



Road Maintenance Costs

Construction and paving costs have risen substantially over the last five years. Paving costs, in particular, have increased some 225% since 2019, with the cost of raw materials more than doubling! And this isn't just a problem for the GWCS D.

For example, last November's election ballot contained three measures seeking tax increases for road-maintenance Zones of Benefit (ZOB) in the County. Fernwood-Cothrin Ranch ZOB sought to increase its tax by 200% to \$450/year, and 53% of voters agreed. Meadowview Acres ZOB sought to increase its tax by 29% to \$450/year, and 70% of voters agreed. Walnut Drive ZOB sought to increase its tax by 111% to \$685/year, and 60% of the voters agreed. Since these special taxes require a 2/3 vote to pass, only the Meadowview Acres tax was adopted.

The District's Board has worked hard to stretch our tax dollars as far as possible – in fact, the District spends about 92% of its revenue on road and road-drainage maintenance activities. Even though we are far more productive than most other districts in the County, the District provides the higher level of service we have become accustomed to, even as materiel and construction costs continue to climb faster than our revenue stream. Ultimately, either service reductions or revenue increases will become necessary.

2026 Plans

Our plan, going in to 2026, is to complete repavement of the final, 0.72-mile stretch of Crystal Blvd. that terminates at County Road 126 just south of Quartz Dr. Projections indicate that this project should cost approximately \$300,000. The GWCS D Road Maintenance budget for FY 2025-26 is \$314,000, so we anticipate no other large projects will be possible until at least next December, when we expect our first infusion of funding for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

2026 is another election year. The District will have three Director seats up for election next November. If you are a resident registered to vote in the District, you can register as a candidate for the Golden West Board election in 2026. Candidate registration usually opens around the end of June, so watch the County Elections' web site if you are interested in serving on the Board. If you want to know what's involved in being a GWCS D Director, feel free to e-mail your question(s) to president@gwcsd.org. We'll get back to you to fill you in on any specifics we can.

GWCS D 2026 Meeting Schedule

March 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
April 7, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
June 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
September 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
December 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are open to the public and usually held at Fire Station 44, 6109 Quartz Dr. in Logtown. Check our web site (gwcsd.org) for the latest, or, get on our e-mail list: president@gwcsd.org

Happy New Year!

Your Golden West Community Services District wishes you and yours a happy and prosperous 2026!

The new year offers a great time to review our progress, accomplishments in 2025.

During 2025, the GWCSO focused on drainage improvements and vegetation management. The drainage improvements included cleaning several under-road culverts in the Crystal Blvd. and Dolomite Dr. areas. While doing that work, we noticed some locations where culverts – installed in the early 1970's – are beginning to rust out. Since under-road culvert replacement is expensive, the District must begin planning this work along with other, major road projects.

Vegetation management included our regularly scheduled weed spraying and two major projects to extend roadside and overhanging vertical clearance, respectively, along Crystal Blvd. These projects highlighted the needs of an aging environment: Trees are larger and vegetation is more dense than when the Golden West Paradise subdivision was built in the 1970's. Controlling roadside vegetation at bay is becoming more demanding – especially after relatively wet winters.

As always, please contact me with your questions and concerns about our District's roads.

Marc Regelbrugge (415)640-3068
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Talking Dollars and Sense

The GWCSO was established in 1984 by a vote of its community for the purpose of maintaining the public roads in the District. Our funding comes from two sources: the Special Tax of \$10 per parcel per month, and ad Valorem taxes. The Special Tax appears today on your annual property tax bills as Direct Charge #54408. In fiscal year 2024-25, we collected \$52,379 in Special Taxes.

Ad Valorem taxes come from a portion of County taxes on the increased valuation of assessed properties) and we also receive a modest amount of interest paid on District funds held by the County. Ad Valorem taxes and interest account for roughly 2/3 of the District's annual income. Total combined revenue from all three income sources was \$173,544 last fiscal year.

On the expense side, road maintenance has become much more costly. Our projections indicate our current cycle of re-paving the major District roads will take at least another decade to fund with moderately increasing revenues. Re-paving Crystal Blvd. could not be funded again until at about 2050 – some 33 years after the current cycle of repaving began!

The District's Special Tax has not changed since 1984. Ten dollars of value in 1984 is more than triple that today, according to CPI calculators. Tripling our Special Tax to \$30 per parcel per month would shorten our current major-maintenance cycle by four years, and allow Crystal to be re-paved again in about 15 years.

Today, our District roads remain in much better shape than our local, County-maintained roads.

Stretching re-pavement intervals to/beyond 30 years will reduce the quality and safety of our roads, increase our costs, and endanger our ability to improve other District facilities such as our aging, under-road culverts.

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What's on your Mind?

Contact president@gwcsd.org