Flooding a risk to U.S. streets – including in Southwest Florida

NPR’s Jeffrey Pierre recently covered a new study that suggests a quarter of the roads in the United States would be impassable during a flood. The study by First Street Foundation looked at flooding threats to the country’s critical infrastructure.

The report estimates that more than 2 million miles of road are at risk from floods. It also says that floods could shut down a quarter of critical buildings and facilities including airports, hospitals, government buildings, houses of worship, museums and schools. First Street’s study arrives after a summer of floods that killed dozens of people in the U.S. and destroyed billions of dollars’ worth of infrastructure.

The fact that this warning applies to Southwest Florida can’t be a surprise to local residents. We’ve seen it. Here’s evidence of a flooded street in Cape Coral not long ago.

The report backs up what we’ve seen.

In Florida, the 10 cities with the greatest risk of floods that cripple

In county rankings for the same criteria are:
roads, buildings, homes and social facilities include:

- Siesta Key (No. 3)
- Bokeelia (No. 5)
- Sanibel (No. 9)
- Charlotte (No. 2)
- Lee (No. 4)
- Collier (No. 6)

See the report HERE.