

This section provides an overview of the proposed City of Chico General Plan Update and its environmental analysis. For additional detail regarding specific issues, please consult the appropriate chapter of Sections 4.1 through 4.14 (Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures) of this Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR).

2.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will provide, to the greatest extent possible, an analysis of the potential environmental effects associated with the implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This EIR analysis focuses on potential environmental impacts that could arise from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update through development of the land uses within the Planning Area, as regulated and guided by General Plan policies and actions. The EIR adopts this approach in order to provide a credible worst-case scenario of the impacts resulting from project implementation.

2.2 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The proposed project is the adoption and implementation of an updated General Plan for the City of Chico. The updated City of Chico General Plan would replace the existing General Plan, which was originally adopted in 1994 and last comprehensively updated in 1999. The proposed General Plan Update builds off of the goals and vision developed through public outreach and the visioning process embarked upon by the City to ensure that the public and project stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide meaningful input and guidance for the General Plan Update effort.

The proposed City of Chico General Plan Update comprises a Land Use Diagram and policy document that contains 12 elements. Each of the elements identifies goals and associated policies and action items. State law requires that general plans address seven topics: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. The proposed General Plan Update covers all of these topics plus several additional issues, for a total of 12 elements. In keeping with the state-mandated schedule, the City's Housing Element was updated separately in 2009 with separate environmental review. Thus, while the Housing Element will be incorporated into the proposed General Plan Update upon its adoption, this environmental document does not cover that component of the project. A list of elements is provided below. For a brief description of each element please refer to Section 3.0, Project Description.

2.3 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES SUMMARY

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6 requires that an EIR describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project which could feasibly attain the basic objectives of the project and avoid and/or lessen the environmental effects of the project. Further, CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e) requires that a "no project" alternative be evaluated in an EIR. The Draft EIR evaluates the following alternatives:

- **Alternative 1 – Existing General Plan Alternative (No Project Alternative).** Alternative 1 represents a continuation of the existing 1994 General Plan and associated development planned for within. This alternative includes the existing General Plan Land Use Diagram that was established for the community in 1994 (and updated in 1999), including subsequent General Plan amendments.

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- **Alternative 2 – Expanded Urban Development Alternative.** Alternative 2 has the largest development footprint area of the alternatives. In this alternative, development is distributed more widely throughout the Planning Area, with less emphasis on increasing densities and intensities. Expansion is focused on the north/south corridor, southeast area, and beyond the Greenline to the west. This land use alternative represents a continuation of existing development patterns and uses, but with the inclusion of more mixed use development.
- **Alternative 3 – Increased Density Alternative.** Alternative 3 directs development toward existing urban areas. Higher-density development would occur through infill and redevelopment of the 15 Opportunity Sites, and limited expansion would occur north and south in three Special Planning Areas (North Chico, Diamond Match, and South Entler) with no expansion to the east or west beyond the Greenline. This alternative assumes significant redevelopment of mixed uses and medium and higher densities in new development.

2.4 AREAS OF CONTROVERSY

The City of Chico was identified as the lead agency for the proposed project. In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Chico prepared and distributed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Initial Study (IS) for the City of Chico General Plan Update that was circulated for public review on December 10, 2008 (SCH2008122038). The NOP and IS included a summary of probable effects on the environment from the implementation of the project. Written comments received in response to the NOP were considered in the preparation of the Draft EIR. The issues raised in the NOP response letters included transportation and traffic, scenic resources, planning and land use, public services, climate change, hazards, air quality, cultural resources, and noise. Section 1.0, Introduction, provides a summary of issues and areas of concern related to the proposed General Plan and the Draft EIR, as presented to the City by agencies and the public during the NOP review period. The complete text of the NOP and NOP comments are included as **Appendix A** to this Draft EIR.

2.5 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Table 2.0-1 displays a summary of impacts for the proposed General Plan Update and proposed mitigation measures that would avoid or minimize potential impacts. In the table, the level of significance is indicated both before and after the implementation of each mitigation measure.

For detailed discussions of all mitigation measures and of proposed General Plan policies and action items that would provide mitigation for each type of environmental impact addressed in this Draft EIR, refer to the appropriate environmental topic section (i.e., Sections 4.1 through 4.14).

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update is anticipated to result in residential and nonresidential (retail, commercial, office, industrial, and other uses) development. This development, in combination with long-term, region-wide growth and development, has the potential to generate environmental impacts in a number of areas, including direct construction impacts on biological and cultural resources; indirect impacts associated with use of this built environment on areas such as transportation, air quality, and noise; and capacity impacts to utilities and public services, such as water service, wastewater, solid waste, school, and parks. However, by incorporating policies intended to avoid environmental impacts and by accommodating anticipated growth in a compact urban form through thoughtful infill, redevelopment along transit corridors and at other key locations, and new development in

mixed-use and complete neighborhoods, the General Plan Update is largely self-mitigating. Rather than mitigating impacts from implementation of General Plan Update through mitigation measures in this EIR, the policies and land use map in General Plan Update are, to the extent feasible, intended to prevent the majority of environmental impacts altogether.

The implementation of the proposed General Plan Update has the potential to generate 15 significant and unavoidable impacts. CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(b) requires an EIR to discuss unavoidable significant environmental effects, including those that can be mitigated but not reduced to a level of insignificance. Of these impacts, 8 are the result of the proposed General Plan Update, six are the result of General Plan Update combined with other cumulative development in the larger region, and one is considered an impact of both the proposed General Plan Update and cumulative development. Throughout this EIR, the terms “project” or “proposed project,” are used to refer to the implementation of General Plan Update, which will govern all development in the City over the life of the document. The term “cumulative” refers to General Plan Update as well as development that will happen in the surrounding region.

The significant and unavoidable project impacts are in the following topic areas:

- Agriculture (one significant and unavoidable impact)
- Traffic and Circulation (two significant and unavoidable impacts)
- Air Quality (two significant and unavoidable impacts)
- Noise (one significant and unavoidable impact)
- Visual Resources and Aesthetics (one significant and unavoidable impact).

The cumulatively considerable and significant and unavoidable impacts are in the following topic areas:

- Agriculture
- Traffic and Circulation
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Biological Resources
- Visual Resources and Aesthetics

The significant and unavoidable impact considered to result from both the project and cumulative development in the region is in the greenhouse gas emissions analysis in Section 4.14. This is because climate change is the result of cumulative global emissions. There is no single project, when taken in isolation that can “cause” climate change, as a single project's emissions are insufficient to change the radiative balance of the atmosphere. Because climate change is the result of greenhouse gas emissions, and greenhouse gas emissions are emitted by innumerable sources worldwide, global climate change is a significant cumulative impact of human development and activity. The global increase in greenhouse gas emissions that has occurred and will occur in the future are the result of the actions and choices of individuals, businesses, local governments, states, and nations. Therefore, the analysis in Section 4.14 addresses both project and cumulative impacts in combination.

TABLE 2.0-1
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
<i>Land Use</i>			
Impact 4.1.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the division of an existing community nor would it result in substantial land use compatibility issues.	NI	None required.	NI
Impact 4.1.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could lead to inconsistency with other land use plans and ordinances, including the City's land use plans and regulations that address physical effects to the environment.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.1.3 The Butte Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) has not yet been adopted. However, the proposed General Plan Update would support the HCP effort.	LS	None required.	LS

S – Significant CC - Cumulatively Considerable LS – Less Than Significant SU – Significant and Unavoidable NI - No Impact
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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
Impact 4.1.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in addition to existing, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the City of Chico and Butte County, would contribute to cumulative land use impacts associated with the division of an established community or conflicts with land use plans and regulations that provide environmental protection.	LCC	None required.	LCC
<i>Agricultural Resources</i>			
Impact 4.2.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in the conversion of important farmlands (Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance) as designated by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use.	SU	None available.	SU
Impact 4.2.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not involve any land use changes for parcels currently under a Williamson Act Contract. However, proposed land uses would result in the re-designation of some land areas in the proposed Sphere of Influence, yet currently zoned for agriculture in the Butte	LS	None required.	LS

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County General Plan. Although these lands are under Butte County jurisdiction, City re-designation to non-agricultural uses would result upon annexation into the City.			
Impact 4.2.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the City of Chico Agricultural Preservation Standards under the Municipal Code would ensure that agricultural operations are not adversely impacted.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.2.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, along with regional and statewide growth, would result in a contribution to the conversion of important farmland.	CC/SU	None available.	CC/SU
Population, Housing, and Employment			
Impact 4.3.1 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would accommodate anticipated residential and employment anticipated by the year 2030 as well as additional growth	LS	None required.	LS

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capacity beyond the year 2030.			
Impact 4.3.2 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the displacement of substantial numbers of housing or persons.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.3.3 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in addition to existing, approved, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable development, could result in a cumulative increase in population and housing growth in the City of Chico as well as in the surrounding Butte County region, along with associated environmental impacts. However, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would accommodate anticipated residential and employment growth in an efficient and compact manner.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Human Health / Risk of Upset			
Impact 4.4.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not expose people or structures to significant hazards involving wildland fires including in areas where wildlands are	LS	None required.	LS

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adjacent to urbanized areas.			
Impact 4.4.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of a public or private airport in the Planning Area.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.4.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would allow for land uses that would involve the routine transportation, use, or disposal of hazardous materials in the Planning Area. Such activities would continue to be regulated in order to protect public health and will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.4.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment or by locating development on a site included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled by Government Code Section 65962.5. Such activities and circumstances would continue to be regulated in order to protect public health and will not create a significant	LS	None required.	LS

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hazard to the public or the environment.			
Impact 4.4.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in significant emission of hazardous emissions or significant handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.4.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or evacuation plan.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.4.7 Potential development under the proposed General Plan Update, along with increased urban development in Butte County, would not result in cumulative wildland fire hazard impacts.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Traffic and Circulation			
Impact 4.5.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in acceptable traffic operations on City roadway facilities.	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact 4.5.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increase in traffic volumes on state facilities that would operate below Caltrans LOS thresholds under year 2030 conditions.	S	None available.	SU
Impact 4.5.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increase in demand for public transit services in the Planning Area. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions would not conflict with policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation or increase demand for transit facilities greater than planned capacity.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.5.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increase in the demand for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. However, implementation of proposed General Plan would not result in adverse affects to existing bikeways or pedestrian facilities that would discourage their use or result in safety issues.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.5.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increase in traffic volumes that	LS	None required.	LS

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could result in the greater potential for roadway or traffic hazards.			
Impact 4.5.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in an increase in traffic volumes, which could increase the potential opportunities for safety conflicts as well as potential conflicts with emergency access. However, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in inadequate emergency access.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.5.7 When considered with existing, proposed, planned, and approved development in the region, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would contribute to cumulative traffic volumes in the region that result in significant impacts to level of service and operations.	CC	None required.	CC/SU
Air Quality			
Impact 4.6.1 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Northern Sacramento Valley Planning Area 2006 Air Quality Attainment Plan. The proposed General Plan Update also	LS	None required.	LS

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includes several policy provisions that would further assist in air quality attainment efforts.			
Impact 4.6.2 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in short-term construction emissions that could violate or substantially contribute to a violation of federal and state standards for ozone and coarse and fine particulate matter.	PS	None available.	SU
Impact 4.6.3 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in long-term, operational emissions that could violate or substantially contribute to a violation of federal and state standards for ozone and coarse and fine particulate matter.	S	None available.	SU
Impact 4.6.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in increased population and employment that would increase traffic volumes on area roadways. This could result in elevated carbon monoxide emissions from motor vehicle congestion that could expose sensitive receptors to elevated carbon monoxide concentrations. However, traffic volumes would not be large enough to generate excessive carbon monoxide	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
emission levels.			
<p>Impact 4.6.5 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in projects that would include sources of toxic air contaminants which could affect surrounding land uses. Subsequent land use activities could also place sensitive land uses near existing sources of toxic air contaminants. These factors could result in the exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations such as toxic air contaminants. However, Butte County Air Quality Management District and state regulations would address exposure to toxic air contaminants.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.6.6 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could include sources that could create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people or expose new residents to existing sources of odor. However, continued implementation of BCAQMD rules and regulations and proposed General Plan Update policy provisions would address this issue.</p>	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact 4.6.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with cumulative development in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin, would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone and coarse and fine particulate matter.	CC	None available.	SU
Noise			
Impact 4.7.1 The proposed General Plan Update could result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of City standards as well as a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the City. However, the proposed Chico General Plan Update policy provisions would adequately address noise issues.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.7.2 Traffic conditions under the proposed General Plan Update could result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels that could adversely affect noise-sensitive land uses. In addition, future development of noise-sensitive land uses could be exposed to roadway and/or railroad noise levels in excess of the City's noise standards.	S	None available.	SU
Impact 4.7.3 Subsequent development associated with the proposed General Plan Update could result in new noise-	S	None available.	SU

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sensitive land uses encroaching upon existing or proposed stationary noise sources or new stationary noise sources encroaching upon existing or proposed noise-sensitive land uses.			
Impact 4.7.4 Subsequent development under the proposed General Plan Update could result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration levels. However, substantial sources of groundborne vibration that would result in significant vibration impacts are not expected in the Planning Area.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.7.5 Construction activities associated with subsequent activities under the proposed General Plan Update could result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels. However, the proposed Chico General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of the City Municipal Code would adequately address construction noise issues.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.7.6 Sensitive land uses constructed near Chico Municipal Airport, Ranchoero Airport, and the Enloe Medical Center could be exposed to aircraft noise in excess of applicable noise standards for land use compatibility.	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact 4.7.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other development in nearby unincorporated areas of the county, would increase transportation noise along area roadways.	CC	None available.	CC/SU
<i>Geology and Soils</i>			
Impact 4.8.1 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in the exposure of more people, structures, and infrastructure to seismic hazards. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the City's Municipal Code would ensure that people, structures, and infrastructure are not adversely impacted by seismic hazards.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.8.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in construction and grading activities that could expose topsoil and increase soil erosion. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the City's Municipal Code would ensure that there are no adverse impacts from erosion and loss of topsoil.	LS	None required.	LS

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<p>Impact 4.8.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could allow for development on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, thus creating substantial risks to life and property. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the City’s Municipal Code would ensure that potential development is not adversely impacted by unstable soils.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.8.4 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update may allow for development in areas where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater and where soils are incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update would ensure no adverse impacts from soils incapable of supporting septic tanks.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.8.5 Subsequent land use activities associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable development in the region,</p>	LCC	None required.	LCC

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<p>may result in cumulative geologic and soil hazards. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the City's Municipal Code would ensure that potential development is not adversely impacted by cumulative geologic and soil hazards.</p>			
<i>Hydrology and Water Quality</i>			
<p>Impact 4.9.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in a violation of water quality standards; substantial alteration of the existing drainage pattern, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion, siltation, and/or environmental harm; polluted stormwater runoff; or otherwise degrade water quality. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure that water quality impacts are addressed.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.9.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in the degradation of groundwater quality and may violate water quality standards and/or degrade water quality</p>	LS	None required.	LS

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<p>resulting from future land uses. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure that groundwater quality is protected.</p>			
<p>Impact 4.9.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in a substantial alteration of an existing drainage pattern, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, which may substantially increase the rate of amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site or could result in the creation or contribution of runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage system. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure that drainage is adequately addressed.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.9.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update may result in the placement of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map, or other flood hazard delineation map; and as a</p>	LS	None required.	LS

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<p>result impede or redirect flood flows exposing people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of a failure of a levee or dam. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure that flooding is adequately addressed.</p>			
<p>Impact 4.9.5 Land uses and growth under the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with current land uses in the surrounding region, could introduce substantial grading, site preparation, and an increase in urbanized development.</p>	LCC	None required.	LCC
<p>Impact 4.9.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could increase impervious surfaces and alter drainage conditions and rates in the Planning Area, which could contribute to cumulative flood conditions downstream.</p>	LCC	None required.	LCC
Biological Resources			
<p>Impact 4.10.1 Land uses and development consistent with the proposed General Plan Update could result in adverse effects, either directly or indirectly on special-</p>	LS	None required.	LS

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status plant and animal species and sensitive and critical habitats in the Planning Area. However, implementation of General Plan Update policy provision would address this impact.			
Impact 4.10.2 Land uses and development consistent with the proposed General Plan Update could interfere with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species as well as use of native wildlife nursery sites. These land uses could also restrict the range of special-status species in the Planning Area.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.10.3 No Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), recovery plan, or natural community conservation plan has been adopted encompassing all or portions of the City of Chico. The General Plan Update would not conflict with Chico Municipal Code Chapter 16.66 (Tree Preservation Regulations) that regulates the removal and preservation of trees on undeveloped parcels within the city.	NI	None required.	NI
Impact 4.10.4 The proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in direct and indirect mortality and loss	CC	None available	CC/SU

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of habitat for special-status species, sensitive and/or critical habitat.			
<i>Cultural and Paleontological</i>			
Impact 4.11.1 Subsequent activities under the proposed General Plan Update could potentially cause a direct substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or structure. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update, existing Best Management Practices (BMPs), and continued implementation of the city’s Municipal Code would ensure that historic resources are not adversely impacted.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.11.2 Subsequent activities under the proposed General Plan Update could result in the potential disturbance of cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric archaeological sites, historical archaeological sites, and isolated artifacts and features) and human remains. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update would ensure that archaeological resources are not adversely impacted.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.11.3 Adoption of the proposed General Plan Update could result in the potential disturbance of paleontological resources (i.e., fossils and fossil	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
formations) within the Planning Area. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update would ensure that paleontological resources are not adversely impacted.			
Impact 4.11.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in addition to existing, approved, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable development in the region, could result in cumulative impacts to cultural resources in the region. However, policy provisions in the proposed General Plan Update and continued implementation of the city’s Municipal Code would ensure that historic and prehistoric resources are not adversely impacted.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Impact 4.11.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in addition to existing, approved, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable development in the region, could result in cumulative impacts to paleontological resources in the region.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Public Services and Utilities			
Impact 4.12.1.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in the need for additional fire protection and emergency medical services	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
<p>facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios and response times. The provision of these facilities could cause environmental impacts. However, future fire protection/EMS facilities would be subject to project-level CEQA review at such time as an application for a project was submitted to the appropriate agency. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City goals would ensure emergency services and associated facilities are provided.</p>			
<p>Impact 4.12.1.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in additional need for water supply and infrastructure to provide adequate fire flows for fire protection. The provision of these facilities could cause environmental impacts. However, future improvements would be subject to project-level CEQA review at such time as an application for a project was submitted to the appropriate agency.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.12.1.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in Butte County, would increase the demand for fire protection</p>	LCC	None required.	LCC

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
and emergency medical services and thus require additional staffing, equipment, and related facilities under cumulative conditions. The provision of these facilities could result in environmental impacts.			
Impact 4.12.2.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in increased demand for law enforcement services and could result in the need for new or physically altered law enforcement facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, future improvements would be subject to project-level CEQA review at such time as an application for a project was submitted to the appropriate agency.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.2.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the CPD service area, would increase the demand for law enforcement services and thus require additional staffing, equipment, and facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.	LCC	None required.	LCC

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
<p>Impact 4.12.3.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase population in the CUSD service area, which would subsequently increase student enrollment in CUSD schools. New or expanded school facilities may be necessary to serve the increased demand. Subsequent development under the proposed General Plan Update would be subject to school facility fees to pay for additional school facility needs.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.12.3.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase population in the city, which could also increase the number of students attending local post-secondary education facilities. The provision of new or expanded facilities would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts.</p>	LS	None required.	LS
<p>Impact 4.12.3.3 Population growth associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the cumulative setting, would result in a cumulative increase in student enrollment and require additional schools and related facilities to accommodate the growth.</p>	LCC	None required.	LCC

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SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
Impact 4.12.4.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase demand for water supply and thus require increased groundwater production, which could result in significant effects on the physical environment. However, adequate groundwater supply sources exist, and proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and Cal Water’s water conservation provisions would ensure adequate water service.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.4.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase demand for water supply and thus require additional water supply infrastructure that could result in a physical impact to the environment.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.4.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the cumulative setting, would increase the cumulative demand for water supplies and related infrastructure.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Impact 4.12.5.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in wastewater discharge that would exceed wastewater treatment	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
requirements of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.			
Impact 4.12.5.2 Subsequent development under the proposed General Plan Update would increase wastewater flows and require additional infrastructure and treatment capacity to accommodate anticipated demands. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure adequate wastewater facilities are provided.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.5.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, along with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the cumulative setting, would contribute to the cumulative demand for wastewater service. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of City standards would ensure adequate wastewater facilities are provided.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Impact 4.12.6.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would generate increased amounts of solid waste that would need to be disposed of in	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
landfills or recycled.			
Impact 4.12.6.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not be expected to result in conflicts with any federal, state, or local solid waste regulations.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.6.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, along with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the region, would result in increased demand for solid waste services.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Impact 4.12.7.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would increase demand for electrical, natural gas, and telecommunications services, including associated infrastructure that could result in a physical impact on the environment.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.7.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, along with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development, would contribute to the cumulative demand for electrical, natural gas, and telecommunications services and associated infrastructure that could result in a physical impact	LCC	None required.	LCC

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
on the environment.			
Impact 4.12.8.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would accommodate population growth, which could subsequently increase the use of existing parks and recreation facilities and/or require the construction or expansion of park and recreational facilities to meet increased demand.	LS	None required.	LS
Impact 4.12.8.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, along with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development, would increase the use of existing parks and would require additional park and recreation facilities within the cumulative setting, the provision of which could have an adverse physical effect on the environment.	LCC	None required.	LCC
Visual Resources			
Impact 4.13.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could have a substantial effect on a scenic vista. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policy provisions and continued implementation of the city's Municipal Code would ensure that no adverse impact to a scenic vista	LS	None required.	LS

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would occur.			
Impact 4.13.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not damage any scenic resources within a state scenic highway.	NI	None required.	NI
Impact 4.13.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would result in increased development which would alter the existing visual character of the Planning Area.	S	None available.	SU
Impact 4.13.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could result in an increase of daytime glare and/or nighttime lighting. This increase in daytime glare sources and nighttime lighting levels could have an adverse effect on adjacent areas and land uses.	LS	None available	LS
Impact 4.13.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update, in combination with other reasonably foreseeable development projects within Butte County, would contribute to the alteration of the visual character of the region, impacts to scenic vistas, and increased glare/lighting.	CC	None available.	CC/SU
Energy Use and Climate Change			
Impact 4.14.1 Development under the proposed General Plan Update would increase	LS	None required.	LS

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Impact	Level of Significance Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Resulting Level of Significance
the consumption of energy associated with electrical, natural gas, and vehicle fuel. However, implementation of proposed General Plan Update policies and state programs and requirements would ensure that energy usage is not inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary.			
Impact 4.14.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would be consistent with the goals of AB 32 (Health and Safety Code Sections 38500, 38501, 28510, 38530, etc.). However, it could still result in greenhouse gas emissions that may further contribute to significant impacts on the environment.	CC	None available.	CC/SU

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