

## E. Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District

District: 31958 Gloria Road, Gonzales, CA 93926  
Phone: 831/675-3503  
Fax: 831/675-8814

City: 325 Center Street, Gonzales, CA 93926 (Gonzales City Fire Department)  
Phone: 831/675-3677, 831/675-5010  
Fax: 831/675-2644  
Email: [pmiller@ci.gonzales.ca.us](mailto:pmiller@ci.gonzales.ca.us)  
Websites: [www.ci.gonzales.ca.us/fire-department.php](http://www.ci.gonzales.ca.us/fire-department.php) (City of Gonzales)  
[www.gonzalesvfd.org](http://www.gonzalesvfd.org) (Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department)  
Director: Paul Miller (Public Safety Director)  
Fire Chief: Rick Rubbo (Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department)

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### SUMMARY

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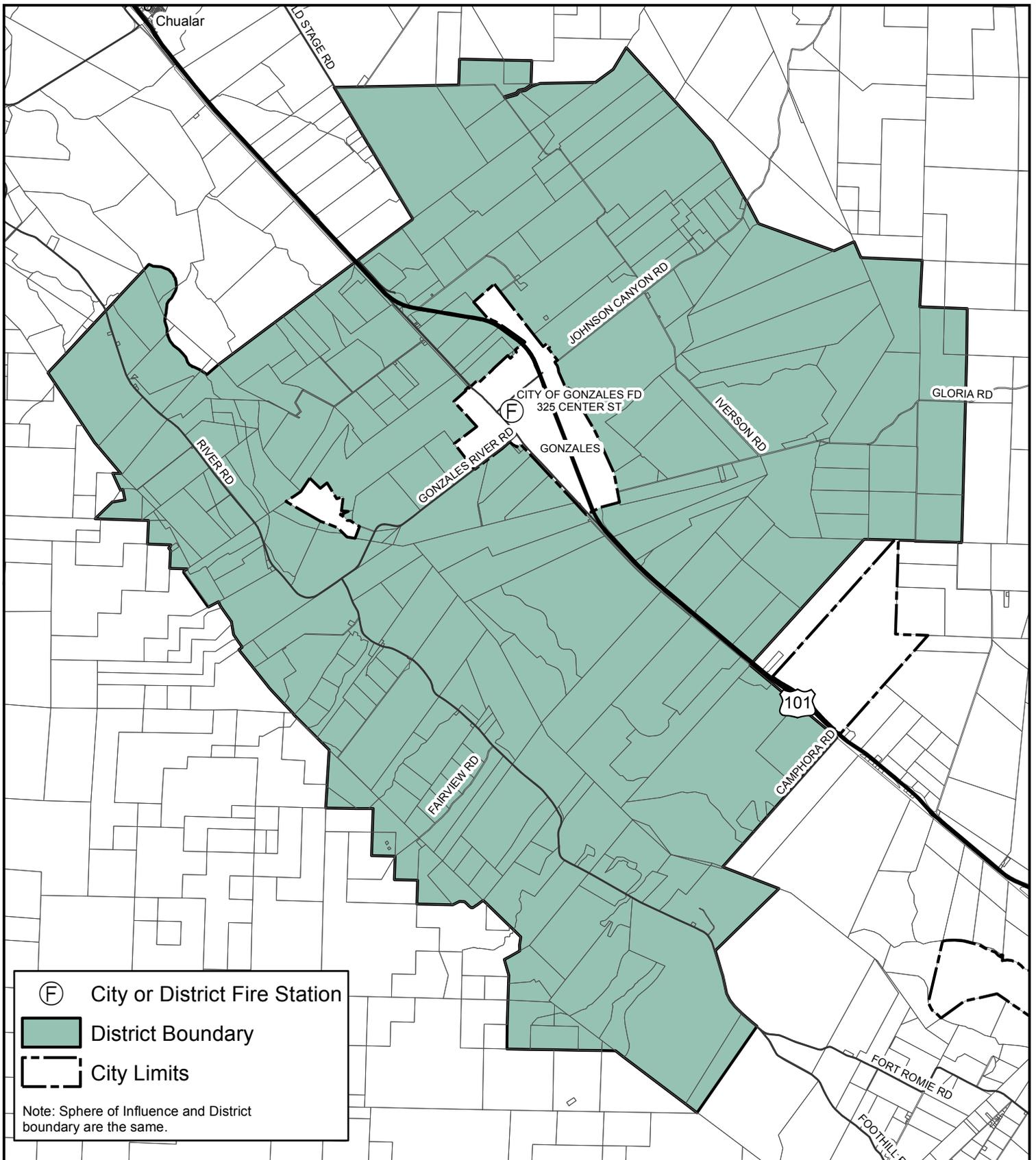
The Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District represents the rural area around the City of Gonzales. The District's boundaries cover a total of 58 square miles, but include only an estimated 619 residents. The District contracts with the City of Gonzales to provide fire protection service within District boundaries. The District provides its revenues of approximately \$145,000 per year to the City in compensation for these services. This cost effective relationship allows rural residents to receive the services of the City Fire Department. The District has financial procedures in place to ensure the preparation of timely agency audits. The City Fire Department maintains an ISO Public Protection Classification of 5 within City limits. The ISO Rating is 8B within the District within five road miles of a fire station where there is a credible water source for fighting fires. The District boundaries and Sphere of Influence are the same, and no plans to expand this area are being discussed.

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### BACKGROUND

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The Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District has served the rural area surrounding the City of Gonzales since 1950. In 2010, this rural area contained an estimated population of 619. While growth in this area is projected by the City of Gonzales' General Plan, this growth would occur only following annexation to the City and detachment from the District. The population within District boundaries is therefore unlikely to grow significantly. The small size of the District does not allow it to economically maintain independent fire protection service. The District Board of Directors has contracted with the City of Gonzales to receive fire protection service through the City's volunteer fire department.



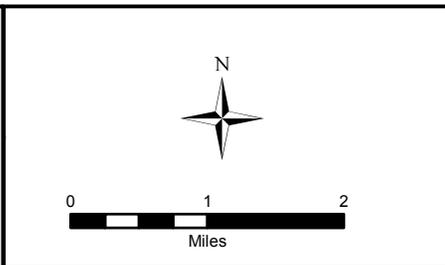
(F) City or District Fire Station  
 District Boundary  
 City Limits

Note: Sphere of Influence and District boundary are the same.

**LAFCO of Monterey County**  
 LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 1369  
 Salinas, CA 93902  
 Telephone (831) 754-5838

132 W. Gabilan St., Suite 102  
 Salinas, CA 93901  
 FAX (831) 754-5831



**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS**

**GONZALES RURAL  
 FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

2012 Municipal Services Review  
 Map Produced on 10/11/2011

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## OPERATIONS

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Through an agreement between the Gonzales Rural FPD and the City, District revenues are directly transferred to the City for this service, with only a minimal amount withheld for insurance, audit, and LAFCO's annual assessment. The agreement states that the City will use the District's contributions for not more than fifty percent of the total Fire Department annual operating budget. If District funds exceed fifty percent of the annual operating expenses these monies will be used for equipment, vehicles, and/or facilities directly related to fire suppression services. The District-City contract is expected to be renewed, following the current contract's expiration on July 1, 2013.

The Gonzales Rural FPD prepares an audit every five years because of its simple financial arrangements. Property taxes constitute approximately 77% of all District revenues. Because of its financial relationship with the City, the District has no significant assets or reserves, nor does the District have a need for these. The District also has no long-term debts.

The City provides service through its fire station and utilizing its fire apparatus, equipment, and personnel. The Gonzales City Fire Department is staffed by 15 dedicated volunteers and one career Engineer. The Department is led by Volunteer Fire Chief, Rick Rubbo. The Department has fewer volunteers today than in the past due to training requirements, eligibility requirements, and the trend for residents to work out of town. Department representatives remain convinced, however, that with adequate publicity and outreach they can maintain a viable volunteer firefighting force for years to come.

The Department responds to over 300 primary response calls per year within the boundaries of the City and Rural Fire Protection District. Administrative support is provided by the City's Emergency Services Director, Paul Miller.

While the ISO Public Protection Classification within the City is maintained at a level of 5, the more rural areas within the District have a rating of 8B/10. The City Fire Department maintains automatic aid agreements with the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District and the Correctional Training Facility.

The District Board of Directors is composed of three Members. Directors are elected to four-year terms in at-large elections, although if there are no candidates the County Board of Supervisors will make the appointments. The District Board meets quarterly as business merits. The District does not maintain a web page although information on fire protection and EMS services within the District can be found at websites maintained by the City of Gonzales and the Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department. However, no information is available at these websites about District Board Members or meetings.

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## SPHERE OF INFLUENCE & BOUNDARIES

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The Gonzales Rural FPD has no Sphere of Influence beyond District boundaries. The District's boundaries abut the Monterey County Regional FPD on the north and the Mission Soledad Rural FPD on the south. The eastern and western boundaries of the District extend into the

State Responsibility Area. A map of the District's Sphere of Influence and boundaries can be seen at the beginning of this profile.

District boundaries will be reduced if the City of Gonzales is successful in its plans to expand and annex surrounding parcels. While the detachment of land through city annexations is a common concern to many fire protection districts, the financial and service arrangements between the Gonzales Rural FPD and the City make these changes revenue and service neutral.

**Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District**  
**Formation, Revenues, Attributes, Types of Service, and Resources**

District Formation and Duties	
Formation Date	1956
Legal Authority	Fire Protection District Law of 1961, Health & Safety Code, section 13800 et seq.
Board of Directors	Three Directors elected to four-year terms through at-large elections. If the number of candidates equals the number of eligible seats, or if there are no candidates, the Board of Supervisors shall make these appointments pursuant to Elections Code section 10515.
Agency Duties	Fire Protection / Emergency Medical Services

District Revenues (5 Year Total and Average)				
5 Year Total: 2006-2011			5 Year Average: 2006-2011	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Property tax	\$557,894	77.4%	\$111,579	77.4%
Interest	\$3,951	0.5%	\$790	0.5%
State Tax Revenues	\$3,260	0.5%	\$652	0.5%
Proposition 172	\$156,087	21.6%	\$31,217	21.6%
<b>Revenue total</b>	<b>\$721,192</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$144,238</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The 2006-2011 Audit does not break revenues down by fiscal year.

**Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District  
Formation, Revenues, Attributes, Types of Service, and Resources**

Attributes	
District Area (est. square miles)	58.4
Population (2010 estimated)	619
Assessed Valuation (FY 10-11: Includes both City and District)	\$394,151,256
Number of Stations	None (Utilizes City Station)
Dispatch	County (Through City)
ISO Public Protection Classification:	
Within 5 miles of a Station and with a Credible Source of Water	8B (5 in City)
Without a Credible Source of Water	10
Regular Financial Audits	Every 5 Years
Average Annual Revenue Per Capita (FY 06-07 to FY 10-11)	\$233
Average Portion of County 1% Property Tax Received	15¢/\$1
Ending General Fund Balance (June 2011)	\$3,954
Change in General Fund Balance (from June 2006 to June 2011)	0%
Total Fund Balance/Annual Revenue Total (FY 10-11)	3%

Source: District area estimated utilizing County of Monterey GIS Data; Population estimated utilizing 2010 U. S. Census Data, Assessed Valuation and Portion of County Property Tax Received are from County of Monterey Auditor-Controller’s Office; Fund Balance Information from District Audit; Other information from District.

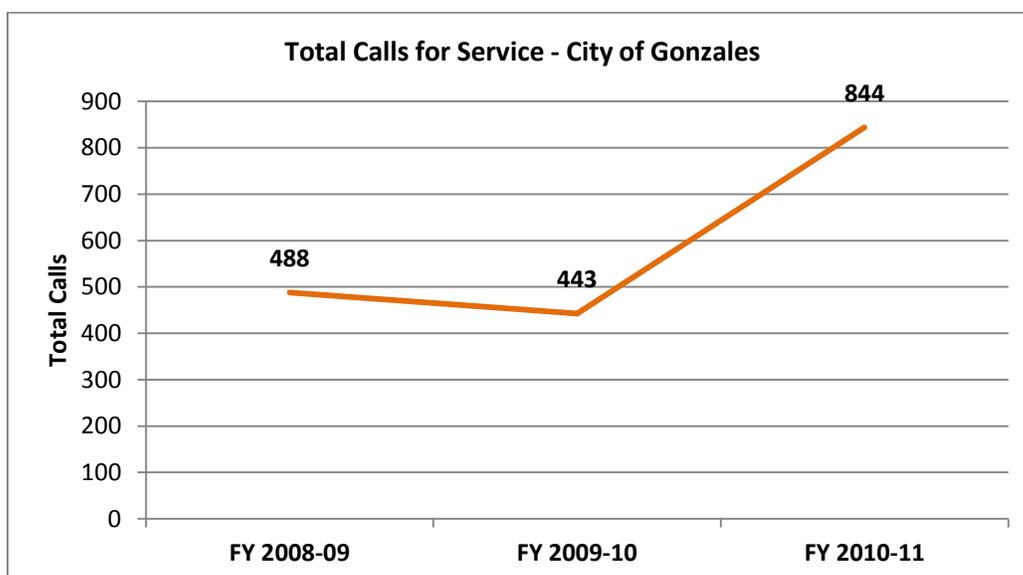
NOTE: The City of Gonzales which provided fire protection and emergency medical services to the District covers approximately 1.98 acres and has a population of 8,187. A rating of 8B indicates that the community meets the fundamental requirements for a classification better than Class 9, but does not need to meet the water-supply requirement of 250 gpm for two hours necessary for Class 8 or better.

Types of Services	
Fire	X
Technical Rescue	-
Basic Life Support (EMT)	X
Advanced Life Support (Paramedic)	-
Ambulance	-

**Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District  
Formation, Revenues, Attributes, Types of Service, and Resources**

Station		
Address	Acquired/Built	Condition
325 Center Street, Gonzales (City Fire Department Station)	1969	Good

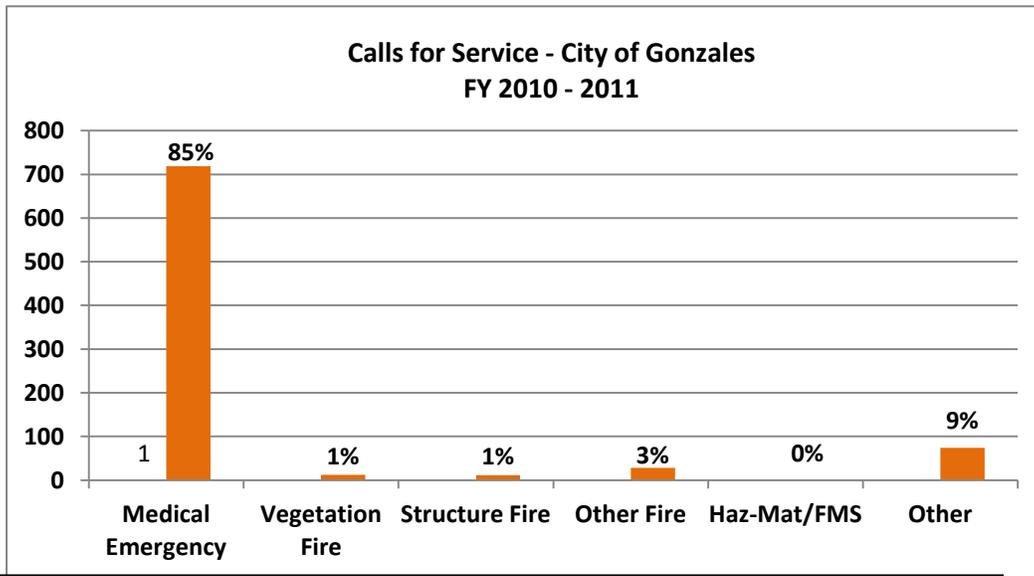
The Gonzales Rural Fire Protection District is contractually protected by the City of Gonzales Fire Department which utilizes its own station, apparatus, and staffing.



Source: County Department of Emergency Communications (911 System) Data.

Note: The above information includes all calls for service received by the City of Gonzales Fire Department for services within both the City and the Gonzales Rural FPD. Also, this table tabulates calls referred to the District for primary response. Additional calls are referred - and responded to - for mutual and automatic aid.

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