



AGENDA

Meeting of the
Scotts Valley City Council
In-Person and Remote Access
Date: April 15, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION	MEETING LOCATION	POSTING
City of Scotts Valley 1 Civic Center Drive Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (831) 440-5600	City Council Chambers 1 Civic Center Drive Scotts Valley, CA 95066 OR Zoom Video Conference https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83295730901	Agenda posted on 4-9-2026 at City Hall, SV Senior Center, SV Public Works Building, and on the Internet at: www.scottsvally.gov
ELECTED OFFICIALS		CITY STAFF MEMBERS
Donna Lind, Mayor Steve Clark, Vice Mayor Krista Jett, Council Member Derek Timm, Council Member Greg Wimp, Council Member		Mali LaGoe, City Manager Kirsten Powell, City Attorney Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA PACKET MATERIALS

Notice regarding City Council Meetings:

The City Council meets regularly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 1 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066, and via Zoom Webinar remote access.

Agenda and Agenda Packet Materials:

The City Council agenda and the complete agenda packet are available for review by 5:00 PM the Friday before the Wednesday meeting on the Internet at the City's website:

www.scottsvally.gov and in the lobby of City Hall at 1 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, CA.

Pursuant to Government Code §54957.5, materials related to an agenda item, submitted after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the lobby of City Hall during normal business hours, Monday-Friday, 8am-12 pm and 1-5 pm. In accordance with AB 1344, such documents will be posted on the City's website at www.scottsvally.gov.

Public Participation:

The meeting will be available on Zoom and livestreamed to the City of Scotts Valley's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofscottsvally>

For those wishing to participate via Zoom you can join the following ways:

Zoom Webinar meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83295730901>

Or dial one of these numbers: (669) 900-9128 or (669) 444-9171

Webinar ID: 832 9573 0901

Whether attendance is in-person or remote, you will be given opportunities to provide public comment at the appropriate times throughout the meeting. The time limit is up to 3 minutes for an individual, or 5 minutes for someone who is representing a group of three or more, at the discretion of the Mayor. Please note that this is not a question-and-answer time, but simply a time to provide comments to the Council. At the appropriate times during the meeting for public comment, on items not on the agenda, and on specific agenda items, the Mayor will announce that public comment will be accepted.

How to comment via in-person attendance:

Please proceed to the public comment podium when the Mayor opens the item for public comment.

How to comment via Zoom Webinar:

Use the webinar attendee option to “raise hand” when the Mayor opens the item for public comment. The Clerk will unmute you when it is your turn. If you have joined via Zoom phone call, dial *9 or your phone to “raise your hand”, and the Clerk will unmute you when it is your turn.

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

SPECIAL SET MATTER

1. Mayor's Proclamation for Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Month - May 2026
2. Mayor's Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month - April 2026
3. Mayor's Proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week - April 12-18, 2026

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council members are appointed to committees which are either City committees or committees dealing with other jurisdictions. This portion of the agenda allows the committee member to present oral or written reports to the Council regarding their committee assignments. It also allows the Council to make comments and give the committee member direction, as required.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

This is the opportunity for individuals attending in person to make oral comments to the Council on any items within the purview of the Council, which are NOT part of the Agenda. No action on the item may be taken, but the Council may request the matter be placed on a future agenda. Written public comment may be emailed to the City Clerk by 5:00 PM on the day of the meeting at csimonovich@scottsvally.gov.

ALTERATIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA

Council can remove or add items to the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is comprised of items which are intended to be non-controversial and are approved without discussion. Persons wishing to speak on any item may request the item be moved to the Regular Agenda by raising their hand to be recognized by the Mayor. An item will only be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda if a City Council Member requests it to be moved and a majority of the Council agrees.

1. Approve City Council minutes of 04-01-2026
2. Consider request to display the Pride flag to commemorate Pride Month from June 1st to June 30th, 2026
3. Consider letter of support for AB 1902 (Pellerin) - Procedures for continued detention in secure youth treatment facilities
4. Resolution Creating No Parking Areas along Civic Center Drive

ALTERATIONS TO REGULAR AGENDA

Council can remove or add items to the Regular Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

Persons wishing to speak on any item may do so by raising their hand to be recognized by the Mayor.

1. Pathways to Possibility Youth City Liaison Program presentation
2. Ordinance Establishing No Parking Areas in the City
3. Presentation of the 2025 Scotts Valley Police Annual Activity Report
4. AB 481 Military Equipment Use Annual Report and Ordinance Renewing the Military Use Policy

5. Amendment to Business License Tax Ordinance to Establish Economic Development Event Exemption and Associated Administrative Fee
6. Future Council Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

ADA NOTICE

The City of Scotts Valley does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. The City Council Chambers is an accessible facility. If you wish to attend a City Council meeting and require assistance such as sign language, a translator, or other special assistance or devices in order to attend and participate at the meeting, please call the City Clerk's office at (831) 440-5608 five to seven days in advance of the meeting to make arrangements for assistance. If you require the agenda of a City Council meeting be available in an alternative format consistent with a specific disability, please call the City Clerk's Office. The California State Relay Service (TTY/VCO/HCO to Voice: English 1-800-735-2929, Spanish 1-800-855-3000; or, Voice to TTY/VCO/HCO: English 1-800-735-2922, Spanish 1-800-855-3000), provides Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf and Disabled and will provide a link between the TDD caller and users of telephone equipment.

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROCEDURE COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE IN APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION:

1. Move the Resolution number for approval.
2. Second the motion.
3. Vote by body, a roll call vote is not required.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROCEDURE COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE IN INTRODUCTION/ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Move the Ordinance number for introduction (or adoption).
2. Move the Ordinance be introduced by title only and waive the reading of the text.
3. Read the Ordinance title.
4. Second the motion.
5. Vote by body, a roll call vote is not required.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROCEDURE COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE IN PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Unless otherwise determined by the presiding officer of the meeting:

1. Three minutes allowed per individual to speak.
2. Five minutes allowed per individual representing a group of three or more.



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City of Scotts Valley Mayor's Proclamation

Recognizing May 2026 as Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Month

WHEREAS, May as Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Month was established through a collaborative effort across the country to recognize the critical need to promote water safety and drowning prevention; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health reports that between 2016-2023, nearly 4,300 Californians, died from drowning, and thousands more were rescued and treated in hospitals and emergency departments, many with life-altering and permanent disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the drowning burden is highest among men, children, and the elderly; every drowning severely impacts families, friends, first responders and the community; and drowning is preventable; and

WHEREAS, everyone in Scotts Valley should know how to be safer around all types of water, including preventing unsupervised access with barriers to water, learning swimming and water competency skills, and knowing what to do in a water emergency; and

WHEREAS, Scotts Valley has its own considerations and context for drowning prevention, including creek safety, backyard pool safety, and proximity to the ocean; and

WHEREAS, through public awareness, the City of Scotts Valley and Pacific Flow Swim School seek to minimize the devastating effects of drowning among all California residents by sharing data, information, and experiences across sectors and stakeholders with diverse perspectives and approaches.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Lind, as Mayor of the City of Scotts Valley, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby recognize May 2026 as Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Month.



Donna Lind, Mayor

Signed and sealed this 15th day of April 2026

City of Scotts Valley

Mayor's Proclamation

Recognizing April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, children are our community's most precious resource, deserving of safety, love, and the opportunity to grow in a nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are serious issues that impact the well-being of children, families, and society as a whole, and preventing such harm is a shared responsibility; and

WHEREAS, strong families and supportive communities are essential to preventing abuse, and every individual can play a role by promoting healthy relationships, offering encouragement, and connecting families to resources; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, communities across the nation join together to raise awareness, strengthen prevention efforts, and honor the dedicated professionals, volunteers, and advocates who work tirelessly to protect children; and

WHEREAS, by working together to increase awareness and provide education, we can create a future where all children grow up free from abuse and neglect.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Lind, as Mayor of the City of Scotts Valley, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and encourage all citizens to engage in activities that strengthen families, protect children, and build a safer, healthier community for all.



Donna Lind, Mayor

Signed and sealed this 15th day of April 2026

City of Scotts Valley

Mayor's Proclamation

Declaring April 12 – April 18, 2026
National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

WHEREAS, emergencies that require police, fire or emergency medical services can occur at any time; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our police officers, firefighters and paramedics is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who contact the City of Scotts Valley emergency communications center; and,

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and,

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our police officers, firefighters and paramedics by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and ensuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators of the City of Scotts Valley have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients; and,

WHEREAS, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Lind, as Mayor of the City of Scotts Valley, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby declare the week of April 12 through 18, 2026, to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in the City of Scotts Valley, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our city and citizens safe.



Donna Lind, Mayor

Signed and sealed this 15th day of April 2026



MINUTES

Meeting of the
Scotts Valley City Council
Date: April 1, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION	MEETING LOCATION	POSTING
City of Scotts Valley 1 Civic Center Drive Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (831) 440-5600	City Council Chambers 1 Civic Center Drive Scotts Valley, CA 95066 OR Zoom Video Conference https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83295730901	The agenda was posted on 3-27-2026 at City Hall, SV Senior Center, SV Public Works Building, and on the Internet at www.scottsvally.gov .
CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM		

The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Donna Lind, Mayor Steve Clark, Vice Mayor Krista Jett, Council Member Derek Timm, Council Member Greg Wimp, Council Member	CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mali LaGoe, City Manager Kirsten Powell, City Attorney Jayson Rutherford, Police Chief Rodolfo Onchi, Public Works Director Stephanie Hill, Administrative Services Director Taylor Bateman, Community Development Director Brian Froelich, Senior Planner Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk
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SPECIAL SET MATTER

1. Mayor's Proclamation for Arts, Culture, & Creativity Month, April 2026

Mayor Lind presented the proclamation for April 2026 as Arts, Culture, & Creativity Month. Jim Brown, Executive Director for the Santa Cruz Arts Council, accepted the proclamation

2. Mayor's Proclamation for California Cities Week, April 19–26, 2026

Mayor Lind recognized April 19-26 as California Cities Week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CM Jett, along with Mayor Lind, joined the Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County for a meet and greet.

CM Jett attended Assemblymember Pellerin's annual Women of the Year celebration.

CM Jett, along with Vice Mayor Clark, City Manager LaGoe, and Director Bateman, attended the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) annual conference. They attended seminars, networked with retail professionals, and promoted Scotts Valley.

CM Jett participated in the Scotts Valley High School (SVHS) Wellness Walk, and she commended SVHS student Dylan Turzak for her hard work in coordinating this amazing event.

CM Jett attended a Childrens Network Cabinet meeting where they debriefed about the Childrens Network Symposium event. The leadership group expressed gratitude for the local leaders who attended the Civic Summit, including Vice Mayor Clark. They also heard a presentation from the Friends of County Parks organization who are working to make open spaces available and accessible to everyone in the County.

CM Wimp attended Assemblymember Pellerin's annual Women of the Year celebration.

CM Wimp attended some of the surprise announcements for the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce annual awards and he noted that the Arukah Project was recognized as Organization of the Year.

CM Wimp attended the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) graduation ceremonies and enjoyed listening to the student essays. He thanked Officer King for running this program.

CM Wimp attended the Bite of Reality student event at Scotts Valley High School.

CM Wimp attended the Wellness Walk at Scotts Valley High School. He also congratulated Dylan Turzak for organizing this event and he noted that Dylan has also been recognized as Student of the Year by the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce. This event raised \$37K for the SVHS Wellness Center.

CM Wimp attended a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting where they discussed the budget.

VM Clark announced that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) has scheduled the first board meeting of the newly formed Santa Cruz County Coastal Rail. The bylaws will be adopted at the RTC meeting on April 2 and VM Clark will serve as the Vice Chair for this board. Also, during the RTC meeting they will vote on entering into an administrative coordination and licensing agreement for a freight carrier for the lower three miles (Watsonville to Pajaro) of the rail trail.

VM Clark attended the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce's surprise announcement for Roaring Camp as Business of the Year.

VM Clark commended Chief Rutherford and the entire Police Department for another successful D.A.R.E. program.

VM Clark attended the ICSC conference.

Mayor Lind attended the RTC meeting.

Mayor Lind was honored to be able to speak at each of the three D.A.R.E. graduation ceremonies. She noted that she is a strong supporter of this collaboration between the City and the School District.

Mayor Lind attended a Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) meeting where they received the preliminary 2027-2028 budget, and she noted that they are working on a potential sales tax measure to bridge the gap in funding. They also passed a modified fare structure.

Mayor Lind announced that the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce Awards Gala is scheduled for May 8. She noted that the Teacher of Year is the Scotts Valley Unified School District's Counseling Team, the Organization of the Year is the Arukah Project, and the Man of the Year is Adam Cosner.

Mayor Lind reported that there was a press conference today in the Council Chambers with Congressman Panetta regarding the grant funds for the dispatch equipment.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

This morning, the City held a Press Conference in the Council Chambers thanking Congressional Representative Panetta for the \$682,000 Community Project Funding grant for new dispatch equipment. The funding has started to arrive, and the equipment will be installed in the coming months.

Last week all three elementary schools held their D.A.R.E. graduations. City Manager LaGoe gave a huge thank you to the City's new School Resource Officer (SRO), Officer King, for leading the D.A.R.E. program this year.

The first session of Citizens Academy was Monday this week, and we have a great group once again. The participants toured the Scott House and learned the basics of local government and Scotts Valley's City government.

City Manager LaGoe and Community Development Director Bateman, along with Councilmembers Clark and Jett, attended the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) annual conference last week in Monterey.

The deadline for questions on the Town Center Developer RFP was last Wednesday, and the City received a total of 28 questions. Answers will be posted to the Town Center webpage by the end of this week.

Planning is well underway for the City's 60th Anniversary, which is August 2nd. The Summer Recreation Guide will be published soon with a full spread of the activities that the city will be hosting this summer to celebrate.

City Manager LaGoe attended the MBASIA board meeting and noted that the budget is coming in better than projected and MBASIA is outperforming other JPAs on claims, as noted by a decrease on the actuarial report for liability claims. This means that the City's premium increase won't be as much as initially forecasted, although the City will still spend well over \$1M on insurance each year.

Several staff have been participating in our new procurement and contract management software training this week. This is the next module of the OpenGov platform that the City is implementing to improve our procurement responses and systemize the procurement process from Bid or RFP through contract management and purchase order tracking.

The City currently has bids posted for the Granite Creek Road Culvert Replacement and the Scotts Valley Drive/Mount Hermon Road Improvement projects.

The City will welcome a new Wastewater Operator on April 6, and an offer has been accepted for the final Dispatch position, which means the City is once again fully staffed with no vacant positions. We also promoted two dispatchers to higher responsibility positions, and they will be officially sworn into their new roles on April 15.

[The following segment was an "April Fools" joke and is not to be taken as true or real] Next, an announcement that, after extensive public outreach, it has been determined that the highest and best use of the Siltanen ball fields is to immediately convert them into the largest dog park in Santa Cruz County. Off-leash dogs will be able to run and play in bliss without fear of slipping on a rogue softball or bat, and they can dig up the gopher holes to their hearts' delight. With this change, we can then build 50 new pickleball courts at Al Shugart Park where we were planning the new dog park. These courts can be open 24/7 with permanent lights and the neighbors at Skypark won't hear a thing. This park reconfiguration solves multiple problems with a shortage of both

dog and pickleball facilities in the City. However, in Skypark, the sound of pickleballs will soon be replaced by airplane traffic as the FAA has asked the City to reopen the Skypark airport in order to address the delays at SFO and SJC due to the shortage of TSA workers. A new runway will be constructed this week spanning the town center site through Skypark to accommodate small commercial flights. When walking the site with the FAA today, I was told there is some risk that some houses could have shingles blown off or a window or two broken with the planes taking off and landing so close, but at least they won't have to listen to pickleballs. Oh, and that means that soccer will be moved to Macdorsa park for the rest of this season. APRIL FOOLS!

And finally, to stay informed of all these developments, follow the city on social media and sign up to receive the City's newsletter.

PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

The following people spoke regarding their desire for Council to pursue a ban on the sale of filtered tobacco products in Scotts Valley: Katie Thompson, Morganna Johnson, Priyanka, Tara Leonard, Sunny Johnson Gutter, Darcie Connell, and Cindy Clark.

ALTERATIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA

M/S: Timm/Clark

To approve the Consent Agenda with no alterations.

Carried 5/0 (AYES: Lind, Clark, Jett, Timm, Wimp)

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve City Council Regular Meeting minutes of 03-18-2026 and Special Study Session minutes of 03-12-2026 and 3-13-2026
2. Appoint Jack Dilles as a public member to the Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District Public Financing Authority (EIFD PFA)
3. Adoption of the Santa Cruz County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update

ALTERATIONS TO REGULAR AGENDA

M/S: Clark/Jett

To approve the Regular Agenda with no alterations.

Carried 5/0 (AYES: Lind, Clark, Jett, Timm, Wimp)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approve the Housing Element Annual Progress Report and authorize submittal of the Annual Progress Report to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department

Brian Froelich, Senior Planner, presented this item and responded to questions from the Council. Director Bateman was also available to answer questions.

Joanne Dawid, a resident of Scotts Valley, expressed concern about the 4575 Scotts Valley Drive development.

M/S: Timm/Clark

To direct staff to make the submittal of the 2025 Annual Progress Report (APR) to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and State Office of Planning and Research (OPR).

Carried 5/0 (AYES: Lind, Clark, Jett, Timm, Wimp)

2. Appoint new members to the Scotts Valley Parks and Recreation Advocates to take actions necessary to dissolve the Scotts Valley Parks and Recreation Advocates

M/S: Timm/Wimp

To appoint Stephanie Hill, Kendra Reed, and Taylor Bateman to the SVPRA Board of Directors, and to authorize the SVPRA Board of Directors and City staff to complete the dissolution of the SVPRA and transfer remaining assets to the City of Scotts Valley to be used for parks and recreation purposes in accordance with the SVPRA Articles of Incorporation.

Carried 5/0 (AYES: Lind, Clark, Jett, Timm, Wimp)

3. Future Council Agenda Items

CM Timm requested that the Council consider flying the Pride Flag in the month of June as done in previous years. Consensus was achieved for this as a future agenda item.

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

The City Council convened to closed session at 7:15 PM to discuss the following item:

CLOSED SESSION SUBJECT(S)

1. Conference with legal counsel regarding real property negotiations
Legal Authority: Government Code Section 54956.8
Location: 2 lots between 201 and 241 Kings Village Road, Scotts Valley;
APNs 022-601-05 and 022-601-13
Staff Present: City Manager, City Attorney

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The City Council reconvened to open session at 7:33 PM.

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Approved: _____
Donna Lind, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: **Consider request to display the Pride flag to commemorate Pride Month from June 1st to June 30th, 2026**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

On June 1, 2022, the City Council adopted a Policy on Display of Flags to allow the display of government and commemorative flags. The policy prohibits third-party requests for commemorative flag displays and only allows for the display of commemorative flags when the request is brought forth by a member of the City Council to place the consideration of a specific commemorative flag on a future agenda. The decision to display the commemorative flag must then be authorized by a majority vote of the City Council at a duly noticed regular or special City Council meeting, as an expression of the City Council's official sentiments. At the April 1, 2026, City Council meeting, Councilmember Timm requested staff to place the consideration of flying the Pride flag during the month of June 2026, commonly known as Pride Month, on an upcoming City Council agenda.

Per the City's Policy, any commemorative flag being considered must be consistent with the current City Council recognized goals and priorities and City strategic plan. The Pride flag is consistent with Council's Strategic Goal #3 *Support a thriving city through economic development, diverse and affordable housing, recreation programs, (protecting and) promoting the City's brand and supporting community building events.*

The City Council unanimously voted to fly the Pride flag in 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 during Pride Month.

FISCAL IMPACT

As the City already owns a Pride flag, there is no fiscal impact of approving flying the flag for the month of June 2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council consider approval to display the Pride flag from June 1st to June 30th, 2026, to commemorate Pride Month.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Resolution No. 2014 Flag Policy

RESOLUTION NO. 2014

ADOPTING A CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY POLICY ON DISPLAY OF FLAGS

WHEREAS, the City of Scotts Valley currently displays, as required by existing law, the United States Flag and the State of California Flag; and

WHEREAS, the City of Scotts Valley does not have a formal policy regarding the display of flags; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish a policy that provides guidance and standards for the indoor and outdoor display of flags at City of Scotts Valley owned properties; and

WHEREAS, in adopting this Policy on Display of Flags, the City Council declares that flags and flagpoles owned or maintained by the City of Scotts Valley are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public, but rather as a nonpublic forum for the display of flags outlined in the Policy on Display of Flags, as an expression of the City Council's official sentiments (government speech).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley approves the Policy on Display of Flags, attached and incorporated hereto as Exhibit A.

The above and foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley at a regular meeting held on the 1st day of June, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Approved: _____

DocuSigned by:

Donna Lind

AB62A4DD878C47C...

Donna Lind, Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Cathie Simonovich

00BDB2B26C07422...

Attest: _____

Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY POLICY ON DISPLAY OF FLAGS

The Scotts Valley City Council (hereinafter “City Council”) desires to establish a “Policy on Display of Flags at City Facilities” (hereinafter “Policy”). In adopting this Policy, the City Council declares that the City of Scotts Valley’s flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression of the public, but rather for the display of Federal, State, and City of Scotts Valley flags, and any “commemorative flag” as may be authorized by this Policy and the City Council as an expression of the City Council’s official sentiments.

I. **Purpose**

- A. The purpose of this Policy is to establish clear guidance from the City Council regarding the indoor and outdoor display of flags at City of Scotts Valley (hereinafter “City”) facilities.
- B. In adopting this Policy, the City Council declares that flagpoles owned or maintained by the City are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. Rather, such flagpoles are a non-public forum for the display of Federal, State, and City of Scotts Valley flags, and any commemorative flag (as defined by section II(C)(1) below), as authorized by the City Council and this Policy as an expression of the City Council's official sentiments (government speech).
- C. The City will not display a commemorative flag based on a request from a third party, nor will the City use its flagpoles to sponsor the expression of a third party.

II. **Policy**

- A. Conformance with Federal and State Regulations. Flags shall be displayed in accordance with all Federal and State statutes and regulations, including, but not limited to, United States Code, Title 4, Chapter 1, et seq., and California Government Code sections 430 et seq., as may be amended from time to time, and this Policy.
- B. For all City owned properties (including parks), other than the Civic Center, located at One Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley. If there is an outside flagpole, the United States Flag may be displayed and the State of California Flag may be displayed, as described in section II(A) above. If flags are displayed indoors, those flags are limited to the United States Flag and State of California Flag. Commemorative flags may not be displayed.

If such City owned property is leased and/or licensed to a third party, that third party shall not be bound by this Policy, but must comply with any Federal, State, or local laws related to display of flags.

C. Civic Center, located at One Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley. Regarding the flagpole outside of City Hall, the United States Flag shall be displayed and the State of California Flag shall be displayed, as described in section II(A) above, as well as a “commemorative flag” (as defined by section II(C)(1)). If flags are displayed indoors of the Civic Center, those flags are limited to the United States Flag and State of California Flag.

1. Commemorative Flag

- a. As expression of the City’s official government speech, the City Council may authorize the display of a “commemorative flag” to be displayed below any other flags on the Civic Center flagpole, located at City Hall. Only commemorative flags that comply with this Policy may be displayed.
- b. A commemorative flag is any flag that is consistent with this Policy and not the United States Flag or State of California Flag.
- c. The City Council shall only consider a request to display such a commemorative flag if the request is made by a member of the City Council to place the discussion on the agenda for a regular or special City Council meeting. Requests to display a commemorative flag by members of the public will not be considered.
- d. A majority of the City Council must agree to display the commemorative flag as part of an official City Council action at a duly noticed, Ralph M. Brown Act compliant, regular or special City Council meeting.
- e. Commemorative flags shall be displayed for a period of time that is reasonable or customary for the subject that is to be commemorated, but no longer than thirty-one (31) continuous days.
- f. If any other flag is displayed at half-staff, the commemorative flag will also be displayed at half-staff, height limits permitting.
- g. A commemorative flag will only be considered by the City Council if it is commonly identified with, and consistent with, the current City Council recognized goals and priorities and City strategic plan. The following are not allowed as commemorative flags and will not be considered by the City Council:
 - i. Flags of a particular religious movement or creed, to avoid the

appearance of City government endorsing religion or a particular religious movement or creed;

ii. Flags of a political party, to avoid the appearance of City government endorsing a political party; and

iii. Flags advocating a certain outcome in an election.

h. Any approved commemorative flag will be obtained by the City.

III. **Procedures**

A. Consistent with section II(A), no other flag shall be placed above the United States Flag and no other flag shall be larger than the United States Flag.

B. Flags should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. The United States Flag should be hoisted first and lowered last.

C. Flags shall be displayed during operating hours on all days on which the City is open for business, and on national and state holidays. Flags may be displayed twenty-four (24) hours a day as long as they are illuminated during darkness.

D. Flags shall not be displayed during inclement weather, unless all- weather flags are used and are illuminated during darkness.

E. When flags are displayed on a single pole, the order from top to bottom shall be: the United States Flag, the California State Flag, and if displayed and allowed by this Policy, the commemorative flag.

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: **Consider letter of support for AB 1902 (Pellerin) - Procedures for continued detention in secure youth treatment facilities**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

Assembly Bill 1902, introduced by Assemblymember Gail Pellerin, provides needed procedural clarity to juvenile detention extension hearings. This process permits the continued detention of certain qualifying youth offenders past the age 25.

This legislation was precipitated by a local case which involved an 8-year-old victim and a 15-year-old perpetrator/defendant. The defendant was sent to a secured youth treatment facility in 2021 and became a ward in Sonoma County. In 2024, nearing the age of 25, the Santa Cruz County District Attorney (DA) filed a petition to have an extension detention hearing because the DA felt the ward was still dangerous and continued to pose a threat to society.

The intervals between each detention hearing is currently every two years, which is troubling. While this process applies to wards who have completed the terms of their criminal crime, it needs to be balanced against the backdrop of consideration for the victim, the victims family, the lack of rehabilitation and the cost to all involved.

The key provisions of AB 1902 are mandatory custody during proceedings, limits on delaying probable-cause hearings, use of certain hearsay evidence, trial timeline requirements, and an extended timeline for renewed detention applications (current law requires every 2 years). With regard to this last proposed provision, holding the detention hearings every two years is not only a drain on prosecutorial resources, it also forces the victims' families to relive their trauma, and they don't get time to heal before the next hearing. The law needs to reflect compassion and care for the victims and their surviving families.

It is clear that Assemblymember Pellerin has listened to the questions and concerns raised by her constituents and has responded by introducing AB 1902.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City Council consider the request to submit the attached letter of support for AB 1902 and, if it so chooses, to direct Mayor Lind, on behalf of the entire City Council, to submit the attached letter to the Chair of the Assembly Public Safety Committee and to Assemblymember Pellerin.

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1. AB 1902 - Pellerin - Letter of Support 4-15-2026



CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY

1 Civic Center Drive • Scotts Valley • California • 95066
Phone (831) 440-5600 • www.scottsvally.gov

The Honorable Nick Shultz
Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 2, 2026

RE: AB 1902 (Pellerin) – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Shultz,

The City of Scotts Valley writes in strong support of AB 1902 (Pellerin) that provides needed procedural clarity to juvenile detention extension hearings.

California has seen significant changes towards the treatment of juvenile offenders. This includes a prohibition on the transfer of 14 and 15-year-olds to the adult criminal system, the closure of the Division of Juvenile justice and the transfer of responsibility for the custody, treatment, and supervision of youth to the counties.

In 2015, Santa Cruz County was turned upside down when the body of 8-year-old Maddy Middleton was discovered. More shocking is that the person who committed such a horrific crime was 3 months shy of his 16 birthday.

As Scotts Valley is a neighboring community to Santa Cruz, Maddy's case touched the heart of everyone in our community. Our hearts go out to her parents, family, friends, and neighbors.

The defendant was sent to a secured youth treatment facility in 2021 and became a ward in Sonoma County. In 2024, nearing the age of 25, the Santa Cruz County District Attorney (DA) filed a petition to have an extension detention hearing because the DA felt the ward was still dangerous and continued to pose a threat to society.

Our community is still grieving over the death of Maddy, and this hearing brought that grief to the forefront. More importantly, is that Santa Cruz County was the first county in the state to proceed with the extension detention hearing as enacted in 2021 and outlined in Welfare Institutions Code §876. There were many procedural questions that were raised during the course of the hearing that need to be clarified in statue so that future counties have more clarity.

However, what is most troubling is the short intervals between each detention hearing, currently every two years. While this process applies to wards who have completed the terms of their criminal crime, it needs to be balanced against the backdrop of consideration for the victim, the victim's family, the lack of rehabilitation and the cost to all involved.

AB 1902 Letter of Support
City of Scotts Valley
Page 2

We commend Assemblymember Pellerin for being receptive to the questions and concerns raised by her constituents and responding by authoring AB 1902.

For these reasons, The City of Scotts Valley is in strong support of AB 1902 (Pellerin) and we look forward to continuing to move through the legislative process. Please contact Donna Lind at dlind@scottsvalley.gov or (831) 438-4187 if you have questions about our position.

Sincerely,

Donna Lind, Mayor
City of Scotts Valley

cc: Assemblymember Pellerin

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Rodolfo Onchi, Public Works Director
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: Resolution Creating No Parking Areas along Civic Center Drive

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The segment of Civic Center Drive between Scotts Valley Drive and the stop-controlled intersection at the City Hall entrance presents ongoing safety concerns due to the constrained roadway width and the presence of on-street parking. To improve safety and maintain clear access, red curb (no stopping at any time) is proposed along this segment, beginning at the intersection with Scotts Valley Drive, continuing north through the intersection with the City Hall access driveway, and terminating on the north side of that intersection.

The roadway narrows to approximately 20 feet at the apex of the curve and reaches approximately 36 feet at its widest point near the intersection. With parking currently permitted on both sides, the available travel way is significantly reduced, creating pinch points, limiting sight distance, and requiring opposing vehicles to navigate single-lane conditions. These geometric constraints make the segment unsuitable for on-street parking and support consideration of a no-parking designation to improve safety and circulation.

Purpose of the Proposed No-Parking Zone

Establishing a no-parking zone along this segment of Civic Center Drive will:

- Restore adequate lane width for two-way vehicle travel
- Improve sight distance along the curve
- Reduce conflicts associated with parked vehicles
- Allow school buses to safely load and unload without obstructing both lanes
- Enhance overall traffic flow and emergency access

This action is expected to significantly improve safety and circulation for all roadway users.

FISCAL IMPACT

Implementation of the proposed no-parking zone will require installation of appropriate signage and pavement markings. Associated costs include materials, labor, and traffic control during installation.

While a detailed cost estimate will be developed by the Public Works/Engineering Department,

overall costs are anticipated to be minimal and can likely be accommodated within the existing traffic operations or street maintenance budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution establishing a no-parking zone along Civic Center Drive between Scotts Valley Drive and the stop-controlled intersection at the City Hall entrance.

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1. Resolution No. 1087.70 Civic Center No Parking

RESOLUTION NO. 1087.70

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY CREATING
NO PARKING AREAS ALONG PORTIONS OF CIVIC CENTER DRIVE**

WHEREAS, the segment of Civic Center Drive between Scotts Valley Drive and the stop-controlled intersection at the City Hall entrance presents ongoing safety concerns due to the constrained roadway width and the presence of on-street parking; and

WHEREAS, the roadway narrows to approximately 20 feet at the apex of the curve and reaches approximately 36 feet at its widest point near the intersection; and

WHEREAS, with parking currently permitted on both sides, the available travel-way is significantly reduced, creating pinch points, limiting sight distance, and requiring opposing vehicles to navigate single-lane conditions; and

WHEREAS, these geometric constraints make the segment unsuitable for on-street parking and support consideration of a no-parking designation to improve safety and circulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley as follows:

Section 1: No person shall stop, park or leave a vehicle attended or unattended, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in cases of emergency, or in compliance with the directions of a peace officer or traffic officer on Civic Center Drive, beginning at the intersection with Scotts Valley Drive, continuing north through the intersection with the City Hall access driveway, and terminating on the north side of that intersection, as shown on the map attached hereto.

Section 2: Violations of any of the Section 1 above shall constitute an infraction and shall be punishable by a fine as defined in City of Scotts Valley's Municipal Code, Chapter 10.08, et seq.

The above and foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of April, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

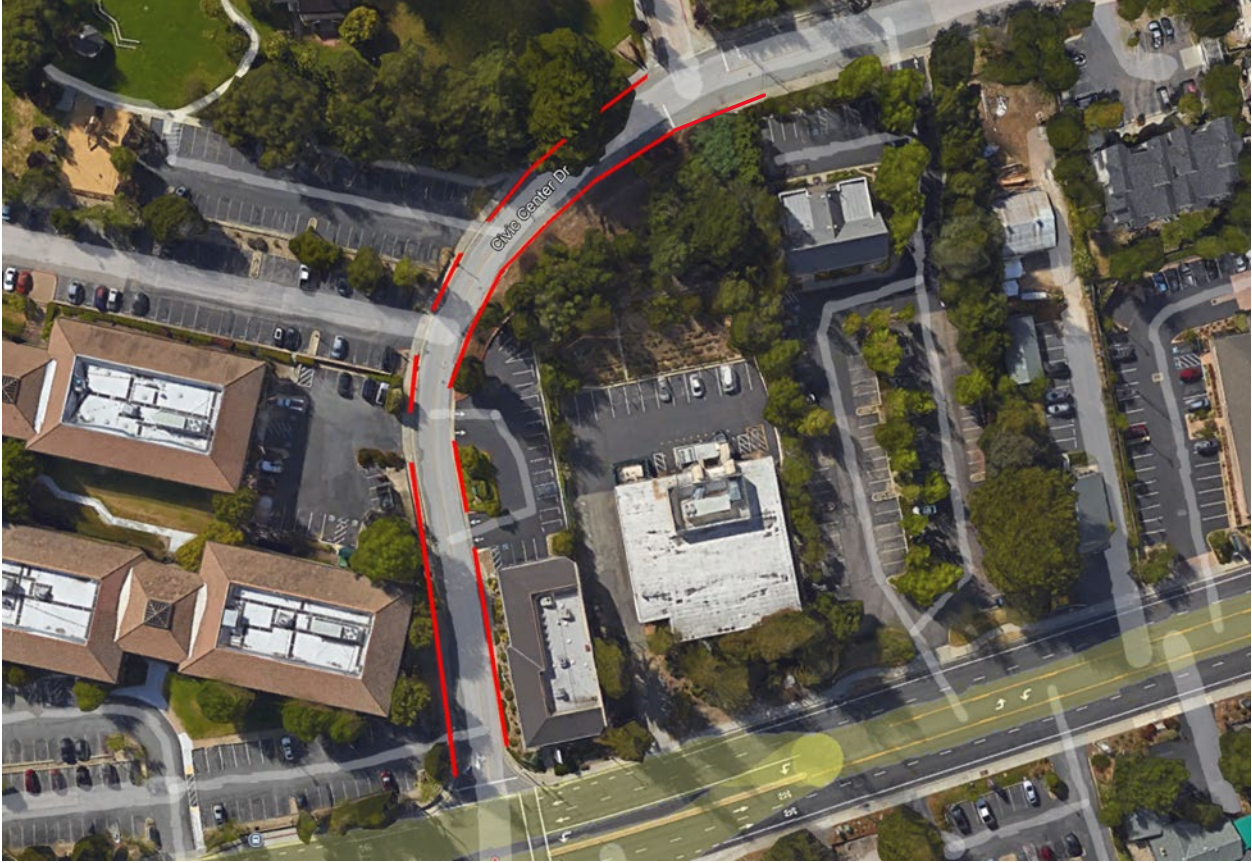
ABSTAIN:

Approved: _____

Donna Lind, Mayor

Attest: _____

Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk



City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: Pathways to Possibility Youth City Liaison Program presentation

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The Pathways to Possibility (P2P) program at Scotts Valley High School (SVHS), led by United Way, provides students with opportunities to learn about local government, community services, and civic leadership. Students attend City Council meetings, engage with elected officials, and build a deeper understanding of how municipal decisions shape their community.

Councilmember Jett, who serves as the City Council's representative to both the Santa Cruz County Youth Action Network and the Children's Network Cabinet, has participated in P2P meetings at SVHS and regional youth-leadership events. Through this involvement, Councilmember Jett identified an opportunity to strengthen youth civic engagement by participating in the Youth City Liaison Program.

If approved, the City would be responsible for:

- Supporting recruitment and outreach in coordination with SVHS and United Way
- Participating in an orientation session for selected students
- Providing mentorship through designated Council liaisons
- Hosting an annual student presentation at a City Council meeting

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of \$1,300 would be paid from the General Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve Scotts Valley's participation in the United Way Youth City Liaison Program and authorize the allocation of \$1,300 in the FY26/27 budget to support two student participants.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Youth City Liaison Program Proposal - City of Scotts Valley

Youth City Liaison Program Proposal

City of Scotts Valley | United Way Santa Cruz County

Background

United Way Santa Cruz County strengthens the well-being of children and families by expanding access to essential resources, uplifting community voices, and building strategic partnerships that create lasting impact. Our work focuses on ensuring children and youth have the support and opportunities they need to thrive.

Following the adoption of the Children and Youth Bill of Rights, United Way partnered with the cities of Capitola and Santa Cruz to implement Youth Liaison Programs that create structured pathways for youth engagement in local government.

In Scotts Valley, United Way currently leads the Pathways to Possibility (P2P) program at Scotts Valley High School, where students learn about local government and community support, attend City Council meetings, and engage with elected officials. Through this work, youth have strengthened their civic knowledge and connection to their community.

Building on this foundation, United Way proposes a Youth City Liaison Program in partnership with the City of Scotts Valley. The program would connect high school-aged students directly with City Council members, creating formal pathways for youth voice in local decision-making and strengthening youth-adult partnerships in local government.

Proposed Responsibilities of the City of Scotts Valley

Under this proposal, the City would:

- Provide funding to United Way to support Youth Liaison participant stipends.
 - For FY 2026–27, the proposed allocation is \$1,300 (\$650 per student for two students).
- Support recruitment and outreach to identify qualified Youth Liaison applicants.
- Participate in Youth Liaison Program Orientation.
- Facilitate mentorship for each Youth Liaison participant by identifying 1–2 City Council mentors:
 - Mentors would complete fingerprinting through the local school district, as required.
 - Mentors would participate in and follow the 26/27 Mentor Guide developed by United Way and meet with youth at least once per month.
 - Mentors would provide guidance to help youth refine ideas, set achievable goals, navigate challenges, and strengthen leadership and communication skills.
 - Through regular check-ins, mentors would offer constructive feedback, share professional insights, and model effective civic participation.

- Host an annual presentation during a City Council meeting where Youth Liaison participants share reflections, summarize their experience, and offer recommendations.

Proposed Responsibilities of United Way Santa Cruz County

United Way would:

- Collaborate with City staff to provide the Youth Liaison Program framework and 26/27 Mentor Guide.
- Create and host the online application process, conduct outreach, and recruit liaison applicants.
- Partner with City staff on the liaison selection process.
- Conduct Youth Liaison onboarding prior to placement, including liability and media release forms, emergency contact information, and stipend documentation.
- Co-design and facilitate Youth Liaison Program Orientation with City staff.
- Provide “Working with Youth” policies and guidance for City staff and Council Members. Administer and distribute Youth Liaison stipends.

Youth City Liaison Program: Purpose and Outcomes

The Youth City Liaison Program aims to institutionalize meaningful youth civic engagement in Scotts Valley. The program will:

- Increase youth knowledge of local government and decision-making processes
- Strengthen youth leadership and public speaking skills
- Improve youth-adult partnerships within City structures
- Advance implementation of the Children and Youth Bill of Rights
- Create long-term civic infrastructure for youth voice

Through this partnership, the City of Scotts Valley and United Way aim to increase youth civic engagement and leadership, strengthen youth-adult partnerships, create sustained pathways for youth voice in decision-making, and foster long-term civic participation among Scotts Valley youth.

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM:
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: Ordinance Establishing No Parking Areas in the City

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

Chapter 10.08 of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code regulates parking within the City. Currently, it does not specifically designate no parking areas within the City. No parking areas are designated in the California Vehicle but additional means of designation are appropriate. The proposed ordinance identifies the no parking areas in the City and gives the Public Works Director the ability to designate no parking areas consistent with applicable traffic engineering standards. In addition, the City Council has the ability to designate no parking areas by resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of this ordinance. If any areas are designated for no parking, minimal costs will be incurred to properly sign or mark the no parking areas.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Introduce Ordinance No. 202, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley Amending Title 10, Chapter 10.08 By Adding Section 10.08.035 Designating No Stopping, No Parking Areas and waive the reading thereof.

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1. Ordinance No. 202 No Parking Areas

ORDINANCE NO. 202

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 10.08 BY ADDING SECTION 10.08.035 DESIGNATING NO STOPPING, NO PARKING AREAS

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY
as follows:**

Section 1. Title 10, Chapter 10.08 of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code is hereby amended by adopting a new Section 10.08.035 to read as follows:

“10.08.035 No stopping, no parking areas – Designations.

No operator of any vehicle shall stop, stand, park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, in any of the following places, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the direction of a police officer, other authorized officer or official traffic control device:

- A. Within any loading zone for any purpose other than unloading or loading of passengers or materials; provided, that no stop for the loading or unloading of passengers shall be made for more than five minutes; or provided, that no stop for the loading or unloading of materials shall be made for more than 20 minutes.
- B. Within a bus stop zone, unless the vehicle is a bus or a school bus.
- C. In a designated “No Parking,” “No Stopping,” or any time-specific no parking or no stopping zone when signs or markings, as prescribed in California Vehicle Code Section 21458, are placed giving notice of such prohibition.
- D. Within a designated on-road bicycle lane anywhere on the city street system.
- E. Within any divisional or median island unless authorized and clearly indicated with appropriate signs or markings.
- F. In any area where the Public Works Director determines that the parking or stopping of a vehicle would constitute a traffic hazard or would endanger life or property consistent with applicable traffic engineering standards, when such area is indicated by appropriate signs or by red paint upon the curb surface.
- G. In any area established by resolution of the city council as a no parking or no stopping area, when such area is indicated by appropriate signs or by red paint upon the curb surface.”

Section 2. CEQA COMPLIANCE. The proposed amendments are exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which provides that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

The proposed amendments are adopted to restrict parking in particular areas and cannot be said to reasonably have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 4. To the extent the provisions of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code as amended by this Ordinance are substantially the same as the provisions of that Code as they read immediately prior to the adoption of this Ordinance, then those provisions shall be construed as continuations of the earlier provisions and not as new enactments.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days from and after the date of its adoption.

Section 6. PUBLICATION. The City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause a summary thereof to be published within fifteen (15) days of adoption and shall post a certified copy of this Ordinance, including the vote for and against same, in the Office of the City Clerk, in accordance with Government Code Section 36933.

This Ordinance was introduced on the 15th day of April, 2026, and passed and adopted on the 6th day of May, 2026, at a duly held meeting of the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Donna Lind, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kirsten Powell, City Attorney

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jayson Rutherford, Police Chief
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: **Presentation of the 2025 Scotts Valley Police Annual Activity Report**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The presentation of the 2025 Scotts Valley Police Department Annual Activity Report includes a number of notable highlights and accomplishments throughout the year. Staff are pleased to present this annual report every year to City Council, so they may see the diligent efforts the Police Department makes to provide the highest level of public safety and community engagement.

In 2025, officers responded to 5,581 calls for service from our residents. When those calls were emergency situations, our officers were on average at the scene in two minutes and forty-five seconds after we received the initial call for help. When our officers were not responding to calls for service, they remained vigilant with 19,843 self-initiated activities to help prevent crime before it occurred.

The most notable highlight of the year was the retirement of Chief Steve Walpole in October 2025, after serving as Chief for the last eight years. Chief Walpole was responsible for many department successes during his tenure. Following his departure, Captain Jayson Rutherford was named Interim Chief of Police for several months. Interim Chief Rutherford was named Chief of Police in March 2026.

The Police Department added three new staff members to our team; two officers and one dispatcher. We focused on recruiting local talent with established ties to the area, in hopes of retaining them for years to come. The department also added three new Explorers to our Police Explorer program, bringing it up from two Explorers to five. Equally, exciting was the addition of K9 "Sam." The K9 program had not been staffed since April 2024.

The Annual Report highlights the Police Department's commitment to the Strategic Goals set forth by City Council. We were able to secure two Office of Traffic Safety Grants in order to assist in exceeding these goals, which mostly centered around traffic and E-Bike enforcement. Our staff made 3,472 traffic stops, which was a 28% increase over 2024. We also conducted two DUI checkpoints, held E-Bike educational outreach classes at the local schools, and used grant money to fund overtime shifts for focused E-bike enforcement and DUI saturation patrols.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to receiving the Annual Police Activity Report

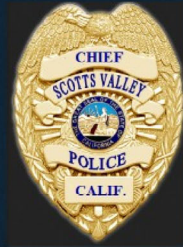
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council receive information on the 2025 Scotts Valley Police Department Annual Activity Report.

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1. Year End Report 2025

SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2025

SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

2025

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Scotts Valley Police Chief Jayson Rutherford



SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

ONE CIVIC CENTER DRIVE • SCOTTS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 95066 • PHONE (831) 440-5670 • FAX (831) 438-6930

CHIEF OF POLICE
JAYSON RUTHERFORD

March 1, 2026

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Scotts Valley
1 Civic Center Drive
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

RE: 2025 Scotts Valley Police Department Activity Report

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

It is my honor and privilege to present the 2025 Scotts Valley Police Department Activity Report. As we move into 2026 and celebrate the 60th anniversary of Scotts Valley, it is important to commemorate the past, while challenging ourselves to find new and innovative ways to advance our mission of exemplary public safety and community engagement.

Our staff continued their diligent efforts to ensure Scotts Valley is the safest place to live in Santa Cruz County. Last year officers responded to 5,581 calls for service from our residents. When those calls were emergency situations, our officers were on average at the scene in two minutes and forty-five seconds after we received the initial call for help. When our officers were not responding to calls for service, they remained vigilant with 19,843 self-initiated activities to help prevent crime before it occurred.

This past year's main highlight was the retirement of Chief Walpole in October. The announcement came earlier than expected and I was named the Interim Chief in his stead. After several months of working closely with City Manager LaGoe and the other department leaders, I was offered the full-time Chief of Police position and excitedly accepted. As the new Chief, I was introduced to the 2025 Strategic Goals identified by council and began focusing our department efforts on exceeding these goals.

Another highlight was restarting our K9 Program with K9 Sam. It has been more than two years since we had a K9 working within our agency. This time we opted for a "Detection" only dog, versus an "Apprehension" dog. We feel it was the right choice, and Sam has already made a big impact with our crime statistics, with the community, and with our staff.

Staffing was another highlight of 2025, as we were able to stabilize our ranks more than in previous years. We hired Officer Graff, Officer Yoon, and Dispatcher Travers in 2025. We believe that shifting our attention to local talent, with well-established roots in our community, will give us greater staff longevity and greater personal investment in the success of our department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jayson Rutherford".

Jayson Rutherford
Chief of Police

SCOTTS VALLEY CRIME STATISTICS YEAR TO YEAR COMPARISON 2021 TO 2025

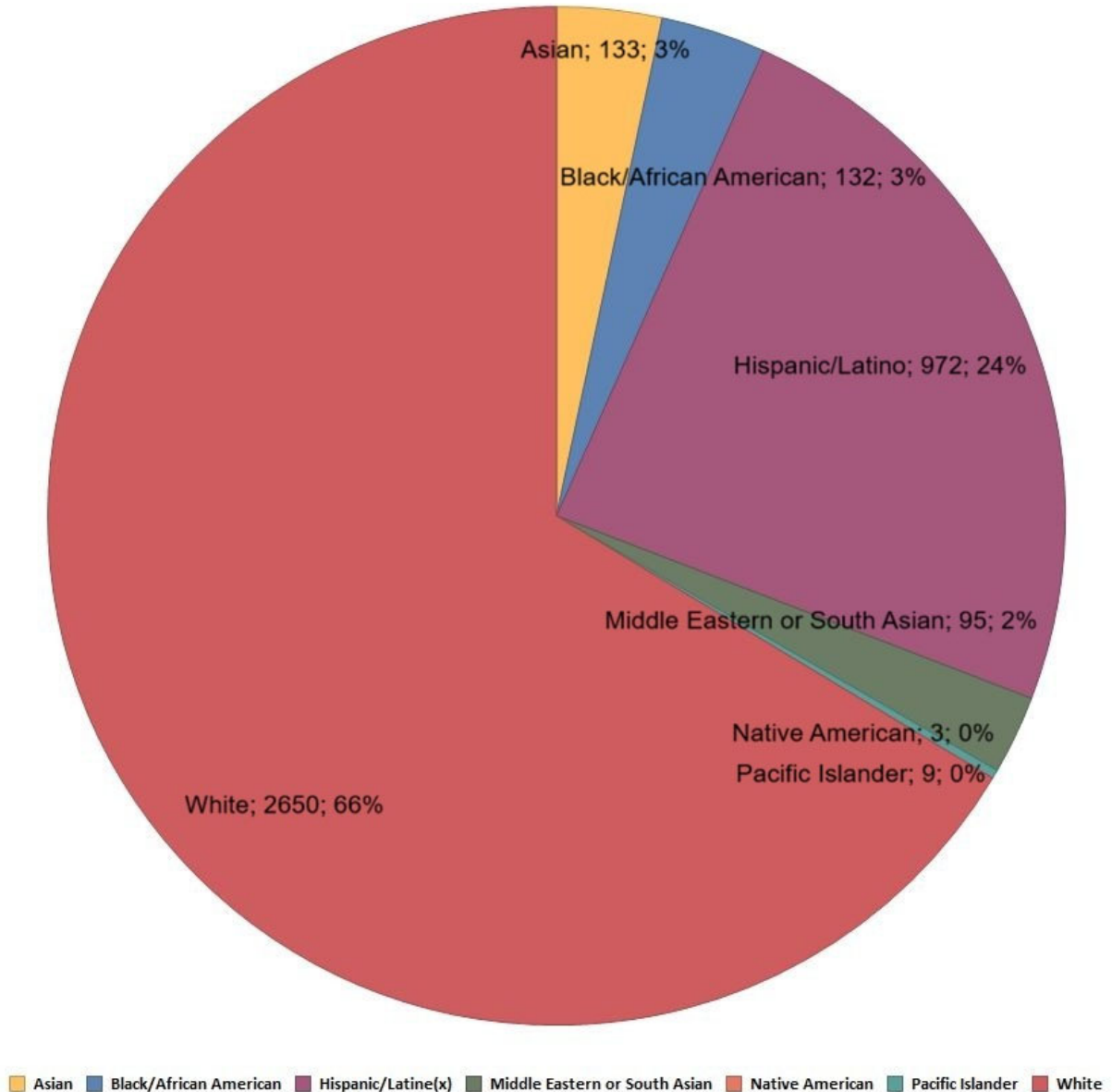
DESCRIPTION	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% OF CHANGE FROM 2024- 2025
PART 1 CRIMES						
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	0	0 %
RAPE	6	3	3	3	8	167 %
ROBBERY	2	3	0	4	3	-25 %
ASSAULT	57	58	61	82	77	-6 %
BURGLARY	37	34	21	10	3	-70 %
LARCENY	106	128	124	177	178	1 %
AUTO THEFT	11	11	8	5	9	80 %
ARSON	2	0	1	2	3	50 %
TOTAL PART 1 CRIMES	221	237	221	283	281	-1 %
ALL OTHER CRIMES	503	428	359	388	361	-7 %
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	6,033	5,655	5,718	5,342	5,581	4 %
TOTAL OFFICER INITIATED ACTIVITY	12,965	16,745	16,637	14,875	19,843	33 %
TOTAL CITATIONS	958	1,021	1,449	1,397	1,830	31 %
NUMBER OF ARRESTS	425	570	525	508	463	-9 %
INJURY ACCIDENT	19	15	17	13	21	61 %
NON INJURY ACCIDENT	137	122	125	142	134	-6 %
FATALITY	0	0	1	0	0	0%
HIT & RUN	21	20	17	17	26	53 %
TOTAL ACCIDENTS	156*	137*	145*	155*	155*	0 %
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	22	23	19	24	25	4 %
VANDALISM/GRAFFITI	67	55	68	51	57	12 %
DRUG VIOLATIONS	79	89	81	75	73	-3 %

* Does not include Hit & Run collisions
These numbers are subject to change as persons report prior crimes after the fact.

SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

STOP DATA 2025

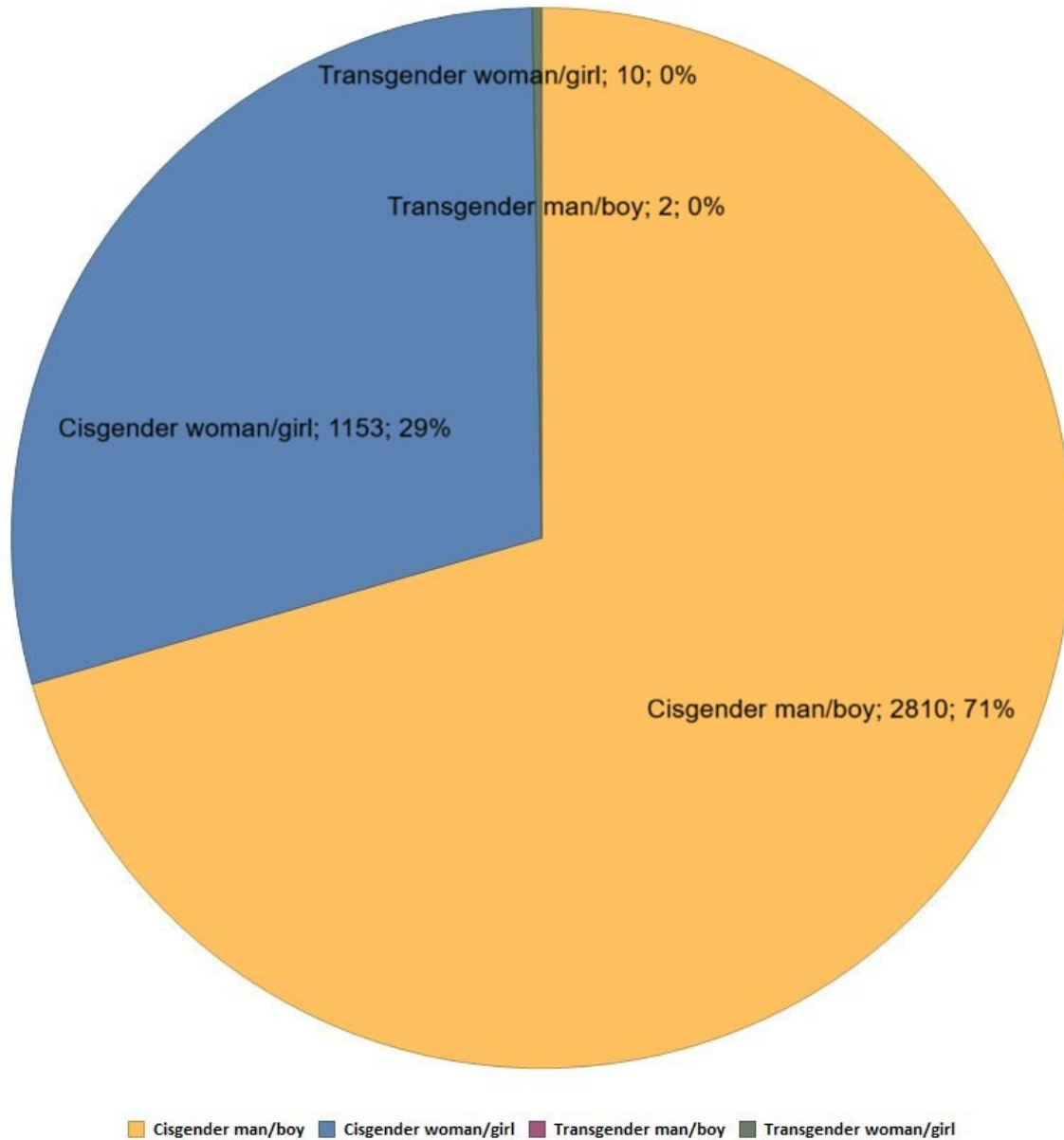
STOP - PERC RACE



What is Stop Data?

Stop Data was created by a California regulation called RIPA (Racial and Identity Profiling Act), which aims to ensure policing practices are equitable and constitutional. Officers report various demographics such as race and gender to the state through Stop Data.

PERCEIVED GENDER

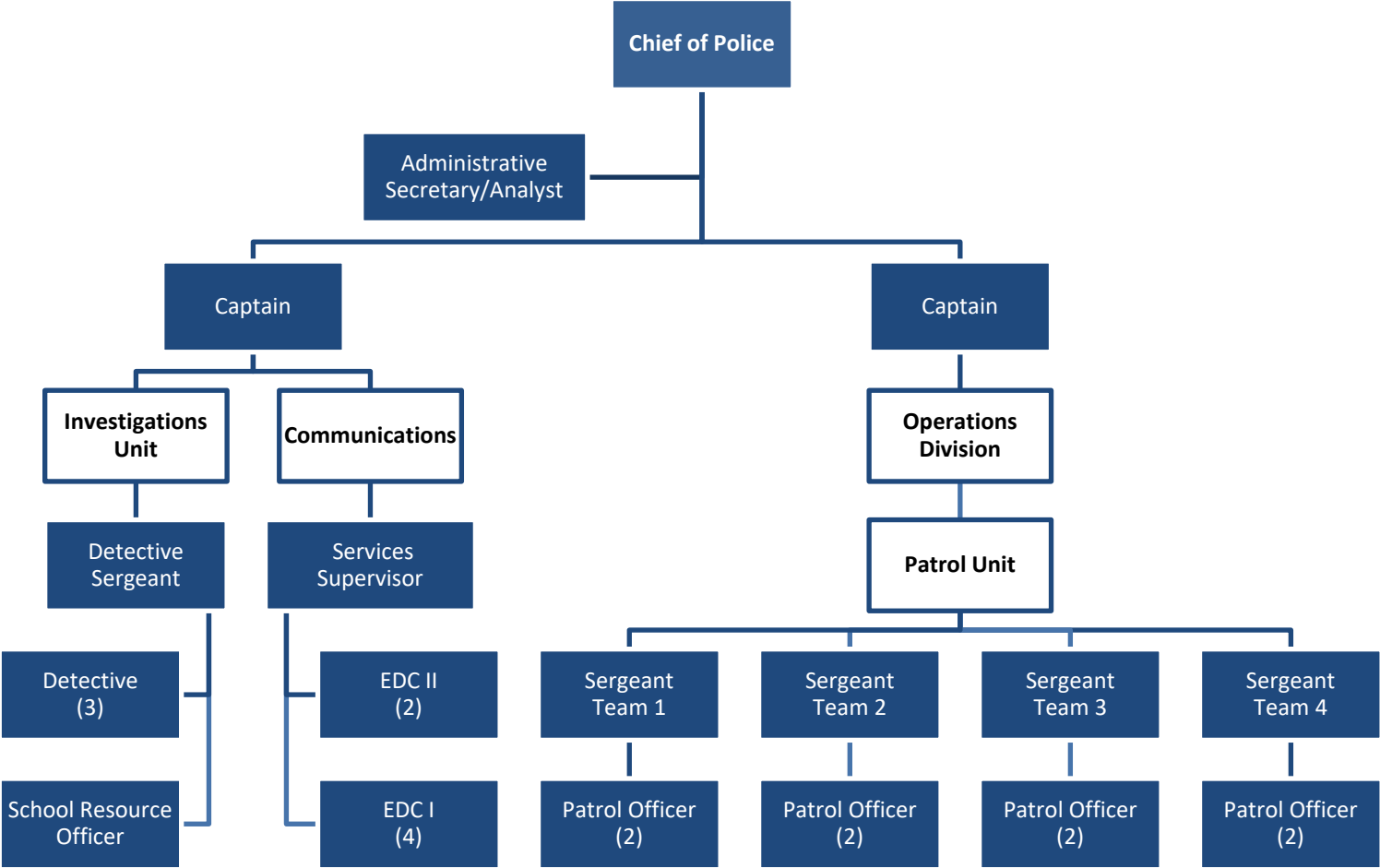


Population Percentages

	Total	Black	White	Hispanic	Asian	Other	Male	Female
City Population (2020 Census)	11,863	71 (1%)	9,251 (78%)	1,253 (11%)	854 (7%)	434 (3%)	5,880	5,983
County Population (2020 Census)	273,123	2,230 (1%)	154,075 (56%)	92,921 (34%)	13,699 (5%)	10,198 (4%)	135,168	137,955

SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025



POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The Scotts Valley Police Department Administration is responsible for the overall leadership, vision, and management of the police department. Police Administration manages the Department's \$8 million budget, as well as grant funds, equipment acquisitions, and overall training needs.

Police Administration directs the hiring of new personnel, ensures that professional standards are met, and monitors compliance with all state and federal regulatory requirements. Police administrators participate in numerous city/county events, boards, and meetings. They also collaborate closely with elected officials, the city manager, local schools, and community groups to ensure a positive and open line of communication.



Captain Scott Garner, Chief Steve Walpole, Captain Jayson Rutherford

OPERATIONS DIVISION

The year 2025 reflected continued professionalism, adaptability, and steady leadership within the Operations Division. As modern law enforcement evolves in response to new technologies, legislative changes, and heightened community expectations, strong field supervision remains essential. Police sergeants serve as the critical link between command staff and officers in the field, ensuring operational effectiveness, accountability, and a consistent standard of service.

Today's sergeants balance real-time decision-making with mentorship, performance management, and community engagement. They direct complex calls for service, manage resources, reinforce policy compliance, and model professionalism. Their leadership directly influences officer development, morale, and the quality of service delivered to the public.

The Operations Division includes Patrol, Training, K9, Traffic, and Reserve Units. Patrol officers form the backbone of daily operations, responding to calls for service that range from in-progress emergencies and traffic collisions to proactive enforcement and youth engagement. The Training Unit prioritizes preparedness and professional growth through POST-compliant instruction and scenario-based exercises. The K9 Unit and Traffic Unit enhance operational capabilities through specialized enforcement, detection, and targeted traffic safety initiatives focused on collision reduction and DUI enforcement. The Reserve Unit supplements staffing and provides valuable support during special events and periods of increased staffing demand.

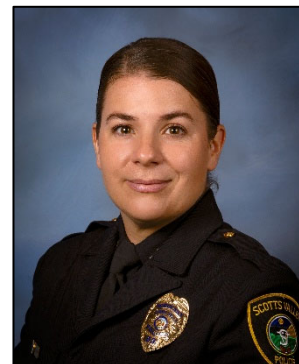
Captain Garner oversees day-to-day operations and supervises four patrol sergeants and eight patrol officers. Patrol personnel work twelve-hour shifts on a three/four-day rotation, typically staffed by one sergeant and two officers per shift.

Throughout the year, the Operations Division remained focused on service, accountability, officer wellness, and community partnerships. By reinforcing clear expectations and maintaining strong supervisory leadership in the field, the division continues to deliver professional, responsive, and community-centered police services with industry-leading response times.

Patrol Supervisors:

Sergeant Meredith Roberts

Sergeant Meredith Roberts has served the department since 2016. Sergeant Roberts is currently assigned as a Patrol Sergeant and oversees our bicycle team, peer support team, Explorer/Reserve programs, training manager, and our ballistic vest replacement program.



Sergeant Pascale Drozek

Sergeant Pascale Drozek has served the department since 2018. Sergeant Drozek was assigned to Investigations as the Detective Sergeant in June 2024. She oversaw two Detectives and the School Resource Officer.

Additionally, Sergeant Drozek continued to serve as a Use of Force Instructor in both firearms and defensive tactics and coordinated our Officer Wellness Program.



Sergeant Chris Galli

Sergeant Chris Galli has served the department since 2022. Sergeant Galli is currently assigned as a Patrol Sergeant and oversees our department armory, which includes weapons maintenance and ammunition and equipment inventory. He also serves as a department firearms instructor and Explorer coordinator.



Sergeant Jesse Pidcock

Sergeant Pidcock has served the department since 2022. Sergeant Pidcock is currently assigned as a Patrol Sergeant. He also has the critical collateral assignment of Field Training Sergeant. In 2025, the FTO Program had two new officers successfully complete the program, providing much needed patrol staffing.



Sergeant Sjon Tol

Sergeant Tol has served the department since 2023. Sergeant Tol is currently assigned as a Patrol Sergeant. He also has the collateral assignment of Traffic Sergeant, which includes traffic enforcement operations, motorcycle maintenance, vehicle abatements, and more. Sergeant Tol was responsible for obtaining two grants from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). These grants will provide updated equipment, targeted DUI enforcement and DUI checkpoints, as well as targeted E-Bike enforcement.



TRAINING UNIT



The Training Unit, supervised by Sergeant Meredith Roberts, manages comprehensive instruction for all full-time officers, reserves, and dispatchers. Sergeant Roberts ensures all programs adhere to State and Federal mandates while also being aware of ongoing legal changes. While California's Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) require biennial certification in core areas—including firearms, arrest control, and active shooter response—our department intentionally exceeds these minimums. We conduct multiple training sessions in each category annually, maintaining a higher standard of readiness for our community.

Department training also provides personnel with the opportunity to explore and learn from other agencies. During this year, the supervisory staff training took a tour of Harbor Patrol's headquarters, Juvenile Probation Center, and the Scotts Valley Wastewater Plant. Moments like these also serve as an opportunity for team building and camaraderie while also learning about our partner agencies.



Beyond state requirements, our personnel engage in monthly roll-call training covering critical topics like de-escalation, bias and racial profiling, and use-of-force policies. This is supplemented by rigorous monthly testing via Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins and The Briefing Room training videos. To ensure specialized expertise, officers also attend off-site courses on complex investigations, impaired driving, specialized traffic enforcement and leadership. Modern policing

demands a sophisticated blend of law enforcement and social work, whether providing empathy to a victim or managing a crisis, our commitment to continuous and specialized professional development is vital.

FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM



Sergeant Pidcock led the Field Training Program and successfully bridged the gap between what new recruits learned during the six-month long Academy and how to apply that to our community. During the 16-week-long field training program, the goal is for the new recruits to learn our Department's values, how to work as a fully functioning solo officer, and to create lasting and influential contacts with the members of our community. We ensure every recruit transitioning to solo patrol was not only tactically safe but deeply integrated into our city's culture.

This past year proved to be successful for the future of the department as the Scotts Valley Police Department welcomed Officer Larson Graff. Officer Graff is an excellent addition to our agency, and he understands the importance of community policing and adds to our positive culture. He has been on solo patrol since June.



The vision of the Field Training Program is to create an environment where FTOs and Trainees want to learn and succeed. Training is difficult at times, but the manner in teaching can make the difference in retention and success. By using emotional intelligence, we can determine how people best learn and understand their "why". Once we know that, FTOs and Trainees can make significant progress in the program with the ultimate goal to be successful and have a culture of trust and consistency.



We currently have Officer Fred Yoon finishing his FTO program and will assume solo patrol duties in January 2026. Officer Yoon is an excellent addition and has 8 years of experience including being a Detective and an FTO at his previous city. In addition to Officer Yoon, we are on track to send one Recruit Officer to the police academy with an expected graduation in October 2026. We look forward to reaching full staffing levels to continue to provide the highest quality service to our community.

TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit is a crucial part of the Scotts Valley Police Department's Operations Division. Its mission is to reduce vehicular collisions and assist with the safe travel of motor vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles on our roadways. This is accomplished by providing education and enforcement with traffic regulations.

During 2025, our Officers conducted a total of 3,472 traffic stops, a 28% increase over 2024. As a result, 1,063 citations were issued. Officers also made 208 self-initiated arrests from these traffic stops for various violations, including driving under the influence (DUI), driving on a suspended license, and narcotics possession. This proactive enforcement and education help remind drivers to follow the rules of the roadway to ensure a safe driving experience for all.



SCHOOL ZONE ENFORCEMENT



Staff spent countless hours monitoring the school zones during the morning drop-off and afternoon pickup times. Officers focused on enforcement of violations that directly impact school zones such as red-light violations, speeding, and distracted driving.

Officers also provided education for students who would ride bicycles to school. The department also participated in Walk, Bike and Roll as well as Operation Safe Passage events that occurred during the school year.



DUI CHECKPOINTS



SVPD conducted two DUI checkpoints on Mount Hermon Road at Glen Canyon Road during 2025. As a result of these checkpoints, over 1500 drivers were contacted resulting in several DUI arrests. With the success of this checkpoint, there will be another one conducted in the summer of 2026.

OTS GRANTS

SVPD was awarded two California Office of Traffic Safety grants. One is a “Selective Traffic Enforcement Program” grant which funds selective enforcement for things such as DUI drivers, distracted drivers, and traffic safety education for the public. The other is a “Traffic Records Improvement Project” grant which provides funding to update our records management system, provide better traffic collision data reporting, and move to a digital citation system. This data will allow for more accurate data collection so we can effectively target our enforcement in areas that see the greatest violations and collisions.

MOTOR UNIT

The motor unit dedicated their time to conducting much of our traffic enforcement primarily focusing on speeding, red-light violations, and distracted driving. Their primary focus was on citizen complaint areas and intersections which have the highest number of collisions to keep our community safe. Thanks to our California Office of Traffic Safety grants, SVPD is expected to add a new police motorcycle to its fleet in 2026.



RESERVE OFFICER UNIT



The Scotts Valley Police Department takes great pride in hosting the region's only active Reserve Officer Unit. This dedicated group consists of local residents—John Hohmann, Don Murray, David Bergman, and Kevin Elliott—who volunteer their personal time to serve as sworn officers. Together, these four individuals bring a staggering 125+ years of law enforcement experience to our streets. In 2025 alone, our Reserve Officers contributed 722 volunteer hours, providing essential support to both the Patrol and Investigation Divisions.

Their diverse responsibilities included:

- Public Safety: Managing traffic for community events and providing security for school milestones like Graduation and Homecoming.
- Tactical Support: Assisting with vehicle abatements and performing extra foot patrols during busy holiday seasons.
- Operational Excellence: Representing the department at many different Special Olympics Northern California events.



In February 2025, the City of Scotts Valley paused to honor a pillar of its public safety community as Reserve Officer Don Murray was presented with a prestigious Mayor's Proclamation. This recognition, presented by Mayor Derek Timm, celebrated Murray's remarkable 30 years of dedicated service to the Scotts Valley Police Department and the residents it protects. Throughout three decades of volunteer commitment, Murray's steadfast presence and professional expertise have exemplified the spirit of community service, proving that the heart of a small town

is often found in the tireless efforts of its long-serving guardians. The ceremony served as a heartfelt tribute to his legacy of reliability, safety, and unwavering local pride.

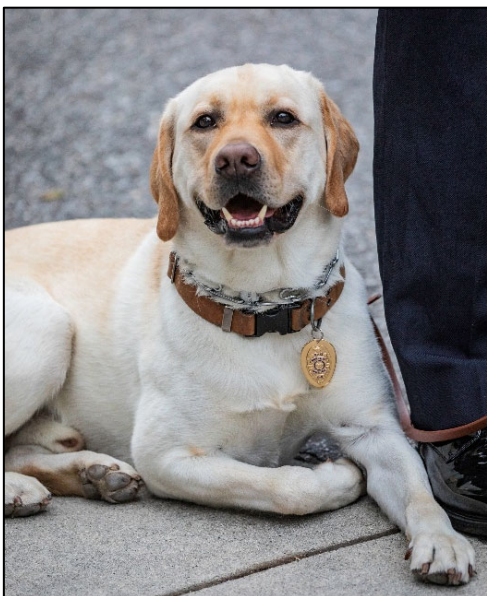
CANINE (K9) PROGRAM



The Scotts Valley Police Canine (K9) Program originated in 1968 with this department's first K9, rightfully named "King." After beginning a great tradition and loyally serving this City, K9 King was retired in 1972. Following in his "paw steps" came K9 Duke, K9 Atlas, K9 Odin, K9 Xena, and now, K-9 Sam! Together with his partner, K9 Officer Lipari, our newest K9 team underwent a rigorous training program which resulted in them being certified in narcotics detection.

During 2025, K9 Sam was involved in multiple cases where narcotics and paraphernalia were discovered and seized. Officer Lipari and K9 Sam continuously work together so that Officer Lipari can read K9 Sam's cues when searching for narcotics.

Additionally, K9 Officer Lipari and Sam participated in many different public events where K9 Sam was the most popular police department member present. K9 Sam effectively bridges the gap between our community members and law enforcement officers. Inside the department, getting a visit from K9 Sam brings a smile to everyone's face and he is a welcome interruption to the day.



The Scotts Valley Police Department is always committed to exemplary public service and the safety of our community is of the highest importance. The addition of K9 Sam and the continuation of the Canine (K9) Program is a great tradition that augments our current services and increases our ability to protect our City, as well as forge lasting bonds with our community.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION



Captain Jayson Rutherford leads the Administrative Services Division, overseeing both Investigations and Communications. Detective Sergeant Drozek continued to lead the division in 2025 and continued her passion for the mental and physical health of the department. Alongside her leadership and support of the detectives, Sgt. Drozek has championed officer wellness by updating department resources to better address both physical and mental health needs such as refurbishing the gym equipment and a Health and Wellness study through San Diego State University.

The Investigations Unit consists of a detective sergeant, two detectives, and a school resource officer. Although their regular schedule is weekdays, detectives remain available on an on-call basis to support patrol with major incidents. Equipped with advanced training to manage complex cases, they oversee investigations from initial follow-up through final resolution. In addition to casework, the unit plays an active role in community engagement, demonstrating the department's ongoing dedication to building positive connections with the community.



The Scotts Valley Police Department is the only agency in the county that operates its own 9-1-1 dispatch center. Our dispatchers serve as a critical link in public safety, answering both emergency and routine calls, coordinating officer deployment, maintaining records, processing reports and citations, preparing media releases, property and evidence management, and assisting residents who come to the lobby.

Beyond their critical work behind the radio, our dispatchers are deeply committed to community involvement. Many volunteer their time to support events such as the Junior Police Academy, National Night Out, the Special Olympics Torch Run, and the Polar Plunge. They value connecting with residents and strengthening

community ties whether that means passing out treats during the Annual Halloween Scavenger Hunt or lending support to local programs that help bring people together.

INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Scotts Valley Police Department's Investigations Unit is a multifaceted unit responsible for criminal investigations and follow up, personnel recruitment and hiring, and community outreach events.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

For 2025, the Investigations Unit consisted of Sgt. Drozek, Det. Elliott, Det. Roberts, SRO Ahrens, Det. Brown and Analyst Johnson. Together, the team authored over 80 search warrants, and worked on numerous high-profile cases which included homicide, several sexual assaults, and the embezzlement of millions of dollars from a local business.



Investigation fundamentals include collecting evidence, interviewing victims and witnesses, authoring search warrants, and obtaining arrest warrants.

RECRUITMENT



The Investigations Unit is duly responsible for the recruitment of new talented professionals who wish to join our team of officers and dispatchers. Our recruitment teams play a pivotal role in locating the best and brightest new minds and providing them with all the necessary information on what the hiring process consists of, and how they can go about navigating said process with ease and clarity. Some responsibilities include, attending recruitment fairs and local Police and Dispatch Academies.

In March, officers spent the day at a local high school speaking with our youth about the exciting opportunities the field of Law Enforcement, and specifically the Scotts Valley Police Department, have to offer.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Community outreach remains a cornerstone of the Scotts Valley Police Department's mission to provide exemplary public safety and enhance the quality of life for all residents. Deepening relationships with community members, organizations, schools, and business owners not only promotes transparency and trust, it also supports collaborative problem-solving, improves public safety outcomes, and fosters shared responsibility for the wellbeing of our city.

At Target, the Scotts Valley Police Department hosted Coffee with a Cop, inviting residents to sit down, enjoy a cup of coffee, and have meaningful conversations with local officers. These casual gatherings break down barriers and create a welcoming space for neighbors and law enforcement to connect on a personal level.

The Operation Safe Passage program continues to play a vital role in protecting students and families during busy school commute hours. Through increased officer presence around school zones, focused traffic enforcement, and direct engagement with parents and drivers, the Scotts Valley Police Department works to ensure that every child arrives at and leaves school safely.



Beyond enforcement, Operation Safe Passage emphasizes education and awareness—reminding motorists about the importance of slowing down, remaining attentive in school zones, and modeling safe driving behaviors. By partnering with school staff and the broader community, the program reinforces a shared commitment to student safety and demonstrates how proactive outreach can make a meaningful difference in everyday public safety.



Events like Breakfast with a Cop reflect the Department's commitment to meaningful community outreach—building trust not only through service, but through presence, approachability, and genuine engagement. The morning highlighted the importance of staying connected with all members of our community, especially our senior residents, whose experiences and perspectives enrich Scotts Valley as a whole.

Detective Roberts recently delivered a community safety presentation at Brookdale Assisted Living Facility continuing the Scotts Valley Police Department's commitment to proactive outreach. During the session, residents and staff gathered to learn about current crime trends, fraud and scam prevention, and practical steps they can take to protect themselves and their personal information.

The presentation encouraged open dialogue, allowing attendees to ask questions and share concerns in a comfortable setting. By providing timely information and fostering direct communication, Detective Roberts helped empower residents with the knowledge and confidence to recognize suspicious activity and report concerns promptly. Events like this strengthen partnerships between law enforcement and the community, ensuring that safety remains a shared responsibility.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



In August of 2025, we hosted National Night Out, bringing neighbors and officers together for an evening of connection and fun. National Night Out is a nationwide initiative that promotes strong police-community partnerships by creating positive opportunities for residents to meet and engage with law enforcement. Events like this help strengthen neighborhood bonds and restore a true sense of community.

Community members were invited to tour the Police Department and the Scotts Valley Fire Department, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the facilities, equipment, and personnel who serve and protect the community each day. The event also featured booths hosted by local businesses and county service organizations, highlighting the many resources available to residents and showcasing the strong partnerships that support our community.



To add to the welcoming atmosphere, members of the department grilled hot dogs and served popcorn. The event had a county fair atmosphere, featuring family-friendly attractions such as a bounce house, face painting, and interactive games.

The Scotts Valley Police Department values its strong connection with the community and believes that hosting National Night Out each year helps further strengthen that bond by bringing residents and public safety personnel together in a positive, engaging setting.



SCCACT

The Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team (**SCCACT**) is a local multi-agency task force composed of personnel from various law enforcement agencies within Santa Cruz County, including the Watsonville Police Department, Santa Cruz County District Attorney's Office, Santa Cruz Police Department, Scotts Valley Police Department, Capitola Police Department, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP). SCCACT focuses on identifying, investigating, and arresting suspects involved in illegal narcotics trafficking, gang activity, and violent crime to enhance public safety.



One highlighted event was in May, when an SVPD officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a mechanical violation. During a search of the vehicle, officers located both a firearm and narcotics. This led to the driver being arrested on scene and the case being forwarded to our SVPD Detective assigned to SCCACT. During a search warrant of the subject's house, an additional 26 firearms and narcotics were seized.

SCCACT actively prevented the trafficking of illegal firearms into the County of Santa Cruz during a 2-month long investigation involving multiple allied agencies, tracking and monitoring a suspect who was transporting illegal firearms from Arizona into California. Once the suspect entered California, SCCACT apprehended him and served additional search warrants resulting in the seizure 10 illegal firearms.



In 2025, SCCACT seized over 160 illegal firearms and over 100lbs of dangerous narcotics.

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.)

For the past 32 years, the Scotts Valley Police Department has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to our youth through the D.A.R.E. program. Currently, the curriculum is provided to all 5th-grade students at Vine Hill Elementary, Brook Knoll Elementary, and Baymonte Christian School.



Leading these efforts for the last five years is School Resource Officer Patrick Ahrens, who brings a personal connection to the role as a D.A.R.E. graduate and Baymonte alumnus. The program utilizes evidence-based lessons to equip students with the decision-making skills necessary for a safe, healthy lifestyle. By fostering a world where students respect others and avoid substance abuse and violence, SVPD continues to build vital, positive relationships within our school community.



JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY (JPA)



The Junior Police Academy is more than just a summer camp—it's a bridge between our youth and law enforcement. Every summer, SRO Patrick Ahrens and a full support crew of department staff and volunteers transform middle schoolers into "police recruits" for an immersive, week-long academy.



Recruits dive into the world of forensics with fingerprinting and crime scene sketching, test their endurance with daily fitness drills, and watch exciting demos from our K9 and SWAT teams. These positive interactions are essential for building a foundation of trust and mutual respect in Scotts Valley.



We are proud to offer a program that not only teaches the "how" of police work but also encourages our youth to become responsible, engaged citizens.

COMMUNICATIONS / RECORDS UNIT



The Communications and Records Unit is made up of six Emergency Dispatch Clerks: EDCI's Anna-Kate Brajkovich, Rachel Wynne, and Bailey Travers, EDCII's Hannah Bridges and Kiara Jacobsen, Services Supervisor Chloe Graham, and Administration Captain Jayson Rutherford.

Members of this unit manage a wide range of responsibilities, with dispatching serving as their core function. Their duties include handling 9-1-1 emergencies, answering administrative phone lines, routing calls to the proper emergency and non-emergency resources, coordinating service requests for officers, and maintaining detailed records. In addition, dispatch personnel assist visitors who enter our lobby. While many law enforcement agencies have limited public access during certain hours, our department remains committed to community engagement by keeping our lobby open around the clock, ensuring the public can always speak directly with a member of our team.



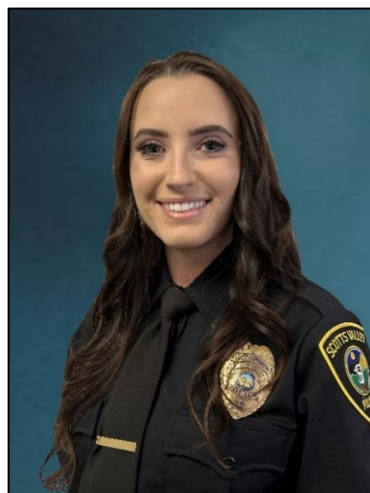
In addition to dispatch operations, the unit also oversees Records Management. Our EDCs handle far more than call-taking; they are responsible for entering a variety of reports and citations into the system while managing substantial volumes of documentation. This includes organizing and routing paperwork to the appropriate departments, maintaining orderly and accessible filing systems, and reviewing records for completeness and accuracy. Their records responsibilities also extend to processing Public Records Act requests and complying with court orders.

In 2025, the Communications Unit received 3,655 calls on our 9-1-1 lines and another 13,943 calls on our non-emergency business lines, which resulted in 5,581 calls for police service. Our average response time to emergency calls for service was two minutes and forty-five seconds.



This year our dispatchers participated in several events such as a county wide active shooter training, the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, National Night Out, and the Junior Police Academy.

Our dispatch team had multiple achievements throughout the year. EDCI Rachel Wynne passed her training with flying colors, and we were able to hire another lateral dispatcher at the end of the year, EDCI Bailey Travers, who will complete her training at the beginning of 2026. In August, EDCI Rachel Wynne was chosen as employee of the month for her proactive communication which directly contributed to advancing a significant regional investigation and demonstrated the critical role dispatchers play in successful policing. EDCII Kiara Jacobsen also received a lifesaving award for her quick and efficient call taking and dispatching skills that helped result in officers utilizing an AED and resuscitating a patient.



The Unit also upgraded all our copper radio lines to fiber optic, and is currently working with the County RING project to upgrade our old analog radios to digital. We also have selected our NexGen CPE vendor and are in the process of completing our contract. The SVPD Communications and Records Unit is one step closer to taking vastly more accurate I3 calls, which is the next version of 911 calls, an internet protocol (or IP calls) that follows the new NexGen 911 standards.

VOLUNTEER UNIT

Since 1991, the Scotts Valley Police Department has benefited from a dedicated Volunteer Unit that enhances the department's ability to serve the community. Volunteers play a vital role in supporting both daily operations and special initiatives, contributing thousands of hours of service over the years. Their commitment strengthens the department's connection to the community and allows sworn staff to focus on core public safety responsibilities.



Each volunteer brings unique expertise that enhances the department's operations. Joe Bac and Konrad Baumert support the Traffic Division by deploying the mobile speed sign throughout the city, helping raise driver awareness and promote safer roadways. Michael Cummings assists the firearms team. John Galli maintains the department's classic patrol car. Berna Bruzzone supports the Administrative Section with

file organization and processing, contributing to efficient internal operations. Fred Wilson serves as the department's police chaplain, offering guidance, support, and compassion to personnel and community members during times of need.



POLICE CHAPLAIN



Fred Wilson has served as the Scotts Valley Police Department's chaplain for many years, offering steady support, compassion, and guidance to both our personnel and the community. He joins our officers weekly during roll call, providing encouragement and a grounding presence that strengthens the team. Fred also responds without hesitation whenever we call upon him to assist a grieving community member during some of their most difficult moments, a level of service rarely seen in modern law enforcement. His unwavering dedication to the organization and the people of Scotts Valley is deeply valued, and we are truly grateful for his continued commitment.

POLICE EXPLORERS

The Scotts Valley Police Department is proud to maintain one of the few remaining law enforcement Explorer Programs in the region, continuing a long-standing commitment to youth engagement and public safety education. After months of preparation and hard work, the department became the first agency in Santa Cruz County to officially relaunch a post-COVID Explorer Program, securing Explorer Post #831 in 2025. The Explorer Program is designed for youth ages 14–20 who are interested in pursuing a career in public safety and want to gain meaningful, real-world experience. Participants work closely with police personnel who provide mentorship, guidance, and experiential learning opportunities. Through training, community involvement, and exposure to the daily operations of a police department, Explorers develop leadership skills, confidence, and a deeper understanding of public service.



This year, the police department proudly recognized Jacob Brazil's four years of dedicated service, earning the rank of Explorer Sergeant. Joining Sgt. Brazil are Explorers Kimberly Corona, Maya Samper Paton, Skylar Ludlow, and Matthew Furuholm. Explorers participate in ride-alongs with officers, assist with the department's annual inspection, and take part in the Junior Police Academy (JPA), National Night Out, and the Cops-N-Rodders event.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Reserve Officer Don Murray was honored this year with a Mayor's Proclamation celebrating 30 years of service and more than 7,000 volunteer hours dedicated to the Scotts Valley community. Reserve Murray has consistently supported patrol staffing, special events, DUI checkpoints, and prisoner transport, providing dependable service wherever needed. He is also well known for riding through the Vineyards on a police motorcycle each Halloween, passing out candy and strengthening community connections. Congratulations, Don, we are grateful for your service and look forward to many more years to come!



POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION



The Scotts Valley Police Officers Association believes that true policing begins with a genuine connection to the community we serve. We are passionate about investing in the future of Scotts Valley's community through the active support of local charities and youth programs.

President Meredith Roberts led the association through the first half of the year and then President Aaron Roberts led the remainder of the year, continuing to prioritize the SVPOA's role as a proactive community partner.

The SVPOA embraces its responsibility to give back. Our members don't just serve on the clock; they are dedicated volunteers who show up for the causes that define our community. Our commitment is rooted in compassion and care. Whether in uniform or volunteering as private citizens, the members of the SVPOA are honored to uplift the Scotts Valley community and its members to ensure it remains a vibrant, supportive place for all.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The SVPOA is committed to Special Olympics Northern California, driven by the belief that inclusive sports create a stronger, more compassionate community. During the year, there are several time-honored traditions that help raise awareness and money for the Special Olympics.

During summers past, the "Flame of Hope" would make its way through the streets of Scotts Valley, but this year, the event was held on West Cliff Drive so all agencies could run together. It was a proud moment for the department as a large contingent of officers and dispatchers joined the run, embodying our shared values of unity and inclusion.





The Polar Plunge is a "chilly" favorite that continues to mobilize local support and awareness while having fun and jumping into the ocean.

One of the most dynamic highlights of the summer was the "Police in Pursuit." This high-energy competition challenges officers from across the region to showcase their driving skills in a head-to-head battle for the fastest lap. What truly sets this event apart is the personal investment of our members. Many SVPOA officers compete in retired police vehicles they have purchased with their own funds—a testament to their enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile for a noble cause.



VALLEY CHURCHES UNITED FUNDRAISER

In collaboration with the Exchange Club, Valley Churches United, and various other community sponsors, the SVPOA proudly participated in the holiday tree lighting ceremony at the Community Center.



In the spirit of giving, officers volunteered to collect monetary and toy donations for Valley Churches United. The generosity of our community was amazing. We were able to donate hundreds of toys and nearly \$1000 in donations to VCU. The SVPOA was proud to be a part of such a worthwhile and community-based organization.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

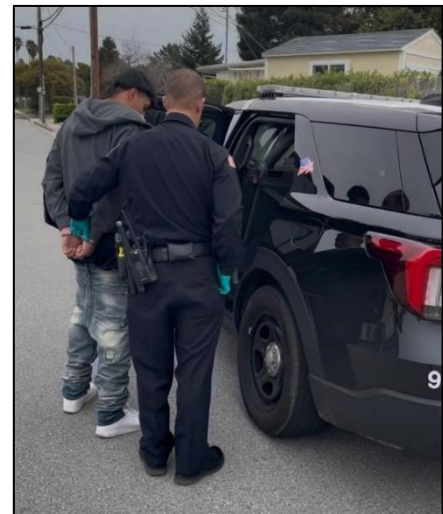
The Scotts Valley Police Department received 5,581 calls for service in 2025 and proactively initiated an additional 19,843 events, including 3,472 traffic stops. Our calls for service encompassed a diverse array of situations, including in-progress crimes, domestic disputes, thefts, burglaries, traffic accidents, narcotic-related incidents, and other criminal investigations. Additionally, we responded to non-criminal calls regarding suspicious vehicles and individuals, residential and commercial alarms, municipal code violations, and other quality-of-life matters. Throughout the year, our department also fostered many positive interactions with community members and students. Below, we highlight some of the more significant incidents that occurred:

WINTER

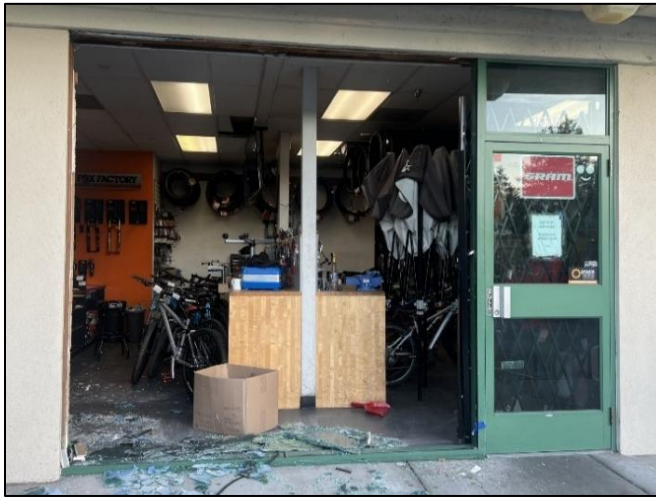


A male suspect was released on parole on 12/26/24. He had served two years after being convicted of multiple counts of sex crimes against a juvenile that he met online. Just seven days after he was released, our Investigations Unit was alerted to the fact that this male suspect was again reaching out to the same juvenile in an attempt to meet up for further sexual acts. Only four days after we were alerted of this, our Detectives located the male suspect and took him into custody on fresh felony charges.

Several suspects came to Scotts Valley and burglarized a handful of vehicles parked at the Cavallaro Transit Center. Multiple items were stolen from the vehicles and there were hundreds of dollars' worth of damaged property. During the investigation, Officers were able to determine the make and model used during the crime and alerted neighboring jurisdictions. Several days later, a Capitola Police Department Officer observed and stopped a suspicious vehicle that matched the description we had provided. Scotts Valley Officers responded and were able to identify some of the stolen property inside of the vehicle. Two subjects were arrested and some of the stolen property was returned to the rightful owners.



SPRING



SVPD Officers were dispatched to Cycle Sport to investigate a report of suspicious activity. The reporting party indicated that two individuals wearing ski masks were loitering around the building and were associated with a U-Haul van without a license plate. As officers arrived in the area, the U-Haul drove onto Whispering Pines. Officers initiated an investigative stop, but the U-Haul fled the scene. A pursuit ensued and ended at Pinnacle Pass, where the U-Haul

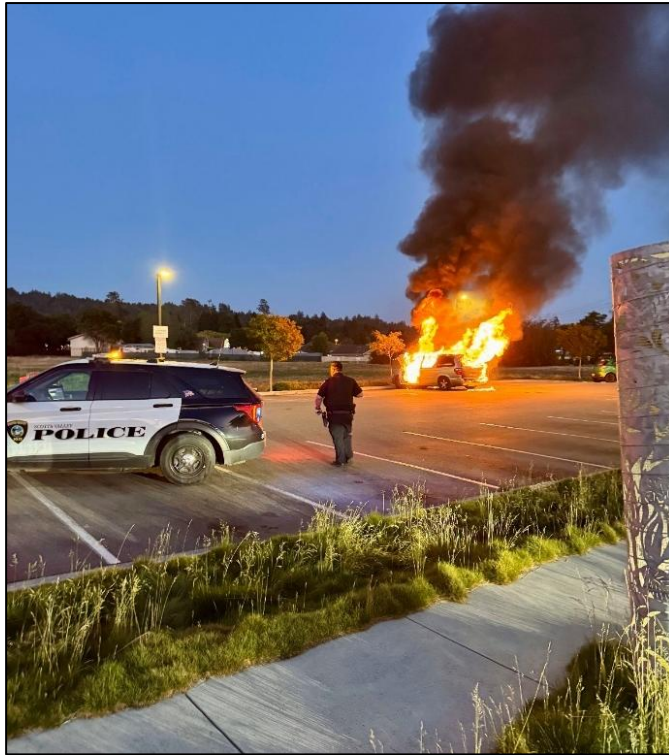
crashed into bushes. The driver then fled on foot.

Ultimately, both suspects were apprehended without incident. During the investigation, we learned that they had rammed Cycle Sport with the U-Haul while attempting to steal several high-end bicycles. Officers recovered all stolen property and returned it to Cycle Sport, and both suspects were booked into the county jail on multiple felony charges.

This incident highlighted not only our department's fast response time but also that our community members pay attention to what is happening in their city and report any suspicious activity. This collaboration between our agency and community members helps strengthen our ability to keep our city safe!



SUMMER



Officers are encouraged to proactively patrol our business centers, streets, and neighborhoods when there are no calls for service occurring. One evening, Officers were conducting an area check of a closed commercial business center when they observed a vehicle quickly becoming engulfed in flames. Officers were able to assist the elderly gentleman from his vehicle and get assistance from the Scotts Valley Fire Department. The coordinated efforts between law enforcement and the fire department ensured no other property was damaged and no one was injured.

With much needed growth in Scotts Valley comes more construction and associated construction vehicles on our roadway. Officers responded to a report of a tractor trailer, filled with cement debris from a nearby construction site, that had tipped over while navigating a turn at our busiest and largest intersection. This unfortunate circumstance caused quite the mess on our roadways and sidewalks and created a significant amount of traffic congestion. Luckily, nobody was injured and Officers were on scene assisting with traffic control which prevented any other collisions while the debris was removed from the roadway.

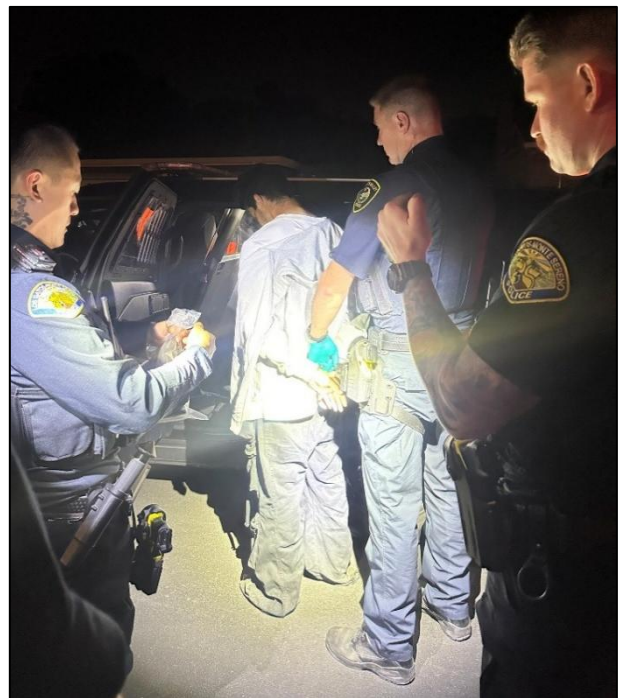


FALL



In the Fall, the Scotts Valley Police Department teamed up with Project ASCEND, a progressive initiative designed to divert non-violent youth offenders away from the traditional juvenile justice system. This program aims to provide these young individuals with the support and resources they need to make positive changes in their lives. Officer Garcia made department history as the first SVPD officer to successfully recommend a case for diversion under this program, showcasing his commitment to exploring constructive alternatives for youth in the community. His initiative not only reflects the SVPD's dedication to innovative policing strategies but also highlights the importance of fostering rehabilitation rather than punishment for young offenders.

One evening, Officers were dispatched to a report of a female subject being thrown out of a vehicle before the vehicle sped off in what appeared to be a domestic violence related incident. During the investigation, Officers were able to get a description of the vehicle and the name of the suspect. Officers were also able to determine that the Los Gatos Police Department had recently contacted our suspect and vehicle. Several hours later, LGPD contacted us stating that they had located and were detaining our suspect. SVPD Officers responded and arrested the suspect.



STAFF RECOGNITION

The organization recognizes the exceptional investigations, arrests, dispatch work, and community involvement carried out by its team. It proudly honors the 2025 Employees of the Month and expresses appreciation for their dedication and professionalism.

JANUARY

Officer Ben Standen

In January, Officer Standen conducted proactive patrol work, issuing 28 citations and making 10 criminal arrests. On Jan. 20th, after a wrong-way collision on Highway 17, he identified and apprehended a suspect matching the description of a hit-and-run driver during a separate attempted carjacking call, coordinating with CHP to confirm the suspects' identities. Later that night, he safely detained an agitated individual during a mental health crisis and arrested him for felony vandalism involving three vehicles. His proactive efforts and collaboration with allied agencies led to positive outcomes for the city.



FEBRUARY

School Resource Officer Patrick Ahrens

SRO Ahrens conducted a comprehensive investigation into a restraining order violation that revealed serious offenses, including rape, false imprisonment, and kidnapping. He coordinated with patrol officers and the SCCACT team to locate and arrest the suspect on six felony charges. SRO Ahrens led interviews, gathered critical evidence, arranged a SART exam, and authored multiple search warrants that uncovered additional incriminating materials. Through extensive follow-up—including reviewing texts, obtaining CCTV footage, consulting medical professionals, and executing searches—he demonstrated exceptional dedication and ensured a thorough, well-documented case.



MARCH

Detective Kevin Elliott

Detective Elliott led a successful sex trafficking investigation involving a minor targeted on Snapchat, securing the suspect's admission through a pretext call, making an arrest, and identifying three additional victims. He also pursued a Cyber Tip related to child pornography, conducted surveillance, executed a search warrant, and arrested the suspect; that case remains ongoing. In addition to his investigative work, he supported department and community events, helping lead the "Cops N Rodders" Car Show and winning the "Police-In-Pursuit" fundraiser at the Watsonville Speedway while representing the Scotts Valley Police Department. Overall, he demonstrated strong leadership, dedication to victims, and commitment to public safety and community engagement.



APRIL

Chaplain Fred Wilson

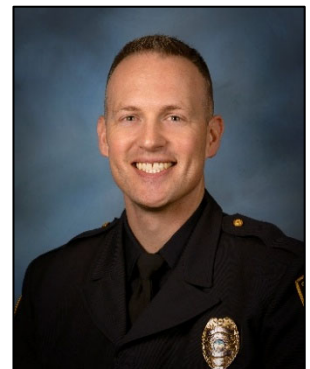
Chaplain Wilson has faithfully dedicated twelve years as a reliable volunteer with the department, providing emotional and spiritual support during unattended death calls and helping grieving families. His presence allows officers to focus on investigations while ensuring compassionate care to those in mourning. Recently, he assisted in two consecutive unexpected death cases, supporting both distressed family members and checking in on officers afterward to support their well-being. Beyond emergencies, he regularly joins patrols to encourage and guide staff, earning widespread appreciation throughout the department.



MAY

Detective Aaron Roberts

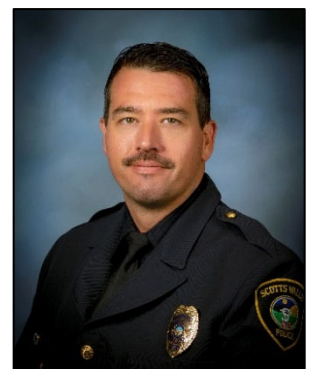
Detective Roberts demonstrated exceptional diligence in May in leading a complex financial investigation involving over \$1 million in embezzled funds from a local business. He prepared multiple search warrants, analyzed numerous bank accounts, coordinated with company leadership and attorneys, and organized extensive financial records despite challenges with uncooperative banks. Additionally, he contributed to other major cases, including felony domestic violence and high-profile commercial burglaries, by drafting warrants and analyzing GeoTrack data to support arrests.



JUNE

Officer Derek Welsh

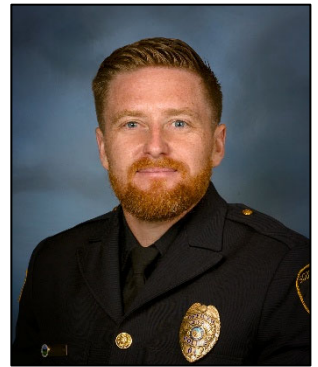
Officer Welsh demonstrated exceptional work ethic, initiative, and dedication to professional growth throughout June. His thorough and well-documented investigation of a burglary at Jia Tella's restaurant showcased his proactive approach, particularly his decision to follow up on a key lead that led to valuable surveillance footage and the identification of a suspect through social media. He also collaborated effectively with Santa Clara Detectives to further the case. His consistent performance, teamwork, and commitment to justice reflect the highest standards of the Scotts Valley Police Department.



JULY

Detective Forrest Brown

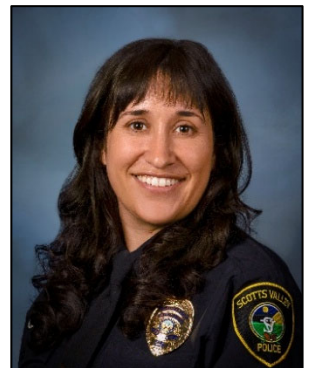
Detective Brown has significantly enhanced county safety through his proactive law enforcement efforts. This year, he wrote 26 search warrants, recovering 74 illegal firearms. Notably, he dismantled a firearms trafficking organization using a confidential informant and cell phone data, coordinating with the Santa Clara Firearm Task Force and San Jose Police SWAT to execute simultaneous warrants and seize 20 firearms. In June, he also assisted SCCACT and SVPD in arresting a prohibited person with firearms and drugs, personally drafting the warrant and organizing the operation, demonstrating initiative and impactful results.



AUGUST

EDCI Rachel Wynne

EDCI Wynne consistently demonstrates strong dispatching skills, situational awareness, and professionalism. In August, she recognized that a suspect near McDonald's matched a sketch from the Santa Cruz Police Department related to an active sexual assault case. She quickly relayed the information to officers and investigators, leading to confirmation of the suspect's identity and aiding multiple investigations. Throughout her shift, Wynne effectively managed routine calls and maintained clear communication between shifts. Her attentiveness and initiative directly supported a major regional investigation and exemplified the high standards of the Scotts Valley Police Department.



SEPTEMBER

Captain Scott Garner

Captain Garner spearheaded a major upgrade to the City's police radio system after the 2022 failure of the primary channel due to aging copper lines. Facing a costly fiber optic replacement, he coordinated with the Santa Cruz County Radio Communications Manager and AT&T to secure a no-cost fiber installation at key sites, including Cadillac Tower, Lodato Tower, Mt. Hermon Tower, and NETCOM (SCR911). The 12–16 month project modernized the City's radio infrastructure, providing reliable service, built-in redundancy between primary towers, and P25 compliance readiness, while avoiding significant capital and operational expenses and strengthening public safety communications.



OCTOBER

Detective Aaron Roberts

Detective Roberts demonstrated investigative skill, professionalism, and teamwork, effectively managing complex cases while providing strong support to Patrol as both an officer and Officer in Charge. This month, he led a multi-million-dollar embezzlement case, authored search warrants, uncovered hidden accounts, froze over \$1 million in assets, and secured an arrest and restitution. He also led a death investigation ruled a homicide by neglect, coordinating warrants, reviewing extensive evidence, and submitting a comprehensive report for charging consideration. Additionally, Detective Roberts advanced a burglary case by identifying and linking additional suspects, resulting in a prosecutable case.



NOVEMBER

Officer Nick Stoeberl

Officer Stoeberl demonstrated outstanding initiative and productivity, making 19 arrests on dayshift, including five DUIs and two felonies. Several DUI arrests involved extremely high BAC levels, likely preventing serious harm. During a traffic stop, he apprehended a suspect with multiple warrants, seized 70 grams of cocaine, secured a search warrant for the suspect's phone, and uncovered additional evidence that led to enhanced charges through follow-up investigation. He also investigated a hate crime at a local business, asking effective questions that led to an arrest and earning the appreciation of the business owner. In addition, he mentored newer officers in complex Drug DUI investigations and actively supported the Explorers program.



DECEMBER

Officer Larson Graff

Officer Graff demonstrated exceptional dedication and initiative over the past year by actively enforcing the City's parking ordinances, leading to the removal of numerous long-abandoned trailers and vehicles. His efforts helped reduce environmental hazards, health risks, traffic congestion, and parking shortages, improving overall city conditions. In addition, Officer Graff's rapid response to a medical emergency at a local restaurant—arriving in under a minute and providing life-saving aid—directly resulted in the survival of an unconscious subject. His proactive policing and swift emergency actions highlight outstanding service and impact on the community.



2025 EXCHANGE CLUB OF SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



The Scotts Valley Police Department has selected Detective Aaron Roberts for the 2025 Employee of the Year award due to his outstanding contributions to our department and exceptional dedication to his role as Adult Detective. His investigations into numerous high-profile and complex cases led to multiple arrests and millions of dollars in property recovered. His tireless efforts have had a profound impact on our success as an agency.

Detective Roberts' dedication to his role, the Investigations Team, and the department are remarkable. In addition to his investigations expertise, he routinely covers patrol as the Officer In Charge when there is no Sergeant and does not hesitate to share his investigative knowledge with other officers. It is for these reasons, and many more, that he is more than deserving of the Exchange Club's 2025 Police Employee of the Year.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

CHIEF STEPHEN WALPOLE JR.

The Scotts Valley Police Department honors Chief Stephen Walpole Jr., who retired in October 2025 after 12 years with our agency, serving the last eight years of his career as Chief of Police. Chief Walpole is a life-long resident of the City of Scotts Valley and a 30-year veteran in law enforcement.

Chief Walpole joined the Scotts Valley Police Department in 2014 as a Lieutenant. While in that role he re-started the department's Police K9 Program, which had been inactive for the past 30 years. He also started the Police Explorer Program and brought in high school aged teens interested in law enforcement into the department as volunteers. Both programs are still active today and continue to thrive.



In 2017, Chief Walpole was promoted to the rank of Chief and during his tenure, he managed several unique challenges, which included the response to COVID-19, the evacuation of the city due to the CZU Fire, and the first ever recorded tornado touchdown in the city.

While leading the department, Chief Walpole also served as the Chairperson for the Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team, the Chairperson for the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter, the Treasurer for the Santa Cruz County Police Chiefs' Association, and was one of the founding members of the Santa Cruz County Police Chaplains Group. He is a member of the Scotts Valley Exchange Club and a past member of the Scotts Valley Rotary Club.

During Chief Walpole's tenure as Chief of Police, he received the Special Olympics "Award of Excellence" in 2021 for his support of the Special Olympics of Northern California, and in 2025, Chief Walpole received the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce "Man of the Year Award." Chief Walpole implemented the department's first body camera and in-car camera system to provide better accountability with the public. He also upgraded the department's website and social media presence to improve communication with the community.

Chief Walpole was extremely proud of the men and women of the Scotts Valley Police Department and considered it a privilege to have served as their Chief of Police. After retirement, Chief Walpole plans to stay in the area and continue to volunteer in the community he has called home his entire life.

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Scott Garner, Police Captain
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: **AB 481 Military Equipment Use Annual Report and Ordinance
Renewing the Military Use Policy**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

California Assembly Bill 481 ("AB 481"), codified in Government Code sections 7070 through 7075, required a law enforcement agency (LEA) to obtain approval from the applicable governing body, via adoption of a "military equipment" use policy by ordinance, prior to the LEA funding, acquiring, or using military equipment no later than May 1, 2022. The City complied with AB 481 by having the Scotts Valley Police Department ("SVPD") create a policy regarding the use of military equipment and adopting it by Ordinance No. 22-200 on May 18, 2022. In accordance with AB 481, the ordinance was renewed in May 2023 (Ordinance No. 22-200.1), May 2024 (Ordinance No. 22-200.2), and May 2025 (Ordinance No. 22-200.3) to reaffirm the policy.

AB 481 also requires law enforcement agencies to present an annual report to their governing body consisting of a summary of how each type of equipment was used and the purpose of that use; quantity possessed of each type of equipment; annual costs for each type of equipment; summary of complaints or concerns received for each type of equipment; information disclosing violations of military equipment policies and actions taken in response, as well as results of internal audits; and plans to acquire additional military equipment in the coming year, and the quantity sought.

The SVPD prepared an annual report and on March 16, 2026, held a public meeting to discuss and answer any questions from the public regarding the annual report. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers and no community members attended. The annual report proposes replacing three outdated Bushmaster rifles with three new Colt rifles.

In addition to the annual report, AB 481 also requires the City Council to, within a year of the initial approval, and at least annually thereafter, review the ordinance establishing the military use policy. As was done in 2023, 2024, and 2025 in order to comply with this requirement, staff is recommending that the City Council introduce and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 22-200.4 approving Lexipol Policy 706 pertaining to the funding, acquisition, and use of military equipment as mandated by Assembly Bill 481.

FISCAL IMPACT

Authorization of the replacement of three new outfitted Colt rifles will cost approximately \$5,990.00. This amount has already been budgeted for and there is no additional cost to the General Fund.

Annual rifle and less-lethal shotgun training cost approximately \$1200 and will be covered by the Police Training Budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City Council take the following actions:

1. Review and renew Ordinance No. 22-200.4 by introducing and waiving further reading of Ordinance No. 22.200.4 approving Lexipol Policy 706 pertaining to the funding, acquisition, and use of military equipment as mandated by Assembly Bill 481; and
2. Approve the acquisition of the three new Colt rifles as listed in the Annual Report.

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SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025 AB 481 ANNUAL REPORT



Chief Jayson Rutherford

April 15th, 2026

Public Hearing on 3/16/2026

AB 481 Military Equipment Use Compliance Requirements:



2025 AB 481 ANNUAL REPORT

- Approval of the Military Equipment Use Policy (Completed 5/2022 Policy #706)
- Approval of the Military Equipment Use Ordinance (Completed 5/2022 Ord. # 22-200)
- Publishing the Policy (Completed 5/2022)
- Annual Report

Annual Report:

In 2022, Assembly Bill 481 required all California Law Enforcement to declare any equipment categorized as Military Equipment. Furthermore, agencies were required to get permission from their governing bodies to possess and utilize that equipment. The Scotts Valley Police abided by the law and obtained permission to utilize two items on the list. In addition, AB 481 requires all agencies to provide an annual report to their governing body and open to public viewing.

Items deemed to be “military equipment” by AB 481 are used as a component of overall best practices for Law Enforcement throughout the country. These tools have been tested in the field and are used by officers to enhance citizen safety and officer safety. Loss of these items would jeopardize the welfare of citizens and SVPD officers.

Officers are trained on all department issued equipment before utilizing the equipment in the field. Officers receiving the equipment undergo training on the nomenclature, functionality, and risks associated with the use of the equipment. Furthermore, officers are required to requalify annually.

Officers must comply with mandated training as regulated by Federal, State and Local statutes. Most of the training is managed and administered by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), which sets minimum training standard for California law enforcement officers.

AB 481 requires six elements to be included in the annual report for each type of equipment, which are outlined below.

1) Summary of how each type of equipment was used and the purpose of that use:

The Scotts Valley Police Department received approval to use Category 10 - Specialized Firearms (AR-15 .223/5.56 patrol rifle) and Category 14 -Kinetic Energy Weapons (Remington 870 shotgun converted to “less-lethal” only). These tools are essential to effectively respond to active threats, protect the community, and de-escalate dangerous situations when possible.



2025 AB 481 ANNUAL REPORT

Rifles and Less-Lethal Shotguns were deployed during the annual rifle range and qualification training dates in January 2025. Additionally, a lateral hire successfully completed the rifle / less lethal certification course in December, 2025.

No rifles or shotguns were fired during the below listed field deployment(s).



Rifles and/or Less-Lethal shotguns were deployed during the following incidents:

SVPD Officer Assigned to the Santa Cruz County Anti-Crime Team:

1. WPD Case Number, Date/Duration: 10/17/25 (45 Mins), Synopsis: SVPD employee assigned to SCCACT assisted WPD in a warrant service of a violent gang member with firearms. Prohibited firearm(s) recovered.
2. CHP Case Number, Date/Duration: 07/30/25 (25 Mins), Synopsis: SCCACT assisted SCARE in a warrant service of a suspect who was in possession of firearms as a prohibited person.
3. Case #: 25W-01975, Date/Duration: 07/01/25 (1 hour), Synopsis: Search warrant execution on subject with prohibited firearms. 14 firearms recovered.
4. Case #: 25W-00969, Date/Duration: 04/06/25 (1.5 hour), Synopsis: Search warrant for possession of firearms as a prohibited person. 15 firearms recovered.
5. Case #: 25W-00827, Date/Duration: 03/21/25 (20 mins), Synopsis: Search warrant service for a suspect who was in possession of firearms/narcotics as a prohibited person. 5 firearms and illegal controlled substances were recovered.
6. WPD Case number, Date/Duration: 03/14/25 (20 mins), Synopsis: Search warrant service for a suspect who was in possession of several assault weapons. Several illegal firearms were recovered.
7. WPD case, Date/Duration: 01/15/25 (2 hours), Synopsis: SCCACT assisted WPD with an occupied residential burglary. A SVPD officer assigned to SCCACT covered a perimeter position until SWAT arrived.



2025 AB 481 ANNUAL REPORT

Scotts Valley Police Operations Deployments:

8. 26V-00068: Officer deployed his department issued AR15 during the search of a residence that had been burglarized.
9. 26V-00208: Officer deployed his department issued AR15 during the search of a business that had been burglarized.
10. 25V-00483: Date/Duration: 06/03/2025 (5 minutes) SVPD Officers had to dispatch an injured deer on La Madrona near Silverwood.

2) Quantity possessed of each type of equipment:

The department currently has 16 patrol rifles and 5 less lethal shotguns in our inventory.

3) Annual costs for each type of equipment, “including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing costs”:

City Council approved \$5808.35 to purchase three new Colt AR-15 rifles to replace three outdated existing Bushmaster rifles.

SVPD Officers completed an eight-hour rifle and less-lethal shotgun training and qualification in January 2025. The cost of the ammunition for this training was \$1200.

SVPD Lateral hire completed an eight hour rifle and less lethal training and qualification in December, 2025. The cost of the ammunition for this training was \$100.

4) Summary of complaints or concerns received for each type of equipment:

There were no complaints or concerns received.

5) Information disclosing violations of military equipment policies and actions taken in response, as well as result of internal audits:

There were no violations of Scotts Valley Police Lexipol policy 706, Military Equipment.

6) Plans to acquire additional military equipment in the coming year, and the quantity sought:

SVPD currently has 3 Bushmaster AR-15 rifles and 11 Colt AR-15 rifles. The Bushmaster rifles were purchased in 2010 and need replacing due to prolonged use and wear. In 2025,



2025 AB 481 ANNUAL REPORT

we received approval from the City Council to replace three Bushmaster rifles with three new Colt rifles. The three Bushmaster rifles were taken out of service and destroyed, so the number of rifles in our inventory remained the same.

In 2026, we are proposing to replace an additional three outdated Bushmaster rifles with three new Colt rifles. The three Bushmaster rifles will be taken out of service and destroyed, so the number of rifles in our inventory will remain the same. The total cost of the three new Colt rifles completely outfitted with sling, Aimpoint optic, and tactical light will be \$5990.00.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-200.4

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY AMENDING TITLE 9 OF THE SCOTTS VALLEY MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING CHAPTER 9.22, USE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 481, relating to the use of military equipment by law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), codified at California Government Code sections 7070 through 7075, requires law enforcement agencies to obtain approval of the applicable governing body, by an ordinance adopting a “military equipment” use policy at a regular meeting held pursuant to open meeting laws prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, or use of “military equipment”. The term “military equipment” is defined in California Government Code Section 7070; and

WHEREAS, AB 481 allows the City Council to approve the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment, within its jurisdiction only if it makes specified determinations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed military equipment use policy is found within Scotts Valley Police Department Lexipol Policy Manual, General Order 706. The policy was published on February 16, 2022 and displayed on the Scotts Valley Police Department website on March 10, 2022 is being presented to the City Council on April 15, 2026. A copy of the policy is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Scotts Valley Police Department Policy 706 meets the requirements of California Government Code 7070; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance adds to the Municipal Code to affirm Scotts Valley Police Department Policy 706 and authorize the use of “military equipment” by the members of the Scotts Valley Police Department as described in Policy 706; and

WHEREAS, in the enactment of this ordinance, the City followed the guidelines adopted by the State of California and published in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000, et seq. and found this activity is not a “project” as defined by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The foregoing facts are adopted as findings of the City Council as though set forth in fully within the body of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 9.22 of Title 9 of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code reads as follows:

“CHAPTER 9.22 - MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY.

Section 9.22.010- Findings and Purpose

Sec. 9.22.010 – Findings and Purpose.

(a) The City Council has made the following determinations:

(1) The military equipment inventoried and presented to the City Council is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety; and

(2) The Military Equipment Use Policy (“Policy”) will safeguard the public’s welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties; and

(3) The military equipment identified in the Military Equipment Use Policy is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of Officer and civilian safety; and

(4) Prior military equipment use complied with the applicable Equipment Use Policy (which included equipment now defined as military equipment) that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying Military Equipment Use Policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

(b) The Police Department has submitted a proposed Policy to the City Council and has made those documents available on the Police Department’s website for at least 30 days prior to the public hearing concerning the military equipment at issue.

(c) The Policy was considered by the City Council as an agenda item in an open session of a regular meeting, noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, at which public comment was permitted.

(d) The Policy shall be made publicly available on the Police Department’s website for as long as the military equipment is available for use.

(e) The Police Department shall submit an annual military equipment report to the City Council, containing the information required in Government Code Section 7072, and the City Council shall determine whether each type of military equipment identified in that report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in (a)(1)-(4) above.

(f) The City Council shall review this ordinance, and vote on whether to renew it, on an annual basis at a regular meeting, in accordance with Government Code Section 7071(e)(2)

(g) The City Council approves the use of the Policy and finds that it satisfies the requirements of Government Code Section 7070(d).”

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision of such Ordinance and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 4. REPEALS CONFLICTING ORDINANCES. All other ordinances of the City of Scotts Valley or provisions of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. CEQA COMPLIANCE. The City Council finds and determines that the enactment of this Ordinance is not a “project” as that term is used in the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA;” Cal. Pub. Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) or the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code of Regs., Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.). Therefore, no environmental assessment is required or necessary.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. The above and foregoing ordinance was introduced for a first reading on April 15, 2026, and passed and adopted on May 6, 2026, at a duly held meeting of the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

APPROVED: _____
Donna Lind, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

APPROVED
AS TO FORM: _____
Kirsten Powell, City Attorney

Military Equipment

706.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the approval, acquisition, and reporting requirements of military equipment (Government Code § 7070; Government Code § 7071; Government Code § 7072).

706.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (Government Code § 7070):

Governing body – The elected or appointed body that oversees the Department.

Military equipment – Includes but is not limited to the following:

- Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles.
- Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers.
- High mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV), two-and-one-half-ton trucks, five-ton trucks, or wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached.
- Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants.
- Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units.
- Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind.
- Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature. This does not include a handheld, one-person ram.
- Firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater, excluding standard-issue shotguns and standard-issue shotgun ammunition.
- Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including firearms and accessories identified as assault weapons in Penal Code § 30510 and Penal Code § 30515, with the exception of standard-issue firearms.
- Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles.
- Noise-flash diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools.
- Munitions containing tear gas or OC, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray.
- TASER® Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and long-range acoustic devices (LRADs).
- Kinetic energy weapons and munitions.
- Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight.

Scotts Valley Police Department

Scotts Valley PD CA Policy Manual

Military Equipment

706.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Scotts Valley Police Department that members of this agency comply with the provisions of Government Code § 7071 with respect to military equipment.

706.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police should designate a member of this agency to act as the military equipment coordinator. The responsibilities of the military equipment coordinator include but are not limited to:

- (a) Acting as liaison to the governing body for matters related to the requirements of this policy.
- (b) Identifying agency equipment that qualifies as military equipment in the current possession of the Department, or the equipment the Department intends to acquire that requires approval by the governing body.
- (c) Conducting an inventory of all military equipment at least annually.
- (d) Collaborating with any allied agency that may use military equipment within the jurisdiction of Scotts Valley Police Department (Government Code § 7071).
- (e) Preparing for, scheduling, and coordinating the annual community engagement meeting to include:
 - 1. Publicizing the details of the meeting.
 - 2. Preparing for public questions regarding the agency's funding, acquisition, and use of equipment.
- (f) Preparing the annual military equipment report for submission to the Chief of Police and ensuring that the report is made available on the agency website (Government Code § 7072).
- (g) Establishing the procedure for a person to register a complaint or concern, or how that person may submit a question about the use of a type of military equipment, and how the Department will respond in a timely manner.

706.4 MILITARY EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

The following constitutes a list of qualifying equipment for the Department:

[Insert attachment here]

706.5 APPROVAL

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall obtain approval from the governing body by way of an ordinance adopting the military equipment policy. As part of the approval process, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure the proposed military equipment policy is submitted to the governing body and is available on the agency website at least 30 days prior to any public hearing concerning the military equipment at issue (Government Code § 7071). The military equipment policy must be approved by the governing body prior to engaging in any of the following (Government Code § 7071):

Scotts Valley Police Department

Scotts Valley PD CA Policy Manual

Military Equipment

- (a) Requesting military equipment made available pursuant to 10 USC § 2576a.
- (b) Seeking funds for military equipment, including but not limited to applying for a grant, soliciting or accepting private, local, state, or federal funds, in-kind donations, or other donations or transfers.
- (c) Acquiring military equipment either permanently or temporarily, including by borrowing or leasing.
- (d) Collaborating with another law enforcement agency in the deployment or other use of military equipment within the jurisdiction of this agency.
- (e) Using any new or existing military equipment for a purpose, in a manner, or by a person not previously approved by the governing body.
- (f) Soliciting or responding to a proposal for, or entering into an agreement with, any other person or entity to seek funds for, apply to receive, acquire, use, or collaborate in the use of military equipment.
- (g) Acquiring military equipment through any means not provided above.

706.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Military equipment should not be used by any other law enforcement agency or member in this jurisdiction unless the military equipment is approved for use in accordance with this policy.

706.7 ANNUAL REPORT

Upon approval of a military equipment policy, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee should submit a military equipment report to the governing body for each type of military equipment approved within one year of approval, and annually thereafter for as long as the military equipment is available for use (Government Code § 7072).

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should also make each annual military equipment report publicly available on the agency website for as long as the military equipment is available for use. The report shall include all information required by Government Code § 7072 for the preceding calendar year for each type of military equipment in agency inventory.

706.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Within 30 days of submitting and publicly releasing the annual report, the Department shall hold at least one well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting, at which the Department should discuss the report and respond to public questions regarding the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.

City of Scotts Valley CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: 4/15/2026
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Stephanie Hill, Administrative Services Director
APPROVED: Mali LaGoe, City Manager
SUBJECT: **Amendment to Business License Tax Ordinance to Establish Economic Development Event Exemption and Associated Administrative Fee**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The City's Business License Tax Ordinance currently requires all businesses operating within City limits to obtain a business license and pay the applicable tax. It does not differentiate vendors participating in temporary events such as festivals, markets, and community-based economic development activities. A prior version of the ordinance included a limited exemption for certain temporary or City-supported events. During subsequent updates to the Business License Tax Ordinance, this provision was not carried forward.

These events provide important economic and community benefits. Not having a limited exemption called out can create administrative challenges for both vendors and event organizers, particularly for short-duration events. Staff has evaluated opportunities to streamline this process by reinstating a narrowly tailored exemption consistent with prior City practice and ensuring continued regulatory compliance and cost recovery.

The proposed ordinance aligns with the City's goals of supporting economic development, fostering community events, and reducing barriers for small and temporary vendors, while maintaining regulatory oversight and cost recovery.

Economic Development Event Exemption

The proposed ordinance establishes a new category of "Economic Development Events," defined as City-sponsored or authorized events intended to promote tourism, economic activity, and community engagement.

Vendors who operate solely within these designated events and meet specific eligibility criteria would be exempt from the business license tax. The exemption is limited to events lasting no more than two consecutive days, and each occurrence of a recurring event is treated as a separate event.

This approach supports local economic activity while maintaining appropriate limitations to prevent misuse of the exemption.

Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee

As a secondary measure, staff recommends establishing an Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee as an administrative alternative to the business license tax.

Under this framework, eligible vendors would be exempt from the business license tax but would instead pay a nominal fee to recover the City's administrative costs related to vendor verification, processing, and compliance monitoring.

The proposed fee structure will be considered by the City Council as part of the Master Fee Schedule update scheduled for the May 6, 2026 City Council meeting. The proposed fees are:

- \$25 per vendor when the event coordinator administers the program by collecting and submitting vendor information to the City; or
- \$50 per vendor when individual vendors are required to apply directly with the City.

This tiered structure is intended to encourage event coordinators to take an active role in managing vendor participation, thereby reducing administrative burden on City staff. Centralized coordination is expected to streamline communication, improve vendor compliance, and reduce staff processing time.

Implementation Timing

Implementation of the proposed exemption program is contingent upon adoption of the associated user fees. Accordingly, the ordinance amendments will not become operational until the updated fee schedule is approved and in effect.

Administrative Authority

The proposed ordinance authorizes the City Council, or designee, to designate qualifying Economic Development Events. Staff recommends the City Council designate the City Manager.

This delegation is consistent with existing City practices, where the City Council authorizes the City Manager to administer similar programs and approvals related to nonprofit and community-based events. Delegating this authority allows for timely and efficient implementation while maintaining policy direction established by the Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed program is designed to be cost-recovery in nature. The Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee will offset administrative costs associated with program oversight and implementation.

While the exemption may result in a minor reduction in business license tax revenue from temporary vendors, this impact is expected to be limited and may be offset by increased economic activity generated by events.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 5.04.080 of the Municipal Code to establish provisions for Council-designated Economic Development Events, including a limited exemption from the business license tax for qualifying vendors.
2. Staff recommends that the City Council designate the City Manager, or designee, as the City Council's representative for purposes of administering and approving qualifying events, consistent with existing practices for similar community and nonprofit event programs.
3. Staff recommends that implementation of the program be contingent upon adoption of the associated Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee as part of the User Fee Study and Master Fee Schedule update scheduled for May 6, 2026.

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1. Ordinance No. 15.14 Business License Ordinance Amendment - Econ. Dev. Special Events

ORDINANCE NO. 15.14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY AMENDING TITLE 5, CHAPTER 5.04 BY AMENDING SECTION 5.04.080 TO ADD AN EXEMPTION FOR COUNCIL DESIGNATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL EVENTS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley introduced an ordinance to establish a business license tax (“BLT”) on August 7, 2024, which was approved by a majority of the voters of Scotts Valley on November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the BLT established exemptions from the business license tax for certain businesses operating in the City of Scotts Valley; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2 of Ordinance No 15.13, the City Council has the ability to amend the ordinance so long as such amendments do not increase the tax; and

WHEREAS, the BLT currently requires all businesses operating within City limits to obtain a business license and pay the applicable tax; and

WHEREAS, the BLT does not differentiate vendors participating in temporary events such as festivals, markets, and community-based economic development activities; and

WHEREAS, a prior version of the BLT included a limited exemption for certain temporary or City-supported events; and

WHEREAS, these events provide important economic and community benefits and not having a limited exemption for these temporary events can create administrative challenges for both vendors and event organizers; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish a narrowly tailored exemption consistent with prior City practice and ensuring continued regulatory compliance and cost recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY as follows:

Section 1. Title 10, Chapter 5.04, Section 5.04.080 is hereby amended to add subsection 5.04.080H. Council-Designated Economic Development Special Events to read as follows:

“Section 5.04.080 H. Council-Designated Economic Development Special Events

1) Limited Exemption Authorized.

The business license tax imposed under this Chapter shall not apply to a vendor, exhibitor, or merchant that operates solely at a special event formally designated by the City Council, or City Council designee, as an economic development event

under this subsection. For purposes for this Section, an “Economic Development Event” is defined as a temporary event that:

- a) Is intended to promote tourism, economic activity, community engagement, or local business visibility within the City;
- b) Is sponsored, co-sponsored, or formally authorized by the City;
- c) Occurs for no more than two (2) consecutive calendar days;
- d) Shall take place on public or private property within the City; and
- e) Includes vendors, exhibitors, or merchants participating only for the duration of the event.

Each individual occurrence of an event shall be considered a separate Economic Development Event, regardless of whether the event is part of a recurring series, program, or branded activity but a consecutive multi-day event shall be considered one Economic Development Event.

2) Vendor Limitation.

A vendor may receive an exemption under this subsection for no more than three (3) Economic Development Events within a single fiscal year. A vendor that participates in more than three Economic Development Events in a fiscal year shall be required to obtain and pay for a business license in accordance with this Chapter.

3) Vendor Eligibility Criteria.

To qualify for the exemption, all of the following conditions must be met:

- a) The vendor operates within the City only for the duration of the designated special event;
- b) The vendor does not maintain a permanent or ongoing business location within the City, including but not limited to commercial storefronts or regularly operating home-based businesses;
- c) The vendor conducts no other business activity within the City during the same fiscal year outside of the designated event; and
- d) The vendor complies with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws and permit requirements.

4) Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee.

- a) As a condition of designating an event as an Economic Development Event, the event organizer shall pay an Economic Development Event Vendor License Fee, established by resolution of the City Council to recover the City’s reasonable costs associated with administering the exemption, including, but not limited to, staff review, vendor verification, and compliance monitoring.

b) If the event organizer elects not to pay the administrative fee on behalf of participating vendors, each vendor, exhibitor, or merchant participating in the Economic Development Event shall be required to individually apply for and obtain an Economic Development Event Vendor License and pay the applicable fee established by resolution of the City Council.

c) The City may require the event organizer to provide a list of participating vendors and other reasonably necessary information to administer this Section.

5) Scope of Exemption.

This exemption applies only to the business license tax imposed under this Chapter and does not relieve any person or entity from compliance with other applicable federal, state, or local laws, including, but not limited to, seller's permit requirements, health permits, encroachment permits, or public safety regulations.

6) Administrative Authority.

The Collector may require documentation reasonably necessary to verify eligibility and may deny the exemption if the requirements of this subsection are not satisfied."

Section 2. CEQA COMPLIANCE. The proposed amendments are exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which provides that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The proposed ordinance cannot reasonably be said to have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 4. To the extent the provisions of the Scotts Valley Municipal Code as amended by this Ordinance are substantially the same as the provisions of that Code as they read immediately prior to the adoption of this Ordinance, then those provisions shall be construed as continuations of the earlier provisions and not as new enactments.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days from and after the date of its adoption.

Section 6. PUBLICATION. The City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption of this

Ordinance and shall cause a summary thereof to be published within fifteen (15) days of adoption and shall post a certified copy of this Ordinance, including the vote for and against same, in the Office of the City Clerk, in accordance with Government Code Section 36933.

This Ordinance was introduced on the 15th day of April, 2026, and passed and adopted on the 6th day of May, 2026, at a duly held meeting of the City Council of the City of Scotts Valley by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Donna Lind, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathie Simonovich, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kirsten Powell, City Attorney