



# CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

## *Public Service Announcement*

530-897-4942

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### **Situational awareness when traveling on bike paths at night in Chico**

Simply put, situational awareness is being aware of what is going on around you.

When you are alone at night, you must *anticipate* and *adapt*. *Anticipate* the possibility of being accosted, and *adapt* your habits to help prevent this from happening.

The following tips may help keep you safer when traveling at night:

**Do not travel alone, even short distances.**

**Always stay aware of your surroundings. Put your cell phone away and pay attention to what's going on around and ahead of you. Keep your head up, make eye contact, and walk with confidence.**

**Remove your headphones so you can hear. You may hear trouble before you see it.**

**Avoid poorly lit areas and possible areas of entrapment, such as bushes and blind corners.**

**Let someone know where you are, where you are going, and when to expect you.**

**Avoid unknown or unfamiliar areas.**

**Avoid traveling at night under the influence of alcohol or drugs, which can impair your judgement and reaction time.**

**Keep your valuables, such as cell phones, jewelry, and electronics hidden.**

**Trust your instincts. If a situation doesn't feel right, don't ignore your gut and take chances. Change direction, routes, or call for help.**

**Report any unusual or unsafe activity directly to the Chico Police Department by calling (emergency): 9-1-1, or (non-emergency): 895-4911**

**To report ongoing unsafe crime issues, call 530-896-TIPS (8477) or emailing [chico\\_crime\\_tips@chicoca.gov](mailto:chico_crime_tips@chicoca.gov)**