

## **2017 RLA Annual Meeting Road Committee Report**

Road maintenance has gone well this year with a newer, more dependable snow plow truck and with much needed hydraulic repairs on the road grader.

The goal of the road maintenance program is to provide safe driving conditions on the Retreat roads. This includes snowplowing and grading to reduce icy patches, eroded ruts, and washboard conditions. This is especially important on the roads with steep grades, sharp curves, and dangerous drop-offs. Also culverts must be monitored and cleared to keep overflows from washing out the road.

But it has been another difficult year for road restoration work. The travel delays created by CR43 reconstruction over the past two years have been replaced by travel delays now on US34. Our materials supplier will not deliver unless the road is open full time during the day. The plan is to lay down recycled asphalt on parts of Bulwark Ridge Dr, Miller Fork Rd, and Black Creek Dr in early June.

This is so important because when the road base material has washed away to the point where grading exposes large rocks, it is not possible to achieve a smooth surface any more. It is necessary to add material to restore a gradable surface. Recycled asphalt is a more cost effective type of material because it resists erosion better than standard road base and therefore reduces our grading costs.

Looking to the future, the two year road restoration plan has been updated on the RLA website. The projected cost will be higher than in the past few years because we are essentially trying to catch up on work that has been delayed by the 2013 flood and subsequent construction work on CR43 and US34.

Chuck Reynolds – Chair