



Yuba County Sheriff's Department

Wendell Anderson, Sheriff-Coroner



Administration
Operations
Support Services
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Jail Division
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5245 Feather River Blvd.
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August 5th, 2026

The Honorable Steven Berrier
Yuba County Superior Court
215 5th Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

RECEIVED

SEP 09 2026

Clerk/Board of Supervisors

RE: Response to 2025/2026 Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations

Dear Judge Berrier:

This letter, provided pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933, in the Yuba County Sheriff's Department's response to the 2025/2026 Grand Jury Final Report- Findings and Recommendations concerning the roles of SROs in our schools and communities. We would like to express our thanks and sincere gratitude to the 2025/2026 Yuba County Grand Jury for their dedication and commitment to the County of Yuba. Please accept the following response to the Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations:

FINDINGS:

F1. The roles and responsibilities of SROs are not formally defined or standardized across participating school sites, resulting in variation in execution and expectations.

Response: YCSO agrees with MJUSD regarding the finding.

While MJUSD acknowledges that the daily operational routine of our three SROs varies based on their specific physical assignments, the district clarifies that their fundamental roles, core responsibilities, and administrative oversight are fully standardized and monitored.

The perceived variation is actually a deliberate, structural design intended to maximize efficiency and resource allocation across the district's unique geography:

- **City-Limits Support (MPD):** The Marysville Police Officer is based at Marysville High School but is available to support three other MJUSD schools within the City of Marysville to include; McKenney, Kynoch, and Covillaud.
- **Emergency Mutual Aid Coordination:** MJUSD operates under a mutual aid understanding. In an emergency, YCSO will immediately cross jurisdictions to provide rapid response and operational support alongside the MPD.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

To satisfy this finding, MJUSD, YCSO, and MPD have collaboratively agreed to the **Standardized MJUSD SRO Role Definition & Duty Matrix** below.

Program Mission Statement: To ensure a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment by balancing proactive law enforcement duties with mentorship and collaborative safety planning, while strictly respecting the boundary between police intervention and administrative discipline.

1. Core Role Classifications (The Triad Model)

Regardless of whether an officer is site-based or mobile, their duties will align with these three pillars:

- **Law Enforcer & Campus Safety Officer:** Serve as the immediate first responder to active threats or criminal activity. Assist administration with student searches *only* when there is reasonable suspicion of weapons, illicit drugs, or contraband threatening campus safety. Cooperate across jurisdictional lines during emergencies.
- **& Student Supporter:** Engage with the student body during non-instructional times to build community trust. Partner with the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance to conduct priority home visits and welfare checks targeting chronic absenteeism. Utilize crisis de-escalation techniques during behavioral health crises.
- **Educator & Safety Advisor:** Deliver classroom presentations on digital citizenship, substance awareness, and traffic safety. Meet weekly with administrators to review, update, and practice school emergency procedures (e.g., active shooter drills, lockdowns).

F2. The SRO program operates with overlapping school-based and law enforcement response frameworks for discipline, behavioral health and crime response. 6 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury 2025-2026 Final Report

Response: YCSO agrees with MJUSD on this finding.

The Sheriff's Department and district maintain a defined boundary between administrative school discipline and law enforcement intervention. SROs and school administrators work collaboratively, but their operational frameworks do not overlap in a manner that compromises student rights or replaces school discipline with law enforcement action.

- **Separation from Discipline:** SROs do not suspend, expel, or determine disciplinary outcomes. School discipline is handled exclusively by site administrators under the California Education Code.
- **Collaboration, Not Overlap:** SROs intervene in student searches only under reasonable suspicion of immediate safety threats (weapons/narcotics). In behavioral health crises, the SRO's role is strictly supportive and protective, ensuring a secure environment so that mental health professionals can safely provide care.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

To eliminate any perception of overlapping frameworks, the district is executing the following measures:

- **Education vs. Enforcement Protocol:** MJUSD and law enforcement leadership outlined an administrative versus enforcement matrix, which will be reviewed with SROs and administrators annually.
- **Administrative Staff Briefings:** During ongoing weekly meetings with all MJUSD school administrators, the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance will reinforce best practices, and review of the matrix below.

THE DISCIPLINE BOUNDARY: STRICTLY ENFORCED	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINE (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY)	LAW ENFORCEMENT & SAFETY CRISIS (SRO ROLE)
• Dress Code, Cell phone violations • Classroom Disruptions & tardiness • Insubordination to teachers • Enforcing detentions & suspensions	• Possession of firearms or weapons • Illicit narcotic sales/possession • Criminal acts, assaults, threats • Safety threats & legal violations • Welfare Checks or immediate crisis de-escalation

F3. The SRO program does not utilize standardized performance metrics or a centralized data-driven evaluation framework to assess effectiveness across school sites.

Response: YCSO aligns with MJUSD on this finding.

The district agrees that while the SRO program is managed through weekly administrative meetings and dual-layered oversight, it has historically relied on qualitative assessments rather than a formalized, centralized, data-driven performance metric system.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

Under the direction of the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance and in coordination with law enforcement leadership, the district will develop and implement a framework that will track data across three key pillars:

- **School Climate & Relationship Data:** Annual, anonymous school climate surveys distributed to students, staff, and parents to measure perceptions of school safety and program trust.
- **Proactive vs. Reactive Operational Metrics:** A centralized log tracking the number of safety drills/audits conducted, targeted welfare checks/home visits executed, administrative student searches assisted, and classroom presentations delivered.
- **Diversion and De-escalation Tracking:** Monitoring instances of successful crisis de-escalation and tracking the ratio of school-based administrative interventions versus actual law enforcement citations or arrests, with a clear priority on student diversion.

F4: Oversight and regulation of the SRO program are decentralized, and the Sheriff Department identified the need for additional supervisory structure to support program coordination, consistency and oversight.

Response: YCSO agrees with MJUSD and their response.

Reasoning: The SRO program is not decentralized, nor does it lack supervisory structure. Currently, operational oversight is actively maintained through a structured partnership: MJUSD utilizes the **Director of Student Welfare & Attendance** for administrative and district-level alignment, while both the **Yuba County Sheriff's Office (YCSO)** and the **Marysville Police Department (MPD)** provide dedicated **Sergeants** who directly oversee the daily tactical and law enforcement operations of the SROs. This existing framework ensures consistent coordination and strict oversight.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan

While the necessary supervisory structure is already fully operational, MJUSD will work with its law enforcement partners within the next fiscal year to explicitly codify and formalize these existing roles in writing:

- **Codified MOU Revision:** MJUSD leadership will collaborate with YCSO and MPD leadership during the next Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revision cycle to formally document dual-oversight roles already performed by the District's Director of Student Welfare & Attendance and the assigned law enforcement Sergeants.
- **Formalized Command Loop Documentation:** The updated MOU will clearly map out the existing dual-layered command loop to prevent any external ambiguity:
 - **District Oversight:** The Director of Student Welfare & Attendance will continue to govern school-site priorities, student welfare integration, administrative coordination, and home-visit directives.

Law Enforcement Oversight: Assigned Sergeants from YCSO and MPD will continue to manage tactical operations, police training, and compliance with law enforcement agency standards.

- **Standardized Leadership Briefings:** To build upon the current successful structure, the District's Director, the SROs, and the law enforcement Sergeants will formalize a monthly briefing schedule to continuously review program coordination, share data, and proactively maintain operational consistency across all campuses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Yuba County Sheriff Department and Marysville Police Department in coordination with participating school districts and Yuba College, should develop and formally document, by December 31, 2026, a standardized role definition for SROs that clearly delineates responsibilities related to law enforcement, student discipline, support, and mentorship.

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department will continue to collaborate with the school districts involved and our Law Enforcement partners to develop and document standardized role definitions for SROs, while also considering that such documentation could limit the roles of our SROs. While structure and expectations are often desired, they cannot completely capture all potential scenarios, circumstances or issues that SROs may face at any given time.

It is not the desire of the Yuba County Sheriff's Department to be involved with the administrative disciplinary matters normally handled by school administrators. The Sheriff's Office is focused on building relationships with staff and students and providing a safe environment for those at the schools within our jurisdiction. We will continue to build relationships and enforce violations of codified laws and regulations within our jurisdiction.

R2. Participating school districts, Yuba College, Yuba County Sheriff Department, and the Marysville Police Department should formalize, by December 31, 2026, written protocols defining roles, responsibilities and decision-making authority related to student discipline, student behavioral health crises and other school-based crisis.

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department will collaborate with our partners, to develop written protocols where applicable and will focus on the health and welfare of those that we serve.

R3. The Yuba County Sheriff Department and the Marysville Police Department, in coordination with participating school districts and Yuba College, should develop and implement, by December 31, 2026, standardized performance metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the SRO program, including student attendance outcomes, discipline-related referrals, incident response data and school climate indicators.

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department will coordinate with participating schools within our jurisdiction, to consider establishing measurable metrics that evaluate the effectiveness of our SRO program, while also considering that each employee within the Sheriff's Department receives annual performance evaluations currently. The annual performance evaluations consider the employee's assignment and their effectiveness as an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

R4. The Yuba County Sheriff Department and the Marysville Police Department should evaluate, by December 31, 2026, the feasibility of establishing centralized oversight of the SRO program, including consideration of a dedicated supervisory position or unit responsible for program coordination, policy standardization, and performance monitoring across participating jurisdictions.

It has been the desire of the Yuba County Sheriff's Department to maintain a dedicated supervisor solely for the SRO program, to enhance effectiveness and coordination with participating jurisdictions. The Sheriff's Department currently has 10 Sheriff's Operations Sergeant allocated positions and each of those Sergeants has dedicated duties to which they are currently assigned. Short of additional allocated position this recommendation is not feasible. Supervision of the SROs will continue to be addressed with the shift supervisor and the Operations Lieutenant until resources can be addressed through additional allocations and the budget. Each Sergeant in the Operations Division is responsible for their respective oversight of the patrol division shifts and ancillary oversight of special assignments, such as SROs. The Sheriff's Department will work with our partners, to evaluate the need for policy standardization and performance monitoring.

CONCLUSION:

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department is dedicated to the safety and security of our educational institutions. We have and will continue to collaborate with our Law Enforcement partners, educators, and the public to ensure that we are providing the highest level of service possible.

I wish to thank the 2025/2026 Grand Jury for their dedication, devotion and commitment to our community. We find value in the inspection process and despite our disagreement with some of the findings and recommendations we will continue to use the information to improve our performance and service. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. You can reach me via telephone at 530 749-7779 or via electronic mail at wanderson@co.yuba.ca.us.

Sincerely,



Wendell Anderson
Sheriff-Coroner

cc: Yuba County Board of Supervisors
Yuba County Counsel



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SEP 09 2026

Clerk/Board of Supervisors

August 20, 2026

Honorable Stephen W. Berrier, Presiding Judge
Yuba County Superior Court
215 5th Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: Response of the Marysville City Council to the Final Report of the Yuba County Grand Jury (2025-2026)

Dear Judge Berrier,

Pursuant to California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Marysville City Council hereby submits its formal response to the 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Final Report entitled 'City of Marysville Street Maintenance – A Bump in the Road.' The City respectfully submits the following responses on behalf of the City Council and City Manager.

I) INTRODUCTION

Street maintenance and rehabilitation have been longstanding priorities of the City Council. Infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, drainage, water, sewer, facilities, and related public improvements, has been one of the City's six primary strategic priorities for at least the past seven years and remains one of the Council's highest priorities.

Despite the funding challenges facing local agencies throughout California, the City has made substantial progress in improving its transportation infrastructure through a combination of local investment, state and federal grant funding, strategic project delivery, and ongoing maintenance activities.

During the review period and preceding years, the City invested approximately \$3.5 million in General Fund resources toward street rehabilitation projects that were not strong candidates for grant funding. The City also aggressively pursued and secured funding through multiple state and federal programs, including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Senate Bill 1 (SB1), and other transportation-related funding sources. Since 2021, the City has been awarded more than \$17 million in outside funding for roadway, pedestrian, bicycle, and related transportation improvements bringing total street infrastructure investment during this period to over \$20 million.

As a result, the City has rehabilitated approximately 20% of its street network during the past six years and anticipates increasing that percentage to approximately 34% by year 2028 through completed, funded, programmed, and active projects. During the same period, the City's Pavement Condition Index (PCI) improved from 56 to 67. See Attachment A – January 20, 2026 Pavement Management Presentation.

The City recognizes that infrastructure needs routinely exceed available funding resources. Nevertheless, the City believes its level of investment, success in securing outside funding, measurable improvements in pavement conditions, and percentage of streets rehabilitated compare favorably with many similarly situated communities.

The City appreciates the efforts of the Yuba County Grand Jury and welcomes recommendations intended to improve municipal operations. However, the City is disappointed that the report does not adequately recognize



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the significant efforts undertaken by the City Council, City staff, and Public Works personnel, nor the substantial local and grant-funded investments made in recent years.

The City further believes portions of the report focus primarily on process concerns and anecdotal complaints without adequately evaluating measurable outcomes, including rehabilitation accomplishments, pavement condition improvements, funding secured, and overall performance. The City also notes that the report does not benchmark Marysville's performance against similarly situated jurisdictions facing comparable infrastructure funding challenges.

The City is proud of the progress achieved and believes the accomplishments outlined herein demonstrate a sustained commitment to infrastructure investment and improvement.

Accordingly, the City respectfully provides the following responses to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations.

II) REQUIRED RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Finding F1

Council Response: Disagree

The Council disagrees with this finding. The City is not required by law, regulation, or professional standard to maintain a formal pavement management plan in any particular format. Infrastructure has been identified by the City Council as one of the City's primary strategic priorities for at least the past seven years. The absence of a standalone pavement management document should not be construed as an absence of planning, prioritization, or commitment to infrastructure investment.

The City evaluates roadway conditions, available funding sources, public safety considerations, traffic volumes, economic development objectives, grant eligibility requirements, and other factors when establishing priorities for street rehabilitation projects.

The Council further notes that the primary challenge facing the City is not identifying roadway needs, but rather obtaining sufficient funding to address those needs. Like most California cities, Marysville faces infrastructure needs that exceed available funding resources. Accordingly, the Council must continually balance street rehabilitation needs against other essential municipal services and infrastructure priorities through the annual budget process.

The Council further notes that the report does not acknowledge the substantial progress made in rehabilitating the City's street network during the review period, nor does it benchmark the City's performance against similarly situated California cities facing similar infrastructure funding challenges.

The allocation of limited public resources among streets, public safety, parks, facilities, economic development, regulatory compliance, and other municipal needs is ultimately a policy decision entrusted to the elected City Council through the annual budget process and other Council actions.

City Manager Response: Disagree in Part



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The City Manager disagrees in part with this finding. While the City does not maintain a standalone pavement management plan document, the City maintains roadway condition information and utilizes that information in conjunction with funding availability, grant opportunities, traffic volumes, public safety considerations, utility coordination requirements, and City Council direction when developing street rehabilitation projects.

The City is currently developing a broader Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process intended to assist with planning and prioritization of infrastructure and facility improvements across multiple City functions. The scope, level of detail, and implementation timeline of such planning efforts will be determined based upon available resources, organizational priorities, and City Council direction.

The City Manager notes that the primary challenge facing the City is not identifying roadway needs, but rather obtaining sufficient funding to address those needs. Like most California cities, Marysville faces infrastructure needs that exceed available funding resources.

Despite these constraints, the City has rehabilitated approximately 20% of its street network during the past six years and anticipates increasing that percentage to approximately 34% by year 2028 through a combination of local, state, and federal funding sources.

Finding F2

Council Response: Disagree

The Council disagrees with this finding. The finding is factually inaccurate. The City maintains systems and procedures for receiving, documenting, assigning, tracking, and responding to maintenance requests.

The report acknowledges only that the Grand Jury identified at least one complaint that was reportedly filed but was not included in a report reviewed by investigators. The report does not identify the complaint, reporting method, date submitted, location, or other information that would permit the City to independently verify or evaluate the assertion. The existence of a complaint that may not have appeared in a particular report does not support the conclusion that the City lacks a centralized tracking system.

City Manager Response: Disagree

The City Manager disagrees with this finding. The City utilizes the iWorQ work order and service request management system to receive, document, assign, track, and close maintenance requests, including street-related concerns.

The report references a complaint that was reportedly filed but was not included in documentation reviewed by investigators. However, the report does not provide sufficient information regarding the specific request, date, reporting method, location, or other information necessary for the City to independently verify or evaluate the assertion. It would be helpful in the future if the Grand Jury provided specific information and/or backup materials as part of its report.

The City maintains a centralized work order and service request management system and processes street-related maintenance requests through that system. While the City continually evaluates opportunities to



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improve public awareness and accessibility of available reporting tools, the City disagrees with the finding that a centralized tracking system does not exist.

Finding F3

Council Response: Disagree in Part

The Council disagrees in part with this finding. Street rehabilitation projects are routinely discussed in public input meetings, budget deliberations, capital improvement planning discussions, grant applications, project approvals, and contract awards.

The Council agrees that opportunities may exist to improve the accessibility and organization of project-related information available on the City's website. However, the Council notes that project schedules are frequently dependent upon grant funding, environmental review, utility coordination, contractor availability, and bid results. Accordingly, project schedules often remain preliminary until construction contracts are awarded.

The Council will continue to evaluate the level of public information it believes is appropriate while balancing the need to provide useful information with the risk of creating expectations regarding projects that remain subject to change.

City Manager Response: Disagree in Part

The City Manager disagrees in part with this finding because communication regarding street maintenance and rehabilitation activities occurs at multiple stages of the project development and implementation process.

First, the City provides opportunities for public input regarding potential projects and priorities through public input meetings, budget discussions, agendaized and noticed public hearings, and other public forums.

Second, the City provides general information regarding funded and anticipated projects through Council agendas, staff reports, budget documents, grant applications, project approvals, and related public documents. At this stage, project schedules are often preliminary and subject to funding availability, grant awards, environmental review, utility coordination, bidding results, and contractor availability.

Third, once projects are funded, awarded, and approaching construction, the City and/or its contractors provide more specific notifications to residents, businesses, and property owners who may be directly affected by construction activities. The City believes it is important to distinguish between preliminary planning information and project schedules that are sufficiently finalized to support construction notifications.

The City agrees that opportunities exist to improve the accessibility and organization of project-related information on its website to inform our constituents of the positive results achieved. The City will continue to evaluate reasonable methods of providing general information regarding anticipated infrastructure projects while recognizing that project schedules frequently change as funding and project development activities evolve.

Finding F4

Council Response: Disagree



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The Council disagrees with this finding. The report does not adequately distinguish between routine maintenance activities and major rehabilitation projects. Routine maintenance activities and major rehabilitation projects involve different funding sources, staffing, scheduling, and operational considerations.

Major street rehabilitation projects are policy decisions evaluated and prioritized through the annual budget process and other Council actions. Project selection is based on roadway condition, available funding, grant eligibility requirements, public safety considerations, traffic volumes, utility coordination opportunities, economic development objectives, and other community priorities.

The Council further notes that the principal challenge facing the City is not identifying roadway needs, but obtaining sufficient funding to address them. Like most California cities, Marysville faces infrastructure needs that substantially exceed available resources.

Infrastructure has been one of the City's six strategic priorities for at least the past seven years. The Council has consistently dedicated significant local resources toward street rehabilitation, including approximately \$3.5 million in General Fund resources for projects that were not strong candidates for outside funding. The City has also aggressively pursued state and federal grants, resulting in more than \$20 million in transportation infrastructure investment since 2021.

The Council believes these measurable accomplishments demonstrate that street rehabilitation has been both planned and prioritized and that available resources have been allocated in a responsible and effective manner.

City Manager Response: Disagree

The City Manager disagrees with this finding. The report does not distinguish between reactive maintenance activities and planned capital rehabilitation projects, which are managed through different operational processes.

Routine maintenance activities, including pothole repairs and localized pavement failures, are operational functions that are performed on an as-needed basis as issues are identified by City staff or reported by the public through the City's work order management system. Because these activities are reactive in nature, they are not performed according to a fixed maintenance schedule.

Reactive maintenance activities are intended to address localized safety concerns, preserve roadway serviceability, and extend pavement life until comprehensive rehabilitation or reconstruction can be funded. They are not a substitute for major rehabilitation of deteriorated streets.

Major street rehabilitation projects are planned separately and are evaluated based upon roadway condition, available funding, grant eligibility requirements, public safety considerations, traffic volumes, utility coordination opportunities, and City Council direction. The timing of these projects is largely dependent upon available funding rather than the identification of roadway needs.

The City continually evaluates opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its maintenance operations. Most recently, the City invested in an asphalt grinder attachment, a sweeper attachment for its skid steer, and an asphalt hot box to improve the quality, durability, and efficiency of pavement repairs. Staff also continues to evaluate maintenance materials, repair methods, and equipment that can extend pavement life and improve service delivery.



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The City Manager further notes that the report focuses primarily on anecdotal complaints but does not evaluate measurable operational results, including the City's substantial rehabilitation accomplishments, investments in maintenance operations, success in securing outside funding, or improvements in overall pavement conditions.

Recommendations R1-R4

Recommendation R1

Council Response: Disagree in Part

Respectfully, the Grand Jury's recommendation will not be implemented as stated.

The City Council recognizes the value of planning tools that assist in the evaluation and prioritization of infrastructure investments. However, the City is not required to maintain a formal pavement management plan in any particular format, and the Council believes the appropriate level of planning documentation should be determined by the City based upon available resources, organizational needs, and competing priorities.

Infrastructure has been one of the City's six primary strategic priorities for at least the past seven years, and the City currently evaluates roadway conditions, funding opportunities, public safety considerations, traffic volumes, economic development objectives, grant eligibility requirements, and other factors when establishing rehabilitation priorities.

The Council notes that the primary challenge facing the City is funding availability rather than identification of roadway needs.

City Manager Response: Disagree in Part

Respectfully, the Grand Jury's recommendation will not be implemented as stated.

The City currently evaluates roadway conditions and rehabilitation needs utilizing pavement condition information, staff assessments, funding opportunities, grant eligibility requirements, traffic volumes, public safety considerations, utility coordination opportunities, and other factors.

The City is currently developing a broader Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process intended to assist with planning and prioritization of infrastructure and facility improvements across multiple City functions. The scope, level of detail, and implementation timeline of such planning efforts will be determined based upon available resources, operational priorities, and City Council direction.

The City Manager will continue developing the City's broader Capital Improvement Program and will evaluate the appropriate level of documentation for pavement management and infrastructure planning based upon available resources, organizational priorities, and City Council direction.

Recommendation R2

Council Response: Disagree

The recommendation will not be implemented because a system is already in place.



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The Council notes that the City currently maintains a centralized work order and service request management system for the receipt, assignment, tracking, and completion of maintenance requests.

City Manager Response: Disagree

The recommendation will not be implemented because a system is already in place.

The City currently utilizes the iWorQ work order and service request management system to receive, document, assign, track, and close maintenance requests, including street-related concerns.

The City Manager will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve public awareness and accessibility of available reporting tools.

Recommendation R3

Council Response: Agree in Part

The recommendation has been partially implemented and remains ongoing.

The Council supports continued efforts to improve public access to general information regarding anticipated infrastructure projects. The Council will continue to evaluate the level of public information it believes is appropriate while balancing the need to provide useful information with the risk of creating expectations regarding projects that remain subject to change.

City Manager Response: Agree in Part

The recommendation has been partially implemented and remains ongoing.

The City will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve the accessibility and organization of infrastructure-related information available on the City's website.

The City Manager notes that communication regarding street maintenance and rehabilitation activities occurs at multiple stages, including public input during project development, general project information during planning and funding phases, and targeted notifications to residents and businesses when construction activities are imminent.

Project schedules will generally be presented as preliminary until funding is secured, contracts are awarded, and construction schedules are finalized.

Recommendation R4

Council Response: Disagree

The Council respectfully disagrees with the implication that additional resources should be directed toward one municipal function without considering the impacts on other essential public services and community priorities.

The Council disagrees with this recommendation because it does not adequately recognize the substantial actions already taken by the City to prioritize and fund street maintenance and rehabilitation activities. In recent years, the City has allocated approximately \$3.5 million in General Fund resources toward street rehabilitation



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projects, particularly projects that were not strong candidates for outside grant funding. In addition, the City has aggressively pursued state and federal grant funding opportunities and has successfully secured significant outside funding for transportation and infrastructure improvements.

The Council further notes that the recommendation does not fully recognize the responsibility of elected officials to balance numerous competing municipal priorities within finite financial resources. Each year, the City Council must allocate available resources among public safety, infrastructure, economic development, parks and recreation, regulatory compliance, facilities, and other essential municipal services. These decisions are made through a public budgeting process and are based upon community needs, staff recommendations, available funding sources, legal obligations, and long-term strategic priorities.

Infrastructure has been one of the City's six strategic priorities for at least the past seven years, and the City has consistently dedicated substantial resources toward improving the condition of its street network. However, the Council must continue to balance infrastructure investments against other critical community needs and cannot dedicate additional resources to one service area without considering the impacts on others.

The Council will continue to evaluate infrastructure needs, funding opportunities, and staff recommendations and will allocate resources in a manner it believes best serves the overall interests of the community.

City Manager Response: Disagree

The City Manager disagrees with this recommendation because many of the actions contemplated by the recommendation are already occurring and have been ongoing for several years.

The City routinely evaluates roadway conditions, identifies rehabilitation priorities, pursues grant funding opportunities, develops project recommendations, and implements both maintenance and rehabilitation activities within the resources made available through the budget process. Street rehabilitation projects are regularly presented to the City Council for consideration and funding, and staff actively pursues opportunities to leverage local funds with state and federal grant programs.

The City has rehabilitated approximately 20% of its street network during the past six years and anticipates increasing that percentage to approximately 34% by year 2028 through projects that are completed, under construction, funded, or programmed. In addition, the City has invested in personnel, equipment, and operational improvements intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing maintenance activities.

The City Manager further disagrees with the premise that additional street rehabilitation can be achieved primarily through administrative action, planning documents, or scheduling changes. The City's experience is that the primary constraint is funding availability rather than the identification of roadway needs, project prioritization, or operational responsiveness. Like most California cities, Marysville faces infrastructure needs that exceed available funding resources.

The City will continue to evaluate roadway conditions, pursue outside funding opportunities, improve operational efficiencies, and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding infrastructure investments. The pace of future rehabilitation efforts will continue to be influenced primarily by available funding, grant opportunities, and budgetary decisions made by the City Council through the public budget process.



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III) CONCLUSION

The City appreciates the important role of the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury and welcomes recommendations intended to improve municipal operations. While the City respectfully disagrees with several findings and recommendations contained in the report, it remains committed to making infrastructure one of its highest priorities, investing available local resources, aggressively pursuing outside funding, improving operational efficiencies, and providing recommendations to the City Council that maximize the benefit of limited public resources. The City believes the measurable progress achieved during the past several years demonstrates this ongoing commitment and looks forward to continuing these efforts in partnership with the community.

Attachments:

A – January 20, 2026 Pavement Management Presentation.

Chris Branscum, Mayor

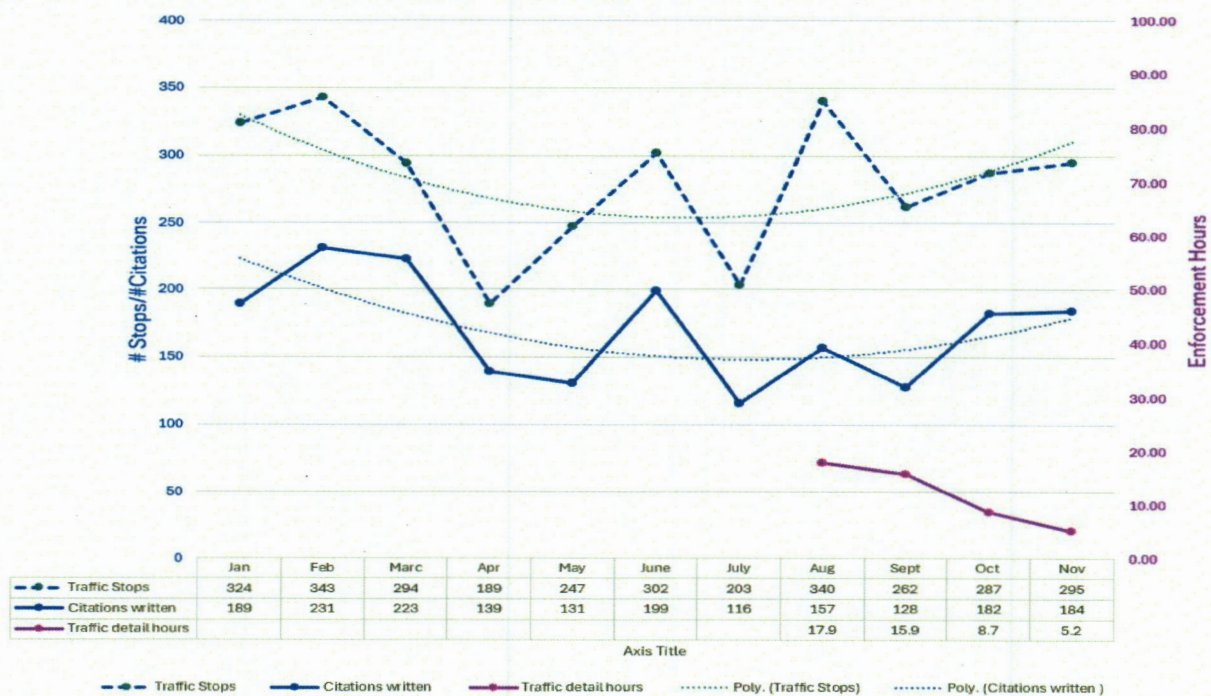
Jim Schaad, City Manager

Traffic and Streets Projects Presentation

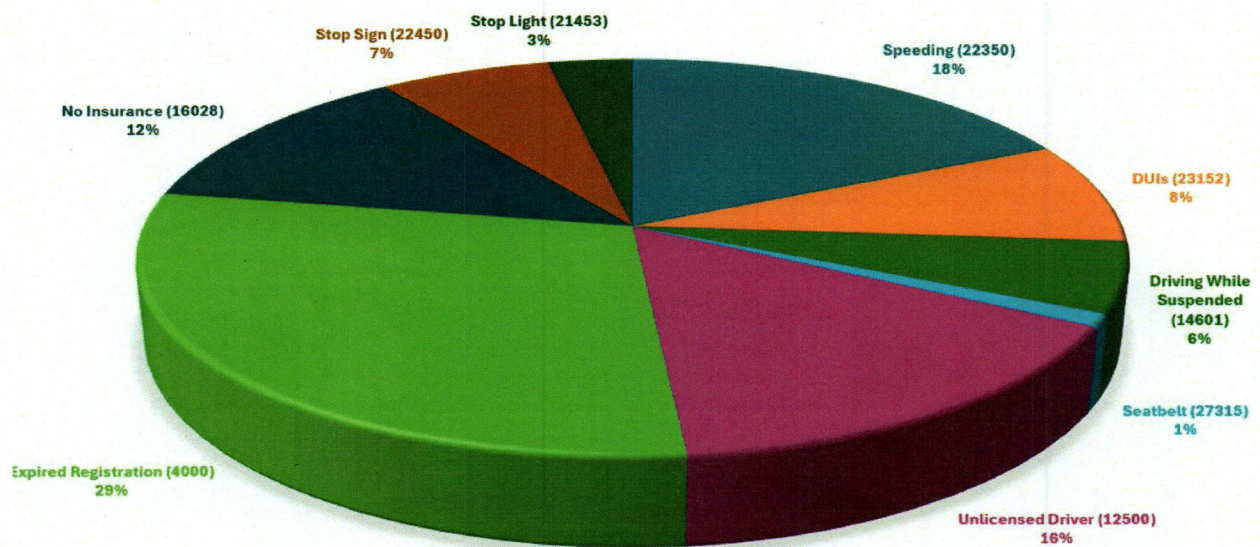
Prepared by the Parking, Traffic and Streets Committee

Traffic Enforcement

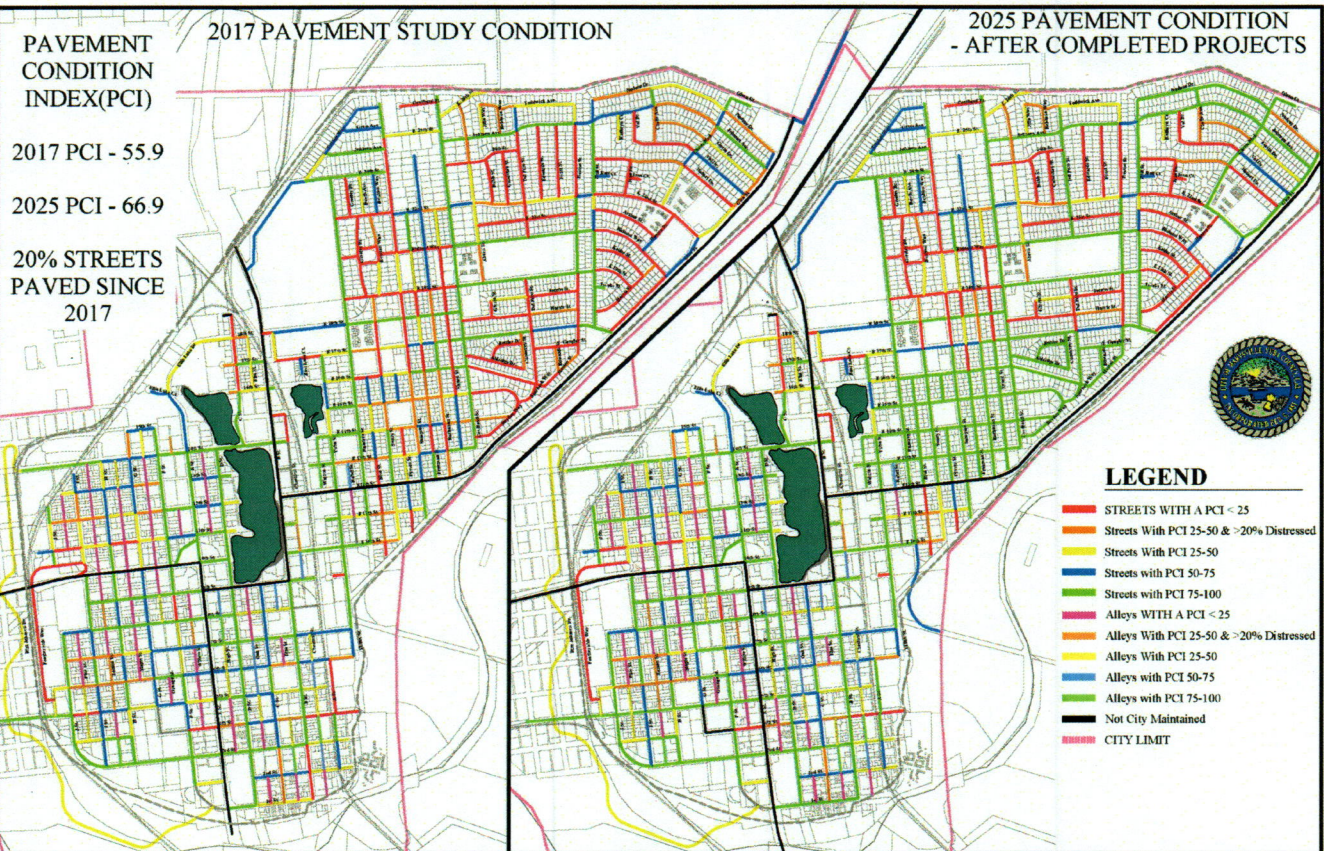
Traffic Enforcement Efforts



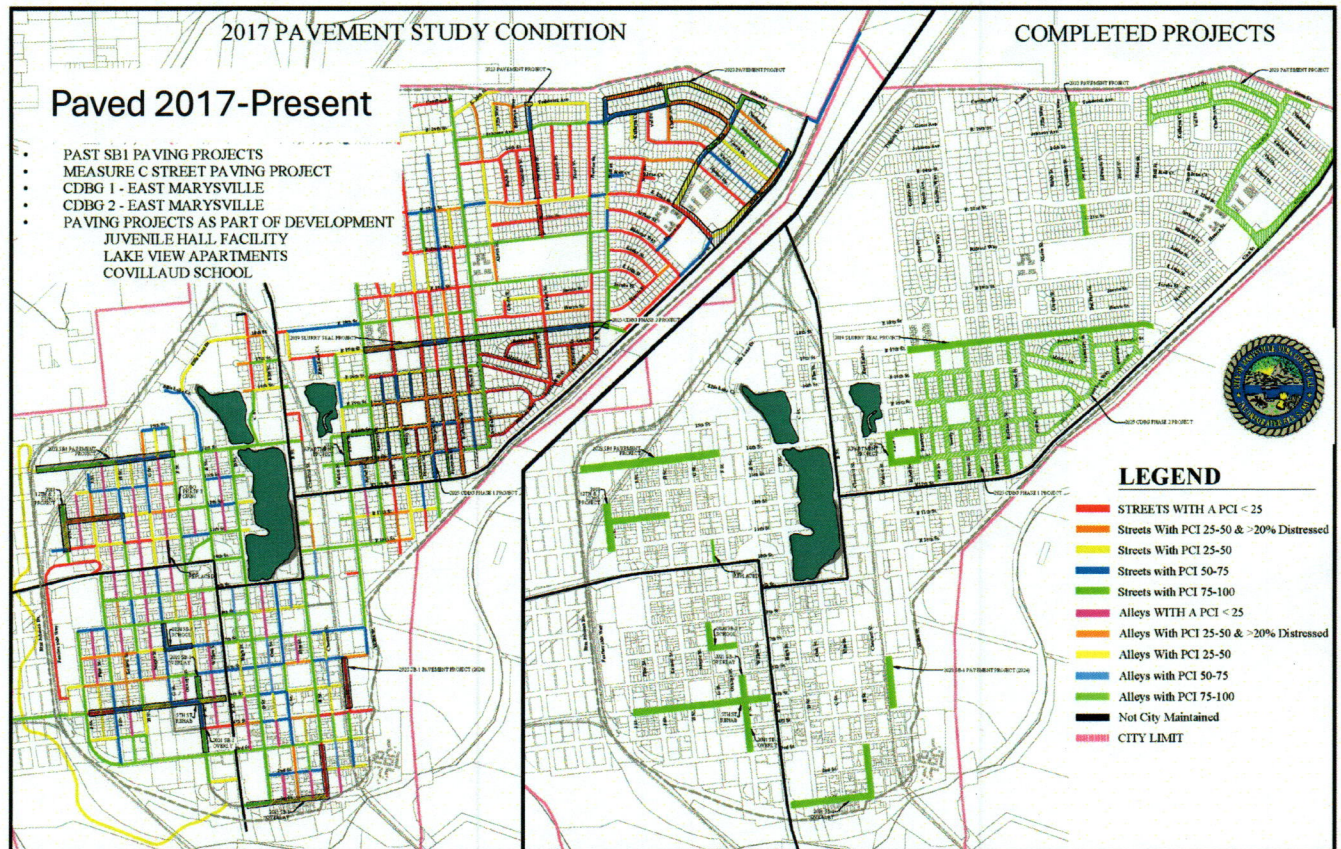
Top Violations

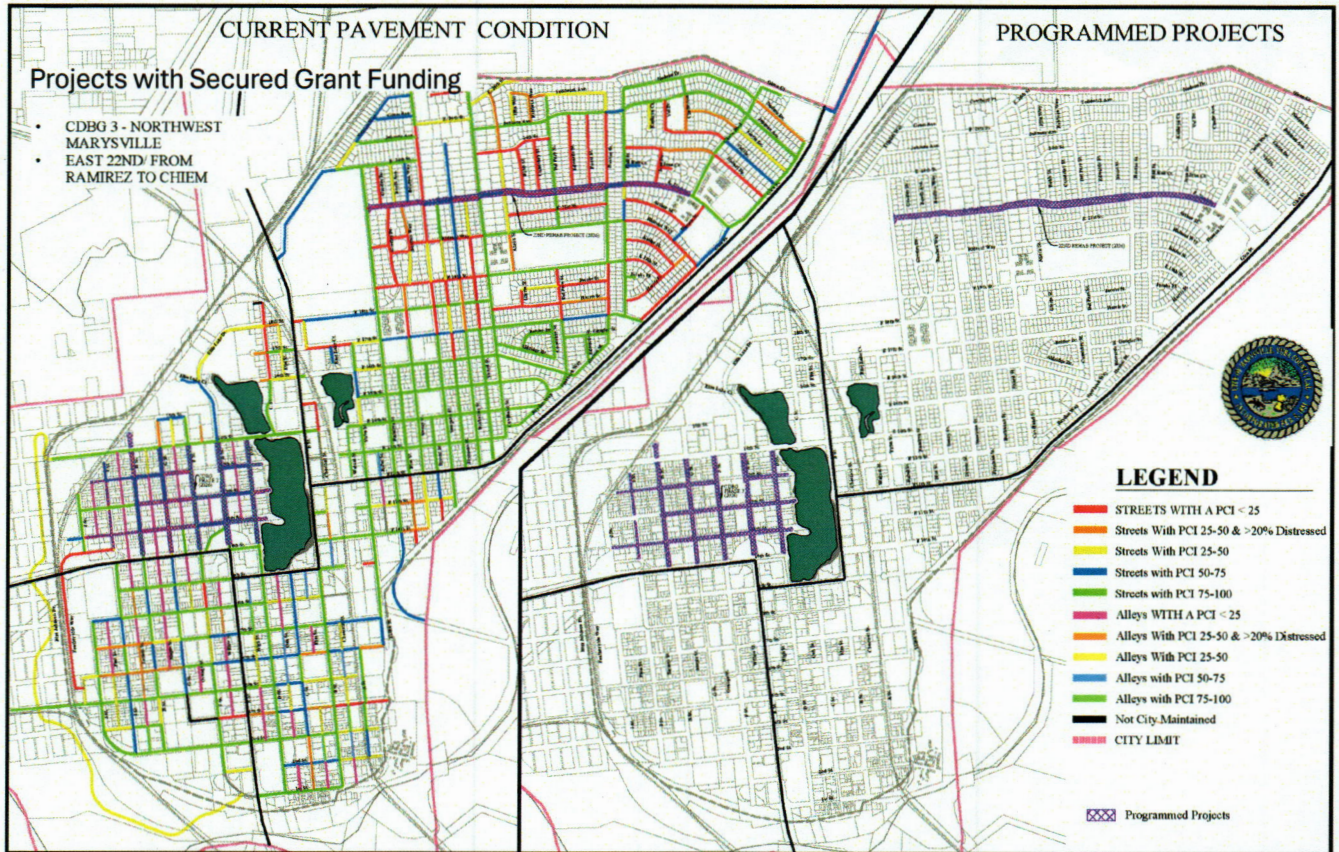


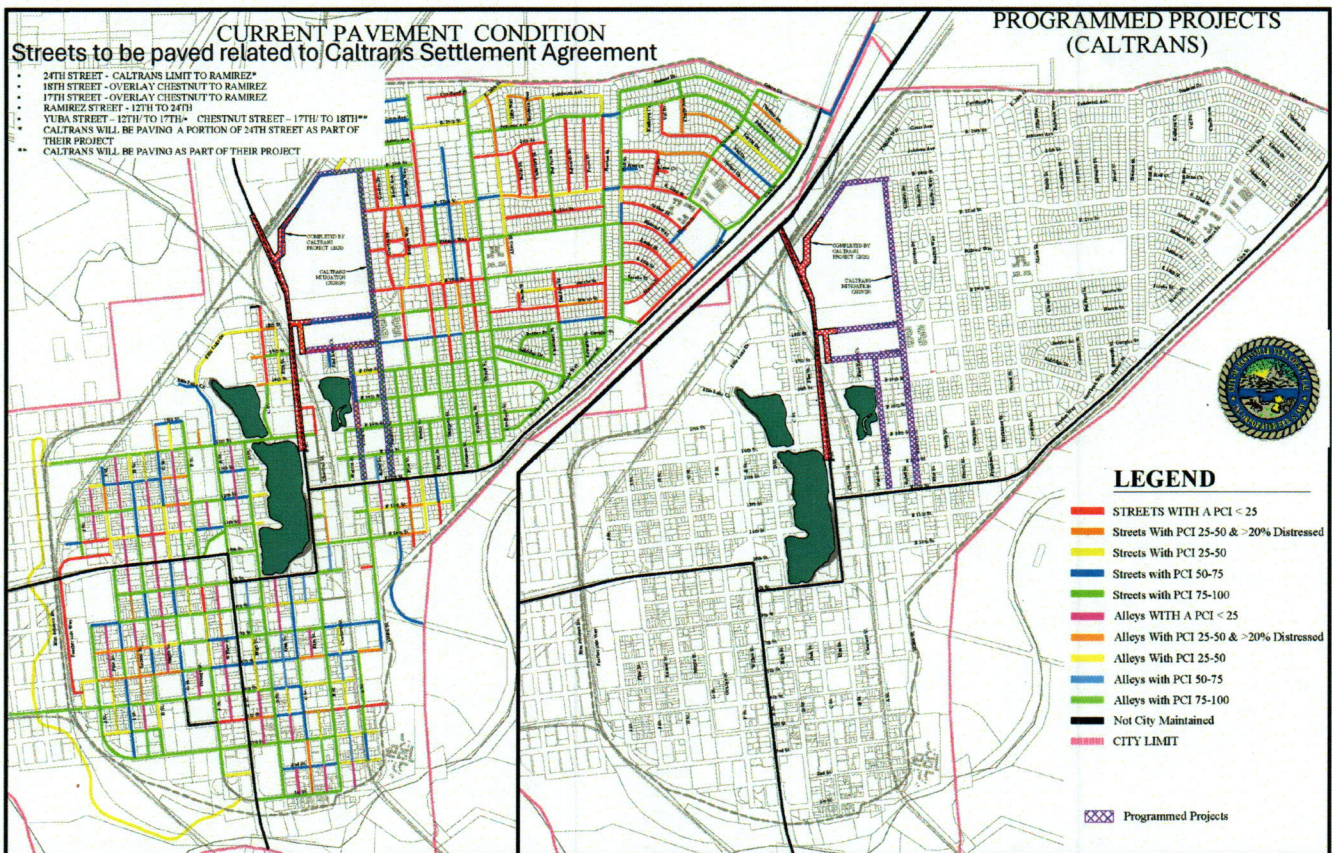
Street Paving Activity



COMPARISON







CURRENT PAVEMENT CONDITION Recommended Streets to be Paved using SB1 Funds

RECOMMENDED PROJECTS



LEGEND

- STREETS WITH A PCI < 25
- Streets With PCI 25-50 & > 20% Distressed
- Streets With PCI 25-50
- Streets with PCI 50-75
- Streets with PCI 75-100
- Alleys WITH A PCI < 25
- Alleys With PCI 25-50 & > 20% Distressed
- Alleys With PCI 25-50
- Alleys with PCI 50-75
- Alleys with PCI 75-100
- Not City Maintained
- CITY LIMIT
- Proposed Projects

DOWNTOWN PAVING PROJECT

- 5TH STREET - B TO C & C STREET - 5TH TO 6TH **
- 6TH STREET - B ST - C ST *
- 5TH STREET - C ST - D ST *
- 4TH STREET - A ST - E ST
- 4TH STREET - E ST - F ST
- RODARTE WAY (OAK STREET) - 5TH - 6TH ST

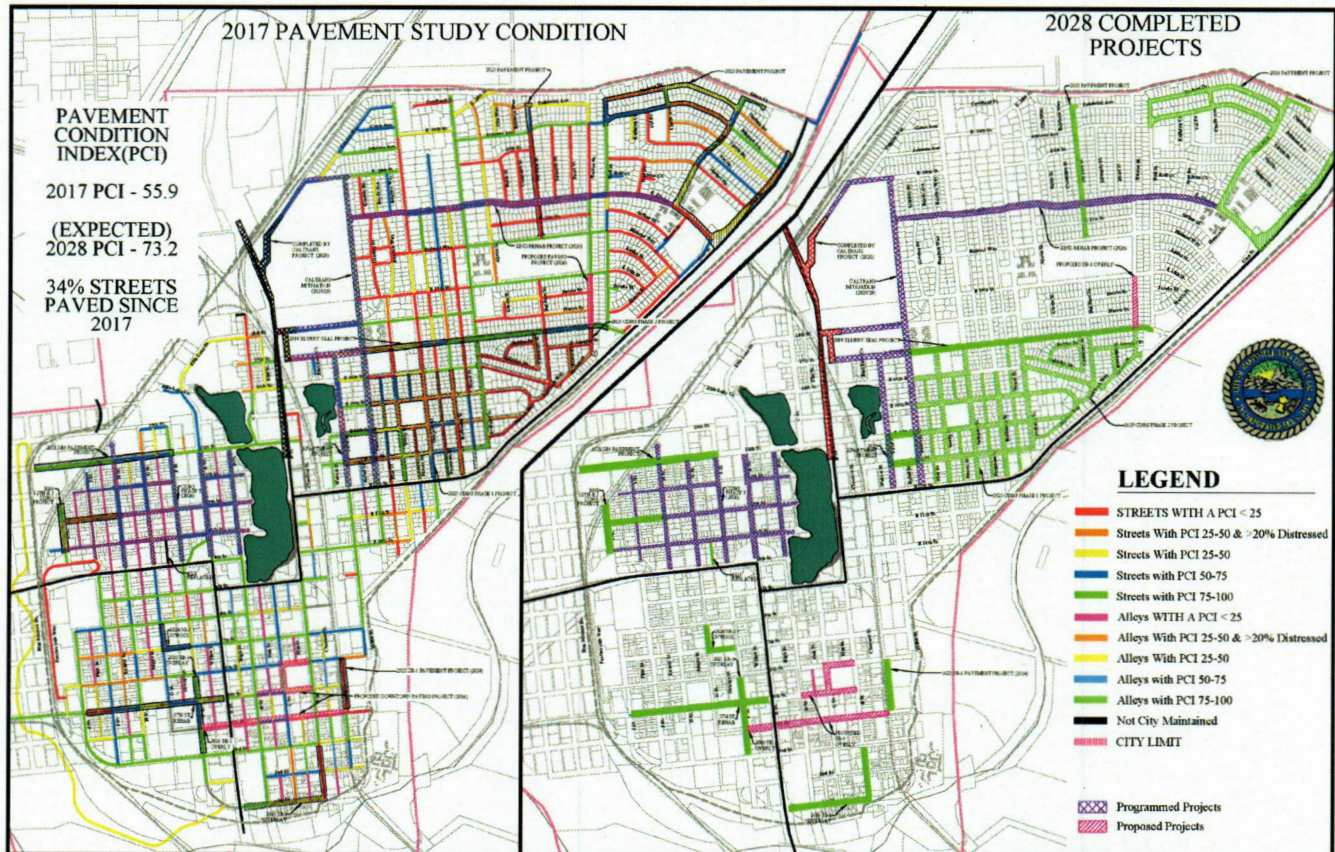
*YUBA COUNTY WILL PARTIALLY FUND \$174,000

(\$162K)
(\$73K)
(\$196K)
(\$264K)
(\$82K)
(\$98K)

ADD ALTERNATE PAVING:

- HUSTON 17TH ST - 19TH ST ** (\$250K)

**WOULD BE BID AS AN ADD-ALTERNATIVE AND COMPLETED IF FUNDING ALLOWS



Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant

A federal grant program (administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation) designed to:

- **Eliminate, mitigate, or lessen the historic impacts of transportation infrastructure** that have created barriers between communities — especially disadvantaged or underserved ones,
- **Reconnect neighborhoods** previously divided by highways, rail lines, or other barriers,
- **Improve safe, equitable access to opportunity and mobility** through multimodal investments (such as new or improved pedestrian/bicycle routes, caps over highways, rail realignments, etc.).
- Marysville was awarded \$500,000 in funding through SACOG
- The City will develop a traffic calming program in Green Zone downtown.

RCN Grant – Work & Outcomes

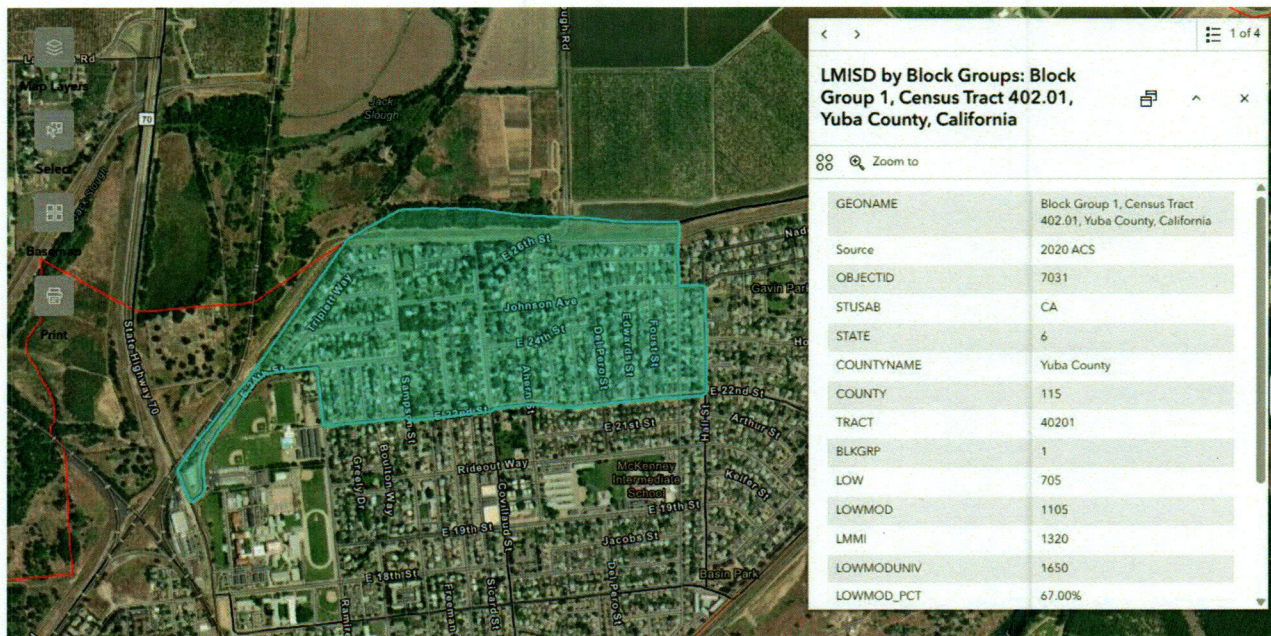
- Develop **consensus concepts** to reconnect areas divided by Hwy 20/70 and improve safety, air quality, and downtown livability
- Coordinate with **Caltrans and the City** on feasible changes within State and City right-of-way
- Identify **multimodal improvements** (transit, bike, pedestrian access) informed by community engagement
- Implement **3 traffic-calming demonstration projects** (pilot or permanent) to test real-world effectiveness
- Deliver a **prioritized roadmap** to guide future capital funding and implementation

Future Opportunities

CDBG Future Rounds

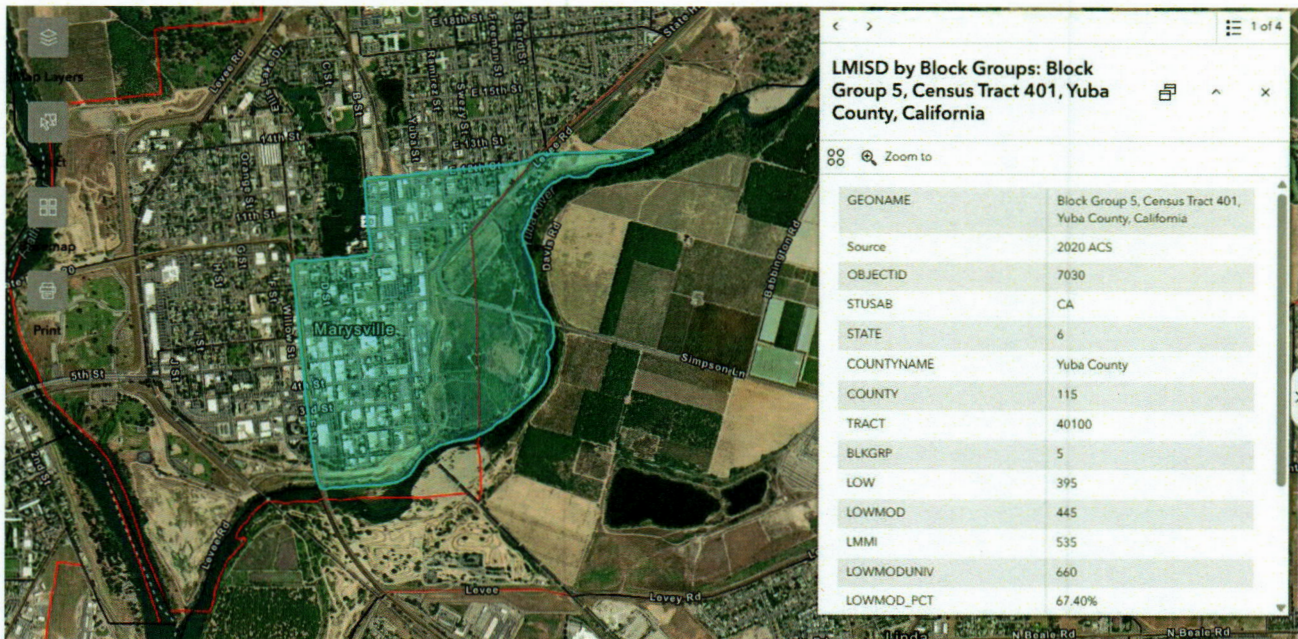
- Recommend continued focus on streets
- 2025 round (due in April) will be competitive, not first-come-first-serve
- 2026 round (due Fall 2026) will be back to first-come-first-serve
- 2027 round (date TBD) will also be first-come-first-serve

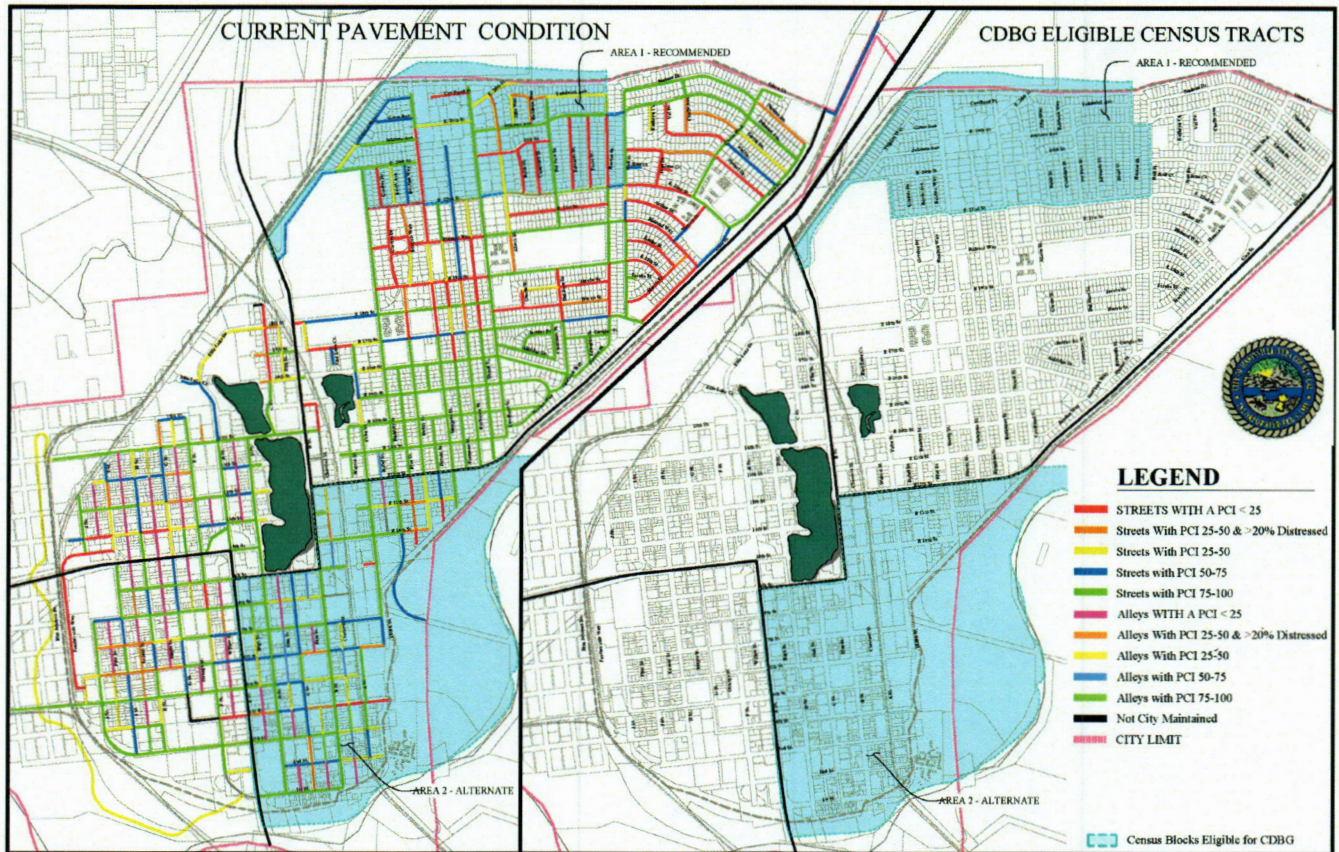
CDBG Next Round Area #1 (Recommended)



LMISD by Block Groups: Block Group 5, Census Tract 401, Yuba County, California

GEONAME	Block Group 5, Census Tract 401, Yuba County, California
Source	2020 ACS
OBJECTID	7030
STUSAB	CA
STATE	6
COUNTYNAME	Yuba County
COUNTY	115
TRACT	40100
BLKGRP	5
LOW	395
LOWMOD	445
LMMI	535
LOWMODUNIV	660
LOWMOD_PCT	67.40%





Maintenance & Modernization (M&M)

Funding Opportunity (Likely 2025/26)

- Leverage SACOG's M&M funds to deliver corridor paving + Complete Streets + traffic calming ([good fit for downtown](#))

Types of Projects:

- **Paving/PCI rehab:** mill & overlay, base repairs, restriping.
- **ADA & ped safety:** ADA curb ramps, high-vis/raised crosswalks, bulb-outs, refuge islands, ped-scale lighting.
- **Bike & calming:** buffered/protected lanes, green conflict markings, speed cushions/tables where appropriate, mini-roundabouts/chicanes.

Typical Award Size: \$3–5M (may be reduced based on state budget)

- (scalable with add-alternates).

ATP Funding (Cycle #8) Spring 2027

Typical Activities Funded:

- **Pedestrian facilities:** new/infilling sidewalks, wider sidewalks, curb extensions/bulb-outs, raised crosswalks, high-vis crosswalks, median refuge islands, pedestrian-only phases (LPI/scramble), and accessible curb ramps.
- **Bikeway facilities:** protected bike lanes, buffered lanes, cycletracks, multi-use paths, intersection bike treatments (green conflict markings, bike signals, two-stage turn boxes).
- **Traffic calming & speed management:** lane narrowing/road diets, mini-roundabouts, chicanes, speed humps/tables (where appropriate), gateway treatments, median islands.
- **Safe crossings & signals:** new pedestrian beacons (RRFBs, HAWKs), signal retiming, leading pedestrian intervals, pedestrian countdowns, APS pushbuttons.
- **Lighting & visibility:** pedestrian-scale lighting, enhanced crosswalk lighting, daylighting (no-parking zones at corners).
- **ADA & universal access:** tactile warnings, detectable edges, accessible parking, door-to-door accessible routes to transit/stores/civic buildings.
- **Active transportation support:** secure bike parking, corrals, lockers, wayfinding, street furniture (benches, shade), curb management for deliveries/ride-hail to reduce conflicts.

ATP Funding – Potential Projects

- Additional **Ellis Lake** pathway improvements
(Southern/Western sides)
- **Complete streets/traffic calming** city-wide (Focus on downtown, school zones, and areas identified by mode shift, RCN, RSAP)
- **Bike/Ped tunnel planning** (Initial Feasibility, Schematic Design)
- **Quiet Zones planning** (Feasibility Study)

Potential Train Quiet Zone funding

FRA – Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE)

Can fund SSMS/ASMs (quad gates, medians/channelization, ped gates/fencing, circuitry), wayside horns; also planning/NEPA/design. *Match*: typically ~20% (higher Fed share possible for DAC/tribal).

FRA – CRISI

Can fund rail safety & reliability projects; good for **design/NEPA/early works** for quiet-zone packages; can fund construction as well. *Match*: often 20–50% (varies; DAC helps).

FHWA – Railway-Highway Crossings (Section 130 via Caltrans/CPUC)

Can fund hazard elimination at **existing at-grade crossings** (devices/signals, gates, surfaces, etc.). *Match*: typically none at the local level in CA programming.

Caltrans – HSIP (Local HSIP)

Can fund proven safety countermeasures (medians, signing/stripping, lighting, some ped devices) on approaches. *Match*: usually low/none; calls ~every 1–2 yrs.

USDOT – Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A)

Can fund corridor safety (medians, channelization, RRFB/HAWK near crossings), planning and **implementation**. *Match*: typically 20%.

SACOG – Regional Funding Round (Maintenance & Modernization / Regional Flexible)

Pays for: complete-streets safety + state-of-good-repair on city streets that connect to the crossings; can provide match.

Potential 14th St. Bike/Ped Tunnel Funding

FRA – RCE (selectively)

Can fund **grade separations using a tunnel** where an at-grade conflict is eliminated (highway-rail or **pathway-rail**). Most competitive when it replaces an existing at-grade conflict; less so for a brand-new parallel crossing.

FRA – CRISI

Can fund rail trespass mitigation, safety projects, **design/NEPA** and construction for rail-adjacent safety facilities.

USDOT – RAISE

Can fund multimodal capital with significant local/regional impact (ped tunnels/underpasses are common). *Match*: varies by project/area.

USDOT – Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods (RCN)

Can fund planning and construction to **remove/reconnect barriers** (e.g., rail/highways) that split communities.

California – Active Transportation Program (ATP)

Can fund bike/ped facilities and approaches (sidewalk/path connections, ADA, lighting, fencing), and in some cases the **ped facility itself** when it directly serves walking/biking.

California – CPUC/Caltrans Section 190 Grade Separation

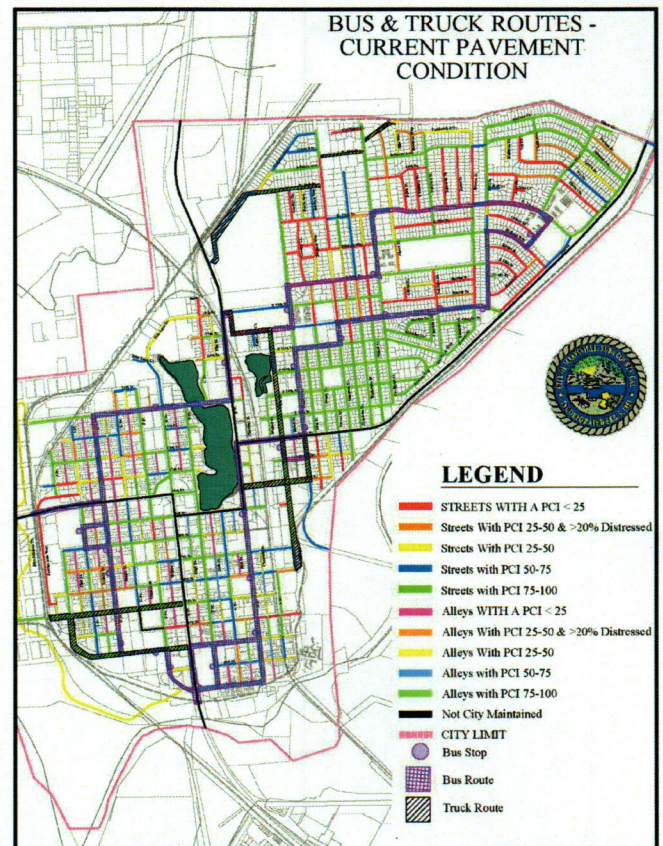
Can fund state funds for **grade separations**; program historically centers on **vehicular** highway-rail separations prioritized by CPUC.

SACOG – Regional Funding (ATP regional set-aside / Flexible)

Can fund regional ATP and flexible funds for active transportation & connectivity; can be match to federal awards.

A Note on Bus and Truck Routes

- Heavy vehicles create excessive wear and tear on city streets.
- Will be discussing bus route wear with the YSTA
- Will recommend removal of truck routes in east Marysville once the Binney Junction project is completed



Recommendations:

- Pursue Various grants to enforce Speeding, DUI, distracted driving, ped/bike safety related violations.
- Use approximately \$850,000 of SB1 and County funding to complete paving of the previously identified downtown streets
- Focus next Maintenance and Modernization grant proposal on the downtown (specific streets TBD)
- Focus next CDBG grant proposal on the area in Northeast Marysville (specific streets TBD)
- Develop two applications for next ATP round (June 22, 2026)
 - Application 1: Downtown Complete Streets / Traffic Calming Package
 - Application 2: Ellis Lake South Path Package (adjacent to Caltrans Highway 20 ROW)
- Apply for the next round of State Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for Ellis Lake Pathway
- Submit a Section 130 Diagnostic Request for quiet zone crossings to the CPUC Rail Crossings Engineering Section
- Use RCN grant results to complete limited traffic calming and complete streets improvements in the downtown area.
- Use RTP, RSAP, bike/ped plan results to develop a comprehensive list of traffic calming and complete streets projects.
- Work to identify funding to do planning, design and environmental work for Train Quiet Zone and 14th Street pedestrian tunnel projects.
- Aggressively Pursue SACOG Maintenance and Modernization and Complete Streets/Traffic Calming projects.

OLIVEHURST PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

Our mission is to provide high quality services to enhance our community's quality of life.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennise Burbank John Floe MaryJane Griego Lacey Nelson Marc Perrault

GENERAL MANAGER

John Tillotson

September 8, 2026

RECEIVED

SEP 22 2026

Clerk/Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Judge Stephen Berrier
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Michael Scully-Linder, Foreperson
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Subject: Grand Jury Report: A Small Agency with a Big Impact, June 10, 2026

Dear Judge Berrier and Mr. Scully-Linder:

On behalf of the Olivehurst Public Utility District ("District") Board of Directors, we submit this response to the findings and recommendations contained in the Grand Jury Report: *A Small Agency with a Big Impact*, dated June 10, 2026, pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05.

This response was prepared and adopted in accordance with Penal Code section 933(c) and subject to the notice, agenda, and open meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. The Grand Jury Report was listed on the agenda of the District's Board of Directors meeting on June 18, 2026, the agenda was posted for public notice, and the District's response was considered and approved by the Board of Directors during the open session of that meeting.

Attached please find the completed "Response to Grand Jury Report Form" and required attachments.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 530.743.0317 or jtillotson@opud.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennise Burbank".

Dennise Burbank, President
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Olivehurst Public Utility District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Tillotson".

John Tillotson
General Manager
Olivehurst Public Utility District

RESPONSE FORM: 2025-2026 Yuba Civil Grand Jury Report

Report Title: A Small Agency with a Big Impact

Respondent/Agency Name: Olivehurst Public Utility District (OPUD) — Board of Directors (required respondent); General Manager (invited respondent)

Your Name: [NAME], Board President; John Tillotson

Title: Board President / General Manager

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered:
- I (we) disagree *partially* with the findings numbered: **F1 & F2**
- I (we) disagree *wholly* with the findings numbered:

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered **R1 & R2** have been implemented. (Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
- Recommendations numbered ____ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: September 8, 2026

Signed: Donnie Busch (Board President)

Number of pages attached: 2

Response Form Continuation – OPUD Statements and Explanations Yuba Civil Grand Jury Report

A Small Agency with a Big Impact, June 10, 2026 (“Report”)

Findings

F1. Customer service requests and complaints submitted to OPUD are not consistently tracked or resolved.

F1. Response: Olivehurst Public Utility District disagrees partially.

F1. Statement: Olivehurst Public Utility District (“District”) disagrees partially with Finding F1. The District agrees that, prior to the Grand Jury’s review, it did not maintain a single centralized log for tracking customer service requests and complaints across all communication channels. The District disagrees, however, with any implication that customer requests and complaints were not resolved. The District has established processes for receiving, addressing, and resolving customer inquiries through the communication channels available to its customers, including telephone, email, and the service request form on the District’s website. Staff have long maintained notes regarding customer contacts within the individual customer’s account, and staff strive to respond to requests within one to two business days. Complaints concerning water and wastewater service are handled in accordance with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board, the Public Utilities Commission, and applicable state law; fee-related inquiries are addressed under the District’s Water/Sewer Fact Sheet and Water and Wastewater Services Policy; and complaints regarding the District’s parks are directed to the Parks Department Manager for direct response. To address the tracking gap identified by the Grand Jury, and as described in the District’s response to Recommendation R1 below, the District has now developed a Customer Service Complaint Request Log Procedure, together with a centralized Customer Service Complaint / Request Log. The District welcomes constructive feedback and continually looks for opportunities to improve its customer service practices, documentation, and internal processes.

F2. Public understanding of OPUD’s responsibilities and jurisdiction appears limited.

F2. Response: Olivehurst Public Utility District disagrees partially.

F2. Statement: Olivehurst Public Utility District (“District”) disagrees partially with Finding F2. The District takes pride in being transparent, forthright, and accessible, and it strives to clearly communicate its responsibilities, authority, and jurisdiction to the community. The District acknowledges, however, as the Grand Jury observed, that some members of the public assume the District is responsible for services that are outside its jurisdiction — for example, storm drainage and street lighting outside historic Olivehurst — and that this has, at times, resulted in requests being directed to the District rather than to the responsible agency.

To assist the public in understanding what the District does and does not do, the District provides the following services:

Olivehurst: water, wastewater (sewer), parks, fire protection, and street lighting within historic Olivehurst.

Plumas Lake: water, wastewater (sewer), and parks.

The following services are commonly assumed to be the District's responsibility but are not within its jurisdiction, and are provided by the agencies identified below:

Storm drainage and drainage facilities: Yuba County / Reclamation District No. 784.

Roads and street maintenance: Yuba County.

Streetscape: Yuba County.

Street lighting outside historic Olivehurst: Yuba County.

As described in the District's response to Recommendation R2 below, the District has updated its website to identify these services and the responsible agencies and to provide after-hours emergency contact information. The District values constructive feedback and continues to seek opportunities to strengthen its communication and public outreach efforts.

Recommendations

R1. The Grand Jury recommends that the OPUD General Manager, by December 31, 2026, direct staff to develop a centralized system to log and track customer service requests and complaints to ensure timely responses and follow-up.

R1. Response: The District has implemented Recommendation R1.

Explanation: In response to the Grand Jury's recommendation R1 and as part of the District's ongoing commitment to improvement, the District has developed a "Customer Service Complaint Request Log Procedure" and a centralized "Customer Service Complaint / Request Log."

The Customer Service Complaint / Request Log serves as the District's centralized tracking system for customer service complaints and requests. The log provides a consistent and straightforward method for documenting customer contacts and tracking the District's response through completion.

When a staff member receives a customer complaint or request through any of the communication channels provided by OPUD, including telephone, website, email, in-person contact, or other available means, the staff member documents the customer's information and the nature of the complaint or request in the log.

Once the complaint or request has been documented, staff address the matter and record the date on which it was completed or resolved. When additional or more detailed information is necessary, that information will be documented within the customer's account or otherwise

maintained in the appropriate District records.

The District maintains these logs in accordance with its record retention policy. This process provides the District with a centralized record of customer service complaints and requests, facilitate follow-up and accountability, and allows the District to identify recurring issues or opportunities for further improvement. The District remains committed to providing responsive, professional, and effective service to its customers and to continually evaluating and improving its practices.

R2. The Grand Jury recommends that the OPUD General Manager, by December 31, 2026, direct staff to review the OPUD website and clarify the district's responsibilities and jurisdiction. Such clarification should include which services are not under OPUD jurisdiction but often assumed to be and provide contact information for the appropriate agency. Additionally, information on after-hours emergency service should be more clearly listed.

R2. Response: The District has implemented Recommendation R2.

Explanation: In response to the Grand Jury's Recommendation R2, the District has implemented Recommendation R2 by updating its website to provide greater clarity regarding the District's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and the services it provides to the community.

Specifically, the District updated its "About Us" section to clearly communicate the District's mission: "To provide high quality services to enhance our community's quality of life." The website also identifies the services provided by the District through designated department tabs, allowing community members to more easily identify the services and resources available to them.

Additionally, the District established an "Outside Agencies" page to clearly identify services that are not provided by the District or that are available through the other agencies outside the District's regular business hours. The page provides information on where community members can obtain assistance and who they may contact when the District is unavailable.

All updates have been published on the District's website. District staff have also been directed to review the updated information and remain knowledgeable about the District's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and available services so they can provide accurate information and appropriately direct community members to resources they need.



Wheatland Union High School District

1010 Wheatland Road, Wheatland, CA 95692

(530) 633-3100 (530) 633-3109 FAX

Nicole Newman, Ed.D.

Superintendent

nnewman@wheatlandhigh.org

August 26, 2026

RECEIVED

SEP 22 2026

Clerk/Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Stephen Berrier
Supervising Judge of the Grand Jury
Superior Court of the State of California, County of Yuba
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: Wheatland Union High School District Response to the 2025–2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Berrier:

On behalf of the Wheatland Union High School District, enclosed please find the District's response to the 2025–2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Final Report, "Guardians and Gatekeepers: The Role of SROs in Our Schools and Communities."

The response was adopted by the Wheatland Union High School District Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on August 19, 2026, pursuant to California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05. Also enclosed are the Wheatland Union High School District School Resource Officer Policies and Procedures Manual, as referenced in the District's response.

Educationally yours,

Nicole Newman, EdD
Superintendent
Wheatland Union High School District

Enclosures:

1. Board of Trustees Response to the 2025–2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Final Report
2. Wheatland Union High School District SRO Policies & Procedures Manual

Tony Lopez

Board President

tlopez@wheatlandhigh.org

Ryan Belflower

Board Clerk

rbelflower@wheatlandhigh.org

Greg Forest

Board Member

gforest@wheatlandhigh.org

Peter Gryn

Board Member

pgryn@wheatlandhigh.org

Zach Zapata

Board Member

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WHEATLAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Response to the 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Final Report "Guardians and Gatekeepers: The Role of SROs in Our Schools and Communities"

Submitted pursuant to California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05

Directed to:

The Honorable Stephen Berrier
Supervising Judge of the Grand Jury
Superior Court of the State of California, County of Yuba
215 Fifth Street, Marysville, CA 95901

Introduction

The Board of Trustees of the Wheatland Union High School District submits the following response to the findings and recommendations of the 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury final report, "Guardians and Gatekeepers: The Role of SROs in Our Schools and Communities." This response is provided pursuant to California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, which require the District's governing board to respond to each finding and recommendation directed to it.

The Board appreciates the Grand Jury's recognition that the School Resource Officer program is valuable and that the report expressly does not question the program's worth. The Board is proud that the Grand Jury commended assigned officers and school administration for relationship-building, de-escalation, and case-by-case judgment that avoids unnecessary criminalization of student behavior.

In anticipation of the need for clearer written standards, the District's Superintendent, Dr. Nicole Newman, developed a comprehensive written SRO Policies and Procedures Manual for the District in spring 2026 to best support the site principals and SROs. That manual, attached to this response, already addresses much of what the Grand Jury recommends. It will be further updated over the summer and fall of 2026 by the District's School Resource Officer and administrative team.

This response is submitted on behalf of the District. The Superintendent joins in this response and does not submit a separate one. The response addresses each of the four findings and four recommendations directed to the District.

Responses to Findings

Finding F1

The roles and responsibilities of SROs are not formally defined or standardized across participating school sites, resulting in variation in execution and expectations.

Response: The Board agrees with the finding.

The Board agrees that, across the county's participating sites, SRO roles have not historically been standardized in writing. As to the Wheatland Union High School District, the Board notes that this gap has been substantially addressed at the District level. In spring 2026, Superintendent Dr. Nicole Newman developed a written SRO Policies and Procedures Manual that formally defines the SRO's role, including a clear statement of what the SRO is and is not, and the separation between the SRO's law enforcement function and school discipline. The District will continue to participate in any countywide standardization effort led by the Yuba County Sheriff's Department.

Finding F2

The SRO program operates with overlapping school-based and law enforcement response frameworks for discipline, behavioral health and crime response.

Response: The Board agrees with the finding.

The Board agrees that school-based and law enforcement response frameworks operate concurrently. The Board notes that the District's SRO Policies and Procedures Manual now delineates these frameworks in writing, including a decision matrix identifying when a matter is handled administratively versus referred to the SRO, a principal notification protocol, and an incident debrief and communication protocol. The portion of this finding relating to behavioral health decision-making lines is being further documented as part of the District's summer and fall 2026 update to the manual.

Finding F3

The SRO program does not utilize standardized performance metrics or a centralized data-driven evaluation framework to assess effectiveness across school sites.

Response: The Board agrees with the finding.

The Board agrees that, to the Board's knowledge, the countywide program does not currently use standardized performance metrics or a centralized evaluation framework. The Board notes that the development of such metrics and a centralized framework rests primarily with the Yuba County Sheriff's Department, which administers the program across all participating sites. The District supports this effort and will collaborate by providing relevant site-level data.

Finding F4

Oversight and regulation of the SRO program are decentralized, and the Sheriff's Department identified the need for additional supervisory structure to support program coordination, consistency, and oversight.

Response: The Board agrees with the finding.

The Board agrees that oversight of the SRO program is decentralized and that the Sheriff's Department identified the need for additional supervisory structure. Because the SRO is an employee of the Yuba County Sheriff's Department and not the District, decisions regarding supervisory structure and program oversight rest with the Sheriff's Department. The District supports the Sheriff's Department in strengthening this structure.

Responses to Recommendations

Recommendation R1

The Yuba County Sheriff Department and Marysville Police Department, in coordination with participating school districts and Yuba College, should develop and formally document, by December 31, 2026, a standardized role definition for SROs that clearly delineates responsibilities related to law enforcement, student discipline, support, and mentorship.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented for the District, and the District will participate in the broader countywide effort.

The District has implemented this recommendation at the District level. In spring 2026, Superintendent Dr. Nicole Newman developed a written SRO Policies and Procedures Manual that formally documents the SRO's role and clearly delineates responsibilities related to law enforcement, student discipline, support, and mentorship. A copy is attached to this response. To the extent the recommendation calls for a single countywide role definition developed by the Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department, the District will participate in and support that coordinated effort.

Recommendation R2

Participating school districts, Yuba College, Yuba County Sheriff Department, and the Marysville Police Department should formalize, by December 31, 2026, written protocols defining roles, responsibilities, and decision-making authority related to student discipline, student behavioral health crises, and other school-based crises.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented, with one component to be completed before December 31, 2026.

The District has substantially implemented this recommendation. The District's SRO Policies and Procedures Manual, developed by Superintendent Dr. Nicole K. Newman in spring 2026, sets out written protocols that define roles, responsibilities, and decision-making authority for student discipline and for coordination between the school administration and law enforcement. These include principal notification, search-and-seizure standards, arrest and citation procedures, student rights, and incident debriefing and communication protocols. The component addressing student behavioral health crisis decision-making lines is being formalized as part of the District's summer and fall 2026 update, which the District's School Resource Officer, Officer Manion, is completing with the administrative team. The District expects this update to be completed and presented before December 31, 2026.

Recommendation R3

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department, in coordination with participating school districts and Yuba College, should develop and implement, by December 31, 2026, standardized performance metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the SRO program, including student attendance outcomes, discipline-related referrals, incident response data, and school climate indicators.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

This recommendation is directed primarily to the Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department, which administer the program and hold the program-level data. The District supports the development of standardized performance metrics and will participate in the coordinated effort, including by providing available site-level information such as

attendance and discipline referral data. The District anticipates participating in this effort through December 31, 2026, consistent with the timeframe in the recommendation.

Recommendation R4

The Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department should evaluate, by December 31, 2026, the feasibility of establishing centralized oversight of the SRO program, including consideration of a dedicated supervisory position or unit responsible for program coordination, policy standardization, and performance monitoring across participating jurisdictions.

Response: This recommendation is directed to the Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department and does not require action by the District. The District supports the recommendation.

This recommendation calls for the Yuba County Sheriff's Department and the Marysville Police Department to evaluate the feasibility of centralized program oversight and a dedicated supervisory position. Because the SRO is an employee of the Sheriff's Department and program supervision rests with that department, the evaluation is outside the District's authority to implement. The District supports the evaluation and will cooperate with the Sheriff's Department as requested.

Adoption and Submission

This response was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Wheatland Union High School District at its regular meeting on August 19, 2026, and is submitted to the Supervising Judge of the Grand Jury as required by California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Lopez Aug 26, 2026

Tony Lopez, President, Board of Trustees
Wheatland Union High School District

Nicole Newman, EdD Aug 26, 2026

Nicole Newman, EdD
Wheatland Union High School District Superintendent

Attachment: Wheatland Union High School District SRO Policies and Procedures Manual
(Spring 2026)

Signature: *Nicole Newman, EdD*

Email: nnewman@wheatlandhigh.org

Signature: 

Email: tlopez@wheatlandhigh.org

WUHSD_Board_Response_Grand_Jury_SRO

Final Audit Report

2026-08-27

Created:	2026-08-26
By:	Justyna Long (jlong@wheatlandhigh.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAggD4IAyPPInsHHJ9ZVSHCx947U6GIEhb

"WUHSD_Board_Response_Grand_Jury_SRO" History



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WHEATLAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Yuba County Sheriff's Department

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Policies & Procedures Manual

*For use by: SRO · School Administrators · Teaching & Support Staff
Review annually and update to reflect changes in the SRO Agreement, California law, or Board policy.*

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1. Purpose & Legal Authority

This manual governs the conduct and decision-making of the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to Wheatland Union High School and the school administrators and staff who work alongside them. It is intended to ensure that law enforcement involvement on campus is lawful, appropriate, coordinated, and protective of student rights.

Governing Agreement

Agreement No.	583-2025
Parties	Wheatland Union High School District & Yuba County Sheriff's Department
Effective Date	December 9, 2025
Term	Through June 30, 2030, unless earlier terminated
Governing Law	State of California
SRO Status	Independent contractor: NOT a District employee

Key Legal Standards

In re K.J. (2018)	SROs apply the school official search standard — reasonable suspicion — not probable cause when acting on campus.
625.6 W&I	Minors 17 and under must consult an attorney before any custodial interrogation.
602 W&I	Children under 12 may only be arrested for murder, rape, sodomy, oral copulation, or sexual penetration.
707(b) W&I	Certain serious felonies allow a minor to be prosecuted as an adult.
FERPA / Ed. Code §49061	Student records are confidential. The SRO may access them in their role but may not disclose them to third parties without District permission.

2. Role of the SRO

Standing Requirement: The SRO must communicate with the Principal about any law enforcement action or suspicious activity occurring on campus. In all non-immediate situations, this communication happens BEFORE any enforcement action is taken.

The SRO's primary function is to serve as a law enforcement resource — not a disciplinarian. The SRO is a partner to school administration, not a replacement for it.

The SRO IS:

- A sworn law enforcement officer with full arrest authority under California law
- A liaison between Wheatland Union High School and the Yuba County Sheriff's Department
- A resource for threat assessment, campus safety, and criminal investigation
- A mandatory reporter of criminal conduct
- A participant in coordinated response with administration for serious incidents

The SRO IS NOT:

- A disciplinarian for routine school behavior issues
- An agent of the District — the SRO's law enforcement methods are under Sheriff's Department authority
- A counselor or mental health resource (though the SRO may collaborate with support services)
- A security guard who can be directed by teachers or staff to remove students from class
- A shortcut around the school's own disciplinary process — both processes run independently

3. When to Involve the SRO vs. Handle Administratively

Use the matrix below to guide decision-making. In all non-immediate situations, the principal must be notified before the SRO takes enforcement action (see Section 4).

Incident Type	Applicable Law	Level	Principal Notification
Dress code, tardy, classroom disruption, minor insubordination	Ed. Code	Admin Only	Per normal discipline process
Student trespass on campus while on suspension	626.2 PC (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Non-student creating disruption on or adjacent to campus	626.8(a) PC (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Loitering near campus with intent to commit a crime	653b(a) PC (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Fighting / battery — student on student, no serious injury	243.2(a)(1) PC (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Battery on a school employee — no physical injury	243.6 PC (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Battery on a school employee — with physical injury	243.6 PC (F)	SRO Required	Simultaneous
Under 18 with less than 28.5g marijuana on campus	11357(d) H&S (I)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
18+ with less than 28.5g marijuana on campus	11357(c) H&S (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Cannabis for sale — under 18	11359(a) H&S (I)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Cannabis for sale — 18 and older	11359(b) H&S (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Alcohol possession — under 21	25662(a) B&P (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Imitation firearm — openly displayed, 1st or 2nd offense	20170 PC (I)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Imitation firearm — openly displayed, 3rd offense	20170 PC (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Imitation firearm brandished in threatening manner	417.4 PC (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action unless active threat
Knife, dagger, dirk, BB gun, or Taser on campus	626.10(a)(1) PC (M/F)	SRO Required	Simultaneous — immediate threat possible
Ammunition on campus	30310(a) PC (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action if secured

Incident Type	Applicable Law	Level	Principal Notification
Laser pointer used in threatening manner	417.25(a) PC (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Minor with fireworks or flare gun, no parental permission	12689(c) H&S (M)	Consult SRO	Before SRO action
Threat against a school employee	71 PC (F)	SRO Required	Simultaneous — safety priority
False bomb report	148.1 PC (F)	SRO Required	Simultaneous — initiate lockdown
Fire alarm tampered with or falsely activated	148.4(a)(1)/(2) PC (M)	SRO Required	Before SRO action
Sex offender on campus without permission	626.81(a) PC (M)	SRO Required	Simultaneous — do not confront alone
Disturbance of a school board meeting	403 PC (M)	SRO Required	Before or simultaneous

Important: SRO involvement does not replace the school's own disciplinary process. Both processes run concurrently and independently.

4. Principal Notification Protocol

Core Policy: Except in situations involving an immediate threat to safety, the SRO shall notify and consult with the principal (or designee) BEFORE taking any enforcement action on campus. The principal is a partner in campus safety decisions — not simply a witness after the fact.

Immediate Threat vs. Non-Immediate — Defined

IMMEDIATE THREAT	NON-IMMEDIATE
Act first. Notify principal simultaneously or as soon as situation is controlled. - Active weapon or physical violence in progress - Person fleeing who poses danger to others - Bomb threat requiring immediate evacuation - Any situation where delay would cause serious bodily injury	Notify principal BEFORE SRO takes action. - Suspected drug or alcohol possession (student secured) - Weapon already secured by administration - Post-fight citation or arrest - Trespass or loitering (suspect not an active danger)

Standard Notification Flow — Non-Immediate Situations

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Admin identifies incident & secures the situation	Admin notifies principal (or designee) immediately	Principal & admin consult on whether SRO action is appropriate	SRO is contacted and briefed by principal or admin	SRO takes appropriate enforcement action

Immediate Threat Notification Flow

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
SRO responds to the immediate threat	Principal notified simultaneously by any available staff	911 called if additional resources needed	SRO fully briefs principal as soon as threat is contained

When the Principal Is Unavailable

If the principal cannot be reached, the SRO shall notify the next available administrator in the school's designated chain of command. The principal must still be informed as soon as they are reachable. The unavailability of the principal does not delay response to an immediate threat.

The principal may designate a vice principal or assistant principal to serve in this notification role. That designee has the same authority as the principal for purposes of this protocol. The designation should be communicated to the SRO in writing at the start of each school year.

Important Limit: The principal may not direct the SRO to refrain from taking action required by law — including mandatory reporting or responding to a felony in progress. The notification requirement is a coordination requirement, not a veto.

5. Search & Seizure Standards

Legal Foundation

Two cases govern how searches on this campus must be conducted. Together they establish that students have Fourth Amendment rights — and that those rights are balanced against the school's need to maintain order through a standard of reasonable suspicion, not probable cause.

New Jersey v. T.L.O. 469 U.S. 325 (1985) U.S. Supreme Court	The foundational case establishing that the Fourth Amendment applies to searches by public school officials. The Court held that school officials do not need a warrant and do not need probable cause — but they do need reasonable suspicion. This case established the two-part test that governs all school searches. (See below.)
In re K.J. 18 Cal.App.5th 1123 (2018) California Court of Appeal	The California case that specifically extends the T.L.O. reasonable suspicion standard to School Resource Officers acting in their campus role. Under In re K.J., SROs on campus are held to the school official standard — not the law enforcement probable cause standard — when acting as part of the school's disciplinary and safety function.

The Two-Part Test — Every Search Must Pass Both Parts

New Jersey v. T.L.O. established a specific two-part test that must be satisfied before any search of a student is lawful. A search that passes Part 1 but fails Part 2 is still unconstitutional. Both parts must be met.

PART 1 — Justified at Inception	PART 2 — Reasonable in Scope
Ask: Is there a reason to search at all? There must be reasonable grounds to believe the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated — or is violating — either the law or a school rule.	Ask: Is this search going too far? The measures used must be reasonably related to the objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age, sex, and the nature of the suspected infraction.
Example: A teacher reports a student was seen with what appeared to be a weapon. That report gives reasonable grounds to search the student's backpack.	Example: Searching the backpack for the weapon is reasonable. Seizing and reading the student's personal letters because you found the weapon would exceed the scope.

In plain terms: You need a real reason to start the search, and once you start, you can't go further than what that reason justifies.

Who May Conduct a Search

Searcher	Standard	Authority
School administrator	Reasonable suspicion	New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985)
SRO acting as school official	Reasonable suspicion	In re K.J. (2018) — CA specific
SRO acting independently as law enforcement	Probable cause or student consent	4th Amendment — standard law enforcement rules

Critical rule: Administrators may NOT ask the SRO to conduct a search on their behalf as a workaround to avoid the reasonable suspicion requirement. If administration lacks grounds and asks the SRO to search for that reason, the SRO must decline unless they independently have reasonable suspicion or probable cause.

Plain View — When a Search May Expand

New Jersey v. T.L.O. established an important rule that staff and the SRO must understand: if during a lawful search you discover evidence of a different or more serious violation in plain view, you are permitted to expand the search to pursue that new evidence.

How plain view works in practice — from T.L.O. itself:

Step 1: Administrator had reasonable suspicion student was smoking. Searched the purse for cigarettes. This was lawful — Part 1 and Part 2 both satisfied.

Step 2: While searching for cigarettes, rolling papers were visible in plain view. Rolling papers gave rise to new reasonable suspicion of marijuana possession.

Step 3: The administrator was then permitted to expand the search to look for marijuana. This was lawful because the new evidence created new reasonable suspicion justifying the expanded scope.

Result: Evidence of drug dealing found in the expanded search was admissible because each step of the search was independently justified.

The practical implication: if you are conducting a lawful search for one thing and discover evidence of something more serious in plain view, do not stop. You are permitted to continue. Document clearly what you found, when you found it, and how it gave rise to the expanded search.

Important limit: Plain view only justifies expanding the search based on what was actually visible. It does not authorize a general rummaging through all of the student's belongings. Each expansion of scope must be tied to a specific new observation.

Search Types & Requirements

Backpacks & personal belongings	Reasonable suspicion required. Student need not consent. Both parts of the T.L.O. test must be satisfied — there must be
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	a reason to search, and the search must stay within the scope of that reason. Notify principal before search when time permits. Opposite-gender administrator should be present if possible.
Lockers	Lockers are school property. Reasonable suspicion required for targeted locker searches. The scope of the search must be related to the suspected infraction — a search for a weapon does not authorize reading a student's personal notes. Principal notification required before targeted locker searches.
Vehicles on campus	Reasonable suspicion applies if the SRO is acting as a school official. Probable cause or consent is required if the SRO is acting independently as law enforcement. Notify principal before conducting any vehicle search when time permits.
Cell phones	Riley v. California (2014) controls: law enforcement needs a warrant to search a cell phone incident to arrest. This is a higher standard than T.L.O. and applies even when the school official standard would otherwise allow a search. School officials may view the screen or inspect limited content if the search is narrowly tailored to the specific reasonable suspicion — but a full scroll through messages and photos goes beyond permissible scope for minor infractions.
Strip searches	PROHIBITED. Do not conduct under any circumstances. Safford Unified School District v. Redding (2009) held that strip searches of students require an extremely high threshold — a specific, credible belief that the item is hidden in the student's underclothing and that the item poses an immediate danger. This threshold is essentially never met in a standard school discipline situation. The legal and personal harm from an improper strip search is severe.

Documenting Every Search

Every search conducted on campus — whether by administration or the SRO — must be documented in writing the same day. Documentation is both a legal protection and an operational record.

What prompted the search	Describe specifically what you observed, heard, or were told that created reasonable suspicion. Include who provided information if applicable.
Who conducted the search	Name of the administrator and/or SRO present. Note if an opposite-gender administrator was or was not present and why.
What was searched	Backpack, locker, vehicle, person, etc. Be specific about the scope.

What was found	Describe exactly what was found. If nothing was found, document that as well.
Plain view expansions	If the search was expanded based on a plain view discovery, document what was observed, when, and how it justified the expanded scope.
Principal notification	Note when and how the principal was notified before or after the search.

SECTION 5 — QUICK REFERENCE

Search & Seizure Standards

The Standard

Reasonable suspicion — not probable cause — for school officials and the SRO acting in a campus role. Established by *New Jersey v. T.L.O.* (1985). Applied to SROs specifically by *In re K.J.* (2018).

The Two-Part Test — Both Must Be Met

- Part 1 — Justified at inception: reasonable grounds to believe the search will find evidence of a law or rule violation
- Part 2 — Reasonable in scope: the search goes no further than what the suspicion justifies, and is not excessively intrusive given the student's age, sex, and the nature of the infraction

Plain View Rule

- If you find evidence of a different violation in plain view during a lawful search, you may expand the search to pursue it
- Each expansion must be tied to a specific new observation — not a general rummaging
- Document what you saw, when, and how it justified the expanded scope

Key Limits

- Administrators may not use the SRO to search when administration lacks reasonable suspicion
- Cell phones require a warrant for law enforcement arrest searches — *Riley v. California* (2014)
- Strip searches are prohibited in virtually all circumstances — *Safford v. Redding* (2009)
- Notify the principal before any search when time permits — see Section 4

Document Every Search

- What prompted it, who conducted it, what was searched, what was found, any plain view expansions, and when the principal was notified

Replace Section 5 in the SRO Policies & Procedures Manual with this document. All other sections remain unchanged.

6. Arrest & Citation Procedures

Principal Notification Required: Before making any arrest or issuing any citation on campus, the SRO shall notify the principal (or designee) unless the situation constitutes an immediate threat (Section 4). Notification does not require approval — it ensures the principal can support the student, family, and campus environment.

Age-Based Limitations

Under 12 — 602 W&I	A child under 12 may only be arrested for murder, rape, sodomy, oral copulation, or sexual penetration. For all other offenses, notify parents and administration. Do not arrest.
Ages 12–17 — General rule	Most offenses result in citation or referral rather than custodial arrest. Custodial arrest is appropriate for felonies, repeated misdemeanors, or when the minor poses a continuing threat.
Ages 12–17 — 707(b) W&I	Certain serious felonies (murder, robbery, rape, arson, etc.) allow prosecution as an adult. Document fully and notify Sheriff's Department supervisor for case review.

Citation vs. Arrest Decision Guide

Offense Level	Typical Response	Principal Notification
Infraction (I)	Written citation; release to parent/guardian	Before citation is issued
Misdemeanor (M)	Citation or custodial arrest depending on circumstances	Before action unless immediate threat
Felony (F)	Custodial arrest; contact Sheriff's Dept. supervisor	Simultaneously; notify District office

After an Arrest or Citation on Campus

- Provide a full briefing to the principal immediately following the action
- Complete all required incident documentation per Sheriff's Department policy
- Notify parent/guardian of the student's status as soon as practicable
- Do not release a student to anyone other than a parent, guardian, or authorized agency without supervisor approval
- The Sheriff's Department will not charge the District for booking prisoners into Yuba County Jail

7. Student Rights

Right to Attorney Consultation — 625.6 W&I

Mandatory: Any minor 17 years of age or younger must be advised of and given the opportunity to consult with an attorney BEFORE any custodial interrogation. This is a California statutory right beyond Miranda and applies even after Miranda warnings have been given.

What IS custodial interrogation	Student is detained by law enforcement (not free to leave) and is being questioned about potential criminal conduct.
What is NOT custodial interrogation	An administrator asking a student disciplinary questions — even in the SRO's presence — is not a law enforcement custodial interrogation, provided the SRO is not conducting or directing the questioning.
Parental notification	Notify parents as promptly as possible when a student is taken into custody. The school should also attempt to contact parents when a student is being detained on campus.

FERPA & Student Record Confidentiality

Per the SRO Agreement (Section i), the Sheriff's Department may access confidential student information in the course of its duties but may not disclose such information to any third party without the District's prior written permission or as required by law. The Sheriff's Department must comply with FERPA (20 USC §1232g) and California Education Code §49061 at all times.

Additional Student Protections

- Students may not be questioned on behalf of outside law enforcement agencies without parental consent, except in narrowly defined circumstances under California law
- Students have the right not to be subjected to unreasonable searches (see Section 5)
- Students with disabilities retain their IEP/504 protections; disciplinary actions should be coordinated with the special education team when applicable

8. Teacher & Staff Guide to Working with the SRO

This section is specifically for classroom teachers, instructional aides, counselors, and support staff. Understanding the SRO's role — and your role in relation to it — helps keep students safe while protecting everyone's rights.

What the SRO Does on Campus

Law enforcement presence	The SRO is a uniformed deputy sheriff assigned full-time to Wheatland Union High School. They have full arrest and citation authority under California law.
Criminal incidents	The SRO responds to and investigates conduct that may constitute a crime — weapons, drugs, assault, threats, and similar matters.
Safety & threat assessment	The SRO assesses and responds to threats to campus safety, including suspicious activity, credible threats, and emergency situations.
Community presence	The SRO may also build relationships with students, attend school events, and serve as an accessible point of contact for students who want to report concerns.

What Teachers Should — and Should Not — Do

DO	DO NOT
Report criminal or potentially criminal activity to the office immediately — let administration determine whether the SRO is needed.	Do not call the SRO directly to remove a student from your classroom for non-criminal behavior (defiance, disruption, talking back).
Describe what you observed clearly and factually to administration: who, what, when, where.	Do not ask the SRO to threaten, scare, or lecture a student as a discipline tactic. This is called 'scared straight' and it is not an appropriate use of law enforcement.
Contact the office if you see a weapon, drug use, physical violence, or a credible threat. Secure your classroom and students if needed.	Do not conduct your own search of a student's belongings. Refer to administration, who will involve the SRO if appropriate.
Cooperate fully with the SRO if they need to speak with you as a witness to an incident.	Do not share student records or information about a student with the SRO without administrative direction. FERPA applies.
If a student tells you something that sounds like a credible threat (to themselves or others), report it to the principal immediately.	Do not attempt to investigate or interrogate students about suspected criminal activity yourself. Refer to administration.

DO	DO NOT
Maintain normal classroom management for typical behavior issues and refer to the office through standard channels.	Do not use the SRO as a threat or punishment: 'If you do that again I'll call the SRO.' This undermines trust and appropriate law enforcement roles.

What Happens After You Report to the Office

When you report a concern to administration:

- Administration assesses the situation and notifies the principal
- The principal determines whether SRO involvement is appropriate
- If SRO action is warranted, the SRO is briefed and responds
- You may be asked to provide a written statement if you witnessed an incident
- You will not always be told the outcome of disciplinary or law enforcement action — this is a privacy requirement

If You Witness an Emergency

In an emergency: Call 911 immediately. Simultaneously call the office so the principal and SRO are notified. Secure your classroom, account for your students, and follow lockdown/emergency protocols. Do not attempt to intervene physically in a violent situation.

Talking to Students About the SRO

Teachers can help students understand the SRO's role in age-appropriate ways:

- The SRO is here to keep the campus safe, not to get students in trouble for normal behavior
- Students can talk to the SRO voluntarily if they have safety concerns or want to report something
- Students who are questioned by the SRO as part of a law enforcement investigation have rights — including the right to have an attorney before answering questions (for minors under 18)
- The SRO's involvement does not prevent the school from also taking disciplinary action — or vice versa

9. Reporting & Communication with the Principal

Standing Requirement: The SRO communicates with the principal about all law enforcement actions and suspicious activity on campus. Non-immediate situations require notification BEFORE action. Immediate threat situations require notification simultaneously or as soon as the threat is contained.

SRO Responsibilities

- Notify and consult with the principal before taking enforcement action in all non-immediate situations
- In immediate threat situations, notify the principal simultaneously or as soon as the situation is controlled
- Provide a written incident summary for any citation, arrest, or significant law enforcement contact on campus
- Proactively report any suspicious activity, credible threats, or intelligence relevant to campus safety
- Coordinate scheduling adjustments with the principal and Sheriff's Department supervisor as needed

Administrator Responsibilities

- Notify the SRO of any incident that may constitute a criminal offense (see matrix in Section 3)
- Ensure the principal is in the loop before requesting SRO action in non-emergency situations
- Do not attempt to direct the SRO's law enforcement methods or decisions — only the Sheriff's Department supervisor may do so
- Preserve the scene and evidence for any serious incident until the SRO has responded
- Contact the SRO's supervisor (Captain, Lieutenant, or Sergeant) for issues related to SRO conduct or performance — do not address directly with the SRO
- Provide the SRO with a dedicated office space while on duty

Escalation Contacts

District Superintendent	Dr. Nicole Newman — Wheatland School Superintendent 1010 Wheatland Road, Wheatland, CA 95692 530-633-3100 · nnewman@wheatlandhigh.org
Yuba County Sheriff	Sheriff Wendell Anderson — Yuba County Sheriff's Department For SRO conduct concerns, contact the on-duty supervisor: Captain, Lieutenant, or Sergeant.
County Counsel	For legal questions regarding this agreement or actions taken under it, contact County Counsel (for Yuba County) or District legal counsel (for the District).

Agreement Modifications

Any modification to scope of services or compensation requires a written amendment executed by both parties and approved by their respective governing bodies.

10. Incident Debrief & Internal Communication Protocol

This section establishes the required procedures for how the SRO and school administrators communicate with each other — and with staff — during and after any elevated or law-enforcement-involved incident on campus. Clear communication chains protect students, protect staff, and protect the district from liability.

10A. SRO-Administrator Debrief Requirement

Core Rule: After any elevated incident involving a potential threat, arrest, search, or criminal allegation, the SRO and the lead administrator present must privately debrief and align on a single account before communicating anything to any other staff member.

What the debrief must cover

#	Responsible Party	Required Action
1	SRO + Lead Admin	Privately compare what each person heard, saw, and documented during the incident.
2	SRO + Lead Admin	Identify any discrepancies and acknowledge them openly between the two of you before communicating outward.
3	Lead Admin	Determine the single agreed-upon account that will be shared with staff, if anything is to be shared at all.
4	Lead Admin	Decide what information staff need to know, at what level of detail, and through what channel.
5	Lead Admin	Document the debrief in writing, including both accounts if they differ, and file with the incident record.

Timing: The debrief should occur as soon as the immediate situation is controlled and before either party separates to speak with other staff. If that is not immediately possible, neither party should share details with anyone else in the interim.

10B. SRO Communication Chain — Who the SRO Reports To

Non-negotiable rule: The SRO communicates incident information to administrators only. The SRO does not share details of an active incident, an investigation, a threat, or a planned law enforcement action directly with support staff, teachers, secretaries, campus monitors, or any other non-administrative personnel.

This rule exists for several reasons:

- Non-administrators are not trained to receive and appropriately contextualize law enforcement information

*For use by: SRO · School Administrators · Teaching & Support Staff
Review annually and update to reflect changes in the SRO Agreement, California law, or Board policy.*

- Sharing partial information with staff during an active investigation can elevate fear and anxiety beyond what is warranted
- Information shared informally spreads rapidly and is difficult to correct once out
- An investigation is not complete until it is complete — preliminary accounts are not final accounts

SRO may communicate with:	Lead administrator or principal (or designee) only, during and after an incident
Administrator then communicates to:	Other administrators, then to relevant staff — on a need-to-know basis, through a single coordinated message
SRO does NOT communicate directly to:	Teachers, support staff, secretaries, campus monitors, counselors, or any non-administrator — regardless of how the request is made
If a staff member approaches the SRO:	The SRO directs them to the principal or designee. The SRO does not answer questions about active incidents from non-administrators.

10C. Pre-Arrest Communication Restriction

Critical: The SRO shall not communicate to any staff member — administrator or otherwise — that an arrest is planned or imminent before the arrest occurs. This includes signaling intent, sharing that charges are being considered, or indicating that law enforcement action will follow.

If information about a planned arrest reaches a student before law enforcement acts, the student may flee, destroy evidence, contact co-conspirators, or escalate the situation. This creates a safety risk and can compromise the entire case.

What this means in practice

- The SRO investigates, gathers information, and makes law enforcement decisions independently according to the Sheriff's Department policy
- If the SRO determines an arrest is warranted, they proceed — they do not announce this to school staff in advance
- After an arrest has been made, the SRO notifies the principal immediately
- The principal then determines what, if anything, to communicate to staff

Note for administrators: Similarly, if an administrator becomes aware that law enforcement action may be forthcoming, they should not share this with staff or allow it to become general knowledge on campus before it occurs.

10D. Same-Day Mandatory Reporting — Weapons & Threat Conversations

*For use by: SRO · School Administrators · Teaching & Support Staff
Review annually and update to reflect changes in the SRO Agreement, California law, or Board policy.*

Mandatory: Any staff member who witnesses, overhears, or is made aware of a conversation involving weapons, firearms, gang activity, planned violence, or credible threats must report it to administration the same day, before leaving campus.

A threat that is reported the next morning is a threat that could have materialized overnight. Same-day reporting allows administration and the SRO to assess risk, contact parents, notify probation officers, and take any necessary preventive action before the student returns to campus the next day.

What must be reported same day

- Any student conversation about firearms, ammunition, or obtaining a weapon
- Any student making statements about gang involvement, gang activity, or recruiting others
- Any student making direct or indirect threats toward staff, students, or others
- Any student discussion of violence, retaliation, or criminal plans
- Any student behavior that suggests escalating involvement with outside criminal activity

How to report

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
Tell the principal or designee in person before leaving campus	Follow up with an email to the principal the same day summarizing what was heard	Include: date, time, location, who was present, exact words used if possible	Do not wait to see if the behavior continues or escalates first

Reporting is not tattling: Staff who report concerning conversations are not getting a student in trouble — they are giving administration the information needed to keep everyone safe. A report does not automatically result in discipline or law enforcement action. It results in assessment.

10E. Ongoing Incident Documentation by Staff

It is very difficult to take corrective action on a student's behavior pattern if there is no written record of it. A pattern that exists only in staff memory cannot be acted on, appealed to, or shared with probation officers, parents, or district administration.

Standing expectation: Any time a staff member has to intervene in, redirect, or shut down concerning student conduct — including conversations about weapons, gangs, drugs, threats, or recruiting behavior — they must document it in writing the same day and send it to the principal by email.

What documentation must include

Date & time	When the incident occurred, as precisely as possible
-------------	--

Location	What room, area of campus, or setting it occurred in
Who was involved	Student name(s), any witnesses present, which staff member was present
What was said or done	As close to verbatim as possible for statements. Describe behavior factually, not interpretively.
What action was taken	What the staff member did or said in response
Student response	How the student reacted to the intervention

What happens to the documentation

- The principal maintains a shared running log of all documented incidents for any student who has been flagged as a concern
- Staff with access to that student may be given view access to the shared log so they can add entries and see the full picture
- Documentation is used to assess patterns, inform conversations with probation officers and parents, and support any future disciplinary or law enforcement action
- Documentation is also protection for staff — it creates a record that interventions occurred

10F. Elevated-Risk Student Arrival Protocol

For students who have been identified as elevated risk — including students on probation, students with a recent threat history, or students whose outside activity has been flagged as a safety concern — the following arrival protocol applies.

Purpose: Daily screening at arrival is the most effective time to identify contraband or escalated behavior before a student has unsupervised access to campus and other students.

Who this applies to

- Students currently on probation assigned to this campus
- Students with an active threat investigation or recent history of threatening behavior
- Students identified by the principal in coordination with the SRO as requiring elevated monitoring

Arrival protocol steps

#	Responsible Party	Required Action
1	Principal	Maintains a current list of students subject to this protocol. Updates the SRO whenever a student is added or removed.

#	Responsible Party	Required Action
2	Parent / Guardian	Is informed that their student will be met by the SRO at arrival and searched before entering the campus building. This is communicated in writing.
3	Parent / Guardian	Is asked to remain with the student in the vehicle or at the drop-off point until the SRO arrives for the search.
4	SRO	Meets the student at the vehicle or drop-off point at the student's regular arrival time. Conducts the search before the student enters the building.
5	SRO	If the student does not arrive at the expected time, notifies the principal immediately.
6	SRO	Documents the arrival search in the daily incident log regardless of outcome.
7	Principal	If a student subject to this protocol arrives on campus without being searched, they are to be escorted immediately to the office and the SRO is notified.

Probation considerations: For students on probation, the arrival search should be coordinated with the student's probation officer. The SRO should maintain a current contact for each student's probation officer and ensure they are notified of any concerning behavior or probation violations observed on campus.

10G. Staff Notification After an Incident — One Voice, One Message

When it is appropriate to notify staff about an incident, the principal determines the content, timing, and format of that communication. All staff communication about a law enforcement-involved or threat-involved incident goes through the principal — not through individual administrators sharing informally, and not through the SRO.

Preferred format for staff notification

- Where possible, gather relevant staff in one room and deliver the same message to everyone at the same time
- This prevents the telephone effect where the story changes as it passes from person to person
- Verbal briefings should be followed up with a brief written summary to the same staff so there is no confusion about what was said
- The written summary should come from the principal or designee, not from individual administrators

What staff notification should and should not include

*For use by: SRO · School Administrators · Teaching & Support Staff
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INCLUDE	DO NOT INCLUDE
• Safety measures that have been put in place • What staff should do differently as a result (locked doors, escort procedures, etc.) • Who to contact if they have concerns or observe something • That support resources are available to them	• Exact words of any threat or statement made by a student • Details of what law enforcement did or is planning to do • Unverified or preliminary accounts of what occurred • Any information that differs from what was shared with other staff

10H. Staff Wellbeing After a Threat Incident

When a staff member has been named in a threat or has experienced an elevated incident, it is normal for them to have an emotional response. This section establishes how the school will respond to staff in those situations.

Immediate outreach	The principal or designee makes personal contact with every staff member named in a threat as soon as reasonably possible after the incident is controlled.
Counseling resources	All named staff are offered access to counseling or therapist services. This is offered proactively, not only if they ask.
Modified work arrangements	Staff who are significantly distressed may be offered a temporary change of work location or duties where operationally possible. This is offered by administration — staff should not be in the position of having to ask.
Time off	Staff who feel they cannot work may take the day on their own leave. This is their right. However, it does not set a precedent that threats automatically result in administrative paid leave or campus closure.
Follow-up	Administration checks in with named staff the following day and after any significant developments in the case.
Pressing charges	Staff who wish to press charges against a student may do so independently. This is their right. The SRO or principal can provide the appropriate contact information.

Important distinction: Supporting staff emotionally and operationally is both right and necessary. However, sending staff home in response to a threat — in a way that would not also apply to students — sets a precedent that is difficult to sustain and may undermine the school's ability to maintain operations in the future. Offer support. Do not create a policy by accident.

SECTION 10 — QUICK SUMMARY

Incident Debrief & Internal Communication Protocol

10A — Debrief first	SRO and lead admin align privately on one account before speaking to anyone else.
10B — SRO reports to admin only	The SRO never shares incident information directly with teachers, support staff, or secretaries. Admin decides what goes to staff.
10C — No pre-arrest announcements	SRO does not signal to staff that an arrest is planned. Admin does not broadcast this either.
10D — Same-day threat reporting	Any weapons or threat conversation observed by staff must be reported to admin in person and by email before staff leaves campus that day.
10E — Document everything	Every intervention, shutdown, or concerning behavior gets emailed to the principal same day. Build the record.
10F — Elevated-risk arrival protocol	Students on probation or with a threat history are met by the SRO at drop-off and searched before entering the building.
10G — One voice to staff	All staff notification goes through the principal. One message, same time, same words — preferably in person.
10H — Staff wellbeing	Named staff are personally contacted, offered counseling, and offered modified arrangements. Going home is their choice on their own time.

11. Off-Campus Incidents with On-Campus Implications

Not every incident that affects the school community begins on school grounds. Fights that occur the night before, threats made at a party, gang activity in the neighborhood, and social media posts targeting students or staff can all arrive at campus the next morning with real consequences. This section establishes how the district and the SRO assess, respond to, and manage off-campus incidents that have a nexus to the school community.

11A. The Nexus Standard: When Off-Campus Conduct Becomes a School Matter

Core Standard: Off-campus conduct falls within the district's authority — and the SRO's school-related involvement — when it has a nexus to the school community. A nexus exists when the conduct is directed at school community members, causes or is reasonably likely to cause substantial disruption to the school environment, or involves a credible threat to safety that will materialize on campus. California Education Code §48900 expressly permits discipline for off-campus conduct related to school activity or school attendance.

The Two-Part Nexus Test — Both Parts Must Be Met

PART 1 — Directed at the School Community	PART 2 — Causes or Threatens Substantial Disruption
The conduct involves a student, staff member, or other member of the school community as a target, victim, or participant. This includes threats naming school community members, conflicts between students that began off campus, and gang-related activity involving enrolled students. <i>Authority: California Ed. Code §48900; Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)</i>	The off-campus conduct materially disrupts — or creates a reasonable likelihood of materially disrupting — the school's educational environment. Fear among students or staff, inability to hold normal classes, increased conflict between groups on campus, and students avoiding school out of safety concerns all qualify as substantial disruption. <i>Authority: Tinker v. Des Moines, 393 U.S. 503 (1969); Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L., 594 U.S. 180 (2021)</i>

When both parts are met, the principal has authority to engage the SRO, initiate a threat assessment, impose disciplinary measures, and take preventive action before the student arrives on campus. When only one part is met, the situation should be monitored and documented but may not justify formal school action. When neither part is met, it is a matter for outside law enforcement alone.

11B. SRO Authority and Role for Off-Campus Incidents

Critical Distinction: The SRO is a sworn Yuba County Sheriff's Deputy. Law enforcement jurisdiction is countywide — not limited to campus. However, when the SRO acts on off-campus matters in their law enforcement capacity, the standard is probable cause or consent — not the school official reasonable suspicion standard from *In re K.J.* (2018). That school official standard applies only when the SRO is acting in their campus role.

When the SRO Should Be Involved in Off-Campus Matters

Situation	SRO Role	Principal Notification
Off-campus fight between enrolled students — continuing conflict expected on campus	Consult SRO	Same day — before students return
Off-campus threats naming school staff or students — 71 PC or 422 PC potentially applicable	SRO Required	Immediately — same night if possible
Gang activity or recruitment involving enrolled students — off campus but school community impacted	SRO Required	Before students arrive next school day
Off-campus arrest of enrolled student for a felony — student may return to campus	SRO Required	Before student returns to campus
General neighborhood conflict not involving school community members and showing no school nexus	Outside law enforcement only — no school role	Monitor only; no formal action

11C. Social Media Threats — Assessment and Response Protocol

Legal Standard: A threat made via social media is not a lesser threat. California Penal Code 422 PC (criminal threats) applies regardless of the medium used — a threat texted, posted, or messaged carries the same criminal exposure as one made in person. California Ed. Code §48900(r) expressly authorizes discipline for electronic harassment directed at school community members, including threats made off campus outside school hours. The platform does not determine the seriousness of the threat — the content does.

Social Media Threat Response Protocol

#	Responsible Party	Required Action	Timing
1	Staff member, student, or parent who sees the post	Screenshot the post immediately — before it can be deleted. Report to principal by phone or in person right away.	Immediately upon discovery
2	Principal	Review the screenshot. Contact SRO immediately. Preserve all digital evidence — do not attempt to contact the platform independently before consulting with the SRO.	Within minutes of receiving report

3	SRO	Assess credibility of the threat using established threat assessment criteria. Determine whether 422 PC or 71 PC applies. Coordinate with Yuba County Sheriff's patrol if the student is not on campus. Advise principal on school response.	Same evening if after hours; before school opens if overnight
4	Principal + SRO	Determine whether to activate the Elevated-Risk Arrival Protocol (Section 10F), notify parents of named victims, contact probation officers if applicable, and decide whether emergency expulsion or exclusion is warranted before the student returns.	Before school opens the next day

Assessing Credibility — Not Every Post Is a Prosecutable Threat

Under 422 PC, a criminal threat must be specific, unconditional, immediate, and communicated in a way that places the recipient in sustained fear. Vague or clearly hyperbolic posts ("I'm gonna kill this class") may not meet that standard, while targeted, specific posts with means and opportunity indicators typically do. The SRO makes the criminal threshold assessment. The principal makes the school safety assessment, which may justify school action even when the criminal threshold is not met, if the nexus and disruption standards are satisfied.

11D. Principal Authority — Who Decides Whether to Act

The principal is the institutional decision-maker for whether an off-campus incident triggers a school response. The SRO advises and informs — but cannot compel or veto a school safety response. Similarly, the principal cannot direct the SRO's law enforcement decisions. Both operate in their respective domains. In practice, the best outcomes result from genuine consultation between the two before either party acts.

Factors the Principal Weighs in Making the Nexus Determination

Factors that support school action

- Named school staff or students as targets
- Conflict between groups that is already visible on campus
- Student has history of escalating behavior or probation status

Factors that counsel caution before acting

- Incident involved no school community members
- Information is unverified or from a single source
- Threat is clearly vague or hyperbolic with no specific indicators

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other students are expressing fear or avoiding campus • Gang activity with known connections to enrolled students • SRO has assessed credible threat indicators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No evidence the conflict will carry to campus • Outside law enforcement has already resolved the matter • Action could harm a student without adequate legal basis |
|---|--|

11E. Activating the Elevated-Risk Arrival Protocol Based on Off-Campus Intelligence

The Elevated-Risk Arrival Protocol described in Section 10F applies to students already on the principal's elevated-risk list. However, an off-campus incident may justify adding a student to that list on an emergency basis before they return to campus the next day. The following triggers authorize the principal, in consultation with the SRO, to activate an emergency arrival screening the following morning.

Emergency Activation Triggers — Any one of the following justifies same-night activation:

- Student was involved in an off-campus fight, threat, or arrest the previous night or weekend
- SRO or outside law enforcement has flagged the student as presenting an elevated risk
- A credible social media threat names the student as the source
- Probation officer has notified the school of escalating risk or a probation violation
- Multiple credible student or parent reports indicate the student may bring a weapon to school

When an emergency activation is warranted, the principal contacts the SRO, the parent or guardian, and if applicable, the probation officer the same evening. The parent or guardian must be informed in writing that the student will be met by the SRO at drop-off before entering the building. See Section 10F for the full arrival protocol steps, which apply once the student is added to the list.

11F. Coordination with Outside Law Enforcement

When an off-campus incident is being handled by Yuba County Sheriff's Department patrol — rather than the on-campus SRO — a coordination gap can form between what law enforcement knows and what the school knows. The SRO is the bridge between those two worlds and must actively manage that coordination.

Party	Responsibility
SRO	Proactively contacts Yuba County Sheriff's Department patrol when an enrolled student is the subject of an off-campus incident. Obtains relevant safety information. Notifies principal of anything that affects campus safety before school opens. Does not wait for patrol to initiate contact.
Principal	Receives SRO briefing and makes school safety decisions. Does not contact patrol directly for investigation purposes. If outside patrol contacts the school directly requesting information about a student, the principal should consult

	district counsel before sharing student records — FERPA applies to requests from outside agencies.
Probation Officers	For students on probation, the SRO should maintain a current contact for each student's probation officer. Off-campus incidents that constitute probation violations must be reported to the probation officer promptly. The principal and SRO may receive safety-relevant information from the probation officer about off-campus activity that they can act on in the school context.

SECTION 11 — QUICK SUMMARY

Off-Campus Incidents with On-Campus Implications

11A — Nexus standard	School authority attaches when the off-campus conduct is directed at school community members AND causes or threatens substantial disruption. Both parts must be met. Authority: Ed. Code §48900; Tinker (1969).
11B — SRO authority off campus	SRO jurisdiction is countywide. Off-campus law enforcement actions require probable cause — not the school official reasonable suspicion standard. SRO is required for off-campus threats naming school community members, gang activity involving enrolled students, and off-campus arrests with campus implications.
11C — Social media threats	Screenshot first, report immediately. 422 PC and Ed. Code §48900(r) both apply. SRO assesses credibility and 422 PC threshold. Principal assesses school disruption separately. Both assessments run simultaneously, not sequentially.
11D — Principal decides school response	Principal determines whether off-campus conduct triggers school action, in consultation with the SRO. The SRO advises — the principal decides for the school. The SRO decides independently for law enforcement. Neither can veto the other.
11E — Emergency arrival activation	An off-campus incident can trigger same-night activation of the Section 10F arrival protocol. Principal contacts SRO, parent, and probation officer that evening. Student is met by SRO at drop-off before entering the building.
11F — Outside law enforcement coordination	SRO proactively contacts Sheriff's patrol when an enrolled student is involved in an off-campus incident. Principal does not contact patrol directly for investigation purposes. FERPA applies to outside agency requests for student records — consult district counsel before sharing.

QUICK REFERENCE CARD

SRO Policies & Procedures – Wheatland Union High School

When to Call the Principal First

ALWAYS notify the principal BEFORE the SRO takes action — unless: There is an active weapon, physical violence in progress, a bomb threat, or any situation where delay would cause immediate serious bodily harm. In those cases, notify simultaneously.

Do Not Involve the SRO For:

- Dress code violations, tardiness, defiance, disrespect, classroom disruption
- Normal conflict between students that does not involve a crime
- General student misbehavior handled under Education Code discipline

Always Involve the SRO For:

- Any weapon (real or imitation used threateningly) on campus
- Drug or alcohol possession when a citation or arrest may follow
- Any physical assault on a staff member
- Any credible bomb threat or fire alarm tampering
- Any sex offender on campus without permission
- Any felony-level conduct

Key Legal Reminders

- Minors 17 and under must consult an attorney before custodial interrogation — 625.6 W&I
- SRO search standard on campus: reasonable suspicion (In re K.J., 2018) — not probable cause
- Do not use the SRO to conduct a search admin cannot justify with reasonable suspicion
- Children under 12 cannot be arrested except for murder, rape, or serious sexual crimes — 602 W&I

Key Contacts

Principal (or Designee)	First call for ALL non-emergency SRO-related situations
Superintendent — Dr. Nicole Newman	530-633-3100 · nnewman@wheatlandhigh.org
Yuba County Sheriff's Dept.	Contact on-duty supervisor for SRO conduct concerns
Emergency	911 — then notify the office

Review annually and update to reflect changes in the SRO Agreement, California law, or Board policy.

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Marysville Joint Unified School District

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September 29, 2026

The Honorable Stephen Berrier
Supervising Judge of the Grand Jury
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Yuba
205 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: 2025-26 YUBA COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
The Role of SROs in our Schools and Communities

RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Dear Judge Berrier,

The Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD) values the Grand Jury's review of the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. The safety, security, and emotional well-being of our students and staff remain the district's highest priorities.

While the district acknowledges operational differences exist due to the unique geographic layout of our campuses, our core SRO roles, administrative oversight, and fundamental expectations remain uniform. To eliminate any ambiguity, MJUSD has collaborated with the Yuba County Sheriff's Department (YCSO) and the Marysville Police Department (MPD) to establish a comprehensive, set of standardized SRO role definitions and directives.

These guidelines are from the nationally recognized Triad Model and enforce an absolute boundary prohibiting SRO involvement in routine student discipline. Below are the district's formal responses to Findings F1 through F4, including specific corrective action plans and timelines.

FINDING F1

The roles and responsibilities of SROs are not formally defined or standardized across participating school sites, resulting in variation in execution and expectations.

Response: MJUSD partially disagrees with the finding.

While MJUSD acknowledges that the daily operational routine of our three SROs varies based on their specific physical assignments, the district clarifies that their fundamental roles, core responsibilities, and administrative oversight are fully standardized and monitored.

The perceived variation is actually a deliberate, structural design intended to maximize efficiency and resource allocation across the district's unique geography:

- **City-Limits Support (MPD):** The Marysville Police Officer is based at Marysville High School but is available to support three other MJUSD schools within the City of Marysville to include; McKenney, Kynoch, and Covillaud.
- **Emergency Mutual Aid Coordination:** MJUSD operates under an mutual aid understanding. In an emergency, YCSO will immediately cross jurisdictions to provide rapid response and operational support alongside the MPD.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

To satisfy this finding, MJUSD, YCSO, and MPD have collaboratively agreed to the **Standardized MJUSD SRO Role Definition & Duty Matrix** below.

Standardized SRO Role Definition & Duty Matrix

Program Mission Statement: To ensure a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment by balancing proactive law enforcement duties with mentorship and collaborative safety planning, while strictly respecting the boundary between police intervention and administrative discipline.

1. Core Role Classifications (The Triad Model)

Regardless of whether an officer is site-based or mobile, their duties will align with these three pillars:

- **Law Enforcer & Campus Safety Officer:** Serve as the immediate first responder to active threats or criminal activity. Assist administration with student searches *only* when there is reasonable suspicion of weapons, illicit drugs, or contraband threatening campus safety. Cooperate across jurisdictional lines during emergencies.
- **& Student Supporter:** Engage with the student body during non-instructional times to build community trust. Partner with the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance to conduct priority home visits and welfare checks targeting chronic absenteeism. Utilize crisis de-escalation techniques during behavioral health crises.
- **Educator & Safety Advisor:** Deliver classroom presentations on digital citizenship, substance awareness, and traffic safety. Meet weekly with

administrators to review, update, and practice school emergency procedures (e.g., active shooter drills, lockdowns).

FINDING F2

The SRO program operates with overlapping school-based and law enforcement response frameworks for discipline, behavioral health and crime responses.

Response: MJUSD disagrees with the finding.

The district maintains a defined boundary between administrative school discipline and law enforcement intervention. SROs and school administrators work collaboratively, but their operational frameworks do not overlap in a manner that compromises student rights or replaces school discipline with law enforcement action.

- **Separation from Discipline:** SROs do not suspend, expel, or determine disciplinary outcomes. School discipline is handled exclusively by site administrators under the California Education Code.
- **Collaboration, Not Overlap:** SROs intervene in student searches only under reasonable suspicion of immediate safety threats (weapons/narcotics). In behavioral health crises, the SRO's role is strictly supportive and protective, ensuring a secure environment so that mental health professionals can safely provide care.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

To eliminate any perception of overlapping frameworks, the district is executing the following measures:

- **Education vs. Enforcement Protocol:** MJUSD and law enforcement leadership outlined an administrative versus enforcement matrix, which will be reviewed with SROs and administrators annually.
- **Administrative Staff Briefings:** During ongoing weekly meetings with all MJUSD school administrators, the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance will reinforce best practices, and review of the matrix below.

THE DISCIPLINE BOUNDARY: STRICTLY ENFORCED	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINE (SCHOOL STAFF ONLY)	LAW ENFORCEMENT & SAFETY CRISIS (SRO ROLE)
• Dress Code, Cell phone violations • Classroom Disruptions & tardiness • Insubordination to teachers • Enforcing detentions & suspensions	• Possession of firearms or weapons • Illicit narcotic sales/possession • Criminal acts, assaults, threats • Safety threats & legal violations • Welfare Checks or immediate crisis de-escalation

FINDING F3

The SRO program does not utilize standardized performance metrics or a centralized data-driven evaluation framework to assess effectiveness across school sites.

Response: MJUSD partially disagrees with the finding.

The district agrees that while the SRO program is managed through weekly administrative meetings and dual-layered oversight, it has historically relied on qualitative assessments rather than a formalized, centralized, data-driven performance metric system.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan:

Under the direction of the Director of Student Welfare & Attendance and in coordination with law enforcement leadership, the district will develop and implement a framework that will track data across three key pillars:

- **School Climate & Relationship Data:** Annual, anonymous school climate surveys distributed to students, staff, and parents to measure perceptions of school safety and program trust.
- **Proactive vs. Reactive Operational Metrics:** A centralized log tracking the number of safety drills/audits conducted, targeted welfare checks/home visits executed, administrative student searches assisted, and classroom presentations delivered.
- **Diversion and De-escalation Tracking:** Monitoring instances of successful crisis de-escalation and tracking the ratio of school-based administrative interventions versus actual law enforcement citations or arrests, with a clear priority on student diversion.

FINDING F4: Oversight and regulation of the SRO program are decentralized, and the Sheriff Department identified the need for additional supervisory structure to support program coordination, consistency and oversight.

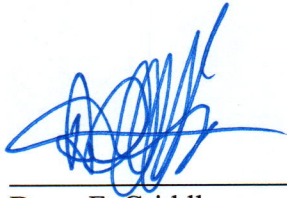
Response: MJUSD disagrees with the finding.

Reasoning: The SRO program is not decentralized, nor does it lack supervisory structure. Currently, operational oversight is actively maintained through a structured partnership: MJUSD utilizes the **Director of Student Welfare & Attendance** for administrative and district-level alignment, while both the **Yuba County Sheriff's Office (YCSO)** and the **Marysville Police Department (MPD)** provide dedicated **Sergeants** who directly oversee the daily tactical and law enforcement operations of the SROs. This existing framework ensures consistent coordination and strict oversight.

Corrective Action / Implementation Plan

While the necessary supervisory structure is already fully operational, MJUSD will work with its law enforcement partners within the next fiscal year to explicitly codify and formalize these existing roles in writing:

- **Codified MOU Revision:** MJUSD leadership will collaborate with YCSO and MPD leadership during the next Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revision cycle to formally document, dual-oversight roles already performed by the District's Director of Student Welfare & Attendance and the assigned law enforcement Sergeants.
- **Formalized Command Loop Documentation:** The updated MOU will clearly map out the existing dual-layered command loop to prevent any external ambiguity:
 - **District Oversight:** The Director of Student Welfare & Attendance will continue to govern school-site priorities, student welfare integration, administrative coordination, and home-visit directives.
 - **Law Enforcement Oversight:** Assigned Sergeants from YCSO and MPD will continue to manage tactical operations, police training, and compliance with law enforcement agency standards.
- **Standardized Leadership Briefings:** To build upon the current successful structure, the District's Director, the SROs, and the law enforcement Sergeants will formalize a monthly briefing schedule to continuously review program coordination, share data, and proactively maintain operational consistency across all campuses.



Doug F. Criddle
President to Board of Trustees



Jordan Reeves *9-29-26*
Superintendent

John J. [unclear]
[unclear]

[unclear]