

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Lee Commissioners approve contracts as part of Sanibel Causeway Islands project**

Fort Myers, FL, Aug. 17, 2021 – The Lee Board of County Commissioners voted Tuesday to award contracts for engineering services for enhancements to both Sanibel Causeway Islands A and B and construction services for the shoreline stabilization of Island B.

The contracts are part of a larger project on the Causeway islands. Plans approved by the Board in December call for the shoring up of erosion-prone areas of Islands A and B, which are part of the Sanibel Causeway. Beach sand also will be added along parts of these islands. In addition, enhancements will be made to upland portions of both islands, including the creation of structured parking, new restrooms on Island A, additional picnic pavilions, pathways and landscaping, and the addition of other park amenities.

In preparation for the project, Lee County crews in July removed Australian pines, which is an invasive exotic species. They will be replaced with native trees.

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. was awarded the contract for the construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services for the shoreline stabilization and upland improvements of Islands A and B.

Spectrum Contracting, Inc. was awarded the contract to provide construction services for the stabilization of the shoreline of Sanibel Causeway Island B.

The construction contract for the stabilization of causeway Island A and upland improvements for Islands A and B will be brought to the Board of the County Commissioners at a later date.

Lee County Parks & Recreation will host an open house from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26, at the Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center, 16760 Bass Road, Fort Myers for the Causeway Islands Park Improvement project. The public is invited to view preliminary project plans and renderings as well as discuss the park improvements with a consultant and county staff.

The \$8.5 million project ultimately will enhance both Island A and Island B using Tourist Development Taxes and state funds. The county plans to keep construction impacts to a minimum and complete the project by summer 2024.

For more information on Lee County Parks & Recreation facilities, visit [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org) or call 239-533-7275.