

OCHOPPEE

Florida.

( In process of Incorporation )

Ochopee ( Collier County ), Florida.  
August 23rd 1934.

Governor Dave Shultz, State of Florida.  
Honorable Julius F. Stone, Florida Administrator, F.E.R.A.  
Honorable G.B. Treadway, Chairman, Florida State Road Department.  
Tallahassee Florida.

Honorable Sirs:-

Speaking for about three thousand people who are engaged in a seasonal crop ( tomatoes principally ) on the Tamiami Trail and directly adjacent thereto, we desire, need, and are entitled to the following-----  
FIRST ----Additional run-off canals and the opening of TURNER RIVER to tide-water.----The construction of Tamiami Trail has created a rather un-usual condition; i e its road bed is a DAM--preventing the natural run-off of lands NORTH of the TRAIL; the lands from the Tamiami Trail north rise at the rate of about an average of/ one foot/ to the mile, reaching a maximum elevation at IMOKALEE of 37 1/2 feet.--THUS in maximum rainfall periods such as now the Tamiami Trail Canal, the Canal Parralling the Imokalee High-way throw into Tamiami Trail Canal FAR MORE WATER than can be carried to TIDE-WATER----Thus endangering the TAMAMI TRAIL ROADBED itself.

SECOND.----A road-way from the Tamiami Trail ( somewhere in Section 34 of Township 53 S. Range 30 East ) to Chokoloskee-----such a roadway will not only give the several hundred citizens of Chokoloskee an outlet but will aid in solving the drainage problem as stated above, as the road-way will require a canal or ditch alongside which will solve some of our run-off problems.

THIRD---- The opening up and cleaning out of Turner River itself----this will aid many thousand workers, as it will enable the growers to begin their farming operations several months earlier than is the instance now .

Several hundred workmen in a very short time could remedy these conditions and enable thousands to work who are now idle.

FERA has in Collier County alone ( NOW ON THE PAY ROLL or to whom a DOLE of foodstuff is given at intervals ) a sufficient number of un-employed to make these absolutely NEEDED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS and PROTECTIVE TO TAMAMI TRAIL project of The State Road Department.

These FERA workmen are now engaged in cutting grass in towns and villages, working on private estates, or otherwise engaged ( at PUBLIC EXPENSE ) on non-essential ( to the public ) undertakings.

PLEASE, PLEASE , for the good of Florida, for the protection of the Tamiami Trail, for the aid of thousands help us by using these workmen here.  
Most respectfully,

J.F. Jaudon, for Town of Ochopee and Tamiami Trail.