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## County agrees to maintain two more roads

By Jenny Hartley

Jenny Hartley

[jhartley@thelancasternews.com](mailto:jhartley@thelancasternews.com)

County Council recently approved taking care of more roads.

There has been recent debate over what roads Lancaster County will accept for maintenance.

County officials say the county has little money for road maintenance. Council voted 4-2 to accept roads from the Arlington and Clairemont subdivisions in Indian Land at its Nov. 2 meeting.

Arlington resident Jim Campbell asked County Council to accept the roads.

"If you're not going to take the roads, don't let them build," Campbell said.

Councilmen Wayne Kersey and Jack Estridge, who represent southern portions of the county, voted against accepting the roads. Councilman Bryan Vaughn, who represents the Panhandle, did not attend the meeting.

"Where does the county have the money to keep these roads up?" Kersey said.

County maintenance mainly consists of patching potholes and scraping dirt roads when needed, not repaving existing roads.

Council Chairman Rudy Carter said he felt road maintenance should be covered by the county.

He said he's often been asked, "Why do I pay taxes if I'm not going to get services from it?" There was some question earlier this year about whether the county would accept roads from Sun City Carolina Lakes.

But officials later realized that Sun City's development agreement with the county includes county maintenance of the retirement community's roads.

County Council voted against accepting roads from the Glen Laurel and BridgeMill neighborhoods in Indian Land earlier this year.

County officials are working to update the county's road maintenance ordinance now, to improve road standards. Residential developers have been involved in the process.

The only county in the area with weaker standards is Kershaw, County Administrator Steve Willis has said.

Contact senior reporter Jenny Hartley at 283-1151

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