266,766	242,527
December	288,846	286,146	286,545	275,964	284,979	270,520
January	299,519	305,957	301,565	305,372	318,315	
February	309,434	307,537	313,409	310,367	321,085	
March	356,633	353,755	355,410	355,759	265,546	
April	311,725	317,735	311,012	314,979	123,130	
May	278,614	283,150	262,653	283,526	221,665	
June	255,834	252,600	262,365	256,840	252,000	
July	269,576	279,305	266,178	265,024	255,010	
August	238,931	245,991	206,903	234,099	233,491	
September	220,810	129,701	184,237	207,956	218,338	
Total FY	3,353,768	3,293,903	3,281,890	3,310,711	3,013,469	759,082

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
October	255,097	257,644	257,307	239,426	253,144	246,035
November	268,749	274,382	274,306	261,399	266,766	242,527
December	288,846	286,146	286,545	275,964	284,979	270,520
FYTD	812,692	818,172	818,158	776,789	804,889	759,082

¹ Easter 2017 was on April 16, 2017 and Easter 2018 was on April 1, 2018. In 2019, Easter falls on April 21, 2019.

² Hurricane Irma landed on Sanibel September 10, 2017. Due to Hurricane Irma, tolls suspended September 7, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. until September 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Traffic counts were not taken while tolls were suspended

³ On July 9, 2018, Governor Scott declared a state of emergency for Lee County and several other counties due to the environmental threat posed by increasing toxic algae blooms. On July 27, 2018 Lee County declared a state of emergency in response to the toxic bloom. On August 7, 2018, the City of Sanibel declared a local state of emergency in response to the toxic bloom

⁴ On March 9, 2020 Governor Desantis declared a state of emergency for the State of Florida due to COVID-19. On March 17, 2020 Lee County declared a local state of emergency related to the same. The City Council declared a local state of emergency on March 18, 2020. As a result of these actions, visitation and traffic to the island was significantly negatively impacted starting in March 2020.

TOTAL VEHICLES THROUGH SANIBEL CAUSEWAY BY MONTH

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
1975	71,497	77,820	92,725	70,355	60,632	59,139	62,322	62,201	45,480	53,450	59,084	78,668	795,348
1976	84,299	96,545	111,476	89,794	71,553	70,031	75,252	71,522	58,676	62,895	71,382	89,853	953,278
1977	94,447	108,599	129,246	103,187	82,152	77,932	83,723	79,071	65,662	75,735	85,564	97,797	1,083,115
1978	104,193	115,285	145,573	108,652	95,454	90,836	99,998	88,175	80,288	89,577	99,901	107,774	1,235,706
1979	120,611	133,867	161,086	132,023	106,364	97,850	99,924	101,007	78,769	98,014	108,945	118,275	1,356,735
1980	132,655	148,630	171,790	144,903	123,261	117,852	124,672	120,338	98,302	115,265	119,052	136,561	1,553,281
1981	141,531	158,419	187,929	159,416	139,422	139,422	126,940	134,746	127,094	111,486	123,591	131,986	1,684,914
1982	151,598	172,210	205,406	171,080	142,796	123,004	133,581	125,851	108,680	123,777	138,525	150,133	1,746,641
1983	165,687	175,371	206,486	175,982	155,029	137,686	140,377	138,763	123,577	145,603	155,938	167,072	1,887,571
1984	177,772	202,219	238,398	198,917	172,520	155,093	157,527	161,249	136,934	161,877	172,336	185,437	2,120,279
1985	195,656	214,378	260,947	218,871	189,217	166,656	170,963	171,472	144,877	171,828	184,240	201,856	2,290,961
1986	222,671	237,844	277,318	233,768	205,791	184,725	192,522	190,157	165,626	189,818	199,923	218,970	2,519,133
1987	237,853	253,132	292,300	256,283	228,039	202,271	212,669	198,889	179,830	203,003	218,186	227,822	2,710,277
1988	240,333	263,684	298,358	261,259	227,835	211,278	219,390	202,843	185,991	211,476	225,141	232,510	2,780,098
1989	262,812	275,217	319,506	265,334	240,919	217,282	223,224	217,561	194,282	224,655	234,250	226,305	2,901,347
1990	263,259	283,752	330,219	286,758	247,651	226,605	227,423	228,836	196,113	229,494	248,957	251,114	3,020,181
1991	284,739	287,309	327,890	285,819	249,680	220,757	225,596	223,316	191,537	225,082	238,544	253,706	3,013,975
1992	280,819	297,992	325,286	282,992	254,534	220,681	240,321	221,543	208,241	241,442	250,092	264,262	3,088,205
1993	290,670	296,725	337,653	302,459	261,192	233,296	246,572	233,370	212,183	239,421	259,123	270,798	3,183,462
1994	293,531	300,002	357,362	308,596	264,426	228,980	240,589	234,362	212,574	246,573	265,715	272,408	3,225,118
1995	299,559	308,171	348,594	307,534	268,757	230,841	243,361	199,379	209,803	241,521	270,379	271,923	3,199,822
1996	304,407	326,104	347,728	311,173	271,955	238,613	250,166	241,345	212,542	246,955	264,623	268,229	3,283,840
1997	306,316	310,880	359,236	305,966	277,043	243,687	253,515	244,433	208,686	253,406	264,595	269,812	3,297,575
1998	307,702	312,839	354,579	323,198	278,057	244,061	257,095	244,650	194,238	261,953	276,278	281,724	3,336,374
1999	309,901	321,124	364,627	321,078	277,797	245,719	266,201	245,368	220,735	248,747	282,998	280,212	3,384,507
2000	314,885	334,888	362,049	318,087	284,199	256,539	263,139	244,603	224,860	261,497	284,445	284,578	3,433,769
2001	322,154	333,949	373,881	330,856	289,756	262,558	265,127	257,564	209,826	253,214	280,433	281,029	3,460,347
2002	318,784	324,030	372,848	322,133	283,490	249,509	266,951	254,452	218,476	262,318	279,067	278,258	3,430,316
2003	292,127	299,200	334,043	298,465	269,750	240,791	261,964	243,152	208,777	261,425	274,091	273,962	3,257,747
2004	304,643	318,535	356,220	316,083	275,031	253,718	270,112	144,277	169,391	235,888	231,622	236,781	3,112,301
2005	267,889	273,111	319,514	273,327	243,571	220,531	232,041	212,698	183,277	183,538	239,412	241,946	2,890,855
2006	268,038	266,706	322,245	276,324	240,382	219,615	218,316	196,253	180,467	213,190	236,941	237,016	2,875,493
2007	271,923	267,015	317,457	272,220	240,125	224,222	227,500	215,347	184,663	217,740	238,781	241,586	2,918,579
2008	273,912	291,589	325,814	280,186	245,084	216,491	226,915	201,964	174,041	214,334	229,541	244,711	2,924,582
2009	273,234	280,538	323,380	285,150	235,716	218,375	231,610	205,751	180,175	217,507	232,254	243,172	2,926,862
2010	261,120	270,500	325,113	283,061	241,916	217,699	224,456	200,719	180,493	213,581	232,349	235,598	2,886,605
2011	259,151	280,964	334,523	289,364	240,349	222,098	234,623	208,694	183,962	213,083	240,131	246,690	2,953,632
2012	271,691	292,491	340,172	282,961	245,846	221,719	240,786	209,467	189,037	224,850	242,704	247,159	3,008,883
2013	285,060	287,624	334,060	288,245	257,262	233,178	248,063	226,855	191,824	233,944	251,694	263,481	3,101,290
2014	290,447	299,537	344,119	303,528	266,028	240,195	256,779	234,804	197,119	245,090	254,257	277,597	3,209,500
2015	307,302	300,449	355,695	313,112	275,167	254,435	264,087	238,868	212,624	255,097	268,749	288,846	3,334,431
2016	299,519	309,434	356,633	311,725	278,614	255,834	269,576	238,931	220,810	257,644	274,382	286,146	3,359,248
2017	305,957	307,537	353,755	317,735	283,150	252,600	279,305	245,991	129,701	257,307	274,306	286,545	3,293,889
2018	301,565	313,409	355,410	311,012	262,653	262,365	266,178	206,903	184,237	239,426	261,399	275,964	3,240,521
2019	305,372	310,367	355,759	314,979	283,526	256,840	265,024	234,099	207,956	253,144	266,766	284,979	3,338,811
2020	318,315	321,085	265,546	123,130	221,665	252,000	255,010	233,491	218,338	246,035	242,527	270,520	2,967,662

07/18, 08/18, 09/18 Unprecedented red tide fish kill was experienced

Easter 2016 was on March 27, 2016 and Easter 2017 was on April 16, 2017. Easter 2018 was on April 1, 2018

Hurricane Irma landed on Sanibel September 10, 2017. Due to Hurricane Irma, tolls suspended September 7, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. until September 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Traffic counts were not taken while tolls were suspended.

February 2016 included 29 days

January 2016 total rainfall recorded at Tarpon Bay weir 12.5 inches. January 2017 total rainfall recorded at Tarpon Bay weir 0.23 inch.

08/27/12 Toll Facility closed due to Tropical Storm Isaac

08/18/08-08/19/08 Toll Facility closed due to Tropical Storm Fay

10/23/05-10/25/05 Toll Facility closed due to Hurricane Wilma

09/01-09/05/04 - Causeway closed to non-residents & non-business owners

08/19-08/31/04 - Causeway closed to non-residents & non-business owners

08/12/04-08/18/04 - Toll Facility closed due to Hurricane Charley

01/20/03 - Causeway shut down for emergency repairs to Span "B"

09/24/98-09/27/98 - Toll Facility closed due to Hurricane Georges

11/96-12/96 - Estimated; new toll equipment installed

08/95 - Computer "crashed" - estimated total

Lee County Toll System
PERIODIC DAILY AVI TRAFFIC REPORT
 Sanibel Island

Start Date: 12/01/2020

End Date: 12/31/2020

Revenue Date	Prepaid Variable			Prepaid			AVI Exempt	Total
	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full	AVI	AVI Red	AVI Full		
12/01/2020	0	0	0	1411	2246	2197	58	5912
12/02/2020	0	0	0	1219	2170	2188	59	5636
12/03/2020	0	0	0	1502	2261	2192	45	6000
12/04/2020	0	0	0	1551	2286	2252	46	6135
12/05/2020	0	0	0	1583	1740	1537	31	4891
12/06/2020	0	0	0	1155	1389	1111	24	3679
12/07/2020	0	0	0	1212	2024	2094	62	5392
12/08/2020	0	0	0	1393	2181	2192	59	5825
12/09/2020	0	0	0	1319	2162	2215	65	5761
12/10/2020	0	0	0	1437	2271	2262	48	6018
12/11/2020	0	0	0	1634	2268	2258	48	6208
12/12/2020	0	0	0	1642	1768	1533	33	4976
12/13/2020	0	0	0	1373	1387	1152	31	3943
12/14/2020	0	0	0	1289	2137	2110	59	5595
12/15/2020	0	0	0	1412	2325	2196	61	5994
12/16/2020	0	0	0	1455	2277	2271	55	6058
12/17/2020	0	0	0	1448	2289	2261	58	6056
12/18/2020	0	0	0	1604	2355	2269	48	6276
12/19/2020	0	0	0	1599	1771	1556	22	4948
12/20/2020	0	0	0	1409	1469	1163	26	4067
12/21/2020	0	0	0	1773	2324	2123	46	6266
12/22/2020	0	0	0	1633	2366	2174	45	6218
12/23/2020	0	0	0	1834	2311	2155	33	6333
12/24/2020	0	0	0	1525	1828	1841	16	5210
12/25/2020	0	0	0	1012	851	738	17	2618
12/26/2020	0	0	0	1711	1536	1430	16	4693
12/27/2020	0	0	0	1586	1410	1169	30	4195
12/28/2020	0	0	0	1928	2154	2047	42	6171
12/29/2020	0	0	0	2146	2253	2055	35	6489
12/30/2020	0	0	0	2155	2322	2160	34	6671
12/31/2020	0	0	0	1998	2067	1953	25	6043
Total:	0	0	0	47948	62198	58854	1277	170277

PERIODIC DAILY LANE TRAFFIC REPORT

Sanibel Island

Start Date: 12/01/2020

End Date: 12/31/2020

Date	Lane 1	Lane 2	Lane 3	Total
12/01/2020	2,052	2,322	4,153	8,527
12/02/2020	1,692	2,035	4,356	8,083
12/03/2020	1,915	2,268	4,518	8,701
12/04/2020	1,982	2,390	4,616	8,988
12/05/2020	2,070	2,345	3,731	8,146
12/06/2020	1,276	2,052	2,817	6,145
12/07/2020	1,627	1,926	4,068	7,621
12/08/2020	726	3,030	4,557	8,313
12/09/2020	1,686	2,127	4,370	8,183
12/10/2020	1,860	2,283	4,457	8,600
12/11/2020	2,054	2,452	4,584	9,090
12/12/2020	2,159	2,461	3,705	8,325
12/13/2020	1,752	1,977	2,947	6,676
12/14/2020	1,755	2,129	4,237	8,121
12/15/2020	1,911	2,245	4,508	8,664
12/16/2020	1,854	2,288	4,533	8,675
12/17/2020	1,885	2,322	4,545	8,752
12/18/2020	2,130	2,444	4,656	9,230
12/19/2020	2,287	2,534	3,706	8,527
12/20/2020	1,978	2,109	3,058	7,145
12/21/2020	2,316	2,639	4,718	9,673
12/22/2020	2,306	2,624	4,671	9,601
12/23/2020	2,595	2,837	4,730	10,162
12/24/2020	2,216	2,426	3,884	8,526
12/25/2020	1,558	1,550	1,902	5,010
12/26/2020	2,883	3,018	3,549	9,450
12/27/2020	2,637	2,917	3,190	8,744
12/28/2020	2,962	3,338	4,694	10,994
12/29/2020	3,072	3,440	4,966	11,478
12/30/2020	3,133	3,612	4,942	11,687
12/31/2020	2,875	3,384	4,424	10,683
Total:	65,204	77,524	127,792	270,520