



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

Regular Meeting Agenda
October 29, 2018, 6:30 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/>

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Roll Call

2. CONSENT AGENDA - NONE

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 9/24/18.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – IF ANY

4. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 10/10/18 BPPC POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

At its 9/24/18 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered the Natural Resources Committee's recommendations regarding options and the costs to repair the Upper Park Road in Upper Bidwell Park. The BPPC directed the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to review revenue sources, such as a potential parking fee, for these repairs and for costs of any additional staffing that may be needed if the entire road was reopened to public vehicles.

Recommendation: The PAC recommended (2-0-1, Glatz absent) that the BPPC recommend City Council approval of the following:

1. Establishing a \$2 daily vehicle parking fee for upper park to be used for park improvements only.
2. Establishing a \$25 annual parking pass.
3. Providing free parking to seniors age 62 or older, the disabled, veterans, and to low income households who meet a certain income threshold.
4. Providing free parking passes for members of organizations who lease facilities in Upper Bidwell Park.
5. Offering free parking during special events.

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 10/11/18 BPPC TREE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Tree Committee explored alternatives to neonicotinoids for the treatment of aphids under an integrated pest management (IPM) strategy. An IPM approach considers all relevant and available information to make informed management decisions, providing pest control options based on actual need.

Recommendation: The Tree Committee recommends (3-0) that the BPPC approve the following:

1. Ceasing to the City's use of neonicotinoids to control aphids and look for solutions to the IPM program that the Tree Division can use on all City owned trees.
2. Allowing residents and businesses to apply for a permit to use a professional contractor to use neonicotinoids on City trees near their properties.
3. Directing staff to conduct a public outreach program explaining the dangers of the use of neonicotinoids.

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; comments are limited to three minutes. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Items provided for the Commission's information and discussion. No action can be taken on any of the items unless the Commission agrees to include them to 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.
- 7.3. Park & Natural Resources Manager Report (**Verbal Report**), if applicable

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on 11/26/18 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 Main Street, 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 three working days prior to the meeting.

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
Minutes of
September 24, 2018 Regular Meeting

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Chair Reddemann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Commissioners present:

Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds
Tom Nickell
Megan Thomas Petty
Valerie Reddemann
Jeff Glatz

Commissioners absent:

Alberto Hernandez

Staff Present: Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager), Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director), Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager), Angie Irmer (Administrative Assistant).

1.3 **BPPC Committee Assignment** – Chair Reddemann appointed Commissioner Thomas-Petty to the Tree Committee and to the Policy Advisory Committee.

2. CONSENT AGENDA - NONE

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of 8/27/18 made by Commissioner Nickell Second by Commissioner McReynolds.

Motion was carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Nickell, Commissioner Thomas-Petty, Commissioner Haar,
Commissioner Reddemann, Commissioner McReynolds, Commissioner Glatz
NOES: Commissioner Haar
ABSENT: Commissioner Hernandez

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – None

4. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 9/15/18 BPPC NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

As directed by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC), on 9/19/18 the Natural Resource Committee reviewed the costs and feasibility of repairing the Upper Park Road to provide emergency response access, and to continue the policy discussion regarding whether to allow public vehicle access past the Diversion Dam gate.

Recommendation: The Committee recommended (3-0) BPPC approval of forwarding the following phased Upper Park Road repair approach to the City Council:

- Phase 1: Make repairs to the three high priority erosion sites and some other areas as needed to provide emergency vehicle access only beyond Diversion Dam gate. This work will be completed by City Staff this Fall at a cost of approximately \$35,000 using existing 2018-19 capital project funds.
- Phase 2: Request funding through the 2019-20 fiscal year budget process to make all of the road and drainage repairs between Horseshoe Lake and Salmon Hole necessary to allow public vehicle access. The cost of this phase will be determined after seeing the final costs and results of the Phase 1.
- Phase 3: Depending on the success of Phases 1 & 2 and the policy decided by the BPPC and the City Council regarding allowing full public vehicle access, request funding in fiscal year 2020-21 to make the necessary repairs to the remaining section of the road between Salmon Hole and the end of Upper Park Road.

Addressing the Commission were Forest Harland and D.G. Laurie

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Haar to approve, the recommendation from the Bidwell Park and Playground Natural Resource Committee and seconded by Commissioner McReynolds.

Motion was carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Haar, Commissioner McReynolds, Commissioner Glatz, Commissioner Nickell, Commissioner Thomas-Petty, Commissioner Reddemann

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Hernandez

The Commission directed the Policy Advisory Committee to look at staffing as part of their review of fees.

5.2 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Park & Natural Resource Manager will provide a verbal update on the plan to use goat grazing and other vegetation management methods to reduce invasive vegetation and fire fuel loads in Bidwell Park.

Recommendation: None – this is an information item only.

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; comments are limited to three minutes. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

There was none.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Items provided for the Commission’s information and discussion. No action can be taken on any of the items unless the Commission agrees to include them to a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager.

Commissioner Nickell requested there be less warnings and more written citations issued. Park and Natural Resources Manager Herman indicated that what is reflected in the report are administrative citations and that criminal citations are not reflected in the report. Also, that many of the warnings are the 48-hour notifications of illegal encampments.

Commissioner Glatz requested that citations issued in the parks by Chico Police Department be provided in the monthly BPPC report.

Commissioner Reynolds indicated she had previously requested information from the Police Department specifically for Lower Park for the months of June, July, and August. The information has not yet been received by Commissioner Reynolds.

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager.

7.3 Park & Natural Resources Manager Report (*Verbal Report*), if applicable. No report was given.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 10/29/18 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Center building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, California.

Date Approved: / / .

Prepared By:

Angie Irmer, Administrative Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

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Policy Advisory Committee Report

Meeting Date 10/29/2018

DATE: 10/29/2018
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
FROM: Policy Advisory Committee/Park Division Staff
SUBJECT: Report from Policy Advisory Committee 10/10/18 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendees: Commissioners present: Tom Nickell and Megan Thomas Petty,
Commissioners absent: Jeff Glatz
Staff present: Linda Herman, Erik Gustafson, Angela Irmer and Shari Beatie
Public: None.

2. REGULAR AGENDA

2.1. CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL REVENUE SOURCES FOR UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD REPAIRS

At its 9/24/18 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered the Natural Resources Committee's recommendations regarding options and the costs to repair the Upper Park Road in Upper Bidwell Park. The BPPC directed the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to review revenue sources, such as a potential parking fee, for these repairs and for costs of any additional staffing that may be needed if the entire road was reopened to public vehicles.

The Committee reviewed the Staff Agenda Report (attached as Attachment A), which provided:

1. Background information regarding the PAC's previous review and recommendations regarding potential revenue sources, such as a vehicle parking fee for Upper Bidwell Park.
2. A recap of the public opinion survey results that indicated nearly 79% of the survey respondents would be willing to pay at least \$1-\$2 daily fee or a \$10-\$20 annual pass to park in Upper Bidwell Park provided that the revenues were dedicated for park improvements only.
3. The estimated costs for the Upper Park Road repairs, potential parking kiosks costs, and anticipated additional staffing costs, which were identified as an additional maintenance worker and a seasonal (9 month) ranger that may be needed if the Upper Park Road is reopened to public vehicle use.
4. Information on other potential revenue sources, such as grants.

The Committee discussed the costs of repairing the road, which could be in upwards of \$500,000 and the cost of additional staffing, which was estimated at approximately \$90,500 per year. The PAC also discussed the potential parking fee, which Staff stated is better characterized as a vehicle impact fee.

The Committee indicated the need to accommodate free parking for members of leased facilities, such as the Golf Course, and free or reduced fees seniors, low-income households, the disabled, and veterans. They also suggested that there be promotional free parking days during events, such as the "Hooked on Fishing" event and during National Parks Day.

Recommendation: The PAC recommended (2-0-1, Glatz absent) that the BPPC recommend City Council approval of the following:

1. Establishing a \$2 daily vehicle parking fee for Upper Park to be used for park improvements only.

2. Establishing a \$25 annual parking pass.
3. Providing free parking to Seniors age 62 or older, the Disabled, Veterans, and to Low Income households who meet a certain income threshold.
4. Providing free parking passes for members of organizations who lease facilities in Upper Bidwell Park.
5. Offering free parking during Special Events

3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, comments are limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

There was no Business From the Floor.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. to the next regular meeting on November 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2, Chico Municipal Center Council Chamber Building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: 10/10/18 PAC Agenda Report

DISTRIBUTION:

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Public Works Department, Park Division
965 Fir Street, Chico CA 92928
(530) 896-7800

ATTACHMENT A

Agenda Prepared: 10/05/18
Agenda Posted: 10/05/18
Prior to: 5:00 p.m.

CITY OF CHICO BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC) POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Agenda
October 10, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Chico Municipal Center Council Chamber Building - 421 Main Street, Conference Room 2

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **REGULAR AGENDA**

2.1. **CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL REVENUE SOURCES FOR UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD REPAIRS**

At its 9/24/18 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered the Natural Resources Committee's recommendations regarding options and the costs to repair the Upper Park Road in Upper Bidwell Park. The BPPC directed the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to review revenue sources, such as a potential parking fee, for these repairs and for costs of any additional staffing that may be needed if the entire road was reopened to public vehicles.

Recommendation: *The Park & Natural Resources Manager requests that the Committee review the information provided in the Staff report and provide recommendations to the BPPC.*

3. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, comments are limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Unless otherwise noticed, adjourn to the next regular meeting on November 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2, Chico Municipal Center Council Chamber Building located at 421 Main Street, 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. If possible, this request should be received at least three (3) working days prior to the meeting.



BPPC Policy Advisory Committee Staff Report

Meeting Date 10/10/18

DATE: 10/04/18
 TO: BPPC Policy Advisory Committee
 FROM: Linda Herman, Parks & Natural Resources Manager
 SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL REVENUE SOURCES FOR UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD REPAIRS

REPORT IN BRIEF:

At its 9/24/18 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered the Natural Resources Committee's recommendations regarding options and the costs to repair the Upper Park Road in Upper Bidwell Park. The BPPC directed the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to review revenue sources, such as a potential parking fee, for these repairs and for costs of any additional staffing that may be needed if the entire road was reopened to public vehicles.

Recommendation: *The Park & Natural Resources Manager requests that the Committee review the information provided in the Staff report and provide recommendations to the BPPC.*

BACKGROUND:

At its 12/18/17 and 1/29/18 meetings, the BPPC considered the PAC's recommendations regarding establishing a parking fee for Upper Bidwell Park to help provide funding for maintaining the road, and provide more park amenities, such as more parking. In its research, the Committee reviewed the following vehicle parking fees charged by other agencies for parks and recreation areas:

Agency	Parking Fee	Annual Pass Fee	Senior and other Discounted Pass	Disabled Rate	Payment Method K=Kiosk B=Onsite Booth M=Mail O=Online IP=In-person (Office)
CA State Parks (Lake Oroville/Woodson Bridge)	\$6-8	\$125 (statewide)	\$1 discount	Free	O, IP
National Parks (Lassen/Whiskeytown)	\$20-\$25/vehicle/week	\$40-\$50/vehicle/year	\$20/yr. \$80/lifetime	Free	O, IP, M
Yolo County	\$6/vehicle	\$75/yr.	\$30/yr.	Free	IP
San Luis Obispo County	\$10	\$100	\$90	\$90	
Marin County	\$5 (M-F) \$10 (Wkend/Holiday)	\$90	\$40	\$40	IP
Sacramento	\$5 (M-F) \$8 (Wkend/Holiday)	\$50	\$10		B,K,IP,O
City of San Jose	\$6/vehicle	\$80	\$30	\$30	K, B,IP, M
City of Vacaville	\$3/vehicle	\$50	n/a	n/a	IP
City of Fairfield	\$3/vehicle	\$64	\$20	\$20	K, B

The PAC recommended a \$1 per vehicle daily fee, an annual pass fee of \$50, and no parking fees for senior citizens, veterans, low income households, and the disabled. It was also recommended that passes be issued to entities that lease facilities in Upper Bidwell Park (Bidwell Park Golf Course, Observatory, Rod and Gun Club, and the Chico Equestrian Association), to allow its members to park in their facility lots for free. The BPPC approved delaying the parking fee discussion until after the public survey was conducted.

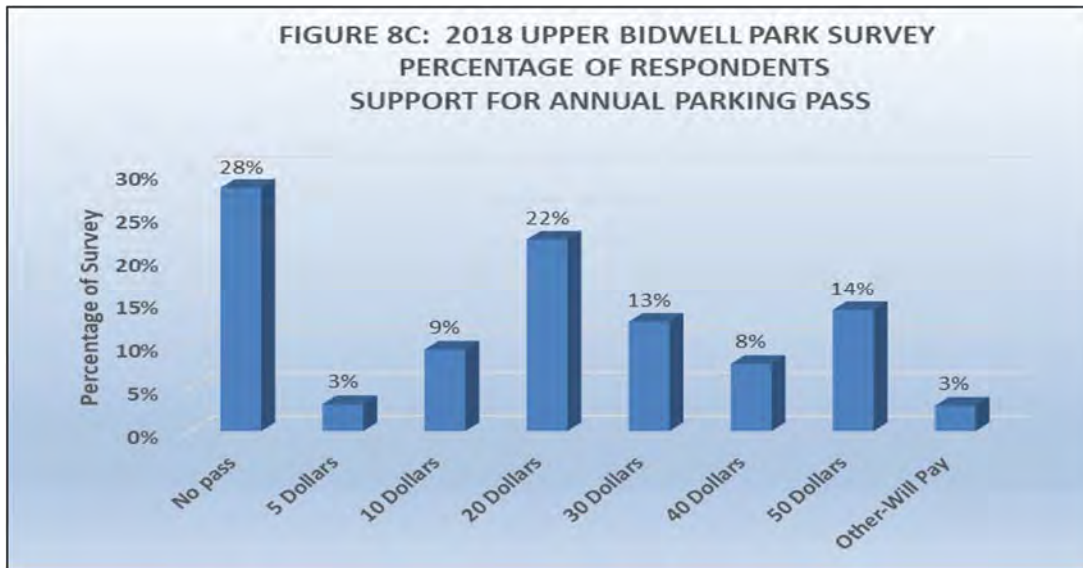
DISCUSSION:

1. Public Survey Results:

Based on the survey data results, only 21% of the respondents are unwilling to pay a daily parking fee (see table below). Respondents who are willing to pay only one or two dollars together comprise about 36% of the survey. Nineteen percent of the respondents say they would pay a donation. Overall, 79% are willing to pay at least \$1 or more for a day pass for maintenance.



The results from this question regarding an annual pass are similar to the results for a daily parking fee. As shown in the following table, 28% of the respondents are unwilling to pay for an annual pass. Almost three-quarters (72%) are willing to pay at least \$5 or more for an annual parking pass, with the greatest percentage being for a \$20 pass.



Recognizing that many of the survey respondents were more affluent, the data shows that there is overwhelming support for either a modest daily parking fees or a low-cost annual parking pass. The concerns raised in the comments also focused on the need for fee waivers for low income and senior citizens. The optimal daily fee appears to be \$1 to \$2 and the optimal annual parking pass is \$10 to \$20. Respondents who were infrequent visitors appeared to be less supportive of paying for annual passes while frequent visitors are more supportive of them. Donations in-lieu of parking fees were also supported by almost 20% of the respondents.

2. Estimated Costs:

- a. Upper Park Road Repairs: - As was discussed at the BPPC meeting, the costs to make road and stream crossing repairs for the entire road between Horseshoe Lake and the end (Lot U) is \$450,000 or more (Phase III). To make repairs to the three high priority erosion sites and some other areas as needed to provide emergency vehicle access only beyond Diversion Dam gate (Phase I) is estimated at approximately \$35,000. Costs for Phase II to provide public vehicle access to Salmon Hole are unknown at this time and will be determined after the completion of Phase 1.
- b. Parking Kiosks - The estimated costs to install a kiosk at the Wildwood Avenue entrance is approximately \$10,000. The annual maintenance costs are unknown at this time since the maintenance costs of the downtown kiosks are not separately itemized from all of the parking meter costs. The Park Rangers would provide the enforcement of the parking fee as part of their normal patrols in Upper Park.
- c. Staffing Costs - If the road was to be reopened to public vehicles beyond Diversion Dan, it is anticipated that more Park Staff may be needed due to potential increased enforcement and maintenance needs. It is estimated that one additional Seasonal Ranger (9 months) at a fully-burdened cost of approximately \$38,950/yr., and one full-time Maintenance Worker at a cost of \$47,932/yr. may be needed for this increased public use. This would bring the Park Division staff to almost where it was when the entire road was opened to public vehicles in the past.

3. Potential Revenue Sources:

- a. Grants – Staff is actively seeking grants that may be available to fund the Upper Park Road repairs and some of the other desired park improvements. Recent potential grant sources include the Prop 68 Grants available through the CA Department of Fish & Wildlife and the California Natural Resources Agency. Recreational Trail grants using transportation funds is also a possibility.
- b. Vehicle Parking Fee – During the 2017 calendar year, 413,756 vehicles were detected by the permanent traffic counter located at the entrance of Upper Bidwell Park at Wildwood. Using this data, a \$1/vehicle fee could result in over \$400,000 in additional annual revenue that would be used to repair and maintain Upper Park Road, to add additional parking facilities, better signage, or for other Upper Park amenities. However, it is likely that this number would be less depending on the number of users who are eligible for free parking, and the number of annual passes purchased.
- c. Other Revenue Sources – The Chico Park & Recreation District (CARD) recently conducted a Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study for the Amateur Sports Market, which included a discussion of public and private funding mechanisms that may be available to help build these facilities. Attached as Exhibit 1 for the Committee's information is Section 9 of that Draft Study that identifies these potential funding options.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit 1: CARD Needs Assessment Section 9

9. DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS: Private Management Models

Private Management

Intense and increasing levels of competition among sports complexes have led some public entities to contract day-to-day operations of large-scale sports complexes to private management companies such as Ripken Baseball, Big League Dreams, GoodSports Enterprises, Fieldhouse USA and Sports Facility Management. In the two potential management scenarios outlined below, private management companies are typically responsible for various key operational and fiscal factors such as policies, directives, organizational structure, leadership, job classifications, competition, scheduling and booking, and finance and accounting. The possibility exists for private firms to contribute funds to aid in facility development through rental agreements, revenue share provisions, etc.; however, the current appetite for private funding is low.

Full Management in Partnership with Governmental Entity:

The facility Owner (e.g., CARD) retains all of the rights and privileges of ownership while the private management firm performs assigned management functions. The Owner sets policies while the management company establishes procedures in order to implement the policies and compensated with a flat annual fee, plus incentive payments designed to reward the production of desired results (e.g., revenue, attendance, event, room night generation, patron satisfaction). Owner is responsible for providing funds necessary to operate the facility within mutually agreed-upon budget parameters.

Full Management in Lieu of Government Entity Involvement:

Alternatively, the Owner may give a private management company land in exchange for building and operating the facility. The Owner only incurs the cost of the land purchase in exchange for the private management company funding the facility's construction and management costs. Typically, this structure minimizes ownership operating risk while maintaining the economic impact generated by the facility in the community.

Advantages:

- Efficiency incentives;
- Existing network of relationships to leverage tournament/event bookings;
- Internal network of knowledge and experience;
- Greater staffing resources;
- More efficient procurement process; and,
- Design, development, and pre-opening consulting services.

Disadvantages:

- Decreased appetite for private investment;
- Potential loss of direct control of the complex;
- Lack of existing local and regional market knowledge;
- Profit motive versus economic impact motives;
- Facility management fees; and,
- Corporate resources spread among several facilities.

9. DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS: Typical Funding Sources

The purpose of this section is to summarize various public and private sector funding opportunities that could represent potential sources of funding to develop new sports and recreation facilities in Chico and meet any on-going operating requirements and capital reserves. The funding analysis presented herein is not intended to be an exhaustive review of all potential funding sources, but rather a review of the most likely funding sources that may be available specific to this project.

Sources Typically Used Industry-wide

While there are a variety of Public Sector funding vehicles and revenue sources that have been used in the financing of sports and recreation facility projects in communities throughout the country, a large percentage are owned by the public sector and had construction funding provided through municipal capital project funding (i.e., transfers from a City or County's General Fund or Capital Projects Fund, etc.) or through the issuance of General Obligation Revenue bonds.

Types of financing/funding vehicles that are commonly used in sports and recreation projects throughout the country include:

- General Obligation Revenue Bonds
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Pay-As-You-Go Financing
- Certificates of Participation
- State/Federal Assistance
- Private/Public Equity & Grants

Under situations where bonds have been issued, debt service is often supported by local tax revenue, which has tended to include the following:

- Property taxes
- Sales & use taxes
- Hotel/motel taxes
- Food & beverage taxes
- Auto rental/taxicab taxes/fees
- Admissions/entertainment taxes

In recent years, a growing number of communities have explored ways in which the Private Sector can participate in reducing the overall funding burden borne by the public sector. This participation has taken the form of:

- Grants/Donations
- Naming rights/sponsorships
- Vendor rights
- Facility use agreements
- Registration fee surcharge
- Parking fees

9. DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS: Overview and Typical Sources

DRAFT
For Discussion Purposes Only

Sources Available to CARD

A summary is provided below and on the following pages associated with available public sector revenues for a potential sports and recreation complex in Chico. This information focuses on available sources and the revenues or projected revenues associated with such sources; it does not address the funding capacity available under such sources, and includes the following topics/issues.

- **CARD property tax assessment** – flat rate assessment per household within CARD boundaries.
- **Park Impact Fees** – one-time, flat rate assessment for newly developed households within CARD boundaries.
- **Facility use agreements** – Negotiate up-front funding or advance rental payments in exchange for guaranteed use by organization with regular or ongoing usage of the facility during certain times of the year.
- **Registration fee surcharge** – fee could be applied to participants in CARD activities exclusively at a newly developed facility/complex, at any facility utilized by CARD or to local and/or non-local tournament participants.
- **Parking fees** – parking fee for individuals who take advantage of on-site parking during league and tournament events.
- **Naming or vendor rights opportunities** – sale of pouring, naming or other sponsorship opportunities are likely to be limited in Chico, and would likely be better allocated to support facility operating subsidies.



9. DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS: Recommended Next Steps

Intent of Analysis – An analysis was conducted to evaluate potential funding sources for a potential new sports and recreation complex in Chico. A variety of funding sources were considered. It should be noted that the list of sources is by no means intended to be exhaustive or cumulative in nature. Rather, the funding analysis developed herein was intended to identify the most typical or likely sources of project funding based on a review of comparable facilities and the resources that may be specifically available in the local market. The ultimate financing structure of a facility is dependent on political, economic and other issues of various parties that may be involved in developing a potential new sports and recreation complex. In some markets, the public sector has the ability to finance a substantial portion of the project cost, while in other markets it does not. The same is true of the private sector.

CARD as Primary Source of Funding – The flat rate, per parcel assessment levied by CARD to support ongoing operations and capital repair and replacement at existing facilities could be increased with voter approval. The annual flat tax would be determined based on the required funding to satisfy any debt service for new facilities. Once the facilities have been determined, the annual flat tax revenue would be used to secure funding.

Other Public Sources Not Likely – Conversations with City of Chico and Butte County representatives have indicated that funding support through pledged property tax or sales tax assessments are not likely, as funds are needed for the provision of other civic services. Opportunities should be explored into other partnership opportunities including assistance with the permitting and/or zoning processes.

Partner with Charitable Organization – This analysis quantified the most typical or likely project sources; however, there are other potential sources of funds CARD and the Chico community could explore to help fund the project. One option includes pursuing a partnership with a charitable organization or other philanthropist(s). Corporate or other benefactors should be pursued to solicit funds for project development or to create an endowment fund to support ongoing operations. Additionally, local sports organizations should be engaged to gauge their ability to contribute guaranteed lease payments or to provide volunteer labor hours to reduce the operational burden on CARD in return for priority access to facilities.

Issue an RFQ – Consideration should be given to issuing an RFQ to gain insight from potential local and national private sector partners. The intent would be to initiate conversations with organizations with a potential interest in utilizing new sports and recreation facilities in Chico or those that could derive some benefit through funding, operating or owning such facilities. Distribution could target various sports organization, private operators, potential naming rights or sponsoring entities, and other such organizations. Based on these conversations, CARD and the Chico community can begin to identify potential funding and operating models that would create the greatest opportunities for successful project implementation and operation.



DATE: 10/29/18
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Tree Committee/Tree Division Staff
SUBJECT: Staff Report from 10/11/18 Tree Committee meeting

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendees:

Committee members present: Aaron Haar, Megan Thomas-Petty, Alberto Hernandez (Chair)

Committee members absent: None.

Staff present: Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager) Angela Irmer (Administrative Assistant), Shari Beattie (Office Assistant)

Public present: None.

2.0 REGULAR AGENDA

2.1 CONSIDERATION OF CITY OF CHICO STREET TREE APHID CONTROL PROGRAM.

Staff wishes to explore alternatives to neonicotinoids for the treatment of aphids under an integrated pest management (IPM) strategy. An IPM approach considers all relevant and available information to make informed management decisions, providing pest control options based on actual need.

RECOMMENDATION

The Tree Committee recommends (3-0) that the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission approve:

1. Ceasing to the City's use of neonicotinoids to control aphids and look for solutions to the IPM program that the Tree Division can use on all City owned trees.
2. Allowing residents and businesses to apply for a permit to use a professional contractor to use neonicotinoids on City trees near their properties.
3. Directing staff to conduct a public outreach program explaining the dangers of the use of neonicotinoids.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Street Tree division currently procures pesticides at a cost of \$15,000 per year and allocates approximately six weeks of Senior Tree Maintenance Worker time to the application of aphid treatments.

BACKGROUND

City of Chico Public Works annually treats 923 Hackberry trees and 78 other tree species for aphid infestations. Approximately 20-gallons of neonicotinoid insecticide (active ingredient Imidacloprid) is applied to street trees situated in park strips, medians or behind the sidewalk adjacent to residential property. Scientific evidence shows that neonicotinoids are harmful to bees.

DISCUSSION

In February 2018, a report from the European Union's scientific risk assessors (EFSA) concluded that the high risk to both honeybees and wild bees resulted from any outdoor use of various classes of neonicotinoids,

because the pesticides contaminate soil and water. This leads to the pesticides appearing in wildflowers or succeeding crops. A recent study of honey samples revealed global contamination by neonicotinoids. In May 29, 2018 the European Commission determined that neonicotinoid insecticides cause harm to bees and that all products, with a few exceptions must cease use in the European Union. See Appendix A. The United States EPA plans to issue an updated pollinator risk assessment and a proposed interim decision for public comment in spring 2019. In the meantime, the EPA has added warning nomenclature to draw attention to the potential detrimental effects on bees. See pages 4 and 5 of Appendix D – Imidacloprid 2F Turf Ornamental Label.

Ahead of any formal decision by the EPA to ban neonicotinoid insecticide use in the United States, the City of Chico Public Works plans to analyze use of this class of chemical under Integrated Pest management protocols. The objective of the exercise is to determine if current usage levels are warranted and justified. Hackberry woolly aphid, sometimes called Asian woolly hackberry aphid (*Shivaphis celti*), was discovered in California in 2002. It infests hackberry, especially Chinese hackberry (*Celtis sinensis*), throughout the state. This aphid was accidentally introduced into the United States in the late 1990s and also occurs from Florida to Texas and northward to at least Tennessee.

The Asian woolly hackberry aphid is present in Chico. This aphid is a pest because its copious honeydew excretions create a sticky mess and promote the growth of blackish sooty mold on leaves and surfaces beneath infested trees. No long-term or serious damage to hackberry trees has been found after several years of infestations. Insecticides apparently are not necessary to protect the health or survival of infested hackberry have historically been justified when honeydew excretions are intolerable to people. Hackberry is wind pollinated. However, it is reported that bees will forage pollen from this tree. See Appendix E for a summary of neonicotinoid findings from the Xerces Society.

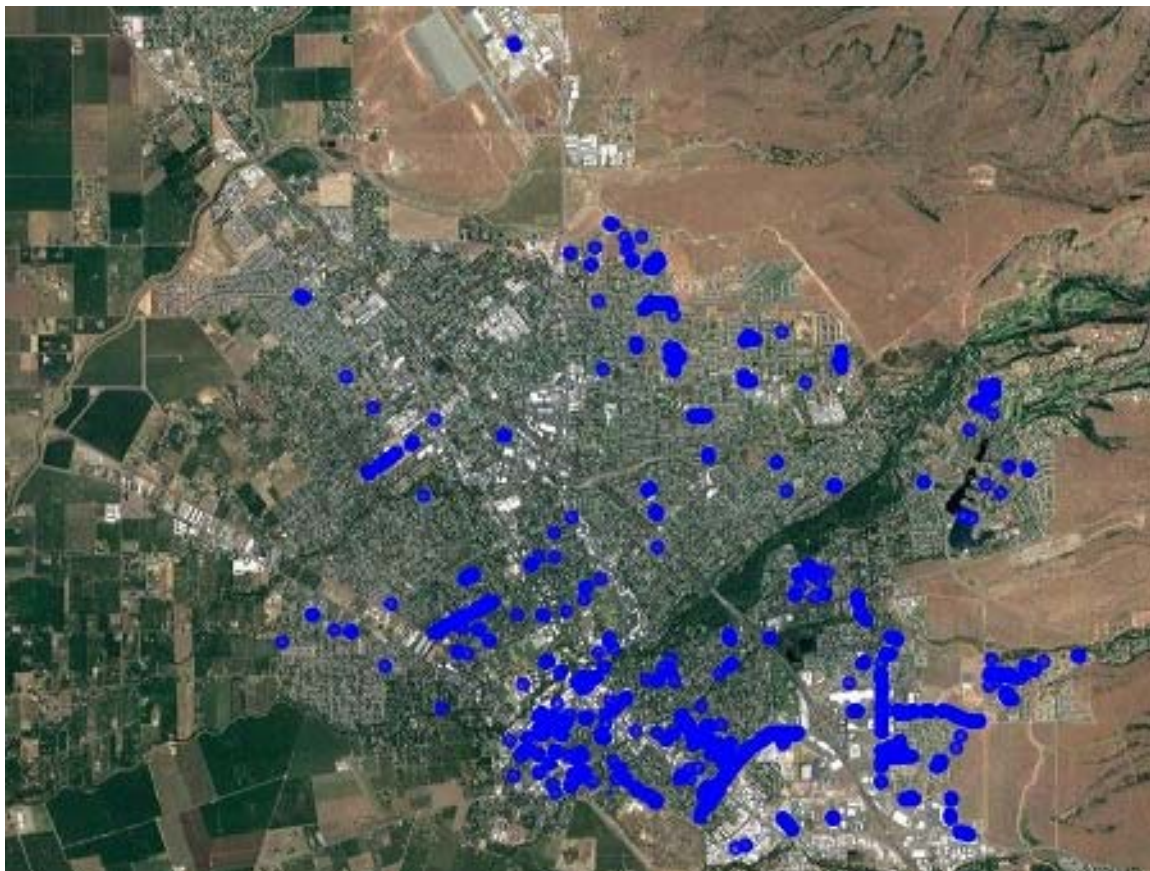


Closeup photo of Woolly adelgid.



Closeup photo of adelgid infestation on Chinese hackberry

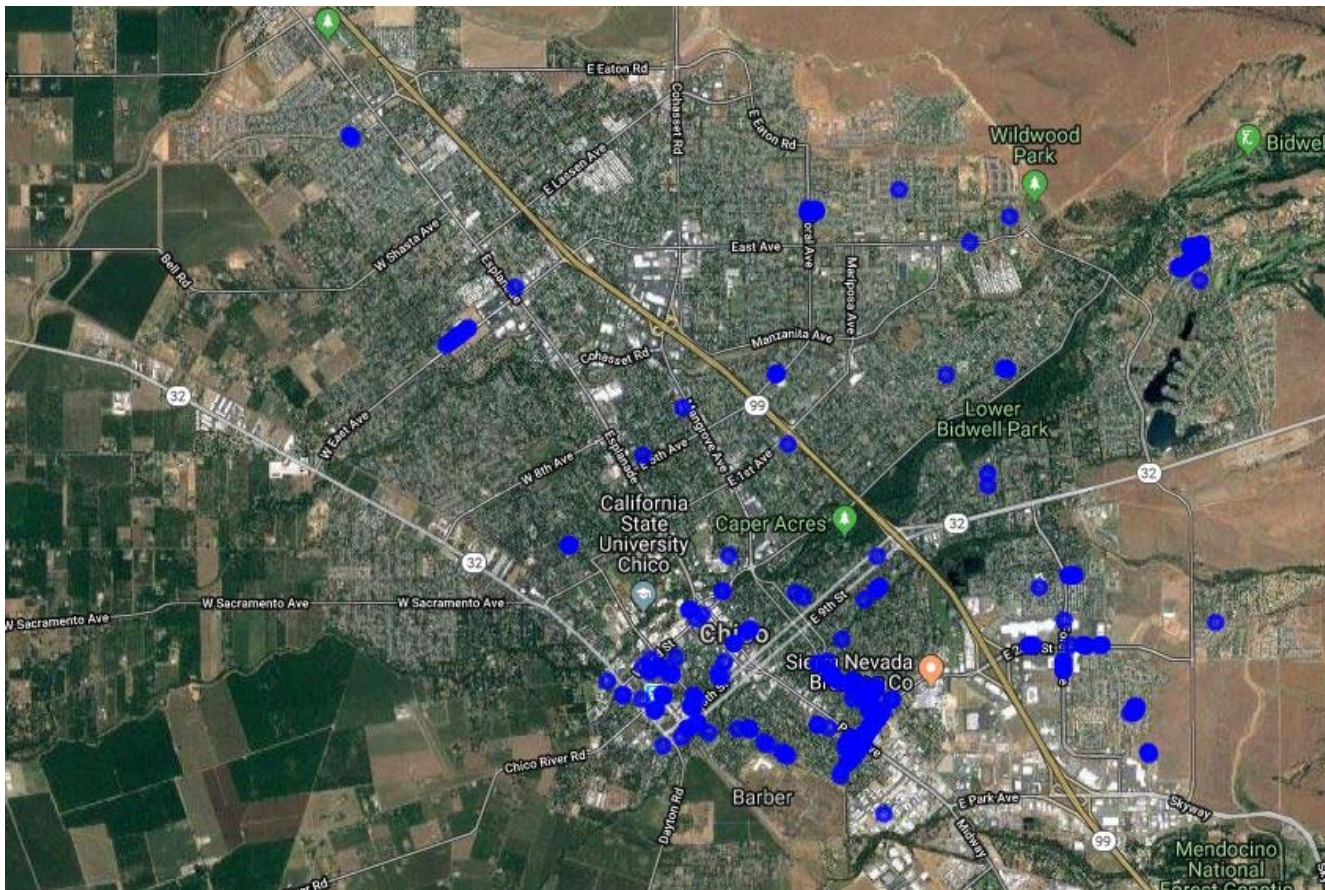
Hackberry trees are found throughout the City of Chico. See map below showing distribution of all Hackberry trees in the city.



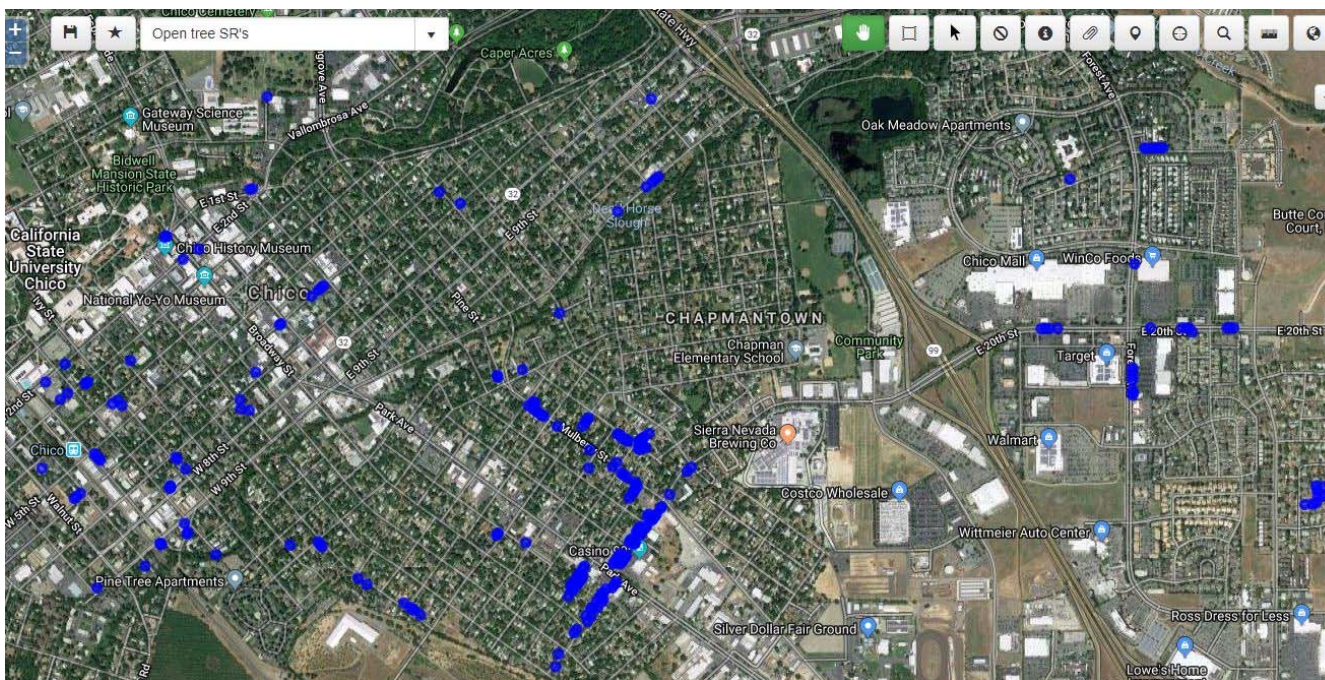
See map below showing the higher concentration of all hackberry trees in the southern half of the city.



Map below show distribution of European Hackberry trees only.



Map below shows distribution of European Hackberry in the southern half of the city.

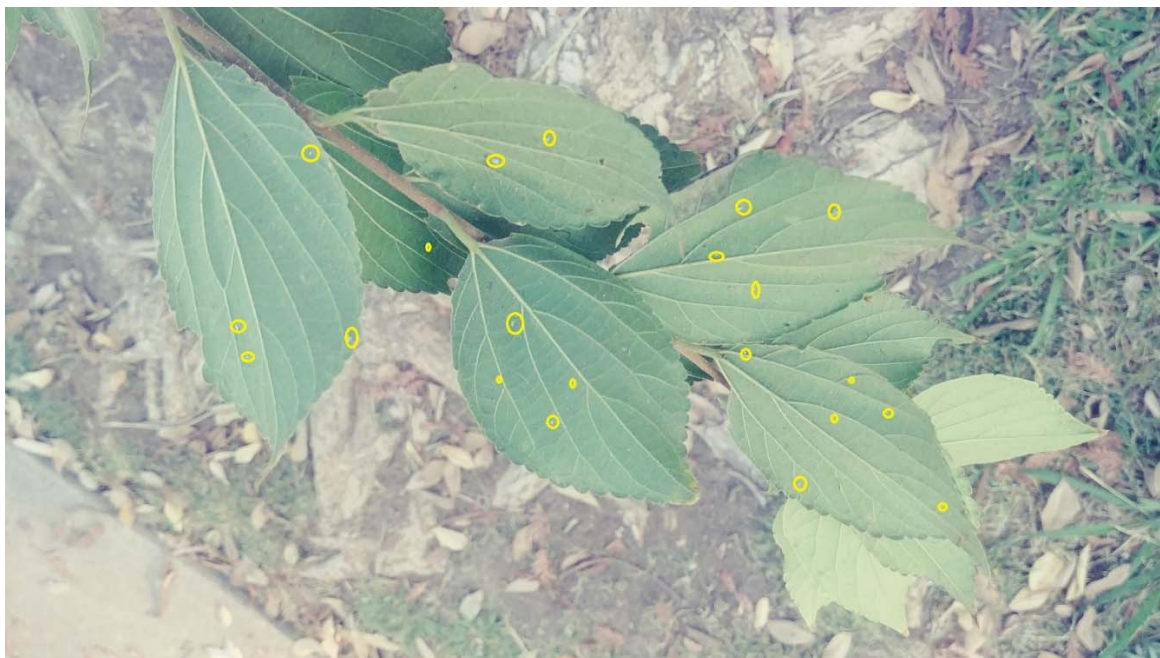


Currently, City of Chico treats by ground injection treats 923 Hackberry trees and 78 other tree species for aphid infestations. See Appendix B and C. The City has a total street tree population of 1261 hackberry trees comprising of 353 European hackberry (*Cercis Australis*), 899 Chinese hackberries (*Cercis sinensis*) and 9 Common hackberries (*Cercis occidentalis*). Previous attempts to reduce the number of trees being chemically treated resulted in 338 trees being taken off the treatment list.

Staff recommended that committee discuss the options below and/or develop additional options for consideration:

Suggested measures:

- Remove all trees from the treatment list and cease use of neonicotinoid insecticide.
- Remove all 353 European hackberries from the treatment list only. European hackberries reportedly are resistant to Wooley adelgid. See photo below of a leaf sample from a European hackberry leaf sample from Hartford Ave, Chico. There is anecdotally a marked reduction in aphid occurrence (ringed in yellow in the photo) compared to the Chinese hackberry.



- Research other less toxic insecticides that can be used on the non-hackberry tree species list.
- Continue treatment of aphid infestations in city Business Districts only.

Residential options

- Declare infestation of Woolly aphid on hackberry trees a public nuisance. This will allow removal of infested hackberry trees to be administratively approved without BPPC oversight.
- Allow residents to use the permit system to remove and replace infested hackberry trees at resident expense.
- Allow residents or businesses to use the permit system to contract with approved pesticide professionals to have aphid infestations treated at homeowner expense.

All residential options will require a program of public outreach. It is suggested that outreach measures include information topics such as:

- The benefits of trees.
- Other measures to mitigate honeydew such as washing sidewalks and vehicles and tolerating aphid outbreaks. Honeydew is water soluble and is easily washed away. However, many residents view this as an unacceptable nuisance for the enjoyment of property. Information on pesticide use and its detrimental effect on bees.
- The cost of using contracted pesticide services if residents wish to continue insecticide treatment if the City ceases to provide this service.
- The cost and procedures involved in removing Hackberry trees and replacing to Landscape Standards with other approved city trees.

Staff member Sheppard pointed out that a ban would not permit the City's use of the herbicide for isolated incidents such as the Heritage Tree Program. She proposed that the city may not want to ban its use to allow the possibility of its use as a last resort. She also points out that there are 2 gallons left from previous year and that a decision will need to be made to use or dispose of the remaining stock.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Addressing the Committee were Karen Laslo, Charles Withun, and Robin McCollum

ADJOURNEMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 p.m. to the next regular meeting on November 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber Building, Conference Room 2 (421 Main Street, Chico, California).

Attachment:

Appendix A: How Neonics Can Kill Bees-Summary_XercesSociety

Summary of Report

How Neonicotinoids Can Kill Bees

The Science Behind the Role These Insecticides Play in Harming Bees

Neonicotinoids are absorbed by the plant and transferred through the vascular system, making the plant itself toxic to insects.

Home and garden products may be applied to ornamental and landscape plants at rates many times higher than those approved for agricultural crops.

Bee safety of currently approved products should be reassessed and all conditional registrations immediately suspended.

Neonicotinoids have been adopted for use on an extensive variety of farm crops as well as ornamental landscape plants. They are the most widely used group of insecticides in the world, and have been for a decade. Developed as alternatives for organophosphate and carbamate insecticides, neonicotinoids are compounds that affect the nervous system of insects, humans, and other animals. Although less acutely toxic to mammals and other vertebrates than older insecticides, neonicotinoids are highly toxic in small quantities to many invertebrates, including beneficial insects such as bees.

The impact of this class of insecticides on pollinating insects such as honey bees and native bees is a cause for concern. Because they are systemic chemicals absorbed into the plant, neonicotinoids can be present in pollen and nectar, making them toxic to pollinators that feed on them. The potentially long-lasting presence of neonicotinoids in plants, although useful from a pest management standpoint, makes it possible for these chemicals to harm pollinators even when the initial application is made weeks before the bloom period. In addition, depending on the compound, rate, and method of application, neonicotinoids can persist in the soil and be continually taken in by plants for a very long periods of time.

Across Europe and North America, a possible link to honey bee die-offs has made neonicotinoids controversial. In December 2013, the European Union significantly limited the use of clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam on bee-attractive crops. In the United States, Canada, and elsewhere, local, state, and federal decision makers are also taking steps to protect pollinators from neonicotinoids. For example, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service phased out all uses of neonicotinoids on National Wildlife Refuges lands starting in January 2016.

This report reviews research on the impact of these pesticides on bees. For a research review on beneficial insects, including those important to biological control, see Hopwood et al. (2013). See Morrissey et al. (2015), Mineau et al. (2013), and Gibbons et al. (2015) for reviews on aquatic invertebrates, birds, and vertebrates, respectively.

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation also maintains an annotated bibliography of relevant research published since the writing of this report on its web site. That bibliography can be accessed at: www.xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees.



A sleeping cluster of male sweat bees on apple blossom. Neonicotinoids can be applied to apple trees in backyards at rates between 12 and 120 times greater than allowed in commercial orchards. (Photo: Tom Potterfield/Flickr.com.)



www.xerces.org
(855) 232-6639

To download the full report and read policy recommendations, go to www.xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees.

Findings

The following findings are divided into three sections. In the first section, we present clearly documented information about neonicotinoid impacts on bees, i.e., facts that are supported by an extensive body of research. (Fully cited evidence for these is detailed in the main body of this report.) The second section covers what can be inferred from the available research. This includes possible effects for which there is currently only limited research or the evidence is not conclusive. In the third section, we identify knowledge gaps in our understanding of pollinator and neonicotinoid interactions. Filling these gaps will allow better-informed decisions about the future use and regulation of these chemicals.

Clearly Documented Facts

Exposure of Bees to Neonicotinoids

- ⇒ Neonicotinoid residues found in pollen and nectar are consumed by flower-visiting insects such as bees. Residue concentrations can reach levels that cause sublethal effects through a variety of application methods, including use of coated seed, and in some situations can reach lethal levels.
- ⇒ Neonicotinoids can persist in soil for months or years after a single application. Residues have been found in woody plants up to six years after soil drench application.
- ⇒ Untreated plants have been found to absorb the residues of some neonicotinoids that persisted in the soil from the previous year.
- ⇒ Neonicotinoids applied to crops, even as seed coatings, can contaminate adjacent vegetation, including bee-attractive wildflowers.
- ⇒ Products approved for home and garden use may be applied to plants at rates substantially higher than the maximum label rate approved for agricultural crops.
- ⇒ Direct contact from foliar applications of the most toxic neonicotinoids has caused bee kills; additionally, foliar residues on plant surfaces may remain lethal to bees for several days.
- ⇒ Bee kills have been caused by legal applications of neonicotinoids to *Tilia* (linden, basswood). Some of these applications, designed to be uptaken by the trees, occurred weeks to months prior to when bees visited the trees.

Effects on Honey Bees (*Apis mellifera*)

- ⇒ Clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam are highly toxic to honey bees by contact and ingestion.
- ⇒ Thiacloprid and acetamiprid are moderately toxic to honey bees. (To understand how the EPA defines the levels of toxicity, see EPA Toxicity Classification Scale for Bees on right.)
- ⇒ Neonicotinoids absorbed by plants are metabolized over time. Some of the resulting breakdown products are also toxic to honey bees, and sometimes even more toxic than the original compound.
- ⇒ Honey bees exposed to sublethal levels of neonicotinoids can experience problems with flight and navigation, reduced taste sensitivity, and slower learning of new tasks, all of which impact foraging ability and hive productivity.
- ⇒ Larvae exposed to sublethal doses of imidacloprid in brood food had reduced survival and pupation, altered metabolism, and reduced olfactory response as adults.
- ⇒ Contaminated talc, abraded seed coating, or dust that becomes airborne during planting of neonicotinoid-coated seed is acutely toxic on contact to honey bees.

Effects on Bumble Bees (*Bombus* spp.)

- ⇒ Imidacloprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, and thiamethoxam are highly toxic to bumble bees.
- ⇒ Exposure to sublethal amounts of neonicotinoids can result in reductions in food consumption, reproduction, worker survival rates, colony survival, and foraging activity.
- ⇒ Queen production is significantly reduced by sublethal amounts of neonicotinoids, which may lower bumble bee populations because fewer colonies are established the following year.

Effects on Solitary Bees

- ⇒ Clothianidin and imidacloprid are highly toxic to blue orchard bees (*Osmia lignaria*) and alfalfa leafcutter bees (*Megachile rotundata*).
- ⇒ Imidacloprid residues on alfalfa foliage increase rates of mortality of alfalfa leafcutter bees and alkali bees (*Nomia melanderi*).
- ⇒ Blue orchard bee larvae required more time to mature after consuming sublethal levels of imidacloprid in pollen.
- ⇒ Sublethal amounts of neonicotinoids can have harmful effects on the reproduction of red mason bees (*Osmia bicornis*).

Presence in the Environment

- ⇒ Tens of millions of acres of neonicotinoid-coated seed is planted annually in the United States and Canada. When applied systemically and taken up by the plant, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, and clothianidin can have residual activity within plants for months to years.
- ⇒ Imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, and clothianidin are persistent in soil, with residues present for months to years.
- ⇒ Neonicotinoids can move into water and have been found in a range of water bodies, where they may persist. Clothianidin has been found in rivers and streams, wetlands, groundwater, and puddles. Imidacloprid has been found in surface water, groundwater, and puddles. Thiamethoxam has been found in waterways, wetlands, groundwater, and puddles, and has also been detected in irrigation water pulled from ground wells. Acetamiprid and dinotefuran have been found in waterways.

Inferences from Research Results

Exposure of Bees to Neonicotinoids

- ⇒ Application as a seed coating can result in low levels of residues in pollen and nectar that have been linked with sublethal effects in solitary bees.
- ⇒ Application methods such as foliar sprays, soil drenches, and trunk injections apply a higher dosage per plant than seed coatings and may result in much higher—even lethal—levels of neonicotinoid residues in pollen and nectar.
- ⇒ Application of neonicotinoids before and during bloom may result in residue levels in pollen and nectar that cause sublethal effects or even mortality.
- ⇒ Application by soil drench or trunk injection to woody ornamental species may result in residue levels in blossoms that cause lethal and sublethal effects for more than a year after treatment.
- ⇒ Foliar applications may have shorter residual toxicity in comparison to other application methods such as trunk injection and soil drench.
- ⇒ Pesticide residues, including from planting coated seeds, have been found in honey bee hives.

Effects on Pollinators

- ⇒ There is no direct link demonstrated between neonicotinoids and the honey bee syndrome known as colony collapse disorder (CCD). However, recent research suggests that pesticides, including neonicotinoids, may make honey bees more susceptible to parasites and viruses, including the intestinal parasite *Nosema*, which has been implicated as one causative factor in CCD.
- ⇒ Neonicotinoids may synergistically interact with demethylase inhibitor (DMI) fungicides. DMI fungicides have significantly increased the toxicity of neonicotinoids to honey bees in some laboratory tests. The synergistic effects of these mixtures in field settings using formulated pesticides in water appear to be less dramatic in comparison with the laboratory research.
- ⇒ Bumble bees and solitary bees can be affected by neonicotinoids at lower concentrations than are honey bees. Currently, evaluation of other pollinators beyond honey bees is extremely limited in EPA's pesticide registration process.

Knowledge Gaps

Exposure of Bees to Neonicotinoids

- ⇒ What are the conditions under which residue levels both in the plant and soil increase in concentration over time with repeated applications?
- ⇒ What is the risk posed by neonicotinoid contamination of nontarget plants growing near treated plants?
- ⇒ What is the risk posed by bees from forage cover crops absorbing neonicotinoids when planted in a rotation with a neonicotinoid-treated row crop?
- ⇒ How do these chemicals move through the plant? For example, how soon after product application do neonicotinoid residues appear in pollen and nectar, how fast is it metabolized in the plant, and how do levels vary with application method, crop, and specific compound? Do they move in phloem tissue in addition to xylem?
- ⇒ Is the combined presence of neonicotinoids and their break-down products in pollen or nectar as toxic or more toxic to bees than the individual chemicals?
- ⇒ Does the movement of neonicotinoids within a plant vary with the type of plant (e.g., herbaceous vs. woody), or by functional group (e.g., forbs vs. legumes vs. grasses)?
- ⇒ How do residue levels vary in plants grown under differing field conditions (e.g., drought), soil types (e.g., sandy vs. loam), or under variable nutrient levels?

Effects on Pollinators

- ⇒ What are the acute and chronic contact and ingestion effects of neonicotinoids to bees other than honey bees?
- ⇒ What is the full extent of the sublethal effects of neonicotinoids on adult bees?
- ⇒ What is the full extent of effects of neonicotinoids on larval bees?
- ⇒ Do honey bees experience delayed effects of neonicotinoids during adverse weather conditions (e.g., winter or drought) when stored foods are consumed?
- ⇒ What is the full extent of effects that soil residues have on ground-nesting bees (which represent approximately 70% of bee species)?
- ⇒ What effects, if any, do neonicotinoid contaminated plant tissues and mud have on bees that construct nests from these materials?
- ⇒ How do neonicotinoids affect other pollinators such as butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, and wasps?

To download the full report and read policy recommendations, go to
www.xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees.



DATE: 10/25/18
 TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
 FROM: Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resource Manager
 SUBJECT: Parks Division Monthly Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. Additional Parks Funding – At its meeting on 10/16/18, the City Council allocated \$250,000 of the FY 2017-18 Fiscal Year savings to the Upper Park Road Project and \$250,000 to the Stoney Fire suppression and rehabilitation costs, of which the Parks Division will receive approximately \$38,000 to remove trees, repair trails, and other rehabilitation efforts in the burn area. The Council also allocated an additional \$50,000 for tree maintenance.
- b. Stoney Fire – The assessment of the trees and other hazards along the trails in the burn area has begun and hope to be completed in the next couple of weeks. CalFire Salt Creek crews have been retained to down the hazardous trees. Once this is complete, Staff will determine what areas and trails can be reopened to the public. The Park Division will also work with our community volunteers and partners to make improvements to the trails were needed.
- c. Grant Opportunities – The passage of Proposition 68 has provided grant funding for various park related projects. Staff is working with CARD and the Mechoopda Tribe to seek funding for a potential cultural and interpretive project in Bidwell Park. Staff will also be pursuing grants from Cal Fire for fuel reduction projects, and another Prop 68 grant for additional funding for the Upper Park Road repairs.

2. Maintenance Program

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	2018 Trend
1. Safety	211	29.1%	95.9%	
2. Infrastructure Maintenance	246	33.9%	108.6%	
3. Vegetation Maintenance	137	18.9%	59.7%	
4. Admin Time/Other	132	18.2%	103.9%	
Monthly Totals	726	100%	90.4%	

General

Staff continues daily cleaning and safety inspections of all recreation areas including: grounds, playgrounds, picnic sites, roads and paths, coupled with daily 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. Lower Park: Staff has removed over thirty dump truck loads of downed wood from the lower park area to help with the fire reduction program. Most of this wood was cut earlier in the season by Salt creek or Magalia fire crews.

- b. Middle Park: Seasonal Beaver dam removal and vandalism repair to the safety chain on the pool deck.
- c. Upper Park: Road repair on two of the worst spots beyond diversion dam gate. Staff has installed close to 80 yards of ballast rock and 96 yards of road base on these two repairs.
- d. Greenways: Staff is preparing to start work at Comanche Creek in this last week of October. We will install three new trash cans and replace the Salvador Dali kiosks with proper steel versions, reseal tables for graffiti protection, touch up parking lot with new base rock and add new crusher dust to paths.
- e. Upcoming projects: Trail markers and signs for Middle and Upper Park (in progress). Create service path and bore holes for alternate pins and signs at tees throughout disc golf course. Par Course Station Replacement.

3. **Ranger and Lifeguard Programs**

- a. The return of goats to Bidwell Park has provided an opportunity for rangers to meet and greet multiple groups of people and talk about the park. The goats are a positive attribute and are bringing more people to the east end of Lower Park. For many, the primary concerns expressed have been the homeless activity and degradation to the park. The discussions have been beneficial and have helped the public understand the process of how we deal with the activity in the park and the best ways to contact and report illegal activity.
- b. A recent 9th Circuit Court decision involving the 8th Amendment has brought a review of illegal camping codes and citing practices in the City of Chico. Currently, Police and Park staff are meeting and reviewing information from the City Attorney regarding this issue.
- c. A five-acre vegetation fire above the 18th Hole of the Bidwell Golf Course and below Canyon Oaks neighborhood in Bidwell Park occurred on the 11th of this month. The cause of the fire is being attributed to a lightning strike from the previous week's erratic storm involving wind driven rain, hail and lightning that smoldered over time. A second 20 foot by 20-foot fire in proximity to the first fire started two days later and was quickly extinguished.

4. **Natural Resource Management**

- a. Goat Grazing– The goats have done a tremendous job in reducing the amount of vegetation in the approximate 20-acre Walnut Orchard area in Lower Bidwell Park. Capra Environmental Service anticipates that they will finish grazing this area in the next week or so. There is still funding to graze another approximate 5 acres, so the goats will be moved to the adjacent area just west of the service road.

5. **Outreach and Education**

- a. The beginning of the new school year is a typical time when teachers and administrators contact rangers for interpretive and safety presentations. Ranger Barge hosted a two-hour session in Lower Park earlier in the month covering resource management issues, wildlife in the park and volunteer opportunities covering the gamut of tasks done within the Park Division. A tour of ongoing work by Alliance for Workforce was also shown. Several members of the natural resource class expressed interest in internships dealing with resource issues and using skills garnered in classes such as GIS and resource management.
- b. Ranger Barge participated in a Public Works Career Day activity with PW crews recently at McManus Elementary School. The opportunity exposed the children to various activities and careers at an early age and gives them food for thought when encountering these specialized vehicles and the people within them.

6. **Volunteer and Donor Program**

- a. 31st Annual Bidwell Park and Chico Creeks Cleanup– The event took place on September 16th. A record number of volunteers (547) came out to participate. The Butte Environmental Council reported that 17.4 tons of debris was removed from Chico's Parks and Greenways.

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Public and Private Permits

Monthly Public Permits - September				
Date	Location	Organization	Event	Participant #
9/2/2018	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
09/08/18	One Mile Oak Grove A & B	Bidwell Presbyterian Church	150th Anniversary	500
09/09/18	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
09/15/18	One Mile Oak Grove A & B	Northern Valley Catholic Social Service	6th Annual CASA Superhero fun run/walk	650
09/16/18	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
09/23/18	City Plaza	DCBA	Taste of Chico	Varies
09/23/18	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
09/30/18	One Mile Oak Grove A & B	Mobilize Chico	Public Social & Forum	250
09/30/18	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
Totals				1,640

Table 2. Monthly Private Permits

Monthly Private Permits - September		
Type	# Permits	# Participants
Private	21	1629
Caper Acres	31	717
Totals	52	2346

Table 3. Monthly Maintenance Hours.

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	2018 Trend
1. Safety	211	29.1%	95.9%	
2. Infrastructure Maintenance	246	33.9%	108.6%	
3. Vegetation Maintenance	137	18.9%	59.7%	
4. Admin Time/Other	132	18.2%	103.9%	
Monthly Totals	726	100%	90.4%	

Table 4. Monthly Incidents

09/05/2018	Lower Park	484/Petty theft	Cop Logic
09/10/2018	Middle Park	484/Theft from vehicle	Cop Logic
09/10/2018	Middle Park	10852-Vehicle vandalism	Cop Logic

Table 5. Monthly Citations and Warnings

Ranger Report - Citations 2018						
Violation - Citations	Monthly			Annual		
	Total Citations	%	Rank	Total Citations	%	Rank
Alcohol	4	25%	1	11	9%	4
Animal Control Violations	0	0%	8	2	2%	8
Bicycle Violation	0	0%	8	0	0%	11
Glass	1	6%	5	10	8%	5
Illegal Camping	2	13%	4	26	21%	3
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	8	8	6%	6
Littering	0	0%	8	1	1%	10
Other Violations	4	25%	1	31	25%	1
Parking Violations	3	19%	3	29	23%	2
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	1	6%	5	2	2%	8
Smoking	1	6%	5	6	5%	7
Totals	16	100%		126	100%	

Violation - Warnings	Monthly			Annual		
	Total Warnings	%	Rank	Total Warnings	%	Rank
Alcohol	2	3%	5	24	4%	5
Animal Control Violations	6	10%	3	78	13%	3
Bicycle Violation	9	15%	2	71	12%	4
Glass	1	2%	8	4	1%	10
Illegal Camping	32	54%	1	256	43%	1
Injury/Destruction City Property	1	2%	8	7	1%	9
Littering	4	7%	4	18	3%	7
Other Violations	1	2%	8	14	2%	8
Parking Violations	2	3%	5	22	4%	6
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	2	3%	5	0	0%	11
Smoking	1	2%	8	104	17%	2
Totals	59	100%		598	100%	

Table 6. Monthly Cleanups

Illegal Encampment Cleanups, September 2018							
Date	Location	# of Camps	# of Staff	# Workers/Vols.	Coop. Org.	Total Hours	Total Debris Yds
9/4/2018	hoeshoe pits area	3	1	1+1 deputy	ACS	1	1
9/4/2018	Comanche Creek	2	1	1	FOCC	2	1
9/9/2018	Midway Bridge	1	1	NA	NA	1.00	1
9/10/2018	E of 5 Mile	3	1	6+2 deputies	ACS	9	8
9/11/2018	Annie's Glen/Camellia	3	2	7	ACS	5	3
9/12/2018	W Lindo	1	2			1	1
9/13/2018	@Cedar, Orange, Hazel, Ches	15	4	8+2 deputies	ACS	56	32
	Main, Olive						
9/14/2018	Peterson X 99	2	2			1	2
9/19/2018	Ceres/Eaton	3	2	7+1 deputy	ACS	10	8
9/19/2018	Camelia Way	3	1	4	AFWD	4	3
9/22/2018	Peterson X Lilac	1	1	1	CPD	2	3
9/22/2018	12 Tables	1	3			1	1
9/28/2018	Sherwood Forrest	4	1	2	PALS	2	3
9/29/2018	Pine and Cypress	4	1	32	Chico First	96	4
		TOTAL CAMPS				TOTAL HRS	TOTAL DEBRIS YDS
		46				191	71

Table 7. Monthly Incidents

Parks and Greenway -PALS- (Partners, Ambassadors, Leaders & Stewards) Volunteer Activities, September 2018						
Date	Location	Agency	Task	# of Volunteers	Total Hours	Leader
All of Sept.	Chico Parks & Grenways	ParkWatch	Park Ambassadors	103	1362	Shane Romain
various	various	CCW	Cart round up	8	24	Dan Bringolf
various	Verbena Fields		Veg. Mgmt.	1	9	S. Mason
various	Lindo Channel		Veg. Mgmt.	2	7	S. Mason
various	Bidwell Park		Camp Cleanup	1	3	S. Mason
various	Little Chico Creek		Veg. Mgmt.	1	19	S. Mason
9/1/2018	Little Chico Creek		Veg. Mgmt.	7	22	S. Mason
9/2/2018	Middle Park	BEC	Veg. Mgmt.	6	12	Angel Gomez
9/4/2018	Upper Park	Trailworks	Trails- signage	2	5	Thad Walker
9/8/2018	Little Chico Creek	Chico First	Gen.cleanup	54	162	Rob Berry
9/8/2018	Bidwell Park	The Stream Team	Monitoring	10	40	T. Hamill
9/8/2018	Bidwell Park	The Stream Team	General Cleanup	10	5	T. Hamill
9/9/2018	Middle Park	BEC	Veg. Mgmt.	18	18	Angel Gomez
9/15/2018	All waterways	BEC	Gen. Cleanup	548	1644	Angel Gomez
9/15/2018	CCG	Juvenile Probation	Gen. Cleanup	5	15	S. Mason
9/16/2018	Middle Park	BEC	Veg. Mgmt.	3	6	Natalie Carter
9/23/2018	Middle Park	BEC	Veg. Mgmt.	3	6	Angel Gomez
9/27/2018	1 Mile	CAVE	Gen. Cleanup	2	6	Ashley Turner
9/29/2018	1 Mile	Church of Latter Day Saints	Veg. Mgmt.	17	51	Ashley Turner
9/29/2018	Children's Playground to 1 Mile	CAVE	Gen. Cleanup	12	36	Shane Romain
9/29/2018	Little Chico Creek	Chico First	Gen Clean Up	32	96	John Adams
9/29/2018	Little Chico Creek	Chico First	Graffiti	10	30	John Adams
9/30/2018	Memorial Way		Veg. Mgmt.	1	2	S. Mason
9/30/2018	Middle Park	BEC	Veg. Mgmt.	19	19	Natalie Carter
				TOTAL HRS	3599	



DATE: 10/29/18
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager
SUBJECT: Street Trees Division Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. Recruitment – Recruitment for Maintenance Worker – Tree Trimmer. Qualified Candidates took the Maintenance worker written test October 26. Candidates obtaining a passing score will be invited to oral interview.
- b. Bidwell Park Tree Trimming – All trees growing in or over Caper Acres have been surveyed. Three trees are scheduled for removal. Two trees are scheduled for partial removal. Sixteen trees are scheduled for trimming. Bids will go out in the coming days.
- c. CALFIRE grant - The CALFIRE grant is now live. Staff are currently working on RFP's for tree inventory and urban forest management plan bids.

2. Planning/Monitoring

- a. Tree Permits – The UFM issued twelve tree permits in September. Three removal permits were denied. Five removal permits were approved. Three tree trimming permits were approved. One planting permit was approved.
- b. Damage Reports – UFM completed three damage reports for Risk Management. Claims related to fallen limbs, property and landscaping damage.

3. Planning and Building Development

- a. UFM reviewed three plan reviews. Comments included tree preservation measures during construction, landscape species choices including over-use of Crape myrtle and placement of trees for improved energy performance.

4. Miscellaneous

- a. PG&E Plant Growth Regulator Pilot Project. PG&E commenced application of Plant Growth Regulators (PGR's) on City trees located under utility rights-of-way. Rainbow Treecare, headquartered in Minnesota carried out an initial application on forty-two trees.

One resident expressed concern regarding the program. The customer complaint was discussed in a conference call with city staff and representatives from PG&E and Rainbow Treecare.

Conclusions from the call include the following:

- 1. No fruit or nut trees will be treated with PGR's. The resident noted that many residents harvest nuts from City Black walnuts.
- 2. Residents adjacent to any trees identified for treatment will receive a door knocker outlining what the treatment is, the objectives and a number to call for more information.
- 3. Residents will receive a courtesy call from the technician on the day of treatment.
- 4. Any residents that do not wish to have the city tree adjacent to their residence will be placed on a "do not treat" list. Such trees will continue to receive traditional tree trimming operations to maintain the utility right-of-way.
- 5. A media release will be considered to disseminate information on the program, its objectives, timelines etc.

The program was also discussed at the Chico Tree Advocates monthly meeting. City staff agreed to make available the list of City trees treated with PGR's.

UFM also visited staff from Rainbow Treecare in Fresno for a tour of right-of-way trees treated one year ago with PGR's. See photos 2 and 3. Photo 2 shows closeup of a branch that shows shortened growth between nodes. This effect lasts for three years and results in the tree growing slower towards the energized utility lines.

5. Maintenance

- a. A tree survey was completed at Caper Acres. Many of the large Valley oaks and California sycamores require trimming or removal. All the trees were assessed for health and condition. Three trees are scheduled for removal. Two trees are scheduled for partial removal. Sixteen trees are scheduled for trimming. An RFQ will be distributed to approved contractors shortly. Caper Acres may need to be closed for a time for work to resume. Any required closures will be publicized via media.
- b. UFM checked several parkway conversions throughout the city to ensure that city trees were still receiving adequate irrigation. Trees growing in the median on E 20th street were found to have inadequate irrigation. UFM worked with the Landscape inspector and the landscape contractor to bring irrigation up to standard.

6. Outreach and Education

- a. UFM attended a webinar hosted by Seattle Department of Public Works. The topic discussed was management of street tree and sidewalk conflicts.
- b. UFM met with the Northern California CALFIRE the representative for a “snapshot” tour of Chico’s urban forest. The tour included potential planting sites in Bidwell park, Safety prunes and removals at Caper Acres, new subdivision tree plantings, mature street tree walnut health issues, the mature canopy in older parts of the City, and tree preservation plans of mature Cork oak trees along Esplanade. Urban forest program stakeholders from Butte Environmental Council and Chico Tree Advocates were also introduced.

7. Street Tree Supervisor Report

- a. The Street Tree Supervisors monthly summary data tables for September are included below:

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1.

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	Trend
Tree Crew Hours				
1. Safety	99	14.4%	113.8%	
2. Tree Work	515	75.1%	81.6%	
3. Special Projects	0	0.0%	0.0%	
4. Admin Time/Other	72	10.5%	128.6%	
Monthly Totals	686	100.0%	82.6%	

Table 2.

Item	Values	% Change from Last Month	Trend
5. Productivity			
Calls			
Call Outs	66	55.9%	-----
Service Requests: Submitted	0	#VALUE!	
Service Requests: Completed	185	126.7%	-----
Sub Total	0	-	
Trees			
Planted: Trees	0	-	■
Pruned	178	54.1%	-----
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	-	
Removed: Stumps	0	-	
Removed: Trees	13	433.3%	-----■---
Sub Total	191	57.5%	-----
Tree Permits (#)			
Submitted	12	66.7%	- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Approved	9	60.0%	- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Denied	3	100.0%	- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Total	24	66.7%	- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
6. Contracts			
Expenditures (\$)	\$ 1,540	-	-----
Trees (#)			
Planted	0	-	
Pruned	4	-	-----■--
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	0.0%	
Removed: Stumps	0	-	
Removed: Trees	0	-	-----
Routine Maintenance	0	-	
Total	4	-	-----■---

8. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous

- a. At its 10/16/18 City Council meeting, the City Manager recommended Council approve a fund balance assignment of the General Fund (Funds 001 & 002) of \$2,497,479 as of June 30, 2018 for one-time projects as requested. Sidewalk Repair Projects - \$170,000 were approved. Approximately \$50,000 of this fund will be allocated to Street Tree pruning in main corridor ROW's. City staff will develop a program of pruning in the coming months.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Chico: Technician from Rainbow Tree care applying PGR to tree in city right-of-way.



Figure 2. Fresno tour. Note shortened growth between leaves.



Figure 3. Fresno tour. Rainbow Tree Care Regional Manager Robert Grabowski. In this photo Robert is indicating how much growth occurred in the year prior to PGR application, shown by the white line. The black line shows the length of growth following PGR application.

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