

COMMUNITY

ELIZABETH ROBERTS EROBERTS@TRIBUNE.COM

Hillsboro Canal work is suspended in Deer Creek

Deerfield Beach officials have issued a letter to crews working along the Hillsboro Canal to suspend digging until easement issues are resolved.

Residents in Deerfield's Deer Creek area say they weren't given enough notice before work started and that the digging could compro-

mise private property lines.

"[Crews] are having another part of the canal worked on, and they will not work on it in the Deer Creek area," said Linda Anderson, vice president of the Deer Creek Improvement Association, the master homeowners association for the 15

Deer Creek communities. "We will work out all our different points."

Among those points are what defines the right-of-way in Deer Creek; the depth to which digging could compromise property lines; and the proper length of public notice.

Charles DaBrusco, Deerfield Beach's director

of public works and environmental services, confirmed that work east of Powerline Road has been mostly suspended.

"The city gave [work crews] information that they need to look into as to whether they can excavate within the first 25 feet," he said. "Until they work out the issues re-

garding easement rights ... [they've been told] to stop working."

Anderson said the homeowners association has not hired an attorney but has simply asked that the right-of-way be re-measured and re-staked. In addition, residents would appreciate some compensation for trees

that have been razed from the canal bank. But ultimately, she said, work will resume.

"There needs to be a lot more discussion and working out of the issues the homeowners had," Anderson said. "Then they can come back to this section."