



GROVELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

PROPOSED FIRE PROTECTION & EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES ASSESSMENT

Why This Assessment

- Property tax revenue grows ~3%/year; fire costs grow much faster - a \$2M+ annual gap is projected by FY 2030-31.
- CAL FIRE's updated contract (Nov 2024) now requires a 3-person crew (3/0) - the District has no authority to override this.
- 2-person crews cannot safely enter a burning structure under OSHA rules.
- The District's front-line engine is ~17 years old; replacement costs \$1.3M and takes up to 3 years to receive.

What is Funded

FY 2026-27 Total Budget: \$3.18M

Assessment Portion: \$1.59M

- **53%** CAL FIRE Schedule A Contract (3/0 staffing)
- **16%** Equipment & Apparatus Replacement Fund
- **15%** 3/0 Staffing Reserve (phased in with CAL FIRE)
- **11%** Administration & Station Operations
- **5%** Contingency, Facilities & Professional Services

Accountability

- Funds are kept in a separate account and cannot be redirected.
- No automatic increase. The Board must vote every year to set the rate.
- Maximum annual rate increase is capped at 5% to keep pace with CAL FIRE's Schedule A Agreement.
- Citizen oversight committee will review spending annually.

Proposed Assessment Rates

Property Type	Max Rate
Single Family	\$475.64/ea
Multi-Family	\$226.74/unit
Commercial/Industrial	\$933.81/half ac
Storage	\$995.44/half ac
Vacant	\$72.46/ea
Agriculture	\$9.02/ac
Range Land & Open Space	\$3.17/ac

Your rate is individually adjusted by fire hazard zone, property type & value, and distance from Station 78.

How Prop 218 Works

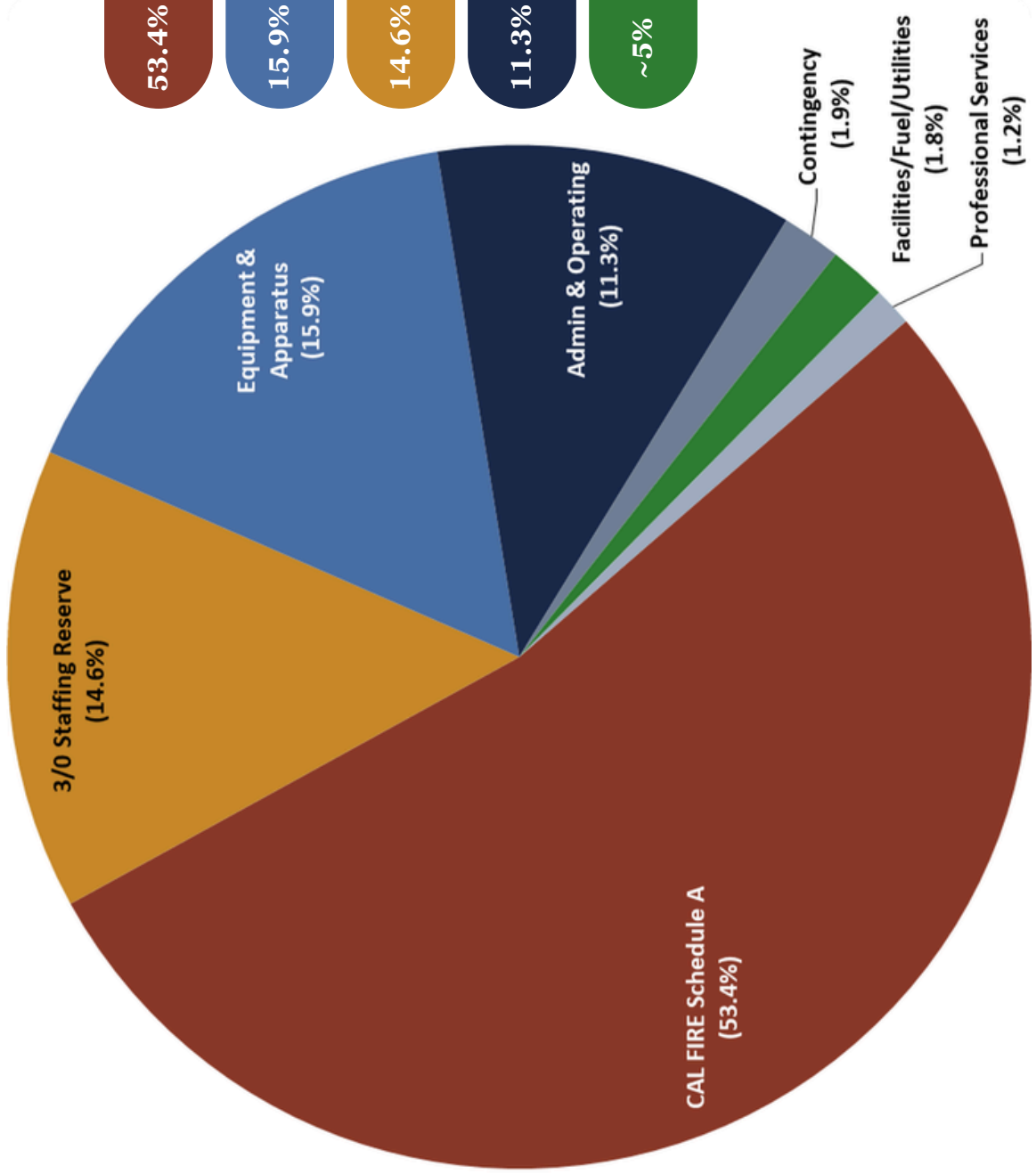
- Every property owner receives a ballot by mail (early May).
- Only returned ballots count.
- Ballots are weighted by assessment amount.
- Assessment passes if weighted "yes" votes exceed "no" votes.
- Ballots must be **RECEIVED** by July 8, 2026 (postmark is not enough).

Key Dates

Early May 2026	Ballots Mailed
May 14, 2026	Community Meeting
June 18, 2026	Community Meeting
June 25, 2026	Written Objection Deadline
July 8, 2026	Public Hearing & Ballot Tabulation

*Community Meetings held at Groveland Community Resilience Center, 18986 Ferretti Rd, Groveland, CA;
Live Stream available at zoom.us/j/768807016*

What the Assessment Pays For



53.4%

CAL Fire Schedule A Contract
Pays for on-duty firefighters at Station 78, including upgrade from a 2-person to 3-person crew.

15.9%

Equipment & Apparatus Fund
First-ever dedicated fund for fire engine replacement.

14.6%

3/0 Staffing Reserve
Reserve to cover the cost of adding the third crew-member as CAL FIRE phases in the new contract.

11.3%

Administration & Operations
Station maintenance, GCSD administration, and county administration costs.

~5%

Contingency, Facilities & Professional
Station utilities, fuel, and professional services all account for ~1% each.

CAL FIRE Schedule A Partnership: How it Works

A plain-language guide to the Schedule A Partnership between Groveland CSD Fire Department and CAL FIRE

How a CAL FIRE “Schedule A” Agreement Functions

District Owns Everything

GCSO owns Station 78, 3 fire engines, apparatus, and equipment.

District Stays Accountable

The GCSO Board of Directors set policy, approve budgets, and retain local oversight of emergency services.

District Pays the Contract

GCSO budgets for and funds the Schedule A contract with CAL FIRE for fire fighting personnel.



CAL FIRE Responds

Fire personnel staff Station 78 around the clock and respond to all emergency calls within the District.

CAL FIRE Supplies Personnel

CAL FIRE supplies trained firefighters, captains, and engineers.

The Groveland CSD Fire Department & CAL FIRE Partnership Explained



Groveland CSD Owns & Funds

Fire Stations
Station 78 is 100% owned by Groveland CSD

Engines
Groveland CSD owns three fire engines.

Maintenance
Groveland CSD is solely responsible for all station, apparatus and fire engine maintenance

Contractors
Groveland CSD pays the Schedule A contract with CAL FIRE which continues service

District Staff
All high level administrative functions, including contract execution are performed by Groveland CSD staff

VS



CAL FIRE is Paid to Provide

Fire Captain
Hired directly by CAL FIRE to command all emergency responses and fire suppression operations

Fire Engineer
Apparatus operators are placed and trained by CAL FIRE

Firefighters
Each Firefighter is hired, trained, and deployed by CAL FIRE

Training
CAL FIRE provides all required certifications and ongoing professional development for personnel on duty

Operations
CAL FIRE manages all day-to-day emergency response operations and incident command protocols



**Please be on the lookout for your ballot in the mail.
If you do not receive a ballot, need a replacement ballot,
or have questions about your ballot, please contact the
District Administrative Office at 209-962-7161.**



Groveland Community Services District
Fire Department
18966 Ferretti Road
Groveland CA, 95321

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

OFFICIAL BALLOT ENCLOSED

**FOR PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT FOR A PROPOSED
FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES ASSESSMENT**

OFFICIAL MAIL

**OFFICIAL ASSESSMENT
BALLOT ENCLOSED**

PLEASE OPEN IMMEDIATELY

**MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE
JULY 8, 2026 at 9:00 AM**

FAQs

Get the facts to commonly asked questions when you scan this QR code.

