Dantzler clarifies impact fee position – Polk Commission Watch - The Lakeland Ledger - Lakeland, FL - Archive

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by Tom Palmer

County Commission candidate Todd Dantzler talked recently about his position on impact fees. He said he may have been misunderstood.

When I spoke with him earlier he said he didn't like impact fees and thought they were excessive. He gave the impression he wasn't for them

He said he caught some flak for that position along the campaign trail. He said what he really meant to convey was that he thought some of the fees were excessive, especially for small businesses.

That's not much different from some of the recent discussions since commissioners have been reluctant to assess the entire amount of impact fees that the consultant said is justified to recapture the costs of the road improvements the new traffic will require.

The recurring issue is that while impact fees DO involve a lot of money, engineering and construction for road improvements is expensive, too.

Maybe we need a specific balance sheet that illustrates this to guide further discussions.