

INTRODUCTION

The Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District is a special district as defined by California Government Code Section 56036. Thus, it is an agency of the state formed for the local performance of governmental and proprietary functions within limited boundaries. Statutory authority is provided by the Community Services District Law (California Government Code 61000 *et seq.*). The District is governed by five members of the Board of Directors who are charged with establishing policies and exercising oversight for the operations of the District.

SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

Police Services – Govt. Code Sec. 61100 (i)

The District is responsible for providing police protection and law enforcement services by establishing and operating a police department that employs peace officers pursuant to Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal Code. The Police Department provides a full range of police services to the community. The Department is staffed with one (1) Chief of Police and adequate staff to ensure public order.

Recreational Services – Govt. Code Sec. 61100 (e)

The District is responsible for providing recreational services to the community. The District owns, maintains, and manages ongoing improvements to a Community Center, a Community Center Annex, a Recreation Building, and the Kensington Park. The park and recreational services are managed by the General Manager/Chief of Police and the Park Administrator. Recreation programs in the park are managed by the Kensington Community Council, a non-profit volunteer organization.

Solid Waste Collection – Govt. Code Sec. 61100 (c)

The District oversees the solid waste and recycling programs in Kensington and is responsible for rate setting and ensuring the District meets State and Local mandates. It currently operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with Contra Costa County and a long-term franchise agreement with Bay View Refuse and Recycling.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The District was initially formed under the Health & Safety Code in 1946 as a Police Protection District, providing Police Services only. In 1953 the Police Protection District was changed to a Community Services District under the Community Services District Law then in effect (Sections 61600-61749 of the Government Code, since revised), again providing Police Services only.

In 1955 the Kensington Community Services District, acknowledging that adequate recreational facilities and recreation programs were essential for the physical well-being and

general welfare of the people of Kensington, added recreational responsibilities to its scope of authority.

In 1981 the voters of the District added the collection and disposal of garbage or refuse matter to its scope of authority.

In 1993 the Board of Directors elected to change the name of the District from Kensington Community Services District to the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District so that its name describes the District's essential responsibility of providing police protection services.

In 1995 the Board of Directors believed that it would be in the best interest of the District and the community which it serves for the Board of Directors to be expanded to five directors. The move to increase the Board from three to five members was adopted by the voters in November 1995.