

From: [Gina Peebles](#)
Bcc: [Andi Christman](#); [Betsy Waite](#); [bonnburg@gmail.com](#); [cheaton@holtzmanvogel.com](#); [Damon Messina](#); [davidruiz@gmail.com](#); [edcenter@att.net](#); [Eric Drummond](#) ([edrummond2000@yahoo.com](#)); [gatorjillc@gmail.com](#); [Jack Kulas@hotmail.com](#); [Juan Parada](#); [Nancy Wilkinson](#) ([nwillkin21@gmail.com](#)); [pboyas@holtzmanvogel.com](#); [Phil Mann](#); [Ross Ambrose](#) ([Ross@WestSideStories.com](#)); [SingletonBM@cityofgainesville.org](#); [Stephen Howard](#) ([showard36@cox.net](#)); [tamararobbinsjm@cox.net](#)
Subject: FW: Black Lake Preserve Update - Road repairs needed badly
Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:52:49 AM
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I am adding this to your Sep. 22 ISOB agenda for a pre-expenditure review. You did approve something similar for the City of Gainesville in October 2023 (minutes attached).

Thanks and please let me know if you have questions.

Gina Peebles, CPRP

Assistant County Manager - Chief of Staff
County Manager's Office
12 SE 1st Street • Gainesville • FL • 32601
352-337-6279 (office) • 352-538-8265 (mobile)



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From: Ken Cornell <kcornell@alachuacounty.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:44 AM
To: lw@clearpassage.com
Cc: Ramon D. Gavarrete <rgavarrete@alachuacounty.us>; mavera@avera.com; Jesse Natwick <jnatwick@alachuacounty.us>; Gina Peebles <gpeebles@alachuacounty.us>; Michele Lieberman <mlieberman@alachuacounty.us>; angelacornell@bosshardtrealty.com
Subject: Re: Black Lake Preserve Update - Road repairs needed badly

Larry

Yesterday during our Board meeting the Commission unanimously requested that the infrastructure oversight board review this request to repave the portion of the road from highway 26 to the park entrance. Typically this tax will not pay for any road infrastructure it only pays for park infrastructure. If this request is "pre approved" as a qualifying use of surtax dollars, then the County's public works staff can then evaluate the cost of repaving the remainder of the neighborhoods road at the same time which would be the most cost effective way to handle repaving totem pole road.

This potential project would result in a specific benefit to the neighbors who live on this road. While I agree that the taxpayers that live on this road already pay their taxes, the reality of the situation with the counties road infrastructure back log and needs, is that this road does not have enough trips to justify it rising to the level for it to be repaved in the foreseeable future. In

fact, this neighborhood road is not in the Counties current work plan for repaving in the next 10 years.

If the neighbors desire for this road to be repaved, it would need to be done as a special improvement district. Again, the most cost-effective time to do this is when public works is performing other work nearby.

I hope this helps clarify things, I'm certainly available to discuss further if you have additional questions.

Best Regards,

Ken

Sent from my iPhone

Ken Cornell

County Commissioner
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12 SE 1st ST • Gainesville • FL • 32601
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On Jul 9, 2025, at 7:46 AM, Larry Wurn <lw@clearpassage.com> wrote:

Thanks Ken and Ramon,

This sounds possible, at least as far as the worst part of the road - before the curve. However the residents pay a LOT in property taxes and do not pose any burden on the school system. Hoping the county can at least extend paving over the worst of the road, before the curve.

Sent from Larry Wurn's iPhone

On Jul 8, 2025, at 8:07 AM, Ken Cornell <kcornell@alachuacounty.us> wrote:

Ramon

If the County could pave the road up to the park entrance, perhaps the neighbors could participate in finishing this pavement project to the end of the road. This would be a short extension. This seems like a perfect opportunity to solve a decade old problem with county/citizen cooperation. I've copied Mark Avera and Larry Wurn on this request and I'm happy to facilitate this process if public works could take an active role as the County approaches the opening of this park. Thanks a bunch!

Ken

Sent from my iPhone

Ken Cornell

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Jesse Natwick <jnatwick@alachuacounty.us>
Date: July 7, 2025 at 12:00:08 PM EDT
To: lw@clearpassage.com
Cc: Ryan Kennelly <rkennelly@alachuacounty.us>, Ken Cornell
<kcornell@alachuacounty.us>, "Ramon D. Gavarrete" <rgavarrete@alachuacounty.us>,
Andi Christman <achristman@alachuacounty.us>
Subject: RE: Black Lake Preserve Update - Road repairs needed badly

Hello Larry,

Thank you for the update and bringing this to our attention.
The county Land Conservation program is charged with the acquisition and management of the county conservation lands, including the acquisition of the Black Lake Preserve Property and provision of a public trailhead there in coming months. This program does not manage the county road system, but I have copied the Public Works Director, Ramon Gavarete, to make him aware of this discussion.

Some additional information on the County Road Projects can be found here:
<https://alachuacounty.civilspace.io/en/projects/road-projects>

Thank you,
Jesse

From: lw@clearpassage.com <lw@clearpassage.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:22 PM
To: Jesse Natwick <jnatwick@alachuacounty.us>
Cc: Ryan Kennelly <rkennelly@alachuacounty.us>; Ken Cornell <kcornell@alachuacounty.us>
Subject: Black Lake Preserve Update - Road repairs needed badly

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thank you, Jesse,

With all the county is doing to acquire and maintain this wonderful park area, it would be terrific if they would resurface the entrance road. It's terrible, and has been getting much worse over the years. One of our household workers totally blew out a tire on a pothole in the road. Her chest hit the steering wheel, injuring her badly. While I don't believe she will sue the county she loves, this sort of injury to cars and people is bound to occur more and more often.

Your beautiful acreage deserves a professional entry road. Let us know if any of the residents, Lake Dwellers or others can help inspire the county to do that.

Warm regards,

Larry Wurn

Larry Wurn

6840 NE 225th St.

Melrose, FL 32666

352-339-6606 cell

lw@clearpassage.com

On Jul 3, 2025, at 10:30 AM, Jesse Natwick <jnatwick@alachuacounty.us> wrote:

Hello,

This is Jesse again from Black Lake Preserve. I just wanted to give you all another update. Obviously, the timber harvest has not happened yet at the preserve. There was a little miscommunication, and it is looking like the timber harvest may not happen until later in the year. That being said, as soon as I get information of a start date I will reach back out to share that info.

As before, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Jesse

From: Jesse Natwick <jnatwick@alachuacounty.us>

Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 1:38 PM

Cc: Ryan Kennelly <rkennelly@alachuacounty.us>

Subject: Black Lake Preserve Update

Hello Black Lake Preserve neighbors,

My name is Jesse Natwick, I am the Senior Environmental Specialist who has taken over the management of Black Lake Preserve. I just wanted to reach out and notify you all of upcoming activities. We are planning for a timber harvest in the coming weeks, and once started may take a couple weeks to complete. The timber harvest goal is to reduce the overall density to a more historically natural level, let more light reach the ground to encourage native

plants and wildflowers, and reduce overly thick areas. We will be mostly targeting small to medium, unhealthy, and/or deformed pine trees as well as hardwood species that have moved uphill from wetland edges. Once this is complete, staff will be moving forward with plans to open the site, hopefully by the end of this calendar year.

Attached is a map of the timber harvest area to help give a better picture of where the harvest will be.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,
Jesse

Jesse Natwick

Senior Environmental Specialist
Environmental Protection Department
14 NE 1st Street • Gainesville • FL • 32601
352-264-6800 (office) • 352-664-8353 (mobile)

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