



LAKE COUNTY
FLORIDA

January 23, 2012

Mr. and Mrs. Don and Georgina Gilileo
19654 Twin Ponds Road
Umatilla, Florida 32784-7574

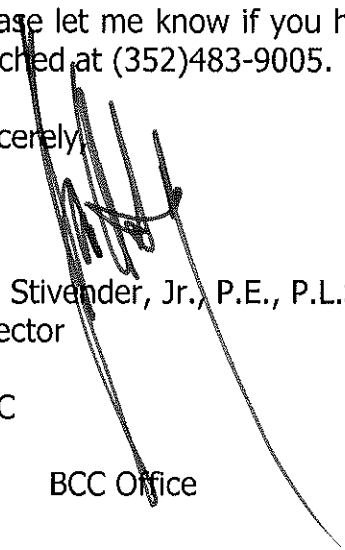
RE: Twin Ponds Road

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gilileo:

Thank you for your letter dated January 11, 2012. Our revenue projection for construction projects has forced us not to pave any clay roads within the last several years. The Department's focus has been on resurfacing paved roads and safety projects, such as intersection improvements. The Umatilla Maintenance Barn works hard to ensure the road is graded on a two week cycle; however, as you know, the weather plays big part in their operation. As our revenue forecast improves, we will include paving roads in our Transportation Construction Program and address the 120+ miles of clay roads in Lake County. In regards to your access to CR-44A concerns, my office will evaluate this intersection and make adjustments as necessary.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. I can be reached at (352)483-9005.

Sincerely,


Jim Stivender, Jr., P.E., P.L.S.
Director

:LLC

CC: BCC Office

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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Board of County Commissioners ♦ www.lakecountyfl.gov

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BCC OFFICE

January 11, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

We are seeking help with issues we are having with the county maintained road that our home is on.

We have contacted Lake County Public Works seeking help, sending a letter to Mr. Jim Stivender, the Public Works Director, with no response. So we are hoping you may be able to help us get some results.

When we bought our home, on Twin Ponds Road in Umatilla, of course we knew we were buying a home on a dirt road, but it was a quite country road used mainly by people who live in this area. The county was grading the road every so often and it was livable. Then the county put a thick layer of clay on the road and shortly after we had several days of rain. The road became impassable to most vehicles with several being stuck, including my daughter's. Calls to the county resulted in asphalt millings being applied to the road which was great for a short while, until the county then came out and ground up the millings with the clay underneath it. The road we have been left with is very rough and very dusty. A problem that has been magnified since Lake County built a municipal park near us and our road has had a significant increase in traffic, as it is a convenient cut through to the new park.

Our road is now so rough, especially in front of our house, it jars your vehicle violently and it also vibrates and jars our house when vehicles are going down it. Also the dust off of the road is horrible. In the mornings and afternoons, when traffic is heavy, the dust is so thick in the air it looks like fog. This dust off of the asphalt millings has coated our house, air conditioning unit, cars, swimming pool deck and cage, and everything on our property. We cannot enjoy going outside in the evenings because the dust in the air is so thick. We are also concerned about how safe it is for us to breathe this air filled with the dust of asphalt millings.

The road being so rough has also seen an increase in people speeding down our road, trying to stay on top of the ruts so as not jar their car so bad. This increases the dust and is dangerous. We have had Lake County Sherriff's Deputies out here a few times to try and slow down the speeders but it hasn't helped.

Another issue we have with our road is the safety of the access of our road to CR 44A. Our road access is on a sharp curve making it unsafe turning west on to CR 44A . Locals have made a trail off to the west side of Twin Ponds road to access CR 44A but this is not always passable to a small car, and should not have to be done to safely access a county road from another county road.

We are asking for any help you may be able to give us to get these problems solved. Our home, property and vehicles that we work hard for are being ruined by these issues with our Lake County maintained road. Obviously Lake County's Public Works Director is not going to do anything to help us or our neighbors to protect our properties as we have had no response from him since contacting him over two years ago, and the road is still in poor condition. Any help you might be able to give will be greatly appreciated!

Thank You,
Don and Georgina Gilileo