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## El Dorado cityhood deposit \$241,000

**Bee Metro Staff - (Published May 29, 2004)**

After years of struggling to raise money for the economic and environmental studies required for incorporation, El Dorado Hills cityhood proponents have reached a financial milestone.

The El Dorado Hills Incorporation Committee announced Friday that it had deposited \$241,000 with the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission, allowing work to proceed on studies required for incorporation.

The amount was set by retired Judge Terrence M. Finney under a settlement agreement between the committee and LAFCO.

The incorporation project manager, chosen by the committee and LAFCO, had recommended a deposit of \$278,439 and a contingency of \$82,000. The incorporation committee challenged the amount and submitted the dispute to Finney for resolution.

The judge determined that some potential costs could be deferred, reducing the amount of the initial deposit.

Norm Rowett, vice chairman of the incorporation committee, said Friday that 11th-hour fund-raising efforts had paid off. He said a \$25,000 contribution from the city of Rancho Cordova primed the pump.

"We were able to convince people of our vision," he said.

Roseanne Chamberlain, LAFCO executive director, said her staff is working on contracts for environmental and financial studies with an eye on having the cityhood measure on the ballot in 2005.

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