

## Frequently Asked Question about the Trinity Center Community Services District (TCCSD)



### What is a Community Services District?

A Community Services District is an official governmental agency, authorized by the State of California pursuant to Section 6100 of the California Government Code. A CSD operates like a city government and can manage limited types of community services. Special districts provide only the services their residents desire.



### When was the CSD formed?

The Trinity Center CSD was formed on September 18, 1961 by resolution of the Trinity County Board of Supervisors and a vote of 26 district residents. There were no votes against the district formation.



### What does the Trinity Center CSD do?

The Trinity Center CSD manages the Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department and provides street lighting. The CSD's organization resolution allows it to manage other services.



### Who manages the CSD?

The Trinity Center CSD is governed by a five member Board of Directors that is accountable to the electorate in the same manner as city councils and county boards of supervisors. The CSD Board establishes policies for the operation of the district.



### Who can run for CSD Board of Directors and how long is a term?

Any resident of the district can run for a Board of Directors position. A Director is elected by registered voters within the services district boundaries and serves a term of 4 years. The directors serve staggered terms with elections held for a lot of 3 positions and then a lot of 2 positions every two years.



### Can a member of the Volunteer Fire Department be a member of the Board?

Yes; in fact, this situation was anticipated, considered and specifically approved by the California Legislature. Per California Government Code Section 53227: "(a) An employee of a local agency may not be sworn in to office as an elected or appointed member of the legislative body of that local agency unless he or she resigns as an employee. ... (c) This section does not apply to any volunteer firefighter who does not receive a salary [emphasis added], or where the salary the volunteer firefighter would otherwise receive is applied directly by the local agency toward the purchase of disability, life, health, or similar insurance coverage." Examples of CSDs with VFD Board members include San Miguel, Hyampom, Salyer, Cosumnes, and Junction City CSD.



### Why have we never had a CSD election before?

Since the CSD formation in 1961, we always had to seek volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. When a Board position is left vacant, either the remaining Board members may fill the vacancy by appointment or the Trinity County Board of Supervisors appoints a district resident to that position. This year is the first time that an open Board position has been challenged.



### What real property is within the CSD boundaries?

When the TCCSD was formed, our entire area was checker-boarded in land "sections" (640-acre parcels) that alternated between private and public ownership. Only property in the private sections was eligible for inclusion in the district, with some exclusions. The voters south of Norwegian Meadows voted not to be included in the district. The TCCSD district runs approximately from Norwegian Ranch Road to Hatchet Creek.



### How is the CSD funded and what is its annual budget?

The Trinity Center CSD supports all of its operation using a .03% tax on the value of property within the district boundaries. This .03% is part of your total 1% property tax. A CSD can also seek funding from State funds and grants. The annual Trinity Center CSD budget is about \$40,000.



### Can the CSD raise my taxes?

No. Prop 13 (1978) limits property taxes to 1% of the property value with a maximum annual increase in the assessed property value of 2% per year. If the TCCSD wants additional taxes, Prop 13 requires a 2/3 voter approval. A general obligation bond that raises property taxes also requires 2/3 voter approval.