



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 16, 2024

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

CITY OF CHICO PROVIDES ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES AFFECTING SCHOOLS AS NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

CHICO, CA -- (August 16, 2024) – As the new Chico Unified School District year begins on Monday, August 19th, the City of Chico is providing crucial updates on road construction projects that will impact access to several school sites.

“The City has been undertaking a record-breaking year of infrastructure improvements aimed at enhancing roadway conditions, school safety, and overall traffic efficiency,” said Brendan Ottoboni, Director of Public Works - Engineering for the City of Chico, “We want the community to know about key projects that may affect Chico Junior High School, Chico High School, and Hank Marsh Jr. High School students’ routes to school.”

Parents, students, and staff are advised to anticipate delays and adjust their schedules accordingly based on the following road construction projects.

Esplanade Safety & Accessibility Project

Schools Impacted: Chico Junior High School, Chico High School

- **New Roundabout at Memorial Way and Oleander Avenue:** Located in front of Chico Junior High School, this roundabout will be completed and opened before school starts on Monday, August 19th. The new configuration is designed to improve traffic flow and safety.
- **New Bike Path:** A new bike path is being constructed along the eastern side of the Esplanade to facilitate safer biking routes for students. The portion of the path from Memorial Way to East 2nd Ave will be open and accessible for the start of school on August 19th.
- **Concrete Curb Ramps:** Around Chico High School, new curb ramps have been installed to ensure safe pedestrian access.
- Construction will continue north along the Esplanade, with the project expected to be fully completed by Spring 2025.

Bruce Road Widening Project

School Impacted: Hank Marsh Jr. High School

- **Current Closure:** Bruce Road is currently closed from SR32 to the bridge over Little Chico Creek, affecting access to Hank Marsh Jr. High School.
- **Alternative Temporary Access:** Access on Humboldt Road will temporarily cross Bruce Road until the construction is complete. For the first few weeks of school, an alternative route will be provided via eastbound Humboldt Road to Yosemite Drive, using the traffic signal at SR32 and

Yosemite Drive for access to Hank Marsh Jr. High School. Bicycles and pedestrians traveling along Humboldt Road will also be allowed to use the temporary crossing at Bruce Road.

The City of Chico appreciates the community's patience and cooperation as these vital infrastructure improvements are completed.

For media inquiries, please contact Brendan Ottoboni, Director of Public Works – Engineering at: Brendan.ottoboni@chicoca.gov or 530-879-6901.

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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.

Bruce Road Reconstruction Project

Marsh Jr. High School Detour Route

