

YUBA COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

2025-2026 Final Report



June 2026

This page Intentionally left blank

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter to the Presiding Judge	3
Yuba County Civil Grand Jury	4
How Does the Civil Grand Jury Process Work?	5
Who Can Serve on the Civil Grand Jury?	6
STATEMENTS AND REPORTS	
Detention Facility Inquiry Statement	10
GUARDIANS AND GATEKEEPERS	
The Role of SROs in Our Schools and Communities	12
CITY OF MARYSVILLE STREET MAINTENANCE	
A Bump in the Road	20
OLIVEHURST PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT (OPUD)	
A Small Agency with a Big Impact	28
APPENDIX	
Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Previous Investigations Grid	35

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

Dear Judge Berrier,

On behalf of the 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury and in accordance with the provisions of Penal Code 933(a), I respectfully submit our final report compiled through this term.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury. In completing inquiries, investigations and the production of this report, all jurors combined contributed thousands of hours in service to the county.

All complaints received by the Grand Jury were given thorough consideration and, when necessary, investigated in a professional manner. The Grand Jury was impaneled with 16 members from various backgrounds and locations within Yuba County. Although some jurors were unable to complete the entire term, each juror performed their responsibilities with diligence and professionalism.

As part of their Grand Jury responsibilities, the jurors participated on one or more of the six committees of the Grand Jury. These committees included Court & Law, Cities, County & Special Districts, Schools, Health & Human Services, and Editorial.

The Grand Jury would like to extend our appreciation to Mary Pasillas, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and her staff, as well as Robyn Hauck, Jury Commissioner, and Omar Figueroa, Deputy County Counsel. Their assistance, advice and expertise were invaluable.

I would like to publicly thank the members of the Grand Jury for their commitment and dedication in their service to the Yuba County community. I also thank you for your support of Yuba County Grand Juries and your faith in the 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jurors.

Our report also represents the cooperation of many officials and staff of the County, Cities, Schools and Special Districts of whom we are extremely grateful.

Yours very truly,

Michael Scully-Linder

Michael Scully-Linder
Foreperson, 2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury

2025-2026 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury

Debi Adams, Committee Chair	Marysville
Steven Elliott	Marysville
Julia Green, Librarian and Committee Co-chair	Marysville
Larry Gregory	Plumas Lake
Christopher Kashuba	Plumas Lake
Richard Langille	Browns Valley
Kelly Luntey*	Plumas Lake
Doris Luther, Committee Chair	Plumas Lake
Johnny Magann, Committee Co-chair	Marysville
Pamela Maxwell, Committee Co-chair	Marysville
Molly McKay, Committee Co-chair	Marysville
Jessica McAleer, Secretary	Plumas Lake
Greg Petersen, Committee Chair	Plumas Lake
Aaron Rose*	Browns Valley
J. Sannizzaro, Treasurer	Plumas Lake
Michael Scully-Linder, Foreperson	Olivehurst

*Unable to serve entire term

How Does the Civil Grand Jury Process Work?

The Civil Grand Jury's role has its basis in the U.S. Constitution (Fifth Amendment), in the California State Constitution (Art. 1, Sec 23), and in numerous statutes of the State of California. It functions as an arm of the judicial branch of government, and at the local level, operates under the authority of the Superior Court.

The Superior Court is only responsible for empaneling and swearing-in the Civil Grand Jury. Once the Grand Jury is empaneled, the Superior Court is not involved in the administration of the Grand Jury.

Applications for service on the Civil Grand Jury are received by the Jury Commissioner and reviewed by the Presiding Judge. Effort is made to impanel an ideal jury of qualified men and women of diverse social-economic, ethnic, and educational backgrounds representing all geographical areas of the county, as well as age groups. By court policy, and at the discretion of the Presiding Judge, up to seven members of the previous year's jury may serve a second term to provide continuity. A total of 19 people serve on the Civil Grand Jury. From the remaining candidates, a drawing is held to provide for alternates.

Some subjects to be investigated are brought about by letters from citizens regarding complaints of alleged mistreatment by officials, suspicion of misconduct or governmental inefficiencies. All complaints are kept confidential. If the situation warrants, and after investigation, the Civil Grand Jury may make appropriate recommendations for action.

A large portion of the public mistakenly believes that when an individual appears before the Civil Grand Jury, particularly a public official, there is a suspicion of malfeasance or misfeasance. It should be clearly understood that it is the constitutional responsibility of the Civil Grand Jury to review the conduct of county and city government each year. This entails having public officials appear before the Civil Grand Jury to provide information to the Civil Grand Jury relative to their departments or offices.

While Civil Grand Jurors are a part of the Judicial System and are considered as officers of the court, the Civil Grand Jury is an entirely independent body. The Civil Grand Jury Presiding Judge, District Attorney, County Counsel, and State Attorney General act as advisors, but cannot limit actions of the Civil Grand Jury except for illegality.

Because of the confidential nature of a Civil Grand Jury's work, much of it must be done in closed session. Members of a Civil Grand Jury are sworn to secrecy, thus assuring all who appear that their complaints will be handled in an entirely confidential manner. No one may be present during sessions of the Civil Grand Jury except those specified by law (Penal Code § 939), and the minutes of its meetings may not be inspected by anyone, nor can its records be subpoenaed.

The law provides that every Civil Grand Juror must keep secret all evidence adduced before the Civil Grand Jury, anything said by a Civil Grand Juror and the manner in which a grand juror may have voted on a matter. By law it is a misdemeanor to violate the secrecy of the Civil Grand Jury room. A Civil Grand Juror must not confide any information concerning testimony of witnesses or action of the jury even to a spouse or close friend. "Leaks" concerning Civil Grand Jury proceedings inevitably will impair or even destroy the effectiveness of Civil Grand Jury efforts.

Reports of the Civil Grand Jury describe problems and contain findings and recommendations. Responses are required within 90 days from any public agency and 60 days from any elected officer or agency head.

To learn about the history of Grand Juries, go to: <https://cgja.org/history-of-grand-juries/>

Who Can Serve on the Civil Grand Jury?

Yuba County residents who are interested in participating in the Civil Grand Jury process are encouraged to apply. The statutory requirements are that each Grand Juror:

- Be a citizen of the United States;
- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Reside in Yuba County for at least one year before being selected;
- Have ordinary intelligence and good character;
- Possess a working knowledge of the English language;
- Not presently serving as a trial juror in any court of the state;
- Not having been a Grand Juror within one year of being selected (however jurors may be held over for a second year);
- Have not been convicted of a felony;
- Not presently serving as an elected official.

Interested citizens who would like to be considered for service on the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury should fill out a Yuba County Civil Grand Jury Application available at https://www.yuba.gov/departments/grand_jury/

Mail the completed application to:

Yuba County Superior Court
Attn: Jury Services
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville CA 95901

This page intentionally left blank

STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

This page intentionally left blank

DETENTION FACILITY INQUIRY STATEMENT

OVERVIEW

Penal Code section 919(b) obligates the civil grand jury to “inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons within the county.” In 2022, the California Attorney General issued an opinion (No. 18-103) stating the term “public prisons” includes “local detention facilities,” and that a county or city jail is a typical example of such a local detention facility.

The purpose of this document is to provide information about how the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury fulfilled this duty.

While Penal Code section 919(b) requires this inquiry, it does not require the grand jury to conduct an investigation or to write a report about local detention facilities. In fact, a report cannot be written based solely upon an inquiry. To write a report, a full investigation is required and all the facts in the report must be verified. (See Penal Code section 939.9.)

LOCAL DETENTION FACILITY WITHIN YUBA COUNTY

The Yuba County Jail is the one local detention facility within Yuba County which is operated by the county. The grand jury inquired into the condition and management of this facility through a variety of methods, including touring the jail, reviewing information regarding jail procedures, and interviewing staff of the Yuba County Sheriff Department regarding the Yuba County Jail.

CONCLUSION

The 2025-26 Yuba County Civil Grand Jury’s legal obligation to inquire into the condition and management of the local detention facility within the county was satisfied.

This page intentionally left blank

GUARDIANS AND GATEKEEPERS

The Role of SROs in Our Schools and Community



SUMMARY

The Yuba County Grand Jury reviewed the School Resource Officer (SRO) program serving school sites in Yuba County, including Lindhurst High School, Marysville High School, Wheatland High School, Yuba College and all middle and elementary schools in the county. The Grand Jury interviewed school administrators, assigned SROs, and Sheriff Department leadership responsible for oversight of the program.

The Grand Jury found broad support for the SRO program among school staff, SROs, and Sheriff Department leadership. Interviewees consistently described the program as valuable for campus safety, relationship-building, attendance intervention, and coordination with school administration.

The Grand Jury also found that the program has grown site by site through separate agreements with participating school districts, resulting in a structure that is effective in practice but not yet fully standardized. The lack of standardized program metrics, formal role definitions, written criteria and uniform agreement terms may limit consistency and long-term program development.

This report does not question the value of the SRO program. Its purpose is to identify structural improvements that can help the program remain effective, consistent, and accountable as it grows.

BACKGROUND

School Resource Officer programs are intended to improve school safety by placing sworn law enforcement officers on or near school campuses to respond to criminal incidents, deter violence, support emergency preparedness, and foster positive relationships between students and law enforcement.

The program in Yuba County has expanded in recent years through agreements with multiple educational entities, including Marysville Joint Unified School District, Wheatland High School District, and Yuba College, and new school growth in the county suggests that demand for SRO services may continue to increase.

In Yuba County the current Sheriff Department SRO program has been in place for approximately five to six years and currently includes four officers assigned to educational settings: three serving Marysville Joint Unified School District sites, one serving Wheatland High School, and one serving Yuba College.

The program operates under separate Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with participating educational entities. Each participating entity funds its assigned position, and some also provide vehicles or other equipment.

School safety, student mental health, youth violence, vaping and drug issues, and concerns with weapons on campus remain factors of significant public interest and the program's countywide importance, recent growth, and public safety implications made it an appropriate and timely subject for inquiry.

Interest in the School Resource Officer (SRO) program originated within the Grand Jury due to the growing and increasingly visible component of school safety in Yuba County. The program has not been previously examined in a focused Grand Jury investigation.

METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury conducted interviews with SROs, Sheriff Department leadership, and school administrators at Lindhurst High School, Marysville High School, Wheatland High School, and Yuba College.

The Grand Jury reviewed information concerning program structure and agreements, SRO duties and training, campus safety practices, discipline and law enforcement coordination, mental health response procedures, and reported program activity and operational challenges.

The Grand Jury also conducted site visits and observed campus environments, including physical security measures and integration of SROs into school operations.



DISCUSSION

Campus Safety and Operation

At all reviewed sites the Grand Jury found strong support for the SRO program. School administrators described SROs as important contributors to campus safety, crisis response, attendance support, and student relationship bonding.

In interviews with high school administration, the Grand Jury learned that:

- student safety remains a major concern for families and that the presence of an SRO supports both campus security and positive student interaction with law enforcement.
- the administration is extremely pleased with the optics for parents to visibly see that the school takes safety as a priority and parents have expressed this opinion on numerous occasions to the staff.
- administration described the SRO as a visible safety presence, a resource for attendance intervention, and an asset in identifying potentially dangerous individuals and responding to evolving campus concerns.

At Yuba College, the officer's title is College Resource Officer (CRO). This is Yuba College's first year with a CRO after disbanding the police force recently. Administration and the CRO are in the early stages of defining roles and responsibilities regarding the safety and security of the campus.

Sheriff Department leadership emphasized that school safety is the primary mission of the SRO program and described the program as beneficial both for campus security and for building positive law enforcement relationships with youth.

The Grand Jury found that SROs serve multiple functions that extend beyond traditional law enforcement duties. Interviewees described SROs as role models, mentors, informal counselors, coaches, safety resources, intelligence gatherers, and responders to criminal incidents.

High school administration stated that the SRO is often treated as part of the administrative team and may assist with low-level student issues to build rapport and reduce fear of law enforcement.

At one high school the SRO described involvement in Community Day School check-ins, truancy work, vaping-related intervention, school events and coaching the football team.

These site-specific practices reflect local strengths but also indicate that the SRO role is not formally standardized across participating schools.

One of the clearest patterns across interviews was the use of case-by-case discretion in determining whether incidents are handled administratively or through law enforcement channels.

Interviewees consistently described a preference for school-based handling of lower-level misconduct, with law enforcement involvement increasing when the conduct becomes more serious, repetitive, or clearly criminal.

The Grand Jury found that relationship-building is central to the success of the SRO program. Interviewees repeatedly emphasized that continuity of assignment helps SROs gain student trust, understand school culture, and work effectively with administration.

In review of our interviews conducted with both SROs and school administration the Grand Jury found that this flexibility may be beneficial, but the absence of documented, standardized thresholds creates a risk of inconsistency across sites and cases.

Behavioral Health Collaboration

The Grand Jury found that behavioral health response practices rely on a combination of school staff, clinicians, and SRO involvement.

At one location, school personnel described a district risk assessment process and use a grant-funded wellness structure that includes outside mental health providers. At another, school leadership described a layered model involving counselors, therapists, and referral systems before involving the SRO at later stages if warranted.

According to the school interviews conducted, the Grand Jury found that these collaborative systems are valuable, but that the decision-making lines between school, behavioral health, and law enforcement personnel are not always formally documented.

Program Administration

Sheriff Department leadership reported low turnover in the program and described an interview-based selection process for specialty assignments, emphasizing the need for experienced deputies who can work independently and communicate effectively with school officials.

According to all schools interviewed the Grand Jury found that continuity is clearly valued, but no formal continuity or succession planning strategy was identified.

The Grand Jury found that the program generates useful operational information but lacks a standardized, centralized evaluation framework. Sheriff Department leadership reported the use of activity statistics and feedback from school officials to assess SROs. Leadership also shared that SROs had handled more than 300 incidents over part of the school year to date.

Based on our interviews with both Sheriff Department leadership and school administration the Grand Jury did not identify a uniform set of performance measures, periodic formal reports, or a countywide framework for comparing program outcomes across sites.

The Grand Jury found that the SRO program is built through separate MOUs with participating educational entities. Those agreements appear to vary in certain operational details, including payment approach, vehicles, and equipment support. This decentralized funding model has enabled program growth, but also creates the potential for uneven implementation, expectations, and support across sites.

Sheriff Department leadership identified weapons on campus, gang activity among younger age groups, and changing incident types across schools as significant program concerns. Leadership also stated that as the program expands, the need for a dedicated supervisor may become more pressing.

Based on interviews with Sheriff Department leadership, school administration and SROs the Grand Jury noted that several structural gaps identified in this report, including the need for standardized oversight and evaluation, were also acknowledged by Sheriff Department leadership during interviews.

Acknowledgments

The Grand Jury commends the Yuba County Sheriff Department, the Marysville Police Department, participating school districts, school administrators, and assigned SROs for building a program that is widely viewed as beneficial to student safety and campus operations. We would also commend law enforcement leadership for supporting specialized training tied to school safety.

The Grand Jury specifically commends the assigned SROs for emphasizing relationship-building, de-escalation, and case-by-case judgement intended to avoid unnecessary criminalization of student behavior when school-based interventions are appropriate.

The Grand Jury also commends school administration for integrating SROs into broader campus safety and student support efforts, including attendance intervention, crisis response, and communication with families.

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.

F2. The SRO program operates with overlapping school-based and law enforcement response frameworks for discipline, behavioral health and crime response.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

The following responses are required, pursuant to Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05:
From the following elected county officials within 60 days:

- Yuba County Sheriff (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)

From the following governing boards within 90 days:

- Board of Trustees, Marysville Joint Unified School District (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)
- Governing Board, Wheatland School District (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)

INVITED RESPONSES

Responses are invited from the following within 90 days:

- Chief, Marysville Police Department (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)
- Superintendent, Marysville Joint Unified School District (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)
- Principal, Lindhurst High School (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)
- Principal, Marysville High School (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)
- Principal, Wheatland High School (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)

Responses to this report should be 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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Resources reviewed for this investigation included:

Yuba County Agenda Suite

<https://agendasuite.org/iip/yuba/meeting/details/341>

Marysville Joint Unified School District/ Yuba County Sheriff's Department

[https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mjUSD/Board.nsf/files/D8LTS978B93B/\\$file/Yuba%20County%20SRO%20Agreement.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/mjUSD/Board.nsf/files/D8LTS978B93B/$file/Yuba%20County%20SRO%20Agreement.pdf)

County of Yuba Agreement item concerning school-based wellness center operations

<https://agendasuite.org/iip/yuba/file/getlife/37880>

Yuba Community College District / Yuba College

https://yccd.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Yuba-CCD-Guide-for-Emergency-Operations-Final_8-11-17-1.pdf

Disclaimer: Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.

CITY OF MARYSVILLE STREET MAINTENANCE

A Bump in the Road



SUMMARY

The condition of public streets and related infrastructure directly affects public safety, mobility, quality of life, and economic vitality in Marysville. The City of Marysville Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining city streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and related infrastructure. Typical street maintenance activities include pothole repairs, sidewalk and curb maintenance, street sign and traffic control device upkeep, and storm drain clearing.

During 2025/2026, the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury recognized concerns with the street conditions in Marysville, including potholes, cracking pavement, faded markings, and unclear maintenance priorities. These concerns prompted an oversight review of the City's street maintenance practices, funding, planning, and communication with the public.

This report presents the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations regarding the City of Marysville's street maintenance program, with the goal of improving service quality and transparency for residents.

BACKGROUND

The City of Marysville Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining and operating key elements of the city's infrastructure that support safety, mobility, and quality of life for residents and businesses.

Streets and Traffic

- Maintenance, operation, and repair of city streets, including pavement upkeep and minor repairs.
- Repair and replacement of damaged or missing street signs, signals, and street lights.
- Sidewalk maintenance to support pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Sewer and Stormwater

- Operation and maintenance of the city's sanitary sewer collection system.
- Coordination of wastewater treatment (with regional partners) at a treatment plant south of Marysville.
- Management of the storm drain system to handle stormwater runoff.

Permits and Infrastructure Projects

- Issuance of transportation and encroachment permits for work that impacts city streets or right-of-way.
- Support for larger infrastructure planning and capital improvement projects in coordination with engineering staff.

Parks and Public Buildings

- Maintenance and repair of parks, open space, and municipal buildings within city limits.
- Coordination of public facilities upkeep to support community use and safety.

Residents and visitors use city streets daily for travel to work, school, emergency activities, and commerce. Poor street conditions can lead to vehicle damage, increased repair costs for drivers,

safety hazards for pedestrians and cyclists, and reduced economic competitiveness for local businesses.

Ensuring that street maintenance programs are effective, transparent, and responsive to public input supports a safer and more accessible community.

METHODOLOGY

This investigation was conducted by members of the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury pursuant to California Penal Code Section 916.

Members interviewed city officials, reviewed City Council meeting minutes, Public Works project plans, maintenance logs, public complaints, and the city's pavement condition assessments.



DISCUSSION

City Streets Maintenance Responsibilities

In interviews with city staff, it was learned that the City of Marysville Public Works Department is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of streets and related infrastructure within city limits. Typical functions of the street maintenance program include:

- Pothole and pavement repair
- Sidewalk and curb maintenance

- Street signage installation and repair
- Street lighting
- Traffic striping and markings
- Storm drain clearing and maintenance
- Emergency repairs when roadway hazards are identified

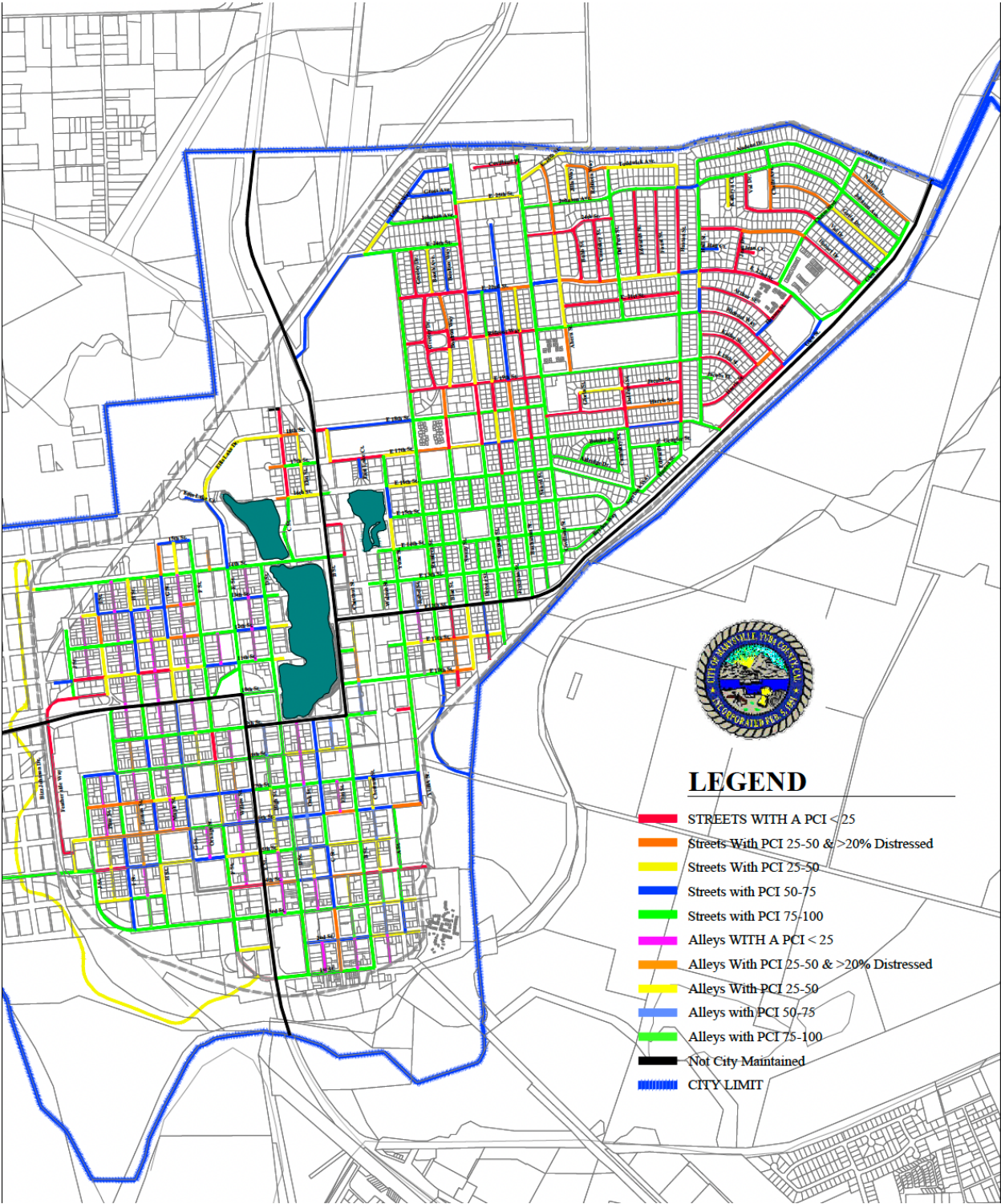


Evaluating the City's Roads

The Pavement Conditions Index (PCI) provides a snapshot of the pavement health of a road. It is measured on a scale of 0 to 100 (where 100 means a newly paved road), and many factors including pavement age, climate and precipitation, traffic loads and available maintenance funding, can affect a road's PCI score.

City staff confirmed that the street maintenance program is responsive to immediate needs and there is no pavement management system in place that altogether assesses the condition of roadways, prioritizes repairs, and forecasts long-term maintenance needs based on available funding.

A map (see next page) shows the 60 miles of roadway the city of Marysville is responsible for and provides a snapshot of the road conditions (PCI) in the city.



Public Concerns

A review of the city’s public complaints found a significant number of issues including:

- Cracked, uneven or deteriorated street surfaces.
- Potholes that remain unrepaired for prolonged periods.
- Unclear processes for reporting maintenance needs; and
- Limited public communication about maintenance schedules and priorities.

A Grand Jury review of the City’s website found that the process for submitting street maintenance complaints can be challenging for some and may limit accessibility for residents. The location of the complaint submission feature is difficult to identify, creating potential barriers to use. In addition, the website is not fully optimized for mobile devices; users accessing the site via smartphones may experience readability challenges due to small font sizes. The absence of a confirmation notification, such as an email or text message upon submission further reduces transparency, as users do not receive acknowledgment that their complaint has been successfully received.

Reviewing the complaint logs provided by city officials over the past six months, the grand jury identified at least one complaint that had reportedly been filed but was not included in the officials’ report, raising concerns that other complaints may have been omitted or left unaddressed.

Funding and Planning

According to city officials, street maintenance is typically funded through a combination of general fund allocations, gas tax revenues, state road maintenance funds, and special assessments. Any long-term maintenance planning requires aligning available budgets with pavement condition data to ensure that high-priority repairs are scheduled efficiently.

REPAIR OF DEFECTS		
DEFECT	PROPOSED REPAIR	ESTIMATED COST
PCI<25/PCI 25-50 >20% Alligator Cracking (Street)	Rebuild Full Section	\$3.50 per square foot
PCI<25/PCI 25-50 >20% Alligator Cracking (Alley)	Rebuild Full Section	\$4.00 per square foot
Alligator Cracking - High Severity	Remove & replace AC 6" Deep	\$18 per square foot
Alligator Cracking - Moderate Severity	Remove & replace AC 4" Deep	\$15 per square foot
Edge Cracking	Grind and Repair AC - 3 feet wide	\$20 per lineal foot
Potholes	Repair 2' X 2'	\$50 Each
Patches/Utility Cuts	Remove & Replace AC - 4" Deep	\$15 per square foot
Longitudinal or transverse cracking	Crack seal	\$0.20 per lineal foot
Block Cracking	Crack seal	\$0.20 per lineal foot
Rutting, shoving, bumps, sages, etc.	Grind / AC leveling course	\$3 per square foot
Preventative for PCI > 75	Seal Coat	\$0.75 per square foot
Preventative for PCI 50-75	Slurry Seal	\$1.50 per square foot

Staffing

According to city officials, the Public Works department is currently fully staffed.

FINDINGS

F1. The City of Marysville’s street maintenance program lacks a clearly documented long-term pavement management plan that prioritizes repairs based on pavement condition data and transportation needs.

F2. There is no centralized tracking system for recording, monitoring, and resolving street maintenance requests submitted by residents.

F3. There is a lack of communication with residents regarding the street maintenance program.

F4. City street maintenance issues, such as potholes, often remain unaddressed for extended periods. There is no established maintenance schedule.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The City of Marysville should develop and adopt, by December 31, 2026, a multi-year pavement management plan that includes objective assessments, prioritization criteria, and scheduled maintenance activities and communicate with the public.

R2. The City of Marysville Public Works Department should establish, by December 31, 2026, a centralized online tracking system for street maintenance requests that allows residents to submit issues, track progress, and receive updates.

R3. The City of Marysville Public Works Department should establish, by December 31, 2026, a process to publish and regularly update anticipated street maintenance schedules and project plans on the official City of Marysville website and through other communication channels.

R4. The Marysville City Council should review, by December 31, 2026, the allocation of additional resources or pursuit of state road maintenance funding programs to improve the responsiveness and effectiveness of street repairs.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

Responses must indicate agreement or disagreement with each finding and recommendation and state corrective actions planned or already taken. A response is required, pursuant to Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05 from the following elected county officials within 60 days:

- Marysville City Council (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)

INVITED RESPONSES

Responses are invited from the following within 90 days:

- City Manager, City of Marysville (F1, F2, F3, F4, R1, R2, R3, R4)

Responses to this report should be 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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Resources reviewed for this investigation included:

City of Marysville Website
<https://www.marysville.ca.us/public-works>

Public Works Service Request
https://www.marysville.ca.us/_files/ugd/dbead1_5962c15da5024080bb192fe4c8c2ffbd.pdf

Disclaimer: Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.
--

OLIVEHURST PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT (OPUD)

A Small Agency with a Big Impact



SUMMARY

Olivehurst Public Utility District (OPUD) provides essential public services to residents in southern Yuba County. These services include drinking water and wastewater utilities, fire protection, parks, and street lighting in Olivehurst, as well as drinking water, wastewater, and parks in Plumas Lake. Through these services, OPUD plays an important role in the daily lives of thousands of residents.

Although OPUD facilities, parks, and service vehicles are visible throughout the community, many residents may not fully understand the range of services the district provides or how the agency operates. As with many public agencies, interactions between residents and OPUD often occur when problems arise, such as service interruptions or billing concerns. Often, residents share grumblings about our public agencies and OPUD is no exception.

The Grand Jury found that OPUD provides a wide range of essential services with a relatively small staff and relies on multiple funding sources to support its operations. The review also identified opportunities to improve communication with residents and to strengthen systems for tracking and responding to customer service requests.

BACKGROUND

OPUD's mission is *"to provide high-quality services to enhance our community's quality of life."* The district operates within state and local laws and regulations governing public utilities and special districts.

OPUD was established in 1948 to provide public services to residents in southern Yuba County. Unlike many agencies that provide a single service, OPUD delivers multiple services affecting residents' daily lives. OPUD provides the following services:

Olivehurst

- Water
- Wastewater (sewer)
- Parks
- Fire protection
- Street lighting (historic Olivehurst)

Plumas Lake

- Water
- Wastewater (sewer)
- Parks



Most residents interact with OPUD through water and wastewater services. OPUD also maintains local parks where residents may reserve facilities for private events. In addition, it operates Yuba County's only public swimming pool.

Funding for OPUD services is complex and comes from multiple sources, including user fees, property taxes, special assessments, and grants.

The Yuba County Civil Grand Jury periodically reviews county agencies and special districts as part of its oversight responsibilities. The Grand Jury noted that OPUD, one of the more than 100 county and special district agencies in Yuba County, had not been reviewed in more than a decade. The committee therefore conducted an oversight review of the agency.

The purpose of this review was to examine OPUD's organization and services. The Grand Jury also reviewed how the district communicates with residents and responds to service requests.

METHODOLOGY

This investigation was conducted by members of the Yuba County Civil Grand Jury pursuant to California Penal Code Section 916.

The Grand Jury interviewed OPUD staff and customers, and reviewed publicly available information, including the OPUD website and Board of Directors meeting documents.

DISCUSSION

OPUD has a five-member Board of Directors, elected by residents of the service district. They hold monthly board meetings that can be attended by the public in person, viewed live via Zoom or viewed later via the recorded session. The Board of Directors also has Committee meetings monthly for Parks and Recreation, Fire and Safety, and Water and Wastewater Committees.

OPUD provides a wide range of services with a relatively small staff (an organizational chart, revised January 2026, can be found on the OPUD website). The district employs approximately 50 employees to operate water and wastewater systems, maintain parks, provide fire protection in Olivehurst, and manage district infrastructure. Staff often have multiple roles to perform the organization's functions. A General Manager has overall responsibility. Department heads typically have 3-10 people reporting to them.

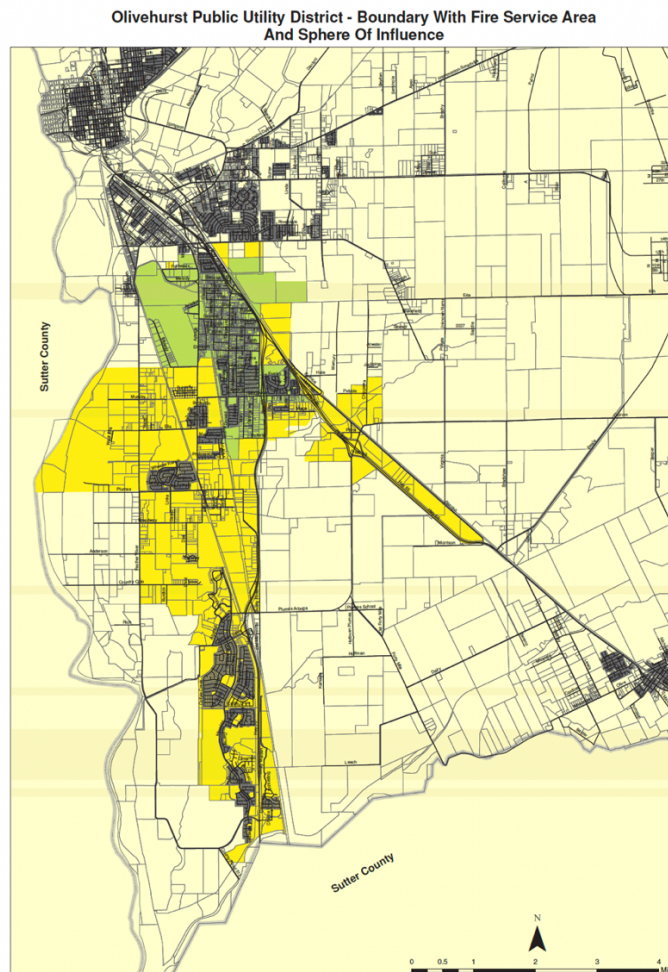
Residents may contact OPUD by telephone, email, or through a service request form available on the district's website. Staff's handling of water/wastewater complaints is determined and regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board, the Public Utilities Commission, and the State of California. When OPUD receives a complaint regarding fees, things are spelled out in their Water Sewer Fact Sheet and/or Water Wastewater Services Policy which are on the OPUD

website. Complaints regarding the more than 50 acres of parks are forwarded to the Parks Department Manager who responds to the residents directly.

Interview Observations

The Grand Jury learned in interviews with OPUD customers that some calls to OPUD were not returned timely and submissions on the OPUD website did not always receive a response. In interviews with OPUD staff it was learned that although staff expressed the goal of promptly responding to requests from the public (within one to two business days) there is no centralized tracking log for receiving and responding to complaints. Although notes are currently made in the resident's account, there is no central tracking that ensures all requests and complaints get handled timely.

Both customer and staff interviewees noted a lack of understanding by the public of OPUD's responsibilities and jurisdiction. For example, some residents contact OPUD regarding issues such as storm drain maintenance or street lighting (outside of historic Olivehurst), which is not within the agency's jurisdiction, and there was uncertainty regarding information about after-hours emergency services.



Acknowledgements

The Grand Jury found that OPUD staff were responsive and forthcoming in responding to our questions or need for clarification. Given the tight budgets, multitude of services provided, and the broad jurisdiction of OPUD, we commend the staff and feel fortunate to having them serve our communities.

FINDINGS

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

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

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.

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 services should be more clearly listed.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

The following responses are required, pursuant to Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05 from the following governing boards within 90 days:

- OPUD Board of Directors (F1, F2, R1, R2)

INVITED RESPONSES

Responses are invited from the following within 90 days:

- OPUD General Manager (F1, F2, R1, R2)

Responses to this report should be 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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The resources reviewed for this investigation included:

OPUD Services

<https://www.opud.org/opud-services>

OPUD Organizational Chart

<https://www.opud.org/files/4c08c7314/09.04 Updated Organizational Chart.pdf>

OPUD Financial Information-Current fiscal year actual to budget through January 29, 2026

<https://www.opud.org/files/783b03628/05.05 Review Revenue and Expenditures FY 2025-26.pdf>

OPUD Financial Audits for fiscal year 2023-24

<https://www.opud.org/files/1436f7466/Financial+Audit+FY+2023-24.pdf>

<p>Disclaimer: Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.</p>

APPENDIX

Yuba County Civil Grand Jury - Previous Investigations (Ten Year History)

Health & Human Services	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Adult Services										
CAL Works										
Child Protective Services										
Day Care										
Environmental Health										
- EH Personnel										
- Onsite Sewage										
- YSDI										
First Five Yuba Commission										
Fraud Investigations										
Health & Human Services										
Health Department										
- Mental Health Services										X
- Peach Tree Clinic										
Public Guardian										
Yuba Sutter Veterans Services		X								

Special Districts	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Browns Valley Irrigation District								X		
Camp Far West Irrigation District										
Cemetery District - Browns Valley										X
Cemetery District - Brownsville										X
Cemetery District - Camptonville										X
Cemetery District - Keystone										X
Cemetery District - Marysville						X	X			X
Cemetery District - Smartsville										X
Cemetery District - Strawberry Valley										X
Cemetery District - Upham										X
Cemetery District - Wheatland										X
Cemetery District - Peoria										X
Foothill Fire Protection										
Levee District 817										
Linda County Water District				X				X		
Linda Fire District		X				X				
Marysville Levee District										
Mosquito Vector Control District										

Yuba County Civil Grand Jury
2025-2026 Final Report

Special Districts (continued)	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
North Yuba Water District				X						
Olivehurst PUD			X							
Olivehurst PUD - Water										
Olivehurst PUD - Fire										
Olivehurst PUD - Sewer										
Reclamation District 10										
Reclamation District 2103										
Reclamation District 817										
Reclamation District 784									X	
River Highlands Community Service										
Smartsville Fire Department										
Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority										
Yuba County Water Agency										
Yuba County Water District										

Court and Law	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Child Support Services										
Municipal Court										
District Attorney										
Grand Jury										
Juvenile Traffic Court										
Victim Witness			X	X	X					
Juvenile Hall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Probation						X	X			
Public Defender										
Sheriff		X	X			X	X			
- Animal Care Services			X					X		
- Jail	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
- Canine						X			X	
Police Department										
- Marysville Police Department			X			X				
- Wheatland Police Department						X	X			

County	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Administrative Services										
- Airport Enterprise Zone						X	X			
- Print Shop										
- Information Services										
Agriculture										
- Weight & Measures										

Yuba County Civil Grand Jury
2025-2026 Final Report

County (continued)	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Assessor										
Auditor / Controller										
Board of Supervisors						X	X	X		
- Clerk of the Board						X	X			
Community Development										
- Building										
- Code Enforcement										
Clerk/Recorder/Elections						X		X		
County Administrator				X		X				
County Counsel						X	X			
- Public Administrator										
Economic Development							X			
Emergency Services		X								
Library						X	X			
Yuba County Airport							X			
Personnel Risk Management										
Public Works										
Treasurer/Tax Collector										
Veteran Services										

Cities	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
City of Marysville			X			X	X	X	X	X
- Better Improvement District										
- City Administrator/Clerk										
- City Cemetery				X	X	X	X			X
- City Clerk							X			
- City Council		X	X					X		
- Marysville City Council Minutes								X		
- Ellis Lake										
- Emergency Services										
- Levee District										
- Fire Department		X	X							
- Police Department										
- Police Vehicle Not in Compliance										
- Public Works, Parks & Recreation										
- Redevelopment Agency							X			
- Red Light Camera System			X							
- Website								X		
City of Wheatland			X					X		
- City Council										

Yuba County Civil Grand Jury
2025-2026 Final Report

Cities (continued)	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
- City Treasurer										
- Police Department										

Schools	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Abraham Lincoln (home) School										
Anna McKenney Intermediate										
Arboga Elementary School										
Bear River Intermediate			X							
Browns Valley Elementary										
Camptonville Union School District										
Cedar Lane Elementary										
Charter School										
Dobbins Elementary School										
Harry PB Carden										
Lindhurst High										
Mary Covillaud Elementary										
Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts										
Marysville High										
Marysville High School Food Service										
Marysville Joint Unified School Dist									X	X
- Alternative Education Program										
- Citizen Bonds Oversight Committee										
- Loma Rica Elementary	X		X							
Office of Education										
Olivehurst Elementary										
Paragon Collegiate Academy						X	X	X		
Plumas Elementary										
Regional Career Center - JPTA										
Thomas E. Mathews			X							
Wheatland High										
Wheatland School District										
- Elementary School District Building										
Yuba College										
Yuba County Office of Education										