



2025 SPECIAL DISTRICTS TOUR

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025

Essential Services and Infrastructure Tour of California Special Districts

SPONSORING PARTNERS



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together



MESSAGE FROM SPONSORING ASSOCIATIONS

Welcome to the annual Special Districts Tour!

This educational experience is brought to you by partner associations united in a shared mission: promoting good governance at every level. Our focus is local government, and we're proud to highlight how special districts play a vital role—serving as the backbone of California's economy and tackling the state's biggest challenges right in our neighborhoods.

Throughout the tour, you'll get a firsthand look at the diverse sites and infrastructure systems operated by special districts, providing essential services to millions of Californians every day. You'll also gain insight into the services local residents have chosen to receive through these districts, along with the governance structures that guide their operations.

By the end of this experience, we hope you'll walk away with a deeper understanding of how special districts work to:

- Deliver services efficiently, effectively, and sustainably through specialization;
- Ensure government remains accessible and responsive;
- Serve unique neighborhoods and regions based on local needs;
- Build, operate, and maintain critical infrastructure that protects public health and safety.

Throughout the tour, district staff will share background on each district's formation, the services they provide, and the positive impact they have on their communities. From governance to infrastructure, these professionals are dedicated experts in local service delivery. We encourage you to ask questions and engage in the conversation.

We're truly glad to have you with us today. Thank you for joining, and we look forward to keeping the dialogue going about the important role special districts play in serving nearly all 40 million Californians.

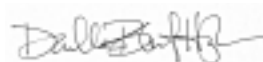
Sincerely,



Neil McCormick
Chief Executive Officer
CSDA



Cathy Martin
Chief Executive Officer
ACHD



Danielle Blacet-Hyden
Executive Director
CMUA



**California Special
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EMERGENCY/QUESTIONS? Erasmo Viveros at 559.210.4355 or Kyle Packham at 916.642.3808

SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

8:00 am

CSDA for check-in and light breakfast

1112 I St, Sacramento, CA 95814

8:15 am

Welcome/Special Districts Overview

9:00 am

Load bus and travel to Galt-Arno Cemetery District

14180 Joy Dr., Galt CA

9:50 am

Arrive at Galt-Arno Cemetery District

10:50 pm

Load bus and travel to Turlock Irrigation District

Turlock, CA

12:00 pm

Arrive at Turlock Irrigation District

- Lunch is provided

3:00 pm

**Load bus and travel to Delhi County Water District
(Sanitation Plant Tour)**

9738 Stephens St., Delhi, CA 95315

3:50 pm

Arrive at Delhi County Water District

4:50 pm

Load bus and travel to El Capitan Hotel

609 W Main St., Merced, CA

6:25 pm

Group dinner at Rainbird Restaurant

- Meet in hotel lobby and walk to the hotel restaurant

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025

7:15 am

Breakfast to be provided at hotel

8:00 am

**Load bus and travel to Merced County Mosquito
Abatement District**

3478 Beachwood Dr. Merced, CA

8:35 am

Arrive at Merced County Mosquito Abatement District

9:35am

**Load bus and travel to Del Puerto Health Care District &
West Stanislaus County Fire District**

875 E St, Patterson, CA 95363

10:35 am

**Arrive at Del Puerto Health Care District & West
Stanislaus County Fire District**

875 E St, Patterson, CA 95363

- Lunch will be provided

2:20 pm

Load bus and travel to CSDA

1112 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814

4:00 pm

Arrive at CSDA

2025 SPECIAL DISTRICTS TOUR RESOURCES

What are Special Districts? 1

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WHAT ARE SPECIAL DISTRICTS?

There are just over 2,000 independent special districts in California

Special districts are local public agencies created by community residents to deliver specialized services essential to their health, safety, economy, and well-being.



Like cities and counties, special districts are public agencies; however, they **provide necessary services that many cities and counties do not.**

Districts are subject to sunshine laws and **governed by a board of directors directly accountable to their constituents.**

Special districts serve all kinds of communities from agricultural, rural, and disadvantaged—nearly 60 percent of California's special districts serve disadvantaged communities—to incorporated cities and major metropolitan regions, **driving innovation and achieving efficiency through focused-service and economies of scale.**

Collectively, special districts serve as the backbone of California's infrastructure and economy, **addressing California's biggest statewide problems at the local level.**

HOW ARE SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUNDED?



SPECIAL DISTRICT SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL NEEDS ARE FUNDED THROUGH A VARIETY OF SOURCES.

- Revenue sources include fees for services, property taxes, special taxes, benefit assessments, impact fees, and grants.
- California law demands a strict process for voter approval of the taxes and fees that fund special districts.
- Due to strong local oversight and constitutional provisions, special districts often must find a way to do more with less than other government agencies.

WHY ARE SPECIAL DISTRICTS NECESSARY?



SPECIAL DISTRICTS ARE FORMED BY COMMUNITIES WHEN IT'S SOMETHING:

- The community needs
- The community wants done well
- The community wants done with local control

2K

Just over 2,000 independent special districts provide services and infrastructure that in some way benefits every one of California's **40 million residents.**



Many districts **provide infrastructure services the U.S. Department of Homeland Security deems "critical,"** such as water, irrigation, wastewater and agriculture services.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS SEEK PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TO:

- Ensure safe and reliable services for our communities.
- Build resiliency to prepare for and overcome adversity, such as wildfires or other natural disasters.
- Grow the economy and serve more Californians through investment in local and regional infrastructure.



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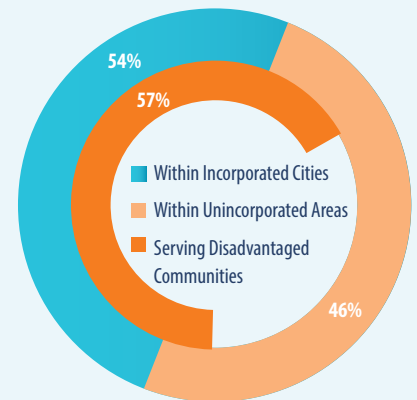
SPECIAL DISTRICTS: COMMUNITY DRIVEN AND FUTURE FOCUSED

Special Districts are Addressing California's Biggest Statewide Problems—At The Local Level

California is the world's fifth largest economy and plays an integral part in the continued prosperity of the country as a whole. The state is faced with many challenges, any one of which could be considered the biggest issues of our time. Climate change, wildfires, drought, homelessness, and mental health, all require thoughtful approaches built from the ground up, and they are all being tackled every day by the locally-focused experts of California's special districts.

Special districts, sometimes referred to as special services districts, are locally-formed and independently administered units of local government, created to oversee everything from how people get their water and power to how they enjoy their parks and open spaces. Our state simply could not function without them.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS SERVE VARIED COMMUNITIES



Special Districts Are Truly the Backbone of California's Economy

California's Special Districts provide essential services that many cities and counties do not, such as fire protection, health and wellness programs, and core infrastructure, including transit, airports, ports and harbors as well as access to reliable water, wastewater, and electricity. Across California, more than 2,000 special districts serve the needs of nearly every one of California's 40 million residents—many in disadvantaged communities—and employ more than 120,000 front-line workers.

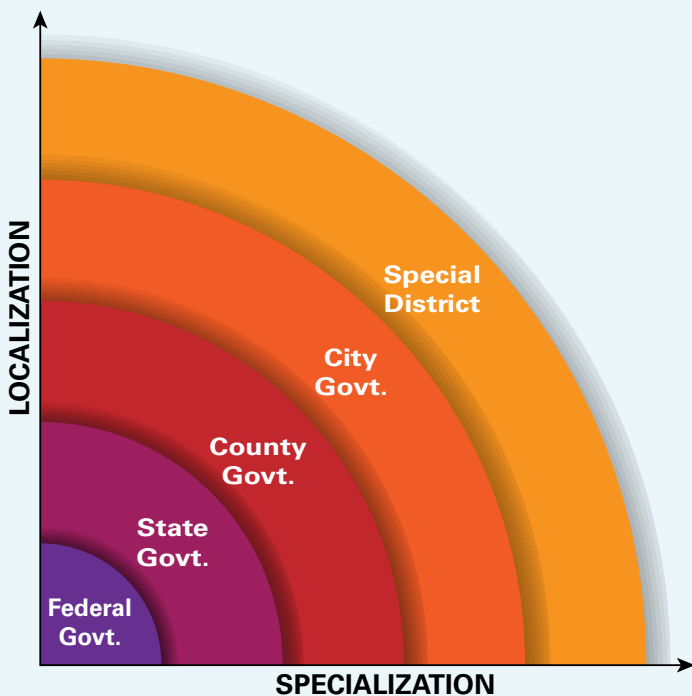
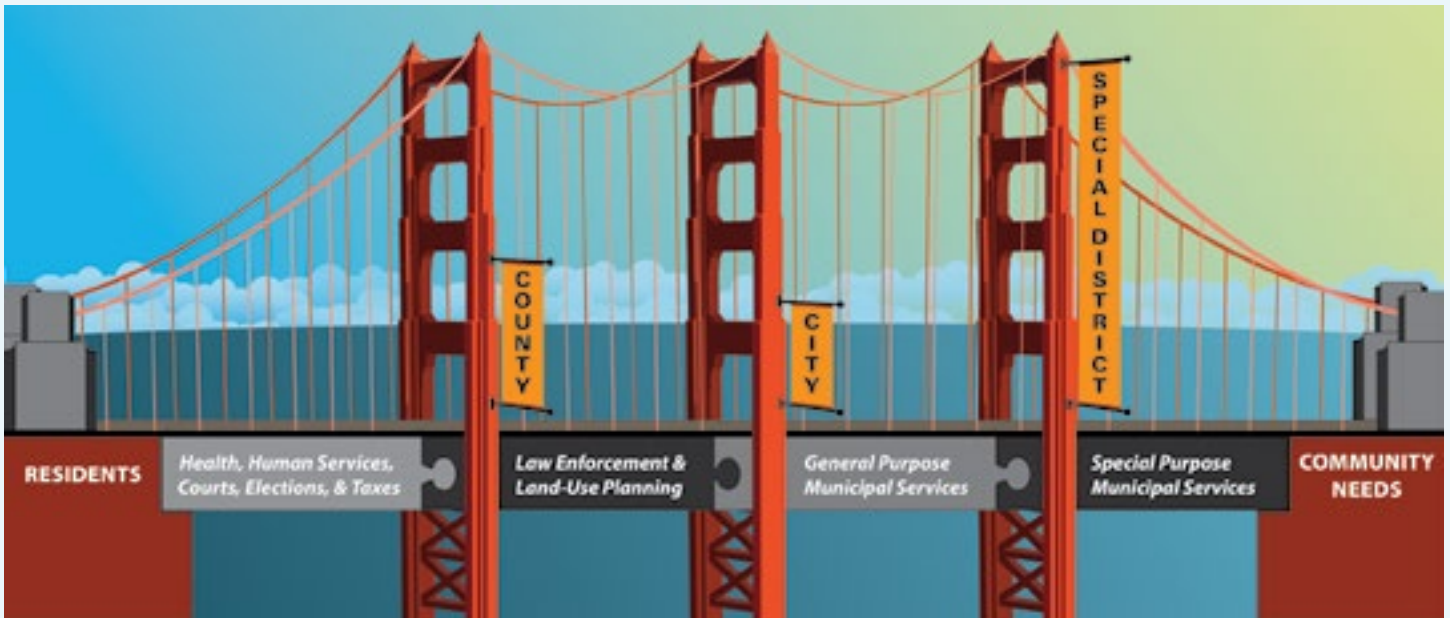
Special Districts Operate at the Nexus of Cutting-Edge Technology and Community Engagement

Special Districts are addressing the biggest statewide problems by taking what the experts learn at the local level and turning that knowledge into future-focused, long-term solutions. Scientists, firefighters, engineers, healthcare professionals, water operators, lab technicians, environmental analysts, and many other specialists provide special district services. Their expertise allows special districts to respond to a rapidly changing world and develop and implement technologies quickly when evolving needs require new, state-of-the-art tools of the trade.

Whether responding to drought conditions with more effective water conservation and groundwater sustainability technologies, mitigating wildfire risk and recovery, addressing transportation needs with innovative strategies, or simply serving the physical, mental, and emotional health needs of diverse populations, special districts are developing world-class solutions to the everyday needs of the communities they serve.



Where Special Districts Fit in the Public Services Puzzle



California's communities are diverse in the nature and extent of public services they need. The result is a network of public service agencies, each with a purpose under state law. Within this framework, **special districts are formed, governed, and "owned" by the community.** They are created to meet the essential needs of local families and economies, and are directly accountable to the communities they serve.

Like cities and counties, special districts are subject to "sunshine laws," audits, and regulatory compliance requirements. Special districts are also the most responsive form of government because they are established, operated, and controlled by local voters, and employ highly-trained experts focused on a single mission to most efficiently and effectively meet the community's needs.

Special districts are focused on providing a "special-purpose" municipal service, like water, sanitation, fire protection, parks, mosquito abatement, cemeteries, resource conservation, ports and harbors, airports, or libraries where a city or county does not.

**DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

14180 Joy Dr, Galt, CA

(209) 745-2581

galtarnocemetery.specialdistrict.org**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Guy Rutter

Miyo Freeman

George Hegner

Robb Roberts

Chuck Heacock

GENERAL MANAGERBelinda Ellis (galarn@softcom.net)

GALT-ARNO CEMETERY DISTRICT

Established in 1952, the Galt-Arno Cemetery District serves the rural communities of southern Sacramento County. The district maintains two historic cemeteries: Galt Cemetery (20 acres with a 10-acre expansion purchased in 2020) and the smaller Hicksville Cemetery (2.5 acres).

The Galt-Arno Cemetery District's historical roots run deep. Hicksville Cemetery dates to the mid-1800s and was founded on land granted to Billy Hicks by Captain John Sutter in 1846, where Hicks' wife and infant daughter were among the first buried. The Galt Cemetery, equally historic, recorded its first burial in the mid-1800s with Thomas Armstrong. Over time, these cemeteries transitioned from private to public care and today are preserved and maintained by the district as lasting tributes to the area's rich heritage.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district maintains two cemeteries spanning a total of 20 acres.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

- Representative Doris Matsui (CA-7)
- State Senator Roger Niello (SD-6)
- State Assemblymember Heath Flora (AD-9)

SERVICES PROVIDED

The primary purpose of the Authority is to pursue the The district provides compassionate and professional cemetery services to the community, maintaining both the Galt and Hicksville cemeteries with care and reverence. In addition to traditional burial services, the district is deeply committed to honoring the memories of the departed through meaningful community outreach events, including a Memorial Day ceremony, a Día de los Muertos celebration, and participation in Wreaths Across America. These events bring the community together in remembrance and reflection, ensuring that both deceased veterans and loved ones are respectfully commemorated.

COUNTIES SERVED

- Sacramento County

FUNDING

With an annual operating budget of about \$819,438, the Galt-Arno Cemetery District is funded primarily through a combination of property taxes and service fees. Property taxes account for about 60% of total revenue, while the remaining 40% comes from the cost of services provided. In 2020, the district secured a \$1 million loan through the California Special Districts Association to support its 10-acre expansion project, projected to ensuring long-term service capacity for the growing community for the next 100 years.



NOTES

**DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION**

333 E. Canal Rd, Turlock, CA 95380
 (209) 883-8222
www.tid.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Frantz, Division 1
 David Yonan, Division 2
 Joe Alamo, Division 3
 Becky Hackler Arellano, Division 4
 Ron Macedo, Division 5

GENERAL MANAGER

Brad Koehn (bakoehn@tid.org)

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Josh Weimer (jmwweimer@tid.org)

TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Established in 1887 as California's first special district, the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) manages a 307 square-mile irrigation territory and a 662 square-mile electric service area. TID provides water to 150,000 acres of farmland and electric power to over 240,000 residents, businesses, and farms. It operates as one of California's eight Balancing Authorities and oversees the Don Pedro Project for Tuolumne River flood control.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district's territory covers 307 square miles. In addition, it owns and operates an integrated and diverse electric generation, transmission, and distribution system that provides power to a population of 240,000 within a 662 square-mile area.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

- Representative Adam Gray (CA-13)
- Representative Tom McClintock (CA-5)
- State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (SD-4)
- Assemblymember Juan Alanis (AD-22)
- Assemblymember Heath Flora (AD-9)
- Assemblymember Esmeralda Soria (AD-27)
- Assemblymember David Tangipa (AD-8)

SERVICES PROVIDED

TID delivers irrigation water through over 250 miles of a gravity-fed canal system that irrigates approximately 150,000 acres of farmland (307 square-mile area). In addition, TID owns and operates an integrated and diverse electric generation, transmission and distribution system that provides power to a population of 240,000 within a 662 square-mile area.

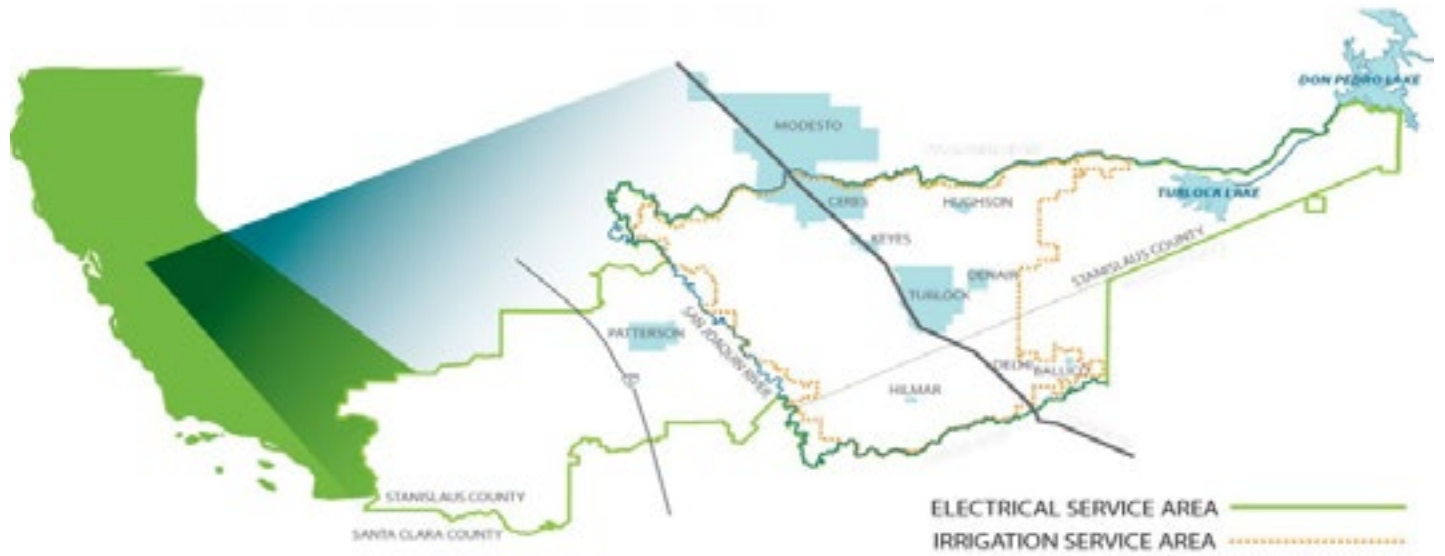
The Don Pedro Project on the Tuolumne River, which TID is the majority-owner and operator, has the sole flood control responsibility for the Tuolumne River.

COUNTY SERVED

- Portions of Stanislaus
- Merced
- Tuolumne Counties

FUNDING

TID's operating budget is over \$400 million annually. TID is a publicly-owned utility, and both irrigation and electric customers fully fund our operations. Our rates are set based on the cost to provide the service.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION
 9738 Stephens Street, Delhi, CA 95315
 (209) 632-8777
www.delhicwd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Tom Glenn, Jr., Chairman/President
 Arnold Rocke Oates, Vice Chairman/Vice President
 Joseph Castillo, Director
 Tom Glenn, Sr., Director
 Jim Clarot, Director

GENERAL MANAGER
 Leandro Maldonado (lmaldonado@delhicwd.org)

DELHI COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1958, the Delhi County Water District (DCWD) provides essential water services to residents and businesses in the community of Delhi, located in Merced County. Originally formed to address growing agricultural and residential water needs, DCWD has evolved into a vital public utility now ensuring safe, reliable, and high-quality drinking water for approximately 10,000 residents.

Over the decades, the district has invested in water infrastructure, including wells, distribution pipelines, and storage facilities. It continues to focus on long-term sustainability, water conservation programs, and compliance with all state and federal water quality standards.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district serves nearly 9,000 residents across more than 1,100 acres, including the community of Delhi. It currently maintains 2,422 water connections and a comparable number of sewer connections. The district operates four active water wells and manages six lift stations, along with other essential infrastructure that supports its water and wastewater services.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SERVED

- Representative Adam Gray (CD-13)
- State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (SD-4)
- Assemblymember Juan Alanis (AD-22)

SERVICES PROVIDED

Delhi County Water District manages the community's domestic water supply through:

- Water treatment and distribution
- System maintenance and upgrades
- Water quality monitoring and reporting
- Public education on water conservation

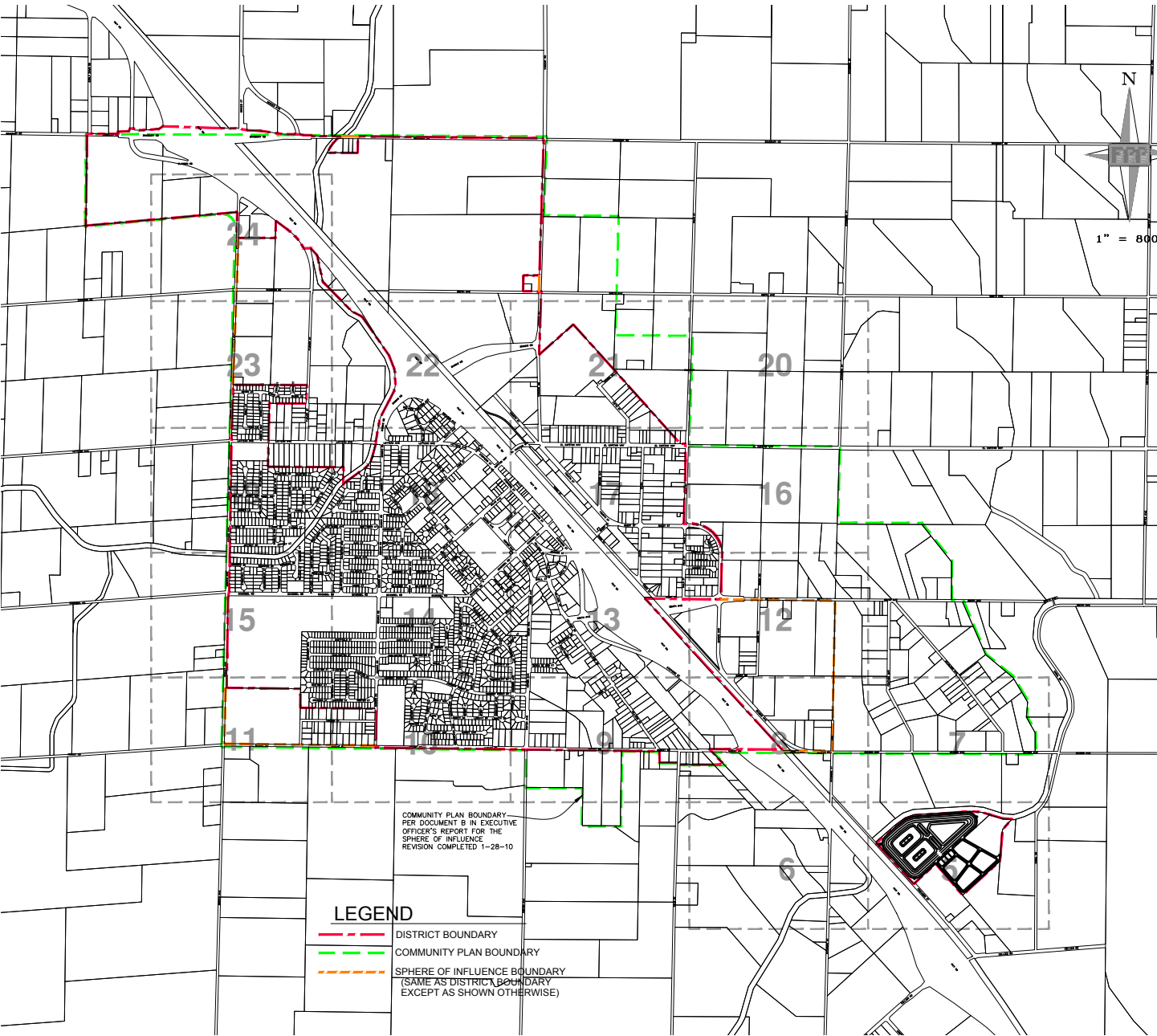
COUNTIES SERVED

- Merced County

FUNDING:

With an annual operating budget of approximately \$2.7 million, the district is primarily funded through customer water service charges and connection fees. Revenues are used for operations, capital improvements, and compliance with regulatory mandates.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP



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**DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION**

3478 Beachwood Drive, Merced, CA 95348
 (209) 722-1527
www.mcmosquito.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Borrelli, President
 Shawn Reel, Vice President
 Frank Fagundes, Secretary
 Ron Alberti
 Roger Pruitt
 Ariel King
 Kim Miller
 Gurpal Samra
 Michael McGlynn

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rhiannon Jones (rjones@mcmosquito.org)

MERCED COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Established in 1946, the Merced County Mosquito Abatement District (MCMAD) protects public health from mosquito-borne diseases across Merced County's 1,938 square miles. Mosquito control began in Merced County in 1923 with the rise of irrigation systems and the increase in population. Control efforts began with a one-person operation that covered 17 square miles north of the City of Merced. It was then expanded to 90 square miles in 1941, and additional help was hired. MCMAD was legally activated in the summer of 1945 and started limited control operations in the spring of 1946 on a county-wide basis.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district encompasses all of Merced County, totaling 1,938 square miles, with a population of approximately 296,774.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SERVED

- Representative Adam Gray (CD-13)
- State Senator Anna Caballero (SD-14)
- State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (SD-4)
- Assemblymember Esmeralda Soria (AD-27)
- Assemblymember Juan Alanis (AD-22)

SERVICES PROVIDED

The district is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our local community by providing best management practices for mosquito control and disease prevention. The district employs 12 full-time and eight seasonal staff to manage both rural and wetland native mosquitoes and urban invasive species through science-based strategies, monitoring, public education, and biological control measures.

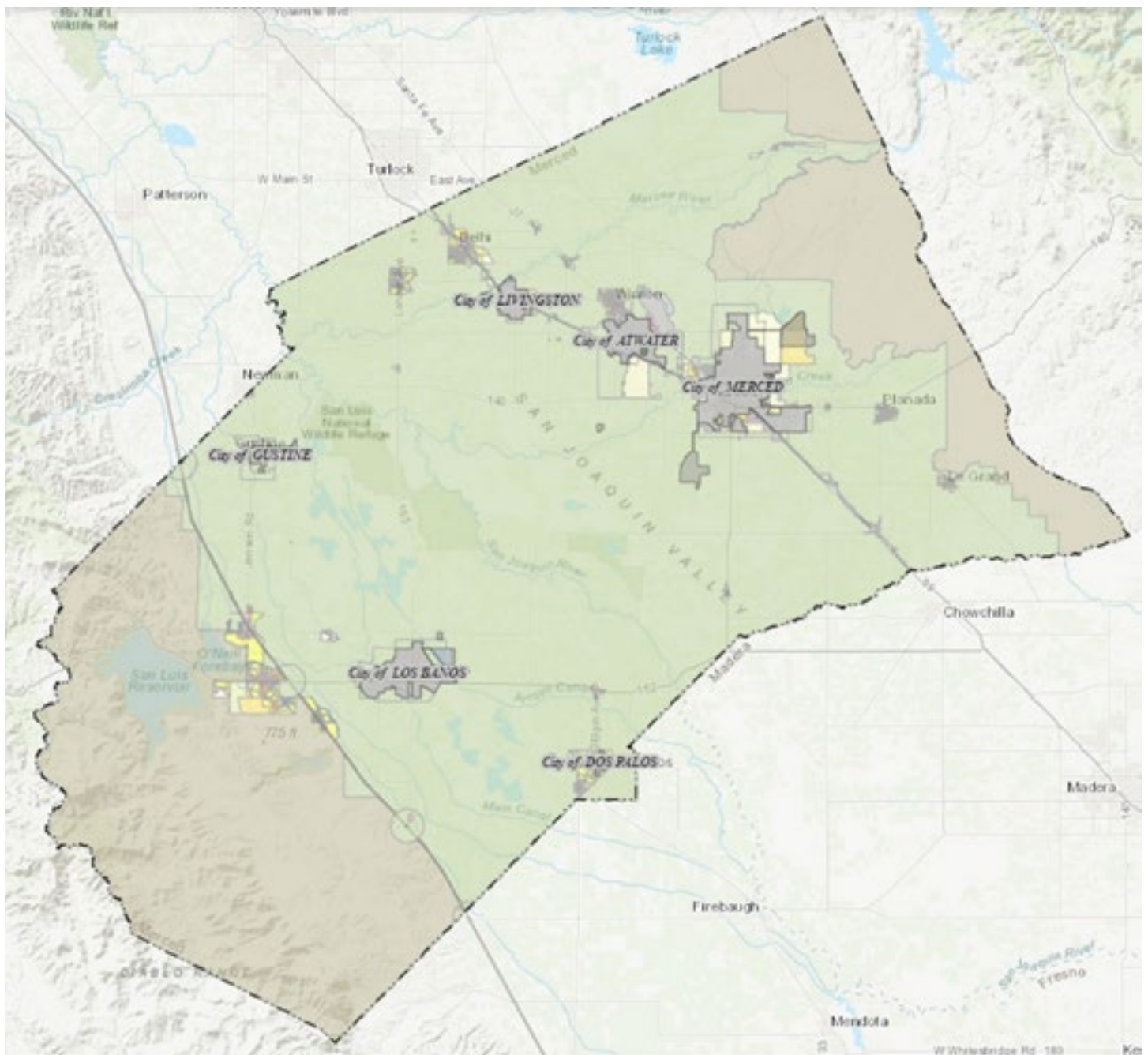
COUNTY SERVED

- Merced County

FUNDING

With an annual operating budget of approximately \$3.1 million, the district primarily funded through ad valorem property taxes and a \$14 per parcel direct service charge. Less than 1 percent of county property tax revenue contributes to the district's budget.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP



NOTES



DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION
 P O Box 187 | 875 E Street, Patterson, CA 95363
 (209) 892-8781
www.dphealth.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Becky Campo, President
 Luis Avila, Vice-President
 Ma Traore, Secretary
 Sylvia Ramirez, Treasurer
 Reyna Gomez, Director

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 Karin Freese (karin.freese@dphealth.org)

DEL PUERTO HEALTH CARE DISTRICT

Formed in 1946, Del Puerto Health Care District (DPHCD) serves Patterson and surrounding communities within 366 square miles of western Stanislaus County. The district employs 49 full-time and 11 part-time staff driven by a mission to **“provide, promote, and partner in quality healthcare for all.”** DPHCD increases access to healthcare through regular community health need assessments and long-term strategic planning for healthcare infrastructure.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district encompasses approximately 366 square miles in western Stanislaus County and continues to expand its services to meet evolving local healthcare needs.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SERVED

- Representative Adam Gray (CD-13)
- State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (SD-4)
- Assemblymember Juan Alanis (AD-22)

SERVICES PROVIDED

The district offers a wide range of medical services through the Del Puerto Health Center and Patterson District Ambulance. The Health Center core services include primary care, urgent care, onsite laboratory services, immunizations and preventative screenings, behavioral health, and chronic disease management. The ambulance service operates 24/7, delivering emergency medical care and transportation plus medical standby services..

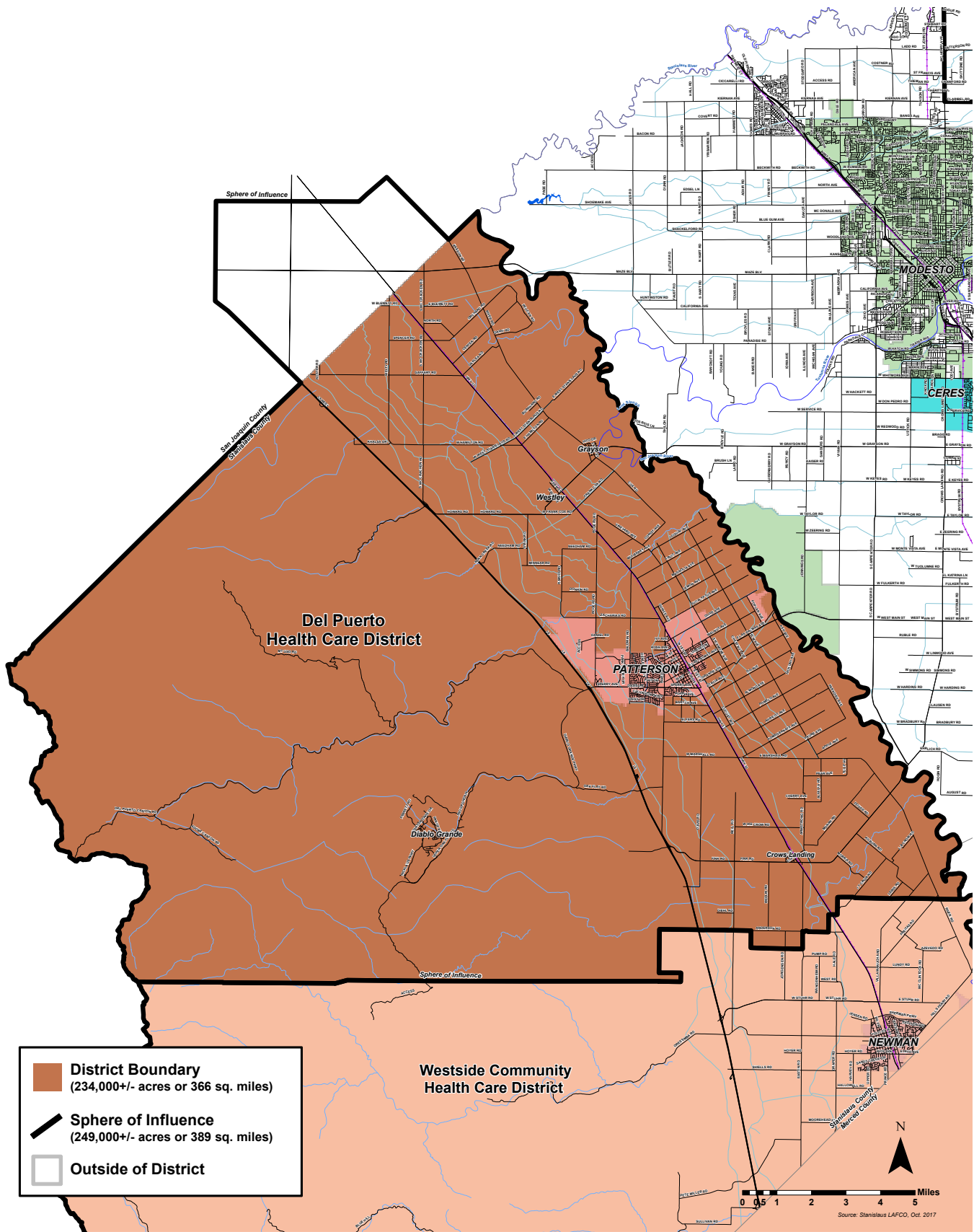
COUNTY SERVED

- Stanislaus County

FUNDING

With an annual operating budget of approximately \$9.16 million, DPHCD is primarily funded through a combination of service revenues and local property taxes. Approximately 80% of its annual revenue comes from reimbursement for services provided through the Del Puerto Health Center and Patterson District Ambulance. These services are reimbursed through Medi-Cal, Medicare, private insurance, and direct patient payments. The remaining 20% of the district's funding is derived from local property taxes and a special assessment for ambulance services levied within its boundaries.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP



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[illegible]

**DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION**

344 W. Las Palmas Ave., Patterson, CA 95363
 209-895-8130
www.weststanfire.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jon Maring, Chair
 Jarod Lara, Vice Chair
 Daniel Robinson, Director
 Jason Jasper, Director
 Henry Bettencourt, Director

FIRE CHIEF

Jeff Frye (jfyre@pattersonca.gov)

WEST STANISLAUS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Established in 1935, the West Stanislaus County Fire Protection District (WSCFPD) is a special district charged with the mission of protecting lives and property. WSCFPD has approximately 60 volunteer firefighters and has an MOU with the City of Patterson for seven shared staff members. These staffers are a fire chief, three division chiefs, one fire marshal, one administrative manager, and one administrative assistant. The district operates within approximately 600 square miles of Western Stanislaus County.

The West Stanislaus Fire Protection District covers 600+ miles and boundaries include the western portion of the county, located west of the San Joaquin River, excluding the cities of Patterson and Newman. Included in the district are the unincorporated communities of Grayson, Westley, Crows Landing, and Diablo Grande.

DISTRICT SIZE

The district covers over 600 square miles in the western portion of Stanislaus County, located west of the San Joaquin River. The cities of Patterson and Newman are excluded. The district includes the unincorporated communities of Grayson, Westley, Crows Landing, and Diablo Grande.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SERVED

- Representative Adam Gray (CD-13)
- State Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (SD-4)
- Assemblymember Juan Alanis (AD-22)

SERVICES PROVIDED

WSCFPD provides the following services: response to working structure fires, potential structure fires, vegetation fires, vehicle fires, hazardous materials first response, auto-accidents (both rescue and non-rescue), confined space awareness, incident command operations, public assists, EMS (EMT/First Responder), fire alarms, mutual aid-provided, mutual aid-received, water rescue awareness, trench rescue awareness, fire inspections, technical rescue awareness, hazmat decon, and public education-community outreach.

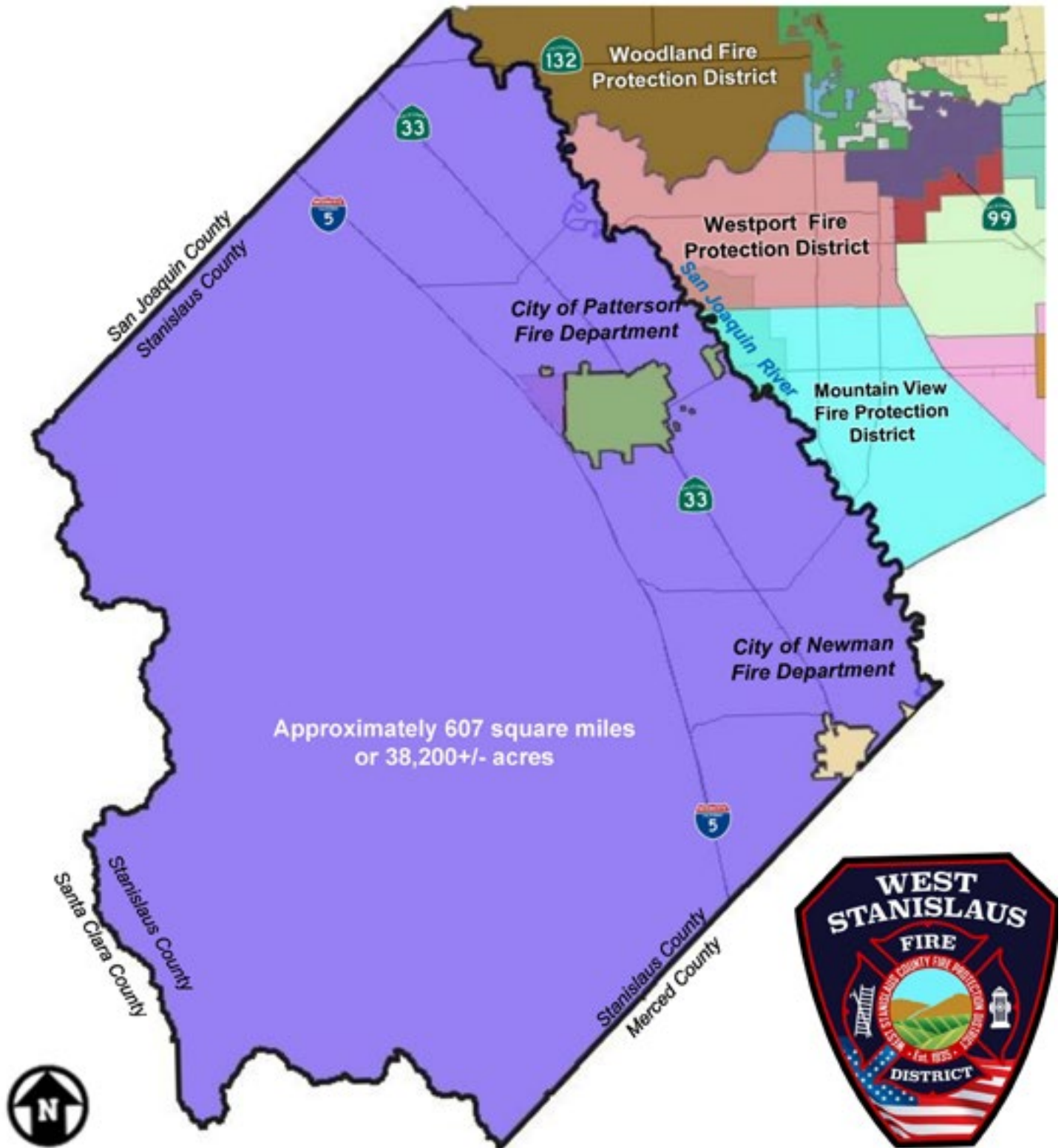
COUNTY SERVED

- Stanislaus County

FUNDING

With an annual operating budget of approximately \$1.5 million, WSCFPD is primarily funded by a combination of ad valorem property taxes and Special Benefit Assessment charges. The benefit assessment amounts, which vary for different parcels, are determined by land use and size, and are collected by Stanislaus County. WSCFPD collects development impact fees for new housing and commercial projects. Lastly, WSCFPD bills for vehicle accidents.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP



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ABOUT SPONSORING PARTNERS



CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CSDA)

csda.net • 888.924.2732

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) is a 501(c)(6), not-for-profit association formed in 1969. CSDA represents more than 1,300 special district and affiliate organizations across the state and is California's only statewide association representing all types of independent special districts. To support its members, CSDA provides education and training, legal guidance, industry-wide litigation, public affairs support, and legislative advocacy. CSDA also works closely with other statewide organizations to educate the public on the role of special districts in California's communities and the far-reaching affect special districts have on the lives of all Californians.



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE DISTRICTS (ACHD)

achd.org • 916.266.5200

ACHD represents 77 Healthcare Districts throughout California, in both urban and rural settings. These districts offer a variety of services aimed at improving community health, including acute hospital care, chronic disease management education, senior services, ambulance services, primary care clinics, dental clinics, nutritional counseling, physical education, and long-term care/skilled nursing, among others. In many communities across the state, Healthcare Districts are the sole source of health care – serving as an integral part of the safety net for California's uninsured and underinsured.



CALIFORNIA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOCIATION (CMUA)

cmua.org • 916.326.5800

The California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) is the voice of community-owned water, wastewater, and power. CMUA represents 84 publicly owned electric utilities, water agencies, and gas and oil services statewide. Together, CMUA members provide water service to 75% of Californians and electric service to 25% of the state. CMUA serves as a trusted partner and advocate for our member utilities and their customers as they work to provide reliable, sustainable and affordable electric and water service.