

## CITY OF VENICE – STRATEGIC TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT REPORT

As growth in the City of Venice continues, there is a need for ongoing assessments of traffic and transportation demands. Annexation of properties and residual residential development will add vehicle and pedestrian density to the existing roadway system. In addition, larger residential developments will include the creation of new streets; some of which will remain private and some of which may become public roads. This report provides summary data on traffic and transportation issues affecting Venice and surrounding areas. The report is a snapshot of current conditions and recognizes the dynamic growth environment and the need for continued assessment updates.

Projections of growth and the need for specific capital projects are based on data analysis. On an ongoing basis, the City of Venice and Sarasota County both collect and analyze traffic and transportation data to assist in capital projects decision-making. In some cases decisions on project priorities may not perfectly align, due in part to assumptions and extrapolations made from data analysis, and in part from other influences including fund availability. For purposes of this report, assessments and recommendations are based on Venice data.

This report focuses on traffic management and related safety issues. The City's broader strategic landscape is found in the local Comprehensive Land Use Plan; of which *Transportation and Mobility* is a significant component. Similarly, the County's Comprehensive Plan contains a subsidiary Thoroughfare Plan. City and county staff communicate with each other on transportation projects that affect the respective traffic and transportation plans.

The determination of priorities for road and transportation projects consider the following criteria:

- current and projected growth rate (residential, commercial, industrial development)
- efficiency of transportation corridors, including major arteries
- recorded accident data
- multi-modal opportunities and enhancements
- traffic signalization
- alternative transportation options

The City uses specific planning tools to establish a strategic plan for transportation projects. Each year, the City updates its Capital Improvement Schedule (CIS). That document identifies and prioritizes traffic and transportation capital projects from a local planning perspective. The Venice City Council adopted the most recent CIS in May 2019. In addition, Venice has representative members on the Board of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the regional planning agent for transportation projects. Capital project requests can be submitted to the MPO for inclusion in their five-year strategic planning model. If approved and included in the MPO strategic plan the City may receive MPO funding to support the capital costs of the respective projects.

Along with the identification of capital project needs, funding options are a necessary and dynamic component of the City's strategic planning process. As some funding sources may limit or direct the use of funds the recipient may adjust the order in which local projects are implemented to accommodate the availability of outside funding supplements.