



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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Chico City Council Authorizes Esplanade Road Rehabilitation Project

At their April 3rd, 2018 meeting, the Chico City Council approved a resolution for funding the reconstruction of a portion of the Esplanade roadway, from approximately Lindo Channel Bridge to East Avenue. The adopted resolution earmarks funds utilizing the State allocated Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Gas Tax funds for this specific project location, as required by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, also known as SB1. This program increases statewide funding for roadway maintenance projects such as this. In order to receive the funds from the State, a City Council approved resolution must be submitted to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by May 1st, 2018.

The project will include removal of deteriorated and crumbling pavement, placement of new asphalt paving, roadway striping, Class 2 bike lanes and upgraded ADA compliant sidewalk curb ramps. The total improvements are expected to cost approximately \$2.1 million, coming from a combination of funding sources including SB1 Gas Tax and the Council directed Waste Hauler Franchise Revenues.

More specifically, approximately \$1.55 million will be funded with the gas tax revenues raised as a result of the passage of SB1. The intent of SB1 is to invest \$54 billion over the next decade to fix roads, freeways and bridges and improve infrastructure safety in communities throughout the state. The balance of the project cost, approximately \$550,000, will be funded from newly available Waste Hauler Franchise Fees. The fees, which are to be collected from the solid waste and recycling franchisees, will be set aside for road maintenance work throughout the City to offset roadway wear and tear caused by heavy-duty collection trucks.

The project is slated for construction in the spring of 2019. However, the schedule would be impacted if current efforts to repeal SB1 are successful. The estimated potential loss of this year's SB1 gas tax revenue, in addition to projected revenues losses of nearly \$2.1 million annually in subsequent years, would substantially reduce funding available for the City's annual roadway maintenance and infrastructure safety enhancement program and further delay needed road repairs throughout the City, including the Esplanade Rehabilitation Project.

In 2015, the City of Chico performed an update to its Pavement Management Program, which evaluates the conditions of the entire roadway network. On a scale of zero to one-hundred, one-hundred being a newly paved roadway, the City currently holds a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 57, which is in the at-risk category. The statewide average is approximately 66. The outcome of that study also identified a need of approximately \$10 million per year to improve the roadway conditions by about 1 PCI point per year. Currently, with the additional SB1 Gas Tax Funds and the Council directed Waste Hauler Franchise revenues, the City of Chico currently allocates approximately \$4.1 million into its annual roadway maintenance efforts. If SB1 repeal efforts are successful, the annual funding amount would be reduced to approximately \$2 million per year.

For additional information regarding the project, please contact Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works -- Engineering Director, at (530) 879-6900 or brendan.ottoboni@chicoca.gov. For more information regarding SB1, visit <http://rebuildingca.ca.gov/>.

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