



County of Los Angeles

April 22, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel

Board of Supervisors

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Supervisor, Second District

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Supervisor, Third District

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Supervisor, Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: EDWARD YEN
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: LILIANA CAMPOS
Litigation Cost Manager

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda
County Claims Board Recommendation
Joshua Huber v. State of California, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV02739
(05/12/26)**



Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, Case Summary, and Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

LC:tf

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Joshua Huber v. State of California, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV02739, in the amount of \$2,300,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Public Works' budget.

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff sustained injuries in a traffic collision on a road maintained by the Department of Public Works in the City of Santa Clarita.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Joshua Huber v. State of California, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV02739
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	January 22, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 2,300,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	GREGORY G. RIZIO, ESQ. Rizio Lipinski Law Firm, PC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	NENA VUONG Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On January 19, 2020, Plaintiff Joshua Huber was involved in a motorcycle versus automobile collision on Soledad Canyon Road at its intersection with the on-ramp to Northbound State Route 14 in the city of Santa Clarita allegedly due to a dangerous condition. Plaintiff alleges the incident caused injuries for which he seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risked and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$2,300,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 263,744
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 251,600



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	January 19, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On January 19, 2020, at 5:55 p.m., Plaintiff was riding his motorcycle westbound on Soledad Canyon Road when he was struck by a vehicle turning left from eastbound Soledad Canyon Road onto northbound SR-14 freeway on-ramp. The Plaintiff allegedly suffered traumatic brain injury and other injuries from the accident. The Plaintiff claimed the painted traffic markers on Soledad Canyon Road were faded and did not clearly extend to the intersection and as a result, vehicles making left-turn onto SR-14 on-ramp typically crossed into opposing traffic prior to the intersection.

1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

Root Cause A – Unsafe Driving

The driver turning left did not adhere to safe driving standards. According to the Traffic Collision Report, the driver turning left failed to yield the right-of-way to the approaching vehicle (motorcycle) driven by the Plaintiff in accordance with California Vehicle Code section 21081 (a).

Root Cause B - Double Yellow Center Line

It was alleged the driver turning left cut through the center line early because the painted double yellow center line had faded. This may have been a contributing factor in the driver mishandling the turn as alleged.

Root Cause C - Traffic Asset Inventory

There was a lack of records in relations to 2018 Caltrans and LA County Maintenance Agreement for Public Works to maintain Soledad Canyon Road from SR-14 SB Ramps to NB Ramps which was where the double yellow center line in question is located at. The traffic assets, including the double yellow center line, were not inputted into the county inventory for routine inspection and maintenance.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

Root Cause A – Unsafe Driving

The traffic collision report stated that other driver was at fault. We cannot offer corrective action for drivers not adhering to safe driving standards.

Root Cause B - Double Yellow Center Line


The double yellow center line was re-painted on September 21, 2020. It was added to the maintenance runbook and has a routine maintenance schedule of 5 years for thermal plastic striping and 30 months for traffic paint striping.


Root Cause C - Traffic Asset Inventory


Operational Services Division completed the inventories of all traffic assets including all traffic signs and lane striping within the 2018 Caltrans and LA County Maintenance Agreement are inputted in county inventory (Maintenance Management System) and Routine Maintenance Runbook for inspection and maintenance.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- Yes - The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
 No - The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Manager) Jacklin E. Injijian	
Signature: 	Date: January 9, 2025


Name: (Deputy Director) Steve Burger, PE	
Signature: 	Date: January 29, 2026

Name: (Department Head) Mark Pestrella, PE	
Signature: 	Date: February 2, 2026

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

- Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.
 No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Betty Karmirlian	
Signature: 	Date: 2/3/26