



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 6, 2024

*****MEDIA ALERT*****

**CITY OF CHICO'S
ESPLANADE CORRIDOR SAFETY & ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
CLOSURE AT MEMORIAL WAY AND OLEANDER AVENUE**

CHICO, CA -- (June 6, 2024) -- The City of Chico, in collaboration with Franklin Construction, Inc., will be making significant progress on the Esplanade Corridor Safety & Accessibility Improvement Project this summer. The project encompasses the construction of a 1.2-mile Class I bicycle and pedestrian facility along the Esplanade between East 11th Avenue and Memorial Way. Additionally, Class III bike boulevard improvements will be implemented along Oleander Avenue between East 10th Avenue and Memorial Way, including the installation of a new roundabout at the intersection of Oleander Avenue and Memorial Way. Other enhancements, such as upgraded ADA curb ramps and a new traffic signal at the intersection of East 1st Avenue, are also part of the project.

Construction commenced on May 13, 2024, and is expected to conclude in the summer of 2025. Starting Monday, June 10, 2024, a full width roadway closure at Memorial Way and Oleander Avenue will be in place. This area will be closed to all vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians during the Chico Unified School District's summer break and will reopen on Monday, August 16, 2024. This temporary closure is necessary to ensure the work is completed safely and efficiently while Chico Unified Schools are not in session. The City appreciates the community's cooperation and patience during this time.

Funding for this project is provided by the Federal Active Transportation Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program.

Throughout the project, local access within the project construction zone will be managed with traffic controls in place to ensure safety for motorists and construction crews. Temporary delays may occur as crews and equipment maneuver through the area, with the possibility of one-lane traffic during certain phases of the project. Motorists are encouraged to plan routes accordingly, allowing for extra travel time or considering alternate paths if possible.

For more information regarding the Esplanade Corridor Safety & Improvement Project, please visit <https://chico.ca.us/Departments/Engineering/Capital-Projects/Esplanade-Corridor-Safety-and-Accessibility-Improvement-Project/index.html>.

For media inquiries, please contact the Public Works Engineering Department at (530) 879-6900.

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Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the world. For more information, visit www.chico.ca.us.