## **NEWS**

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## Settlement Ends Civil Litigation Between County, Other Public Agencies

**SAN BERNARDINO**—The County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Caltrans, and the city of Upland reached a settlement agreement on Tuesday that ended a nine-year civil lawsuit over responsibility for impacts to a development project on flood control property in Upland.

"Our Board unanimously agreed that it's time to stop using taxpayers' money on lawsuits and to start using it for flood control and transportation projects that enhance our county's ability to attract new industries and create more jobs," San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chair Janice Rutherford said.

Under the agreement, the county will not appeal a judge's decision to dismiss its lawsuit claiming SANBAG, Caltrans, and Upland are partially responsible for damages caused to a private developer during the construction of State Route 210. The County reached a \$102 million settlement with the developer in 2006.

"We are thrilled to conclude this nine-year legal dispute," said San Bernardino Mayor Pat Morris, who serves as chairman of SANBAG's legal ad hoc committee. "SANBAG looks forward to giving life to the Countywide Vision in partnership with the Board of Supervisors."

In addition to agreeing to end the lawsuit, the county will take ownership and assume responsibility for the 20<sup>th</sup> Street storm drain in Upland. Upland will take ownership and responsibility for the 19<sup>th</sup> Street storm drain. All of the parties also agreed to pay their own attorney fees.

"We are very, very pleased to have this behind us," Upland Mayor Ray Musser said. "This settlement will free up city funding so it can be used on projects that improve our community and enhance the quality of life our residents enjoy."