

The board received a call back from Diane at Charlotte County Commissioner Truex's office about the outcome of Mr. Truex's meeting on the island with the FEMA representatives on debris removal. It was felt that the meeting was enlightening to the FEMA representative, but no plan had been put in place. The commissioner does not consider the matter closed. Instead, it is still under review.

So why are we in this predicament? The FEMA program has been set up for only neighborhoods with roads maintained by the county. LGI does not have any county maintained roads, so we are left out of the debris removal effort. The same holds true with mobile home parks in the county that maintain their own roads.

Commissioner Truex encourages us to write Governor Desantis and Mr. Kevin Guthrie to request they intercede on our behalf. Mr. Guthrie is the Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. A sample letter that you can use to email to these two government officials is included at the end of this eBlast. You will also be provided with email addresses and phone numbers. Please send them your email as soon as possible. Thank you!

The Board

Contact information:

Governor DeSantis Phone: (850) 717-9337

Governor DeSantis email: [governorron.desantis@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:governorron.desantis@eog.myflorida.com)

Commissioner Guthrie Phone: 850-815-4000

Commissioner Guthrie email: [Kevin.Guthrie@em.myflorida.com](mailto:Kevin.Guthrie@em.myflorida.com)

Mr. Kevin Guthrie, Director

Florida Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Dear Mr. Guthrie,

I am a homeowner on Little Gasparilla Island who has suffered damage from Hurricane Ian. Part of the recovery path includes the removal of storm related debris. Unlike the rest of the county, our community is not getting assistance from Charlotte County or from the Federal Emergency Management Administration with debris removal due to a technicality. Their debris removal program has only been set up for neighborhoods with roads maintained by the county. That seems like an arbitrary reason to exclude our community from service granted to all other county residents. I ask that you please intercede with the Charlotte County Commissioners and FEMA so that we can receive this important storm recovery service.

Sincerely,

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Office of Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol

400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

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