Citizens' Advisory Committee
Groveland Resilience Center
18986 Ferretti Road
Groveland, CA 95321
(209) 962-7161 www.gcsd.org

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING THREE AGENDA

November 10, 2026
1:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION:

Groveland Community Resilience Center
18986 Ferretti Road Groveland, CA 95321

Public Access Audio and Video Live Streaming: The Public will have access to give public comments via public access audio and video live streaming; and can be accessed via the Zoom meeting link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7688070165

Remote viewing of the meeting via live streaming is provided to members of the public as a courtesy. If the live streaming connection malfunctions for any reason the Committee will continue the public meeting where it is currently being held, without remote access.

This meeting is physically open to the Public and citizens who wish to provide public comment during the meeting will be invited to do so by the Committee Chair. Written comments can be submitted to be included as part of the administrative record; they will not be read during the meeting.

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION:

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AGENDA MATERIAL:

Physical copies of agenda material will not be available at the meeting. All agenda material can be accessed on the District Committee Meeting Webpage at https://www.gcsd.org/citizen-s-advisory-committee-meetings. Physical copies can be obtained through the District office.

PUBLIC RECORDS:

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed after the agenda posting deadline for the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Committee. The Committee has designated the District's website located at https://www.gcsd.org as the place for making those public records available for inspection.

The documents may also be obtained by calling the District office.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
November 10, 2026
1:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION:
Groveland Community Resilience Center
18986 Ferretti Road Groveland, CA 95321

Committee Members
Kenneth Lawrence
Rick Martinez
Alan Moore
Anna Moore
Larry Moore
Martin Schutt
Terri Wemmer
Amber Wittner
Jeremy Zawondy

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment
   Members of the public are appreciated for taking the time to attend this meeting and provide comments on matters of District business. Public comments are subject to a 3-minute time limit; 10 minutes on an individual topic. Although no action can be taken on items not listed on the agenda, please know we are listening carefully to your comments.

3. Approval of October 13, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes

4. Appointment of Committee Chair and, if Necessary, Vice Chair

5. Discussion and Possible Approval of Committee Priorities to be Considered Including Retaining GCSD's Local Control of Emergency Response and Fire Protection Services and Securing Funding for the CAL FIRE Schedule A Contract

6. Update, Discussion and Committee Direction on District Legal Services and the Development of a Request for Proposals for Consulting Services for Data Acquisition Financial Analysis and Mapping Related to Potential Funding Sources Including of Transient Occupancy Tax, Short Term Rentals, Sales Tax, and Yosemite Gate Fees

7. Confirm Next Meeting Topic

8. Adjournment

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2026
1:00 p.m.

Call to Order
Action
The Committee Chair Geoffrey Paulsen called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Committee Members in Attendance
Rick Martinez
Alan Moore
Anna Moore
Larry Moore
Geoffrey Paulsen
Terri Wemmer
Amber Wittner
Jeremy Zawondy attended the meeting remotely.

Committee member Geoff Paulsen made an announcement that he is resigning from the committee for personal reasons.

Public Comment
A member of the public made a comment/complaint regarding the fact that the Citizens' Advisory Committee meetings are being run in the same manner as a regular Brown Act Compliant Board meeting.

Approval of September 8, 2026, Committee Minutes
Action:
The Committee unanimously approved the September 8, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes.

The Committee heard a Presentation from CAL FIRE Chief Gorham and Chief Bohall Regarding CAL FIRE Pay Schedules, Responsibilities in the SRA vs Local Responsibility Areas, Options for Non-Fire Engine Response to Medical and Non-Fire Calls and Requirement for 3-0 Staffing. During and following the presentation, Committee and public questions were addressed by the Chiefs.
Action:
No action, discussion item only.

Review and Discussion Regarding Potential Fire Department Funding Options

A. Overview of Fire Department Funding Sources
B. Review of Overnight Fire Impact Fee Proposal Prepared by Terri Wemmer
C. Review of GCSD Fire Funding Facts, Fire Funding Solutions and Transient Occupancy Tax/Short Term Rental Impact Analysis Strategy Prepared by Amber Wittner

Action:
It was moved by Committee Member Jeremy Zawondy, and seconded by Committee Member Geof Paulsen, and the motion passed unanimously to receive District Legal Services, and the development of a Request for Proposals for consulting services for Data Acquisition, Financial

DRAFT

Analysis, and Mapping related to potential funding sources, including Transient Occupancy Tax, Short-Term Rentals, Sales Tax, and Yosemite Gate Fees.
Ayes: *Committee members Rick Martinez, Anna Moore, Larry Moore, Geoffrey Paulsen, Terri Wemmer, Amber Wittner, and Jeremy Zawondy.*
Absent: *Committee member Martin Schutt.*

Confirm Next Meeting Topic
Action:
Upon recommendation by District staff and consensus of the Committee; to include the following topic on the agenda for its next meeting:

- *Appointment of Replacement Committee Chair*
- *Review CALFIRE Administration Cost*
- *CALFIRE to Provide Cost Comparisons for Alternative Staffing Configurations to Reduce the Overall Cost of the CALFIRE Agreement*
- *Update on funding related District Legal Services, and the development of a Request for Proposals for consulting services for Data Acquisition, Financial Analysis, and Mapping related to potential funding sources, including Transient Occupancy Tax, Short-Term Rentals, Sales Tax, and Yosemite Gate Fees.*

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm.

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CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA SUBMITTAL

TO: **CAC Committee Members**

FROM: **Peter Kampa, GCSD General Manager**

DATE: **November 10, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 4: Appointment of Committee Chair and, if Necessary, Vice Chair**

BACKGROUND:

Committee Member Geoff Paulsen resigned from the Committee at the October 13, 2026, meeting. The Committee previously established a leadership structure consisting of a Chair and Vice Chair to provide direction, coordination, and communication.

Committee Member Martin Schutt notified staff of his absence from the September meeting; however, he did not attend the October meeting and did not provide prior notice to District staff or the Committee. Staff has made follow-up attempts to contact Mr. Schutt by voicemail and email but has not received a response as of November 17, 2026.

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

The Committee will discuss and appoint a replacement Chair and Vice Chair to fill the vacancies and maintain the agreed-upon committee structure.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the Committee Members nominate a new Committee Chair.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA SUBMITTAL

TO: **CAC Committee Members**

FROM: **Peter Kampa, GCSD General Manager**

DATE: **November 10, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 5: Discussion and Possible Approval of Committee Priorities to be Considered Including Retaining GCSD's Local Control of Emergency Response and Fire Protection Services and Securing Funding for the CAL FIRE Schedule A Contract**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Committee take separate formal action to affirm its priorities for recommendations to the GCSD Board:

1. ***Continued local control of fire protection and emergency response services through fire services provided by GCSD; and***

2. ***GCSD's continued contract with CAL FIRE through a Schedule A agreement to provide these services.***

BACKGROUND:

Through prior discussions, the Committee has expressed consensus that its work should focus on retaining GCSD's local control of fire protection and emergency response services and identifying viable supplemental funding mechanisms to support the CAL FIRE Schedule A contract. A key objective of the Committee is to identify funding to help offset the cost borne by District property owners while maintaining these essential services.

Although the Committee has expressed agreement on this direction, it has not taken formal action to document its position. To establish a clear record and focus its remaining work, the Committee is asked to consider and take separate formal action on the following questions:

1. **Does the Committee support continued local control of fire protection and emergency response services through GCSD's responsibility for the management and oversight of those services within the District?**

2. **Does the Committee support GCSD continuing to contract with CAL FIRE through a Schedule A agreement to provide fire protection and emergency response services?**

Formal action on these questions will document the Committee's position and provide direction for staff's research, evaluation of supplemental funding options, and preparation of future agenda items.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA SUBMITTAL

TO: **CAC Committee Members**

FROM: **Peter Kampa, GCSD General Manager**

DATE: **November 10, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 6. Update, Discussion and Committee Direction on District Legal Services and the Development of a Request for Proposals for Consulting Services for Data Acquisition Financial Analysis and Mapping Related to Potential Funding Sources Including of Transient Occupancy Tax, Short Term Rentals, Sales Tax, and Yosemite Gate Fees**

Purpose and recommended discussion

The Committee is asked to discuss the scope and potential cost of the proposed funding analysis and recommend an appropriate next step. Staff recommends beginning with a limited review of existing information, legal options, and potential funding partners before issuing a comprehensive consultant Request for Proposals (RFP). The Committee's recommendation would be presented to the Board at the next available meeting. Policy direction, funding appropriations, and contracts remain subject to Board action.

How the scope and cost developed

At its last meeting, the Committee was introduced to a concept for studying tourism-related revenue and fire-service demands. The Committee directed staff to develop an RFP to obtain consultant scopes and costs. It also requested legal review of transient occupancy tax (the tax on short-term lodging), sales tax, Yosemite entrance fees, and other funding sources that do not rely on property taxes or assessments.

Following that meeting, staff translated the concept into a detailed draft consultant scope, researched the work involved, discussed it with municipal finance consultants as well as a conversation with Committee member Amber Wittner and her husband Eric. The detailed scope has not yet been presented to the Committee for review. The earlier direction to develop an RFP did not represent Committee review or endorsement of that scope or its estimated cost.

The draft scope would require records from several agencies, mapping of lodging properties and emergency calls, analysis of lodging and sales-tax revenue, seasonal comparisons, and calculations of response costs and reimbursements. It would also require checking the records, documenting assumptions, and preparing a report and presentations.

For discussion, the preliminary planning estimate developed for this comprehensive scope is approximately $40,000 to $70,000, excluding the optional analysis of how strongly lodging revenue and related service demands are affected by Yosemite visitation. This is a planning estimate, not a consultant proposal or an approved budget. Actual proposed fees would be established through the RFP process. Issuing an RFP would obtain proposals; a separate decision of the GCSD board would be required to award a contract.

Why staff recommends a limited first phase

The cost and complexity became clearer as the concept was developed into a work scope. Even a completed study would not assure that the County or another entity would provide additional funding. Staff therefore brings this proposed sequence back to the Committee for discussion: identify realistic funding opportunities, learn what information would help the responsible agencies evaluate them, and then define any consultant work needed.

The requested legal review remains part of this first phase. It would identify who controls each potential funding source, whether GCSD could receive and use it for fire services, and what approvals, agreements, or changes in law would be needed. The review should address the named sources and a short list of other possibilities identified by staff and counsel.

Initial information packet

Before substantive funding discussions with other agencies such as the County, staff should assemble a brief fact sheet using the following existing records, with supporting documents attached or linked. The purpose is to explain the District's needs and current arrangements clearly.

Information	What staff would assemble
Funding need	The adopted fire budget and any existing forecast showing recurring revenue, operating costs, and the documented gap. Identify equipment and replacement needs separately.
Services and boundaries	Existing District and service-area maps, current staffing and service descriptions, and relevant contracts.
Current partner support	Existing County and other partner contributions, cost-sharing agreements, reimbursements, and their terms and duration.
Basic response activity	The latest available annual incident summary and any existing reports of out-of-district responses. Identify which resources responded only where the records already show it.
Potential funding sources	Readily available public revenue reports and program descriptions for lodging tax, sales tax, entrance-fee-related options, and other sources identified for review.
Questions and missing information	A short list of information gaps, the agencies holding that information, and the questions to ask each potential funding partner.

We will use available summaries and routine reports, record the source and period for each figure, and mark unavailable information as unknown. This phase would not require a new tax-allocation model, property-by-property mapping, detailed incident reconstruction, or commercial data purchases. Missing information should become a question for the agency, rather than delay an introductory discussion.

Where agency discussions would occur
Staff recommends initial informational discussions between the General Manager or designated District staff and appropriate County or other agency staff, which is within existing granted Board authority. These discussions may occur outside a Committee meeting and would identify available funding mechanisms, agency interest, decision procedures, timing, and the minimum information needed to evaluate a request. Staff would also ask whether the agency can provide existing data or help develop the needed information.

Staff would summarize the responses in a public Committee agenda report. Where a specific option warrants discussion, the relevant agency representative should be invited to a noticed Committee meeting to explain the option and answer questions. Committee deliberation and recommendations would occur at that meeting. Initial staff contacts would not commit either agency to funding or establish District policy.

For Brown Act compliance purposes, District counsel should review any proposed Committee-member participation in separate agency meetings. Staff and members should avoid using individual conversations or email exchanges to relay members' positions or develop Committee agreement outside a noticed meeting.

Proposed Committee motion
Move that the Committee recommend the following initial approach, begin the work and request that staff and a Committee representative present this recommendation and any initial results at the next available Board meeting:

1. Begin with a limited review of funding opportunities and retain the draft consultant scope for later consideration. Defer issuance of the comprehensive data-analysis RFP pending review of the initial findings and further Board direction.

2. Assemble the initial information packet described in this report from existing District records and readily available agency information. Identify missing information without undertaking the comprehensive data study.

3. Proceed with the focused legal review of transient occupancy tax, sales tax, Yosemite entrance fees, and a short list of other non-property funding sources, within existing or subsequently approved authorizations.

4. Use authorized staff-to-staff discussions with the County and other appropriate entities to identify funding arrangements they would consider, potential amounts and duration where known, conditions, decision timing, and the specific additional information needed.

5. Provide a progress report at the next regular Committee meeting, including findings received, pending responses, and a schedule for remaining work. Present substantive findings for public Committee discussion, with agency representatives invited when useful, and recommend whether to pursue each option using existing information, seek a targeted consultant proposal, or defer further work.

6. Bring any recommended policy direction, funding appropriation, or consultant contract to the Board for action. Any proposed consultant work should identify the specific funding decision it would support, the information needed, and its estimated cost.

Fiscal impact and Board action

This agenda item seeks Committee discussion and a recommendation; it does not authorize a study contract or a new expenditure. Routine staff preparation and previously authorized legal work may continue within existing Board authority, which are included in the current budget. The first phase will require staff time and may involve legal fees. Any additional funding or authority needed will be identified when the Committee's recommendation is presented to the Board.