

THORNE ENGINEERING

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3/29/2024

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To: Clerk of the Board, County of Siskiyou, 311 Fourth Street, Room 201, Yreka, CA 96067
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

RE: Section 911.2 Requesting Leave to Present a Late Claim
Damages to [REDACTED]
Damages starting on August 21, 2023 and continuing

I am requesting Siskiyou County and the Board of Supervisors investigate and consider the claim I submitted on March 15, 2024. George Hills Company sent me notice of Return of late Claim citing government codes 911.4 to 911.2, 946.6, and 911.6. It does not appear that the claim was read. I do not consider the claim late as I am receiving damage continuing to the current date and explained this in the claim. Regardless, I am applying to the Board of Supervisor for Leave to Present a Late Claim. Even though the initial damage to my property started on August 21, 2023, damage to my property continues due to the County's infrastructure not being restored to original grades on Butte Avenue. An approximately 1.5 feet deep roadside ditch that used to convey the pavement drainage from Butte Avenue, now diverts the flow across the neighbor's property onto my property. The roadside ditch is filled in from the mud flow event.

The reasons why I did not file the claim sooner include the following: After the August event, I focused my attention on my family's health as well as cleaning mud and restoring my house from the water and mud intrusion. I also investigated the claim process that appeared to have price thresholds for the dollar amount of damage. I was able to hire a contractor to repair the damaged wall in my living room and attempted to get estimates from contractors for mud removal and other repairs. Because of the work inside our house and the very fine dust from the dried mud that is unhealthy to breathe, we left out of State for approximately 2.5 months. Having your house flooded and property capped with mud also causes some emotional distress and disrupts your previous plans. We left because of our health and safety.

Upon return to Mount Shasta, I proceeded to try to get estimates from contractors and investigate the agency jurisdictions on Everitt Memorial Highway near the McCloud River Railroad crossing. I have made California Public Request Act (CPRA) requests for information to Siskiyou County and Mount Shasta City to help determine this. Neither agency could answer this question. It is my professional opinion that Siskiyou County is responsible for the drainage and maintenance north of and at the railroad crossing. South of the railroad crossing, it is my opinion that Siskiyou County is responsible for the west side from centerline and the City responsible for the east side from centerline. This is based on the 1956 As-Built Plans for Everitt Memorial Highway and a screen capture showing property lines from the County's GIS system.

Because of the time it took to maintain my family's health & safety, repair our house to a livable condition, obtain estimates, and submit the claim, I am asking the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors to approve this request for Leave, investigate, and consider this claim.

Sincerely,

Steven Thorne, PE