



# City of Chico

SR32 Widening Project (Phase 1)

Volume 47

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## State Route 32 Widening Project (Phase 1) Weekly Update

### Introduction

Following is the forty-seventh (47<sup>th</sup>) Volume of the SR32 Widening Project (Phase 1) weekly update newsletter. The purpose of these updates is to share detailed information regarding scheduling and construction activities anticipated for the upcoming week. If you do not wish to receive updates, you may opt out by sending staff a quick e-mail with that instruction. Alternatively, if you know of other interested parties that would appreciate being added to the list, please send an email request to: [update32@chicoca.gov](mailto:update32@chicoca.gov)

### Precast Concrete Sound Wall / Landscaping

As a result of recent efforts, the Contractor has substantially finished grading adjacent to the constructed sound wall and continues to make progress on other finish items pursuant to ultimate sound wall completion. Additionally, the landscaping Contractor has continued installation of irrigation facilities as well as continued planting along the north shoulders and center median. Once trees and shrubs are planted, wood chip mulch is being spread to help with retaining moisture and weed control. In an attempt to expedite the landscaping installation, the Contractor will be working longer shifts as well as working this weekend. During the continuation of all active work along the graded shoulder and center median, vehicles should exercise caution as construction vehicles and equipment will be entering and exiting the roadway in both eastbound and westbound directions.

### Next Anticipated Night Work and Lane Closures – Thursday (7/9), Monday (7/13), Tuesday (7/14)

Night work was performed on Thursday night, 7/9, in order to perform roadway grinding to improve smoothness of the eastbound travel lanes on SR32. Night work hours will generally be from 9 PM through 7 AM. Residents and businesses should expect heavy construction equipment to be active in the area during these hours but should not expect substantial noise impacts. During this work, one lane of the existing highway will be closed and one way traffic controls will be implemented between Fir Street and El Monte Avenue. Traffic will be stopped one direction at a time as a pilot car and/or flaggers lead opposing traffic through the work zone. Delays can be expected. The night work is necessary in order to ensure the ultimate roadway meets smoothness requirements. Night work can also be anticipated on the nights of 7/13 and 7/14 as the Contractor expects to finish roadway paving under the same type of closure. For approximately five days after the completion of paving, temporary lane line and limit line delineation will be in place. Commuters traveling through the area should use extra caution during this time. Ultimately, the roadway will receive thermoplastic striping and reflective markers to delineate the new, widened roadway.

### Roadway Widening Work

The new traffic signal at the Forest Avenue intersection is now operational. The current lane configuration will be in effect until final signage and striping is installed in the coming weeks. This configuration allows the Contractor to finish shoulder work safely by restricting use of the outside vehicular travel lanes. At this time, pedestrians can utilize the new yellow push buttons to activate a safe walk signal at each crosswalk within the Forest Avenue intersection. These push buttons have also recently been programmed to add audible speech walk messages that relay the name of the street that a pedestrian will be crossing. The striping plans associated with ultimate project improvements add a dedicated bike lane for cyclists travelling south bound on Forest Avenue across SR32. The contractor has recently placed a temporary bicycle "T" on the ground at this intersection. Bicyclists can activate the in-ground loop detection installed under the "T" in order to trigger the signal. We appreciate your patience throughout the life of the project and please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

