

Something to Think About – on County Taking Over El Dorado Roads by Ted Burgdorf

It appears there are legitimate reasons and concerns for not giving maintenance and control of our roads to the county. However, the figure of \$76 per year cost to each dues-paying lot owner to continue our own maintenance does not include other road maintenance that the county would take over. I submit the following, only as my estimates.

1. Road Maintenance \$12,000

Yearly as in the past.

2. Ditch clean-up 6,000

Complete removal of 15 years of growth, brush and debris which impedes water flow and undermines the road base.

3. Replace 2 or 3 metal culverts 5,000

They are in a 30-year state of deterioration.

4. Remove large, dead trees 6,000

There are numerous dead pines and oaks along and in our 2 1/2 miles of road and utility easements. Many of these are too large to be safely removed by us.

5. Lois Drive 25,000

This 1,000 feet of road has never been brought up to the standards of our other roads. There are four dues-paying lot owners who face this road, and three lots unsold. Due to the abovementioned, and large, dead trees in the road easement, it is no longer safe to walk or drive down Lois Drive. Maybe we should talk to one of our lawyer ELPOAs about the advisability of purchasing a liability policy to cover the Association property! In 1994, when our other roads were resurfaced, the quote to add Lois Drive was \$8,000. Future quotes will continue to escalate.

A total of my invoices for the last 12 months shows that I personally spent \$3,115 for outside ditch, road repairs, and tree removal. This had to be done to prevent water from washing over the road in several areas. Sunday afternoon (January 18) a medium-sized tree on West Eldorado fell across the road and hung up 20 feet in the air. Vilas Glaeske helped to pull it down, cut it up, and toss it into the woods. Through the years past, many other ELPOs have done the same.

The above listed estimated expenses, for which I take no vow for accuracy, total \$54,000. As an alternative to county road maintenance I respectfully ask the Road Committee to consider a recommendation to the El Dorado Property Owners for a one-time assessment, based on true estimates, on each dues-paying lot.