Message

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Sent: 10/31/2019 7:15:02 PM
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Subject: Ridge Road Extension

Please add this to the administrative record for the Ridge Road Extension - SAJ-2011-00551(SP-TSH).

https://www.tampabay.com/news/pasco/2019/10/28/pasco-hurricane-evacuation-studies-flawed-reader-says/

Pasco hurricane evacuation studies flawed, reader says

Letters to the editor for Nov. 1

Pasco County community news [TMCCARTY80 | Tara McCarty]
Published 3 hours ago

Pasco's traffic analyses 'falsely' classifies roadways

In a recent letter to the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Palm Harbor, cited hurricane evacuation as an urgent need and safety concern.

I studied and commented extensively to the Corps on the hurricane evacuation and daily traffic analyses that Pasco County submitted to the Corps.

One comment summarized falsely classified roadways in the 2013 and 2015 hurricane and daily traffic studies. For example, State Road 54 from US 19 to Rowan Road was classified correctly in three studies; but in the 2015 hurricane study, it was classified as undivided and with more traffic signals than exist today. Rowan Road was correctly classified as divided only in the 2013 hurricane study. In the other three, it was classified falsely as undivided.

Google Earth historical images clearly show that these two road segments were divided by 2003. There are about 40 segments that have false classifications in these studies; 85 percent of the 20 false classifications in the southern part of the area would slow down the 2015 hurricane evacuation study.

For hurricane evacuation, all these roads are important. These inconsistencies cannot be explained by differences in methodology.

Richard Sommerville, *Hudson*