



LEE COUNTY
 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

(941) 479-8580
 1500 Monroe Street
 Fort Myers, FL 33901

Writer's Direct Dial Number: _____

July 1, 1999
 BCL-158-99

John E. Manning
 District One

Douglas R. St. Cyr
 District Two

Ray Judah
 District Three

Andrew W. Coy
 District Four

John E. Albion
 District Five

Donald D. Stilwell
 County Manager

James G. Yaeger
 County Attorney

Diana M. Parker
 County Hearing Examiner

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Commission Secretary
 Federal Communications Commission
 Portals II
 445 12th Street, SW, Suite TW-A325
 Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Comments on Petition by USDOT on Abbreviated Dialing Code to Access ITS Services
 - File No. NSD-L-99-24
 - CC Docket No. 92-105

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the Lee County Department of Transportation, I would like to provide comment on the above referenced item, which is currently pending before the Federal Communications Commission.

Lee County, Florida continues to be one of the fastest growing areas in Florida. The area has seen a growth in population of 21 percent over the past seven years, and is anticipated to increase by another 17 percent by 2005. The Southwest Florida International Airport is the eighth fastest growing airport in the United States.

Over the next several years as our population increases, we will experience increasing levels of congestion. Our surface transportation network of roads and streets is quickly becoming complete in terms of adding new segments of roads or extending roads. With environmental concerns mounting and limited resources available for new construction and expansion of roads, the need to enable the motorist to find alternative routes within the existing road network is becoming more and more apparent in our area. We are fortunate that we have not yet reached these critical points, but they are fast approaching.

The Lee County Department of Transportation supports the petition filed by the United States Department of Transportation to have an abbreviated dialing code assigned to access Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) services on a nationwide basis. Such access would enable motorists to use travel-related information, which in turn would allow them to make more informed decisions as to how to reach their destinations. As the growth in travel demand continues in Lee County and Southwest Florida, we believe that this initiative will encourage the implementation and use of such travel information services before the level of congestion become critical. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

LEE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Scott M. Gilbertson, P.E.
 Director

SMG/JAD

Enclosed (4 copies)

No. of Copies rec'd 04
 List A B C D E

cc: Donald Stilwell, County Manager
 J. W. French, Public Works Director
 Comer Taylor
 Al McCloud, FCC - Network Services Division (2 copies)