



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

26E035

Manufacturer Name: Waymo LLC

Submission Date: Jul 02, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 26E035

Manufacturer Recall No.:

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Waymo LLC

Address: 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View CA, 94043

Total number of potentially involved: 3,871

Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Equipment Information

Brand / Trade 1: WAYMO

Model: 5TH GENERATION ADS

Part Number:

Type:

Function:

Size:

Production Dates: Mar 17, 2022 - May 19, 2026

Number of potentially involved: 3,871

Descriptive Information:

The equipment recalled is the 5th Generation Automated Driving System (ADS). The recalled products differ from products not included in the recall in that the recalled products are capable of driverless freeway operation, while the products not recalled are not capable of driverless freeway operation. Waymo determined the scope of the affected population using information about the driverless capabilities of each vehicle and information about the software on each vehicle. This information is available to Waymo, as Waymo owns all potentially affected vehicles.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Under certain circumstances, the AV may enter and drive at speed in freeway construction zones due to inappropriately prioritizing the avoidance of other freeway hazards and/or failing to recognize the construction zone.

FMVSS1:

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**26E035****FMVSS2:****Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:**

Driving at speed in a freeway construction zone increases the potential for collisions.

Description of the cause:**Identification of any warning that can occur:****Component Manufacturer****Tier of Supplier:****Supplier Type:****Name:****Address:****Country:****Involved Components**

Component Name 1: 5th Generation ADS

Component Description: 5th Generation Automated Driving System (ADS)

Component Part Number:

Purchaser Information

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name:**Address:****Country:****Chronology**

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- On April 20, 2026, Waymo's Field Safety Committee began a series of meetings reviewing one event from April 11, 2026 and five events from April 19, 2026 in which Waymo AVs did not recognize and drove past ramp closure signs into pre-planned freeway construction zones in Phoenix, AZ. Waymo's Field Safety Committee implemented freeway driving restrictions until operational mitigations that included improved awareness and response to freeway closures were implemented.
- On May 19, 2026, Waymo's Field Safety Committee met following events on May 18, 2026 in which seven Waymo AVs entered freeway lanes with active construction in the San Francisco Bay Area by driving between cones designating lane closure in the adjacent lane due to the ADS inappropriately prioritizing the avoidance of other freeway hazards and/or failing to recognize the construction zone. Considering these and other events, Waymo's Field Safety Committee implemented freeway driving restrictions until the root causes could be identified and appropriately addressed.
- On June 1, 2026, the issue was reviewed by Waymo's Safety Board and additional information related to the ADV performance around construction zones was requested.
- On June 8, 2026, the Safety Board reviewed information about this issue and decided to conduct a recall.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Software

Consumer Advisories: Do Not Drive Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Waymo began updating the ADS software on affected vehicles on 6/16/2026. Waymo began to resume freeway operations on 6/25/2026.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The remedy includes software updates that improve the recognition of freeway construction zones, more appropriately prioritize construction zones over other freeway hazards, and reduce speed when the AV detects that it may be in a construction zone.

The software with the recall remedy also contains improved response to authorized emergency vehicles when the AV detects that it may be in a construction zone. In addition, Waymo has deployed operational changes that better identify and mitigate potential entry into pre-planned construction zones and enable more Remote Assistance capability in the event an AV enters a freeway construction zone.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Production ADS-equipped vehicles receive the latest software release.

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**26E035****Reimbursement Plan****Recall Schedule****Description of recall schedule:**

Waymo began updating the ADS software on affected vehicles on 6/16/2026. By 6/29/2026, all vehicles capable of driverless operation received the remedy software.

Waymo owns all of the affected vehicles and is applying the remedy. Accordingly, there is no need for notifications to owners, dealers or distributors under 49 CFR Part 577.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: No Dealers**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:** No Owners**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Phased Recall