
INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA

A Committee of the Chico City Council: Councilmembers Reynolds, Winslow, and Chair van Overbeek

Meeting of February 5, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.

Council Chamber Building, 421 Main Street, Conference Room 1

A. VALLOMBROSA WAY PARKING REQUEST

The Public Works – Engineering staff have received a request for additional parking restrictions and preferential parking along Vallombrosa Way between Vallombrosa Avenue and the end of Vallombrosa Way cul-de-sac. (**Report – Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works Director-Engineering**)

Recommendation: The Director of Public Works – Engineering recommends that the Committee:

1. Provide a recommendation to Council along with any comments for the creation of a modified preferential parking district along Vallombrosa Way with the following restrictions.
 - a. Preferential Parking for residents only from 10 PM – 5 AM
 - b. Unrestricted public parking from 5 AM to 10 PM available to the public, facilitating park enjoyment during normal operating hours.
2. Add enforceable parking restrictions from 10 PM – 5 AM near the Peterson Memorial Way entrance to Bidwell Park.

B. CONSIDERATION OF ALLOWING ALCOHOL AT PRIVATE EVENTS IN CITY PLAZA

The Chico Municipal Code allows for the sale of alcoholic beverages at City Plaza during a public event with the proper permit and alcohol license. The Internal Affairs Committee is being asked to consider whether or not the City Council should consider further modifications to the Chico Municipal Code to allow for the sale or provision of alcohol at private events in City Plaza. (**Report – Jennifer Macarthy, Deputy City Manager**)

Recommendation: The City Manager recommends that the Internal Affairs Committee either:

1. Recommend Council consideration of a modification to the Chico Municipal Code to allow for alcohol at private events in City Plaza, or
2. Take no action.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda and within the jurisdiction's authority. Comments will be limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair based on the number of speakers. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

D. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting will adjourn to the next regular Internal Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, March 4, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT

NOTE: Citizens and other interested parties are encouraged to participate in the public process and will be invited to address the Committee regarding each item on the agenda.

Distribution available in the office of the City Clerk

Posted: 01-31-24 prior to 5:00 p.m. at 421 Main St. Chico, CA 95928 and www.ci.chico.ca.us

Copies of the agenda packet are available for review at: City Clerk's Office, 411 Main St. Chico, CA 95928



Please contact the City Clerk at 896-7250 should you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting. This request should be received at least three working days prior to the meeting in order to accommodate your request.



Internal Affairs Committee Agenda Report

Meeting Date: 02/05/24

TO: Internal Affairs Committee

FROM: Director of Public Works - Engineering, Brendan Ottoboni, (530) 879-6901

RE: Vallombrosa Way Parking Request

REPORT IN BRIEF

The Public Works – Engineering Department has received a request advocating for additional parking restrictions and preferential parking along Vallombrosa Way between Vallombrosa Avenue and the end of the Vallombrosa Way cul-de-sac (Attachment A), affecting eight (8) parcels. Due to the proximity of Bidwell Park and the parking impacts faced by this specific area, staff is requesting direction on the following proposed actions:

1. Provide a recommendation to the Council, accompanied by any comments, for establishing a modified preferential parking district along Vallombrosa Way with the following restrictions.
 - a. Preferential parking for residents only from 10 PM to 5 AM.
 - b. Unrestricted public parking from 5 AM to 10 PM available to the public, facilitating park enjoyment during normal operating hours.
2. Add enforceable parking restrictions from 10 PM to 5 AM near the Peterson Memorial Way entrance to Bidwell Park.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated costs to install signage are approximately \$1,000-\$1,500. The administration of the parking program will be funded by the existing preferential parking fee program, which currently charges \$24 per year for residential permits.

BACKGROUND

The Public Works – Engineering Department received a request advocating for parking restrictions and preferential parking along Vallombrosa Way between Vallombrosa Avenue and the end of the Vallombrosa Way cul-de-sac. Primary concerns expressed were the current restricted parking during evening hours, hindering the utilization of available parking spaces. Currently, parking on Vallombrosa Way from 10 PM to 5 AM, limiting access to nearby residents.

Discussion:

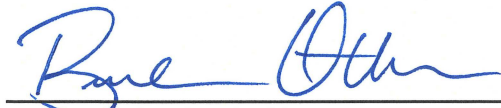
Establishing a preferential parking area would address the parking concerns of residents while allowing the general public to park during normal Bidwell Park Hours. Given the limited parking enforcement hours (9 AM to 6 PM, Monday through Friday), a preferential district's enforcement would rely on resident complaints, with pro-active enforcement limited by Police Department resources and unit availability during evening hours. Typically, preferential parking districts are restricted to local resident use only. However, in this case, residents have recognized the benefit and necessity of public parking in the area, given Bidwell Park's adjacency to the neighborhood.

PUBLIC CONTACT


Engagement has occurred with residents from Vallombrosa Way, the Chico Police Department, Code Enforcement, and the Operations and Maintenance Department for Bidwell Park.

Reviewed by:

Approved and recommended by:



Brendan Ottoboni, Director of Public Works,
Engineering



Mark Sorensen, City Manager

DISTRIBUTION:

City Clerk (3)

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Proposed Parking Zone Updates
- B. Neighborhood appeal



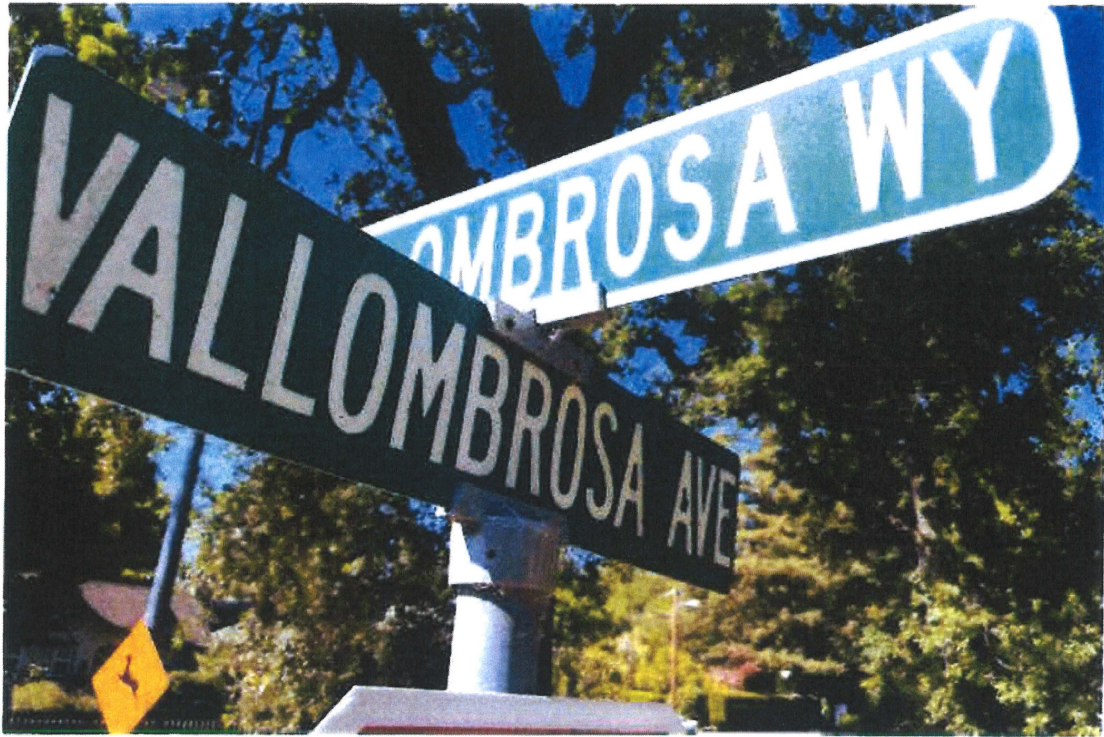
Designed: KS	Approved: BO	Revision	Date	By
Drawn By: SH	Date: 12/11/2023			
Checked: WW				

CITY OF CHICO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



Attachment A
Proposed Parking Amendments

Project Number: TE-280	Drawing Number: 1
Scale: 1/4" = 1'	Sheet 1 of 1



Vallombrosa Way

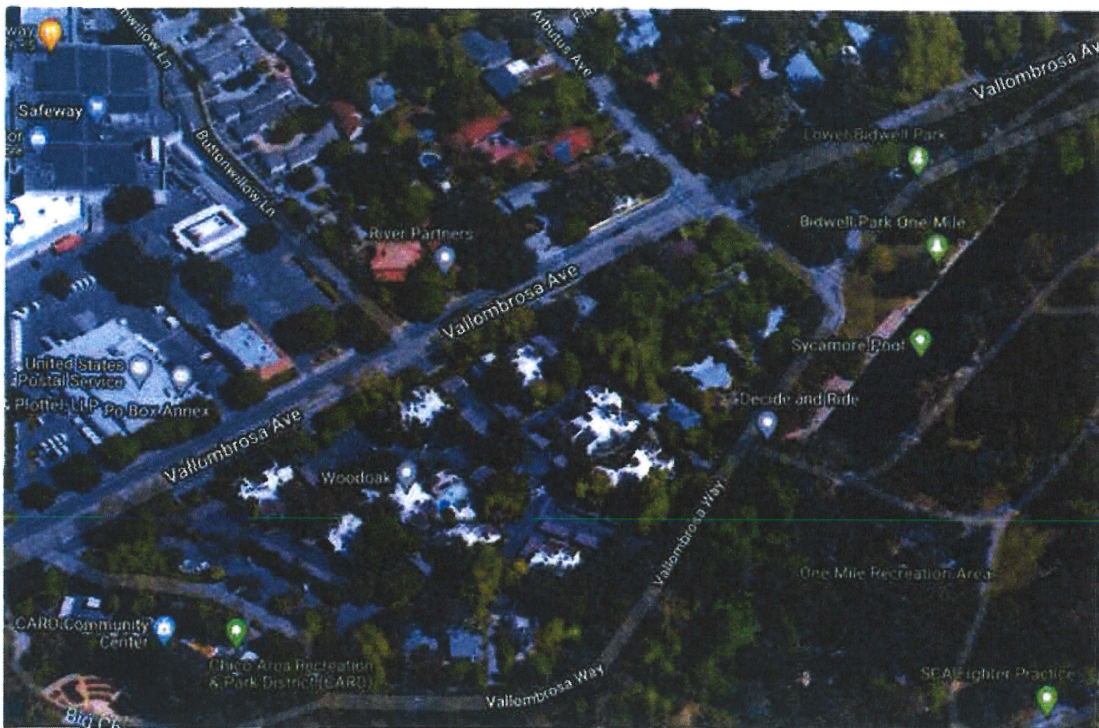
Citizens' Petition for Modification of Existing Parking Restrictions

DESCRIPTION:

Vallombrosa Way is a residential street located in the City of Chico, California. It originates in a controlled intersection with Vallombrosa Avenue and the 600-block of Arbutus Avenue and terminates in a culdesac near the CARD Center.

Vallombrosa Way is a primary access point for Lower Bidwell Park and the One-Mile recreation area. Street parking allows convenient early morning, pre-opening, Park access for joggers, walkers, swimmers, and bicyclists. After opening hours, it facilitates entry to the gated parking lot on the North side of Sycamore Pool.

One side of Vallombrosa Way is home to 8 single-family residences as well as the southern edge of the Woodoak condominium community. The other side of Vallombrosa Way abuts the terminal edge of Lower Bidwell Park.



ISSUE:

In a word, parking.

Although Vallombrosa Way is a single street, there are functionally two sections, with two distinct parking issues. There is Vallombrosa Way “before the bend” and there is Vallombrosa Way “after the bend.”

“Before the bend” constitutes the initial 150-foot stretch that ends at the gated One-Mile parking lot. This section of Vallombrosa Way is home to two single-family residences. There are no parking restrictions currently imposed on this initial 150-foot stretch.

“After the bend” constitutes the remainder of Vallombrosa Way, from the One-Mile parking lot gate to the terminal end near the CARD Center. It is home to six single-family residences and the southern edge of the Woodoak community. This section has existing parking restrictions in place, creating a no parking zone between the hours of 10.00PM and 5.00AM. These hours roughly comport with Bidwell Park access hours and are within reasonable striking distance of the One-Mile parking lot gate hours.

As residents of Vallombrosa Way, the undersigned of this petition are hopeful that the City of Chico will address the parking needs of “both ends” of our street through a modification of the current parking restrictions.



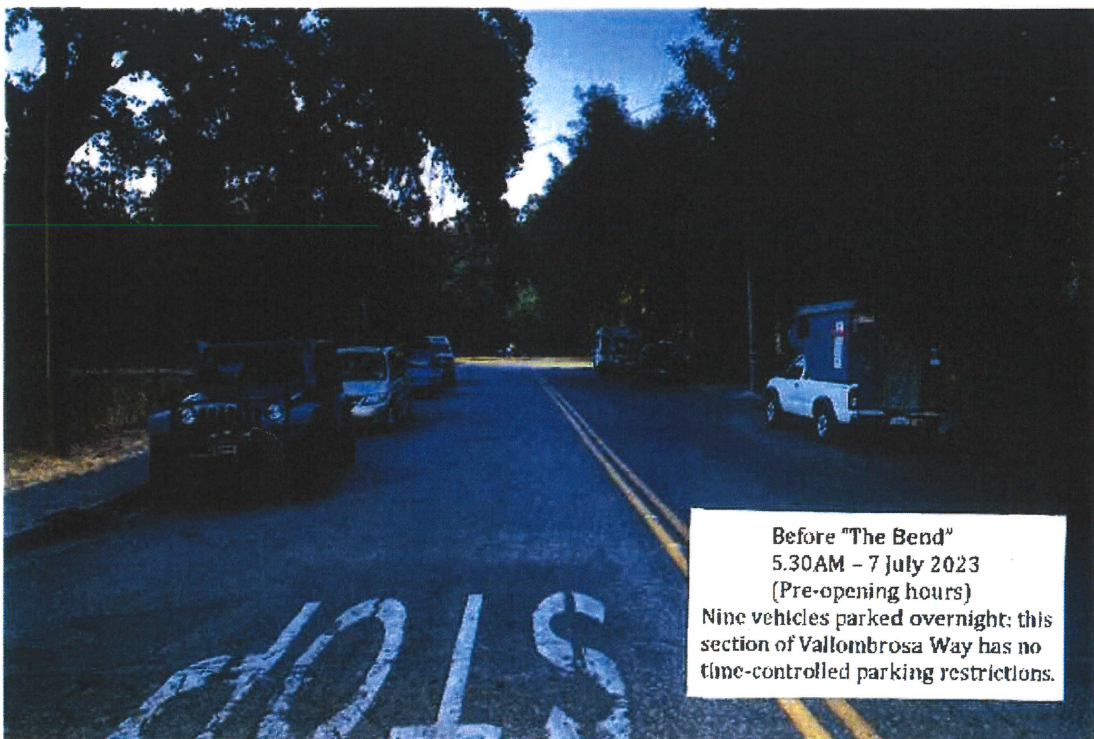
"BEFORE THE BEND"

The issue on the initial portion of Vallombrosa Way - we believe largely due to an absence of parking restrictions - is fairly evident. With no restrictions on overnight parking, this stretch of Vallombrosa Way has become a dumping ground for non-running vehicles and an overnight campsite for running vehicles. It is not uncommon to find 8 or 9 non-resident vehicles stationed out front on any given night after the One-Mile gate closes (see photos, taken 5.30AM on 7 July 2023). It is not an uncommon sight to witness a tow truck hauling yet another disabled car or truck to this stretch of Vallombrosa Way. We have had disabled vehicles (plural) parked here for well over 6 months in the past before managing to have them removed. The removal process is at best complicated and can often times be confrontational in nature between home-owners and vehicle occupants.

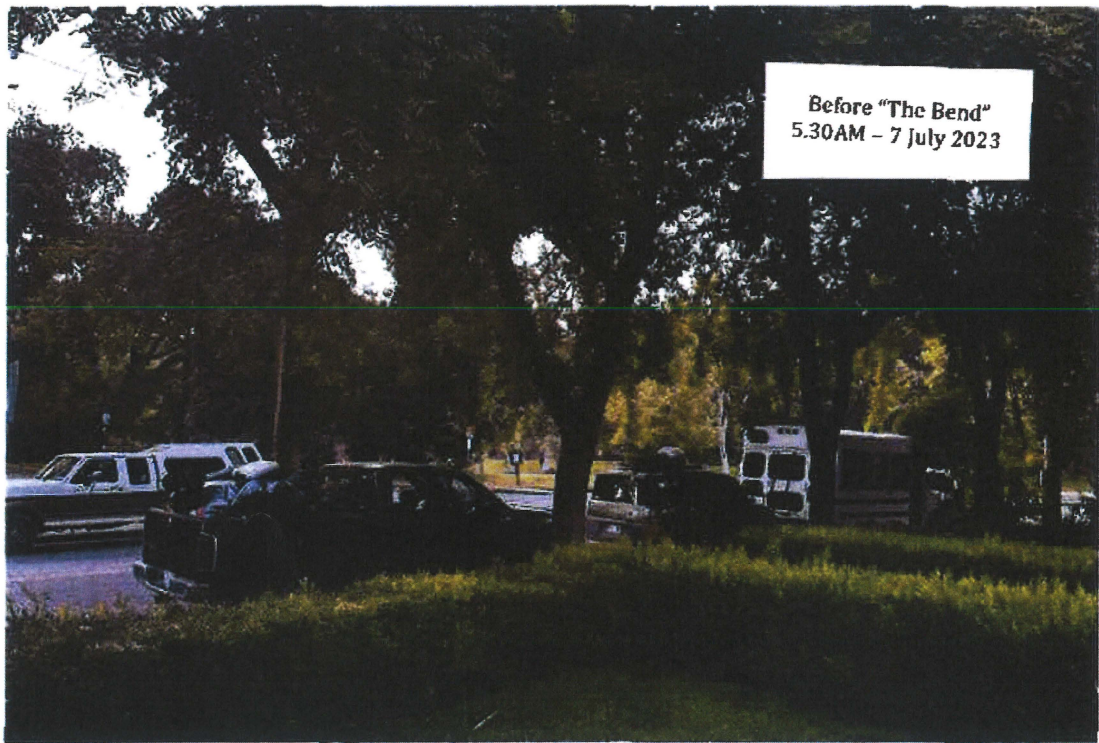
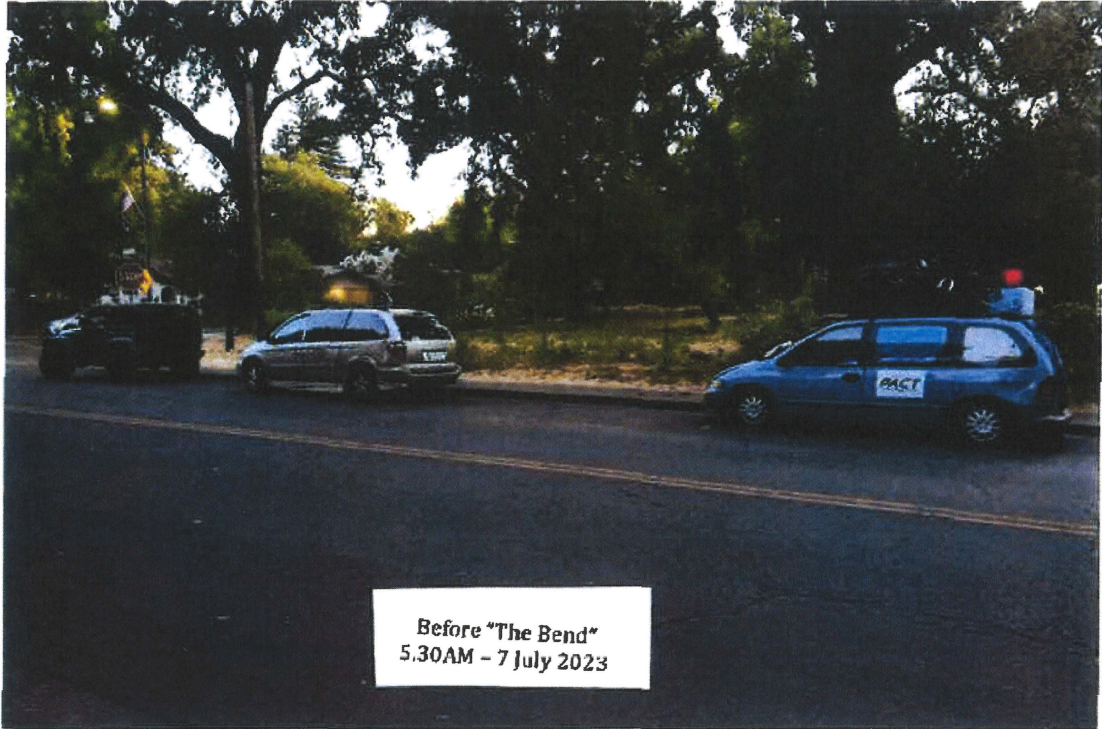
Mind you, this is not an entire street we're referencing, but a mere 150-foot section of one street. Most parking spaces are occupied just after sundown. Nine vehicles parked here means that by early evening there are close to zero available parking spaces for residents of that section of Vallombrosa Way. There are close to zero parking spaces for their guests. And close to zero parking spaces for early morning Bidwell Park users.

City of Chico traffic division officers and volunteers regularly visit this part of Vallombrosa Way, trying their best to mitigate the situation. We hugely appreciate their efforts. Please speak with them. I'm sure they will attest to this portion of Vallombrosa Way constituting a significant parking issue.

We suspect no similar stretch of any Chico residential street is more greatly impacted than the "Before the Bend" section of Vallombrosa Way.









This section of Vallombrosa Way is heavily impacted by long-term parking of non-running vehicles. This particular vehicle was parked for over 9-months. These vehicles have been either towed or pushed here.



This vehicle has been parked, after towing, for the past 2-months.

★ HAVE NEW
TRANSMISSION
AND CLUTCH
NEED PLACE
TO INSTALL
DANIEL ★



This vehicle arrived one-week ago. We expect to see it for some time.

"AFTER THE BEND"

The issue here, on this portion of Vallombrosa Way, is different. This section does not feel the impact of multiple non-resident vehicles parking overnight or remaining for extended periods. Non-resident vehicles are not towed here. We believe this is, again, largely due to parking restrictions being imposed.

However, the same parking restrictions that abate the overnight parking issue also preclude these Vallombrosa Way residents from parking their own vehicles on the street overnight as well. These homes tend to be older, with small or even single-stack driveways. It can be difficult to accommodate relatives and guests in such a driveway. It can be inconvenient to repeatedly move multiple vehicles out of a single-stack driveway to access the one car or truck you need at that moment.

It would be much more convenient to be able to park a vehicle or two, whether owned by the resident or by their guest, on the street overnight or for the long holiday weekend.

But many residents of Vallombrosa Way do not enjoy that option.

There is a better way.





PROPOSAL:

1. We recognize the City's need to facilitate street-parking during "normal use" hours for visitors of Bidwell Park, which includes a reasonable period of time prior to Park opening and a reasonable period of time after Park closing.
2. We recognize that residents of Vallombrosa Way have street-parking needs independent of the City's need to accommodate Park visitors. These needs include the ability to street-park their own vehicles overnight, and having reasonable access to guest street-parking for extended periods of time.
3. We recognize, through conversations with Chico traffic officers and volunteers, that the lack of parking restrictions in place limit their ability to address the parking needs of both Vallombrosa Way residents and non-resident Bidwell Park visitors alike.
4. We propose that the current parking restrictions on Vallombrosa Way be modified to the following:
 - a. "Before the Bend" : **Parking restrictions added.** Those added restrictions being "Parking by Preferential Permit Only Between the Hours of 10.00PM and 5.00AM"
 - b. "After the Bend" : **Parking restrictions modified.** Those modified restrictions being "Parking by Preferential Permit Only Between the Hours of 10.00PM and 5.00AM"

PRECEDENT:

The City of Chico currently has permitted preferential parking on several residential streets, such as those found in the Mansion District. These restrictions protect the parking needs of the residents while not unduly imposing on the City's need to meet non-resident parking demand. We believe the same balance can be struck on Vallombrosa Way, and ask the City of Chico to follow its own precedent by imposing overnight Preferential Permit parking restrictions on our street.

We are not asking for the larger issues driving this problem to be solved. We understand the complexities of these matters and understand the City has been grappling with them for years trying to find workable solutions. We are simply asking for parking relief for our over-burdened street.

Thank you for your consideration.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For additional information or if you have any questions, please contact:

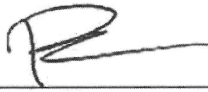
Slade Matthews
678 Vallombrosa Way
Chico, California 95926
530.521.8909

UNDERSIGNED:

We the undersigned hereby petition the City of Chico to enact the requested modifications outlined in the above proposal.

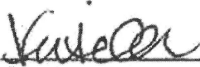
Name: RAYMOND SLADE MATTHEWS

Address: 678 VALLOMBROSA WAY, CHICO CA

Signature & Date:  10 JUL '23

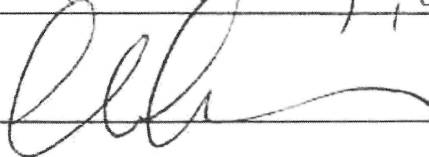
Name: Victoria L. Ota

Address: 678 Vallombrosa Way Chico CA 95926

Signature & Date:  07/10/2023

Name: Chris Fosen

Address: 686 Vallombrosa Way, Chico CA 95926

Signature & Date:  7/10/2023

Name: Allyn Bordan

Address: 572 Vallombrosa Way Chico CA 95926

Signature & Date: Allyn Bordan 8/11/23

UNDERSIGNED:

We the undersigned hereby petition the City of Chico to enact the requested modifications outlined in the above proposal.


Name: JAMES BONDAN

Address: 572 VALLOMBROSA WAY CHICO CA 95926

Signature & Date:  8-11-2023

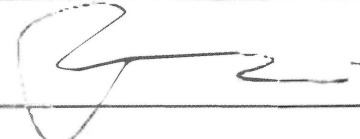
Name: Carol DiGiovanni

Address: 578 Vallombrosa Way, Chico, CA 95926

Signature & Date:  8/12/2023

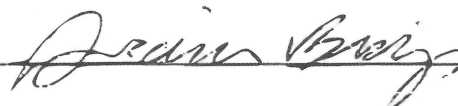
Name: Tom DiGiovanni

Address: 573 VALLOMBROSA WAY

Signature & Date:  8-12-2023

Name: Diana Bishop

Address: 658 Vallombrosa Way, Chico, CA 95926

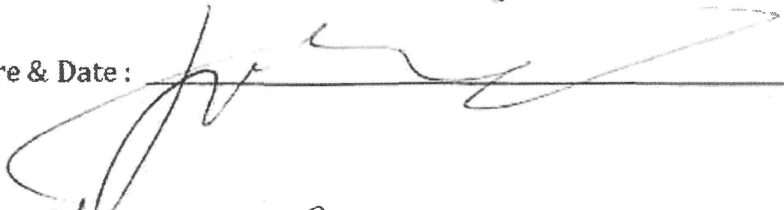
Signature & Date:  8-12-2023

UNDERSIGNED:

We the undersigned hereby petition the City of Chico to enact the requested modifications outlined in the above proposal.

Name: Jonathan Roy

Address: 662 Vallombrosa Way

Signature & Date:  8/11/23

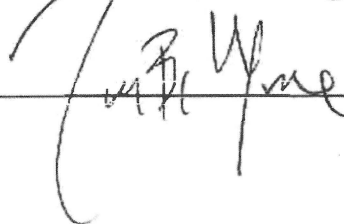
Name: VIANNA BORING

Address: 601 Arbutus, Unit A,

Signature & Date: V.A.B. 8/21/23

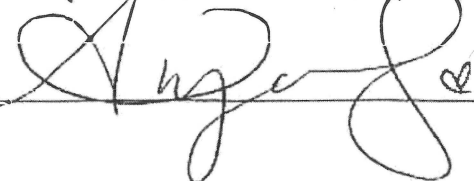
Name: Tim B Moore

Address: 601 Arbutus Unit A

Signature & Date:  _____

Name: Anyana Syvirathphan

Address: 1610 Vallombrosa Ave #A Chico, CA 95926

Signature & Date:  8/22/2023

Name: Claire McClure

Address: 701 Arbutus Ave, Chico CA 95926

Signature & Date: Claire McClure 8/22/23

Name: CORA DAVIS

Address: 703 ARBUTUS AVE CHICO CA 95926

Signature & Date: [Signature] 8/22/2023

Name: Doug Davis

Address: 703 Arbutus Ave, Chico, CA 95926

Signature & Date: [Signature] 8/22/2023


Name: ANDREW McCLURE

Address: 701 Arbutus Ave, Chico, CA 95926

Signature & Date: [Signature] 8/22/2023


Name: Amy Antonigiovanni

Address: 624 Arbutus Ave, Chico 95926

Signature & Date:  8.22.23

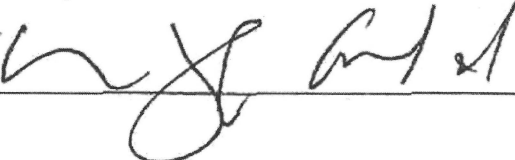
Name: MIKE ANTONGIOVANNI

Address: 624 ARBUTUS AVE CHICO 95926

Signature & Date:  8/22/23

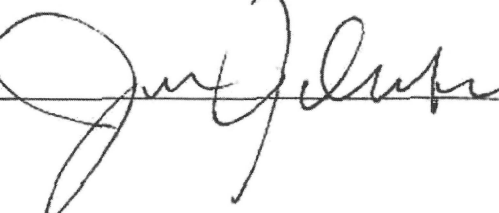
Name: WJ Gold Leonard Goldkind

Address: 610 Arbutus Ave Chico 95926

Signature & Date:  8/22/23

Name: Jud. ZH Johnston

Address: 624 ARBUTUS AVE CHICO CA 95927

Signature & Date:  8-22-23



Internal Affairs Committee Agenda Report

Meeting Date: February 5, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: Mark Sorensen, City Manager

RE: Consideration of Allowing Alcohol at Private Events in City Plaza

REPORT IN BRIEF:

The City of Chico was contacted by a local business regarding their interest in hosting their business' 50th anniversary celebration in City Plaza. They are interested in having food, alcohol, and entertainment at this private event. Currently only events open to the public can serve alcohol in City Plaza with the proper permit and alcohol license. The Internal Affairs Committee is being asked to discuss the current policy on alcohol use in City Plaza.

Recommendation:

The City Manager recommends the Internal Affairs Committee either:

1. Recommend Council consideration of a modification to the Chico Municipal Code to allow for alcohol at private events in City Plaza, or
2. Take no action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the Council ultimately approves a modification to the Chico Municipal Code, staff recommends a fee structure be put in place to offset any associated staff costs.

BACKGROUND:

On May 2, 2023, the City Council approved Ordinance 2587 (Attachment A) amending Chapters 12.18 and 12R.04 of the Chico Municipal Code to allow for alcoholic beverages in City Plaza during public events. In summary, the main components of the Code amendment included:

1. Any person may sell alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during a public event as authorized by and pursuant to the valid issuance of a City of Chico Park Use Permit and a license issued by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and any person over the age of 21 years may possess or consume alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during such event.
2. A City of Chico Park Use Permit Authorizing the sale, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in City Plaza shall be filed with the director at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date the public event is to take place.

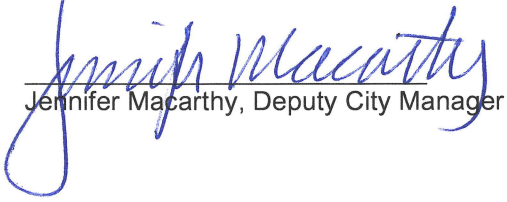
DISCUSSION:

The modifications to the City Municipal Code that occurred in May 2023 relate specifically to the sale of alcoholic beverages at City Plaza during a public event. This modification allowed for events such as the *Chico Live* concert to sell alcohol to eligible attendees who purchased tickets to the concert. Unless an event is considered a "public" event; individuals, businesses, or organizations that are interested in leasing City Plaza, are unable to sell or provide alcohol per the current regulations. Examples of private events that are currently ineligible to sell or provide alcohol at events in City Plaza include such events as business celebrations, weddings, and organizational gatherings that are limited in attendance to specific invitees.

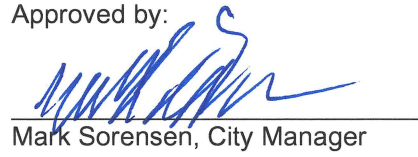
The Internal Affairs Committee is being asked to consider whether or not the City Council should consider further modifications to the Chico Municipal Code to allow for the sale or provision of alcohol at private events in City Plaza. If there is interest in exploring this option, staff would draft proposed language for the proposed Code modification, draft modifications to the existing City of Chico Park Use Permit application process, and propose fees necessary to offset any impacts to staff time.

draft modifications to the existing City of Chico Park Use Permit application process, and propose fees necessary to offset any impacts to staff time.

Prepared by:


Jennifer Macarthy, Deputy City Manager

Approved by:


Mark Sorensen, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Ordinance 2587

ATTACHMENT A

ORDINANCE NO. 2587

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICO,
CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTERS 12.18 AND 12R.04
ADDING TO THE CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 12.18.065
AND 12R.04.060, TITLED "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – CITY
PLAZA"

WHEREAS, the City of Chico ("City") maintains a system of parks, including the City Plaza which is composed of the property in the City of Chico west of Main Street, east of Broadway Street, north of 5th Street and south of 4th Street; and

WHEREAS, currently, Chapters 12.18 and 12R.04 of the Chico Municipal Code (CMC) generally prohibits the manufacture, sale, gifting, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in City parks; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CMC Chapter 12R.10, public events held in a City park must be approved by a Park Use Permit Application; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to Chapters 12.18 and Chapter 12R.04 seek to permit certain public events held in the City Plaza to include the sale, possession and consumption of alcohol, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the Code and an updated Park Use Permit Application; and

WHEREAS, the Chico City Council desires to amend Chapters 12.18 and 12R.04 to add Sections 12.18.065 and 12R.04.060 to the Chico Municipal Code, entitled "Alcoholic beverages – City Plaza" (the "Ordinance"), to permit certain sales, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on City Plaza property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED the Council of the City of Chico does hereby adopt the following Ordinance amending Chapters 12.18 and 12R.04 of the Chico Municipal Code as follows:

SECTION 1. City Code Amendment.

Section 12.418.065 is added to Chapter 12.18 of Article 1, of the Chico Municipal Code to state the following:

12.18.065 Alcoholic beverages – City Plaza.

- A. Notwithstanding sections 12.18.030 and 12.18.050 above, any person may sell alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during a public event as authorized by and pursuant to the valid issuance of a City of Chico Park Use Permit and a license issued by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and any person over the age of 21 years may possess or consume alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during such event, as permitted by this Section 12.18.065.

1 B. Application for a City of Chico Park Use Permit as provided in CMC 12R.10 authorizing
2 the sale, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in City Plaza shall be filed
3 with the director at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date the public event is to
4 take place. Application shall be in the form prescribed by the director and shall contain all
5 information required by the director. Permits authorized by this Subsection B must be
6 approved by the director or designee, the Chief of Police or designee, and the City Manager
7 or designee.

8 C. Following the filing of an application for a permit under this section, the director shall
9 issue a permit granting an exemption from Sections 12.18.030 and 12.18.050 if the director
10 finds that the public event complies with all requirements otherwise set forth in this chapter
11 as well as any reasonable requirements and conditions imposed by the director within or
12 in addition to the permit application, including inclusion of a site plan, security plan, and
13 proof of appropriate insurance.

14 SECTION 2. City Code Amendment.

15 Section 12R.04.060 is added to Chapter 12R.04 of Article II of the Chico Municipal Code to state the
16 following:

17 12R.04.060 Alcoholic beverages – City Plaza.

18 A. Notwithstanding sections 12R.04.030 and 12R.04.050 above, any person may sell
19 alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during a public event as authorized by and pursuant
20 to the valid issuance of a City of Chico Park Use Permit and a license issued by the
21 California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and any person over the age of 21
22 years may possess or consume alcoholic beverages at the City Plaza during such event, as
23 permitted by this Section 12R.04.060.

24 B. Application for a City of Chico Park Use Permit authorizing the sale, possession, and
25 consumption of alcoholic beverages in City Plaza shall be filed with the director at least
26 thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date the event is to take place. Application shall be in
27 the form prescribed by the director and shall contain all information required by the
28 director. Permits authorized by this Subsection B must be approved by the director or
designee, the Chief of Police or designee, and the City Manager or designee.

C. Following the filing of an application for a permit under this section, the director shall
issue a permit granting an exemption from Sections 12R.04.030 and 12R.04.050 if the
director finds that the event complies with all requirements otherwise set forth in this
chapter as well as any reasonable requirements and conditions imposed by the director
within or in addition to the permit application, including inclusion of a site plan, security
plan, and proof of appropriate insurance.

SECTION 3. CEQA. The City Council, on the basis of the whole record and exercising independent
judgment, finds that this Ordinance is exempt from the provision of the California Environmental
Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 16061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty
that there is no possibility that the Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment.

1 SECTION 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, line, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this
2 Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, either facially or as applied, by a
3 decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the
4 remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Chico hereby declares that it
would have passed this Ordinance, and each and every individual section, subsection, line, sentence,
clause, phrase, or word without regard to any such decision.

5 SECTION 5. Effective Date. The Ordinance shall be effective 30 days after adoption by the City
6 Council.

7 SECTION 6. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance
8 and shall cause the same to be published or posted in the manner required by law.

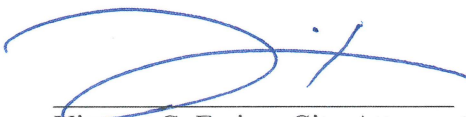
9 THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE was adopted by the City Council of the City of Chico at its duly
10 noticed meeting held on May 2, 2023, by the following vote:

11
12 AYES: Bennett, Morgan, Tandon, van Overbeek, Winslow, Reynolds, Coolidge
13 NOES: None
14 ABSENT: None
15 ABSTAINED: None
16 DISQUALIFIED: None

17 **ATTEST:**

18 
19 Deborah R. Presson, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

20 
21 Vincent C. Ewing, City Attorney*
22 *Pursuant to The Charter of the City of Chico,
23 Section 906(E)
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