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FEB - 9 2012

BCC OFFICE

February 9, 2012

Mrs. L. Morris  
38144 Inwoods Trail  
Eustis, FL 32736

Commissioner L. Campione  
P.O. Box 7800  
Tavares, FL 32778

Dear Commissioner:

I currently live at the above address, which happens to be a sand/dirt road off of Route 439. The road is currently impassible. Several people have gotten stuck and had to be pulled out, I was one of those this morning.

I contacted the road maintenance barn in Umatilla earlier this week to see if they could fix the road now, since they had fixed a place up the road about 200 feet just a couple of years ago. Steve told me they could not since it was a private road – was it private then as well? I understood that if any road in Lake County was not accessible to **ambulances and fire equipment**, then Lake County would fix the roadway.

My 76-year-old father stays with me. His health is minimal at best and I worry that if we need an ambulance, they would not be able to get to him, or that I would not be able to get him out if necessary. This is a hazard to all of us living on this road.

Please contact me via email [moandred@yahoo.com](mailto:moandred@yahoo.com) or my cell 352/516-0015 and let me know if there is anything that can be done about this situation.

Thank you,



L. Morris

**LAKE COUNTY, Fla.** — There's a fight over who should pay to maintain 130 miles of clay roads in Lake County.

Taxpayers have shelled out nearly a \$500,000 in recent years to fix roads that aren't the county's responsibility.

Challenger Drive near Tavares is a road that is a case in point. A homeowner nearby said she recently graded it, and it rained a bit Wednesday to keep the dust down.

But drivers said sometimes it's nearly impossible to get down the road.



Indeed, life along Challenger Drive has its challenges. Just ask Clyde George.

"Boy, when it rains, it's a mess," he said. "I ain't kidding. Ninety percent of it is underwater."

Challenger is not paved. It's one of nearly 2,000 dirt roads not maintained by Lake County.

"At least maintain it. Do something with it!" George said.

"When I get out there, people say, 'Well, what am I paying my taxes for? I can't get out of my property,'" homeowner Leslie Campione said.

 County leaders said they receive constant complaints about it. They'll fix dirt roads only to ensure that fire trucks and ambulances can get through. Repairs are very expensive. 

*This is from a wftv.com webpage.*