

Voices From Chico

Community responses to the first seven questions on the City of Chico Diversity
Action Plan questionnaire administered in January 2011.

July 2011



Exhibit "B"

Why did you choose to live in Chico?

- It has that small town feel yet also the University, park, and enough shopping to be convenient to stay in town and shop.
- The City feels family oriented. I also found a job here.
- Chico is a more culturally diverse area with a higher quality of life for Northern California. I also found a job here.
- My husband I got a full time job at the University
- It is a college town with good water & slow growth.
- Moved to Chico in 1991 with young children and expected slow enough growth to see them through H.S. with the community changing very little
- To go to school at Chico State
- To be near my grandchildren and serve the community.
- I came for a job at university.
- I was brought here by my parents as baby, 75 years ago
- Because Chico is a center for education, opportunity, growth, cultures, and international friendships.
- The size of the town, ability to interact with natives easily, college resources, and the natural resources.
- I read in a description of Chico that Chico had "tree-lined streets". This made me support my husband's wish to accept a job here as opposed to San Luis Obispo or other places.
- We visited Chico and loved it. It's like living in a national park. We are near to family, a college for the kids, a job for me, a real downtown, a great park, and it is reasonably affordable.
- Chico is my hometown in my adopted country-U.S.A.
- I got a job in Chico
- Originally lived in Chico for school, then for the quality of life.
- I liked the location, the area, and away from the hustle of Southern California
- I felt it was a great place to raise children.
- I moved here from NE with my family 5 years ago.
- The quality of life, the university, the size, affordability, biking city, civic involvement all were reasons.
- My office moved here, and my son was starting junior high
- It is a Small town with local food
- I am a second generation Chico native- my roots are planted deeply here
- Because I graduated college here and fell in love with it.
- My husband's job brought us here
- I got married to my husband here. It has a small town atmosphere with friendly people.
- Our children and grandchildren
- Our daughter lives in Chico and we moved to be near her family
- I found a job here in Chico

- I was born and raised in Chico
- It was required for my husband's job
- We were raised here in Chico
- I came here to go to Chico State
- I love the hometown feel, the parks, and the open spaces are wonderful.
(Although I see that changing in a negative way)
- Chico is the most convenient city in Butte Co in relation to shopping, schools, activities, etc.
- This is where I was born and raised. I wanted to finish school and work with young life close to Woodleaf.
- My Husband found a job here and we liked the mix of rural so near to "city" living. Chico has shopping, hiking, arts, and quality education.
- My dad and I moved here when he was promoted at work
- Because it's small and compact and I like the people.
- To go to college
- Chico has less traffic, lower crime, affordable living, and nicer people than the Bay Area.
- I was born and raised in Chico and have never had the desire to move.
- My sister lives here and I moved here to be closer with her.
- The college was close.
- Moved here for the family business.
- Moved from the bay area where I was homeless.
- I was Born and raised in Chico
- For all the services available here and to be close to sick family.
- Moved to Chico for my family, job opportunities, and CSU Chico.
- I moved to Chico Because I needed a shelter to stay at while I looked for work. I knew Chico had a good shelter and the jobs were plentiful.
- There are more job opportunities
- I ended up here for the people, not the location; I chose to stay for the same reason.
- I came here to go to Butte College and Chico State because all of my friends are here and I like Chico.
- A job opening in Chico.
- My father got a new job.
- The Job opportunities and the education of CSUC.
- My family lives here but I stayed because it's beautiful.
- I came here to attend Chico state, found a job and stayed.
- Marriage.
- My Parents moved here.
- Because my family lives here.
- There are jobs here.
- To attend Chico state.
- My family lives here.
- I chose to live in Chico because my sponsor lives here

- I was born in Chico and I choose to live in Chico to be close to my family
- The closeness of the community. The location to mountains, ocean, etc
- My father was transferred to a job in Chico in 1956
- I was born in Chico 62 yrs ago.
- I transferred here when my employer transferred to Chico
- Education (health care program)
- Work. CSUC project (...)
- Family nice feeling to the place
- Returning to home town. Family members needed help
- Just an amazing little town
- To attend college and play football
- Career came here for school from L.A. stayed here because of quality of life/job
- Job, job offer job opportunity
- A better place for me as a single parent to raise my children when I came from L.A. County I stayed in Oroville but later I felt it was more pleasant in Chico and a better living environment
- My family was here before I was born
- My children go to school here, college
- We were living in southern CA and wanted to raise our children in a smaller more family oriented community. Job opportunity brought us here
- Move to smaller city
- CSU Chico
- Nice city and work
- My jobfamily live here
- It's a quiet town, has good stores, small community, university in town minus the parties, and not so ghetto.
- Because less traffic and quiet town.
- My spouse goes to go college.
- To go to school and want to see if can live here
- Because I wanted to attend CSU Chico I came here to go to school. After graduating I decided this community offered everything I wanted family lives in Chico safe, fair living conditions, good educational programs and great to raise a family
- I was born here
- To finish my schooling

1.2 How would you respond to the following statement: “Chico is welcoming to all people”?

- I agree
- What does this mean? (It's not un-welcoming).
- True- where as other areas of NorCal may/do have more prejudice

- Mostly
- Chico is a moderate to conservative community. I have felt animosity and misunderstanding and generalizations are made from a small party, the community that does riot like change.
- NO- I know some black families that have a difficult time (comments made in public-derogatory- so much that a mother will not let her children go anywhere unaccompanied.
- I have felt very welcome in Chico. I think events like the Downtown Markets are great community builders.
- I think
- 80%
- I've seen this continually
- Who want to live, grow and become the best they can be
- It is true most of the time
- I know Chico was welcoming to us. I hope Chico is welcoming to all, but I don't know.
- This is a reasonable goal.
- Not now. Chico and campus community drift apart.
- To many-possibly not all.
- I think so, but I'm not sure if non-white people agree.
- I would agree, but it isn't as though a diverse mix are flooding the gates
- Yes and no...yes the people are friendly but the City of Chico as an entity is not so friendly to minorities
- Since I, a white senior 72 years I'm probably not able to answer a diversity question but everyone is nice to me
- More welcoming to some than others, but mostly you reap what you sow
- Yes
- Chico wants to be but it is not entirely true
- Chico has been a college town up until a year or two ago. Now adults i.e. senior seem to have a place in our community passages has help this a lot
- No it isn't
- I think it is less true now that it was in the 60's but it is still a welcoming place
- Not accurate at all
- I've felt very welcomed here in Chico
- Agree
- That's nice!
- Chico was welcoming to us. I don't know about others
- Agree
- Yes, due to its diversity
- I would agree
- Yes I would agree
- Agree
- I hope so; we have all come from different backgrounds.

- I have lived here 8 years, in my opinion Chico goes out of its way to show how progressive it is in areas of tolerance, art, ect.
- The only place I have seen "upper-class" citizens dance with people that live in the park. (Concert in the Park).
- Chico is very "white bread" I would feel very intimidated if I was a minority.
- Yes, it has something for everyone
- A fair statement
- Live life to the fullest.
- Very true
- I would hope so. It is in the USA. As long as they are here legally.
- People are people and all are welcome
- I would say that most part of Chico is welcoming
- Agree
- I think that it is welcoming to most
- People are, businesses are very bias
- Yes
- Yes
- I agree with that
- Yes
- Yes College
- On a scale from 1 to 10, 10 being great, I'd say 8
- I must agree I moved here homeless without a job and felt that more people who'd met and talked with didn't look down upon me at less that but gather offered encouragement
- I'd say it's true
- I mostly disagree. A region doesn't determine a welcome, the people do. The people here are generally welcoming and it's the public resources and csucCSUC to thank.
- Most people are welcoming but I have experienced racism from some white people who live here.
- It is a friendly town.
- That is true, very good community, people and diversity.
- Chico can be welcoming to all people but there is some discrimination
- 20 years ago Chico did not feel welcoming to all races and CSUC had very little cultural diversity.
- I agree.
- I would say that the statement sounds good in theory most folks from the minority groups.
- I would disagree.
- Agree
- Chico is welcoming for the most part but there is still plenty of bigotry here
- I think the statement is true
- Yes
- Probably not all people at certain times

- Some people are polite while others are rude
- It is largely true more or less
- Chico is not welcome to all people
- Chico is certainly beautiful; however one does get the conservative vibe
- I would agree
- Yes, I agree. We had "welcome wagon" welcome us to Chico.
- Left blank
- Generally yes. But African Americans in company objected to moving here when they saw the demographics
- My sense of it is (coming from SF which is very culturally diverse) that the parameters of acceptance are much narrower
- No. at times the people here can be very ...
- Pretty right on (compared with other places)
- Yes
- I think so in general
- I have felt very welcome- I see less diversity than other communities
- Not all. We have a lot of work to do- racism and discrimination is prevalent
- Needs work, not even close to being a reality
- No there are good welcoming folks and those that are not...
- Seems relatively open and welcoming
- I would disagree
- No it's not all the time
- It is true. I have felt welcomed and comfortable, especially within Chico state
- I felt that way five years ago, but I don't feel that way today
- To my 9 years here I feel that it is I have never had any problems here
- No it tries but white (old) people feel that they own it because they settled here first
- I don't know, haven't seen much I feel like the city tries to project what the statement says but from talking with individuals who are in the minority, this isn't true
- Okay
- I have found Chico to be welcoming and accepting for the most part. There is some discrimination, but it seems to be more of ignorance, then racism
- Somewhat, but okay to me
- There is a good amount of diversity in this city.
- Depend whom you are. Hopefully thing will changes.
- I would agree to the statement
- Could be better, but we all must learn from each other
- Not very friendly when I first got here.
- Somewhat true but there is still racism and ignorance in Chico
- I would agree. Although, I could imagine that those from bigger cities would find its amenities lacking
- Don't completely agree
- Chico is an open and friendly environment with great hospitality

- For the most part I would agree
- Subjective

1.3 What has been the greatest contributing factor to continuing your residence in Chico?

- It continues to have things that draw us here in the first place
- Good jobs; nice environment; university events.
- I love Chico! The people, the places, events & Bidwell Pks.-love it all
- Work
- Job and raising a family. Small size, university opportunities.
- Relationships built over time. A great place to raise kids- if you're the dominant culture.
- My continuing education at Chico State.
- I love being in a town you can get your arms around (vs. LA where I lived for 30 years)
- Friends and family
- Love the town, married and have raised 2 children here
- Finding a church that welcomes you to learning and growing in knowledge and understanding of being part of true community
- Friendships and the ability to volunteer/be altruistic with others and form new relationships.
- My husband had a reasonably good job.
- My job
- Maintain the traditional value.
- My job- great place to live.
- Quality of life; the people
- Lack of ambition (LOL) I really like the compact urban form and how easy it is to live here
- Again the people and my children know Chico as home
- My age, my friends. I love everything there is to do here for every taste.
- I like being here. See 1.1 above.
- Work neighbors location (near wonderful No CA Bay Area places)
- Inexpensive to live here
- my children are here
- Roots/family/job
- Being able to secure employment
- Employment (his)
- I'm married to my husband and I really like Chico
- The people, beautiful country
- Children and grandchildren still live here
- We moved everything here and so won't move again
- The community itself
- Enjoy the small town feel

- Husband's job
- Family all lives near
- Family, friendly, out door activities
- Established business, sense of community from friends and neighbors- friends and businesses pulling together to help one another.
- Location and convenience only
- All my family is here and I know and feel comfortable with the community.
- I like the small town feel and how strongly we are networked here.
- My husband's job is stable and no need to search elsewhere.
- All around nice place to live, small but has lots to do.
- Probably the rent
- Job, home, kids
- Small town feel with a lot of activities like a bigger city.
- Chico is relatively small-Great Park
- My family
- Great place to raise my son
- The parties and tree's basic layout by but you don't notice
- Can't leave from lack of resources
- The Torres community shelter has been very resourceful thank you Torres
- I was born here
- The Jesus Christ Center and the churches whom have gotten involved in the community
- The help for the homeless
- Work
- Fun and school
- My employment at a local landscaping company
- All the assistances available
- Money
- Small town environment and I like the school my children attend
- Making friends
- My job, excellent city, good schools. The city is clean, non violence and lots of events
- My family still resides in Chico
- Marriage and job opportunities for spouse also
- My roots in the community - church, school, family
- Employment and education for my wife
- Husband lives here
- The pleasant aspects of living in a small friendly community
- My family and my school
- Jobs
- Employment
- Transportation and employment
- The fact that my family lives here
- I bought my house in Chico

- My mother was born here on the racheria- we are the first people of this area
- Family
- Living in a beautiful city with lots of fun things to do and the parks and swimming holes. Family and the small town feeling
- Employment
- Education
- Work
- Family
- The people I met while doing house painting in the area
- Age and health makes moving difficult- care here well.
- Ease of living- constant parade of events
- Affordable home, slower pace of life, outdoor activities
- Career
- Family and friends
- Black faculty and staff at Chico state
- My job
- Love my job
- Job. I like my job and I see a future here for me
- I still feel as though it's a great place to raise your children
- Its growing nice environment
- I can't afford to leave because I have a job and have been working there for a long time children school and college
- Still retains a small town feel, where people are friendly and welcoming for the most part quiet, not a lot crime
- CSU Chico

1.4 What has been the greatest obstacle to overcome in continuing your residence in Chico?

- Rice fields and other forms of smoke and air pollution. Ie: wood-burning stoves.
- Smoke in the air! Can't breathe or exercise!
- Employment
- NA
- Hot summers
- Currently unemployed and kids through college now.
- Finances. There are limited employment opportunities at this time.
- I'm getting old- good facilities for the elderly are limited.
- Wealthy enough to move to Hawaii
- Finding good inexpensive housing since 1981. Now as a senior and I like my remodeled mobile home from purchase 2011.
- Job (I am a film producer)
- I'm very concerned that Chico isn't requiring people to have EPA-approved wood heaters. My mother has COPD. It's not fun! People think they are saving money

and not being bussed around it they can keep their Smokey stoves. I think they will come to regret not protecting their lungs.

- Long hot summers and poor air quality
- New language, new philosophy of the city. Environment
- None
- Gainful employment that challenges me.
- I'm pretty well situated, so I don't have much to say here
- Employment with the City of Chico!
- I am low income on SSI. Have been waiting to get into low income senior housing for 3 years.
- Solid employment fitting my skills and education.
- None
- Negative attitude
- Affordable housing
- None-I love it here or would move
- Being out of work
- Making friends not acquaintances
- None
- None
- None
- I miss our view out to the bay... And the quiet... and some of my friends
- None
- Employment opportunities
- Summer heat
- Economy
- Four our family, nothing I can recall but I do know jobs are hard to come by. A call center would be something to bring jobs, customer service, etc.
- Business taxes and regulations- dealing with larger classroom situations, allowing non English speaking students to take away from classroom time
- The political nature of the city, probably due to the university.
- There are few high paying jobs.
- Work for my husband. He was self employed for years and it was rough.
- We would like to upgrade housing but unable to make the jump. No real obstacles just hard to gauge economy
- Buying a home, but we will still live here.
- The housing assistant
- Recent divorce (being in same town and having same friends)
- Money (taxes) that go to CARD. They collect business taxes, and then compete against the business, that supports them with the tax.
- There is no obstacle as long as the government is not taken over
- Finding jobs. My husband was laid off and took almost 11 months to find employment
- Job opportunities
- Rent prices

- No jobs
- The Torres shelter so far
- Housing
- Finding employment as well as housing
- Finding work
- Living was, overate market value of rents
- None
- Low wagger and high rent
- Homeless/ job
- Myself and money
- Racism that I have received from a small percentage of people here
- The new bus route
- Some of the jobs are not well paid, is very difficult to find good jobs
- High school experiences involving safety
- Varying responses of my mixed cultural marriage from many "white" Chico residents over last 15 years
- Lack of work
- Rent is too damn expensive
- None
- Dealing with ignorant bigoted individuals
- Nothing so far
- Heat plus high prices
- Rent
- Transportation and employment
- The lack of job opportunities
- Cultural barriers is the greatest obstacle
- 20 years ago there weren't many opportunities for minorities. No recruitment at high school or higher Ed. I did leave the area for eddo and returned to Chico after that
- Job availability
- Getting too crowded
- Lack of good paying employment
- The lack of other jobs if I should leave this one
- Age discrimination- employment seems hard to get
- The inability of the city to see the future- this city seems to stifle economic growth and innovation
- Economic factors- tough to make a living here
- I don't want to move away from here
- None
- Slow economy
- Lack of diversity, racism
- Lack of shopping and social outlets for mature people. No urban radio station/ etc.
- Ignorance- but you can find that everywhere
- No service issue with community

- Lack of diversity, lack of young prof. community
- Not a lot of cultural variety
- I am a young professional. Social life is difficult for someone like me
- Not enough diversity
- I'm on a fixed income so if the rent was more stable it would help me out greatly
- My employment. I don't want to lose my benefits by having to start a new job somewhere else
- Racism in Chico. Trouble in apartment police take side don't look at the fact before judge me.
- Being answered and now having contentious city council making decisions that affect us
- Find a good job for my family
- Good jobs are scarce
- Jobs. No work very hard to find. Look for job no answered
- There's a mall and plenty of parks, but no zoo. Needs some more attractions.
- Jobs, very difficulty and racism
- The party college students near where I live, it gets dangerous there are safety concerns in the past years.
- Can't find a job to help family after Finish College.
- Frustration in looking for a job to help my family and the police
- Finding a good job to support my family
- Finding suitable employment
- Employment opportunities
- The increase of the city's population made living conditions harsh
- Finding a decent job
- School/work

1.5 Tell us about your most positive experience living in Chico.

- Bidwell Park & Chico State University, bike trails, walking trails & sidewalks, museums, the arts.
- Relaxed community- esp. Farmer's Market
- Bidwell Park always peace
- Family and friends
- I have found it to be a friendly community. I have found a great church and I have many good friends. The card programs, Olli programs, CSU and Chico Sports Club and Chico Symphony.
- Farmers market, art encouraged, thank you for supporting Chico performances, the music scene is vibrant.
- Being a part of the humanities here. Local theaters, musicals, ballets, plays and symphonies.
- Love Chico participation
- Job, church, schools, downtown environment

- schools > elem--> CSUC (Butte also). What colleges offer the community?
 - Learning to square dance and laugh at myself at therapy for working through a tough personal starting over in Chico
 - Cycling to the 1 Mile and swimming; hiking Bidwell Park, attending concerts and lectures at CSU Chico, and lectures at Bidwell's Presbyterian Church
 - I've been very pleased with the public schools in Chico. I also love riding my bike here.
 - Generally being able to do my errands by bicycle
 - Friendly and compassionate people
 - No commute; interesting people; church community; easy to make friends
 - Being involved in community politics, serving the city
 - The ease of getting around and the natural and agricultural environment really make it a good place to live.
 - Reduced crime rate as opposed to bigger cities
 - The friendly people-living in an eco-friendly community
-
- Bike walk to wonderful events, music, people, farmers market
 - Great parks and arts/music
 - Working for passages
 - Growing old here
 - The fantastic people who live here
 - Getting familiar with downtown business people
 - Chico is a very friendly town and I like being around the college kids they are so full of life
 - Very friendly and relaxed. Many residents interested in healthy lifestyles and the protection of the environment
 - None
 - The trinity Methodist church took me right in
 - n/a
 - Owning our 1st home
 - Friendly people, beautiful parks
 - Raising my children here, Bidwell Park
 - People in Chico are very friendly, it's sort of like a big melting pot, know all is really from here, but lots of people choose to stay here.
 - Local events- downtown markets, concerts, and parades- even though I don't always attend, they define Chico.
 - The polar bear swims are fun
 - Bidwell Park!
 - Too many to list. But probably the most positive is being a member of Bidwell Presbyterian Church where we feel connected to something bigger than ourselves, locally and globally- all 5 of us in our family
 - Have met wonderful lifelong friends. There are opportunities for both our boys to do whatever they have interest in.
 - Friendly people

- I grow up in Chico
- Friend I've made
- Nice people, Xmas Preview, Kids have good friends.
- People making decisions best for Chico not based on political agenda.
- How the community gets together
- Having my son
- Hasn't changed too much gradual change
- Drug induced rave parties
- The Torres shelter
- Meeting a very beautiful women
- The Torres shelter providing a safe living environment
- Shelter
- There are still some good people left
- School and people
- The Torres shelter has been the most positive experience I've had in Chico for many reasons
- Meeting people
- Coming to terms
- Meeting my wife, receiving an education and job opportunities. My church community has been a great influence here to my life and family
- Making friends with Taz and Bob
- Been very welcoming (my neighborhood is very nice people) the people is very nice
- Attending Butte College was a great experience, very positive and productive
- Being involved in organizations such as nurses union and American cancer society that focus on improving situations in our community
- The parks and art festivals
- Bidwell Park is amazing, but my most positive experience was attending Chico state
- Many friendly people
- Generally speaking, I enjoy the cultural elements brought here because of the university
- The quietness and the school condition
- Nice mountains and weather
- Unsure
- The bus drivers are usually helpful and nice
- I met my bf here when we were in high school
- I have been treated well by the city government
- Living with the natural resources- knowing that my people live off these lands, fished big Chico creek- Sac River etc.
- Any nature experience that I had, also the welcoming attitude of the university when I was in college
- Being Hispanic was never an issue for me. Growing up in Chico since I was 12 years old was fun

- Small town communities where you see people you know when you walk down the street.
- Small town atmosphere- friendly people who talk freely to strangers
- People are warm and friendly
- Most small businesses are consumer friendly
- The friendly people
- Meeting and hooking up with a good physician
- Obtaining my degree, my job, finding the love of my life
- Lack of traffic congestion
- Great people- safe environment for my family
- Coffee shops/ theaters/ bookstores
- My colleagues have made Chico amazing. The Has not been the most positive experience
- Working at the university
- The exposure to different people working for Chico state unit.
- When I moved here 5 years ago I was walking in the rain with my 2 children and an older lady pulled over and offered us a ride
- Most positive experience is finding a good church home and meeting some positive people
- Going to the university and learning that young people don't think or act like the old ones
- Family, school for my children's
- Raising our kids and having them be a big part of the arts community (musical theater)
- The city friendly not like the one I came from
- Chico state has turned out to be exactly the kind of school that is right for me
- school and small enough get around
- The people seem to be friendly. No road rage.
- Park, school for all children's
- The positive experience living in Chico is the small community almost everyone knows everyone and service providers are fairly connected well with each other, they also work well with each other.
- I like school, college they are closed.
- I enjoy living here, friendly community but sometimes the bars doesn't treat you right
- Good community events that I can take my kids to
- Waking up and riding to Upper Park to go for a run... always great
- All the "green" companies/ farmers market
- The k-12 education programs and the University of Chico is the biggest reason to being a resident in Chico
- Working on campus
- Gaining full-time job w/benefits

1.6 Tell us about your most negative experience living in Chico.

- Air pollution- smoke from allowing burning, concern about selling our water & ground water.
- Smoke in the air!!
- One experience of prejudice against a Jewish friend after 'Passion of the Christ' came out - in Bidwell Park- youth threatened my friends safety- quickly dissipated though.
- NA
- The loss of Jane Poland's Reelection in part because of negative comments that were basically untrue and the election of such an important position away from Nov elections
- Walking downtown and a car drives by and a gun shot goes off.
- The partying problem. Although it is localized to certain areas, the drug and underage drinking problem is a real issue.
- Fog and short winter days
- Trash dumped/old vehicles not disposed of.
- Coming out at the end of the "Growth through Divorce"
- Being single/divorced and injured by some Christian churches
- Bad air quality, esp the fires in 2008
- Having to leave during July and August 2008 due to the poor air quality.
- Aggressive and uncaring people dominate
- Student deaths; downtown student culture
- I can't think of anything
- Mostly of my own doing. Can't fault the town or authorities.
- Being harassed constantly by the police and other law enforcement agencies
- Finding work- a place to live.
- The pedicab "noise", pollution in downtown. It continues although the city council passed an ordinance against it.
- Rice burning smoke (past) super super hot days
- Rude people, too cheap, who don't want to be involved but vocally complain,
- doing city park into cement hate the new city park no shade- to hot not inviting stop trying to take the small town feeling away.
- None- it is all I ever wanted
- Lousy service in a local restaurant. Really, that is about it.
- Arrogant attitudes about Chico being flawless- many deny/ignore problems (gangs, drugs, etc) with a "not in our town" attitude
- I have no negative experience here
- None
- None
- Heat in summer
- n/a
- Employment (I recently was working in Bay Area)
- Beggars on street corners
- The gangs coming and forming in Chico, homeless situation

- For us being from Montero County, the weather here is hard to get used to here.
- Jumping through the hoops of owning a business and dealing with building a home being owner/contractor, trying to open a preschool with city limits.
- My brother, a war veteran, and I were given a hard time downtown by some hippie who overheard our conversation.
- Parking (meters and no parking) downtown.
- I was not able to stand up to a bully boss and left a job after 24 years!
- Feel Chico is missing out on bringing in larger business and therefore more revenue.
- CSU students wrecking up area around school
- Not much work around
- Same answer as 1.4
- Too hot in the summer, but you can't fix that. Schools cutting sports programs hen District Management and Teachers have big pensions and good pay while the rest of us ...for a living
- Experiences have been good.
- The violence that seems to increase every year
- The drinking/ partying
- Traffic, displacing fields that have been...
- No jobs
- No
- The ignorant people
- Not having any where to go out of the element during the day time
- No work
- Drunken college students
- One racist experience
- I don't have any to tell, when you climbing back up lifer ladder after being on the bottom, I tend to view negative experiences as just lessons to learn and move on
- Homeless
- Resisting the terms
- There have been a couple of negative events that have occurred since I moved her in 1990 (racist in nature)
- New bus schedule
- Racism, some people look at me angry some times because my accent (foreign) they don't like it
- Attending high school and pleasant valley
- Racism against blacks, Hispanics and Asians, mainly hearing "opinions and observing behaviors of locals in my job as a nurse"
- The lack of opportunity for the homeless. Ie, jobs that pay a living wage
- None
- The heat in the summer
- Bad rental properties
- Unsure
- People were racist toward my roommate or me

- When they ruined the park downtown and cut down all the trees
- I faced mainly racist issues in Chico
- Growing up in an all white community was difficult (forty years)
- Finding a job after college
- Seeing Chico grow so much. I liked it when it was small- it was safe to live here years ago.
- I work downtown and since we have a homeless shelter I feel that letting homeless sleep on the street or by the creek should not be tolerated the smell of marijuana is very strong around 3pm everyday by the creek and panhandling is not good.
- town hall meeting
- ... Does not meet people's needs. Got lost (late to class) in Bidwell park due to lack of adequate signage
- The city government and police seem biased and authoritative
- Dealing with local police. Two negative encounters. Refusing to respond to call after my shop destroyed in fight between customers (6 of them, 3 on each side)
- The rude behavior of the police (over a case of misidentification) (they mistook me for someone else and refused to apologize for the harsh treatment they dished out)
- Everette Apartments- unfair policies and crooked people!
- Almost being ran over by a truck full of white men. It was racially motivated.
- The incident with the CSU Chico as president (last yr)
- Having to drive to sac, san fran, oakland for hair care products, ethnic food, entertainment.
- Being called 'n' word- told that not a good idea to buy house in certain area, because of color of my skin. Kids might have a tough time.
- Nothing negative
- The racism I have encountered
- Students telling me someone called them a nigger.
- I have felt isolated and not able to connect with the community
- I was walking with my children and some white people rode by and called us niggers.
- Most negative experience landlord dog bit my wife and because his dog was taken away we were evicted
- Being isolated from community activity that are not sponsored by my ethnic group
- Parking, noise and neighbor conflict police rude to want to listen.
- My experience run in with police auto accident did not talk to me only other driver
- A lot of partying, although it is kept in control for the most part
- Police not very friendly. Judge people before talk to them
- Highway traffic
- Pull over by law enforcement for no reason than my color
- Someone displaying racism in my neighborhood.

- Run in with police, getting a tickets for no violation and obey the rule. Probable my color
- Harass by police not just me a lot of Hmong people felt this same way too.
- Being called racist clurs by school age children whose parents probably don't know any better
- I can't think of one off the top of my head
- The minimal amount of employment opportunities.
- High school
- Drug testing

1.7 Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your experience living in Chico?

- Great place to live. Let's keep it that way.
- Love Farmer's Mkts, Park, University, Art
- Love it!
- Nope
- The value of Bidwell Park can not be over stated (open space)
- I think it is a beautiful city. Please keep the many trees throughout the city, and the low buildings--no skyline offices.
- Loved living here. Sad about Chico not as safe as it used to be.
- There are so many free things to do in and about Butte County
- Good restaurants, good art galleries and shows, good traffic
- I love that Chico is a nice place to raise a family
- The growth of elitism and liberal ideas tore the people apart
- The Amazing thing to me is that it is a 21st century city that still has the feel of a mid 20th century town. Some of the pressures are here, but not too intensely.
- No. wait yes...I am looking at the departments below and I wonder how many minorities are on the city's workforce
- as an artist, the art community is fab. Although lots of find artists- very competitive
- I occasionally find our police less than "serve and protect" and more "harass and disrespect"
- Concerned involved people
- I love Chico and all it has to offer
- It continues to be fantastic
- It is a wonderful place to raise children
- There must be a way to encourage honest discourse opposed to rhetoric
- I like all the beauty of nature here in Chico
- Can't think of a better place to be
- No
- No
- n/a
- I love the small city experience, after living in a large city for 20 years

- Keep farmers market alive and thriving, along with taste of Chico and concert in the park, keep outdoor activities going.
- I am very impressed with community help, for example, the amount of help AZADS Martial Arts offers our community is wonderful
- I find that this city tries hard to be about "family and tolerance" while doing little for values.
- I am continually disappointed in the way Chico hides and avoids the trouble areas and tries to portray itself as no real issues.
- Financially it was hard to live in Chico but the friendships have made it impossible to leave
- Wish class sizes would shrink again. We feel kids are deeply suffering the effects of 30-1 in elementary and its causing social problems for some kids in upper grades
- Great place to live.
- N/A
- No
- Chico State expects the community to support them but do not in return. Especially their facilities.
- All in all it's a great place to live and raise a family
- Chico city council is run by retards
- na
- It has been great
- A senior center not being utilized for the community
- I love it when the "kids leave" peaceful
- Love it
- I have spent the last 10 years in Oroville and moving to Chico has been a breath of fresh air
- It's a great place
- I don't like all the chemical trails left by jets. Bidwell park is amazing and must remain similarly or more preserved
- I like Chico very much, but there are a small percent of whites that do not like minorities (particularly blacks)
- Chico is a good town
- More bilingual people in school (office area)
- I enjoy the activities that are for afro residents such as the museums and observatory
- Things have changed over the last 20 years, Chico is becoming more diverse. I am hopeful for our sons of mixed race to have a more tolerant experience than my husband and I did
- Chico is a great place to live, the city council try's to listen and folks here are good people (as a rule)
- No
- No
- I enjoy living in Chico and I very proud to being apart of Chico
- No

- I graduated from CSUC- moved away for awhile and returned to raise my children here.
- Left blank
- Would like to see more city participation in MLK holiday, more diversity on boards, etc.
- Chico needs to connect internationally it's a new century!
- No
- No
- Services for seniors seem pretty good here
- Over all I love living here: the beauty, arts, and people.
- This town is definitely a hidden jewel/ paradise in Butte County. It is definitely a joy comparatively
- No
- No
- So far things seem to be well with my family and me
- City employees sometimes think they are better off because they work for the city
- Maybe it change later, I don't know
- There are changes, but job is not much
- Small community, school
- None
- Hope everyone can live as one and stop looking by color.
- Nope, great community, easy access to stores within range of each other
- Learn from one another, forgive
- Look at the whole picture before you put a judge anyone.
- Somewhat positive, I like the small town atmosphere.
- There needs to be more traffic flowing management with more manageable traffic control, this city will be less stressful
- No thank you