

How are local government services provided in the Township of Tuolumne? Are there other options?

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Attend an important meeting to discuss how a Community Services District can be formed.

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When and Where: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the Summerville High School Theater located at 17555 Tuolumne Road, Tuolumne.



Tuolumne Community Service District Ad Hoc Committee

Community Services Districts are a form of independent local government used to provide the specific public services needed by a community in unincorporated areas of a county.

Let your voice be heard and learn more of the Community Service District at a public meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

If you would like to contact the committee please write, call or email your request to the address below.

For more information:

Tuolumne City Sanitary District
P.O. Box 1238,
18050 Box Factory Rd,
Tuolumne, CA 95379

(209) 928-3517
tcsd@frontiernet.net

Background

Currently five (5) Independent Special Districts provide local government services in the Township of Tuolumne. These Districts include:

- Tuolumne Park & Recreation District (TPRD)
- Tuolumne Fire District (TFD)
- Tuolumne City Sanitary District (TCSD)
- Carters Cemetery District (CCD)
- Tuolumne Lighting District (TLD)

The Tuolumne Park & Recreation District, Tuolumne Fire District and Tuolumne City Sanitary District each have a 5-member locally elected Board of Directors. The 5-member Board of the Carters Cemetery District is appointed by the County Board of Supervisors while the Tuolumne Lighting District is directly administered by the County Board of Supervisors.

Is there Another Way to Provide these Important Local Government Services?

A community services district, or CSD is authorized to provide up to 32 different services under one Board of Directors. The Community Services District Law (California Government Code §61000-61250) provides for the formation of a single local government agency with the ability to provide the types and level of public "special" services needed in communities such as Tuolumne. The community leaders decide what services it wants to provide when it is initially formed, but can add services later based on community needs. Some of the services authorized under Community Services District law include road or alley maintenance, wastewater management, security, fire protection, recreation, street lighting, cemetery management, conversion of overhead utilities to underground, library services, ambulance services, graffiti abatement and many others. A CSD can provide a single, common place in which to resolve community service concerns now and in the future. A CSD can be formed as a new government agency, but more likely in the Township of Tuolumne, a CSD would be formed by consolidating multiple already-existing special districts into one new CSD; providing the same services.

How is a Community Services District Formed?

A CSD can be initiated by a petition of registered voters or by adoption of an application resolution by one or more of the existing districts, requesting the formation through the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). An ad hoc committee consisting of two board members of the Tuolumne Park & Recreation District, Tuolumne Fire District and Tuolumne City Sanitary District have been meeting in behalf of their Board of Directors to discuss the possibility of forming a *Community Services District*. Attend the meeting on August 27, 2019. Can't attend? Fill out the opinion questionnaire and mail it to the address indicated.

Why Consider Forming a Community Services District

With the very extensive requirements placed on all special districts under California law, a larger organization can more efficiently provide services to the community. Each district has its own individual five-person board of directors, management, board meetings, equipment, supplies, records, finances, annual audits, offices, personnel and policies. The "administrative" cost of running each district is repeated over and over for each district. A newly formed CSD could combine these activities and provide the public with one location for all service providers.

What Would the CSD's Budget Look Like?

The CSD will develop separate budgets for each of the services based on the estimated revenue received for each of the services and their respective expenses. The office and general expense for the Board, management and administration of all of the services will be budgeted separately, and the cost of this "administrative" expense would be paid proportionally with the revenue from each of the services. With only one Board, streamlined and combined offices, shared equipment and resources, the administrative costs for the operation of the CSD would be less than administering five separate public agencies, and separate budgets for each service assure accountability and transparency.

How Would the CSD be Governed and Managed?

When the new CSD is first formed, the new Board may be larger for a period of time and have members from each of the Districts to allow for a streamlined and cooperative consolidation process. Based on the current agency's preferences the initial board would consist of 7, 9 or 11 members. Over the next two election cycles the Board would be reduced to 5 members. The Board would determine who they wanted to be responsible for the day to day operation and management of the CSD. The individual services provided by the CSD would be delivered in mostly the same way they are today. The purpose or intent of the CSD is not to change the services such as recreation programs, operation of Carters Cemetery, or the fire department. The intent is to reduce administrative costs, to provide for an integrated, more accountable service provider and to comply with all laws and regulations.

What are the Next Steps if we want a CSD?

The existing special districts serving the Township of Tuolumne need to determine if the formation of a CSD is desirable, and if supported, application resolutions should be adopted by each supporting District. An Ad hoc Committee has been created offering each Special District an opportunity to have two Board Members on the Committee. Meetings are held monthly. To receive copies of the Tuolumne Community Service District Ad hoc Committee agendas or for additional information contact TCSD office at (209) 928-3517.

Give Us Your Opinion

What is your opinion on combining the current Special Districts within the Township of Tuolumne into a Community Services District with one locally elected Board of Directors?

- I support I oppose No Opinion I need more information

Comments: _____

Mail your response to: TCSD, P.O. Box 1238, Tuolumne, CA 95379 or come to the meeting on August 27, 2019 at 6:00 PM and drop it off.