

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES



### VISION

Chico continues to be an attractive and well-run City in 2030, and the quality of its parks, greenways, preserves, public facilities, and services is a model to other communities. The City's infrastructure is strategically planned, funded, and maintained to high standards. The storm drainage and sewer systems have been designed to minimize impacts to the environment and maximize efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Through education and conservation efforts the community continues to enjoy a high-quality, plentiful water supply. Neighborhood parks are incorporated into existing residential areas, and ample parks and recreation services are required in new development areas. Aging park facilities have been improved and updated. Tree-lined streets and boulevards continue to be a defining characteristic of Chico. Public services meet the diverse needs of the community.

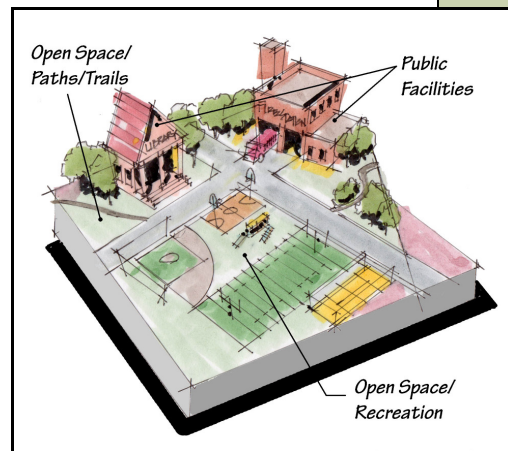
### INTRODUCTION

The Parks, Public Facilities, and Services Element is intended to address the community's needs and interests for its parks of all sizes as well as its public facilities and services, such as infrastructure, schools, sewer and wastewater systems, and community services.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of a City is to provide primary public facilities and services to its residents and businesses. The provision of cost-effective and efficient public services and infrastructure is instrumental to the overall health and well-being of a balanced community. Chico leads the region in providing a full range of public services to its citizens and will continue to be a leader and innovator in the provision of local parks, greenways, preserves, public facilities, and services.

This element establishes goals, policies, and actions to guide the City's planning, enhancement, and maintenance of parks, greenways, preserves, utilities, public services, education, and public arts and culture throughout the General Plan time horizon. Due to the breadth of information covered in this element, the chapter is organized into sections that address the following seven topics:

- Parks, Greenways, Preserves and Open Space
- Educational Facilities
- Wastewater Facilities
- Water Facilities
- Storm Water Drainage Facilities
- Health, Social, and Community Service Facilities
- Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling



**Integrated Public Facilities**



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### ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

This section of the element identifies and addresses primary parks, public facilities, and services issues raised during the outreach efforts for the General Plan Update. Policy guidance is found in the goals, policies, and actions section of this element. An explanation of specialized terms can be found in the General Plan Glossary (**Appendix A**).

### PARKS, GREENWAYS, PRESERVES AND RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE

Chico residents have identified the maintenance and enhancement of the City's parks, greenways, recreation and open space resources as a key component in quality of life and overall community wellness. This element provides guidance on these issues to assure the continued provision of high-quality parks, community facilities, recreation programs and recreation and open space resources. Parks, recreation, and open space resources, facilities, and services have historically been provided by both the City and the Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) with the City having primary responsibility for Bidwell Park and



neighborhood parks and CARD having primary responsibility for recreation programming and community parks. Recognizing that opportunities exist to consolidate service delivery responsibilities for parks, recreation and open space services, the City and CARD have been working to realign responsibilities, including CARD taking primary responsibility for development and maintenance of neighborhood parks. This element provides an overview of the realignment of the City's and CARD's management structure for parks, recreation, and open space resources; provides policy guidance regarding park standards; and

provides a policy framework for recreational facilities management to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality parks, recreation services and facilities, and open space and greenways.

### WASTEWATER SERVICE

One of the most fundamental and important components of community infrastructure is wastewater collection and treatment. It must be sufficient to serve planned growth as well as older areas of the City not currently connected to the City's wastewater disposal and treatment system. This element provides policy guidance on issues such as the continued implementation of the Nitrate Compliance Plan, which addresses groundwater contamination, and on-going upgrading of the City's wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure to accommodate infill development and new growth.

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### WATER FACILITIES

Water is one of the earth's most precious resources, and with California's warm climate, unpredictable rainfall, and growing population, a guaranteed clean water supply cannot be taken for granted. Water must be used wisely to ensure an adequate, high-quality water supply, both now and in the future. Like the provision of wastewater collection and treatment, the provision of water is a basic and essential component of the community infrastructure system. Water delivery in the City is provided by California Water Service Company (Cal Water). A key issue is to ensure that City residents are provided with safe and sustainable water supplies through the responsible use, conservation, and management of the available water supply. This element describes the relationship between the City and Cal Water and provides policies addressing the need for continued coordination between the two entities and the importance of strong water conservation efforts.

### STORM DRAINAGE

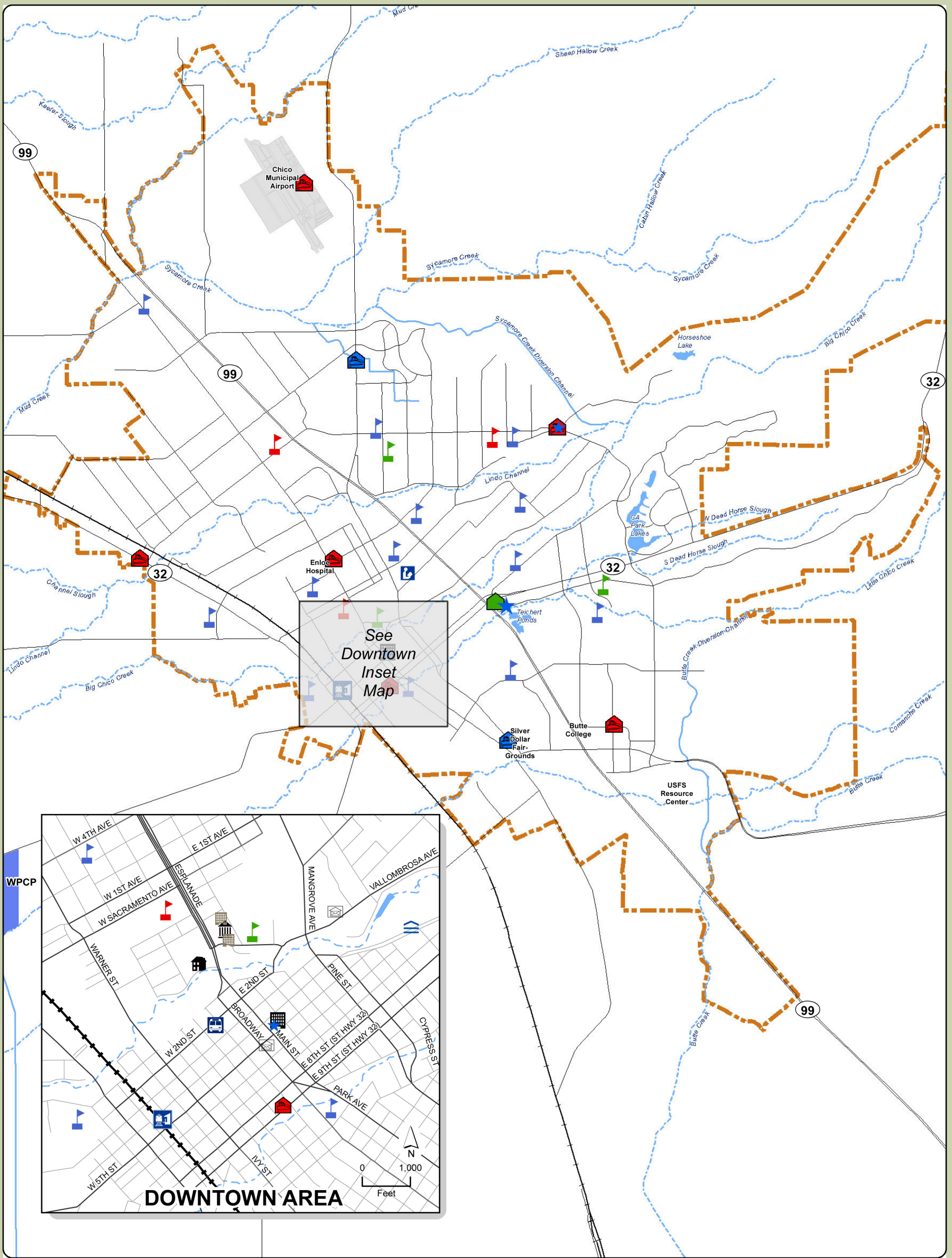
Throughout the public outreach process for the development of this Plan, residents indicated a strong desire to maintain the natural watercourses traversing the City and sought assurances that urban runoff does not pollute the community's streams. Residents in areas with missing or deficient storm drainage infrastructure also expressed an interest in becoming connected to a Citywide storm drainage system. This element establishes policies to improve and extend the City's storm water drainage system while minimizing impacts to the natural functioning of Chico's waterways.



## PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES CONTEXT

This section of the element provides important context information on the seven topics relevant to Parks, Public Facilities, and Services goals, policies, and actions. To introduce the topics, information such as the relevant background, regulatory context, summary of related plans, or information about future needs is provided. **Figure PPFS-1** shows existing public facilities and services within the Planning Area.





### PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES

- City**
- City Hall/Municipal Center
  - Municipal Service Center
  - City Police Headquarters
  - Police Substation
  - City Fire Stations #1-6
  - Transit Center
- City of Chico Sphere of Influence Boundary

- County**
- County Offices
  - County Court
  - CDF Fire Station
  - County Library
- Federal**
- Post Office

- Private**
- Enloe Hospital
  - Other Hospital
  - Amtrak Station

- Schools**
- Elementary School
  - Junior High School
  - High School
  - CUSD Office

Data Source: City of Chico

0 0.5 1 Miles



**Figure PPFS-1 Public Facilities and Services**

CHICO 2030  
GENERAL PLAN



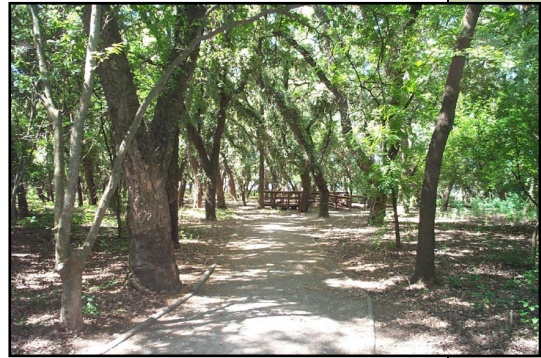
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### PARKS, GREENWAYS, PRESERVES AND RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE

The City of Chico and the Chico Area Recreation and Parks District (CARD) are in the process of establishing operating parameters designed to streamline the provision of parks and recreation services to the City and surrounding community through a realignment of the roles and responsibilities of each agency. While CARD's service delivery area extends well beyond the boundaries of the City, the majority of CARD's service area population is located in the City. Through this new arrangement, the City will retain ownership, management, and maintenance responsibility for Bidwell Park, creekside greenways and City-owned preserves, while CARD will assume ownership and operation of the various other developed parks and recreation systems in the City, such as neighborhood and community parks, and recreation programming.

In 2008, CARD adopted a Park and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) which provides a comprehensive evaluation of existing parks and recreation resources; identifies and describes resource types and facilities; identifies current system deficiencies and projected system demands; and establishes new standards for developed parks and community use facilities. The City and CARD will continue to work together, through their cooperative arrangement, to plan for and develop new park and community use facilities that offer high quality recreation services for City residents.



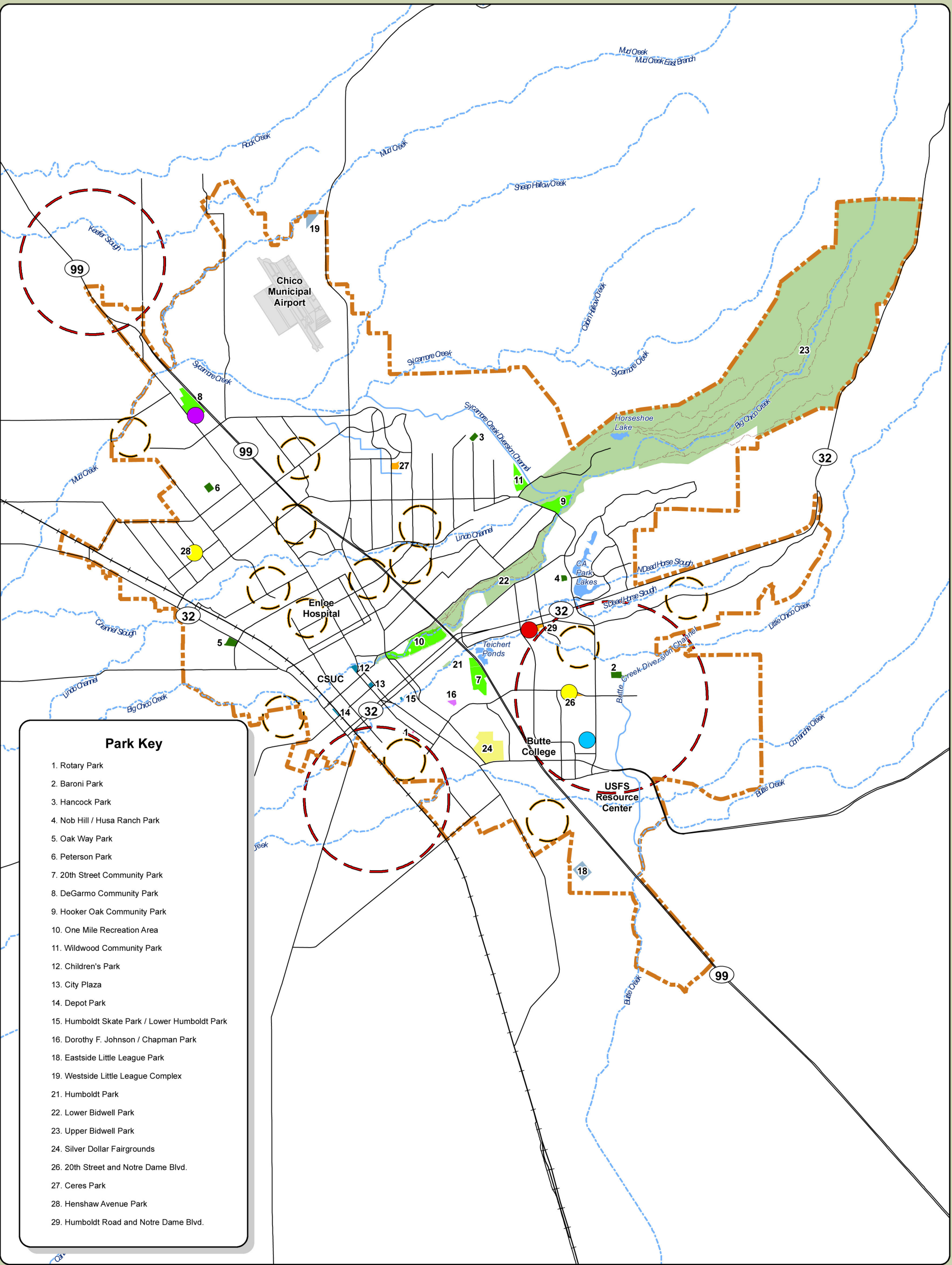
While schools are not direct recreation providers, school facilities are available for public use and CARD's PRMP promotes the improvement and use of school facilities for recreation purposes. Both the City and CARD maintain a relationship with Chico Unified School District and work cooperatively to enhance the recreational opportunities at school site locations.

The City is responsible for the management, operation and maintenance of the 3,670-acre Bidwell Park. In 2008, the City Council adopted the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) which sets forth the City's vision for the Park and establishes policies and practices for operation and management of the Park.

#### **Park Inventory and Classification**

Growth within the City and the surrounding unincorporated areas has increased the use of existing parks and recreation facilities and has created a demand for new recreation services and amenities. New growth within the northern portions of the City has resulted in the need for additional facilities to provide the level of service that is desired and expected by residents. The PRMP identifies both current deficiencies and future needs for parks and recreation services in the City and CARD service area. Existing park deficiencies are primarily for neighborhood parks in existing neighborhoods. The CARD Master Plan Map (**Figure PPFS-2**) identifies the locations of existing and future parks and recreation areas in the City.





CARD MASTER PLAN, 2008

Improvements

Existing Parks and Facilities

- Develop Existing Neighborhood Park Site
- Potential Site for New Community Center and Potential Site for New Aquatic Facility
- Potential Site for New Aquatic Center
- Develop Existing Neighborhood Park Site and Potential Site for New Aquatic Facility

- Target Area for Neighborhood Park
- Target Area for Community Park

- Mini Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Special Purpose Park
- Community/Recreation Center

- Sports Complex
- Regional Open Space
- Other Public Land
- Undeveloped Parkland

Park Trails



City of Chico Sphere of Influence Boundary

0 0.4 0.8 Miles



Data Source: CARD



Figure PPFS-2 CARD Master Plan

CHICO 2030  
GENERAL PLAN



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The PRMP identifies a total of 37 existing sites that are parks, open space, or recreation centers totaling 4,176 acres, shown by park type in **Table PPFS-1** below:

TABLE PPFS-1  
EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Park Type	# of Sites	Acreage
Neighborhood and Mini Parks	7	29.3
Community Parks	5	164.3
Special Purpose Parks	8	13.44
Natural Areas	7	252.6
Regional Parks	2	3,671.2
Other Parks or Open Space	2	14.0
Recreation Centers	3	7.1
Undeveloped Park Sites	4	24.1

As part of the PRMP, various services and standards ratios have been adopted for the different facility types. The PRMP establishes standards for four types of parks and park facilities as follows:

- Neighborhood Parks:** Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residents in the neighborhoods surrounding the park. These parks are designed primarily for unsupervised activities. They are generally small in size with 5 to 10 acres of usable area. Smaller versions of neighborhood parks, Mini Parks, are intended to provide service to higher density and mixed-use housing types. These smaller facilities are usually one to two acres in size.
- Community Parks:** Community Parks are larger, multi-purpose parks that serve the entire community and provide venues for organized recreational programs. These parks are generally designed to provide active play opportunities for people of all ages.
- Special Purpose Parks:** Other parks include facilities that serve a focused community need or recreational opportunity such as an environmental education center, historical park, or land occupied by major structures such as aquatic centers, skateboard parks, community centers, and gymnasiums.



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- **Open Space, Trails and Greenways:** This category of parks contains natural areas, corridors, greenways, regional parks, regional open spaces, and watershed amenities. Within this category of parks, the City generally retains ownership or management responsibilities. In the future, CARD might own and manage a regional park if there were programmed recreation associated with it. Regional parks are described as usually exceeding 50 acres in size and designed to accommodate large numbers of people for a variety of day use activities.

### Standards

The City of Chico's 1994 General Plan had a parkland dedication standard of 5.0 acres of total parkland per 1,000 new residents broken down as follows:

- 0.9 acres of neighborhood parkland per 1,000 residents;
- 1.6 acres for community parkland per 1,000 residents; and
- 2.5 acres of greenways per 1,000 residents.

As part of the PRMP development, CARD established new parkland requirements for neighborhood and community parks:

- 1.5 acres of neighborhood parkland per 1,000 residents; and
- 2.5 acres of community parkland per 1,000 residents.

The 2030 General Plan directs use of CARD's PRMP parkland standards for future neighborhood and community parks. In addition, the City's existing standard of 2.5 acres of greenways per 1,000 residents is being maintained. Through these standards, it is the intention of the City and CARD that most residents would be within a convenient walking distance of a neighborhood or community park and have access to open space and greenways.

### Future Needs

As part of the PRMP effort, analysis was undertaken to quantify the current parks and recreation deficiencies and to identify the future parks and recreation needs using the new park dedication standards for the entire CARD service area. **Table PPFS-2** lists the future park and recreation acreages that will be needed to accommodate the anticipated population in the CARD service area in the year 2030.

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TABLE PPFS-2  
PROJECTED FUTURE PARK NEEDS

Parks	Standard (Acres/1,000 Population)	Acreage Needed to Meet Standard	Additional Parks Needed for Build-out Population
Community Parks	2.5	130	1-2
Neighborhood Parks	1.5	78	7-14
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>8-16</b>

As identified in **Table PPFS-2**, there will be a need for one or two additional community parks and 7 to 14 additional neighborhood parks to accommodate the anticipated CARD service area population by the year 2030. Council adoption of park fees consistent with CARD's PRMP park standards will be initiated by CARD and is a separate action from General Plan adoption.

### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The Chico Unified School District (CUSD) serves the City and surrounding area with public school services. CUSD currently provides a full range of K-12 education services through traditional school facilities, charter schools, focused learning and special needs facilities, continuation schools, independent study programs and advanced learning initiatives in partnership with local employers and institutions of higher learning. Current CUSD enrollment is estimated to be approximately 13,000 students. In addition to its existing facilities, CUSD has two undeveloped school sites within the City. CUSD is limited to levying a state-determined maximum fee on residential and commercial development to cover its impact on local schools. The Chico Municipal Code provides authority for the City to require subdivisions to reserve land for elementary school sites for a reasonable period of time, and CUSD is required to provide funds for the reserved sites.



Chico is also home to California State University (CSU) Chico and the Chico Campus of Butte College along with other private K-12 and higher education providers. CSU Chico is located on approximately 130 acres adjacent to Downtown and is the second oldest campus in the state university system. CSU Chico adopted a Campus Master Plan in 2005, which envisions accommodating a 2025 enrollment of 17,900 students (full-time equivalents) and is guiding significant upgrades and renovations to campus facilities.



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The Chico Campus of Butte College is located in southeast Chico, adjacent to Highway 99, providing a convenient location for instruction that supplements the coursework offered at the college's main campus about ten miles south of the City. Butte College also has plans for expanding its Chico Campus in the vicinity of Skyway and State Route 99.

### WASTEWATER FACILITIES

The City of Chico Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) is a regional-serving, gravity-fed facility located southwest of the City. The WPCP provides treatment of the City's wastewater and discharges treated effluent to the Sacramento River. The facility is a secondary treatment facility with a current treatment capacity of 12 million gallons per day (mgd). The WPCP is a leader in the generation and use of alternative power, including a photovoltaic solar array installation which provides approximately 35 percent of the facility's total power demand. A significant additional portion of the facility's power demand is



provided by the WPCP's cogeneration facility.

In 1985, the City of Chico and Butte County adopted the Nitrate Action Plan to address high levels of nitrates in portions of the groundwater under the City that resulted from the widespread use of septic tanks within the urban area. Subsequently, the Chico Urban Area Nitrate Compliance Plan (NCP) was developed to provide consistency between City and County land use and utility infrastructure policies, as well as to outline a plan to expedite the connection of septic tank users to the City sewer system. Implementation of the NCP is underway and is due to be complete in 2017.



### WATER FACILITIES

Water service in the City is provided by the California Water Service Company (Cal Water). Cal Water is a private company whose Chico District was formed in 1926. Residents not supplied by Cal Water obtain water through private wells. Cal Water currently uses a system of 65 wells which deliver approximately 27 million gallons of water to customers each day. The delivery system is composed of over 355 miles of pipeline, seven storage tanks and six booster pumps.

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Cal Water maintains two primary management plans for the Chico area water system, as required by state law. Their Urban Area Management Plan, adopted in 2007, provides an overview of Cal Water and the Chico area water system, establishes policies and programs concerning water delivery and treatment, as well as water conservation and management practices. The Water Supply and Facilities Master Plan, adopted in 2008, guides the growth and development of their water delivery system to meet the community's future needs.

### STORM WATER DRAINAGE FACILITIES

Storm drainage management within the City and the urban area is provided by a system of developed and undeveloped collection systems operated and maintained by the City and Butte County. The City is not constrained by any formally designated service areas, but has established storm drainage basins for the purpose of planning for infrastructure. New development is required to install storm drainage infrastructure when necessary. Storm drainage facilities in unincorporated areas surrounded by the City and in areas immediately adjacent to the City are maintained through County Service Areas. In areas of the City that do not have developed storm drainage collection, unpaved shoulders, roadside swales and naturally occurring drainages help to control runoff.

The developed storm drainage system consists primarily of drop inlets located along the street system. Water in the system is transported to outfall locations located along the major creeks including Sycamore, Mud, Comanche, Big Chico, and Little Chico Creeks and Lindo Channel.

**Point sources** are identifiable localized sources such as pipes or man-made ditches.

Consistent with the 1994 General Plan and the City's 2000 Storm Drain Master Plan Integrated Document, new development must incorporate storm water quality and quantity mitigations into their designs. As required by the Clean Water Act, the City has an established Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) in compliance with its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The City's NPDES permit controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into local waters. The SWMP addresses storm water quality issues in the areas of construction and post-construction Best Management Practices, municipal operations, and community involvement.

### HEALTH, SOCIAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FACILITIES

Chico has a full range of high quality and diverse health, social, and community service facilities including a branch of the Butte County library system, an active arts community with a public art program, and Enloe Medical Center, a locally-governed non-profit regional trauma center that provides health care services ranging from emergency services to diagnostic and preventative medicine.





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### SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING

Consistent with State law, the City has developed a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) and a Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE) as parts of the Butte County Integrated Waste Management Plan. The City is achieving its 50 percent diversion goal in accordance with State requirements.

#### **Collection and Disposal**

Solid waste services for the City are provided by two waste hauling companies, North Valley Waste Management and Recology. Solid waste generated in the City is disposed of at the Neal Road Landfill, which is operated and owned by Butte County. The landfill is located approximately seven miles southeast of Chico. The Neal Road Landfill has a total permitted capacity of approximately 25 million cubic yards of solid waste and has a tentative closure date of 2035.

#### **Recycling**

Curbside recycling services for the City are provided by North Valley Waste Management and Recology. Current recycling practices include curbside collection of metals, paper, glass, and plastic from single-family residences, multi-family residences, and businesses. Green yard waste is hauled to the City's Compost Facility near the Chico Municipal Airport or the Neal Road Landfill. The City provides collection of leaves placed in the streets by City residents from mid October to mid January each year with an estimated annual total of between 40,000 to 45,000 cubic yards of leaves.

#### **Household Hazardous Waste**

Hazardous materials, used in many household products such as drain cleaners, waste oil, cleaning fluids, insecticides, and car batteries are often improperly disposed of as part of normal household trash. These hazardous materials could interact with other chemicals which can create risks to people and can also result in soil and groundwater contamination. Local residents are able to recycle and properly dispose of household hazardous waste at the Butte Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, which is located near the Chico Municipal Airport.

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### GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Goal PPFS-1:</b> | Continue cooperative efforts with the Chico Area Recreation and Park District and the Chico Unified School District to provide a broad range of high quality parks and recreation facilities and services for all residents. |
| <b>Goal PPFS-2:</b> | Utilize creeks, greenways and preserves as a framework for a system of open space.   |
| <b>Goal PPFS-3:</b> | Support efforts by Chico Unified School District, CSU Chico, Butte College and private educational institutions to maintain and improve educational facilities and services in the City.                                     |
| <b>Goal PPFS-4:</b> | Maintain a sanitary sewer system that meets the City's existing and future needs, complies with all applicable regulations, and protects the underlying aquifer.   |
| <b>Goal PPFS-5:</b> | Maintain a sustainable supply of high quality water, delivered through an efficient water system to support Chico's existing and future population, including fire suppression efforts.                                      |
| <b>Goal PPFS-6:</b> | Provide a comprehensive and functional storm water management system that protects people, property, water quality, and natural aquifers.  |
| <b>Goal PPFS-7:</b> | Support arts, cultural, social service and health facilities and services to enhance the local quality of life.  |
| <b>Goal PPFS-8:</b> | Ensure that solid waste and recyclable collection services are available to City residents.  |

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- **Goal PPFS-1: Continue cooperative efforts with the Chico Area Recreation and Park District and the Chico Unified School District to provide a broad range of high quality parks and recreation facilities and services for all residents.**
  - **Policy PPFS-1.1 (Park and Recreation Facilities) – Partner with CARD and local providers to provide parks and recreation facilities that offer recreation opportunities for the community.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.1 (CARD Leadership) – Convey properties and funding mechanisms to the Chico Area Recreation and Parks District (CARD) for operation, maintenance and programming of parks identified in the City of**

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Chico/CARD Memorandum of Intergovernmental Cooperation, Coordination, and Understanding.

- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.2 (Park Development Fees)** – Adopt park development fees that support the goals of the CARD Parks and Recreation Master Plan to fund the acquisition and development of neighborhood and community parks, and community use facilities, such as an aquatic park, needed as a result of new development.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.3 (Cooperative Development of Facilities)** – Pursue cooperative development of neighborhood, community, and regional parks, as well as facilities that enhance recreational opportunities and economic development, such as sports and aquatic complexes, with the Chico Area Recreation and Parks District.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.4 (Park Maintenance Funding)** – Aid in the formation of maintenance districts or other funding mechanisms to pay for the cost of ongoing maintenance and operation of parks.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.5 (CARD Review of City Projects)** – Solicit comments from Chico Area Recreation and Parks District staff as part of early project review for Special Planning Areas and larger subdivision proposals.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.6 (Multiple Use of School Facilities)** – Encourage the Chico Unified School District, CSU Chico, Butte College, and the Chico Area Recreation and Parks District to coordinate the joint use of school facilities for community recreation and other public purposes.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.7 (Evaluate Progress)** – Coordinate with the Chico Area Recreation and Parks District (CARD) to provide periodic reports to the City Council, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission, and the CARD Board of Directors documenting the status of the City’s and District’s efforts to develop and improve parks and recreational facilities.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.8 (Funding to Develop Recreation Facilities)** – Pursue local, state, federal, and other funds for the development of parks and recreation facilities.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-1.1.9 (Bidwell Park Master Management Plan)** – Utilize the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan and consider the intent of Annie Bidwell’s Deed to direct management and guide decision-making for Bidwell Park.


- **Goal PPFS-2: Utilize creeks, greenways and preserves as a framework for a system of open space.**

Cross  
reference  
OS-2.1.2 and  
OS-2.2.1

Cross  
reference  
OS-2.1

Cross  
reference  
OS-2.2

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<p>Cross reference OS-2.2.1 and CD 2.1.3</p> <p>Cross reference OS-2.5.1, CD 2.1.4, and DT-6.2.4</p> <p>Cross reference OS 2.5</p> <p>Cross reference CIRC-2.2.4</p>

- **Policy PPFS-2.1 (Use of Creeks and Greenways) – Utilize the City’s creeks, greenways and other open spaces for public access, habitat protection, and to enhance community connectivity.**
- ▲ **Action PPFS-2.1.1 (Greenway Acquisition) –** Continue the City’s greenway purchase program to acquire properties located adjacent to creeks as they become available in order to expand habitat protection, trail creation, and public recreation opportunities.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-2.1.2 (Creekside Design) –** Continue to use Chico’s Design Guidelines Manual for proposed development adjacent to creeks to address setbacks, building orientation, security measures, and lighting to promote public access and use of the City’s creeks as amenities without detracting from the natural setting.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-2.1.3 (Pathway and Trail Planning) –** Design pedestrian and bicycle paths and trails adjacent to and across creeks that protect the riparian environment.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-2.1.4 (Assess Potential Impacts to Creeks) –** Through the development and environmental review process, including consultation with state and federal agencies and non-profit organizations, ensure that natural areas and habitat located in and adjacent to the City’s creeks are protected and enhanced.

### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

- **Goal PPFS-3: Support efforts by Chico Unified School District, CSU Chico, Butte College and private educational institutions to maintain and improve educational facilities and services in the City.**
- **Policy PPFS-3.1 (CUSD Coordination) – Support Chico Unified School District’s efforts to provide school sites and facilities that meet the educational needs of the community.**
- ▲ **Action PPFS-3.1.1 (School Sites) –** Encourage Chico Unified School District to:
  - Locate schools to serve new neighborhoods.
  - Locate school sites safely away from heavy traffic, excessive noise, and incompatible land uses.
  - Locate schools in areas where existing or planned circulation infrastructure allows for safe access.
  - Promote safe student loading and unloading.
  - Promote walking, biking, riding transit, or carpooling to schools.



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Cross  
reference  
ED-1.2.5

- ▲ **Action PPFS-3.1.2 (Plan for School Sites)** – Consult with Chico Unified School District staff when planning the Special Planning Areas to ensure that school facilities are in place to meet the needs of development.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-3.1.3 (School Information)** – Provide information to developers and interested parties on school locations and school facility fees during the City's project review process.
- **Policy PPFS-3.2 (Support Facilities for Higher Education)** – **Support facilities expansion and collaboration opportunities with higher education institutions.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-3.2.1 (Collaborate with Educational Institutions)** – Work with CSU Chico, Butte College, and private educational institutions to meet existing and new student housing, transportation, and facility needs.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-3.2.2 (Education/Business Connections)** – Support the development of research and business opportunities associated with the City's institutions of higher learning.

### WASTEWATER FACILITIES

- **Goal PPFS-4: Maintain a sanitary sewer system that meets the City's existing and future needs, complies with all applicable regulations, and protects the underlying aquifer.**
  - **Policy PPFS-4.1 (Sanitary Sewer System)** – **Improve and expand the sanitary sewer system as necessary to accommodate the needs of existing and future development.**
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.1.1 (Require Connection to Sewer System)** – Require all commercial and industrial development, as well as all residential development with lots one acre or smaller, to connect to the City's sewer system.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.1.2 (Sanitary Sewer Master Plan)** – Update and maintain the City's Sanitary Sewer Master Plan, as well as the Sewer System Model, to assure that improvements to the system are identified, planned, and prioritized.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.1.3 (Wastewater System Costs)** – Secure financing for the expansion and maintenance of the Water Pollution Control Plant and sewer system through the use of connection fees, special taxes, assessment districts, developer dedications, or other appropriate mechanisms. Financing should be sufficient to complete all related project-specific sewer trunk and main lines at their full planned capacities in a single phase.

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- **Policy PPFS-4.2 (Protection of Groundwater Resources) – Protect the quality and quantity of groundwater resources, including those that serve existing private wells, from contamination by septic systems.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.2.1 (Septic System Information) –** Assist Butte County with their effort to implement a public information campaign aimed at informing homeowners with septic systems of the proper design, use, and care of septic systems, as well as sewer connection opportunities.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.2.2 (Implementing the Nitrate Compliance Plan) –** Continue collaboration with Butte County to implement the Nitrate Compliance Plan.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.2.3 (Funding the Nitrate Compliance Plan) –** Continue to seek funding opportunities to assist with the cost of connecting parcels currently relying on septic systems to the City’s sewer system.
- **Policy PPFS-4.3 (Capacity of Water Pollution Control Plant) – Increase system capacity by reducing wet weather infiltration into the sanitary sewer system.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS- 4.3.1 (Infiltration Program) –** Develop and implement an inflow and infiltration program to identify, monitor, and line or replace existing pipes that are the source of excessive wet weather infiltration and reduced system capacity.
- **Policy PPFS-4.4 (Wastewater Flows) – Ensure that total flows are effectively managed within the overall capacity of the Water Pollution Control Plant.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.4.1 (Wastewater Meters for Industrial Uses) –** Require installation of wastewater meters for all new or expansions of existing Significant Industrial User facilities.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-4.4.2 (Emerging Technologies) –** Incorporate emerging wastewater treatment technologies to enable wastewater management practices to adapt and be more efficient.

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.2.3

### WATER FACILITIES

- **Goal PPFS-5: Maintain a sustainable supply of high quality water, delivered through an efficient water system to support Chico’s existing and future population, including fire suppression efforts.**
- **Policy PPFS-5.1 (Protect Aquifer Resources) – Protect the quality and capacity of the upper and lower Tuscan and Tehama aquifers underlying the Chico Planning Area.**

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.2

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES



Cross  
reference  
SUS-1.2.1

- ▲ **Action PPFS-5.1.1 (Groundwater Protection Advocacy)** – Oppose regional sales and transfers of local groundwater, including water export contracts, and actively participate in county-wide and regional discussions and advocacy for the protection of groundwater resources.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-5.1.2 (Groundwater Supplies and Budgeting)** – Support periodic evaluation of groundwater availability using the Butte Basin Groundwater Model and Cal Water’s work to establish a water supply budget with specific measures to assure sustainable levels of groundwater.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-5.1.3 (Groundwater Recharge and Quality)** – Where feasible given flood management requirements, maintain the natural or existing condition of waterways and floodplains and protect watersheds to ensure groundwater recharge and water quality.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-5.1.5 (Monitor Groundwater Levels)** – Utilize the annual comprehensive groundwater monitoring data collected by the Butte County Department of Water & Resource Conservation to assess the quality and quantity of water for the Chico area.
- **Policy PPFS-5.2 (Future Water System)** – **Consult with Cal Water to ensure that its water system will serve the City’s long-term needs and that State regulations SB 610 and SB 221 are met.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-5.2.1 (Water Flow and Pressure)** – Ensure that new City infrastructure provides for water flow and pressure at sufficient levels to meet domestic, commercial, industrial, institutional, and firefighting needs.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-5.2.2 (Wells and Private Water Systems)** – Where public water delivery systems are available, discourage use of wells and private water systems for domestic water use.
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-5.2.3 (Water Services for New Development)** – Work with Cal Water to ensure that water treatment and delivery infrastructure are in place prior to occupancy or assured through the use of bonds or other sureties to the City and Cal Water’s satisfaction.
- **Policy PPFS-5.3 (Water Conservation)** – **Work with Cal Water to implement water conservation management practices.**
  - ▲ **Action PPFS-5.3.1 (Treated Wastewater)** – Explore the feasibility of using treated wastewater to provide irrigation to landscaped areas and other suitable locations to reduce the demand for groundwater.

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.3.1

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.3.4

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES



▲ **Action PPFS-5.3.2 (Water Reuse)** – Encourage new development to install water conserving irrigation systems such as grey water systems.

● **Policy PPFS-5.4 (Large Water Users)** – Encourage large water users such as Chico Unified School District, City of Chico, Chico Area Recreation and Park District, Enloe Medical Center, and large commercial and industrial users to implement water conservation practices.

▲ **Action PPFS-5.4.1 (City Water Efficiency)** – Develop plans and seek funding to replace water-intensive City landscape and irrigation systems with drought tolerant and water efficient systems.

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.3.2

### STORM WATER DRAINAGE FACILITIES

■ **Goal PPFS-6: Provide a comprehensive and functional storm water management system that protects people, property, water quality, and natural aquifers.**

● **Policy PPFS-6.1 (Storm Drainage Master Plan)** – Address current and future storm drainage needs in a Storm Drainage Master Plan.

▲ **Action PPFS-6.1.1 (Update the Storm Drainage Master Plan)** – Update, adopt and implement an updated Storm Drainage Master Plan that identifies areas with infrastructure deficiencies and establishes a program to address the deficiencies. Address drainage issues on a basin or sub-basin scale. Identify opportunities to increase infiltration, based on factors such as existing infrastructure, geology, the hydrology and hydraulics of the receiving waters, and planned land uses.

▲ **Action PPFS-6.1.2 (Development Fees)** – Update the development fee program as needed to ensure that storm water drainage development fees are equitable and adequate to pay for the storm water drainage infrastructure needed for future development.

● **Policy PPFS 6.2 (Storm Water Drainage)** – Continue to implement a storm water drainage system that results in no net increase in runoff.

▲ **Action PPFS-6.2.1 (Storm Water Drainage Standards)** – Regularly update storm water drainage standards to include all current best management practices and ensure water quality and quantity standards governing the discharge of storm water drainage to downstream receiving waters conform with State and Federal regulations.

▲ **Action PPFS-6.2.2 (Expand Storm Water Infrastructure)** – As funding allows, continue installation of storm water drainage infrastructure in areas not served.

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES



Cross  
reference  
OS-3.2.1

- **Policy PPFS-6.3 (Storm Water Drainage BMPs) – To protect and improve water quality, require the use of Best Management Practices for storm water drainage infrastructure suited to the location and development circumstances.**

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.3.1 (Alternative Storm Water Infrastructure) –** Continue to develop engineering standards and guidelines for the use of alternative storm water infrastructure in order to minimize impervious area, runoff and pollution, and to maximize natural storm water infiltration wherever feasible.

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.1.2

- **Policy PPFS-6.4 (Water Runoff) – Protect the quality and quantity of water runoff that enters surface waters and recharges the aquifer.**

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.4.1 (Storm Water Management Program) –** Continue to implement the City's Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) and enforce storm water provisions in the City's Municipal Code.

Cross  
reference  
S-2.1.2

- **Policy PPFS-6.5 (Flood Control) – Manage the operation of the City's flood control and storm drainage facilities and consult with local and state agencies that have facilities providing flood protection for the City.**

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.5.1 (Flood Management) –** Consult with Butte County and other flood control agencies to ensure that all possible actions are taken to prevent floodwaters from entering the City.

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.5.2 (Natural Watercourses) –** Utilize natural watercourses and existing developed flood control channels as the City's primary flood control channels when and where feasible.

Cross  
reference  
OS-3.1.2

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.5.3 (Flood Impacts) –** Require that new development not increase flood impacts on adjacent properties in either the upstream or downstream direction.

Cross  
reference  
LU-6.2.6 and  
S-2.1

- ▲ **Action PPFS-6.5.4 (Flood Zones) –** Require new development to fully comply with State and Federal regulations regarding development in flood zones.


### HEALTH, SOCIAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FACILITIES

- **Goal PPFS-7: Support arts, cultural, social service and health facilities and services to enhance the local quality of life.**

Cross  
reference  
CD-7.2 and  
DT-1.5

- **Policy PPFS-7.1 (Libraries, Art and Culture) – Support local libraries, the arts, and cultural organizations, to the greatest extent feasible, to enhance the local**

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES


Cross reference CD 7.1.2 and DT-1.5.3
Cross reference CRHP-2.4.2
Cross reference OS-4.1.5
Cross reference SUS-3.3
Cross reference SUS-3.1.1

quality of life and expand the City's reputation as a regional art and culture destination.

- ▲ **Action PPFS-7.1.1 (Library Services)** – Consult with Butte County regarding strategies to assure the continued operation of the Chico Branch of the Butte County library system.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-7.1.2 (Funding Arts and Cultural Programs)** – Seek opportunities to provide financial and governmental assistance which leverages additional funding for arts and cultural programs.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-7.1.3 (Partnerships for Cultural Programs)** – Encourage partnerships among art and cultural groups, community organizations, and the local business community to develop new and expand existing cultural programs.
- **Policy PPFS-7.2 (Health and Social Services)** – Support efforts to improve and expand health and social services for all segments of the community.

### SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING

- **Goal PPFS-8: Ensure that solid waste and recyclable collection services are available to City residents.**
  - **Policy PPFS-8.1 (Waste Recycling)** – Provide solid waste collection services that meet or exceed state requirements for source reduction, diversion, and recycling.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.1 (Green Waste)** – Encourage recycling, composting, and organic waste diversion within the City and continue providing green yard waste recycling services, seasonal leaf collection and street sweeping services.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.2 (Reduce Municipal Waste)** – Establish the City as a role model for businesses and industrial operations through programs designed to encourage recycling, waste diversion, source reduction, and use of renewable resources.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.3 (Recycled and Recyclable Products)** – Pursue City procurement that emphasizes the use of recycled and recyclable products.
    - ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.4 (Locations for Waste Management)** – Identify safe and convenient locations and hours for the disposal and recycling of hazardous waste, plastics, glass, metals, electronics, food and other organic waste, construction waste, and other special wastes.

## 9. PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND SERVICES

Cross  
reference  
SUS-4.3.1

- ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.5 (Recycling on Public Land)** – Provide recycling bins and collection services wherever waste containers are located on City property and in public parks.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.6 (Recyclable Construction Materials)** – Use the Green Building Checklist to encourage the use of recyclable materials in new construction.
- ▲ **Action PPFS-8.1.7 (Commercial and Industrial Recycling)** – Require compliance with the State-wide Mandatory Commercial Recycling requirements for commercial and industrial customers.