

Homeowner-Resident Will Pay

County Puts Up Money To Open Private Roads

County government will front the necessary money to get federal aid to open many of the private roads closed by the Jan. 4 storm, the board of supervisors decided Tuesday afternoon.

The county's program could involve as many as 58 roadways if the road's residents agree to the county's program.

It will entail an abatement process and possibly the formation of county service districts in order for the county to get back the 25 percent share it is willing to advance now. That amounts to \$1,000 as the federal government puts up \$3,000 per household to provide access to homes that are isolated.

It could cost residents and/or homeowners around \$1,325 to get the full \$3,000 per household from the federal government.

The homeowners' cost is high, even though the state says it is paying 50 percent of the \$1,000, because the state tacks on 25 percent and the county 10 percent administrative costs plus 15 percent interest.

The abatement proceeding will begin at a public hearing next Tuesday, after the board advertises the process to notify residents.

While the vote on the process was unanimous, Supervisor Gary Patton made it clear he doesn't believe the county should get involved in helping dig out the private roadways.

"It's a private road; it's their problem; it's not my problem," Patton complained as the rest of the board made it clear the county would help.

Patton further led the board in applying a 15 percent interest charge to the money the county would lend until it can be recouped from taxes on the homes that become accessible.

The list of roads eligible for aid were determined from an inspection taken by a state and Federal Emergency Management Agency survey team.

The eligible private roads and driveways are:

Love Creek area — Upper Way and Woodland Way, upstream of Love Creek slide, the access road along Fritch Creek and 11155 Love Creek Road.

Ben Lomond area — North Street, Waldeburg Drive, Buster Road, Hillside Avenue and Sylvia Avenue.

Boulder Creek area — Bear Creek Road, Riverdale Road, Riverdale Drive, access road off Prospect Avenue, Huckleberry Bridge approach, Stapp Road and the access road at 18947 Big Basin Way.

Felton area — Felton Fire District roads.

Zayante area — Zayante School Road, Laurel Way, Old Mill Avenue and Oak Road at location number 1.

Scotts Valley area — McKenzie Creek Road, 1250 Redwood Drive, Ryder Road off Lockhart Gulch Road, 3220 Weston Road, upper end of Redwood Drive, 636 Nelson Road, 612 Bean Creek Road, upper Tucker Road and Swank Road off Jarvis Road.

Branciforte area — Girl Scout access roads (Olsen Road and unnamed lower road), driveway at 1601 Jarvis Road, Vine Hill Road, Mitchell driveway access to Vine Hill Road, Happy Valley Farms and access roads at 4363, 4995, 5075, 5449, 5451, 5473, 5497 and 5375 Branciforte Drive.

Central Santa Cruz area — Loop Road, Prescott Road and the access road to Withrow property.

Soquel area — Cherryvale, private road between Lagunita Drive and High Gulch, Paul Sweet Road and two private roads (one five miles and one 10 miles) north of Soquel-San Jose Road.

Aptos area — Creek Drive and Glen Drive.

Corralitos area — Calabassas Road and Lower Highland Road.

Salsipuedes area — Salsipuedes Fire

District roads.

Other outlying areas — Hester Creek Road east, near old San Jose Road, White House Canyon Road, Eureka Canyon Road and some roads to it, Browns Valley Road and La Hoi Roi Road, Fern Flat, Redwood, Old San Jose Road and Rider Road.

There are another 14 roads that are eligible, but the cost to clear them for access is beyond the \$4,000 per household and the residents will have to come up with more than the expected \$1,325 to get access to the roads.

County government is continuing to look for a way to help those residents.

The Sentinel

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1982
Santa Cruz CA—13