

**Agenda Item:** 2.c

**Meeting Date:** May 7, 2026

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** City Commission

**Through:**

**From:** Theresa Smalling

**Date:** 2026-04-20

**Subject:** Settlement Agreement in the amount of \$35,000 - Maurice Welch v. City of Dunedin

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Theresa E Smalling, SPHR, Director of Human Resources & Risk Management

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Commission approval of the negotiated settlement amount with Mr. Welch.

**Strategic Themes:** Good Governance

**Boards & Committees:** N/A

**Budget Impact:** \$35,000 from the Risk Safety Fund

**Past Action:** N/A

**Next Action:** N/A

**Attachments:** [City of Dunedin-BI Release-MWelch-signed.pdf](#)

**Background:** On August 7, 2024, the Plaintiff was rear-ended by a City of Dunedin employee while operating a city vehicle. The Plaintiff's vehicle sustained damage and loss of value estimated at just over \$38,000, which was paid by the City. Plaintiff has agreed to settle his suit against the City for outstanding diminished value and bodily injury claim for \$35,000. The settlement is contingent on City Commission approval. There is no applicable insurance policy. The Settlement Agreement and general release is attached.

In order to avoid the costs of a jury trial and the risk of a higher jury verdict, the City Attorney and City Manager recommend the Commission approve the settlement amount of \$35,000 and accept the Settlement Agreement with the Plaintiff on the City's behalf.

