CITY OF CHICO BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)

Regular Meeting Agenda August 30, 2021, 6:00 pm City Council Chambers - 421 Main Street

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street, Chico during normal business hours or online at http://www.chico.ca.us

COVID-19 ADVISORY NOTICE

Agenda Prepared: 8/27/2021

Agenda Posted: 8/27/2021

Prior to: 6:00 p.m.

BPPC meetings are open to the public. Pursuant to CDPH guidelines, face masks are not required for individuals fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Entering the meeting without a mask will be considered a self-attestation that an individual is fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

If you would like to address the Commission at this meeting, you are requested to complete a speaker card and hand it to the Commission Clerk prior to the conclusion of the staff presentation for that item. The card assists the Clerk with minute taking and assists the Commission in conducting an orderly meeting. Providing personal information on the card is optional. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker on all items has been established. If more than 10 speaker cards are submitted for agenda items, the time limitation may be reduced.

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

- 1.1. Call to Order
- **1.2.** Roll Call

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 7/26/21.

2.2. PERMIT TO HOLD A SMALL WEDDING CEREMONY AT THE PEREGINE POINT DISC GOLF COURSE ON NOVEMBER 22, 2021.

Olyvia Simpson (Applicant) would like to reserve the area behind the #8 basket on the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course, in Upper Bidwell Park for a small wedding ceremony from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday 11/22/21. Commission approval is required for this private event because Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course is not designated as a reservation area.

Recommendation: Conditional approval.

- 3. <u>ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT</u> IF ANY
- 4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD CAT ADVOCATES FOR REQUESTING PERMISSION TO IMPLEMENT A TRAP, NEUTER AND RETURN PROGRAM IN BIDWELL PARK.

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) will consider a request from the Neighborhood Cat Advocates to conduct a Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) program to reduce the feral cat population in Bidwell

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Park and possibly other City parks, greenways, and open spaces. (Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager).

Recommendation: Park & Natural Resources Manager recommends the BPPC approve allowing the Neighborhood Cat Advocates to implement a Trap, Neuter and Return program in Bidwell Park and possibly in other City parks, greenways, and open spaces.

5.2. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF REGULATIONS REGARDING VEHICLE USE IN LOWER BIDWELL PARK

At its 7/26/21 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered Commissioner Glatz's request to agendize discussion of traffic safety on Peterson and South Park Drives in Lower Bidwell Park, and electric bicycles in the park. (*Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager*).

Recommendation: Staff is recommending that the BPPC provide comments on this item and direct staff to:

- Conduct a speed survey on the portions of South Park Drive and Petersen Drive where vehicles are allowed to determine if the speed limit should be changed and if other traffic safety measures are needed.
- Research options and agendize discussion of electric vehicle use in Bidwell Park for the BPPC's September or another future meeting.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Commission at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair. The Committee cannot take any action on requests made under this section of the agenda at this meeting.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission's information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

- 7.1 Parks Division Report Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager
- **7.2** Street Tree Division Report Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on **8/30/21** at **6:00 p.m.** to be held in the Chico City Council Chamber Building located at 421 Main Street in Chico, California.



Please contact the Park Division Office at (530) 896-7800 if you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation. This request should be received at least 3 working days prior to the meeting.

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CITY OF CHICO BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC) MINUTES OF

July 26, 2021 MEETING City Council Chambers - 421 Main Street

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Glatz at 6:02 pm.

1.2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Jeff Glatz Megan Thomas-Petty Anjanette Shadley Jesse Alexander Nancy Wolfe

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff/Consultants Present:

Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M) Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager) Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager) Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator) Monica Murdock (Admin Analyst I)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 5/24/21 BPPC MEETING

Chair Glatz requested to pull the minutes from the Consent Agenda.

2.2. PERMIT FOR THE WALK TO END ALZHEIMERS EVENT IN OAK GROVE A & B IN THE ONE MILE RECREATION AREA ON 10/9/21.

Cheryl Brunk (Applicant) requested permission to set up their event in Oak Grove A&B on Friday, 10/08/21, the day before the actual event on 10/09/21. The Applicant is also requesting the gate at Woodland Avenue and 4th Street to remain closed from 8:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. on 10/09/21. Current policy is that gates will only remain closed beyond normal opening time for events with 1000 or more participants.

Recommendation: Conditional approval of both events.

Chair Glatz made a motion to approve this event. Commissioner Shadley seconded the motion.

The motion passed (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Shadley, Commissioner Alexander, Chair Glatz, Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty and Commissioner Wolfe.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

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3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

Chair Glatz removed Item 2.1 to review the minutes for Items 5.3 - drafting a letter to the Council regarding Street Tree and Park Ranger staffing and salaries, and for Item 5.4 regarding Drug Free Zone signage. Parl and Natural Resource Manager (P&NRM) Herman and Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty will attempt to meet before the next meeting to prepare a draft letter to Council for BPPC consideration and approval at the August meeting.

In regard to Item 5.4, P&NRM stated she emailed the City Attorney regarding the drug-free zone signage and will report back on this item at the August BPPC meeting.

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 5/24/21.

Chair Glatz made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion.

The motion passed (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Shadley, Commissioner Alexander, Chair Glatz, Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty and Commissioner Wolfe.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. <u>CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER GLATZ' REQUEST FOR EARLIER CLOSING TIMES IN CERTAIN PARK AREAS.</u>

At its 5/24/21 meeting, the BPPC considered Commissioner Glatz's request to agendize discussion regarding adjusting park closures in different areas of Bidwell Park and greenways to reduce vandalism, graffiti, and for public safety. The Commission continued this item and requested input <u>from the Chico Police Department and the Chico Area Recreation District (CARD)</u> (Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager and Chair Glatz).

Recommendation: Commission was requested to provide input and possible direction to Staff on this request.

A motion was made by Chair Glatz to request City Council approval to change the closure hour in all City parks and greenways from 11 p.m. to 9 p.m., with the exception of City Plaza and the Observatory in Upper Bidwell Park, which t would remain at the 11 p.m. closing time. Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty seconded the motion.

The motion failed (2-2) by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Glatz and Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty

NOES: Commissioner Alexander and Commissioner Wolfe

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Shadley

ABSENT: None

After further discussion on the topic, Commissioner Wolfe made a motion to request changing the closing hours in the City parks and greenways to 10 p.m., excluding the City Plaza and the Observatory, which will remain at 11 p.m. The gate closing hours are to remain at 7 p.m. in the winter and 9 p.m. in the summer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shadley.

The motion passed (5-0) by the following vote:

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AYES: Commissioner Shadley, Commissioner Alexander, Chair Glatz, Vice-Chair Thomas-Petty and

Commissioner Wolfe

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

5.2. <u>CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE REHABILITATION IDEAS FOR THE HORSESHOE PIT AREA IN</u> LOWER BIDWELL PARK.

Earlier this year, the horseshoe pits in the One Mile Recreation Area in Lower Bidwell Park were removed as they were in very poor shape and in disrepair. The Commission considered some conceptual ideas on how to rehabilitate and improve this area. (*Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager*).

Recommendation: The Commission is requested to provide input and possible direction to Staff on this item.

After discussion of this topic, the Commissioners directed Staff to conduct further research on possibly installing Bocce Ball courts and possible other ideas and to come back to the Commission at a future meeting.

5.3. UPDATE ON THE URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN AND URBAN GREENING GRANT

The Urban Forest Manager provided an update on the Cal Fire Climate Change Investments Grant and the process to develop an Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) for Chico (Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager).

Recommendation: The Urban Forest Manager requested input from the BPPC on the draft Vision Statement options proposed for the UFMP.

The Commission had no changes to the Vision Statement that is being proposed for the Master Plan.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

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7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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- 7.1 Parks Division Report Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager
- 7.2 Street Tree Division Report Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. <u>COMMISSIONER REQUESTS</u>

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the Commission is needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. At this meeting, public comment may be taken only whether to agendize these items. If approved to be agendized, public comment regarding the items themselves will be taken at a future BPPC meeting.

8.1. By email dated 6/24/21, Chair Glatz requested to discuss traffic safety on Petersen and South Park Drives in Lower Bidwell Park and also electric bicycles on bike trails.

Chair Glatz made a motion to agendize the discussion of traffic safety on Petersen and South Park Drives in Lower Bidwell Park and also electric bicycles on trails. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion.

The motion passed (5-0) by the following vote:

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	Wolfe.
	NOES: None
	ABSENT: None
9.	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>
	The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 8/30/21 at 6:00 p.m. at Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street Chico CA
	Date Approved://
	Prepared by:
	Monica Murdock, Admin Analyst I Date

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Bidwell Park & Playground Commission Report

DATE: 8/25/21

TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Committee (BPPC)

FROM: Kathleen Collier, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Olyvia Simpson Wedding Ceremony near Peregrine Point, (11/22/21)

REPORT IN BRIEF:

Applicant (Olyvia Simpson) would like to reserve the area behind the #8 basket on the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course, in Upper Bidwell Park for her wedding ceremony on from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Monday 11/22/21 (see attached application and maps). Peregrine Point is not designated as an exclusive use reservation area per 12R.10 of the Chico Municipal Code. Therefore, Commission approval is required for this private reservation permit request. Staff does not anticipate any major conflicts, issues, or damage associated with the applicant's requests. Other than the conditions mentioned below, no other requirements are recommended.

Meeting Date: 8/30/21

Recommendation: Conditional approval.

Event Details

Date of Application	8/24/2021				
Date of Event	11/22/2021				
Time of Event	2:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.				
Event Name	Wedding Ceremony				
Applicant Name	Olyvia Simpson				
Location	Behind Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course				
Description	Wedding Ceremony				
New Event?	⊠Yes □ No. Years?				
# Participants	30				
Reason for Consideration?	on for Not an intensive use area.				

Conditions

Staff recommends the Applicant adhere to the following permit conditions:

- Meet with Park Staff on site prior to the event to determine the best location for the ceremony.
- Bring flashlights as it may be close to dark at that time of year.
- Follow all park rules, including no glass, alcohol, candles, or smoking allowed (Please see Section 4 of the permit application).
- Stay on trails when entering and exiting the course area.
- Stay out of signed and/or fenced sensitive species areas.
- Do not attach or hang signs or decorations on any City structures, trees, tree barriers, or vegetation.
- Park vehicles in designated parking areas only.

Attachments: Application and Permit for Park Use

Distribution:Olyvia Simpson
All Park Rangers

BPPC Staff Report Page 1 of 1 August 2021



Number of People:						
150 or less	151 or more	Special Event				

SECTION 1 - APPLICATION INFORMATION							
Must be 18 or older to submit an application - Permit fees due upon submittal This Reservation is not valid until approved by the Park Division							
Olyvia Simpson Name of Applicant/Contact Person Organization Name (if applicable Home, Organization, or Company City, State, Zip Contact Phone No. Note: Park gates will not recommended.	y Address Alto	Day Day Day Day Day Process of Control of Co	Vedding Cere corption of Event (Fa /ednesday y and Date of Event om: 3:00pm ne of Event only om: 2:00 otal time needed for	mony mily BBQ 11/22/2 To: 4 set-up, Ev	4:30 To: 5:00 Address And 1,000 people. All races were sentimentally as a series of the series of	30 No. of People	
than 1,000 people at One M Use of 50 or 100 amp requir	ile must start before es a certified electri	e 8:30 am. Street closu ician (See Section 2).	re(s) subject to a	separate	permit and approval.		
Cedar Grove Picnic A Electricity (15 a Water (Public E	a East cey Mon - Fri 8:00 am - Area Cedar (mp) Wat vents Only) Elector theater	West 4:30 pm Grove Meadow		Field not Grove A Electri Band : BBQ	ecue Area included. Contact CARD (Oak Grov city (15 amp) Stand (15 amp) Pick up key Mon - Fri 8:00 am is available, but no hose bib	е В	
City Plaza (Additional Electricity (15 ar Event Restrooms Fountain: on Meter Bags #	fees may apply) np) Electricity (10		Children's Pla	city (15 an city (100 a	np) Pick up key Mon - Fri 8:00 a	nm - 4:30 pm	
Council Ring Fire Permit Depot Park]]]	✓ Upper Bidwel	l Park (P	Iwood Grove) No vehicle and vehicle and vehicle and vehicle Events only) Description Point Park	ecess before 11 am	
Electricity (15 amp) Lower Bidwell Park (Public Events only) Early Entrance Needed (Public Events only)							
Additional Description of the E- impact, specifically behin are provided in email atta For Park	nd the #8 Disc go achment. (https:	If basket on the co	urse. A google r 6pxMxcXZ9Xd/	maps pii A) <- go	n + screen shots of the longle maps pin	mental location	
Office Distribution:							
	Park Ranger 1 Park Ranger 2	Senior Park Ranger Calendar	Applicant 920 Fund		Cleaning Service Risk Management (email)	Facilities CPD	

SECTION 2 - EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by checking "yes" or "no"

Is this an annual event? If so, how many years have you been holding this event?	Yes	No ✓
Is there a patron admission, entry, or participant fee(s) required for your event? If fee is charged, how much is the fee?	Yes	No ✓
Will there be amplified sound/music at the event? (Please see the Noise Conditions for Park Use in Section 4)	Yes	No
Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc.):	П	V
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: to: Note: 50 / 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.		
Will there be an entertainment apparatus anywhere? These are only allowed in certain areas of the park. No water apparatus allowed.	Yes	No
Operator to provide proof of insurance to the City Park Division prior to event. Bounce house Climbing wall Ropes course Other: Name of Operator:		√
Will there be any vendors selling food, merchandise, or services at this event? (no glass or alcohol permitted)	Vac	No
If selling food, please describe how it will be prepared at the event: An officiant, and photographer will be present	Yes	No
Valid permit from Butte County Environmental Health is required for all food vendors and must be on hand.	1	Ш
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening?	Yes	No
Note: Park gates will not remain closed beyond normal opening time for any event with less than 1,000 people. All races with less than 1,000		_
people at One Mile must start before 8:30 am. (Subject to approval by the City Park Division)	\Box	\checkmark
If yes, please state which gates: Time of closure: from: to:		
Will event require overnight storage of property? If yes, how many security or other personnel will be provided?	Yes	No ✓
Will there be early entrance (before 7 am) into the Park? (An additional fee will be charged) Note: Gate monitors are required at all the	Yes	No
entrances and exits for early Park entrance until gates open at 9 am.		\checkmark
If yes, when will monitors be at their positions? Time from:	Yes	N-
Portable Restrooms: You are required to rent portable restrooms for events with 200+ participants in the immediate area of the event site	Tes	No
which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom company: Phone number:	Ш	\checkmark
Restroom company: Phone number: Location(s) of portable restrooms:		
Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 32 hours after conclusion of event.		
Trash and Recycling: As an event organizer, you must properly recycle or dispose of waste during your event and immediately after the event.	Yes	No
The area must be returned to a clean condition. For events with 200+ participants, additional trash and recycling cans are required at		\checkmark
applicant's cost. Note: Containers shall be removed within 32 hours after conclusion of event.		
Trash company: Phone number:	Yes	Ma
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners, or decorations? (Please see Conditions for Park Use in Section 4)	T CS	No
If yes, please describe type and location: Minimal decorations - flower bouquets Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to trees or Park property.	\overline{A}	ш
Will water be needed during your event? If yes, for what purpose:	Yes	No
Please provide your own hose and shut-off nozzle. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area.		\checkmark
	Yes	No
s this a walk, run or bike race event?		/
f so, are you using the standard race course? If not, please provide a map	Yes	No
Note: Not using the standard race course requires Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) approval.		✓
One Mile / Sycamore Field: If this is a One Mile reservation, will Sycamore Field be needed?	Yes	No
f yes, you will need to contact CARD at 545 Vallombrosa Ave. Chico (530) 895-4711.	ш	✓
City Plaza Only: Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for loading and unloading may be obtained from the City by calling: (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks?	Yes	No
f yes, a Vend, Peddler, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico (530) 879-6900.	Ш	V
Will City street closure(s) be needed?	Yes	No
f yes, a separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico (530) 879-6900		✓

SECTION 3 - PERMIT FEES

Park Reservation Fees for 15	0 or Fewer Peopl	e				
Fees based on venue & not applicable to weddings						
Reservation Locations	Fee	No. of Days	Total			
Bidwell Bowl - Partial Day(5 hours or less)	\$55	A				
Bidwell Bowl - Full Day	\$100	Sales Company				
Cedar Grove Picnic Area - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55					
Cedar Grove Picnie Area - Full Day	\$75					
Cedar Grove Meadow - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55	STATE OF THE PARTY				
Cedar Grove Meadow - Full Day	\$75	TOWN HAT	THE RESIDENCE OF			
Children's Playground - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$30					
Children's Playground - Full Day	\$55					
City Plaza - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55					
City Plaza - Full Day	\$75	MARCH TO THE				
Council Ring - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55					
Council Ring - Full Day	\$75					
Depot Park - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$30	STATE OF THE PARTY OF	ALTON MARKET			
Depot Park - Full Day	\$55	WE END TH				
Five Mile East - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55					
Five Mile West - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55					
Five Mile East - Full Day	\$75					
Five Mile West - Full Day	\$75					
One Mile Oak Grove A - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	THE PERSON NAMED IN			
One Mile Oak Grove B - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$55	REAL PROPERTY.	A PROPERTY OF THE PARTY			
One Mile Oak Grove A - Full Day	\$75	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF	STORY BUT OF			
One Mile Oak Grove B - Full Day	\$75	RUE SON COLUMN				
One Mile Oak Grove A & B - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$75	ASSET ASSESSMENT	ENDOS ESTABLISMENTS			
One Mile Oak Grove A & B - Full Day	\$125	A PROPERTY OF	70 (00 mg) 400			
Pienie Site No. 37 (Redwood Grove) - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$30					
Picnic Site No. 37 (Redwood Grove) - Full Day	\$55					
Other Areas** - Partial Day (5 hours or less)	\$30	The same of the same	30			
Other Areas** - Full Day	\$55	ALCOHOL TO				
*Other Areas Require BPPC Approval						

Park Reservation Fees for 151 or more people, or Special Events such as weddings and walks/runs Fees based on number of people					
Description	Fee		Total		
Application Processing Fee	S40		40/		
Damage Deposit Fee (Refundable)	\$150		250		
Event Fees Based on Number of Participants					
1 - 150	\$75				
151 - 250	\$150				
251 - 500	\$230				
501 - 1,000	\$525				
1,001 plus (see line helow)	\$750				
50:50 per participant exceeding 1001	\$0.50	# over 1001			
Additional Fees Applicable to All Reservations	Fee	No. of Units	Total		
		Citito	1000		
arly Entrance Fee (before 7 am)	\$35 / hour				
events with vendors selling food, beverages, merchandise, or services	\$10 / vendor				
ound/Electricity (15 amp)	\$15 / day				
ound/Electricity (50 or 100 amp)	\$35 / day				
ity Plaza Additional Restrooms (200 + participants)	\$112.50 / day				
ecs due upon submittal of application		D. I. F. T.	70.		
Credit Card payment will be assessed a 2.75% convenience fee		Park Fee Total:	30.0		
lake checks payable to: City of Chico		Convenience Fee: Total Fee Required:			
ity of Chico Cash Receipt No: Payment Method:	Date:	Received by:			
VPERMITS (APPLICATIONS VORAFT - PSIK HETERVELISTO ADDITECTION					

SECTION 4 - CONDITIONS FOR PARK USE

You are responsible for knowing the Park Rules. Please observe the following:

Alcohol Alcohol is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.

BBQs Portable BBQs (charcoal or propane only) may only be used next to existing BBQs in Lower Bidwell Park and Five Mile Recreation Areas, no

other areas. No BBQs allowed during Red Flag Fire Warning or high wind advisory days.

Bicycles must observe all California vehicular codes including one-way streets. Riders are expected to be courteous and yield to equestrian and

pedestrian traffic. Helmets must be worn at all times in Upper Park, except when on pavement. Riders must stay on designated traits.

Bicycle riding is not allowed in Caper Acres or on the Sycamore pool deck.

Bounce Houses Bounce houses, (except those with water) and other similar non-water play equipment, are only permitted in certain areas with a reservation and upon approval by the Park Division. The operators of this equipment must provide proof of insurance to the Park Division prior to event.

Bounce houses are not allowed in Caper Acres.

Campfires No campfires allowed at any time, except by permit and only in the Council Ring.

Camping No overnight camping allowed unless authorized by the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission. Bidwell Park is a day use only park.

Clean up Permittee is required to completely clean up area at the conclusion of event.

Damages Any damage to City property as a result of this event will be repaired at permittee's expense.

Dogs Dogs may be off leash from 5:30 am to 8:30 am in Lower Park. All other times, dogs must be on a leash 6 feet in length or less. Along the north side of Upper Park Road, dogs may be off leash anytime. While off leash, dogs must remain under control via master's voice. Dogs are not

allowed in Caper Acres, One Mile or Five Mile swimming areas, or designated swimming holes in Upper Park.

Electrical All power extension cords, sound amplification equipment, and staging to be supplied by permittee. Permittee shall provide "tripping" prevention

devices over power cords crossing any pathway.

Fishing Big Chico Creek: Check California Fish and Wildlife Regulations; www.wildlife.ca.gov.

Horseshoe Lake: Age 14 and over - license required, catch and release. Under 14 - no license required, catch and keep.

Gate Closures

Vehicle

Traffic

Upper Park gate at Parking Lot E is closed on Sundays, Mondays, during wet periods, and Red Flag Fire Warning days. Gates may be closed for approved special events. For gate opening and closing hours, visit: www.chico.ca.us/park-trails.

Glass No glass containers allowed in any City Park or Playground.

Horses Horses must stay on designated trails. Horses are not allowed in One Mile or Five Mile Recreation Areas. Horses must cross the creek at

approved crossings. Safe and courteous riding is the Park standard.

No loud or unusual noises are allowed, including radios and headsets that can be heard over 50 feet away.

For music or sound at One Mile Recreation Area, please face all speakers away from Woodland Ave.

Park Lower Park is closed from 11:00 pm to 5:00 am every day, unless directly and actively proceeding to a destination outside of the Park. Upper Park is closed to vehicles at 9:00 pm October - March, and 11:00 pm April - September unless posted otherwise. Park may be closed

during Red Flag Fire Warning or high wind advisory days.

Signs/ Defacing of trees, tables, any park fixtures, open ground, or paved roads/paths with markings, staples, tacks, or signs is prohibited. No pinatas, slack lines, hammocks, or accessories shall be affixed to trees. Only barricades, cones, or self standing devices may be used for these purposes.

Smoking Smoking or vaping is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.

Swimming While in the One Mile swim area, compliance with lifeguards is required for public safety. Pool is open and lifeguards are on duty during summer

swim season.

Vegetation No taking, cutting, or injury of any vegetation in the Park is allowed.

The second of th

 While gates are closed, limited use of vehicles to set up for event is permitted. Vehicles must be in compliance with the one-way designation of the roadway, must yield to all other activities (walking, jogging, bicycling, and horseback riding), must travel with flashers on and may not exceed ten (10) miles per hour.

· Permittee shall provide adequate signs and supervision to avoid conflicts between vehicles, bicycles, equestrians, and general public.

Only emergency vehicles will be allowed access through the area of South Park Drive which has been closed to motor vehicles.

No vehicles are permitted to travel or park on grass areas.

SECTION 5 - INSURANCE

(To be determined by Park Division)

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL EVENTS WHERE:

"There are more than 150 participants"

Insurance Required

✓ Not Required

For Insurance questions for your event, please contact the Risk Management office (530) 879-7910 or email risk-management@chicoca.gov

For liability coverage purposes, it is the applicant and the City of Chico's intent (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"), that this permit is a written contract between the Parties.

Pursuant to the insurance policy related to this permit/written contract, and consistent with the Certificate of Liability Insurance and Additional Insured Endorsements, the Parties hereby attach and incorporate by this reference, the Certificate of Liability Insurance and Additional Insured Endorsements, which are further expressly made a material part of the said permit/written contract between the Parties.

Permittee shall supply, at least two (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled event, a Certificate of Insurance issued by a company licensed to do business in California with a Best's Insurance Guide rating of "B" or better ("A" rated if Company is unlicensed) which provides evidence of comprehensive and general liability coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit; \$2,000,000 aggregate with policy endorsements as follows:

(1) Identification of permit application, identification of event, date of event.

Note: Numbers 2 and 3 below must be separate endorsements:

- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards of commissions, and members thereof, its employees and agents are covered as additional insureds as respects to any liability arising out of the activities of the names insured.
- (3) The insurance coverages afforded by this policy shall be primary insurance as respects to the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City of Chico, its officers, employees, or agents shall be in excess of the insurance afforded to the named insured by this policy and shall not contribute to it.
- (4) An unqualified statement that "The insurer will provide the City at least ten (10) days prior notice of cancellation or material change in coverage" standard Certificate of Insurance cancellation language is not acceptable.

Please Note: Your reservation may be cancelled if the insurance is not approved at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event.

SECTION 6 - ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS

In signing this Permit, I agree to indemnify and hold the City of Chico and/or the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission free and clear of all claims of damage for injury to persons or property in, upon or about City Parks or Playgrounds, and arising from my use of the Parks and Playgrounds as noted above, and to defend any action against the City of Chico resulting from any such claim, without cost to the City.

*I certify that I have read this application thoroughly, followed any and all instructions, understand its contents, will comply with the attached "Conditions for Park Use" in Section 4, will adhere to any additional conditions set forth by this permit, and supplied true and correct information herein

to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(ayou Sopron)

Signature of Applicant

08/26/21

Date

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

City of Chico - Park Division Deliver to: 965 Fir Street, Chico, CA 95928 Mail to: PO Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927 email to parkinfo@chicoca.gov

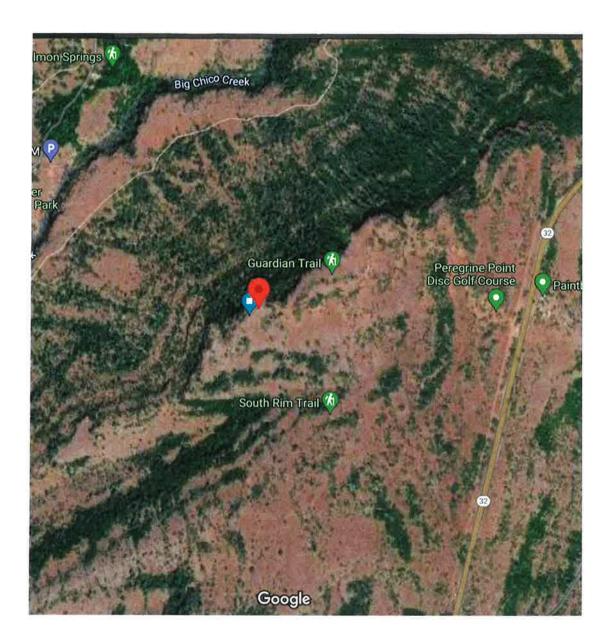
THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL ALL FEES ARE PAID AND APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

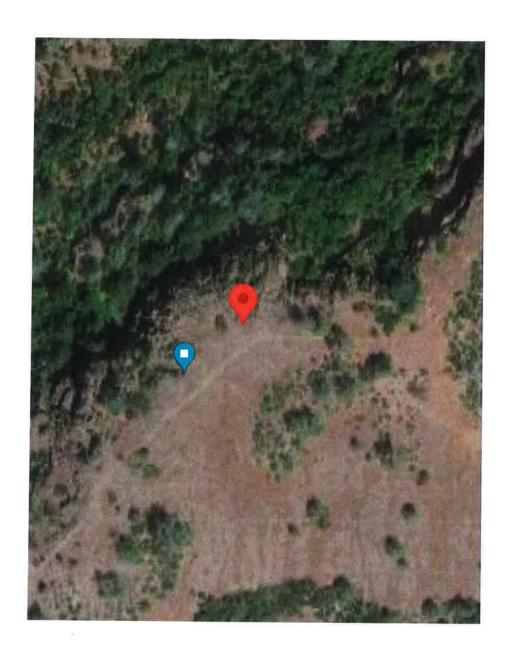
A copy of the approved permit will be returned to you.

SECTION 7 - AUTHORIZATION

	TO THOM EATION
I certif	y that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend this permit be: Approved by Director subject to listed additional condition(s):
	Denied by Director Approved by Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) Approved by BPPC subject to listed additional condition(s:) (see attached conditions) Denied by BPPC
Reason	for Denial:
	Approved by

Date





2015 Knotweed Patch . 2015 Checkerbloom Occurance 🔵 2010 Knotweed Patch 🦰 2010 Checkerbloom Group 2015 Knotweed Group C 2015 Checkerbloom Group Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course 2010 - 2015 Wildflower Monitoring Comparison Northstate Resources, Inc • 2010 Knotweed Points • 2010 Cherkerbloom



Bidwell Park & Playground Commission Report

Meeting Date 8/30/21

DATE: 8/26/21

TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)

FROM: Linda Herman, Parks & Natural Resources Manager

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD CAT ADVOCATES TO TRAP.

NEUTER AND RETURN FERAL AND UNOWNED CATS IN BIDWELL PARK

REPORT IN BRIEF:

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) will consider a request from the Neighborhood Cat Advocates to conduct a Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) program to reduce the feral cat population in Bidwell Park and possibly other City parks, greenways, and open spaces.

Recommendation: Park & Natural Resources Manager recommends the BPPC approve allowing the Neighborhood Cat Advocates to implement a Trap, Neuter and Return program in Bidwell Park and possibly in other City parks, greenways, and open spaces.

BACKGROUND:

In 1998, the Chico Cat Coalition, a no-kill, nonprofit, and volunteer run shelter, was formed to remove feral cats from primarily Lower Bidwell Park. In 2009, the BPPC and the City Council discussed the Coalition's potential loss of its facility lease and its inability to shelter more cats and other financial concerns. Inevitably, the Coalition was forced to stop trapping and removing cats in Bidwell Park in 2015. The City would like to acknowledge and express its gratitude to the Coalition for rescuing over 925 cats from the park between 1998 and 2015.

Since then, another volunteer organization called the Neighborhood Cat Advocates (NCA) was formed who is currently conducting a TNR program for feral and unowned cats, with permission, on private properties. The premise and success of TNR programs is because it:

- Stabilizes feral cat colonies
- Improves and protects the cats' lives
- Answers the needs of the community
- Works where other methods have not.

More information regarding TNR programs is attached as Attachment 1 to this Staff report.

As additional information, the Chico Municipal Code (CMC) Section 12R.04.185 states that, unless feeding fowl at Horseshoe Lake or the Deer Pens, or if an owner or handler is feeding its own domestic animal, feeding or the cause of feeding of any wild or domestic animal is prohibited in Bidwell Park,

DISCUSSION:

Staff was notified by the NCA that they have recently seen an increase in feral cats in Bidwell Park and requested permission to implement a TNR program. A copy of the request is attached as Attachment 2. In the original request, NCA was seeking permission to:

- 1. Put food out, despite the CMC feeding ban, to initially trap the feral and unowned cats.
- 2. Capture and shelter kittens who are easier to socialize and ultimately adopt.
- 3. Return the adult cats after neutering to Bidwell Park and other locations in which they were found.
- 4. Continue to feed the cats after their return to protect wildlife in the park.

City Staff reached out to NCA about the continued feeding aspect of the proposal, expressing appreciation for the wildlife protection, but concerns that the feeding may encourage the abandonment of more cats in the park. The NCA agreed

that if cats are healthy, they are either obtaining food on their own, or are being fed by someone somewhere and should not need supplemental feeding. If the cats are in poor condition, then it would be best to remove those cats since they are clearly not thriving, rather than feeding them. These removals could create additional problems like attracting more cats and other critters (i.e., the "vacuum effect"), and an increase in people abandoning unwanted cats. In addition, doing nothing is only going to make the cat population continue to grow, which may further impact more wildlife.

If approved by the Commission, Staff would like to include TNR programs in other City parks and greenways if NCA is willing to expand their operations to include these areas.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Trap, Neuter, and Return Information.
Attachment 2: Neighborhood Cat Advocates Proposal.

DISTRIBUTION:

BPPC

Tracy Mohr, Animal Services Manager Shelly Rogers, Neighborhood Cat Advocates





Research

Fact Sheet

WHY TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN FERAL CATS? THE CASE FOR TNR

What is Trap-Neuter-Return?

Trap-Neuter-Return is the humane and effective approach for stray and feral cats. Now in practice for decades in the US after being proven in Europe, scientific studies show that Trap-Neuter-Return improves the lives of feral cats, improves their relationships with the people who live near them, and decreases the size of colonies over time.

Trap-Neuter-Return is successfully practiced in hundreds of communities and in every landscape and setting. It is exactly what it sounds like: Cats are humanely trapped and taken to a veterinarian to be neutered and vaccinated. After recovery, the cats are returned to their home—their colony—outdoors. Kittens and cats who are friendly and socialized to people may be adopted into homes.

Grounded in science, TNR stops the breeding cycle of cats and therefore improves their lives while preventing reproduction. It is a fact that the removal and killing of



outdoor cats that animal control has been pursuing for decades is never ending and futile. Since feral cats are not adoptable, they are killed in pounds and shelters. With a successful program like Trap-Neuter-Return to turn to, it's hard to believe that animal control agencies continue to kill cats, even though that approach has shown zero results.

It is time to put an end to catch and kill. Trap-Neuter-Return provides a life-saving, effective solution for these beautiful, independent cats.

There are so many reasons to embrace and promote TNR! Trap-Neuter-Return:

- Stabilizes feral cat colonies
- Improves cats' lives
- Answers the needs of the community
- Protect cats' lives
- Works—other methods just don't

Trap-Neuter-Return **Stabilizes Feral Cat Colonies**

Colonies that are involved in TNR diminish in size over time.

- During an 11-year study of TNR at the University of Florida, the number of cats on campus declined by 66%, with no new kittens being born after the first four years of operation.¹
- A study of the impact of TNR on feral cat colonies in Rome, Italy, also observed colony size decrease between 16% and 32% over a 10-year period.

Trap-Neuter-Return quickly stabilizes feral cat populations by instantly ending reproduction and by removing socialized cats from the colony.

- A TNR program at the University of Texas A&M neutered 123 cats in its first year, and found no new litters of kittens the following year.
- Over the course of the same study, 20% of the cats trapped were found to be socialized stray cats and adopted.²

WHY TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN FOR FERAL CATS? THE CASE FOR TNR, page 2 of 5

Trap-Neuter-Return Improves Cats' Lives

Leaders of major humane programs all over America agree that cats live healthier, more peaceful lives after TNR. "It helps to stabilize the number of cats in the community," says Bonney Brown, executive director of the Nevada Humane Society in Reno, Nevada. "It keeps the cats healthy. They really have great lives out there doing their feral cat thing."

Trap-Neuter-Return relieves cats of the constant stresses of mating and pregnancy.

"The obvious benefit of Trap-Neuter-Return to the cats is that the females don't go through cycles of producing more and more kittens. Their health is actually improved," says Rich Avanzino, longtime director of the San Francisco SPCA and current president of Maddie's Fund. Spaying and neutering also virtually eliminates the chance of cats developing mammary or testicular tumors.

Mating behaviors cease, like roaming, yowling, spraying, and fighting.

In a 2002 study conducted by prominent researcher Julie Levy, DVM, caregivers reported that cats tended to roam less after neutering, which is beneficial for their safety and reduces conflict with neighbors.³

With decreased competition for mating, the cats are also less likely to suffer injuries. A study of a feral cat colony in London conducted by leading cat biologists and TNR pioneers Dr. Jenny Remfry and Peter Neville found that cats were more affectionate towards each other after neutering, spending more time in groups and fighting less.⁴

Cats' physical health improves.

Studies have found that neutering improves feral cats' coat condition and helps them gain weight. "...[R]esearch at the University of Florida shows that they gain weight and stray less after they've been neutered, so that's a benefit to their welfare, as well," says Dr. Levy.

Cats are vaccinated against rabies.

"The process of Trap-Neuter-Return has an immense benefit for the cats that are involved in these programs,"

explains Dr. Levy. "They're vaccinated, so they're less susceptible to infectious diseases." Although feral cats are healthy, vaccinations given during TNR protect them even further and help put community members at ease.

Cats live long, healthy lives.

At the conclusion of the 11-year study of the impact of TNR on feral cat colonies at the University of Florida, 83% of the cats in managed TNR colonies had been residing in those colonies for more than six years—indicating a lifespan comparable to the 7.1-year lifespan of pet cats. Learn more about feral cat health at www.alleycat.org/FeralCatHealth.

Trap-Neuter-Return **Answers the Needs of the Community**

"I think there are several amazing benefits for communities that arise after they embrace Trap-Neuter-Return," says Dr. Levy. "One of the most substantial ones is a resolution of the conflict that...[can] surround cats in neighborhoods. Once residents understand that something is being done to control the cat population, they usually embrace having a Trap-Neuter-Return program there."

• The population stabilizes—no new kittens!

Once TNR is in place, the cats will no longer reproduce. The population will stabilize and eventually decline.

Cats become better neighbors.

Studies confirm that once TNR stops reproduction, and therefore mating behaviors, the cats' relationship with residents improves. Colonies become quieter as behaviors like yowling or fighting stop, calls to authorities about the cats decrease significantly, and community morale improves.^{7,8}

• Trap-Neuter-Return creates opportunities for outreach, education, and cooperation.

Trap-Neuter-Return does more than just produce immediate results and boost the cats' public image. As Alley Cat Allies has found in its 20 years of experience through such on-the-ground programs as DC Cat in

WHY TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN FOR FERAL CATS? THE CASE FOR TNR, page 3 of 5

Washington, DC, and the Meadows of Chantilly in Northern Virginia, this community program presents a great opportunity for educating and addressing any concerns neighbors may have. "Having an open dialogue with neighbors and providing an opportunity to listen to their concerns can make a huge difference to a successful TNR program," said Becky Robinson, president of Alley Cat Allies.

"Usually, neighbors are relieved just to learn that something is being done to stabilize the cat population. Caregivers can also take further steps to address concerns, such as providing deterrents to keep cats out of neighbors' yards or constructing discreet feeding stations and litter areas to gradually move cats out of areas they are not wanted." "9

The cats live in the neighborhood—they will be there whether they are cared for or not. Trap-Neuter-Return establishes a point of contact for concerns about the cats and for resolving any community concerns.

Download the Alley Cat Allies' brochure "How to Live With Cats In Your Neighborhood" to help respond to concerns about cats. Visit www.alleycat.org/Deterrents.

Trap-Neuter-Return Protects Cats' Lives

The number one documented cause of death for cats in America is being killed in shelters. Over 70% of cats entering shelters are killed—a figure that rises to nearly 100% for feral cats, who cannot be adopted. For decades, animal control policy has wasted millions of dollars catching and killing outdoor cats, but populations of cats are still there, just as they always have been. Clearly, this cruel and costly system has failed.

• Trap-Neuter-Return is an essential and valuable component of shelter reform to save cats' lives.

When used as a part of overall shelter reform with policies including no longer accepting cats at the shelter, across the board, communities with TNR programs report a decline in shelter intake. Alongside a decrease in cat-related calls to animal control, researchers in Orange County, Florida, also found that the number of cats killed by animal control decreased in the six years after TNR was initiated.¹⁰

Who does Trap-Neuter-Return?

Trap-Neuter-Return has been practiced abroad for decades, and spread across the United States with the help of Alley Cat Allies in the 1990s. Since then, it has become the accepted approach for feral cats, supported by:

- Major cities including Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Austin, Jacksonville, Topeka, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Cook County, Illinois.
- National organizations like the Humane Society of the United States, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), and the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).
- Colleges and Universities including Stanford, Texas A&M, North Carolina State, and the University of Florida.
- Thriving destinations and businesses including Disneyland and Portland's professional soccer stadium.
- More than 260 registered nonprofit cat organizations nationwide.
- Millions of Americans, from your friends and neighbors to some familiar famous faces.

• Trap-Neuter-Return stops wasteful spending of taxpayer dollars.

Catching and killing cats has been a futile effort used by animal control and shelters across the country for decades (see below). Continuing an approach that is clearly not working is not only a waste of taxpayer dollars, it also shows blatant disregard for efficiency and value—at a time when the economy is at the forefront of everybody's mind.

Investing in spay/neuter and TNR is an investment in cats' lives and cats' health, and it demonstrates a socially-responsible (and compassionate) and efficient approach to serving the animals and the public.

WHY TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN FOR FERAL CATS? THE CASE FOR TNR, page 4 of 5



Americans want humane solutions—they want TNR.

More than 80% of Americans believe it is more humane to leave a cat outside than to have her caught and killed, according to a 2007 study conducted by Harris Interactive for Alley Cat Allies. Unfortunately, many people don't realize that this is exactly what happens to feral cats—they are caught and killed. Trap-Neuter-Return reflects Americans' humane ethic that cats deserve to live out their lives in their outdoor homes.

Though Trap-Neuter-Return is practiced all around the country in hundreds of forward-thinking communities, catch and kill for feral cats is still the status quo in many cities. As the paradigm shifts to the lifesaving Trap-Neuter-Return approach, America's humane ethic is finally being reflected in animal control policies.

In 1993, San Francisco became one of the first American cities to embrace TNR. "Money, instead of being spent on killing, [i]s now being used to protect the animals, to basically support the colony caregivers and to provide the surgeries so that we [don't] see the wasted dollars, the waste of life, and the extra burden put on the cat-colony caregivers," says Avanzino. "It was a tragedy that needed to end, and Trap-Neuter-Return stopped it."

Trap-Neuter-Return Works—Other Methods Just Don't

Attempts to remove cats from an area always fail because of a natural and scientifically-documented phenomenon known as the vacuum effect. In basic terms, whenever cats are removed, new cats move in, or the surviving cats left behind, breed to capacity. Learn more at www.alleycat.org/

As a result of the vacuum effect, other approaches to feral cats are not only cruel and pointless, they are also completely ineffective at stabilizing the cat population. These methods include:

Catch and Kill

The traditional and continued approach of animal control, this futile method has been used for decades to no avail. As the Humane Society of the Ochocos in Oregon, puts it: "...[W]e know now, that more than 30 years of trapping and killing cats has done nothing to reduce the feral cat population." ¹¹ A former president of the National Animal Control Association echoes this sentiment recognizing the ineffectiveness of catch and kill and the prevalence of the vacuum effect: "What we're saying is the old standard isn't good enough anymore. As we've seen before, there's no department that I'm aware of that has enough money in their budget to simply practice the old capture and euthanize policy; nature just keeps having more kittens. ¹²

Adoption

Some cats who have lived outside their entire life befriend their caregivers and make a slow steady transition to living indoors. This is not representative of the millions of cats who are not going to make the transition to living with people in homes. And, it is a time-consuming project with a very low rate of success. To suggest that all feral cats can go into homes lacks the big picture of the true behavior of cats who thrive and live their lives with their colony members. It also ignores the very real evidence that spending time doing Trap-Neuter-Return and fostering truly social cats will help a much greater number of cats. Learn more at www.alleycat.org/TNRnotTNA.

Relocation

While it sometimes seems like an attractive option, relocation is also ineffective for the same reasons: it puts the vacuum effect into motion. And, it endangers cats' lives and causes them undue stress and suffering. Instead of trying to uproot cats from their home, the education and community relations aspect of TNR addresses concerns within the community to reach a harmonious solution. Learn more at www.alleycat.org/Relocation.

WHY TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN FOR FERAL CATS? THE CASE FOR TNR, page 5 of 5

Cat Sanctuaries

While cat sanctuaries are usually well-meaning, they do nothing to stabilize the cat population in the community. There will simply never be enough sanctuaries to house every cat. What's more, feral cats who are used to living outdoors suffer from stress and disease in these facilities.

Trap-Neuter-Return Is the Solution That Works for Everyone

Cats have lived outdoors for thousands of years—in fact, keeping indoor-only cats only became possible in the mid-20th century. Outdoor cats are part of our natural landscape.

With Trap-Neuter-Return, you can stabilize the population humanely, improve the cats' lives, save taxpayer dollars, address neighbors' concerns, and help the entire community reach a solution that benefits everyone.

¹ Levy, Julie K., David W. Gale, and Leslie A. Gale. "Evaluation of the Effect of a Long-Term Trap-Neuter-Return and Adoption Program on a Free-Roaming Cat Population." *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 222, no. 1 (2003): 42-46.

² Kathy L. Hughes and Margaret R. Slater: Implementation of a Feral Cat Management Program on a University Campus (*JAAWS* Vol. 5 No. 1, 2002).

³ Scott, Karen C., Julie K. Levy, and Shawn P. Gorman. "Body Condition of Feral Cats and the Effect of Neutering." *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science* 5, no. 3 (2002): 203-213.

⁴ Neville, P.F. and J. Remfry. "Effect of Neutering on Two Groups of Feral Cats." *The Veterinary Record* 114 (1984): 447-450.

⁵ Scott, Karen C., Julie K. Levy, and Shawn P. Gorman. "Body Condition of Feral Cats and the Effect of Neutering." *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science* 5, no. 3 (2002): 203-213.

⁶ Levy, Julie K., David W. Gale, and Leslie A. Gale. "Evaluation of the Effect of a Long-Term Trap-Neuter-Return and Adoption Program on a Free-Roaming Cat Population." *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 222, no. 1 (2003): 42-46.

⁷ Hughes, Kathy L., Margaret R. Slater, and Linda Haller. "The Effects of Implementing a Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Program in a Florida County Animal Control Service." *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science* 5 (2002): 285-289.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Alley Cat Allies. (2009). Community Relations: Protecting Cats with Outreach, Education, and Negotiation. Washington, DC: Author.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Humane Society of the Ochocos. *Feral Cat Problem.* 2011 http://www.humanesocietyochocos.com/Feral.html (accessed February 10, 2011).

¹² "Taking a Broader View of Cats in the Community", *Animal Sheltering*, September/October 2008, http://www.animalsheltering.org/resource_library/magazine_articles/sep_oct_2008/broader_view_of_cats.pdf (accessed February 10, 2011).



Neighborhood Cat Advocates 1359 E. 1st Ave. Chico, CA 95928 (530) 324-2292

www.neighborhoodcatadvocates.com

July 30, 2021

Neighborhood Cat Advocates (NCA) is a volunteer-run organization whose mission is to trap, spay/neuter, and return (TNR) feral and unowned cats in Chico and the surrounding communities. We receive our funding from PawPrints Thrift Boutique and donations, and have spayed/neutered over 10,000 cats since our founding in January 2013. This has prevented the birth of thousands of feral and unowned kittens. Our goal is to reduce and hopefully one day eliminate the overpopulation of unowned cats in our communities.

It has come to our attention via numerous community members that there is a small but rapidly growing colony of feral cats in lower Bidwell Park located near the former horseshoe pits and Caper Acres. An NCA volunteer was able to trap and remove 10 kittens from these areas. These kittens will be socialized and placed into forever homes.

It's our understanding that there are at least six (and probably more) adult feral cats still in the park. Adult feral cats are unable to be socialized and adopted out, and NCA would be unable to find homes or other placements for them.

We can help in other ways! We are requesting permission to trap and return the feral cats that are currently in the park. Our organization would be able to get these cats trapped, spayed or neutered, and vaccinated for rabies. Their ear will also be "tipped" (the tip of the left ear snipped) so that they can be identified as having been already spayed/neutered. After their surgery and a brief recovery, they would need to be returned to where they were trapped, and we are hopeful that we can get permission to do this!

Additionally, we are requesting permission to feed the cats, both prior to and after trapping. The only way that we are able to trap feral cats is by feeding them on a regular basis, and ethically our volunteers don't feel comfortable about stopping feeding in a location where the cats have no other access to food. Putting food out on a regular basis will also help protect wildlife in the park.

By spaying/neutering these cats now, we can prevent a cat population explosion. Female cats can have up to three litters a year, and in a year's time, these small cat colonies will balloon to dozens and eventually hundreds of cats. If anyone has any questions regarding our proposal, we can be contacted at neighborhoodcatadvocates@yahoo.com (the best way to get ahold of us), or by phone at (530) 324-2292. Thank you for your time!

Shelly Rogers

Shelly Rogers, NCA board member/volunteer



BPPC Staff Report

Meeting Date 8/30/21

DATE: 8/23/21

TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)

FROM: Linda Herman, Parks & Natural Resource Manager

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF REGULATIONS REGARDING VEHICLE USE IN LOWER

BIDWELL PARK

REPORT IN BRIEF:

At its 7/26/21 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered Commissioner Glatz's request to agendize discussion of traffic safety on Peterson and South Park Drives in Lower Bidwell Park, and electric bicycles on trails and other areas in the park.

Recommendation: Staff is recommending that the BPPC provide comments on this item and to direct staff to:

- 1. Conduct a speed survey on the portions of South Park Drive and Petersen Drive where vehicles are allowed to determine if the speed limit should be changed and if other traffic safety measures are needed.
- 2. Research options and agendize discussion of electric vehicle use in Bidwell Park for the BPPC's September or another future meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Following are some of the existing Chico Municipal Codes (CMC) Sections pertaining to vehicle use in Bidwell Park:

"2R.32.010 Vehicle code and Title 10 CMC applicable.

The provisions of the Vehicle Code of the state of California and of Title 10 Vehicles and Traffic of this code are applicable to all roads in Bidwell Park which are open to the public for vehicular traffic, whether paved or unpaved, to the same extent that they would be so applicable in the absence of this rule. (Res. No. 19 93-94 §7 (part))

12R.32.015 Vehicle - Defined.

"Vehicle" means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, excepting devices moved by human power, devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, and motor-driven wheelchairs or similar devices used by a physically handicapped person.

12R.32.020 Maximum speed limit - Adoption of lesser speed limits authorized.

No person shall operate or drive any vehicle or bicycle within any park or playground within the city at a greater speed than 25 miles per hour. Whenever it appears appropriate, reasonable, and necessary, this maximum speed limit may be reduced on any park road, or portion thereof, pursuant to the provisions of and in the manner provided by the Vehicle Code.

2R.32.040 Use of roads required - Exceptions.

Vehicles operated in any park or playground in the city shall be operated only upon:

- A. Paved or gravel surfaced roads which are not closed to use by the public for vehicular traffic.
- B. Dirt or unimproved roads marked or otherwise designated for vehicular traffic.
- C. Paved, graveled, or otherwise designated picnic or parking areas with operation limited in such areas to parking and ingress to and egress from such areas for picnic or parking purposes.

D. Other areas designated in written permit issued by the director.

2R.32.070 Petersen and South Park Drive - One-way traffic.

All motor vehicle and bicycle traffic on Petersen and South Park Drive shall be restricted to one-way traffic. This restriction shall be construed to include bicycle traffic on that portion of South Park Drive which is closed to motor vehicles."

The current speed limit in Lower Bidwell Park is 20 miles per hour and bicyclists must follow the same laws as vehicles, including going one-way on the section of South Park Drive that is closed to vehicles. As indicated above, CMC Section 12R.32.020 allows the vehicle speed limit to be adjusted pursuant to the Vehicle Code.

At its 6/25/18 meeting and at the request of then Commissioner Tom Nickell, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) reviewed the regulations regarding vehicles in Lower Bidwell Park, particularly regarding speed limits and signage. The BPPC forwarded this discussion to its Policy Advisory Committee (PAC).

The Committee reviewed the existing Chico Municipal Code sections, and voiced concerns that the current 20 miles per hour limit may need to be lowered with the increased population and multi-modal use. The Committee also suggested that the BPPC consider establishing a delineated and buffered bicycle or pedestrian lane.

At that time, Staff informed that the City's Traffic Engineering Division advised that a speed survey needs to be conducted before any changes are made to speed limits to be able to enforce any reduced limits. The Committee also discussed the need to survey the widths of the entire road because that may dictate the allowable speed limit as well. The Traffic Division also indicated that they would be able to perform the survey for the Parks Division.

At its 7/30/2018 meeting, the BPPC considered the PAC's concerns, and heard similar public concerns regarding cars and cyclists going too fast on the busy South Park and Petersen Drives. The difficulty in enforcing the one-way restrictions for bicycles and the lack of signage was also discussed at length. Staff suggested that in addition to installing more signage, that painting thermoplastic arrows in the roadways after the survey is conducted might help in informing the public of these restrictions and reduce the need for enforcement. The BPPC directed Staff to:

- 1. Proceed with conducting a speed survey and to assess the width of the road on Petersen and South Park Drives in Lower Park to determine the appropriate speed for vehicles.
- 2. Determine the feasibility of installing a buffered pedestrian lane on Petersen Drive, with signs at the Petersen entrance gate cautioning drivers and bicyclists of pedestrians who also use the road.

DISCUSSION:

Speed Limit & Traffic Safety:

Due to limited staffing and other work priorities, the Traffic Engineering Division was unable to conduct the speed and road width survey on Petersen and South Park Drives in Lower Bidwell Park. As this survey was going to be the basis for determining other possible traffic safety measures, the signage and separate buffered lanes were also not implemented.

With continued limited Engineering staff, it is recommended that a local consultant or another entity be retained to conduct the surveys. Staff is also recommending that the survey include the need and feasibility of establishing a separate buffered bicycle lane along both roads, and whether the one-way CMC code would still be an appropriate and reasonable restriction with a new designated bicycle lane.

Electric Bicycles:

Electric bicycles (e-bikes) have become more and more popular over the past several years. Federal (U.S. Secretary of Interior Executive Order 3376) and CA State laws (AB 1096) define electric bicycles to mean a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of not more than 750 watts. The regulations also establish a three-class system to differentiate between the models and top assisted speeds of e-bikes as follows.

1. "Class 1 electric bicycle," or "low-speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle," is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle

reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour. These e-bikes are legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate.

- 2. "Class 2 electric bicycle," or "low-speed throttle-assisted electric bicycle," is a bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour. These e-bikes are also legal on any paved surface that a regular bike is allowed to operate.
- 3. Class 3 electric bicycle," or "speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle," is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour and equipped with a speedometer. Operators of Class 3 e-bikes must be 16 or older and wear a helmet.

The Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are allowed on paved surfaces where other bicycles are allowed. However, the laws also authorize a local authority or governing body to prohibit, by ordinance, the operation of Class 1 or Class 2 electric bicycles on specified paths or trails.

Class 3 e-bikes are not legal on any bicycle path or trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail, unless it is within or adjacent to a roadway or unless the local authority or the governing body of a public agency having jurisdiction over the path or trail permits them by ordinance.

Due to the popularity of e-bikes, Staff is recommending that the Commission separate the traffic/speed limit discussion from e-bikes and postpone that discussion to a future BPPC meeting. This will allow Staff time to research e-bike regulations and policies in other cities and parks, and to reach out to the local bicycling community and stakeholders for input.



BPPC Division Report

Meeting Date 8/30/21

DATE: 8/25/21

TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)

FROM: Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

SUBJECT: Parks Division Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. <u>Caper Acres Nico Shade Project/Wood Carving</u> –The Nico play structure was fenced off and construction has begun on the installation of a new play surface and shade sails. The Chico Area Recreation District Board also graciously approved providing \$50,000 of their share of Prop 68 Per Capita park funding to help the City complete the project.
- b. <u>Designated Drug-Free Zones</u> At its 5/24/21 meeting, the BPPC directed Staff to consult with the City Attorney on whether City parks can be designated as Drug-Free Zones since the previous CA Health and Safety Code Section 11380 allowing such zones was repealed. The City Attorney researched this item and determined that even though Section 11380.5 has been repealed and is no longer active, City parks can once again be designated as Drug-Free Zones pursuant to CA Health and Safety Code Sections 11353 and 11353.1. With this determination, Staff will forward the BPPC's recommendation to designate all City parks as Drug Free Zones to the City Council for consideration at a future meeting.

2. Administrative and Visitor Services

a. <u>Park Permit Reservations/Staffing</u>– Reservations for park facilities have picked up this summer (see monthly public and private permit tables in this report). We finally filled both Administrative Assistant positions and the two new employees are doing very well in learning the ins and outs of the Park Division.

3. Maintenance Program

General - Staff provides on a need and time basis the cleaning and safety inspections of all recreation areas including grounds, playgrounds, picnic sites, roads and paths, coupled with the weekend cleaning and re-supplying of all open park restrooms. Maintenance and repair of park fixtures, daily opening of gates, posting reservations, unauthorized camp clean up and the constant removal of graffiti from all park infrastructure.

- a. <u>Lower Park</u> Demolition of the play surface on the Nico play area in Caper Acres was completed. Staff continued to pick up large limbs and in some cases trees along the roads and trails in Lower Bidwell Park. The doggy pot station on the north side of the One Mile Recreation area parking lot that was damaged by a vehicle was replaced. The toilet and window in the Women's restroom at Caper Acres also had to be replaced due to someone throwing a large rock through the window.
- b. Middle and Upper Park Trash collection, downed limbs, and inspection of tree
- c. Other Parks/Greenways- The drinking fountain in Comanche Creek was repaired.
- d. Upcoming Projects -

4. Ranger and Lifeguard Programs

- a. <u>Ranger Program</u> Non-sworn Ranger Joel Holmes completed his training, including attending a week long PC 832 course. This now allows for 7 day and longer daily peak use coverage on some days in Bidwell Park.
- b. <u>Sycamore Pool</u> The swim season officially ended on 8/15/2021. Despite the reduced lifeguard hours, low water levels, and some pool closures due to poor air quality etc. things went pretty well. The addition of having private security sweep through the area in the late afternoon helped in this effort.

5. Natural Resource Management

a. Goats have resumed grazing in Bidwell Park to help remove invasive vegetation and to reduce fire risk. The area that is being grazed currently is Middle Bidwell Park between Upper Park Rd. and 5 Mile Way. After this section is complete, the goats will be moved to Lindo Channel to Verbena Fields, and areas of Lower Park as funding allows.

6. Volunteer and Donor Program

- a. <u>Upward Bound</u> On July 21st, 90 12th grade Upward Bound students contributed 270 hours of volunteer labor to help remove trim back grape vines and remove invasive pokeweed and Johnson grass from Lower Bidwell Park. The students removed over 800 pounds of the noxious weed!
- b. <u>Donations</u> The Parks Division received a total of \$250.00 in donations for July.

c. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- i. 34th Annual Bidwell Park and Chico Creeks Cleanup The Butte Environmental Council partners with the City of Chico Parks Division to host this yearly cleanup in conjunction and solidarity with the California Coastal Commission. The event will be help on Saturday, September 18th and Sunday, September 19th from 9 am to noon. Please register to volunteer at http://bit.ly/BEC-Cleanup34
- ii. <u>Save the Date!</u> Make a Difference Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd from 9 am to noon. Plans are underway, and details will be available soon.
- iii. <u>Volunteer Calendar</u> To find out about upcoming volunteer events please <u>CLICK HERE</u> or visit <u>https://www.chico.ca.us/post/volunteer-calendar</u>

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Volunteer Hours

Parks, Trees and Greenways -PALS- (Partners, Ambassadors, Leaders & Stewards) Volunteer Activities, July 2021								
Date	Location	Partner/Agency	# of Volunteers	Hrs. Worked	# of Vols Xs Hrs. = Total Hrs.	Task	Leader	
	Chico Parks and							
Various	Greenways	PALS	105	N/A	948	Park Ambassadors	Shane Romain	
7/5/2021	Upper Park	Chico Velo-Trailworks	3	3	9	Trail repair	Thad Walker	
7/21/2021	Lower Park	Upward Bound	90	3	270	Veg. Mgmt.	Shane Romain	
7/28/2021	Lower Park	PALS Ivy League	7	3	21	Veg. Mgmt.	Linda Calbreath	
				TOTAL HRS.	1248			

Table 2. Monthly Parks and Greenways Cleanup totals

Illegal Enca	mpment Cleanups, Jul	ly & August 21						
Date	Location	Coop. Org.	# of Staff	# Workers/ Vols.	Total People	Hours Worked	People Xs Hours Total	Total Debris (cubic yards)
7/2/2021	Site 20		1		1	3	3	4
7/12/2021	Site 29		2		2	1	2	1
7/13/2021	9th & Hazel Greenway		2	0	2	2.5	5	
7/19/2021	Annie's Glen		2		2	1.5	3	2
7/26/2021	W Lindo at Mercer Grove		2		2	1	2	5
7/26/2021	Site 2		2		2	0.5	1	0.5
7/28/2021	Yahi Trail at Alligator Hole		2		2	1	2	1
8/2/2021	West of Horsehoe Pits		2		2	1	2	1
8/3/2021	Middle Park		1		1	1	1	2
8/9/2021	LCC across from 1750 Humboldt		2		2	0.5	1	0.5
8/10/& 17 2021	Lindo at Cohasset Ln		2		2	6	12	8
8/24/2017	Pine to Orient		5		5	7	35	15
8/25/2021	LCC at Bidwell Ave		2		2	1	2	2
8/25/2021	LCC at Olive		3		3	2.5	7.5	4
							TOTAL HRS	TOTAL DEBRIS CUBIC YARDS
							78.5	46

Table 3. Monthly Public Permits

Monthly F	ublic Permits - August			
Date	Location	Organization	Event	# Participants
08/26/21	Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater	Butte Environmental Council	Community Forum	100
Totals				100

Table 4. Monthly Private Permits

Monthly Private Permits - July

Туре	# Permits	# Participants
Private	9	370
Caper Acres	14	241
Totals		611

PHOTOGRAPHS



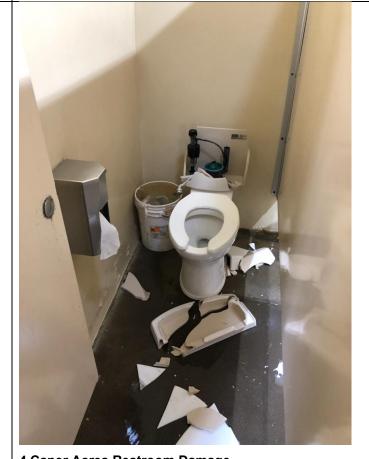
1 Goats in Middle Park



2 Upward bound in Lower Park



3 Tree in Big Chico Creek east of Annie's Glen Tunnel



4 Caper Acres Restroom Damage

Attachments:

A. September Event Calendar





BPPC Tree Division Report

DATE: 08/30/21

TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)

FROM: Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

SUBJECT: Street Trees Division Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. A 12-month extension is likely to be granted for production of the Urban Forest Master Plan and Canopy analysis.
- b. Applicants have been interviewed for job vacancies including full-time maintenance aide, hourly maintenance aide and Senior Maintenance Worker. Miranda Kokoszka, a new CSU intern, started with the Urban Forest Revitalization team.
- c. The July 31 in-person Urban Forest Summit was a success and was well attended.
- d. In July, Tree Division received 137 calls for service. 86 calls were related to falling limbs.

2. Planning/Monitoring

a. <u>Damage Reports</u> – There was one damage report sent to Risk management in July. The claim related to branch drop onto property.

3. Planning and Building Development

a. UFM reviewed many development plan reviews in the Trakit permitting system. Landscape Comments from Public Works Parks included, species choices for replanting, tree protection measures during construction, and parking lot shade calculations.

4. Miscellaneous

- a. The CalFire funded Urban Forest Revitalization Program will most likely be granted a twelve month extension. This will be beneficial to the public outreach process, as well allow more time to complete the Urban Forest Master Plan.
- b. Public Works Tree Division, Butte Environmental Council and Dudek along with volunteers from CSU Climate Action Corp, CARD and CalFire held an in-person Urban Forest Summit July 31. The event was held at Arc Pavilion on Park Avenue. Over fifty attendees participated. The 3-hour event generated a lot of feedback from residents. The data will be used to help shape policies, goals and objectives in the Urban Forest Master Plan. The event was covered in the local media. See photo 1.
- c. Public Works continues to accept citizen requests for free shade trees ahead of the next community tree planting event in November 2021. Residents wishing to have a free shade tree planted should contact Butte Environmental Council at urbanforest@becnet.org or call (530) 891-6424.

5. Maintenance

- a. The City contractor, West Coast Arborists, continued with another round of tree removal operations. Tree stumps are being ground out. Most locations will be replanted in the fall subject to adequate irrigation being available. Some locations will not be replanted due to inadequate site location. Issues such as close proximity to underground utilities preclude replanting of shade trees.
- b. City tree watering operations continued in July. Fortunately, mortality due to extreme heat is negligible. This is due to selection of trees that are low or moderate water use, use of slow drip watering devices and adequate quantities of mulch to stop excessive evaporation.
- c. In July Tree Division received 178 calls for service. 86 calls were related to falling limbs. The extensive period of excessive summer heat has increased the incidence of Summer Limb Drop. See photo 3 of limb drop event. Tree Crew also cleared up a number of branch failure events in parks including Bidwell Park and Comanche Creek. See photo 4.

6. Outreach, Training and Education

- a. KRCR channel 7 covered the Urban Forest Summit on TV and social media.
- b. Staff attended Heat Illness prevention training.
- c. Butte Environmental Council have to date provided 39 hours of event tabling at various venues such as Thursday Night Market and other public events. In addition, 90 volunteer hours have been provided at these events to engage with the public on the UFMP process. See photo 2 of the Thursday Night Market booth.
- d. The UFMP survey is now available in Spanish. The link to the survey is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChicoBosquesUrbanos This will be added to the chicotrees.org webpage. The English version is also still available at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChicoUFMP To date, over 300 surveys have been completed.

7. Street Tree Supervisor Report

The Street Tree Supervisor's monthly summary data tables for July are included below:

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	Trend
Tree Crew Hours				
1. Safety	67	9.3%	130.1%	
2. Tree Work	568	78.8%	111.4%	
3. Special Projects	30	4.2%	72.3%	
4. Admin Time/Other	56	7.8%	77.8%	
Monthly Totals	721	100.0%	106.8%	

Table 2

		% Change from	
Item	Values	Last Month	Trend
5. Productivity			
Calls			
Call Outs	178	108.5%	
Service Requests: Submitted	0	-	
Service Requests: Completed	107	87.7%	
Sub Total	0	-	
Trees			
Planted: Trees	0	-	-0-
Pruned	100	137.0%	-000
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	-	
Removed: Stumps	0	-	
Removed: Trees	1	25.0%	000
Sub Total	101	131.2%	-000
Tree Permits (#)			
Submitted	3	50.0%	0000.
Approved	2	40.0%	0-0
Denied	0	-	0 0
Total	5	45.5%	000.00
6. Contracts	'		
Expenditures (\$)	\$ -	-	_0_0
Trees (#)			
Planted	0	-	
Pruned	0	-	. O
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	-	
Removed: Stumps	0	-	00_
Removed: Trees	0	-	0
Routine Maintenance	0	-	
Total	0	-	0

8. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous:

- a. Butte Environmental Council's application for a California ReLeaf "Treecovery" was not successful. City pledged to support with in-kind match funding. The focus of the proposal was the greening of CUSD school campuses and associated environmental education opportunities. BEC and City will pursue other funding opportunities to support the greening of CUSD school campuses.
- b. Cal-Fire has launched a Climate Change Investments (CCI) call for proposals for the FY21/22 round of Urban and Community Forestry funding. City of Chico submitted a concept proposal for new tree planting in low-income and disadvantaged neighborhoods. If successful, City will develop a greening program in partnership with Enloe Medical Foundation, Fair St. Nursery, CCC, BEC and other local non-profit groups.
- c. City and Dudek will work together to determine how best to utilize the additional 12 months we have to work on the Urban Forest Master Plan.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Urban Forest Summit. July 31.



Photo 2. BEC booth at Thursday Night Market. UFMP engagement process has been highly successful.



Photo 3. Mulberry tree limb failure. Ohio St.



Photo 4. Limb failure. Comanche Creek Greenway.