

ODE to a Road

By Chairman Dan Hanson
2016 Annual Meeting

What is a road?

According to Webster it's a wide way leading from one place to another, especially one with a specially prepared surface that vehicles can use. Sometimes called a street, lane, avenue, boulevard, freeway, highway, parkway.... but in our town we call it a road.

Roads are in our Land Use Plan, town budget, town meetings, and our daily conversations. Heck, they're even in our dreams... or should I say nightmares.

Our town has 66.2 miles of road and 3,200 residents that live along these roads... now here's where we have 3,200 notions of what a road is and of course how to take care of this road.

Sometimes a road becomes more than a road when we come to plow it or mow it or re-pave it or trim a tree alongside of it...now it seems this road takes on a personality of its own.

It's been a part of someone's family for years, it's where little Johnnie learned to ride his bike, it's where we take our evening walk, it's where we stand and converse with the neighbors (if you're lucky enough to live on a road with less than 1000 cars a day) it's where the kids play... and of course it's where we drive our cars on a daily basis.

Roads are literally the life line to civilization. We get to the grocery store, work, school and church; roads have an economic benefit to an area to keep commerce flowing, truckers going and farmers spreading... so I can see why roads are so dynamic to those that reside along the road.

So if we have taken you for granted ole road, please accept our apology and we will do our best to mow you, groom you, sweep you and treat you like the dear old friend that you are... and we'll see you down the road.