

## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Town Commission  
**FROM:** Tom Harmer, Town Manager  
**REPORT DATE:** February 11, 2020  
**MEETING DATE:** February 18, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Barrier Island Traffic Mitigation Plan

### **Recommended Action**

None, informational only.

### **Background**

At the February 3, 2020 Regular Meeting the Commission directed staff to develop an action plan to articulate the Town's mitigation efforts to relieve barrier island traffic congestion.

The Town Manager has developed a list of goals, focus areas, and actions steps for implementation over the next 30-60 days which is attached, and a PowerPoint presentation that he will present at the February 18, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting.

### **Staff Recommendation**

None, informational only.

### **Attachments**

- A. Barrier Island Traffic Plan
- B. PowerPoint Presentation (Available in Town Clerk's Office)

## **Barrier Island Traffic Mitigation Plan**

### **Goals:**

1. Utilize available traffic data to measure traffic conditions and related impacts from projects or changes in traffic patterns.
2. Institutionalize a process through which the Town receives notification by local governments and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) during the maintenance of traffic planning stage of related construction projects. Staff will then facilitate a discussion on potential mitigation techniques. Targeted agencies: FDOT, City of Sarasota, Bradenton Beach, and Manatee County.
3. Institutionalize a process for notification of special, or annual events that may impact traffic ingress/egress along the barrier island-to-mainland corridor. Targeted agencies: FDOT, City of Sarasota, Bradenton Beach, and Manatee County.
4. Advocate for off season scheduling for construction or maintenance projects, night working hours, and reducing overlap of projects, etc.
5. Seek collaboration and support from other affected communities (St. Armand's, Lido Key, Bird Key, Bradenton Beach)

### **Focus Areas:**

1. Establish baseline measures of existing traffic features.
2. Construction and event activity coordination, communications, and identify mitigation options.
3. Improvements to address roadway network congestion.
4. Advocacy.

### **Action Steps for next 30-60 days:**

1. Inventory current construction projects that may impact Longboat Key's ingress/egress.
2. Inventory pipeline projects that may impact Longboat Key's ingress/egress.
3. Request agencies to include Longboat Key in their notification checklist.
4. Identify traffic data source options and associated costs/resources to analyze and report on traffic conditions and impacts.
5. Meet with representatives from Lido Key, St. Armand's, Bird Key to discuss joint advocacy on traffic congestion issues.
6. Meet with FDOT and City of Sarasota to discuss current projects and projected schedule for future roundabout projects.
7. Meet with representatives from Bradenton Beach and Manatee County to discuss current and planned projects, and projected schedules.
8. Actively participate in Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) (Commissioner liaison to MPO) to advocate for implementation of Barrier Island related improvements. (On-going)
9. Staff to actively participate in MPO Barrier Island Traffic Study (BITS) Technical Committee to monitor and review efforts to implement BITS recommendations. (On-going)

**End of Agenda Item**