



CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
Regular Meeting Agenda
October 27, 2014, 6:30 pm
Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Council Chamber

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 411 Main Street 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

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 held on 9/29/14.

2.2. Permit for AMain/Cyclesport Mountain Bike Demonstration (11/08/14)

AMain/Cyclesport (applicant) applied for a permit to provide a demonstration with Pivot Cycles to provide bikes for people to test ride. No sales will be made on site. Applicant requests use of Parking lot B (Easter Cross) and will set up a pop-up tent and park a trailer. **Recommendation:** *Conditional approval.*

2.3. Permit for Frost or Fog 10 Mile, ¼ Marathon, and 5 K Run (1/24/15)

Under the Sun Events requests a permit to host a race that starts in Middle Park and extends into Upper Park on Saturday, January 25, 2015. In addition to the 5k and ¼ marathon, the applicant has added a 10 mile race to the event. **Recommendation:** *Conditional approval.*

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – if any

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1. Permit for Rim to Rim Trail Run (6/6/15)

Applicant wishes to host Chico's first ultra-marathon event, featuring a 50 mile distance option. This race will take place on the trails of Middle and Upper Bidwell Park. The revised application avoids the south side of Upper Park except for a creek crossing and use of 10 Mile House Road. The start and finish of the race will be at 5 Mile Picnic Area. **Recommendation:** *Conditional approval.*

4.2. Appeal of Tree Removal Permit Denial (2780 Camden Court)

On September 5, 2014 Staff received an application for a permit to remove a City of Chico street tree. Chief complaints relate to nuisance from bugs and surface roots. Landowner wishes to remove and replace tree at own expense. Staff reviewed the request on the Trident maple (*Acer buergerianum*), a small shade tree, and on September 5, 2014, staff denied the application as the tree is in excellent condition. The applicant submitted an appeal letter (received on September 19, 2014). The applicant has requested that the appeal be moved to the October meeting. **Recommendation:** *Deny the appeal and permit (retain tree).*

4.3. Appeal of Tree Pruning Permit Denial (520 West 12th Avenue)

On September 22, 2014 Staff received an application to prune (crown reduction) of a City of Chico street tree (a 20" DBH English Walnut (*Juglans regia*) by 25%. On September 24, 2014, Staff rejected the application as the extensive pruning does not meet City (ANSI/ISA) standards. The applicant submitted an appeal letter (received on September 29, 2014) citing concerns of the walnuts and tripping hazard, to the

BPPC. Staff would consider a 10% crown reduction using ANSI standards. **Recommendation:** *Deny the appeal and permit.*

5. 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.

6. REPORTS

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.

- 6.1. Parks and Street Trees Division Report - Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager.
- 6.2. Commissioner Ober's Request that the BPPC agendaize 1) Status of Urban Forester Role and 2) Urban Forest Management Plan
- 6.3. Commission Chair Emmerich's Request to Share a Correspondence on a Bidwell Park Meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on November 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building (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 29, 2014 Regular Meeting

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Chair Emmerich called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

1.2. Roll Call

Commissioners present:

Lisa Emmerich
Mark Herrera
Jim Moravec
Richard Ober
Janine Rood

Commissioners absent:

Mary Brentwood
Drew Traulsen

Staff present: Dan Efseaff (Park and Natural Resource Manager) Shane Romain (Senior Park Ranger) and Nancy Kelly (Administrative Assistant).

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 8/25/14.

2.2. Permit for Vacation Bible Experience (6/22 - 6/26/14)

Bidwell Presbyterian Church desires to reserve Children's Playground for a five day youth day camp. The applicant has reserved this area for the event for several years without incident. This event requires BPPC consideration as the request is reserving an area for multiple days.

Recommendation: *Approve permit with conditions.*

2.3. Permit Application for Gobble Wobble 5K – 10K Fun Run (11/8/14)

The CSU Chico Department of Kinesiology requests a permit to host a race that starts behind the Rod and Gun Club in Middle Park and extends into Upper Park. This permit requires BPPC consideration as it is not an intensive use area. This is the 14th year of the event.

Recommendation: *Conditional approval of permit.*

MOTION: Approve items 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of the consent agenda as submitted. **MADE BY:** Richard Ober
SECOND: Janine Rood **AYES:** 5 (Emmerich, Herrera, Moravec, Ober, and Rood). **NOES:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Brentwood and Traulsen).

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1. Consideration of Revision to Chico Municipal Code 12R

While working with the Butte County District Attorney's office, staff discovered a section of Chico Municipal Code Title 12R that would benefit from some clarification. Staff recommends that 12R.02.040 CMC be amended to specifically state that rangers have a duty to preserve the peace within the parks, rather than the current language that only implies this authority. A copy of the draft resolution is attached. **Recommendation:** *Direct staff to forward a resolution amending CMC 12R.02.040 to Council for final consideration.*

Efseaff advised that the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed language change. This change to the code would strengthen and clarify a Ranger's authority to keep the peace.

Ober questioned the use of the word "however". Efseaff offered to have the City Attorney review it.

Chair Emmerich asked Romain to explain how this change in the code would benefit the rangers.

Romain clarified that this change in the code would clarify their authority. Currently, the authority is implied. From time to time, the rangers do come up against individuals challenging their authority. This change would allow the City code to be consistent with State code.

Public comments on this item - None.

MOTION: To direct staff to complete a draft resolution to adopt the revisions to CMC 12R.02.040 and forward to Council for final approval. Any substantive changes should be brought back to the BPPC for consideration. Motion **MADE BY:** Jim Moravac **SECOND:** Richard Ober **AYES:** 5 (Emmerich, Herrera, Moravec, Ober, and Rood). **NOES:** 0 **ABSENT:** 2 (Brentwood and Traulsen).

4.2 Permit to Remove and Replant Trees (Mission Santa Fe Circle)

Property owners within the Chico Maintenance District (CMD) submitted a request to remove 25 Yarwood Sycamore trees within the City right-of-way and replant with an appropriate species. The homeowner's association noted longstanding concerns associated with 1) sidewalk and irrigation system damage; and 2) regular falling branches. Although the reasons for the request align with the recently adopted "Programmatic Tree Removal Permit", the scope of the request (25 trees) is beyond the intent of the program and requires BPPC consideration. Major costs will be paid from CMD funds (not the City's General Fund). **Recommendation:** *Approval of the permit.*

Efseaff provided the background on this item. The request is from the property owners comprising the Mission Santa Fe Maintenance District. There have been some long-standing concerns with the Yarwood Sycamore trees that were planted in 2000. They are asking for 25 trees to be removed.

While the programmatic tree removal was recently adopted and fits the reasons for removal, this issue is being brought before the Commission because the quantity (25) of trees requesting to be removed is far beyond the scope of which the programmatic program is intended for.

Within seven years of the trees being planted, service requests were beginning to come in for structural pruning because they were growing too fast. Roughly 1/3 of the trees are impacting sidewalks. This is an ongoing cost to the City with serious concerns to the landowners.

Staff did look at the potential of phasing this in. This would allow new trees to reach a sufficient size before cutting down others. The CMD does have adequate funds available to cover the costs of removing all 25 trees, repairing the sprinkler system and replanting with other more appropriate species of trees. From this standpoint, staff felt that the removal at all trees at one time, with repairs to sidewalks and irrigation would be best.

Comments from the Commission

Emmerich asked if trees were to be taken out all at once, what does staff anticipate what will transpire, what the estimated costs are and who would cover it.

Efseaff stated that there would be a per-tree cost associated and each tree would be replanted. The replacement trees have not been determined. There are some mild disease issues which would be rectified with the removal. Staff would like to get the trees in the ground by this fall. Most of the costs would be borne by the CMD. The sidewalk repair work would be split with the City.

Emmerich asked about a timeframe as to when the trees will be back in.

Efseaff stated that the CMD is a City fund, administered by the City. There should be no delay in the timeline.

Ober emphasized that there needs to be funds available for replanting purposes.

Efseaff stated that while the maintenance costs are covered by the maintenance district funds, any callout for service requests are charged to the City's general fund. Staff feels there are better options available than sticking with the current trees. The homeowners feel there are health issues associated with these trees.

Debra Horton from the HOA spoke. She says there are already three people known to have fallen due to the tree issues. She feels that pruning and trimming the trees is not taking care of the issues. She feels that if the project is done in phases, then every time a phase is tackled, that means repairs again to the watering system as well as the groundcover. Feels it doesn't make sense to keep maintaining the trees when we all know they will be cut down. The sooner they are in, the sooner they will grow.

Ober asked who would be leading the selection process. Staff will use a right tree, right place approach depending on infrastructure and site specific conditions. Efseaff replied that City staff would consult with the landowners on the replacement trees, and that the intent is to plant the trees this fall. Horton emphasized that the homeowners would definitely like to be included in the selection process.

Public Comments on this item

Mark Stemen (BEC) – asked about the status of the Urban Forest Management Plan.

Chair Emmerich closed the public comment period.

Herrera spoke about the Urban Forest and how the Commissioners' responsibility is to preserve and enhance the park as well as the urban forest. There are tools necessary to do this, one of which is the Urban Forester. Without that tool, the level of service to the community and our urban forest is extremely constrained. The urban forest is being neglected. It is his highest recommendation that the Commission suspend any discussion regarding the urban forest until the role of Urban Forester is filled.

MOTION: To table any urban forest discussion, eminent danger aside, until an Urban Forester is on the City staff. **MADE BY:** Mark Herrera **SECOND:** Ober **AYES:** 1 (Herrera). **NOES:** **ABSENT:**

Ober seconded the motion for the sole purpose of discussion. Felt the larger issues were certainly worth discussing.

Efseaff offered that this motion goes counter to what Council had previously directed which was to

contract out the role of the Urban Forester. The Commission needs to vote on the item before us tonight.

Moravec agreed but felt Commissioner Herrera's comments needed to be discussed.

Emmerich asked Herrera to speak to the public safety issue before us.

Herrera feels the safety issues are absolutely paramount to discuss but, also feels the Urban Forester discussion needs to take place before we move forward.

Ober asked if it was the intent of the motion to not have discussions like this tonight.

Herrera responded affirmative, with eminent danger aside.

Efseaff stated that tonight there needs to be either an approval or a denial.

Moravec feels Herrera's motion is inappropriate, however, he feels there definitely is a situation that needs to be remedied. These tree decisions were made by past City of Chico staff. The space these trees were planted in is inadequate.

Herrera wanted to be clear he is not placing blame but simply providing an opportunity to make a change. He, could not, in good conscience, vote on this.

Rood asked Herrera if his motion was saying nothing should be done until we have the position filled. Herrera confirmed this.

Rood asked Efseaff if he knew how many trees with these issues there were City wide. Efseaff stated he could get this information.

Chair Emmerich suggested that the Commission agendaize the discussion of the Urban Forest Plan for the next meeting. With it being properly noticed, it would allow for this discussion to take place in a more focused way.

Commissioner Herrera's motion was entertained again.

MOTION: To table any urban forest discussion, eminent danger aside, until an Urban Forester is on the City staff. **MADE BY:** Mark Herrera **SECOND:** Ober **AYES:** 1 (Herrera). **NOES:** 4 (Emmerich, Moravec, Ober and Rood) **ABSENT:** 2 (Brentwood and Traulsen).

The motion by Herrera failed (1-4-2)

Commissioner Herrera stated he could not in good conscience continue this discussion without an Urban Forester on board. He left the meeting.

MOTION: To approve the permit as outlined in the staff report that would allow for the removal of the sycamore trees and staff to supervise the replanting of those trees with funds from the CMD. **Motion MADE BY:** Jim Moravac **SECOND:** Janine Rood **AYES:** 4 (Emmerich, Moravec, Ober, and Rood). **NOES:** 0 **ABSENT:** 3 (Brentwood, Herrera and Traulsen).

A discussion was had about how a Commissioner goes about getting an item on the agenda.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mark Stemen addressed the Commission about the Urban Forest Management Plan and its delay. That is the plan that guides many other actions. Landscape architects look at the plan before planting. He emphasized the need for the Plan.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Sycamore Pool Repair – Efsaef reported that the pool is deteriorating. Some items needing attention are: repair of the eroded sump area, a vault, replacement of ladders, repair of lifeguard chairs, repair of sidewalk, repair of a section of a concrete wall, and pot holes at the bottom of the pool. With the current low water levels, it is a good time to do the work. It would take about two weeks to complete. Staff will likely seek a supplement appropriation of \$35,000 for the repairs. Commissioners indicated concern about the state of the pool and interest in the repairs moving forward.

6.2. Parks and Street Trees Division Report – Efsaef reported the following:

- a. The 109th Bidwell Bash event was a success.
- b. Staff met with Cal Trans, BCAG regarding the Hwy 99 viaduct park related concerns. Remedies should be in place in the next few weeks.
- c. The Five-Mile well that went dry is now back and functioning.
- d. There was an extensive encampment found in Upper Park and taken down.
- e. There is a new sign for greenways outlining park rules.
- f. A total of 40,000 lbs. of materials have been cleared at the creek cleanups held this year with BEC.
- g. The Park Services Coordinator position is currently open.
- h. A sampling program has been set up for staff to study the impact of the drought on trees.
- i. BEC and the Native Plants Society are teaming up to hold joint creek cleanup projects on Oct. 29th, Nov. 8th and Nov. 22nd. Information will be available on the City website.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on October 27, 2014 at 8:18 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building (421 Main Street, Chico, California).

Date Approved: / / .

Prepared By:

Nancy Kelly, Administrative Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

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10/21/2014



BPPC Staff Report

Meeting Date: 10/27/2014

DATE: 10/20/14
 TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
 FROM: Theresa Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant
 SUBJECT: Permit for AMain/Cyclesport Mountain Bike Demonstration (11/08/14)

REPORT IN BRIEF:

AMain/Cyclesport (applicant) applied for a permit to provide a demonstration with Pivot Cycles to provide bikes for people to test ride. No sales will be made on site. Applicant request use of Parking lot B (Easter Cross) and will set up a pop-up tent and park a trailer.

Recommendation: *Conditional approval.*

Event Details

Date of Application	10/20/2014
Date of Event	11/8/2014
Time of Event	10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M>
Event Name	
Applicant Name	Mike Peevy
Location	Parking Lot B (Easter Cross) .
Description	An advertisement and demonstration of Pivot mountain bikes.
New Event?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No. Years? Click here to enter text.
# Participants	10 +
Reason for BPPC Consideration?	Not an intensive use area.
BPMMP Consideration	Mountain biking is a permissible use under the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP). The plan also notes that Upper Park is a protected area for non-intensive recreational uses and non-intensive wilderness compatible recreation shall be provided in Upper Park (O.Upper-2; I. Upper-1). The use of Upper Park trails for the race is considered an intensive use and requires BPPC approval.

Conditions

Staff recommends the following conditions:

- Continued adherence to all park rules.
- No sales in the Park.
- Applicant will not interfere with other park event that day (Gobble Wobble) and contact rangers on set-up location and access prior to the event.
- Set-up vehicles shall be restricted to one vehicle in closed areas and must travel on established gravel and paved roads and comply with all laws.
- All riders must wear helmets.
- In the event that the Middle Park trails are closed due to wet or unsafe conditions, [the use road may be used but not trails.](#) Applicant will remind participants to stay on the trails.
- The applicant will need to do a final inspection of Parking Lot B at the conclusion of the event and remove all signs and markings as well as pick up any associated trash.

Attachments: Application and Permit for Park Use

Distribution: Mike Peavy

S:_Old drive to be deleted July 2015\Admin\BPPC\BPPC_Meetings\2014\14_1027\BPPC_A_Main_Cyclesports_14_1108.docx
 10/21/2014



City of Chico

APPLICATION & PERMIT FOR PARK USE

Public Works Department - Park Division
1 Main St., 2nd Floor/P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420
(530) 896-7800 Fax: (530) 895-4899

Type of Event:
PUBLIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION

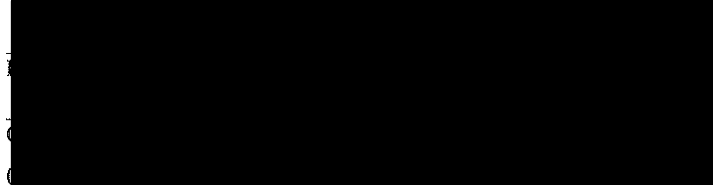
Must be 18 or older • No glass beverage containers • Application fee due upon submittal •

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name of Applicant/Contact Person Mike Peavy

Organization Name (if applicable) A Main / cyclesport



Contact Phone # _____ Alternate Phone # _____

Description of Event: Demonstration mt bike rides
(family BBQ, walk/run, describe below if needed)

Day and Date of Event: Sat Nov 8 10a - 3p

From: 10a To: 3p
Total Time Needed for Set-up, Event, and Clean-up

From: _____ To: 10

E-mail address _____

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. Street closure(s) subject to approval.

AREA REQUESTED: (Please check if requested)

- Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Note: Special conditions apply for amplified sound (12R.08.263 CMC)
- Cedar Grove Picnic Area Meadow
 - Electricity (15 amp) 100 amp Electrical Service tables, restroom area (circle) Water (public events only)
- Children's Playground
 - Electricity (15 amp)-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 - 3:30
 - Water (public events only) 100 amp Electrical Service
- City Plaza (Additional fees may apply)
 - Electricity (15 amp) 100 amp Electrical Service
 - Event Restrooms Water (public events only)
 - Fountain - On Fountain - Off
 - Meter Bags # _____ Sound Curtain

- Council Ring
 - Fire Permit
- Five Mile Picnic Area
- One Mile Picnic/Barbeque Area - Water available, no hose bib
- Oak Grove A Oak Grove B
 - Sycamore Way Parking Lot Closure-Public Events ONLY
 - Electricity (15 amp) parking area, restroom area (Pick up key)
- Band Stand (15 amp)
 - BBQ-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
- Depot Park
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Lower Bidwell Park (public events only): _____
- Upper Bidwell Park (public events only): Easton Cross Parking lot
- Other (specify) (public events only): _____
- Early Entrance Needed (public events only) Yes No

Additional Description of the Event: _____

FOR PARK RANGER ASSISTANCE during the event, CALL 530-897-4900 (Police Department Dispatch)

SECTION 2 - PERMIT FEES

Call Park Office at 896-7800 for availability of park areas and fee schedule 80.020

- Application Fee \$ 19.00 (Non-Refundable)
- Reservation Fee \$ _____ (\$11.00 minimum, please call for quote)
- Insurance Fee \$ 40.00 (\$40.00 to process outside insurance)
- Vendor Fee # _____ \$ _____ (\$6.00 per vendor)
- Damage Deposit \$ 100 (\$100.00 refundable following acceptable clean-up after event)
- Early Entrance Fee \$ _____ (\$32.50/hr, public events only)
- Additional Park Use Fees \$ _____ (see fee schedule)

Additional fees for City Plaza use:	
Event Restrooms _____ x (\$95.00) = \$ _____	#days
100 amp Electrical _____ x (\$30.00) = \$ _____	(electrician required) #days

Total Fee Required: \$ 159.00

Fee due upon submittal of application * Make Checks Payable to: City of Chico

of Chico Cash Receipt No. CR387214 Payment Method: CC 3281 Date: 10/20/14 Received By: TR

Office Distribution:	Permit File (original) Park Field Supervisor	Park Ranger 1 Park Ranger 2	Senior Park Ranger Landscape Inspector.	Applicant Risk Management (e-mail)	Email(various) 920 Fund
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SECTION 3

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.
- BBQ's** Portable BBQ's may only be used next to existing BBQ's in Lower Bidwell Park and Five Mile Recreation Areas.
- 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 trails. Bicycle riding is not allowed in Caper Acres or on the Sycamore pool deck.
- Bounce Houses** Bounce houses and other similar play equipment are only permitted with a reservation and upon approval by the Park Division. The operators of this equipment must provide proof of insurance. Bounce houses are not allowed in Caper Acres.
- Campfires** No campfires allowed.
- Camping** No overnight camping allowed. Bidwell Park is a "day use park" only.
- Clean up** Permittee is required to completely clean up area at the conclusion of event. Additional garbage bags may be obtained from the General Services Department at time of reservation. (12R.04.180 CMC)
- 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 until 8:30 AM in Lower Park -- All other times **dogs must be on a leash**. 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 Game Regulations, <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/>, Freshwater Sport Fishing, Alphabetical List of Waters with Special Fishing Regulations, (20) Big Chico Creek.
Horseshoe Lake: Age 14 and over - license, catch and release; Under 14 - no license, catch and keep.
- Gate Closures** Upper Park gate at parking area E is closed on Sundays and Mondays and during wet periods. Gates can be closed for approved special events. See www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/gate_closing_hours.asp
- Glass** No glass beverage 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.
- Noise** No loud or unusual noises are allowed, including: radios and headsets that can be heard over 50' away. Music/Amplified Sound at One-Mile Recreation Area, please, face all speakers away from Woodland Ave.
- Park Closures** Lower Park is closed from 12:00 am (midnight) until 5:00 am every day, unless directly and actively proceeding to a destination outside of the park. Upper Park is closed between the hours of 11:00 pm and 60 minutes before sunrise every day, unless posted otherwise.
- Signs/Defacing** Defacing of trees, benches, tables, any park fixtures, open ground, or paved roads/paths with markings, staples, tacks, or signs is prohibited. No pinatas, or accessories shall be affixed to trees. Only barricades, cones, or self standing devices may be used for these purposes.
- Smoking** Smoking is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.
- Swimming** While in the 1-Mile swim area compliance with lifeguards is required for public safety. Pool is open and lifeguards are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- Vegetation** No taking, cutting or injury of any vegetation in the Park is allowed.
- Vehicle Traffic**
- 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.

***I have read and agree to conform to the above rules and conditions:**

Signed: _____



SECTION 4 – INSURANCE

(to be determined by Park Office)

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO:

Insurance Required Not Required

- (1) All Public Events per Title 12R.08.240, and/or
- (2) All Events Public or Private where:
 - (a) Amplified sound is used, or
 - (b) The number of people participating amount to 100 or more.

For Insurance questions for your event, please contact the Risk Management office at 530-879-7910, by fax at 530-895-4733, or email at riskmanagement@chicoca.gov

If insurance is required, Certificate of Insurance, meeting City standards must be received by: October 23, 2014

Organization Named on Certificate of Insurance _____

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, with policy endorsements as follows:

- (1) Identification of permit applicant, identification of event, date of event.

NOTE: NUMBERS 2 AND 3 MUST BE SEPARATE ENDORSEMENTS:

- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards and 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 named 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 5 - 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 occurring in, upon or about Bidwell Park, and arising from my use of the park 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", 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.

X [Signature]
Signature of Applicant

X 10/20/14
Date

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

City of Chico - Park Division
411 Main St., 2nd Floor
Chico, CA 95928

FAX 530-895-4899 or email to Parkinfo@chicoca.gov

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

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

SECTION 6 – GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION

I certify that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend that this permit be:

- Approved.
- Approved subject to listed additional condition(s) _____
- Denied by the General Services Director. Reason: _____
- Application fee waived (12R.08.100 CMC). Reason: _____
- Reservation fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- Vendor fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- Insurance fee waived (12R.08.240 CMC). Reason: _____
- Damage deposit fee waived (12R.08.260 CMC). Reason: _____
- Application approved by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Date: _____
- Application denied by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Reason: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Park and Natural Resources Manager

Date

EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by circling "Yes" or "No"

Is this an annual event? 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?	Yes	No
Will there be amplified sound/music at event? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc): _____	Yes	No
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: _____ until: _____ amps needed (15 or 100) _____ Note: 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.		
Will there be any entertainment apparatus? (Operator to provide proof of insurance) <input type="checkbox"/> Bounce house <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing wall <input type="checkbox"/> Ropes Course <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Name of Operator: _____	Yes	No
Will there be any vendors at this event? (No glass or alcohol permitted) If "yes" please note the number of vendors anticipated: _____ (submit a, separate, complete list) Does your event include food concession and/or preparation areas? If yes, please describe how food will be served and/or prepared: _____	Yes	No
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening? 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 8:30am. (Subject to approval by the General Services Department Director and/or Senior Park Ranger.) If "yes" please state which gate(s): _____ Time of closure from: _____ until: _____	Yes	No
Will there be early entrance into the Park for setup? If "yes" when will monitors be at their position(s)? Time from: _____ until: _____ Note: Gate Monitors are required at the entrances and exits for early Park entrance. An additional fee may be charged for early entrance	Yes	No
Will event require over night camping for security purposes? (authorized for a maximum of two people, 12R.04.340 CMC) If "yes" how many security personnel will be required?	Yes	No
Portable Restrooms: You are required to provide portable restroom for events with 200+ participants at your event, in the immediate area of the event site which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom Company _____ Phone Number _____ Location of portable restrooms _____ Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	No
Sanitation and Recycling: As an event organizer, you must properly dispose of waste and garbage throughout the term of your event and immediately upon conclusion of the event the area must be returned to a clean condition. <i>For events with 200+ participants, additional trash and recycling cans are required.</i> Number of Trash Cans _____ Number of Recycling Containers _____ Sanitation Company _____ Phone Number _____ Note: Sanitation containers shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	No
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners or decorations? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') If yes, please describe type and location: _____ Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to Park property.	Yes	No
Will water be needed during your event? Please provide your own hose and on/off switch. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area. Note: Please request a water coupler key for City Plaza, Children's Playground, and Cedar Grove.	Yes	No
Do you request irrigation to be turned off before and during your event?	Yes	No
CITY PLAZA ONLY: Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for unloading and loading <u>only</u> may be obtained from the City by calling (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks? If yes, a Vend, Peddle, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main St, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No
Will City street closure(s) be needed? A separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No

A manufacturer Pivot cycles will show up with a trailer full of bikes for people to ride. I imagine there will be no more than 10 people around at any given time. The floor plan for such an event will be just enough room to park the rig and put up a pop up tent. Event will be open to public with no charge and no sales done in the park.

CITY OF CHICO
FINANCE OFFICE / 879-7320

CITY OF CHICO GEN SVCS
411 MAIN ST
CHICO, CA 95927

10/20/2014 16:20:12
MID: 000000002184863 TID: 05792711

Name: MIKE PEEVY
ID:
Reference Date: 10/20/14

Receipt #: CR387214
Date: 10/20/14 Time: 16:30:03

CREDIT CARD
VISA SALE

CARD # XXXXXXXXXXXXX3281
INVOICE 0001
SEQ #: 0001
Batch #: 000049
CLERK 0001
Approval Code: 00402G
Entry Method: Swiped
Mode: Online
Tax Amount: \$0.00

SALE AMOUNT \$159.00

=====

002-000-42699	11/8 UPPER PARK	CC 3281		
	PARK-ADMN	Other Service Char	19.00	
900-000-42699	11/8 UPPER PARK	CC 3281		
	GENERAL LIAB INS R	Other Service Char	40.00	
920-000-21100	11/8 UPPER PARK	CC 3281		
	REVOLVING-ADMN	CUSTOMER DEPOSITS	100.00	

I agree to pay above total amount
according to card issuer agreement.
(Merchant agreement if Credit Voucher)

x 
MIKE PEEVY

MERCHANT COPY

Total Receipt Amount: 159.00

Prepared By: GFC

Batch Id: CRPK020A



BPPC Staff Report

Meeting Date: 10/27/2014

DATE: 10/13/14
 TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
 FROM: Theresa Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant
 SUBJECT: Permit for Under the Sun Events – Frost or Fog 5k, ¼ Marathon and 10 Mile Race in Middle and Upper Park 1/24/15

REPORT IN BRIEF:

Under the Sun Events requests a permit to host a race that starts in Middle Park and extends into Upper Park on Saturday, January 25, 2015. In addition to the 5k and ¼ marathon, the applicant has added a 10 mile race to the event.

Recommendation: *Conditional approval.*

Event Details

Date of Application	10/9/2014
Date and Time of Event	1/25/2015
Event Name	Frost or Fog 5k, ¼ Marathon and 10 Mile Race in Middle and Upper Park
Applicant Name	Nikki Stadler/Julie Healy
Location	Middle and Upper Bidwell Park
Description	Trail runs from 5-mile area all the way to B Trail on Upper Park Rd.
New Event?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Years? 11
# Participants	500
Reason for BPPC Consideration?	Not an intensive use area.
BPMMP Consideration	Running is a permissible use under the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP). The plan also notes that Upper Park is a protected area for non-intensive recreational uses and non-intensive wilderness compatible recreation shall be provided in Upper Park (O.Upper-2; I. Upper-1). The use of Upper Park trails for the race is considered an intensive use and requires BPPC approval.

Conditions

Staff recommends the following conditions:

1. Continued adherence to all park rules.
2. Close Upper Park gravel road to vehicle traffic during the event.
3. The applicant must provide sufficient monitoring to keep racers on the established route as well as direct traffic where the route crosses the road. Adequate free standing signage must also be in place in order to ensure racers follow the established routes and also to notify other park users of the event.
4. Much of the route along paths or trails that can accommodate use during more wet conditions (Middle Park trails south of Upper Park Rd to Five Mile Way). The applicant has agreed to move the route to paved paths and roads in the case of a wet weather closure of the trails. The revised course will be subject to Park Division approval.
5. The applicant will need to do a final inspection of the race courses at the conclusion of the event and remove all signs and course markings as well as pick up any associated trash.

Attachments: A. Application & Permit for Park Use

Distribution: Nikki Stadler/Julie Healy

S:_Old drive to be deleted July 2015\Admin\BPPC\BPPC_Templates\BPPC_Special Event_Template_14_0305.docx
10/17/2014



City of Chico

APPLICATION & PERMIT FOR PARK USE

Public Works Department - Park Division
1 Main St., 2nd Floor/P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420
(530) 896-7800 Fax: (530) 895-4899

Type of Event:	
PUBLIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION

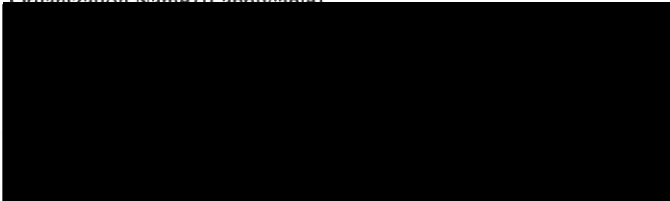
Must be 18 or older • No glass beverage containers • Application fee due upon submittal •

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

PLEASE PRINT:

Nikki Stadler / Julie Healey
Name of Applicant/Contact Person

Under the Sun Events
Organization Name (if applicable)



Contact Phone # _____ Alternate Phone # _____

Frost or Fog 10 mile, 1/4 marathon & 5k
Description of Event: (family BBQ, walk/run, describe below if needed) Run

Saturday, January 24, 2015
Day and Date of Event

From: 6 am To: 1 pm
Total Time Needed for Set-up, Event, and Clean-up

From: 7:45 To: 11:45 ~500

E-mail address:

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. Street closure(s) subject to approval.

AREA REQUESTED: (Please check if requested)

- Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Note: Special conditions apply for amplified sound (12R.08.263 CMC)
- Cedar Grove Picnic Area
 - Electricity (15 amp)
 - tables, restroom area (circle)
- Meadow
 - 100 amp Electrical Service
 - Water (public events only)
- Children's Playground
 - Electricity (15 amp)-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 - 3:30
 - Water (public events only) 100 amp Electrical Service
- City Plaza (Additional fees may apply)
 - Electricity (15 amp) 100 amp Electrical Service
 - Event Restrooms Water (public events only)
 - Fountain - On Fountain - Off
 - Meter Bags # _____ Sound Curtain

- Council Ring
 - Fire Permit
- Five Mile Picnic Area
- One Mile Picnic/Barbeque Area - Water available, no hose bib
- Oak Grove A Oak Grove B
 - Sycamore Way Parking Lot Closure-Public Events ONLY
 - Electricity (15 amp) parking area, restroom area (Pick up key)
- Band Stand (15 amp)
 - BBQ-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
- Depot Park
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Lower Bidwell Park (public events only): _____
- Upper Bidwell Park (public events only): _____
- Other (specify) (public events only): _____
- Early Entrance Needed (public events only) Yes No

Additional Description of the Event: Challenging trail runs from 5-mile area all the way to ~ B Trail on Upper Park Rd. (5k turns @ Red + Gun Club 14m turns @ Bear Hk)

FOR PARK RANGER ASSISTANCE during the event, CALL 530-897-4900 (Police Department Dispatch)

SECTION 2 - PERMIT FEES

10 mile turns @ B trail on Upper Park Rd

Call Park Office at 896-7800 for availability of park areas and fee schedule 80.020

- Application Fee \$ 19.00 (Non-Refundable)
- Reservation Fee \$ 180.- (\$11.00 minimum, please call for quote)
- Insurance Fee \$ 40.- (\$40.00 to process outside insurance)
- Vendor Fee # _____ \$ _____ (\$6.00 per vendor)
- Damage Deposit \$ 100.- (\$100.00 refundable following acceptable clean-up after event)
- Early Entrance Fee \$ 32.50 (\$32.50/hr, public events only)
- Additional Park Use Fees \$ _____ (see fee schedule)

Additional fees for City Plaza use:	
Event Restrooms _____ x (\$95.00) = \$ _____	#days
100 amp Electrical _____ x (\$30.00) = \$ _____	(electrician required) #days

Total Fee Required: \$ 371.50

Fee due upon submittal of application * Make Checks Payable to: City of Chico

of Chico Cash Receipt No. CR 386825 Payment Method: CC 0001 Date: 01/14 Received By: JR

Office Distribution:	Permit File (original) Park Field Supervisor	Park Ranger 1 Park Ranger 2	Senior Park Ranger Landscape Inspector.	Applicant Risk Management (e-mail)	Email (various) 920 Fund
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SECTION 3

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.
- BBQ's** Portable BBQ's may only be used next to existing BBQ's in Lower Bidwell Park and Five Mile Recreation Areas.
- 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 trails. Bicycle riding is not allowed in Caper Acres or on the Sycamore pool deck.
- Bounce Houses** Bounce houses and other similar play equipment are only permitted with a reservation and upon approval by the Park Division. The operators of this equipment must provide proof of insurance. Bounce houses are not allowed in Caper Acres.
- Campfires** No campfires allowed.
- Camping** No overnight camping allowed. Bidwell Park is a "day use park" only.
- Clean up** Permittee is required to completely clean up area at the conclusion of event. Additional garbage bags may be obtained from the General Services Department at time of reservation. (12R.04.180 CMC)
- 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 until 8:30 AM in Lower Park -- All other times **dogs must be on a leash**. 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 Game Regulations, <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/>, Freshwater Sport Fishing, [Alphabetical List of Waters with Special Fishing Regulations](#), (20) Big Chico Creek, **Horseshoe Lake:** Age 14 and over - license, catch and release; Under 14 - no license, catch and keep.
- Gate Closures** Upper Park gate at parking area E is closed on Sundays and Mondays and during wet periods. Gates can be closed for approved special events. See www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/gate_closing_hours.asp
- Glass** No glass beverage 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.
- Noise** No loud or unusual noises are allowed, including: radios and headsets that can be heard over 50' away. Music/Amplified Sound at One-Mile Recreation Area, please, face all speakers away from Woodland Ave.
- Park Closures** Lower Park is closed from 12:00 am (midnight) until 5:00 am every day, unless directly and actively proceeding to a destination outside of the park. Upper Park is closed between the hours of 11:00 pm and 60 minutes before sunrise every day, unless posted otherwise.
- Signs/Defacing** Defacing of trees, benches, tables, any park fixtures, open ground, or paved roads/paths with markings, staples, tacks, or signs is prohibited. No pinatas, or accessories shall be affixed to trees. Only barricades, cones, or self standing devices may be used for these purposes.
- Smoking** Smoking is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.
- Swimming** While in the 1-Mile swim area compliance with lifeguards is required for public safety. Pool is open and lifeguards are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- Vegetation** No taking, cutting or injury of any vegetation in the Park is allowed.
- Vehicle Traffic**
- 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.

***I have read and agree to conform to the above rules and conditions:**

Signed: _____



SECTION 4 – INSURANCE

(to be determined by Park Office)

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO:

Insurance Required [] Not Required

- (1) All Public Events per Title 12R.08.240, and/or
- 2) All Events Public or Private where:
 - (a) Amplified sound is used, or
 - (b) The number of people participating amount to 100 or more.

For Insurance questions for your event, please contact the Risk Management office at 530-879-7910, by fax at 530-895-4733, or email at riskmanagement@chicoca.gov

If insurance is required, Certificate of Insurance, meeting City standards must be received by: Jan 9, 2015

Organization Named on Certificate of Insurance _____

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, with policy endorsements as follows:

- (1) Identification of permit applicant, identification of event, date of event.

NOTE: NUMBERS 2 AND 3 MUST BE SEPARATE ENDORSEMENTS:

- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards and 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 named 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 5 - 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 occurring in, upon or about Bidwell Park, and arising from my use of the park 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", 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.

X [Signature]
Signature of Applicant

X 10/7/14
Date

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

City of Chico - Park Division
411 Main St., 2nd Floor
Chico, CA 95928

FAX 530-895-4899 or email to Parkinfo@chicoca.gov

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.
A copy of the approved application will be returned to you.

SECTION 6 – GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION

I certify that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend that this permit be:

- [] Approved.
- [] Approved subject to listed additional condition(s) _____

- [] Denied by the General Services Director. Reason: _____
- [] Application fee waived (12R.08.100 CMC). Reason: _____
- [] Reservation fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- [] Vendor fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- [] Insurance fee waived (12R.08.240 CMC). Reason: _____
- [] Damage deposit fee waived (12R.08.260 CMC). Reason: _____
- [] Application approved by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Date: _____
- [] Application denied by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Reason: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Park and Natural Resources Manager

Date

EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by circling "Yes" or "No"

Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event? <u>11</u>	Yes	No
Is there a patron admission, entry, or participant fee(s) required for your event?	Yes	No
Will there be amplified sound/music at event? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc): <u>PA system</u>	Yes	No
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: <u>7am</u> until: <u>NOON</u> amps needed (15 or 100) _____ <i>Note: 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.</i>		
Will there be any entertainment apparatus? (Operator to provide proof of insurance) [] Bounce house [] Climbing wall [] Ropes Course [] Other: _____ Name of Operator: _____	Yes	No
Will there be any vendors at this event? (No glass or alcohol permitted) If "yes" please note the number of vendors anticipated: <u>2</u> (submit a, separate, complete list) Does your event include food concession and/or preparation areas? If yes, please describe how food will be served and/or prepared: _____	Yes	No
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening? <i>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 8:30am.</i> (Subject to approval by the General Services Department Director and/or Senior Park Ranger.) If "yes" please state which gate(s): _____ Time of closure from: _____ until: _____	Yes	No
* Will there be early entrance into the Park for setup? If "yes" when will monitors be at their position(s)? Time from: <u>6am</u> until: <u>10am</u> <i>Note: Gate Monitors are required at the entrances and exits for early Park entrance. An additional fee may be charged for early entrance</i>	Yes	No
Will event require over night camping for security purposes? (authorized for a maximum of two people, 12R.04.340 CMC) If "yes" how many security personnel will be required?	Yes	No
Portable Restrooms: You are required to provide portable restroom for events with 200+ participants at your event, in the immediate area of the event site which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom Company <u>Johnny on the spot</u> Phone Number _____ Location of portable restrooms <u>Parking lot</u>	Yes	No
<i>Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.</i>		
Sanitation and Recycling: As an event organizer, you must properly dispose of waste and garbage throughout the term of your event and immediately upon conclusion of the event the area must be returned to a clean condition. <i>For events with 200+ participants, additional trash and recycling cans are required.</i> Number of Trash Cans <u>2</u> Number of Recycling Containers <u>2</u> Sanitation Company <u>Recology</u> Phone Number _____	Yes	No
<i>Note: Sanitation containers shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.</i>		
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners or decorations? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') If yes, please describe type and location: <u>mile markers, directional arrows + cones</u> <i>Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to Park property.</i>	Yes	No
Will water be needed during your event? Please provide your own hose and on/off switch. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area. <i>Note: Please request a water coupler key for City Plaza, Children's Playground, and Cedar Grove.</i>	Yes	No
Do you request irrigation to be turned off before and during your event?	Yes	No
CITY PLAZA ONLY: Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for unloading and loading <u>only</u> may be obtained from the City by calling (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks? If yes, a Vend, Peddle, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main St, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No
Will City street closure(s) be needed? A separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	No

* We will need the levee gate opened by 7:30 am. We also need access beyond the diversion dam for course set up (water station, mile markers).

Date: October 9, 2014

To: City of Chico

From: Nikki Stadler, Race Director

Re: Course Information for 11th Annual Frost or Fog 10-Mile, ¼ Marathon and 5K

Course Start and Finish Lines will be at the 5-Mile Recreation Area.

The run will begin at the west side of 5-Mile Recreation Area on the north side of the bridge that separates 5-Mile and Hooker Oak. The run will continue north on the levee and out the gate. Runners will turn right and stay on the trail that is parallel to Wildwood Avenue and Upper Park Rd. (The run will be on trail unless trails are closed due to weather. If weather is a factor, runners will run on the pavement.) Runners will cross Upper Park Rd at the first parking lot (North Rim Parking Lot) and continue on the trail that connects to the bike path. We will have volunteers directing runners where to go. Runners will use their own discretion for crossing the road when it is safe. We will not close the road for car traffic. Runners will continue on the bike path to the shooting range. 5K runners will turn around at the shooting range (we will have a water station located there) and 10-Mile and ¼ Marathon runners will continue on the road back to Bear Hole. Bear Hole is the ¼ Marathon turnaround point and second aid/water station. 10-Mile runners will continue on Upper Park Rd past Salmon Hole and turnaround approximately .15 miles after B Trail connects to Upper Park Rd. We would like to have another aid/water station at this point. Runners will continue back along the same course they came out on. All runners will continue back on the bike path and cross over at 5 Mile Way. All runners will continue on 5 Mile Way to the bridge at 5-Mile Recreation Area. The run will finish for all runners at the end of that bridge. We will have refreshments, music, etc. for all participants.

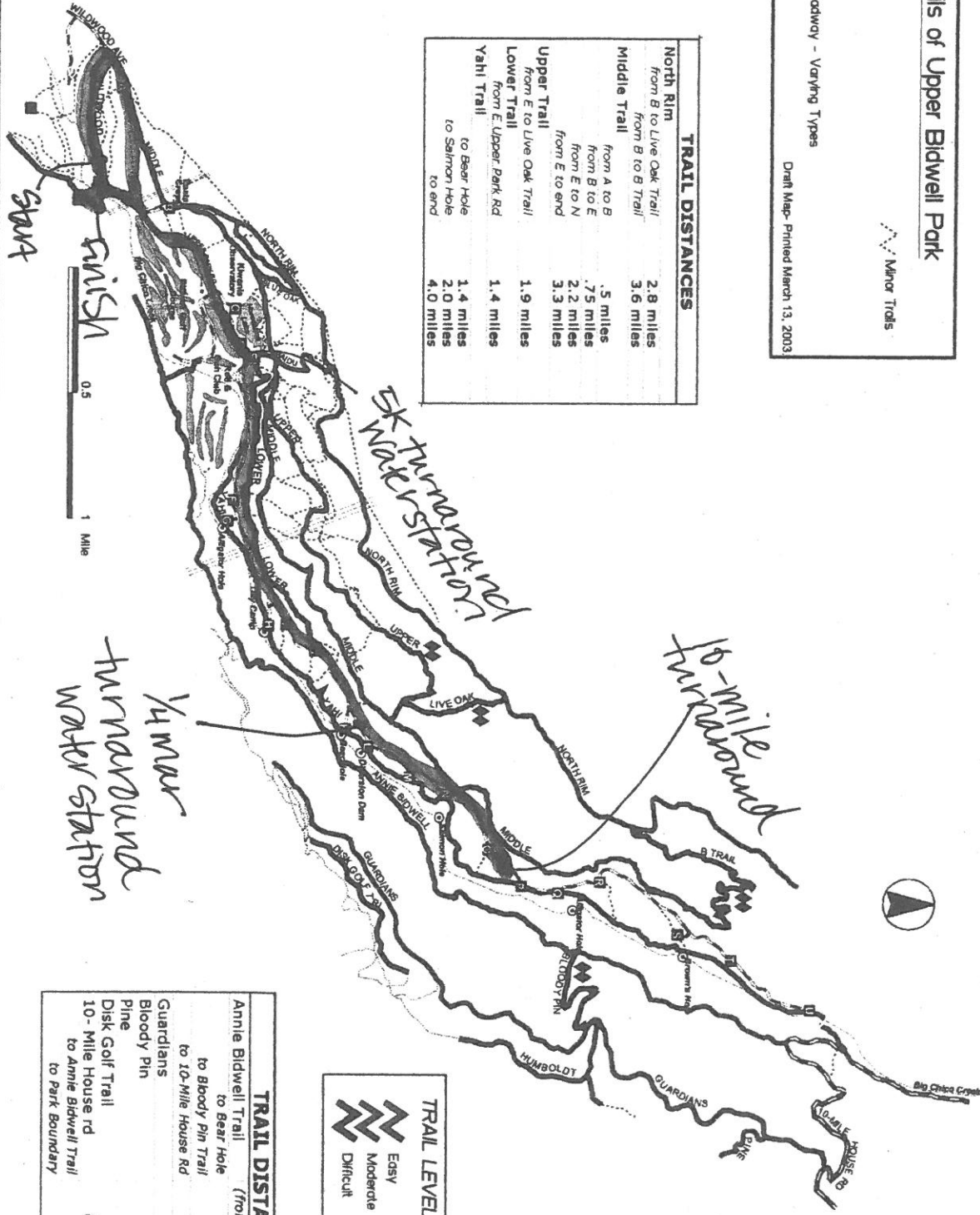
Trails of Upper Bidwell Park

-  Parking
-  Powerlines
-  Swimming
-  Improved Roadway - Varying Types

 Minor Trails

Draft Map- Printed March 13, 2003

TRAIL DISTANCES	
North Rim	
from B to Live Oak Trail	2.8 miles
from B to B Trail	3.6 miles
Middle Trail	
from A to B	.5 miles
from B to E	.75 miles
from E to N	2.2 miles
from E to end	3.3 miles
Upper Trail	
from E to Live Oak Trail	1.9 miles
Lower Trail	
from E, Upper Park Rd	1.4 miles
Yahi Trail	
to Bear Hole	1.4 miles
to Salmon Hole	2.0 miles
to end	4.0 miles



Start

0.5
1 Mile

1/4 max
turnaround
water station

Sk turnaround
water station

10-mile
turnaround

TRAIL DISTANCES	
Annie Bidwell Trail	(from old pistol range)
to Bear Hole	2.2 miles
to Bloody Pin Trail	3.7 miles
to 10-Mile House Rd	4.7 miles
Guardians	
Bloody Pin	3.4 miles
Pine	0.9 miles
Disk Golf Trail	0.3 miles
10-Mile House rd	0.8 miles
to Annie Bidwell Trail	1.2 miles
to Park Boundary	2.0 miles

TRAIL LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

-  Easy
-  Moderate
-  Difficult
-  Most Difficult



BPPC Staff Report

Meeting Date 10/27/14

DATE: 7/1/14
 TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
 FROM: Theresa Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant
 SUBJECT: Rim to Rim Trail Run (6/6/15)

REPORT IN BRIEF:

Applicant wishes to host Chico's first ultra-marathon event, featuring a 50 mile distance option. This race will take place on the trails of Middle and Upper Bidwell Park. The revised application avoids the south side of Upper Park except for a creek crossing and use of 10 Mile House Road. The start and finish of the race will be at 5 Mile Picnic Area.

Recommendation: Conditional approval.

Event Details

Date of Application	06/20/14
Date and Time of Event	06/06/15 4:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.
Event Name	Rim to Rim Ultras
Applicant Name	Jason Donnell
Description	Trail Running Race
New Event? / # years?	1 st year
# Participants	<200
Reason for BPPC Consideration?	This group is requesting the non-intensive use area of Middle and Upper Park

While running is a permissible use under the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan, there is the potential that a large event could become incompatible with other activities. The plan notes that Middle and Upper park are protected areas for primarily non-intensive recreational uses (O.Middle-1; O.Upper-2; O.Upper-4). We note pertinent Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) goals apply to this activity below:

O. RA-2. Manage recreational activities and facilities according to the allowed uses defined for each Zone: Lower, Middle and Upper Park. Base Park management decisions regarding recreation use intensity on the underlying natural resources within the relevant Park area. Running is considered a permissible non-intensive use in Upper Park (3.6.3.1).

O. RA-3. Manage recreational facilities/events to avoid or minimize conflict between different Park users.

O. RA-4. Balance recreation activities and facilities for the City of Chico among all parks, consistent with the type and intensity of uses allowed for each park. Bidwell Park, despite its substantial space, plays an important role in preserving natural and cultural resources in the City and region. It should not be considered available space for all recreation activities, especially those that may be placed in more appropriate parks.

O. RA-5. Achieve a balance between recreational uses of the Park and protection and conservation of natural ecosystems and cultural resources. Consider recreational uses that do not substantially detract from the natural resource functions and are consistent with the designated level of natural resource protection for the area.

O. PRU-2. Provide for compatible recreation use levels and patterns while preserving the natural character and ecological resources of the Park.

Goal Upper: Retain Upper Park's habitat value and wilderness character while providing managed access to nonintensive recreational and education opportunities.

O. Upper-2. Formalize the role of Upper Park as a protected area for non-intensive recreational uses.

O. Upper-7. Emphasize non-intensive wilderness compatible recreation in Upper Park.

Discussion

Running is an acceptable use in the Park, and usually considered non-intensive; however, events can change the character of the activity. Permitted uses have an obligation to ensure that the activity will not impact the resources of the Park. The nature of the event (race, with a relatively large number of people means potential impacts on the Park greater than individuals trail running in the Park.

Staff discussed with the applicant the difficulties with EMS access, extraction, and response on the Southern part of Upper Park. The trails on the south side of Upper Park are narrow, and provide few alternatives for other park users. The difficult section just before the golf course is very rugged (would be near the end of the race). Better vehicle access on the North and wider trails and alternative trail options make accommodating the event there easier to support. Most trail runs in Upper Park have only been on the North side.

The applicant was receptive to these changes and modified the route. Because of the distances and desire to not circle back on the same trails, the applicant does seek a creek crossing and access to the South side along 10 Mile House Road. Parks will require the applicant secure any permits from outside entities before the park permit is valid.

Because of a concerns and questions (mostly with the race route, safety, and logistics), Staff sent the applicant supplemental questions, and met with the applicant to discuss options and staff concerns over the event. Applicant was very receptive to changes and provided a revised route (Attachment D).

Because of the challenging logistics on putting on such an event and anticipating concerns of the BPPC, Staff requested that the applicant provide additional information: 1) Demonstrate experience with similar events; 2) Verification that applicant insurance or resources would pay for emergency response in case of accident or injury; 3) if the event has any component to park (donation from proceeds or from individuals, or provide volunteer efforts)? 4) Applicant should be prepared to provide an alternative northern route. As of the time of this report, we have not received a response, but anticipate that the applicant will be prepared with the information at the BPPC meeting.

Conditions

Staff recommends the following conditions:

1. Continued adherence to all park rules.
2. The City will require a higher limits for insurance coverage. Based on the current Muni Code language, the BPPC will need to approve those higher limits (Attachment C).
3. Cap participation below 200.
4. The applicant must provide sufficient monitoring to keep racers on the established route as well as direct traffic at key locations. Adequate signage must also be in place in order to ensure racers follow the established routes and also to notify other park users of the event.
5. The event will have no special vehicle access for set-up or aid stations.
6. The applicant must secure any permits for portions of the event outside of Bidwell Park.
7. Although a wet weather closure is very unlikely, the applicant should develop a wet weather alternative route subject to Park Division approval.
8. The applicant will need to do a final inspection of the race courses at the conclusion of the event and remove all signs and course markings as well as pick up any associated trash.
9. Arrange for EMS support during the race.
10. The applicant will need to do a final inspection of the race courses at the conclusion of the event and remove all signs and course markings as well as pick up any associated trash.

Attachments:

- A. Application and Permit for Park Use
- B. Correspondence
- C. Supplemental Questions
- D. Revised race route
- E. Insurance limits.

Distribution:

Jason Donnell

S:_Old drive to be deleted July 2015\Admin\BPPC\BPPC_Meetings\2014\14_1027\BPPC_Rim_to_Rim_15_0606.docx
10/22/2014



City of Chico

APPLICATION & PERMIT FOR PARK USE

Public Works Department - Park Division
411 Main St., 2nd Floor/P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420
(530) 896-7800 Fax: (530) 895-4899

Type of Event:	
PUBLIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Must be 18 or older • No glass beverage containers • Application fee due upon submittal •

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.

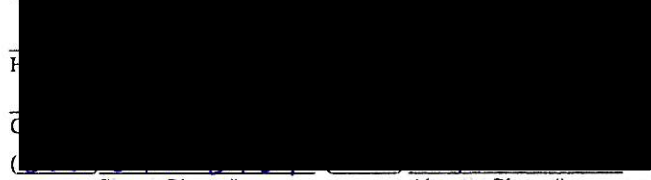
PLEASE PRINT:

Jason Donnell
Name of Applicant/Contact Person

Trail Running Race
Description of Event: (family BBQ, walk/run, describe below if needed)

Rim To Rim Ultras
Organization Name (if applicable)

Saturday, June 6, 2015
Day and Date of Event:



From: 4:00 AM To: 9:00 PM
Total Time Needed for Set-up, Event, and Clean-up

From: 6:00 AM To: 7:00 PM <200
Time of Event Only Number of People

E-mail address [REDACTED]

Contact Phone # Alternate Phone #

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. Street closure(s) subject to approval.

AREA REQUESTED: (Please check if requested)

- Bidwell Bowl Amphitheater
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Note: Special conditions apply for amplified sound (12R.08.263 CMC)
- Cedar Grove Picnic Area Meadow
 - Electricity (15 amp) 100 amp Electrical Service tables, restroom area (circle) Water (public events only)
- Children's Playground
 - Electricity (15 amp)-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 - 3:30
 - Water (public events only) 100 amp Electrical Service
- City Plaza (Additional fees may apply)
 - Electricity (15 amp) 100 amp Electrical Service
 - Event Restrooms Water (public events only)
 - Fountain - On Fountain - Off
 - Meter Bags # _____ Sound Curtain

- Council Ring
 - Fire Permit
- Five Mile Picnic Area
- One Mile Picnic/Barbeque Area - Water available, no hose bib
 - Oak Grove A Oak Grove B
 - Sycamore Way Parking Lot Closure-Public Events ONLY
 - Electricity (15 amp) parking area, restroom area (Pick up key)
- Band Stand (15 amp)
 - BBQ-Pick up key on: _____ Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
- Depot Park
 - Electricity (15 amp)
- Lower Bidwell Park (public events only): _____
- Upper Bidwell Park (public events only): See attached
- Other (specify) (public events only): _____
- Early Entrance Needed (public events only) Yes No

Additional Description of the Event: See attached supplemental information

FOR PARK RANGER ASSISTANCE during the event, CALL 530-897-4900 (Police Department Dispatch)

SECTION 2 - PERMIT FEES

Call Park Office at 896-7800 for availability of park areas and fee schedule 80.020

- Application Fee \$ 19.00 (Non-Refundable)
- Reservation Fee \$ 90.50 (\$11.00 minimum, please call for quote)
- Insurance Fee \$ 40.00 (\$40.00 to process outside insurance)
- Vendor Fee # 1 \$ 6.00 (\$6.00 per vendor)
- Damage Deposit \$ 100.00 (\$100.00 refundable following acceptable clean-up after event)
- Early Entrance Fee \$ 113.75 (\$32.50/hr, public events only)
- Additional Park Use Fees \$ _____ (see fee schedule)

Additional fees for City Plaza use:	
Event Restrooms _____ x (\$95.00) = \$ _____	#days
100 amp Electrical _____ x (\$30.00) = \$ _____	(electrician required) #days

Total Fee Required: \$ 369.25

Fee due upon submittal of application * Make Checks Payable to: City of Chico

City of Chico Cash Receipt No. CR 382009 Payment Method: CK 1008 Date: 6/20/14 Received By: TR

Office Distribution:	Permit File (original) Park Field Supervisor	Park Ranger 1 Park Ranger 2	Senior Park Ranger Landscape Inspector.	Applicant Risk Management (e-mail)	Email(various) 920 Fund
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Rim To Rim Trail Run - Supplemental Information

The proposed event, the **Rim To Rim Trail Run**, is a running race taking place on the trails of Upper Bidwell Park on June 6, 2015. The start and finish of the race will be the Five Mile Picnic Area. This will be Chico's first ultramarathon event, featuring a 50 mile distance option. For those not ready for the longer distance, runners will also be able to choose from a marathon (26.2 mile) or half marathon (13.1 mile) option. The number of participants across all distances will be limited to under 200.

The 50 mile race will begin at 6:00 am and the marathon at 7:00 am. The gate at Five Mile will need to be unlocked, as will the gate for the Park Road at Parking Area E. This will require early entrance to the park for event setup, so the permit application includes an Early Entrance Fee. Gate monitors will be stationed at the gates until their normally scheduled opening time of 7:30 am.

As a public event with paying participants, insurance will be required. The Insurance Fee is included and insurance will be provided in advance of the event.

The start and finish area will have a food truck on site to cater the event and provide food to participants and sell food to any spectators, and accordingly I've included a vendor fee. No other vendors are anticipated at the event.

The race course itself is divided into two half marathon segments: a North half and a South half, utilizing the trails on the north and south side of Big Chico Creek, respectively. I have attached a map highlighting the proposed route, which I will describe here.

North Side Trails

This part of the race begins at Five Mile and runners cross the bridge and turn left, running onto Wildwood trail out towards Wildwood Avenue, then turning right and taking the trail that parallels Wildwood Avenue as they head back towards Parking Area B. They will cross Wildwood Avenue, run parallel to Parking Area B and up onto North Rim Trail. Runners will continue on North Rim Trail, then turn and descend Maidu Trail to Aid Station N1 on Middle Trail at the junction close to Parking Area E. Runners will then climb back up Maidu Trail to North Rim Trail and continue until they reach B Trail. They will descend B Trail until it ends at the junction with Middle Trail. Runners will follow Middle Trail to the Upper Park Road access at Parking Area N. They will follow Upper Park Road to Aid Station N2 at Parking Area L. Runners will then backtrack along Upper Park Road to Parking Area N and rejoin Middle Trail. They will follow Middle Trail until it intersects Live Oak Trail, which they will follow until they reach Upper Trail. Runners will stay on Upper Trail until it ends at the trail junction with Middle Trail and Aid Station

N1. They will continue on Middle Trail to Parking Area B, then return to Five Mile via the same loop around the Wildwood Trail.

South Side Trails

This part of the race begins at Five Mile and runners follow the path out of the Picnic Area and onto Centennial Avenue. They leave the road at the gate, running towards the old pistol range. Runners follow the Annie Bidwell Trail all the way to 10-Mile House Road. They will climb 10-Mile House Road to Aid Station S1 at the gate at Highway 32. Runners will descend 10-Mile House Road to the intersection with Guardians Trail. They will follow Guardians Trail until it ends at the intersection with Annie Bidwell Trail. Runners will return to Five Mile, following Annie Bidwell Trail and Centennial Avenue.

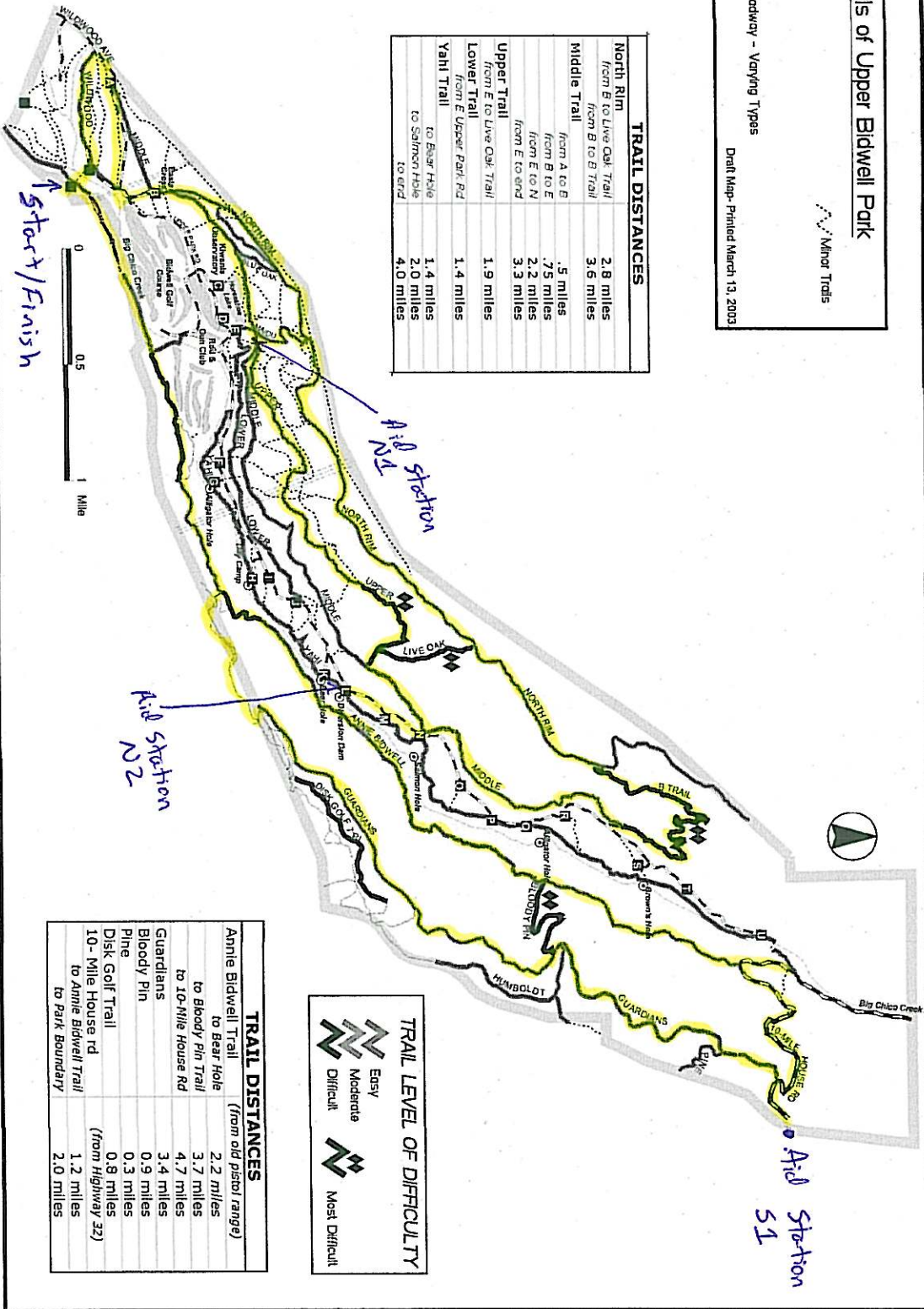
Trails of Upper Bidwell Park

- Parking
- Powerlines
- Swimming
- Improved Roadway - Varying Types

Whorl Trails

Draft Map-Printed March 13, 2003

TRAIL DISTANCES	
North Rim	2.8 miles
from E to Live Oak Trail	3.6 miles
from B to B Trail	
Middle Trail	.5 miles
from A to B	.75 miles
from B to E	2.2 miles
from E to N	3.3 miles
from E to end	
Upper Trail	1.9 miles
from E to Live Oak Trail	
Lower Trail	1.4 miles
from E Upper Park Rd	
Yahi Trail	1.4 miles
to Bear Hole	2.0 miles
to Salmon Hole	4.0 miles
to end	



TRAIL DISTANCES	
Annie Bidwell Trail	(from old pistol range)
to Bear Hole	2.2 miles
to Bloody Pin Trail	3.7 miles
to 10-Mile House Rd	4.7 miles
Guardians	3.4 miles
Bloody Pin	0.9 miles
Pine	0.3 miles
Disk Golf Trail	0.8 miles
10-Mile House rd	(from Highway 32)
to Annie Bidwell Trail	1.2 miles
to Park Boundary	2.0 miles

TRAIL LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

- Easy
- Moderate
- Difficult
- Most Difficult

SECTION 3

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.
BBQ's	Portable BBQ's may only be used next to existing BBQ's in Lower Bidwell Park and Five Mile Recreation Areas.
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 trails. Bicycle riding is not allowed in Caper Acres or on the Sycamore pool deck.
Bounce Houses	Bounce houses and other similar play equipment are only permitted with a reservation and upon approval by the Park Division. The operators of this equipment must provide proof of insurance. Bounce houses are not allowed in Caper Acres.
Campfires	No campfires allowed.
Camping	No overnight camping allowed. Bidwell Park is a "day use park" only.
Clean up	Permittee is required to completely clean up area at the conclusion of event. Additional garbage bags may be obtained from the General Services Department at time of reservation. (12R.04.180 CMC)
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 until 8:30 AM in Lower Park -- All other times dogs must be on a leash . 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 Game Regulations, http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/ , Freshwater Sport Fishing, Alphabetical List of Waters with Special Fishing Regulations, (20) Big Chico Creek. Horseshoe Lake: <u>Age 14 and over</u> - license, catch and release; <u>Under 14</u> - no license, catch and keep.
Gate Closures	Upper Park gate at parking area E is closed on Sundays and Mondays and during wet periods. Gates can be closed for approved special events. See www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/gate_closing_hours.asp
Glass	No glass beverage 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.
Noise	No loud or unusual noises are allowed, including: radios and headsets that can be heard over 50' away. Music/Amplified Sound at One-Mile Recreation Area, please, face all speakers away from Woodland Ave.
Park Closures	Lower Park is closed from 12:00 am (midnight) until 5:00 am every day, unless directly and actively proceeding to a destination outside of the park. Upper Park is closed between the hours of 11:00 pm and 60 minutes before sunrise every day, unless posted otherwise.
Signs/Defacing	Defacing of trees, benches, tables, any park fixtures, open ground, or paved roads/paths with markings, staples, tacks, or signs is prohibited. No pinatas, or accessories shall be affixed to trees. Only barricades, cones, or self standing devices may be used for these purposes.
Smoking	Smoking is not permitted in any City Park or Playground.
Swimming	While in the 1-Mile swim area compliance with lifeguards is required for public safety. Pool is open and lifeguards are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
Vegetation	No taking, cutting or injury of any vegetation in the Park is allowed.
Vehicle Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.

***I have read and agree to conform to the above rules and conditions:**

Signed: _____



EVENT INFORMATION

Please answer the following questions by circling "Yes" or "No"

Is this an annual event? How many years have you been holding this event? _____	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Is there a patron admission, entry, or participant fee(s) required for your event?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will there be amplified sound/music at event? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') Specify type (microphone, band, radio, PA system etc): _____	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
When will amplified sound/music be heard? Time from: _____ until: _____ amps needed (15 or 100) _____ Note: 100 amp electrical service requires a certified electrician to operate.		
Will there be any entertainment apparatus? (Operator to provide proof of insurance) [] Bounce house [] Climbing wall [] Ropes Course [] Other: _____ Name of Operator: _____	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will there be any vendors at this event? (No glass or alcohol permitted) If "yes" please note the number of vendors anticipated: <u>1</u> (submit a, separate, complete list) Does your event include food concession and/or preparation areas? If yes, please describe how food will be served and/or prepared: <u>Food truck that is already licensed to prepare/serve food</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will event require that any part of the Park remain closed beyond the normal time of opening? 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 8:30am. (Subject to approval by the General Services Department Director and/or Senior Park Ranger.) If "yes" please state which gate(s): _____ Time of closure from: _____ until: _____	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will there be early entrance into the Park for setup? If "yes" when will monitors be at their position(s)? Time from: _____ until: _____ Note: Gate Monitors are required at the entrances and exits for early Park entrance. An additional fee may be charged for early entrance	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will event require over night camping for security purposes? (authorized for a maximum of two people, 12R.04.340 CMC) If "yes" how many security personnel will be required?	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Portable Restrooms: You are required to provide portable restroom for events with 200+ participants at your event, in the immediate area of the event site which will be available to the public during your event. Restroom Company _____ Phone Number _____ Location of portable restrooms _____ Note: Restrooms shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Sanitation and Recycling: As an event organizer, you must properly dispose of waste and garbage throughout the term of your event and immediately upon conclusion of the event the area must be returned to a clean condition. <i>For events with 200+ participants, additional trash and recycling cans are required.</i> Number of Trash Cans _____ Number of Recycling Containers _____ Sanitation Company _____ Phone Number _____ Note: Sanitation containers shall be removed within 24 hrs after conclusion of event.	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will your event include the use of any signs, banners or decorations? (Please see 'Conditions For Park Use') If yes, please describe type and location: <u>Start/Finish line banner at Five Mile Picnic Area</u> Note: All signs and banners shall be free standing and not affixed to Park property.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will water be needed during your event? Please provide your own hose and on/off switch. No hose bib is available at One Mile Recreation Area. Note: Please request a water coupler key for City Plaza, Children's Playground, and Cedar Grove.	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Do you request irrigation to be turned off before and during your event?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
CITY PLAZA ONLY: Vehicles are not allowed in City Plaza. Loading and unloading must occur from the streets. Meter bags for unloading and loading <u>only</u> may be obtained from the City by calling (530) 896-7800.		
Will vendors be placed on the perimeter sidewalks? If yes, a Vend, Peddle, Hawk permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main St, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Will City street closure(s) be needed? A separate permit must be obtained from the Engineering Division at 411 Main Street, Chico, (530) 879-6900.	Yes	<input type="radio"/> No

SECTION 4 – INSURANCE

(to be determined by Park Office)

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO:

Insurance Required Not Required

- (1) All Public Events per Title 12R.08.240, and/or
- (2) All Events Public or Private where:
 - (a) Amplified sound is used, or (b) The number of people participating amount to 100 or more.

For Insurance questions for your event, please contact the Risk Management office at 530-879-7910, by fax at 530-895-4733, or email at riskmanagement@chicoca.gov

If insurance is required, Certificate of Insurance, meeting City standards must be received by: _____

Organization Named on Certificate of Insurance _____

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, with policy endorsements as follows:

- (1) Identification of permit applicant, identification of event, date of event.

NOTE: NUMBERS 2 AND 3 MUST BE SEPARATE ENDORSEMENTS:


- (2) The City of Chico, its officers, boards and 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 named 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 5 - 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 occurring in, upon or about Bidwell Park, and arising from my use of the park 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", 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.

X 
Signature of Applicant

X 18 June 2014
Date

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

City of Chico - Park Division
411 Main St., 2nd Floor
Chico, CA 95928

FAX 530-895-4899 or email to Parkinfo@chicoca.gov

THIS RESERVATION IS NOT VALID UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PARK DIVISION.
A copy of the approved application will be returned to you.

SECTION 6 – GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION

I certify that I have carefully reviewed this application pursuant to Title 12 and 12R of the Chico Municipal Code and hereby recommend that this permit be:

- Approved.
- Approved subject to listed additional condition(s) _____

- Denied by the General Services Director. Reason: _____
- Application fee waived (12R.08.100 CMC). Reason: _____
- Reservation fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- Vendor fee waived (12R.08.250 CMC). Reason: _____
- Insurance fee waived (12R.08.240 CMC). Reason: _____
- Damage deposit fee waived (12R.08.260 CMC). Reason: _____
- Application approved by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Date: _____
- Application denied by the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission. Reason: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Park and Natural Resources Manager

Date



DATE: 9/22/14
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
SUBJECT: Appeal for 2780 Camden Court

Report in Brief

The BPPC will consider the appeal of a denied permit to remove a City of Chico street tree at 2780 Camden Court. Landowner wished to remove and replace tree at own expense. Chief complaints relate to nuisance from bugs and surface roots. Staff denied the application as the Trident maple is in excellent condition and contributes to the Urban Forest.

Recommendation: Deny the appeal and permit (retain tree).

Background:

Pursuant to Section 14.40.120 of Chapter 14.40-Street Trees of the Chico Municipal Code (CMC), no tree located in the City's right-of-way or public planting area shall be removed without a permit or permission by the City and only if the tree is dead, dying, diseased, or hazardous.

On 9/5/14, staff received a tree removal permit application on behalf of Denise Walsh to remove a trident maple (*Acer buergerianum*) tree located at 2780 Camden Court. The reason for the request is noted as:

“Exposed Roots, Nuisance tree full of bugs. Owner planted now wants to remove and plant new tree.”

On 9/9/14, Staff denied the permit due to the excellent condition of the tree, and because the tree is not hazardous and contributes environmental and aesthetic value to the community and urban forest. Tree information is provided below. On 9/19/14, the City received a letter appealing the decision to the BPPC.

Article V. of CMC Chapter 14.40 provides an appeal process for an applicant that has been denied a permit by the Director to appeal the decision to the BPPC and the applicant has requested an appeal.

A copy of Ms. Walsh's letter, permit application, and denial are attached for the Commission's information (Exhibit "A").

Discussion:

The BPPC may choose to deny the permit and appeal (retain the tree) or uphold the permit and appeal (allow for the landowner to remove and replace the tree at landowner expense).

One of the principal complaints of the applicant were the presence of bugs. Although we did not observe any at the site, Staff believes that the culprits are likely boxelder bug (*Boisea trivittata*), a true bug that feeds nearly exclusively on the seeds of acer species. They are not considered agricultural pests and do not cause significant damage to adult trees. Boxelder bugs may congregate in large numbers during the year, posing a nuisance.

Pesticides may be used, but cultural practices (removing seed pods from the ground) and physical measures (washing away the insects, and using soapy water on surfaces, use of diatomaceous earth, caulk, etc.) may be effective in reducing the numbers and impacts. Some of these methods may be relatively easy and effective in reducing the aggregation of insects.

Trident maples are not known for large surface roots. Staff did not note any sidewalk impacts from the tree.

The tree is healthy, vigorous, with adequate structure, and one of the more healthy trees on that street.

Therefore, Staff cannot support the removal of the tree and recommends that the BPPC upholds the denial of the permit.

Tree Details from Database

Tree Service and Request History

Trees 25756



Common Name Maple, Trident
Position F:1
Addr 2780 CAMDEN CT
Theme Desc Street
Work Zone 7
Maint Type Thin
Maint Year 2
Latest Observation 12/10/2008
Diameter 9.00
Height 20.00
Vigor Fair
Struct Minor defects

Point Properties

Lat 39.7582437042
Lon -121.869452254

Trees Activity Tracking



Work Requests 0 open
Activity 0 attached

- See Attached History.
- See map
- Details or additional information No service requests for this location.

Observations

Photographs? Yes (attach). No.

Observations: This trident maple is healthy and vigorous



Photographs



Google Earth Street View image (2/2012)

Attachments:

- A. Permit denial, application, and appeal letter.

S:_Old drive to be deleted July 2015\Admin\General\PERMITS\Tree_Permits\2014\Pending\2780 Camden Ct\BPPC_2780_Camden_Ct_appeal_14_0923.docx
 10/20/2014

From:

01/14/2011 12:32

W449 P.003/003

CITY OF CHICO
PERMIT TO
PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES

Denise Walsh
TO: [Redacted]
Chico, CA

DATE: 9/9/14

Your application requesting permission to plant, remove, alter, or disturb public trees
at (location of tree) 2780 Camden Ct.

has been:

- Approved subject to the condition(s) listed below.
- Grind out the stump and replace grindings with vira loam soil.
- Replant a new 15-gallon tree according to City Standards.
- Pruning to be in accordance with ANSI Standards.

- Denied for the reason(s) listed below. Trident maple
- Tree is not dead, dying, or dangerous.

Appeal Procedure: Should you disagree with this and wish to appeal this decision, you must submit a written letter addressed to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission within 15 days of the receipt of this notice of denial. Any appeal submitted will be placed on the next regular meeting of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (last Monday of each month).

If the above condition(s) is/are agreeable to you, please sign both copies and return them to the Park Department at the address listed above. A copy, signed by a representative of the City, will be returned to you and will be your permit to perform the authorized work.

I hereby acknowledge that I both understand and agree to comply with the conditions of the permit as listed above.

(Date)
9-9-14
(Date)

Signature of property owner or representative:
Paul Bettel
Urban Forester or authorized City Representative

Distribution: (When fully executed)

GSD CDD BO ADPW-ENGR PL DIR UF

CITY OF CHICO

APPLICATION REQUESTING PERMISSION TO PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES

Property Owner: Denise Walsh Representative: NORTH VALLEY TREE SERVICE
 Owner's Name: _____ Representative's Name: TOM BETTENCOURT
 Owner's Address: [REDACTED] CT Representative's Address: 3882 ESPLANADE
 Owner's Phone Number: [REDACTED] Representative's Phone Number: 530-893-9649

REQUEST TO: _____ Plant Remove _____ Alter _____ Disturb _____

Number of tree(s): 1

Location of tree(s): 2780 Camden CT
(Address)

Diameter of tree(s): 15" Species of tree(s): Maple

Reason for request: (Enclose a map showing the exact location of the tree(s) and any proposed improvements along with any other documents which will help explain your request)

Exposed roots, Nuisance tree full of bugs. Owner planted now wants to remove and plant new tree.

ONLY QUALIFIED TREE SERVICES MAY PERFORM WORK ON CITY TREES

Tree Service Performing Work: NORTH VALLEY TREE SERVICE # 530-893-9649

Chico Business License #: 2732 California Contractor's License #: 1064421

Certified Arborist #: 2123A Attach Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance

9-5-14 [Signature]

RECEIVED

SEP 19 2014

CITY OF CHICO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION

Denise Walsh

[REDACTED]
Chico, CA 95973

September 18, 2014

City of Chico
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927

To whom it may concern,

This letter is in regards to a permit submitted to remove a tree in front of my home.

I believe I planted that tree before we were incorporated into the city. My neighbors have planted their trees as well. I had no idea this tree would be a home to the Boxwood Elder Beetle. I have to pay a couple times a year a couple hundred dollars to have the tree sprayed for these beetles. The beetles are not going to go away.

The mailman has knocked on the door to complain about the beetles. I am planning to replace the tree if you could suggest a tree that would not have pests and not too big and messy.

North Valley Tree Service is contracted to remove the tree and stump.

Sincerely,
Denise Walsh



BPPC Staff Report

Meeting Date 10/27/14

DATE: 10/14/14
 TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
 FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
 SUBJECT: Permit to prune a tree at 520 W. 12 Avenue

Report in Brief

On September 22, 2014 Staff received an application to prune (crown reduction) of a City of Chico street tree (a 20" DBH English Walnut (*Juglans regia*) by 25%. On September 24, 2014, Staff rejected the application as the extensive pruning does not meet City (ANSI/ISA) standards. The applicant wrote an appeal letter (received on September 29, 2014) citing concerns of the walnuts and tripping hazard, to the BPPC. Staff would consider a 10% crown reduction using ANSI standards.

Recommendation: *Deny the appeal and permit.*

Background:

Pursuant to Section 14.40.120 of Chapter 14.40-Street Trees of the Chico Municipal Code (CMC), no tree located in the City's right-of-way or public planting area shall be removed without a permit or permission by the City and only if the tree is dead, dying, diseased, or hazardous.

On 9/2/14, staff received a tree permit application from Merle Winter to remove a 20" DBH English Walnut (*Juglans regia*). The applicant cited past dropped limbs, walnuts, and concern over solar panel production. Staff reviewed the request and found the tree in good vigor and was not dead, dying, or dangerous. However, staff did suggest to the applicant that pruning would be acceptable.

On 9/22/14, the applicant refiled the permit requesting to prune the tree, requested that up to 25% of the crown would be reduced and stated that the tree would be topped. The applicant cited long time desire to remove the tree due to a past large limb drop, tripping hazards from the walnuts, and shade blocking the solar panels that may be installed in the future.

On 9/24/14, Staff denied the permit as the pruning does not meet ANSI A300 standards. Staff concluded that the 25% reduction in this case would irreparably harm the long-term health of the tree (a 10% crown reduction would be appropriate). This was not acceptable to the applicant and they wished to appeal (appeals on tree pruning permits are rarely reviewed by the BPPC).

Article V. of CMC Chapter 14.40 provides an appeal process for an applicant that has been denied a permit by the Director to appeal the decision to the BPPC and the applicant has requested an appeal.

A copy of Mr. Winter's letter, permit application, and denial are attached for the Commission's information (Exhibit "A").

Discussion:

City specifications require that contractors follow ISA/ANSI standards. ANSI A300 (Part 1)-2008 6.1.4 states:

"Not more than 25 percent of the foliage should be removed within a annual growing season. The percentage and distribution of foliage to be removed shall be adjusted according to the plant's species, age, health, and site."

Staff assesses the 25% reduction as too severe (10% is acceptable) in this case and cannot support the applicant's request.

The BPPC may choose to deny the permit and appeal (status quo) or uphold the permit and appeal (allow for the landowner to remove 25% of the crown).

Staff recommends that the BPPC upholds the denial of the permit request. If rejected, the applicant may revise the application for a 10% crown reduction.

Location: Address: 520 W. 12th Ave **City Tree?** Yes. No. Explain:

Tree Details from Database

Tree Service and Request History

Trees 46846

Common Name: Walnut, English
 Position: F:2
 Addr: 520 W 12th Ave
 Theme Desc: Street
 Work Zone: 5
 Maint Type: Elevate
 Maint Year: 9
 Latest Observation: 08/19/2008
 Diameter: 18.00
 Height: 40.00
 Vigor: Good
 Struct: Dead Limbs 2"-4" diameter
 Notes: [1 attached](#)

Point Properties

Lat: 39.7475926079
 Lon: -121.861680339

Trees Activity Tracking

Work Requests: 0 open
 Activity: 0 attached

- See Attached History.
- See map
- Details or additional information

Observations

Photographs? Yes (attach). No.

Physical evidence?

Yes. No. Explain: [Click here.](#)

Weather: N/A

Tree Conditions: Good

Observations: Tree is healthy with little evidence of decay or problems. Staff is curious about the true impacts of the tree on the proposed solar installation. Google Earth photo: The branch shadows of the tree in question touch the corner of the house in the photograph. Shade in the photo come from the neighbors tree. The photograph is taken during February. During the summer the angle of the sun will be steeper.

Photograph(s)



Google Earth Street view image (2/2012).

Attachments:

- A. Application for removal (9/2/14)
- B. Application for to alter (9/22/14)
- C. Appeal from Merle F. and Phoebe Winter (9/29/14).

S:_Old drive to be deleted July
 2015\Admin\General\PERMITS\Tree_Permits\2014\Pending\APPEALS\520_W_12th_Ave\BPPC_TP_520_W_12th_Ave_14_1013.docx
 10/21/2014



GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

965 Fir Street
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800 or (530) 894-4200
(530) 895-4731 FAX
http://www.ci.chico.ca.us

CITY OF CHICO

APPLICATION REQUESTING PERMISSION TO PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES

Property Owner: Merle Winter Representative:
Owner's Address: 520 12th Ave Representative's Address:
Owner's Phone Number: 343-6632 Representative's Phone Number:
Contact Email:

REQUEST TO: Plant [checked] Remove Alter Disturb

Number of tree(s): 1

Location of tree(s): [crossed out] 520 12th Ave / next to driveway
(Address)

Diameter of tree(s): 24"-30" Species of tree(s): English Walnut

Reason for request: (Enclose a map showing the exact location of the tree(s) and any proposed improvements along with any other documents which will help explain your request)

Tree has dropped limbs in the street and driveway. Walnuts are a nuisance to the street and driveway. Also, Homeowner is putting in solar panels.

ONLY QUALIFIED TREE SERVICES MAY PERFORM WORK ON CITY TREES

Tree Service Performing Work About Trees Phone # 343-4533
Chico Business License # 28976 California Contractor's License # 954861
Certified Arborist # WE-10386A Attach Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance

9-2-14 Merle J. Winter
Date Signature of Property Owner or Authorized Representative

895-4899



GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

965 Fir Street
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800 or (530) 894-4200
(530) 895-4731 FAX
http://www.ci.chico.ca.us

**PERMIT TO
PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES**

TO: Merle Winter
520 W 12th Ave
Chico, CA 95926

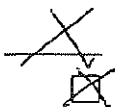
DATE:

Your application requesting permission to plant remove, alter or disturb public trees at

520 W. 12th Ave.

has been:

- Approved subject to the condition(s) listed below.
- Grind out the stump and replace grindings with vira loam soil.
- Replant a new 15-gallon tree according to City Standards.
- Pruning to be in accordance with ANSI Standards.



Denied for the reason(s) listed below.
Tree is not dead, dying, or dangerous.

Appeal Procedure: Should you disagree with this and wish to appeal this decision, you must submit a written letter addressed to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission within 15 days of the receipt of this notice of denial. Any appeal submitted will be placed on the next regular meeting of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (last Monday of each month).

If the above condition(s) is/are agreeable to you, please sign both pages and return them to the Street Tree Division at the address listed above. A copy, signed by a representative of the City, will be returned to you and will be your permit to perform the authorized work.

I hereby acknowledge that I both understand and agree to comply with the conditions of the permit as listed above.

(Date)
9-10-14

(Date)

Signature of property owner or representative
David B...

Urban Forest Manager or authorized City representative

Distribution: (When fully executed)
___ GSD ___ PW-ENGR ___ CD



GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

965 Fir Street
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800
Fax (530) 895-4731
http://www.ci.chico.ca.us

**APPLICATION REQUESTING PERMISSION
TO PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES**

Property Owner:

Merle Winter

Representative:

Owner's Name

520 W. 12th Ave

Representative's Name

Owner's Address

343-6632

Representative's Address

Owner's Phone Number

Representative's Phone Number

REQUEST TO:

Plant Remove Alter Disturb

Number of tree(s): 1

Location of tree(s): 520 W. 12th Ave
(Address)

Diameter of tree(s): Species of tree(s):

20"

English Walnut

Reason for request: (Enclose a map showing the exact location of the tree(s) and any proposed improvements along with any other documents which will help explain your request)

Walnut tree next to driveway and
Mailbox. Homeowner spoke with Mr.
Bettercourt, and said he recommended pruning.
Mr. Winter would like to have a crown
reduction pruning ~~done~~ by 25% done.

9/22/14
Date

[Signature]
Signature of Property Owner or Authorized Representative



GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

965 Fir Street
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800
Fax (530) 895-4731
<http://www.ci.chico.ca.us>

**PERMIT
TO
PLANT, REMOVE, ALTER OR DISTURB PUBLIC TREES**

TO: Merle Winter
520 W 12th Ave
Chico, Ca.

DATE: 9-24-14

Your application requesting permission to plant, remove, alter or disturb public trees has been:

_____ Approved subject to the condition(s) listed below.

 X Denied for the reason(s) listed below.

Appeal Procedure: Should you disagree with this and wish to appeal this decision, you must submit a written letter addressed to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission within 15 days of the receipt of this notice of denial. Any appeal submitted will be placed on the next regular meeting of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (last Monday of each month).

Condition(s) of approval/reason(s) for denial: 25% crown reduction is not an excepted pruning practice with ISA and ANSI standards. This type of pruning can cause permanent damage and reduce the life expectancy of the tree. Please follow the appeal procedure as an option.

If the above condition(s) is/are agreeable to you, please sign both copies and return them to the Park Department at the address listed above. A copy, signed by a representative of the City, will be returned to you and will be your permit to perform the authorized work.

I hereby acknowledge that I both understand and agree to comply with the conditions of the permit as listed above.

(Date) Signature of property owner or representative

9-24-14 *David Bettencourt*

(Date) Park Director or authorized City representative

Distribution: (When fully executed)

___ PkD ___ CDD ___ ADPW-ENGR ___ PL DIR ___ UF

Received

Merle F. and Phoebe Winter
520 West 12th Avenue
Chico, CA 95926
(530)343-6632
Email: tkfos@att.net

SEP 29 2014

Public Works Department

TO: Bidwell Park & Playground Commission

RE: Follow-up to request for tree removal

Date: September 29, 2014

We hereby formally request that you approve the removal of one old English walnut tree which we have recently learned is about a foot inside the right away in front of our home at 520 West 12 Avenue.

We have lived with this tree for over 25 years and have always planned to remove it due to a big limb dropping across our front drive. We had thought it our responsibility so paid to have the limb cleaned up.

It does not produce usable walnuts. The nuts actually produce a walking-tripping hazard for my handicapped wife.

We have, in order to play a part in the community sustainability efforts and to make major savings in our power costs, recently contracted to have solar panels installed on our south facing roof. The tree in question also shades a good portion of my roof. The solar power people have indicated that removal of the shade would greatly enhance the efficiency of our solar panels...thus improving our level of sustainability.

Must we wait for another of the big limbs to drop on the street possibly striking a passing vehicle or pedestrian? Or can we take a more far-sighted approach to removing this possible city liability?

We will be happy to pay all the costs for the removal. We will gladly plant a replacement tree on our property.

Respectfully submitted,



Merle F. Winter



Phoebe C. Winter



DATE: 10/20/14
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resource Manager
SUBJECT: Parks and Street Trees and Public Landscapes Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. Annie B's Community Fundraiser/Caper Acres – the North Valley Community Foundation announced that the Annie B's Community Drive raised \$1,570,363 during this year's drive, including a 7% matching grant given to each nonprofit or fund. The total results and breakdown for participants will be published in Upgraded Living in the November issue. While it is unofficial, it appears that the City of Chico | Parks Division fund did very well (\$8,241), nearly doubling last year's fund drive amount (\$4,930). The donations include a \$5,000 contribution to the Caper Acres efforts from the Chuck and Sharon Patterson Charitable Fund. Donors may now make donations year round thru the NVCF (<http://www.nvcf.org/index.php?q=donate&list=c17> and select Bidwell Park | Chico Parks Division).
- b. Highway 99 viaduct – CalTrans began work on some of the remedies and completed some key items such as repaving the bike patch, install overhead lights along new bike path, and rehabilitating the gravel path. As some of the work needed to be put out to bid (installation of culvert to connect Par Course).
- c. Park Services Coordinator – The position closed on September 30 with over 50 applicants. Human Resources has completed an initial screening and we hope to start interviews in the next couple of weeks.
- d. Tree Contracts – Staff anticipates that we can report on significant progress on two key pieces for the street trees program (a pruning and planting contract and the Urban Forest Manager functions) by the next meeting. Staff have received direction from the City Council to explore hiring those functions as a contract. Staff have been researching other Cities, and exploring options, legal issues, and scope of work regarding the UFM functions.
- e. Council Action- Staff will be presenting the following to Council in the next few weeks 1) Sycamore Pool repair supplemental funding; 2) Revision to the 12 Rs, 3) Caper Acres Renovation Plan, and 4) an Appeal of last month's Mission Santa Fe Tree permit.

2. Administrative and Visitor Services

- a. Park Event Intern – Parks recently hired a CSUC student to assist with Park Events and fundraisers. The intern will help plan for the 110th Bidwell Park Birthday Bash and regular park event permits.

3. Planning/Monitoring

- a. Caper Acres – The City Council will consider the Caper Acres Renovation Plan at the 11/4/14 meeting. Several months ago the CSUC Dept of Geography and Planning provided a presentation on the Caper Acres User Study. A final copy of that report is attached.

4. Maintenance Program

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 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. The service request tally for the month is 12 closed with 33 still in the system awaiting completion.

- a. Lower Park: Instillation of the new recycle cans is complete for Lower Park and one can shy of completion for Middle Park. Peterson Drive received some much needed pothole patching from the city pothole crew.
- b. Middle & Upper Park: The Five Mile well is back up and running after being lowered 40' and few minor plumbing repairs to infrastructure.
- c. Various Park Locations: Summer limb drop, illegal encampments and good old vandalism have kept staff somewhat busy throughout this month.

- d. Upcoming Projects: Install the new welcome signs at park and greenway entrances, work with Kiwanis club on building a new enclosure around the One Mile swings, possibly start work on Sycamore Pool repairs, the start of trail season with the conclusion of the Middle trail grant.

5. Ranger and Lifeguard Programs

- a. Annual BEC creek clean-up– Rangers posted illegal encampments before the clean-up before then and returned to camps the day of with PD and cleared the way. Rangers were able to assist with coordination during the clean-up that resulted in over 40,000 lbs. of material removed from Bidwell Park and Chico's waterways.
- b. Illegal Encampments– Rangers continue to work with the ACS crews to remove illegal encampments from the parks and green ways. Several service requests for the removal of camps were addressed and closed in September.
- c. Lifeguards – Off for the season.
- d. Significant Incidents – There has been a sharp increase in the number of felons rangers are contacting. Each ranger has had at least 2 contacts with subjects with felony warrants over the last month.

6. Natural Resource Management

- a. Prescribed burn – With the weather change and lessened fire danger, Staff is planning for pile burns in Middle Park in the next few months.
- b. Greenway invasive plant removal – Starting in early summer/last spring we began planning for invasive plant herbicide applications on Little Chico Creek and Lindo Channel (volunteer and other City work in those areas proceeded me, but we wanted to approach it in a more systematic way). Herbicide applications began about a month ago:
 - i. Targeted plants include arundo, ailanthus (tree of heaven), pistache, black locust, and other woody plants that pose a potential habitat and fire hazard. We worked only on City Property.
 - ii. Targeted areas on Lindo Channel concentrated near the bridges to reduce blocking the floodway, increase visibility for police and minimizing encampments, and ease of implementation (access to equipment, and from road--most bang for the buck). We took a different approach on Little Chico Creek working the area from Bruce Road down to the foot bridge past Forest.
 - iii. We inspected the initial work and were quite pleased with the care of the application (minimize drift to other species), already seeing some results (usually would expect evidence next spring), and the speed of the work met our expectations.
 - iv. After the inspection, I authorized additional work (on the species listed) on City property all the way to Highway 99 on Little Chico Creek (and along the bike path at Teichert Ponds, which will ease annual maintenance costs in that area). After Highway 99, we will spray arundo clumps on City property to Humboldt Park.

7. Outreach and Education

- a. CSUC, American Language and Culture Institute– Rangers presented information about responsible park use, safety and the ranger profession to approximately 50 international students.
- b. Bidwell Park Birthday Bash (9/13/14) – The City of Chico celebrated Bidwell Park's 109th anniversary and hosted its second annual Bidwell Park Birthday Bash! The event celebrated the revitalization of Caper Acres while providing a sense of community as well as raise needed funds for the Park. The Birthday Bash centered around the One Mile Recreation Area with Dunk Tanks, a watermelon eating contest, and other kid friendly games. The day finished up with Band Swap at City Plaza. The timing of the event was to draw attention to the Annie B's fundraising effort (see above) and direct donations to the Chico Park Division.
- c. Volunteers tabled at the Thursday and Saturday farmer markets during the month showing Milton display boards, answering questions and collecting donations.
- d. Thank you to our September 13, 2014 Bidwell Park Birthday Bash Sponsors:
 - i. The Bicycle Wheel
 - ii. CARD
 - iii. STOTT
 - iv. Law Office of Spencer Gysin
 - v. Band SWAP
 - vi. Costco
 - vii. The Dog House/One Mile Concession
 - viii. Peter Tichinin (Baywood Real Estate)

8. Street Trees and Landscapes

- a. Street Tree Monitoring – Staff completed sampling on 14 different sampling blocks to assess current status of street trees. That information will be presented at a later time.
- b. Sycamore Species– Amongst Street Trees the following varieties/species were noted: Yarwood- 742, London Plane- 1365, Eastern- 221, California- 41, Bloodgood- 368, Total Platanus Genus (sycamores all varieties)- 2737 this is about 11.7% of the inventoried street trees.
- c. Planting locations –
 - i. 620- stumps + 3784- plant sites = 4404 (no trees)
 - ii. All street tree sites= 36,590- 4404= 32,186 trees (87 % occupancy).
 - iii. We should point out that develop since the completion of the inventory, an estimated 1000 -2500 trees have been added to the City's street trees as part of private development.
- d. Projects Completed:
 - 55-Service Request- a detailed list is available.
 - Down Limbs and Hangers- 58 hours (54 locations).
 - Safety Meetings- 2 hours.
 - Prep Time and DOT Inspections- 41 hours.
 - Equipment Maintenance- 9 hours.
 - Traffic Safety Pruning- 39 hours (105 trees pruned).
 - Priority Removals- 13 hours (19 dead or dying trees removed).
 - Irrigation- 133 hours
 - Call Out cleanup- 2 hours (3 locations)
 - DCBA Elevating and Pruning- 30 hours (57 trees).
 - School Zones- 2 hours (2 trees pruned).
 - Park Pruning, Removals- 2 hours (2 trims).
 - Brush Chipping and Clean Up- 2 hours.
 - Assist DPW ROW- 2-hours.
 - Grates and Cages- 3-hours.
 - Unauthorized Camp Clean Up- 24-hours.
 - Petersen Tree Care- emergency work 26.5 hours. Couplet Project-17.5 hours.
- c. Tree Call Outs: There were 11 call outs for the month of September that required follow up clean up and inspection.
- e. Tree Permits:
 - i. Pruning- 1 approved
 - ii. Removal- 1 approved
 - iii. Removal- 1- denied

9. Volunteer and Donor Program

- a. Park Watch Celebration– 2014 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Park Watch volunteer program. Park Watchers gathered together for a potluck BBQ to celebrate.
- b. Joint Creek Cleanup Projects This fall, in an effort to empower neighbors to join together to clean up their neighborhood creek of weeds and garbage, the Mount Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and the Butte Environmental Council (BEC) are teaming up to host Block Parties with a Purpose. Once neighbors have gathered twenty volunteers, they fill out an on-line application and choose a block party date (10/29, 11/8, or 11/22). NPS and BEC match their efforts with \$1,500 in tools, dumpsters, equipment, food, expertise, and people power for the event. Outreach through local media, partner newsletters, and through direct communication with neighborhood groups and individuals. This project is generously supported by a Think Green grant from Waste Management.
- c. 38 Community Action Volunteers in Education (CAVE) students are continuing to work towards their 30 hours each goal for the semester. Task include removing litter, non-native plant species in Bidwell Park and City of Chico greenways between September 27th and December 7th. This year CAVE students are stepping up into leadership roles and will lead teams for Make a Difference Day, October 25th.

d. Volunteer Highlights.

- i. Fall restoration sessions are being offered at 5 Mile Recreation Area by Elaine Ellsmore.
 - ii. Friends of Bidwell Park held sessions at Lost Park to remove litter and clear sight lines to the creek.
 - iii. CNPS has continued its invasive plant removal project along the riparian area of the CSU Chico campus, which is under the management of the City of Chico and DWR.
 - iv. Friends of Bidwell Park (FOBP) has had several projects focused in Lower Park including: continuing removal of bladder senna for the 12th year, removing puncturevine, removing weeds and litter from Lost Park and cleaning up encampments. FOBP has also continued to monitor and eradicate yellow starthistle from about 30 Lower Park sites including the old walnut orchard. In addition, they've hosted monthly work sessions on the north side of Bidwell Bowl.
 - v. In partnership with the Butte County Resource Conservation District, FOBP recently pledged \$5,000 for a part-time SNAP Conservation Associate from November 2014 through September 2015. This Associate will recruit volunteers for park work, and plan and implement Bidwell Park vegetation management projects such as Spanish broom control in Upper Park and yellow starthistle eradication in Lower Park.
 - vi. A review of the effectiveness of last fall's Bidwell Park catalpa herbicide treatments (paid for by FOBP) has been done and FOBP will a follow up treatment project for this fall was planned.
- e. Make a Difference Day in Bidwell Park and Chico Greenways October 25 (9 am to 12 pm) – Staff is preparing for one of the biggest volunteer days in the City. The City is teaming up with the Mount Lassen Chapter-California Native Plant Society, Friends of Comanche Creek, Chico Creek Nature Center and Butte Environmental Council to remove non-native and invasion plant species from city owned properties (Comanche Creek, Nature Center, Little Chico Creek @ Boucher Street and One Mile). Volunteers will pull invasive and non-native weeds, remove litter, mulch and paint.
- f. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities –
- i. The next mega-weekend (4 volunteer work sessions in a weekend) will be held November 8-9.
 - ii. Big Chico Creek - October 18 (9 am to noon) and November 15 (9 am to noon) Invasive Plant Removal on CSU Chico Campus.
 - iii. Lost Park - October 19 (9 am to noon) , November 1 (1 to 4 pm), and November 15 (1 to 4 pm) Volunteer Work Session.
 - iv. Big Chico Creek west of CARD Center on Vallombrosa Ave.- October 24 (8 to 11 am) Invasive plant removal and trash pickup.
 - v. area recently annexed by the City of Chico - October 26 (9 am to noon) Trash pickup and invasive plant removal in an.
 - vi. Annie's Glen and Camellia Way - November 7 (8 to 11 am) Park Volunteer Work Session.
 - vii. Lindo Channel - November 8 (9 am to noon) Volunteer Work Session.
 - viii. Comanche Creek Greenway - November 9 (9 am to noon) and November 22 (9 am to noon) Workday. Janet Ellner and Liz Stuart (Friends of Comanche Creek Greenway) have continued their twice a month sessions removing blackberry and other invasive weed species and picking up litter.
 - ix. Little Chico Creek - November 14 (8 to 11 am) Invasive Plant Removal.
 - x. Bidwell Bowl - November 16 (9 am to noon) Invasive Plant Removal and Trash Pickup.

10. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous

- a. Workplan Review– At the December meeting staff will present a recap on progress on the workplan.
- b. BPPC Commissioner status – The following commissioners are up for reappointment in January 2015: Lisa Emmerich, Mark Herrera, Jim Moravec, and Richard Ober.

Photographs



Staff took these photos at the 99 viaduct. This is one of the areas that the City is working with CALTrans to fix before the Highway 99 project is completed.



Street Trees staff were an incredible help removing debris from Little Chico Creek during the annual creek clean up.



Park info table at Bash.



Park watchers enjoying the celebration



Ranger Eric congratulates Park Watcher James Smith on 15 years of service!



Dan getting dunked



The Bidwell Bash great egg race!



Ranger Shane cheers on contestants.

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Public Permits

Date	Location	Organization	Event	Participant #
09/06/2014	5 Mile	Under the Sun Events	Love On The Rocks 5k/10K Run	100
09/01/2014	1 Mile	Friends of The Arts	Chico Palio	1200
09/13/2014	City Plaza	City of Chico	Bandswap	200
09/13/2014	5 Mile & Upper Park	The Bidwell Bump	Mountain Bike Race	200
09/14/2014	Lower Park	Cycle for Sjogrens	Bicycle Ride	200
09/20/2014	City Plaza	CARD	Pastels On The Plaza	200
09/20/2014	1 Mile	Northern Valley Catholic Social Service	Family Fun Run/Walk	301
09/21/2014	Cedar Grove Meadow	Chico Earth Dance	Festival For Peace	200
09/21/2014	City Plaza	Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	Mexican Independence Celebration	500
09/27/2014	City Plaza	American Foundation for Suicide Prevention	Out of the Darkness	350

09/27/2014	1 Mile	Butte Humane Society	Bidwell Bark Fun Run & Festival	1501
09/28/2014	City Plaza	Women's Health Specialists	Health Faire	150
Totals				5102

Table 2. Monthly Private Permits

Type	# Permits	# Participants
Private	18	1340
Caper Acres	41	1095
Totals	59	2435

Table 3. Monthly Maintenance Hours.






























Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	2014 Trend
1. Safety	321	41.8%	128.9%	
2. Infrastructure Maintenance	142	18.4%	73.7%	
3. Vegetation Maintenance	143	18.6%	53.3%	
4. Admin Time/Other	162	21.1%	133.9%	
Monthly Totals	768	100%	92.4%	

Table 4. Ranger Report Monthly Incidents

09/03/2014	Upper Park	Veh Burg	Report Taken
09/07/2017	Upper Park	Veh Burg	Report Taken
09/08/2014	City Plaza	Possess Drug Paraphernalia	Arrest
09/09/2014	Depot Park	Warrant	Arrest
09/10/2014	Five Mile	Veh Burg	Report Taken
09/15/2014	City Plaza	Fight	UTL
09/16/2014	City Plaza	Warrant	Arrest
09/17/2014	Depot Park	Possession of Drugs	Arrest
09/17/2014	Upper Park	Veh Burg	Report Taken
09/18/2014	Children's Park	Fight	Dispersed
09/18/2014	City Plaza	Warrant	Arrest
09/19/2014	Children's Park	Drug Activity	Beat Info-No Response
09/22/2014	City Plaza	Illegal Weapon	Arrest
09/22/2014	City Plaza	Attempted Kidnapping	Arrest
09/25/2014	Annie's Glen	Assault with deadly weapon	Arrest
09/26/2014	Lower Park	Warrant	Arrest
09/27/2014	Lost Park	Warrant	Arrest
09/30/2014	Lower Park	Veh Burg	Report Taken

Table 5. Monthly Citations and Warnings**Ranger Report - Citations 2014**

Violation - Citations	Monthly			Annual			2014 Trend
	Total Citations	%	Rank	Total Citations	%	Rank	
Alcohol	5	14%	3	95	17%	2	
Animal Control Violations	3	9%	5	80	14%	3	
Bicycle Violation	1	3%	7	3	1%	10	
Glass	2	6%	6	30	5%	6	
Illegal Camping	11	31%	1	66	12%	4	
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	8	7	1%	8	
Littering	0	0%	8	2	0%	11	
Other Violations	0	0%	8	17	3%	7	
Parking Violations	9	26%	2	218	39%	1	
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	8	4	1%	9	
Smoking	4	11%	4	41	7%	5	
Totals	35	100%		563	100%		

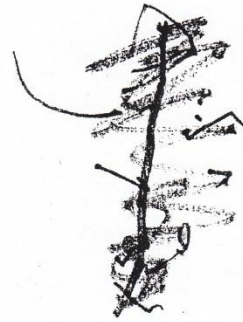
Violation - Warnings	Monthly			Annual			2014 Trend
	Total Warnings	%	Rank	Total Warnings	%	Rank	
Alcohol	11	8%	5	259	13%	4	
Animal Control Violations	25	18%	3	358	18%	3	
Bicycle Violation	12	9%	4	418	22%	1	
Glass	9	7%	6	133	7%	6	
Illegal Camping	40	29%	1	142	7%	5	
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	8	3	0%	11	
Littering	0	0%	8	46	2%	9	
Other Violations	0	0%	8	97	5%	7	
Parking Violations	4	3%	7	94	5%	8	
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	8	9	0%	10	
Smoking	37	27%	2	383	20%	2	
Totals	138	100%		1942	100%		

Attachments:

- A. CSUC. 2014. Caper Acres User Study: A Component of the Master Plan for Future Renovation. Department of Geography and Planning. Site Planning Class. Spring 2014.

S:\Admin\BPPC\BPPC_Meetings\2010\BPPC_2010_Templates\10_BPPC__meetings\BPPC_Manager_Report_template_10_1029.doc
10/21/2014

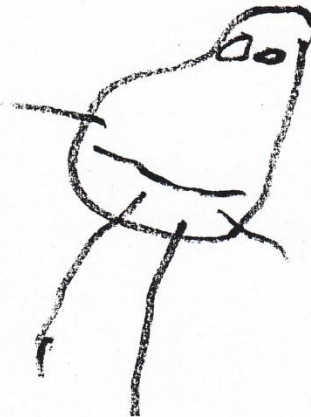
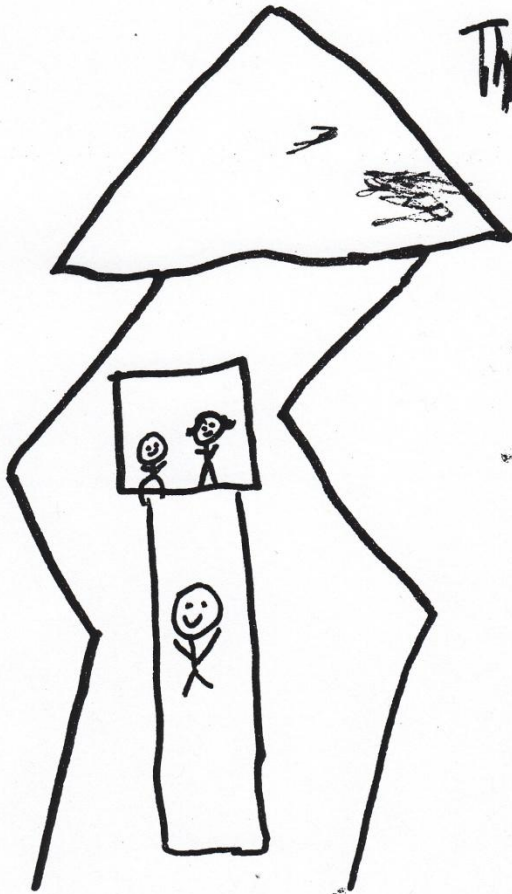
DEAR PARK PEOPLE
Please Fix the Crooked
House



and open up
THE HUMPTY DUMPTY
PARK.

THANK YOU

MARISA
DONNELLY



March 1995 letter to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission after winter storms destroyed the Crooked House and damaged other Caper Acres amenities

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INTRODUCTION

Acknowledgments

The instructor and students would like to recognize the following people for their assistance during the preparation of this study:

- Dr. Dean Fairbanks, Chair, Department of Geography and Planning, California State University, Chico (CSUC)
- Dan Efseaff, Park and Natural Resources Manager, City of Chico
- Amy Huberland, Assistant Coordinator, Northeast Information Center, CSUC
- Dr. John Mahoney, Biological Sciences/Department of Human Subjects in Research, CSUC
- Greg Melton, Landscape Architect, Melton Design Group
- Brad Pierce, GIS Analyst, City of Chico
- Marsha Osborne, Administrative Support Assistant, Graduate Studies, CSUC

The children's playground, Caper Acres, located in lovely Bidwell Park will forever be in my mind's file cabinet of wonderful memories. It is a special place that becomes almost magical when happy children with wide smiles and sounds of laughter skip and run through its castle-like entrance. As a young mother driving from Paradise to Chico with children excitedly chatting about what playground equipment they'll



run to first, I was grateful that the City of Chico provided such a wonderful activity center for youngsters. Thirty-five years later, I watched my grandson gliding down the slide of the Crooked House and carefully selecting the underground route he'd take in Bunker Mine. Déjà vu, yes. Grateful? You bet.

Choosing to work on a class project that would benefit the City of Chico Park Division and Bidwell Park and Playground Commission was an easy decision. Former Park Services Coordinator, Lise Smith-Peters, is a friend and I had worked as a Bidwell Park

volunteer with Lise. Additionally, as the Principal Planner and land use consultant for the City of Chico over a span of fifteen years, I was well-acquainted with the City's financial crisis and the loss of Bidwell Park staffing in addition to other deep cuts in the City's budget. When Lise suggested I help with a proposed Master Plan for Caper Acres, I knew I had my spring 2014 project focus for Geography 428, Site Planning.

Greg Melton, Landscape Architect, was selected by the City of Chico to prepare the Master Plan for Caper Acres. Ironically, Mr. Melton and I were both graduate students enrolled in CSUC Geography Department's Site Planning class in 1992. As discussed with Park and Natural Resources Manager, Dan Efseaff, the class researched the history of Caper Acres in addition to preparing and conducting a "User Study" both of which will be helpful for the preparation of the Caper Acres Master Plan.

Caper Acres Playground, has been, and will be for years to come *"...not just another typical small children's play area filled with equipment. Rather, it has been and can be an even more "magical" land for young children...away from other distractions and the outside world."* (Fred Brooks, EdD. Department of Recreation And Parks Administration 1976-2000; Professor and chairman of the Department of Recreation and Parks)

It's been a joy and a new memory working with my students on the user survey and report and to once again, spend time in the fantasyland of Caper Acres.

Pam Figge, Instructor



Nancy, Maryssa, Richard, Eric, Drew and Victoria
in the Caper Acres Birthday Ring # 1

Course Objectives and Project Approach

The Geography and Planning Department at CSUC offers Geography 428 - Site Planning as a "service learning" class during spring semesters. This course provides an opportunity for students to study, research and participate in the local land planning process. Students apply theoretical concepts and land use planning methodology to conduct field research and collect secondary data for a specific planning project.



The Site Planning class, under my direction, has produced studies and reports for local government and small communities within Butte County since 1995. Students working outside the academic setting are exposed to "real world" situations without the protective insulation one finds within the university walls. This valuable learning experience provides a link between the university resources and the surrounding community.

The project objectives were to:

- Conduct cultural and historical research of the Caper Acres Playground using both primary and secondary methods;
- Draft a "User Survey" and conduct a face-to-face questionnaire at the playground which would be beneficial in ascertaining user preferences and limited user characteristics;
- Analyze survey results and graphically present findings;
- Formulate recommendations based on survey findings and observations;
- Provide an overview of potential funding for the improvement and maintenance of Caper Acres;
- Prepare a hard-copy report and make a public presentation to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission.

Research and Survey Report Preparation Teams

Students conducted primary research initially as a class to observe existing conditions including both the natural and built environment. Secondary research was conducted to collect data about the cultural and historical background of Caper Acres by visiting Special Collections (CSUC Meriam Library), City of Chico Building and Park Division files (see appendices for the results of the City of Chico Building Division files research), Northeast Information Center (NEIC), Chico Museum, Chico Heritage Association, the Chico Enterprise Record files and a general Internet search.

All the students, working in pairs, administered a face-to-face questionnaire survey to adult users within the confines of the Caper Acres playground over a one-month period. See User Survey section of this report for information about the survey instrument and process.

Field Reconnaissance Data

Marshall McCrary
Maryssa Fraley

Historical and Cultural Background

Nancy Lor
Maryssa Fraley
Alexander Fearn

Mapping

Richard Baron
Drew Short

Existing Plan Policies and Funding

Alexander Fearn
Marshall McCrary

Survey Design, Keyboarding

Victoria Birdseye
Maryssa Fraley (editing)

Environmental Setting

Nancy Lor
Drew Short

PowerPoint

All Students

Sense of Place

Richard Baron

Graphic Work and Design

Marshall McCrary
Drew Short
Maryssa Fraley

Survey Tabulation

Nancy Lor
Maryssa Fraley



Alex Fearn, Nancy Lor, Drew Short, Maryssa Fraley, Humpty Dumpty, Richard Baron, Marshall McCrary and Victoria Birdseye

Limits of Study

The Study was defined by area, temporal and fiscal limits. The project targeted the children's playground - Caper Acres. Information regarding the use of other Lower Park facilities such as Sycamore Pool, Baseball fields, horseshoe pits was collected in the User Survey; however, the study area was specifically limited to Caper Acres.

The class provides the students with an opportunity to function as a professional consulting team. However, the learning curve must be established through lecture and instruction, leaving a narrow window for the actual project work. Within an academic setting and semester schedule, the ability to gather data, analyze it and produce a working draft for public view followed by a final draft is not possible. Therefore, our draft document is the final rendition. Typographical errors, human mistakes, and omissions are to be expected and of course, forgiven!

Fiscal limitation is a reality for both local government and university campuses. This study was prepared using the limited resources and facilities of CSUC and a special course fee paid by the students. We are grateful for the Department of Geography and Planning resources and the administrative support for the production of useful reports and studies to help Northern California small communities plan for their futures.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Melton Design Group has mapped the existing physical conditions of the Caper Acres playground and immediate surroundings. The class prepared for the User Study by becoming familiar with the playground, its facilities and amenities. The Existing Conditions section of this report includes: Sense of Place; Project Site Location and Description; Environmental Setting; Narrative Description of the Playground Features; City of Chico General Plan: Parks, Public Facilities and Services Element and the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan; Vandalism and Constraints and Opportunities.

Sense of Place

"Connection"

What is a Sense of Place? It is a combination of characteristics that makes a place special and unique.

"Sense of Place" involves the human experience in a landscape, the local knowledge and folklore.
(ArtofGeography.com)

"Sense of place" is a reflection of emotional security; it reinforces the sense of self, our connection with others before us, and timelessness, an appreciation of our surroundings." (Figge)



Children laughing! Children running! Parents watching their children, meeting other parents! That is what happens at a playground every day. Caper Acres is such a playground located in Lower Bidwell Park in Chico, hugged by trees and a natural environment. Caper Acres has a "sense of place" that is historical, nostalgic and

emotional. Caper Acres represents for many people a sense of continuity, connection and community.

When you accompany your child into Caper Acres, you are immediately immersed into a “Storybook” fantasyland complete with play areas such as “The Big Cheese”, the “Castle”, the “Crooked House”, the “Sea Serpent”, and the “Bird Cage.” There is plenty of room between areas to run and play the games that children love. Large Sycamore and Valley Oak trees provide shade and coolness during the hot summer days that typifies Chico.

Parents and grandparents, community members and visitors from neighboring towns connect with each other as they watch their kids playing. Caper Acres is a meeting place for children and adults alike. They can meet new friends, meet up with old friends, and share their memories, lives, and experiences. This special place creates a unique community where multiple generations of family and friends can share memories, experiences, and commonalities of their lives.

Caper Acres is within a natural environment filled with trees, wildlife, plants of all kinds and a running stream nearby that makes Bidwell Park such a gem for the City of Chico. And, it is also connected to One Mile Recreation Area with its Sycamore Pool, picnic areas, hiking and biking trails that allow people to connect and be a part of nature.

Caper Acres has a history that begun in the 1950’s through the efforts of the Chico Junior Art Club (later the Chico’s Women’s Club) and other organizations to create a children’s playground in Lower Bidwell Park. Caper Acres has evolved over the years, but has retained the character and identity intended by the originators of the playground. You can sense that continuity when you hear grandparents say they have “been coming to Caper Acres for 45 years and now are bringing their own grandchildren” or “I remember the Cheese when I was growing up.” Continuity over a long period of time and childhood memories gives Caper Acres that “sense of place.”

With a “sense of place” there is the feeling of connection. Caper Acres is easily accessible by walking, biking or driving. Within the playground you can visually connect to the picnic areas, the baseball fields, the lush areas adjacent to the creek and the neighborhood that borders the park. The natural setting connects the human experience of being in nature with the daily routines and lives of those who enter the playground or live nearby. Take a short walk down a path from Caper Acres and experience the wonder of sitting next to a natural stream. Connect with nature through the changing colors, and the annual progression of seasons from spring through winter.

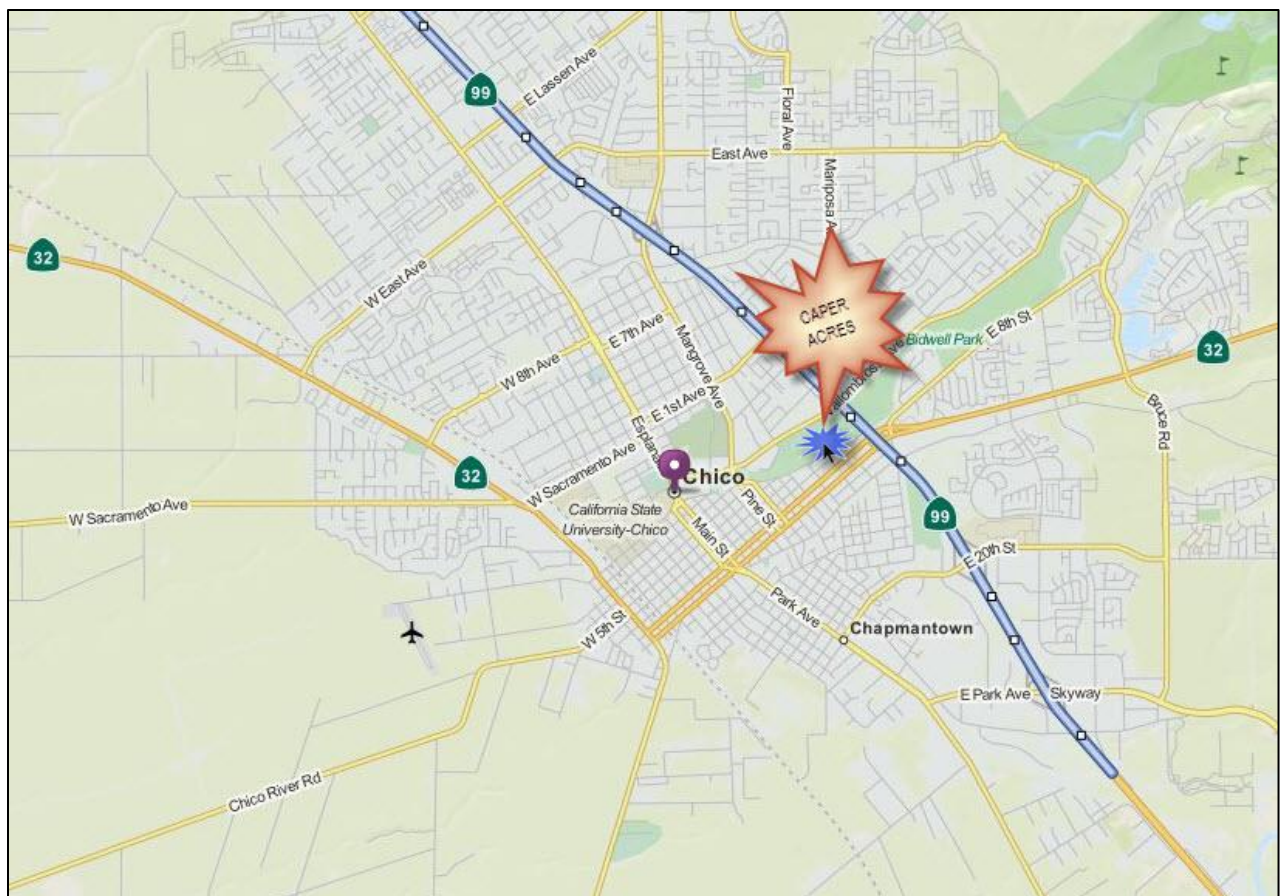
Big Chico Creek represents the timelessness and the pervasiveness of nature in a busy, changing world. In Caper Acres, one appreciates the intentions of the founders to create a fantasyland for children and their families in an environment that embraces the

outdoors, the elements of nature, and brings people together as community to make memories, sharing a piece of history.

Project Site Location and Description

The project site, Caper Acres playground, is located in Lower Bidwell Park One Mile Recreation Area within the municipal limits of the City of Chico, Butte County, California.

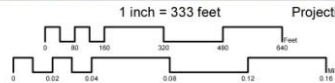
The entire Bidwell Park (Upper and Lower sections) is bisected by the Big Chico Creek riparian corridor. "Lower Park's valley oak population is one of the largest in the state, representing a habitat type that was once prevalent in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys before the arrival of modern agriculture. Lower Park's flat terrain and thick canopy of trees provide ample shade for visitors." (Existing Condition, Final Bidwell Park Master Management Plan Update)



CAPER ACRES PLAYGROUND and LOWER BIDWELL PARK



Sources:
City of Chico, GIS Department
Cal Atlas NAIP program
<https://projects.atlas.ca.gov/projects/naip/>



Projection: California State Plane, NAD 83, Zone II



Lower Park is a part of the larger Bidwell Park, regional-scale parkland comprised of 3,670 acres. Bidwell Park is the third largest municipal park in California and the twenty-sixth largest in the United States. (The Trust for Public Land)

Lower Bidwell Park contains the most accessible and developed areas of the park and includes a community swimming pool fed by Big Chico Creek (Sycamore Pool), horseshoe pits, barbecues and picnic areas, a baseball field, the Chico Creek Nature Center, Sycamore Grove where outdoor events are held such as the annual Endangered Species Fair, and the World of Trees Independence Trail.

Caper Acres is an approximately three (3) acre playground area serving children of 12 years of age and younger. An adult must accompany all children that enter the "Storybook" playground through its castle-like entrance. A beloved playground for more than 40 years, children play among the Crooked House, Humpty Dumpty sandpit, Bunker Mine, "Big Cheese" and other fantasy structures Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. until sunset.

CAPER ACRES PLAYGROUND



Sources:
City of Chico, GIS Department
Google Earth Map

1 inch = 57 feet
Projection: California State Plane, NAD 83, Zone II



Environmental Setting

Chico is located on flat valley land (Sacramento) to the west and sloping foothills (Sierra Nevada) to the east. The majority of Chico's built development has been on the flat elevation of the valley floor. The adoption of the Butte County/City of Chico greenline effectively placed a limitation on the City of Chico expanding further to the west. The "greenline," serves as a boundary between urban and agricultural uses. It was adopted in 1982, and further refined with the Chico Area Land Use Plan in 1990. (Butte County General Plan 2030, Land Use Element) The greenline redirected growth to the east and higher elevations. Most recent growth within the City of Chico has occurred to the east as the elevation starts to climb.

The east and southeastern areas of Chico consist of opening sloped ridges crossed by abrupt, rocky canyons with thin, patchy fine-grained layers of silts and clays. Underneath this layer are lava deposits. Lava flow remnants are evident on the mountain slopes as they continue down into the valley.

Areas around Big Chico Creek and Little Chico Creek consist of sand, clay, silt, and gravel deposits. The project area, Caper Acres within Lower Bidwell Park, is characterized as having Vina-Farewell (VA-FD) soils, Group two (2) of seven (7) classes of soil found in the region. This type of soil is found deep in the ground and has a well-drained (percolation) system. It has moderate shrink, a low possibility for erosion and high productive soil for agriculture. Lastly, its liquefaction potential is moderate.

Caper Acres abuts the Big Chico Creek habitat corridor and is within 600 feet of the bank of the creek. The project area lies within a habitat type that is classified as a lower perennial riverine – valley oak riparian. A general characterization of this habitat area is low velocity water drainage with established floodplains and perennial water flows. Within this habitat, valley oaks are widely present.



Mentioned previously, Caper Acres lies within a lower perennial riverine – valley oak riparian habitat. However, there are also non-native plants and imported soil within the boundaries of Caper Acres. Species such as the sweetgum tree, *Liquidambar*, have been planted as well as non-native grass species in various area of the playground. Bentonite clay was introduced to prevent soil erosion particularly on the mounds created for the Bunker Hill Mine tunnels. The use of this clay has resulted in the pooling of water because of its low permeability in areas adjacent to the playground. When large rain events occur, it leads to flooding and the closure the Mine. Additionally, low areas within the playground; retain storm water resulting in standing water for a period of time.

Narrative Description of the Playground Features

The playground of Caper Acres is an all encompassing facility with varied playground equipment, open green space, and enclosed picnic areas for birthday celebrations. Within the playground, visitors will find equipment of a custom design that sets Caper Acres apart from other children's playgrounds. There are no mass produced jungle gyms, castles, or slides. All of the features and playground equipment are one of a kind. It is this custom design that attracts visitors from all over the region. Virtually every piece of the space has a unique character to it.

The custom design avails itself as a visitor enters the playground, walks across the unique bridge, and under the arch of a castle wall. Directly after entering, a visitor will notice the same design in Locksley's castle, a perennial favorite of younger kids. The medieval castle is designed with battlements to walk along the top of castle wall and several nooks and crannies to explore. Adjacent to Locksley castle is a hand crafted and painted Humpty Dumpty who rests atop a semicircular high wall of a sandbox. Behind the Humpty Dumpty sandbox are a set of swings able to accommodate four kids. Also in immediate view upon entering the playground, is the birdhouse, a multiple level slide structure with both a short slide for the younger kids and a higher spiral slide for older kids.

The central area is often where activity clusters on the Dragon and Ship playground (Nico Project). This miniature playground is especially well-suited to younger children and toddlers due to the all weather cushion material covering the entire area. The center piece, a miniature pirate ship, has short slides and the surrounding elements include a tunnel artfully decorated to resemble a fairytale serpent. On the far side of the Dragon and Ship area is the quaint Crooked House which beckons kids to climb the stairway to a third level landing. From this top landing, children can slide down a tall, old-fashioned, straight slide. Leaving the Crooked House slide, kids notice the Big Cheese at the back of playground with its holes on all sides characteristic of a giant block of Swiss cheese. Also, beyond the Nico Project in the back of the playground, is Bunker Mine. The small mountain that rises out of the playground like a volcano welcomes kids with multiple entrances into its tunnel complex. Entering kids come upon a front arch of mining timbers transporting them to the old west.

Among the other features of Caper Acres are the birthday rings that accommodate not only the kids, but the whole family and all their friends. Birthday Ring #1 is a picnic area able to hold events of up to 40 people and is located on the front left of the playground as visitors enter. Birthday Ring #2, is a smaller setting which holds 20 and is located to the rear of the playground opposite from visitor's entrance. Naturally, the namesake of

these spaces is the most common event with families celebrating kids' birthdays year round. These picnic areas can be reserved for as long two hours for free.

Even the restrooms are part of the fairytale as they are built in a castle motif located to the right of the entrance. The main drinking fountain is in front of the restrooms and another shaped as the head of a lion in front of Locksley castle. Unfortunately, abuse has taken a toll on the lion fountain over the years, and it is no longer functioning; albeit, children still find fun in playing around and in the lion's mouth!

There is ample seating in the playground with 11 benches evenly distributed around the playground. In addition, there are seven light posts that follow the paved path for illumination. However, one fixture is currently non-functioning. Visitors leaving and entering the playground may notice and use the bicycle racks. They can accommodate 16 bikes, flanking the outside of the Caper Acres entrance. As well as Bidwell Park regulations, there a few additional rules to follow in Caper Acres. Barbeques, bounce houses, and piñatas are restricted in their use within the playground. In addition, dogs and bicycles are not allowed at any time in the playground. All visitors over age 12 need to be accompanied with a child to remain within Caper Acres. The Caper Acres playground is open from 9:00 am to sunset every day except Monday.

City of Chico General Plan: Parks, Public Facilities and Services Element and the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan

Parks and recreational opportunities are important components of a community and are therefore, included in the guidelines set forth by a city or county general plan. This is for good reason, as parks offer relief from a stress-filled life, protection of natural resources, places to exercise, and for community members to interact.

A general plan is required by California state law to address the physical development of a community. The plan serves as a city's constitution and a body of facts for decision-makers to consider as the community grows. General plans identify existing land use, allow for public input on their city's future, and assist in planning for future development by setting policies to reinforce the community's goals. A general plan provides the bridge for taking community vision and turning it into a reality.

Often, park and recreation goals, policies and actions are included in the jurisdiction's Open Space Element and/or Land Use Element. More recently, parks and recreation has been given its own separate element. Approximately, a third of cities and two-fifths of counties in California have adopted a separate parks and recreation element. Sometimes the parks and recreation guidelines are grouped under the Open Space or Land Use Elements or in the case of the City of Chico, the Public Facilities and Services Element.

The Chico General Plan classifies all parks into five categories: Mini Park/Tot Lots, Neighborhood Parks, School Parks, Community Parks, and Regional Parks. Bidwell Park is a designated a Regional Park. The Regional Park classification denotes parks that are usually at least 50 acres in size and serve the entire City or region. While regional parks can provide for varying intensities of recreation activity, a portion of a regional park is generally maintained in a rustic setting for non-intensive recreation use.

Chico residents have identified the maintenance and enhancement of the City's parks, greenways, recreation and open space resources as a key component in quality of life and overall community wellness.

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

Bidwell Park is designated as Primary Open Space (POS) and Secondary Open Space (SOP). According to the Open Space Element of the Chico General Plan for directing decisions and protecting resources of Bidwell Park, the City is guided by the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan. Significant open space resources are owned by the City of Chico including: Bidwell Park; Foothill Park Preserve; Bidwell Ranch; Teichert Ponds; Lindo Channel; and the Comanche Creek Greenway. Policies regarding open space resources including Bidwell Park are contained the Open Space Element, the Land Use and Parks, Public Facilities and Services Elements.

Bidwell Park Master Management Plan (BPMMP) - Relevant Guidelines for the Caper Acres Master Plan

- Decision-Making and Management

Goal: Implement a coordinated and efficient decision-making and management process with defined roles and responsibilities by the City Council, Bidwell Park and Playground Commission, and City Staff, and with periodic review and input by the public.

Objective: Management and Classification -5. Develop management plans for specific Park areas, consistent with goals, objectives, implementation strategies and guidelines presented in the BPMMP.

Implementation: Decision Making and Management -4. Opportunities for better public outreach such as media announcements, public notices regarding issues pertaining to the Park, and contacting of known park users groups should be identified and implemented in conjunction with important potential management changes.

- Land Uses

Goal Land Use -1: Manage Park use and the distribution of facilities to meet the changing needs of the Park users while continuing to protect the Park's natural and cultural resources.

- Visitor Uses

Goal: Continue to provide for a wide variety of visitor uses including quality recreational opportunities for users of all abilities.

Objective: Visitor Uses -3. Periodically evaluate desired uses by seeking feedback from user groups and community

Implementation: Visitor Uses -1. The City should use the evaluation of visitor use numbers, visitation patterns (activities, seasons, time of day), visitor demographics, and visitor interests to establish quantified baseline information on Park use.

- Park Resources

Goal Park Resources -1: When integrating human activities into the Park, recognize the complexity of the ecological communities in Bidwell Park and surrounding areas.

Goal Park Resources -2: Integrate ecological communities, physical and biological resources, and cultural resources with human activities, where appropriate. Use interpretive programs to promote proper stewardship of resources.

- Biological Resources

Goal Biological Resources: Conserve, protect, and optimize natural resource functions and values in the Park and maximize their integration with natural resources in surrounding areas.

Objective: Plants -1. Utilize native plant materials for Park landscaping and re-vegetation to the maximum extent feasible.

Implementation: Plants -11. Interpretive signage describing the importance of native plant communities and special-status plant populations should be installed.

- Recreation Facilities

Objective: Recreation Facilities -1. Design facilities to support activities and avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects.

- Playgrounds

Objective: Playground -1. Provide safe and ADA accessible playground facilities that meet a portion of the local demand, in balance with other parks in the community.

Guidelines: Playgrounds Guideline -1. Caper Acres playground shall be maintained, preserved, and used as a model for other playground facilities within the Park.

Implementation: Playgrounds -1. Caper Acres playground shall be maintained, preserved, and used as a model for other playground facilities within the Park.

Implementation: Playground -2. The need for increases or decreases in playground facilities should be periodically assessed based on demand, with priority given to meeting much of the increased demand at other parks in the community.

- Interpretive and Educational Resources

Goal: Inspire short and long-term stewardship of Park resources through interpretation of natural systems and cultural resources.

Objective: Interpretive and Educational Resources -6. Provide child and family-friendly opportunities to learn about Park resources and appropriate uses.

- Aesthetic Resources

Objective: Visual Resources -3. Use native plants for landscaping in Bidwell Park with few exceptions.

Implementation: Visual Resources -2. Creative/artistic elements should be incorporated into Park facilities and programs.

- Recreational Resources

Goal -1: Provide diverse recreational opportunities for a variety of user groups consistent with the vision for Bidwell Park.

Goal -2: Maintain designated developed recreation areas in Bidwell Park consistent with the goals and objectives of the BPMMP.

- Definitions: Developed Facilities

For the purposes of the BPMMP, developed facilities are defined as facilities that require or result in substantial disturbance or removal of natural (e.g., plants, wildlife, soils, and hydrology), cultural, visual, aesthetic or other resources. Examples of developed recreational facilities include golf courses, playing fields, children's play parks, turf areas, swimming pools, tennis courts, and other sports facilities. Examples of other developed facilities include roads and power lines.

- Volunteers

Objectives: Volunteers -1. Expand and develop the volunteer program utilizing the wealth and breadth of the community's resources to accomplish various tasks pertaining to Park maintenance such as invasive plant control, restoration, vegetation, species and water quality monitoring, trail maintenance, Park patrol and others.

Objectives: Volunteers -4. Provide interested groups and individuals with meaningful and useful opportunities for volunteering in the Park.

Implementation: Volunteers -4. Community groups that assist in improving Bidwell Park should be supported.

Implementation: Volunteers -5. The development and implementation of an internship program should be considered.

Vandalism

Vandalism is a regular problem for parks and recreation departments. So, it's no surprise that lower Bidwell Park has been a regular victim over the years. More specifically, Caper Acres has been vandalized multiple times. Recently, in April of 2011 significant damage was inflicted on the playground equipment with Locksley Castle being especially noted by park officials. Another incident happened in November 2010 when the castle bathrooms were badly damaged as well as the interior safety wall of the crooked house. Both incidents closed the area for at least two weeks.

Sources: Chico Enterprise-Record



Residents and city officials have expressed concern and possible solutions to the perennial issue. Relatively inexpensive solutions include additional lighting and using community volunteers to patrol during the daytime hours. The volunteers would partner with park rangers for back-up to apprehend persons defacing or damaging city property. Solutions for night hours include a front gate which will not stop all vandals, but can serve as a deterrent to prevent most vandalism. Progressively a more expensive solution is the use of surveillance cameras. This suggestions could create a problem with controversy over privacy. This topic is especially cogent as a redesign and renovation of Caper Acres is currently in the planning stage. The BPPC and park staff have the opportunity to increase safety and reduce vandalism through design and program enhancement. An excellent source for addressing problems in public spaces is "Dealing with Crime and Disorder in Public Parks" Response Guide No. 9 (2009). Sponsored by the University at Albany, State University at New York, the Problem-Oriented Policing Inc. is under the direction of Michael S. Scott, a clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School and formerly chief of police in Lauderhill, Florida.

Constraints and Opportunities

The consultant for the Caper Acres Master Plan (Melton Design Group) conducted a Constraints and Opportunities analysis for the project. The student team also prepared a brief analysis to better understand the project objectives and to formulate survey questions.

Constraints:

- Existing Boundaries
The current space of the playground is fixed by the fence line and is not proposed for change.
- Access
There is a limitation to access of auto travelers because the parking area is limited to the current space which will not be expanded. In addition, the streets in proximity to the playground have a low vehicle capacity.
- Vegetation
Mature trees consisting of Valley Oaks and California Sycamores could be designated protected which will limit position, size, and dimension of new play equipment.
- Financing/ Budget
The resources available for new or rehabilitation projects are limited to the City of Chico budget limitations which also include normal maintenance costs and overhead.

Opportunities:

- Public Welfare and Enjoyment
A redesign of the current playground provides an opening to address safety, amenities including seating and restrooms, and the overall experience of visitors. Some playground structures need repair and/or renovation. Updated and new design features could be incorporated into the playground.
- Drainage
The current condition of the playground provides no conveyance system for storm water subsequently causing pooling of standing water which leaves a muddy landscape. Improvements could alleviate some of the current drainage problems.

- **Additional Financing**
There is a possibility to elicit public support for fundraising (historically, the majority of the Caper Acre improvements were financed through citizen/service club fundraising); collecting parking fees and/or an additional tax which provide additional funding for long-term maintenance.
- **Infrastructure Improvement**
The project is an opportunity to upgrade existing lighting and water facilities and/or sewer service.
- **Sense of Place**
While the playground is currently well-known in the area for its identity there is potential to maximize usage through a more distinct design. Incorporating local themes that reflect the natural beauty of Bidwell Park would reinforce the setting of the playground and the history of the Park.
- **Access**
Current bicycle racks accommodate 16 bikes on the outside of the entrance to the playground which could be increased modestly.

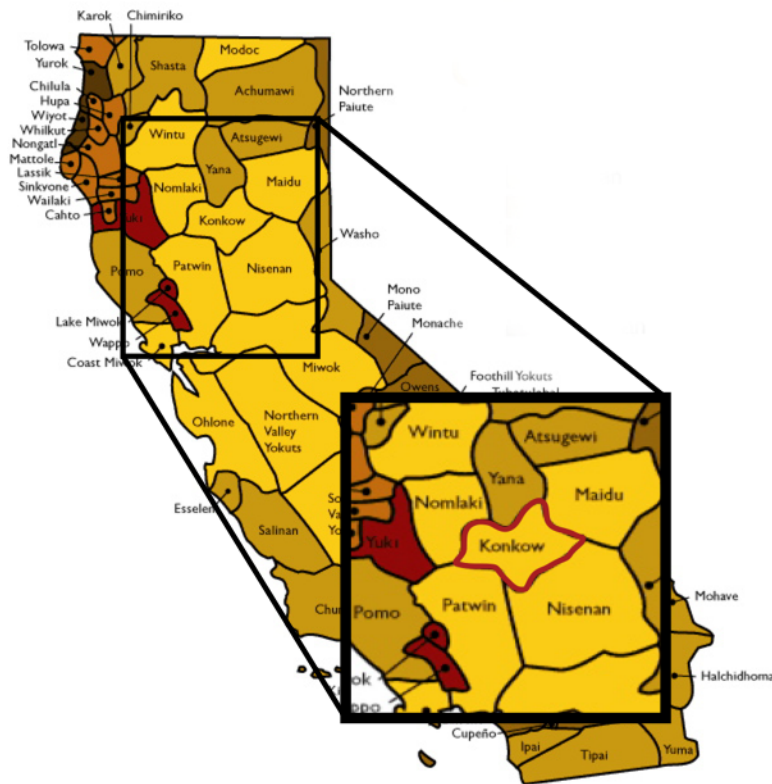
CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING

Cultural Background

Chico is situated in an area of cultural resources and historic buildings. The historic structures are predominately located in the downtown area, along the Esplanade, and south of California State University, Chico campus.

The Chico community lies within a distinct geography detailed with sloughs, river channels, and alluvial plains. The various features of the landscape allow for a mixture of plant and animal species. The vast amount of plant and animals in this area allowed human habitants to obtain food and materials to sustain their existence and for trading for resources they lacked.

The project area lies within a territory that is ethnographically claimed by Konkow who lived by the abundance of local plants and animals. The Konkow represents a division of the Maidu language. According to Lori Harrington, archeologist, the Konkow inhabited the lower portions of the Feather River, generally west of Richbar, extending southwest past Honcut Creek and westerly nearly to the Sutter Buttes. Their area included a portion of the Sacramento River drainage extending from Butte City in the south to Vina in the north and continuing east into the Sierra Nevada Mountain foothills between Chico and Oroville. (*An Archaeological Evaluation of Annie's Glen Project Butte County, Chico, CA, 2007*).



Source: www.nahc.ca.gov/cna.html

The Konkow neighbors were the Maidu in the northeast, Yana in the north, the Patwin in the south, the Nomlaki in the northwest, and the Valley Nisenan in the southeastern border. They traded with many of their neighbors for resources they weren't able to gather and collect. Some of the resources included obsidian, shell beads, and abalone shells. The Konkow settlements were located close to water and natural resources, generally preferring areas of ridge-crest flats or terraces that are mid-slope elevation. They preferred hunting and fishing on higher elevations along with

collecting plants. They used various tools to help gather food

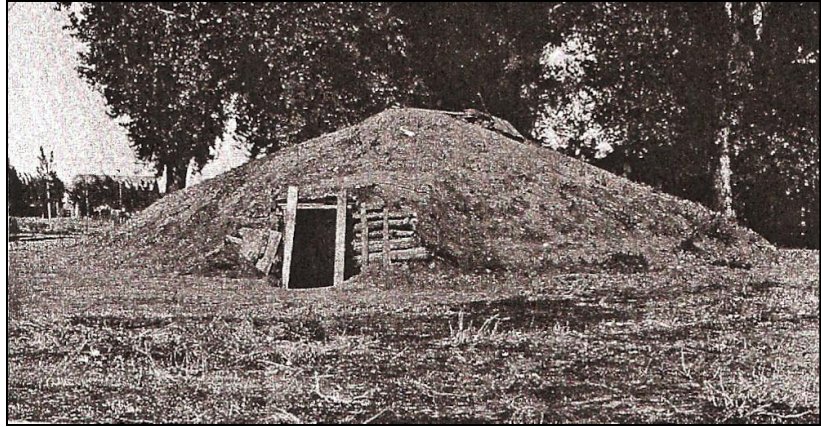
resources. These included: bow and arrows; traps; slings; blinds; clubs; and, nets. The Konkow settlement pattern is described as a village community. It included several villages with a ceremonial earth-covered lodge of subterranean assembly. It was until after the gold discovery in 1848 at Coloma that Konkow came into contact with Euro-Americans. (Sturtevant)

Archaeological Sites

A visit to the Northeast Information Center (NEIC) was conducted by a student researcher on February 5, 2014. The NEIC is a component of the eleven offices of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) established by the California Office of Historic Preservation. CHRIS maintains an inventory of California's historical and cultural site resources.

According to the research, Caper Acres sits on a non-archaeological area; however, there are some recorded archaeological sites in Lower Bidwell Park. There are 18-recorded sites of prehistoric occupation in Lower and Upper Bidwell Park. The region appears to have been occupied as early as 5000-6000 BC. Sites include cultural resources like middens, bedrocks, lithic scatters, housepits, and milling stations.

Lower Park contains a few recorded sites. Site #1 had evidence of scattered lithic materials such as arrowheads, scrapers, flakes, bone fragments, shells, and core tools. The soil texture within this site was gravelly with black coloring; thus, it contained some partial deposits of charcoal. Site #2 had

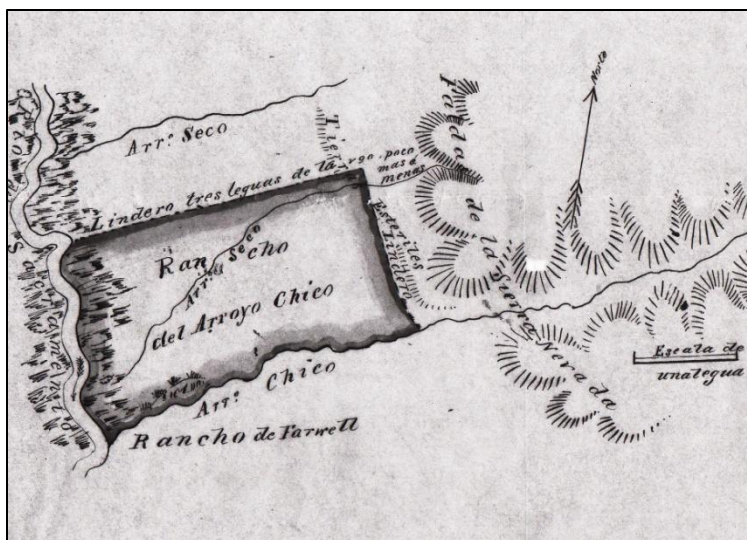


Maidu subterranean shelter (Riddel)

evidence of a village site with housepits. It also had some deposit of middens and Basalt flakes. Site #3 contained numerous flakes, groundstone flakes, housepits, and cores. This suggested habitation in this site (NEIC). Site #4 consisted of a village with midden deposits dating back to prehistoric time. The last site in Lower Bidwell Park had no recorded cultural resources. However, it has a known prehistoric habitation site (NEIC, *Archaeological Inventory Survey: Proposed Sycamore Pool Dam Replacement Project*, Jensen, 2007).

Historical Background

The historical background of Caper Acres cannot be recounted without a brief introduction to the generous deeding of land that we know as Bidwell Park. Annie Kennedy Bidwell, temperance and women's suffrage supporter, and widow of John Bidwell, granted 1,902.88 acres to the City of Chico on July 10, 1905. The granting of the land was the wish of her late husband "General" Bidwell as he was known who had acquired his property (two separate purchases) through an original Mexican land grant



"Rancho del Arroyo Chico." (Gillis and Magliari)

Annie's written deed to the City of Chico is very long as it fully described the land boundaries with its directional nuances. It was written by her nephew, Guy R. Kennedy, a local lawyer. The deed is so detailed, that today, a self-guided walking tour could be conducted using these directions if so desired.

The deed set forth several provisions (paraphrased here) including:



First, that no parties will use the land for making or selling intoxicating liquors;

Secondly, the property is to be used as a public park and pasture land could be rented to make money for the maintenance of the park;

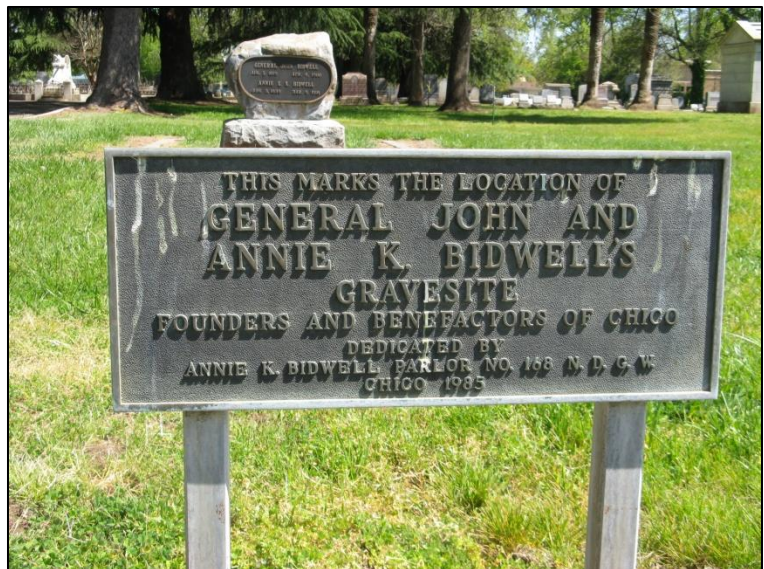
Thirdly, the beauty of the park as well as the preservation and protection of the waters of Chico Creek, including all trees, scrubs, and vines and shall be sacredly guarded;

Fourthly, no hunting of animals and birds will be permitted unless it is to remove those with noxious natures and habits.

Fifth and lastly, no public picnics will be held on Sundays.

If any of these conditions were broken, the deed would revert to the first party, being Annie Bidwell or her heirs. She also made it clear, that the gift was from her and John Bidwell, to the City of Chico as a token of their love and affection. She believed that the land was the grand work of God and that it must be preserved to his glory for the happiness and pleasure of the people of Chico for all time. On May 11, 1911 she deeded another 301.76 acres along the north side of Upper Park to become effective upon her death.

John Bidwell died April 4, 1900. Annie lived almost eighteen years after his passing. Annie died March 9, 1918. They are buried in the Chico Cemetery in their beloved community.



Through the 20th century, additional acreage was added to Bidwell Park and improvements were made in both Upper and Lower Bidwell Park.

In Lower Park, a dam was constructed in 1923 and 1924 named the 4th Street Pool and later renamed "Sycamore Pool" on the suggestion of Chico Junior Art Club (Lyndon)

Caper Acres - The Beginning



Chico Junior Art Club (later changed to the Chico Women's Club in 1960) spearheaded the drive to establish and construct a children's playground in Lower Bidwell Park - "Caper Acres." The Chico Junior Art Club (the Club) was established in 1913 and Annie K. Bidwell was a founding member. The first President of the Chico Art Club pictured to the left, was Margaret Marsh. In 1933, the Chico Women's Club completed their clubhouse located on the corner of Pine and Second Streets. The Club was most active during the 1950s, 60s and 70s. (Chico News and Review) After a few decades of declined membership, the club has re-established itself as a dedicated and important service club for the Chico community.

1950s

In early 1957, members of the Club discussed the concept of an imaginative children's playground to be constructed in Lower Bidwell Park. Club members toured children's playgrounds with Colin Jackson, the Bidwell Park Superintendent at the time, to gather ideas for the playground. They visited Pixie Woods in Stockton and Oakland's Fairyland playgrounds. In August 1957, the City Park Commission reached an initial agreement on a plan for a playground aimed at partnership with the Park District for the enjoyment of the community. (Chico Enterprise Record)

In February 1958, the Club sponsored a contest to name the future playground. Six-year old Carla Norlie was awarded \$5 for her submission of "Caper Acres" as the name for a "children's fairyland playground" to be established in Bidwell Park. Pictured right is Carla receiving her award money from Mrs. James Fitzsimmons, President of Chico Junior Art Club. (Chico Enterprise Record)



In April 1958, members of the Club investigated areas within Lower Bidwell Park to locate a new children's playground. The original site initially

selected was between Second Street and the Pine Street Bridge. Eventually, the Club settled on a site nearer the Sycamore Pool. (Chico Enterprise Record)

The Club began a fund drive with the Native Daughter's of the Golden West, Annie K. Bidwell Parlor in 1959 going door-to-door to raise money for the new playground. Club members identified the need for eight sponsors to implement construction plans for the play equipment. To raise money for the project, the Club sponsored Walt Disney films at the Senator Theater; held a community dance at the Chico Elks Club where attendees danced to the music of Glen Keyon and his five piece orchestra and partnered with the City of Chico's Mayor Marsh Pine to declare a "Caper Acres Week."

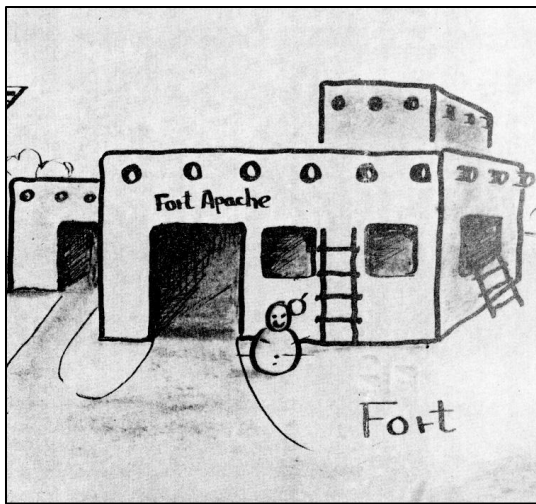
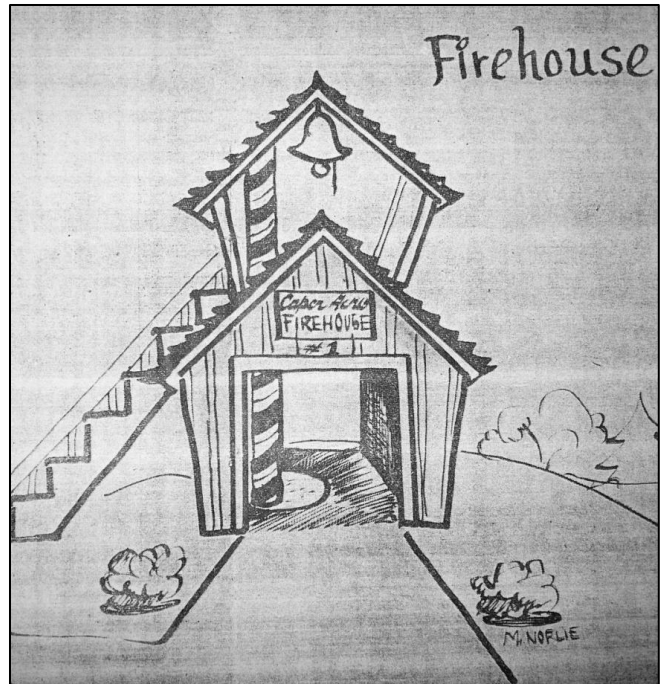
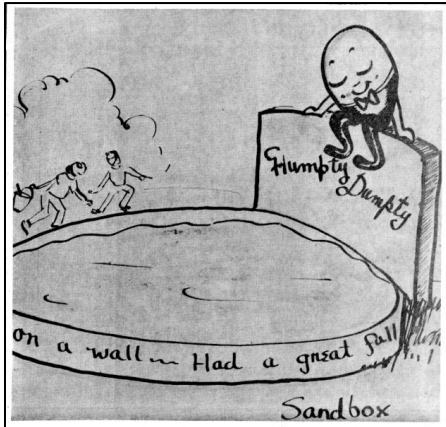
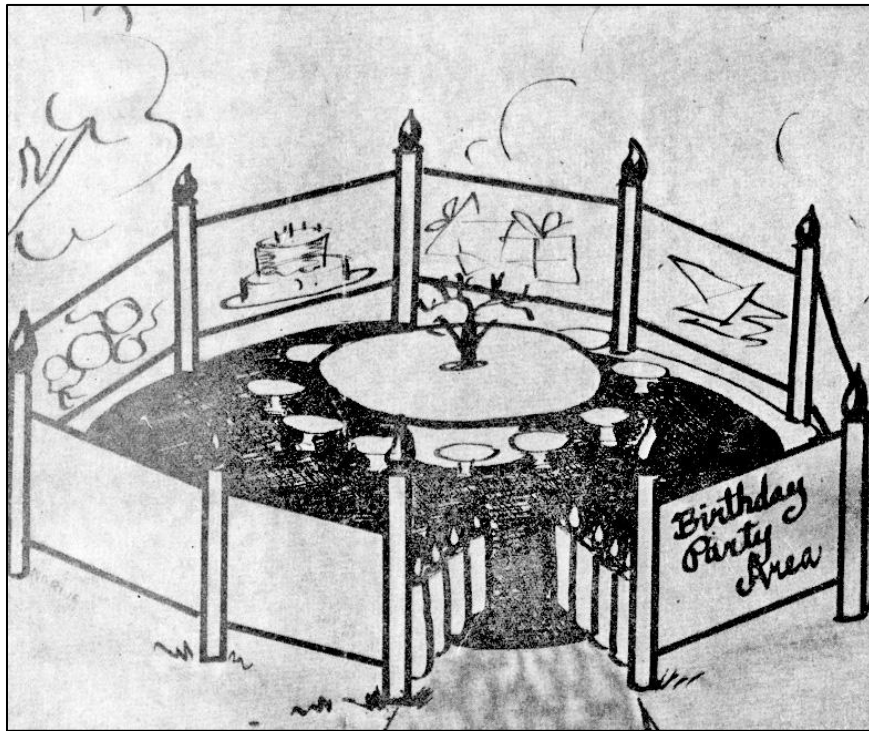


Pictured to the left, are Mayor Pine and Mrs. Lamar Fisher as the mayor signs the proclamation for the special week (October 3 - 10) dedicated to raising money and awareness for a new children's playground - Caper Acres. According to reporter Jim Lement with the Chico Enterprise Record, Caper Acres "has had the on-again, off-again support of city officials and the general public."

Many local citizens donated time and talent to the planning of Caper Acres. Local artist Marlys Norlie drew concept drawings for the playground; many of which were eventually constructed.



Marlys Norlie at her drawing board; woman on the right, unidentified (Chico Enterprise Record)



Photographs of newspaper clippings from the Chico Enterprise Record.



Pictured above is Mrs. Charles Hicks (left), Club President, and Mrs. Lowell Wright who co-chaired the Chico Junior Art Club development committee. Mrs. Hicks is holding a drawing of a Marlys Norlie's proposed entrance structure for the three-acre Caper Acres children's playground.

Chico architect Lorrin Ward and Eugene Ringel and Associates, a local civil engineering firm, donated many hours to surveying and mapping the project site. In particular, Mr. Ringel donated his services to the construction of Caper Acres over a span of ten years. He contributed plans for the playground, electrical and water systems, fencing, restrooms, entrance architecture, parking and other ancillary facilities. Mr. Ringel also served as City of Chico Mayor, Board member of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission and President of the Downtown Chico Business Association. (Chico Enterprise Record)

In 1959, grading began on the site, and by fall 1961, a well was drilled by N. R. Jesses and the pump and pressure system installed by Butte Pump and Motor Works. Construction on the site commenced. Hayden Davis, Chair of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC), Mrs. Barbara Hicks, Mrs. Phyllis Kicks - Chico Women's Club members, Jake Funk, a Chico contractor, and Gene Ringel headed the Site Planning Development Committee for the playground.

While the Women's Club was busy raising funds and community support to build the facilities for Caper Acres, financial concerns regarding the maintenance of the new playground surfaced early. Park Commissioner Angelo Volpato noted in April 1960 that "the biggest problem with funding a new playground was maintenance after installation."

Park Superintendent Jackson estimated that the maintenance cost and one to two part-time employees would be approximately \$5000 annually. (Chico Enterprise Record)

According to Mrs. Charles Hicks, project chair of the Junior Women's Club, several local service organizations, individuals and businesses had promised sponsorship of Caper Acres facilities: Firehouse (\$700 Exchange Club); Tree House Slide (\$1350 Chico Rotary); Crooked Mile (\$1400 Quota Club); Birthday Party Area ((Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Middleton); Sandbox (\$900 Omega Nu Sorority); Swiss Cheese (Evening Kiwanis Club); Diamond Mine (Greater Kiwanis Club); and a castle-like entrance (Junior Women's Club).

Benches were donated by the Soroptomists and the College club; the Native Sons of the Golden West contributed signs; Peterson Electric and Pacific Gas and Electric Company donated lighting; and Modern Building and other local contractors helped with the lavatories. An engineer's estimate for the cost of the total project was \$30,000 - \$35,000. However, that cost estimate was considered low because of the "numerous donations of time and material." (Chico Enterprise Record) Sponsors of the project (assuming this was the Junior Women's Club) estimated \$27 a day to operate the facility which they suggested would necessitate "small entry fee."

1960s

In 1964, the Humpty Dumpty sandbox was the first playground feature to be constructed, followed by the Birthday Ring, Crooked House, Adobe Fort, Diamond Mine, Big Cheese and the Tree House slide. According to Jim Lement, reporter with the Chico Enterprise Record, fencing was an important site improvement that needed to be erected before the playground could officially open. The BPPC requested \$5000 from the Peterson Fund to finance the fencing. This fund was set-up for development of park lands from the sale of the Peterson Tract. (It is unknown if the funding was allocated for the fencing.)



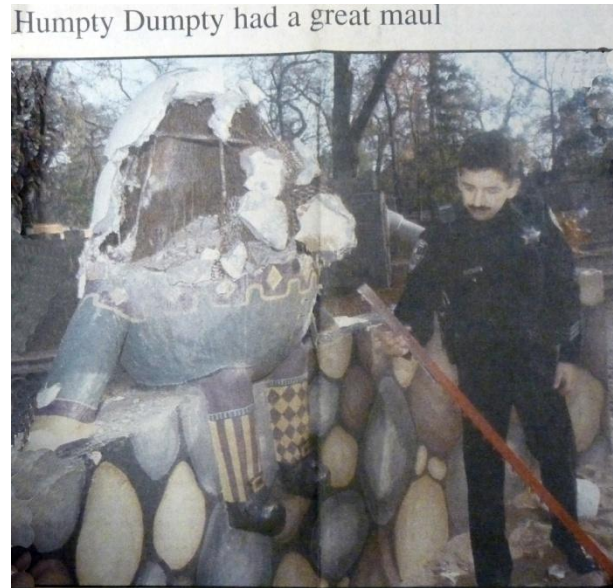
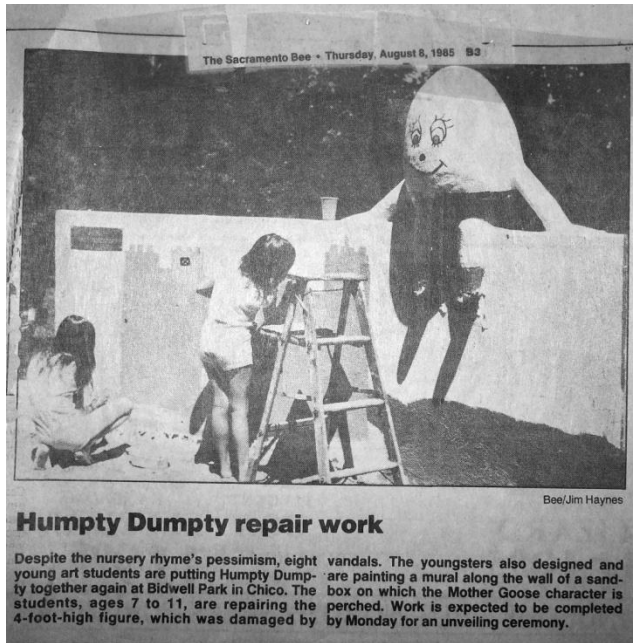
In 1967 there was an unofficial opening of Caper Acres. (Chico Enterprise Record) On June 8, 1970 the official opening of the new playground was held. Pictured to the left is the playground dedication with Little Miss Chico of 1969, Mary Ann Wells, cutting the ribbon to officially open Caper Acres. Mrs. Ron Fox, President of the Chico Junior Women's Club pictured on the right and Carla Jan Norlie who submitted the winning name - Caper Acres in 1958 when she was six-years old is on the left. (Chico Enterprise Record)



The above aerial photography was taken by the U.S. Department of Agricultural Farm Agency. The photograph reveals a tremendous amount of tree cover and the beginning of site work and structures on the future Caper Acres Playground. As noted above, the Humpty Dumpty sandbox was constructed in 1964. This photograph was obtained from Dr. Dean Fairbanks, Chair, Department of Geography and Planning.

The Aerial Photography Field Office, as a division within the Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has acquired, used and distributed aerial photography for over 65 years .

During the next two decades (1970s and 1980s) little information was found regarding Caper Acres. Damage to Humpty Dumpty was reported in the Sacramento Bee (August 8, 1985). Unfortunately, Humpty would be vandalized more than once in later years.



Clippings from the Enterprise Record - No additional information

And community members would again, come forth to donate their time and talent to repair the cherished Humpty. Pictured below is wall artist Greg Payne giving Humpty a new smiling face. (Enterprise Record 2006)



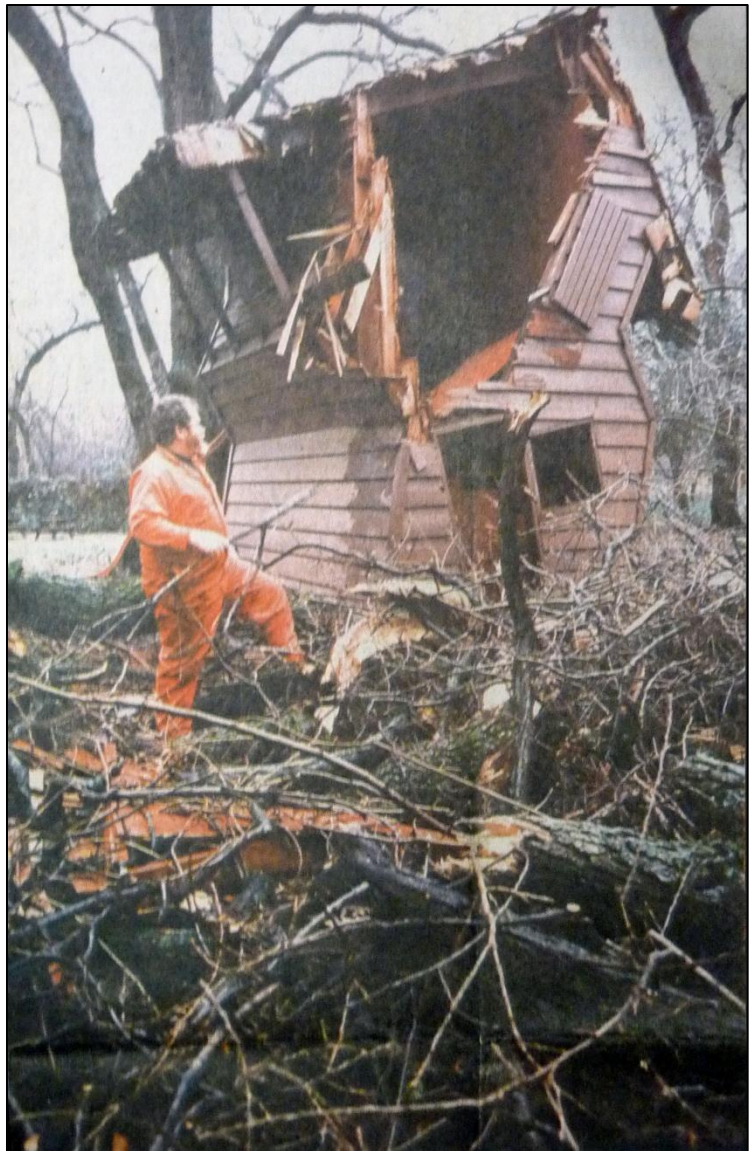
1989 - Present Time

In 1989, CSU Chico Professor Fred Brooks with the Department of Recreation and Parks Administration served as the City of Chico Interim Park Director. Dr. Brooks pursued partnership with local service clubs to help fund enhancement and maintenance of Caper Acres. In 1990, Henry Buzza Junior donated several sycamore trees to be planted near one of the Birthday Rings and in November 1991, the BPPC approved the Chico Lion's Club proposed donation and installation of a "Lion" head drinking fountain (\$1500). A Chico Eagle Scout project funded new picnic tables in 1991. (City of Chico, Parks Division files)

In 1995, major storms in January and March caused significant damage to the playground. An oak tree fell on the Crooked House. "Caper Acres was hit really hard. We lost the Crooked House. We're losing a lot of trees in the Park." (Rollie Wright, Park Director)

Friends of Caper Acres, Chico service clubs and individuals once again, came forward with cash donations and volunteer work to make repairs and renovations. The local Building Industry Association (BIA) donated engineering, free labor and materials with the Chico Enterprise Record providing publicity for the fundraising efforts. Additionally information about the community effort to rebuild Caper Acres can be found at these following web addresses: <http://landscapeonline.com/research/article/7653>; <https://www.facebook.com/SaveCaperAcresfor more details.>)

A "March for the Parks" campaign solicited donations. "Buy a Brick" campaign was started to help fund repairs and renovations to



the playground equipment and structures (see Funding section of this report). According to the 1/13/1996 article in Enterprise Record, over \$60,000 was donated in materials and labor, \$40,000 in cash contributions including \$12,000 from "Buy a Brick" program and \$10,000 from the Omega Nu Sorority. These donations helped repair and renovate Humpty Dumpty, the Crooked House, Tree House, Fort Apache, the Diamond Mine, and Birthday Ring.

In July 2003, the 86' deep on-site well that served the playground was formally abandoned and installation of community water was completed. Birthday Ring #2 was installed in October 2004. (City of Chico files and Enterprise Record)

In 2007, a sad event became a happy addition to Caper Acres. A 16-month old Chico toddler, Nico Cardoza died unexpectedly the previous December. Family and friends came together to turn their grief into a positive contribution for living children. Nico loved to play in Caper Acres with his sister Sophia and their parents. A play structure, especially appropriate for toddler-aged children, was installed. The "Nico Project" has an ocean-theme with a magical sea serpent, boat, and toddler-sized crawl spaces surrounded by a soft surface. Lower play equipment makes the popular playground area easily accessed by and safe for younger children to climb.

Throughout the years, repairs and regular maintenance of Caper Acres have been a constant budget and staff time expenditure to keep Caper Acres as the cherished place it has become over the years. The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) included the renovation of the playground in both their 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 Work Plans. The BPPC hired Melton Design Group in October of 2013 to design the renovation of Caper Acres. (Chico Enterprise Record)

Caper Acres Limited Hours/Closure

In early July 2013, the City of Chico addressed major budget deficiencies which led to a multiple-day, temporary closing of Caper Acres. The closure was due to lack of staffing to continue maintenance of the playground on a regular basis. The playground was closed Tuesday through Thursday, keeping it open only Friday through Sunday. (Monday was already a closed day for playground maintenance) By the end of July, a local business, ServPro offered to maintain other areas of the park free of charge, so City staff could devote time to cleaning Caper Acres. ServPro committed to help the City until November 1, 2013. Additionally, a group of parents formed the "Caper Acres Volunteers." Their stated purpose was to find more permanent solutions to keep the playground open.

Chico City Council member Randall Stone brought forth an idea to use inmates in Butte County's Alternative Custody Supervision (ACS) program to provide maintenance work

thereby, keeping the playground open for its previous six days a week. The program provides training, learning job skills, and an opportunity to reduce jail sentences. The ACS program was started in 2011 as a result of Assembly Bill 109 which mandated that certain defined inmates be jailed in county jails rather than within the state prison system. Qualifying inmates for the ACS program are defined as committing non-serious, non-violent, non-sexual crimes.

The services of ACS were offered free to the City of Chico. The City Council approved a long-term agreement with Butte County in October 2013 and the ASC program was in full-swing by November. The inmates clean the playground on the Monday closure day, finishing up their work by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday when Caper Acres is open. (Chico Enterprise Record)

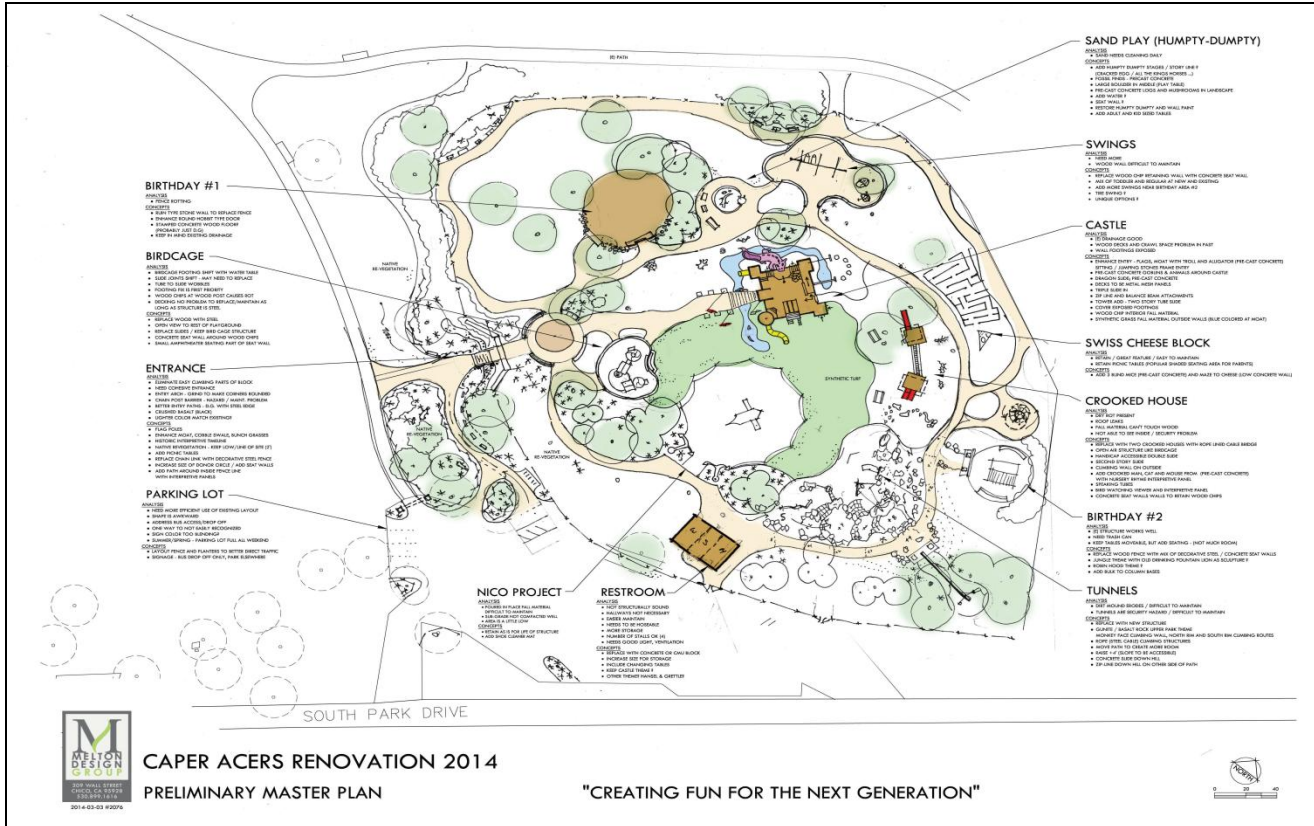
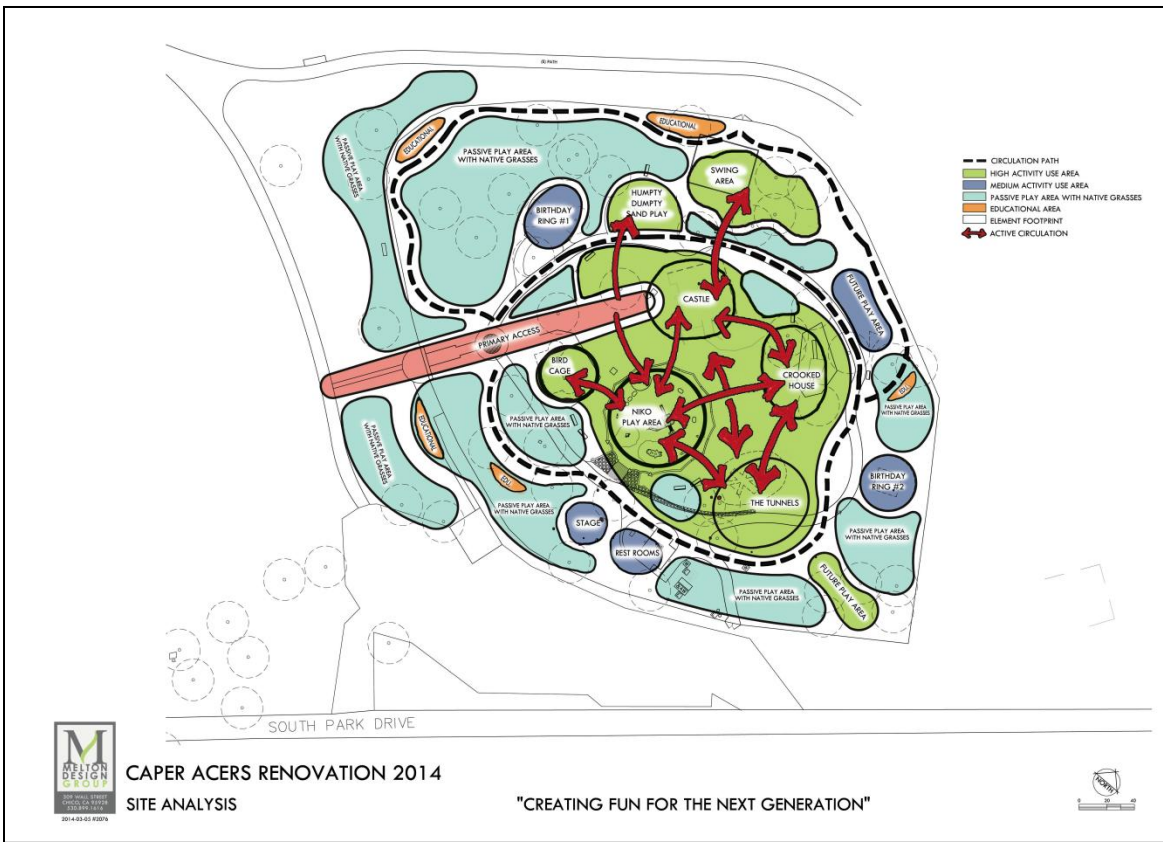
PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Project Description includes two distinct components of the Caper Acres Master Plan:

1. The class project – producing a report through the use of secondary information including, but not limited to: the cultural and historical background of Caper Acres; the goals, policies and funding of City of Chico parkland. Conducting primary research through field observations and a user survey; and, analyzing collected data.
2. “The Preliminary Master Plan for the Caper Acres Renovation 2014” prepared by the consulting firm, Melton Design Group.

The Melton Design Group prepared a Caper Acres Renovation Preliminary Master Plan in March 2014. All existing facilities were analyzed by the consultant firm. Implementation of the Master Plan includes renovation, replacement, repair, demolition and new construction. Additionally, there will be some non-native vegetation removal and replanting, as well as soil movement through grading to prevent flooding incidents.

The class component of the project does not propose any physical changes or impacts to the existing playground. Therefore, this type of study would not be considered a “project” under the requirements of the California Environmental Act (CEQA). However, implementation of the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review as it will result in physical changes. A draft environmental initial study is being conducted for the “Preliminary Master Plan for the Caper Acres Renovation 2014” by the CSUC Environmental Impact Analysis class (Geography 427) as an instructional exercise.



PARK FINANCING

Cities, counties, special districts, including school districts, in addition to the state and national park systems, provide parkland and recreational opportunities for local community enjoyment. Providing parks, facilities and programs are costly expenditures for local government. Acquisition of parkland and capital improvements has a variety of funding mechanisms; however, on-going maintenance and repairs are generally paid for through a local jurisdiction's general fund. The global economic crisis including the "housing bubble" phenomenon that begun in 1997, was further complicated in California when the 2011 Budget Act dissolved the state's 400+ redevelopment agencies (RDA) in February 2012. (State of California, Department of Finance) Previously, robust sales tax revenues and RDA monies allowed the City of Chico to perhaps overspend certain budget accounts and rely on the general fund to fund more city expenses.

In 2013, the City of Chico made significant staffing cuts in order to counter major budget deficiencies. Across the board budget reductions were made in every city department including the Park Division. Vacant staff positions were not filled and responsibilities were shifted.

The City of Chico is currently facing a \$7.7 million budget deficit. The City's general fund was tapped for \$10.1 million to cover deficits in the private development fund and \$3 million for the capital improvement fund. These budget maneuvers were necessary to keep the City from having a negative financial report which could limit the City's ability conduct other necessary financial transactions. (Chico Enterprise Record)

As capital projects for park expansions and new facilities steadily increase the amount of maintenance required for parks and recreation departments, the allocation from the general fund becomes inadequate. This issue necessitates efforts to locate alternative sources of money for maintenance. While park improvements have been universally popular capital projects, there is a lack of long term financially sustainable strategy to pay for them. Below are City policies relating to park financing.

City of Chico Goals, Objectives, Implementation and Action Statements

Parks, Public Facilities and Services Element

- Action PPFs-1.1.4 (Park Maintenance Funding) – Aid in the formation of maintenance districts or other funding mechanisms to pay for the cost of ongoing maintenance and operation of parks.

- Action PPF-1.1.8 (Funding to Develop Recreation Facilities) – Pursue local, state, federal, and other funds for the development of parks and recreation facilities.

Bidwell Park Master Management Plan - Funding

- Objective: FI-2. Pursue grants and a variety of public and private funding sources in addition to the funds allocated to the management of Bidwell Park.
- Implementation: FI-1. A variety of grants and public and private funding resources should be sought.
- Implementation: FI-2. Park user groups should be encouraged to improve areas specific to their use.
- Implementation: FI-4. Private sector donations for Park improvements should be encouraged and appropriate recognition of such donations should be allowed.

The Quimby Act and park in-lieu fees allow the city to exact land dedications/monies for acquisition and improvement of parkland; however those funding methods are not available for on-going maintenance. Maintenance, operation, repair and future capital replacements can be funded through Mello-Roos Community Facilities Districts and Benefit Assessment Districts.

Grants

There are opportunities for grants that may be applicable to projects within Bidwell Park. Grants primarily come from either a federal or state authority for targeted purpose. These financing can provide substantial funding to a local area with dearth of financial resources to maintain or protect a natural space.

Federal – Land and Water Conservation Fund

Outdoor Recreational Grant Program. The program allocates funding to acquire land and plan and develop recreation spaces including tennis courts, playgrounds, walking trails, picnic spaces, outdoor swimming areas, etc. Additionally, funding can be utilized to build restrooms, water systems, and many other support facilities for parks. These grants are available to municipalities, counties, states, and special districts. Fund disbursement is a grant matching a state allocation. The program is run under the auspices of the National Park Service.

Urban and Community Forest grant program. The program allocates matching grants to state funding as well as technical assistance to local communities emphasizing maintenance and preservation of natural landscapes, especially an urban forest canopy.

Community Development Block grants. A program administered by the housing and urban development agency used to help non-entitlement local governments to acquire open space.

State of California – Habitat Conservation Fund

This program is administered through the Office of Grants and Local Services that disburses about \$2 million annually municipalities, counties, and special districts. Applicants need to be able match 50% of grant award. Project eligibility consists of 3 categories. Projects types can be nature interpretation programs connecting urban residents with wildlife spaces, conservation of specific plant and animal species, the development of walking trails and wildlife corridors.

Funding for Operations, Maintenance, and Repair

As noted above, funding for parks departments primarily comes from the general fund of a municipality. Additional financing for regular maintenance of parks can originate from several policy strategies. The fees are not always fees in the strictest sense. Often, the augmentation of funding for parks and recreation comes from public and private partnerships as well as joint cooperation between municipal departments. Among the tried and true approaches, is community volunteerism, an excellent strategy for reducing costs.

In a 2011 study, sponsored by the Seattle Parks Foundation, several solutions were cited for supporting for the operations and maintenance of an urban parks system:

- Requiring mitigation fees from utilities or any other agencies using park land;
- Tapping into utility funding to ask for payment for the ecological benefits of the park. These benefits could include drainage and water quality;
- Establishing park improvement districts similar to business improvement districts. These districts would be vested with authority to impose a real estate transfer tax generating revenue to add funding to specific parks;
- Allocating a portion of funding for capital projects to future maintenance for new parks (Toronto, Canada);
- Building concession stands in parks with revenue earmarked for maintenance funding (San Francisco and other cities);
- Consolidating concessions in parks to require the company winning the bid in a major park to provide concessions in neighborhood parks also;
- Maintaining a park (Post Office Square Park) completely from parking garage fees (Boston);

- Garnering \$100, 000 from the corporate sponsorship of concerts during the summers in Washington Park (Portland);
- Allocating one quarter of sales tax receipts toward open space and mountain parks (Boulder);
- Levying a five cent tax on the use of plastic bags in stores. While this revenue stream saw diminishing returns later it was instrumental in the restoration of the Anacostia River (Washington DC).

Local Efforts in Chico

Historically, Chico service groups and citizens have contributed expertise, time, materials, and money to help fund improvements and repairs for Caper Acres. The 1964 photo to the right depicts most likely a service club donating landscaping to the entry of Caper Acres. (Chico Enterprise Record)



The community cares about its parks as demonstrated through various volunteer programs and fundraising efforts. The "Buy a Brick" program started in 1995 is on-going. (See appendices) Recent efforts include the sale of Chico artist Jake Early's re-designed monkey face tee-shirt based on the well-known rock outcropping in Upper Bidwell Park. The organic cotton shirts can be purchased at the Park Division office.

Another fundraising event accomplished in July 2013 was the "Bidwell Park Birthday Bash" which earned \$1,801. This money, according to former Volunteer Coordinator Lisa Smith-Peters, is used for park infrastructure repairs, including some of Caper Acres' expenses. The Park Division also raised about \$7,000 participating in the North Valley Community Foundation's Annie B's Community Drive.

The City of Chico partially relies on volunteer-based efforts to help finance park expenditures and maintenance from groups such as: Friends of Bidwell Park; California Native Plant Society; Cat Coalition, Kids and Creeks, and the Chico Creek Nature Center. Earth Day events in the park include volunteers working on a variety of projects to repair and maintain Bidwell Park. Chico State fraternities and sororities have donated maintenance labor and money to the park in the past and most recently, the Omega Nu professional sorority gave \$1,000 to the Caper Acre playground renovation in March of this year.



Most of the funding of improvements for Caper Acres has come from public commitment and action. Other options that have been considered are to collect a user tax in which participants in large events donate a dollar to Caper Acres and participation in the Annie Bs fundraising program. More and more, the Park Division will be turning to the public to help with projects. The Chico Enterprise Record noted in a January 7, 2014 article that large campaign to raise money for funding renovation of the children's playground was discussed by the BPPC.

Fundraising Techniques

Community fundraising has evolved over the decades. Procuring donations door-to-door has been replaced with the internet outreach. The most widely used crowdfunding websites that have raised millions of dollars online are: Kickstarter and Indiegogo. These sites provide a platform to any user to raise money. The crowd sourcing is able to reach people for a local effort who might otherwise be unaware of a campaign.

Recently, using the Indiegogo site, two independent Chico businesses were able to stay open. The movie theater, "The Pageant" started a campaign to raise \$51,000 to buy a digital movie projector "Go Digital or Go Dark." The campaign ran from November 7, 2013 to December 31, 2013. They received \$60,250 in donations. Earlier in the year, the independent "The Bookstore" raised \$35,000 through Indiegogo. The funds allowed

a long-time bookstore employee to purchase the business after the original owner retired. Other top rated fundraising sites may be found via the internet.

The beloved and historic Bidwell Mansion, a State Park property, was in danger of closure when on May 11, 2011 state officials announced that as many as seventy parks would be closed as a result of California's budget crisis. (Sacramento Bee) Local community efforts through fundraising events and direct donations were able to bridge the budget gap and save the Mansion from closure.

Other vehicles for fundraising include capital campaigns which are large events involving several teams of volunteers. These events including concerts, food, and other entertainment and require an established well of social capital. The success rate of these large public gatherings varies widely. Another approach to fundraising with higher risk is the founding of a permanent or semi-permanent non-profit business. This could range from selling t-shirts in a park on weekends to renting a commercial space for a thrift store that donates to parks and recreation. There are, of course, many other methods of fundraising but these have the potential to reach the largest number of people or be among the most reliable for dependable, regular fundraising for parks that need annual funding.

USER SURVEY

This section of the report includes the survey methodology, design, and the results.

Collecting Primary Information

In the beginning of the survey process, the research team conducted a field reconnaissance at Caper Acres to gather information about the project site. The team arrived as a group and moved through the park taking note of the equipment, the people and the surroundings. Our primary research provided a snap shot of current park features and where improvements could be made. This was an important step as it helped the class create a survey that would reflect the most appropriate questions to ask.

Survey Focus

After the research team conducted the field reconnaissance of the site, the class regrouped and brainstormed the types of questions that should be included in the survey. The class reviewed the overall objectives of the user survey. Originally, the survey included questions about the public's interaction with Lower Bidwell Park as a

whole, as the survey was to be administered from multiple locations throughout Lower Bidwell Park, including Caper Acres. We refined our strategy and targeted the survey exclusively within Caper Acres. This approach narrowed the focus mainly on the children's park and its existing and future improvements.

The Caper Acres Master Plan will include renovation and potential removal of some of the existing improvements as they are currently designed, such as the tunnels of Bunker Hill Mine. Additionally, new design themes and playground facilities may be incorporated. Therefore, asking questions about the existing design, equipment and amenities, in addition to what users would like to see in the future, defined our objectives. Information regarding other areas of Lower Bidwell Park that the survey participants were using was collected, while staying on target with the main focus being the children's playground.

Survey Design

The class instructor decided that a face-to-face questionnaire would be most beneficial for our survey work, both for a student-learning experience and a higher response rate than a self-administered survey. All class members contributed to the formulation of survey questions. Questions were discussed and debated in class prior to preparing the first draft survey.

Certain criteria were decided upon early in the process, such as the length of the questionnaire. Parents, grandparents, children and community members visit Caper Acres for personal enjoyment. This is important family time for many and we wanted to respect their personal space; making the disruption as minimal as possible. Therefore, the survey was structured to be conducted quickly (in approximately 5-7 minutes), but with the option for the respondent to discuss more if they so desired.

The survey hosted a variety of question types. Open-ended questions gave the participants a chance to share more of their thoughts and opinions and provided qualitative data that is valuable. Closed-ended questions, in the form of yes or no and multiple choices from a list were dominant in the survey. The blend of these questions appeared appropriate for the setting of our project. Privacy and anonymity were important factors in creating our survey. We wanted the participants to feel completely comfortable. The questionnaire did not collect personal information; therefore, the respondents would be completely anonymous. Gender and zip code information were collected, but were not connected or identified with the respondent.

Visually, a streamlined design was created for survey. The survey was printed on one piece of paper, double sided with a separate informational handout for participants with contact information. (See appendices for survey instrument and information sheet)

Survey Review and Approval

After revisions to our survey including removing unnecessary questions, reading it aloud, and general fine tuning, the questionnaire was ready for review. The City of Chico Natural Resources Manager, Dan Elseaff reviewed the draft and made appropriate changes. After those revisions were made, Dr. Dean Fairbanks, Chair, Geography and Planning Department, reviewed the survey and offered the suggestion to add zip code and gender information, the survey was forward for clearance to the University's Human Subjects in Research.

The final step in the survey process was receiving approval from the Human Subjects in Research Committee, Office of Graduate Studies. The Caper Acres user survey was approved on February 28, 2014. (See appendices for approval letter)

Administering the Survey

Our Caper Acres survey was conducted completely by the students and Professor Figge. Students worked both in pairs and individually, depending on the day of the week, the number of students available for surveying, and the amount of visitors present in the playground. The surveying was conducted in a professional manner with the survey team wearing matching CSUC Geography and Planning tee-shirts and "Guest Researcher" badges supplied by the City Park Division.

The survey was conducted from February 25th to March 23rd 2014. There were six visits to the playground reflecting each day Caper Acres is open to the public: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The weekend days received the most visitors. Two-hour time frames were followed for surveying: 10-12:00 pm; 2-4:00 pm; and 3-5:00 pm. The variety in times and days of the week allowed us to capture the most accurate representation of park users. Inclement weather extended the original timeframe for the survey.

Total number of surveys administered: 150



Survey Data Entry

Students used "Google Docs" and selected the option to create a survey. Two students inputted the survey questions. Responses were then entered which were both quantitative and qualitative using the options available through the program. The completed Google Doc survey created a spreadsheet to analyze the results. Results were discussed and analyzed. Those results considered important to the planning and implementation of the Caper Acres Master Plan were graphically displayed. The entire results of the survey are contained in an Excel sheet found in the appendices of this report.

SURVEY RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The following is a brief synopsis of the survey results. Visual depictions (charts and graphs) of the survey results follow this section of the report.

Sixty-three (63%) percent of the respondents are female. This is not a particularly surprising statistic, as generally, women spend more time with childrearing responsibilities than men. (pewsocialtrends.org) Sixty-two percent (62%) of the visitors are City of Chico residents. See zip code maps following this section of the report.

Mode of Transportation

Results regarding the mode of transportation used to visit the playground indicated that eighty-four (84%) percent of the respondents drove a vehicle to the park. We were however, surprised with this high percentage as fifty-eight percent (58%) of the respondents lived within less than five miles from the playground. Reviewing this data, prompted us to think more critically about the users of the children's park. Caper Acres users are traveling with their children (or grandchildren). Many of the children are either toddler-aged or under ten years of age with perhaps, baby siblings. Parents are arriving with strollers, large bags, food, and supplies. These parents are more appropriately transported by a vehicle. Additionally, thirty-eight percent (38%) of respondents traveled between 5 and 50 miles. These factors explain the high percentage of respondents driving to the playground and using the adjacent parking lot.

Frequency of Visiting Caper Acres and Lower Park Use

When asked how often respondents visit Caper Acres, thirty-six percent (36%) stated at least once a week. Thirty-five percent (35%) of visitors noted that they visit at least one a month. Twenty-seven percent (27%) visit infrequently. These respondents could represent out of town visitors, grandparents and/or first time visitors.

When asked about other features of Lower Park visitors used, forty-two percent (42%) used the trails to either walk, bike or run and, thirty percent (30%) used Sycamore pool. Less used amenities among our respondents were the picnic areas (16%); baseball fields (6%) and the horseshoe pit (5%). These responses appear appropriate when considering the users of Caper Acres are families with very young children in many instances. Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents were aware that a concession stand was located at Sycamore Pool; however, qualitative responses revealed that many respondents did not know the concession stand's seasonal dates.

Currents Amenities, Facilities and Improvements

Eighty-two percent (82%) of the visitors believed that the existing seating in Caper Acres was adequate. When asked their opinion on the most important amenities of the park, fifty-one percent (51%) stated restrooms and drinking fountains, twenty-nine (29%) and twenty-two (22%) respectively. Some qualitative responses noted that one working fountain was not sufficient, and several respondents opined both the restrooms and the drinking fountains could use improvements.

Seventy-five percent (75%) of the respondents said that they preferred that the playground has a theme with seventy-three (73%) of those responses stating they were happy with the current theme "Storybook." Other suggestions for different themes were: Disney, Animal, Chico history (Robin Hood, Hooker Oak, and Upper Park).

Preference for the color scheme of the playground equipment was equally split with twenty-seven percent (27%) preferring both bright primary colors and a natural palette of color. Twenty-four percent (24%) stated they liked a combination of bright and natural colors and twenty-one percent (21%) had no opinion on the color scheme.

The survey question regarding which features and/or equipment the visitor's children preferred the most resulted in fifteen percent (15%) choosing the Crooked House and the Nico Project, fourteen percent (14%) the Birdcage, twelve percent (12%) Locksley's Castle, eleven percent (11%) Bunker Hill Mine and the swings, nine percent (9%) the Big Cheese, eight percent (8%) the Humpty Dumpty Sandpit, four percent (4%) the birthday rings, and one-percent (1%) other.

Future Renovations

Securing user opinions for future renovation of the playground as proposed with the Caper Acres Master Plan was incorporated into the survey. Eighty-two percent (82%) of respondents were in favor of adding interactive and educational displays around the perimeter of the playground.

Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents stated they were in favor of adding new features to the playground. The suggestions were tabulated and grouped into four similar categories:

1. active climbing equipment (e.g. monkey bars, spider net, climbing dome);
2. swinging type equipment;
3. spinning and jumping equipment (e.g. merry-go-round, seesaw); and,
4. water features (e.g. "volcano", fountains).

Twenty-nine percent (29%) suggested more active climbing equipment; twenty-seven percent (27%) asked for more swings; eighteen percent (18%) were in favor of adding spinning and jumping equipment; and, thirteen percent (13%) suggested adding some kind of water feature element.

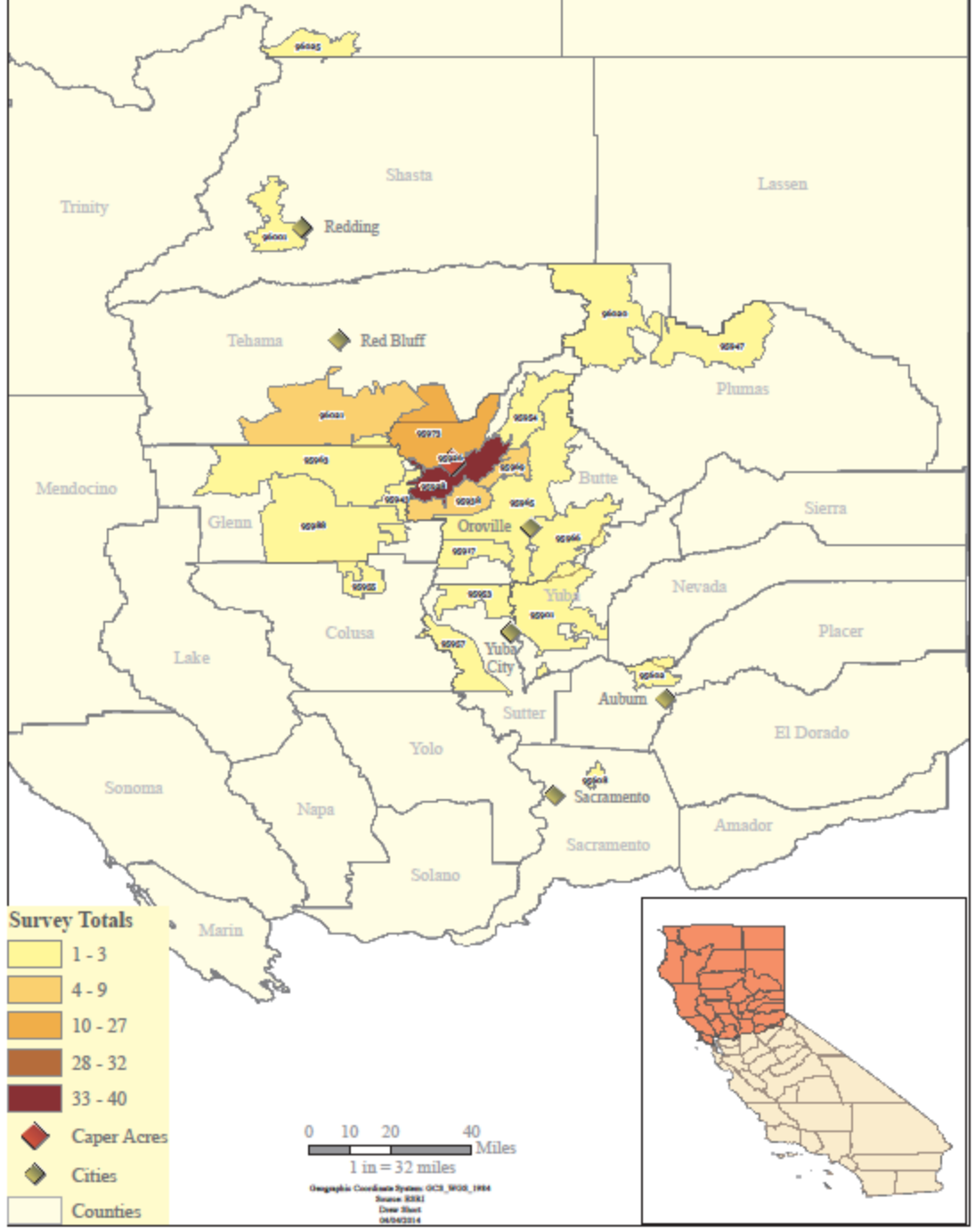
In regards to future renovation, responses to what were "Must Keep" features in Caper Acres; fourteen percent (14%) stated the Bunker Hill Mine, thirteen percent (13%) the Crooked House and eleven percent (11%) for the Big Cheese and Locksley's Castle.

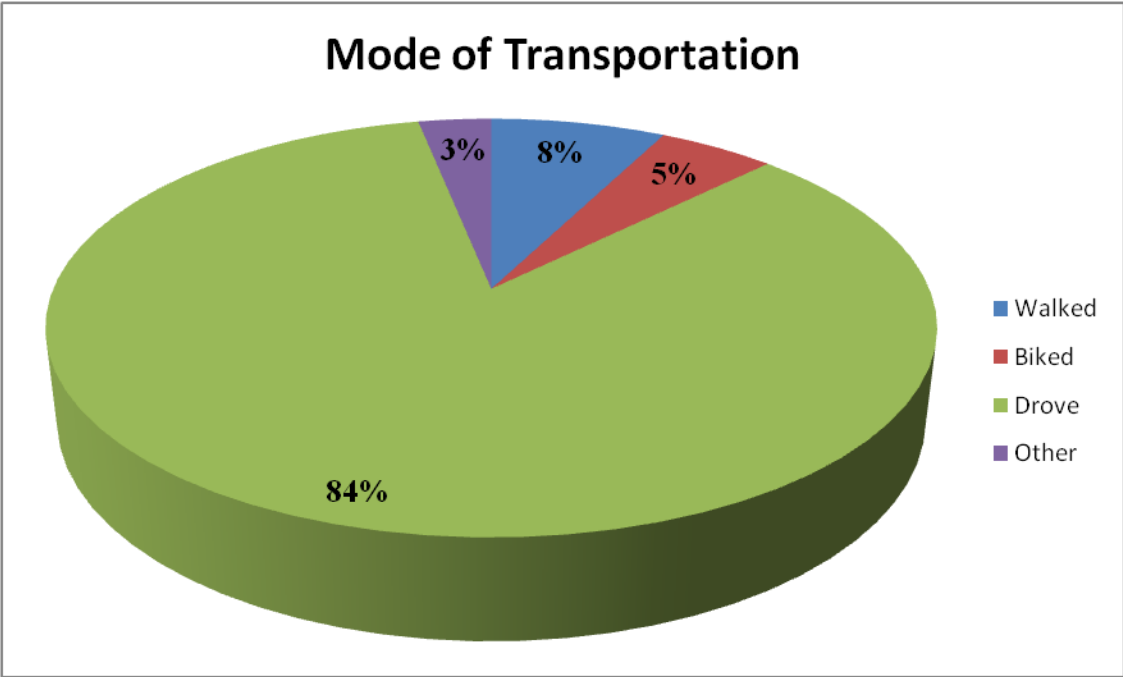
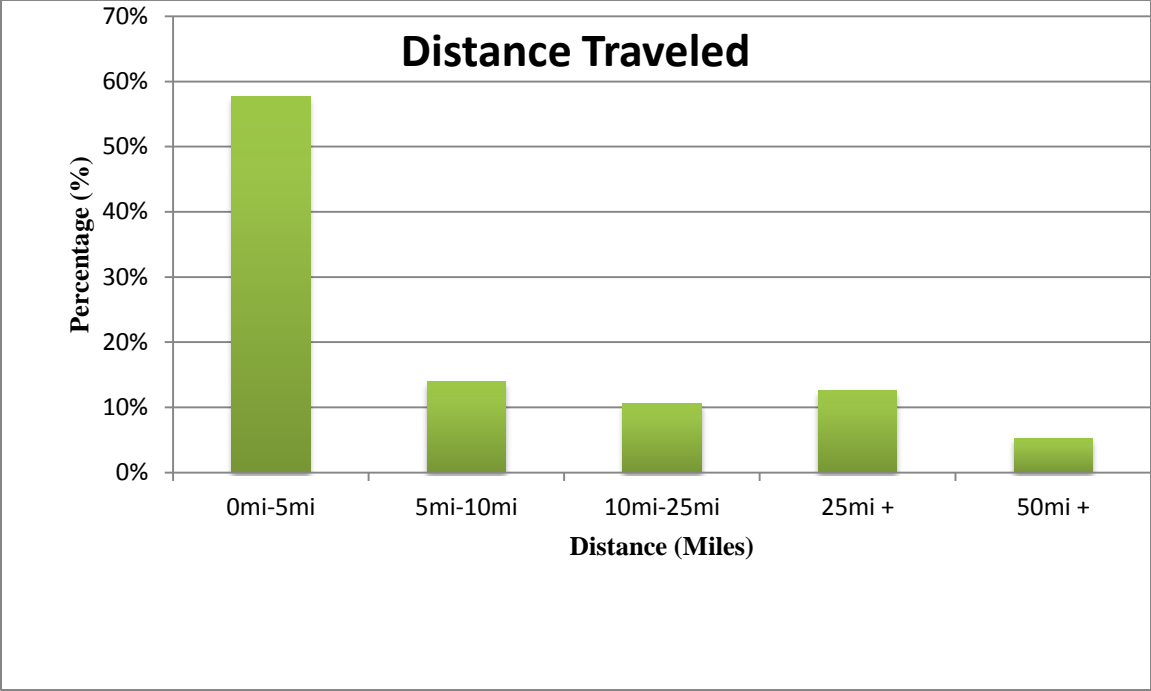
Funding Maintenance/Improvement of Caper Acres

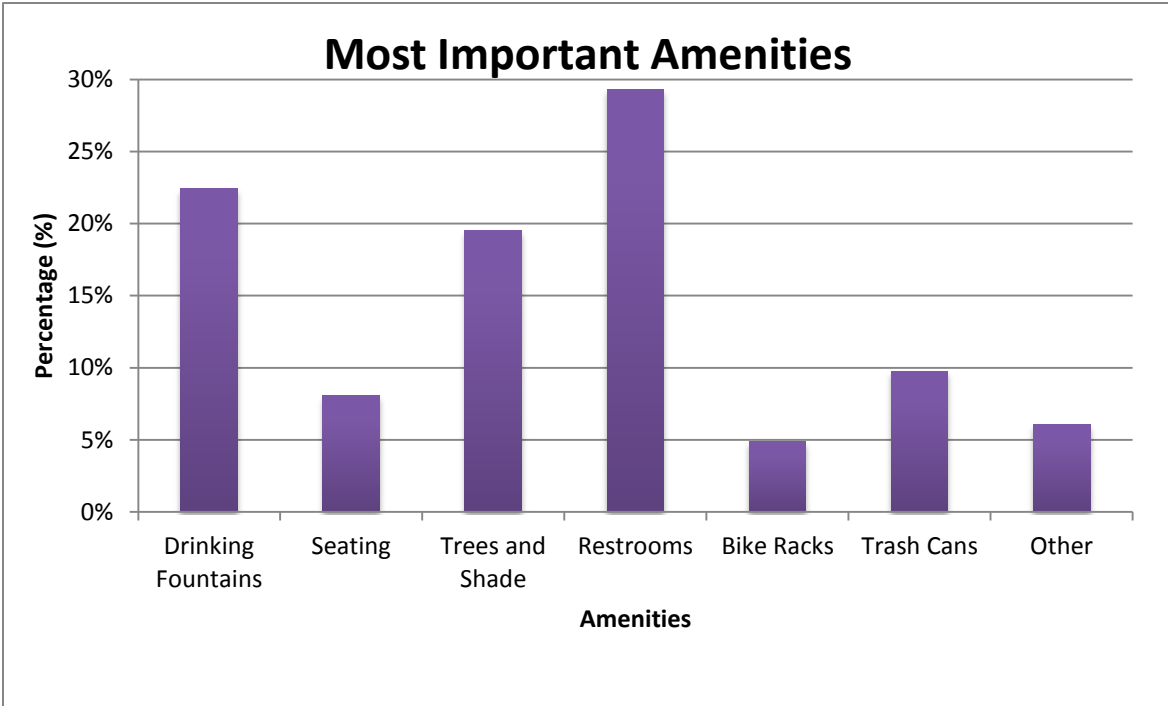
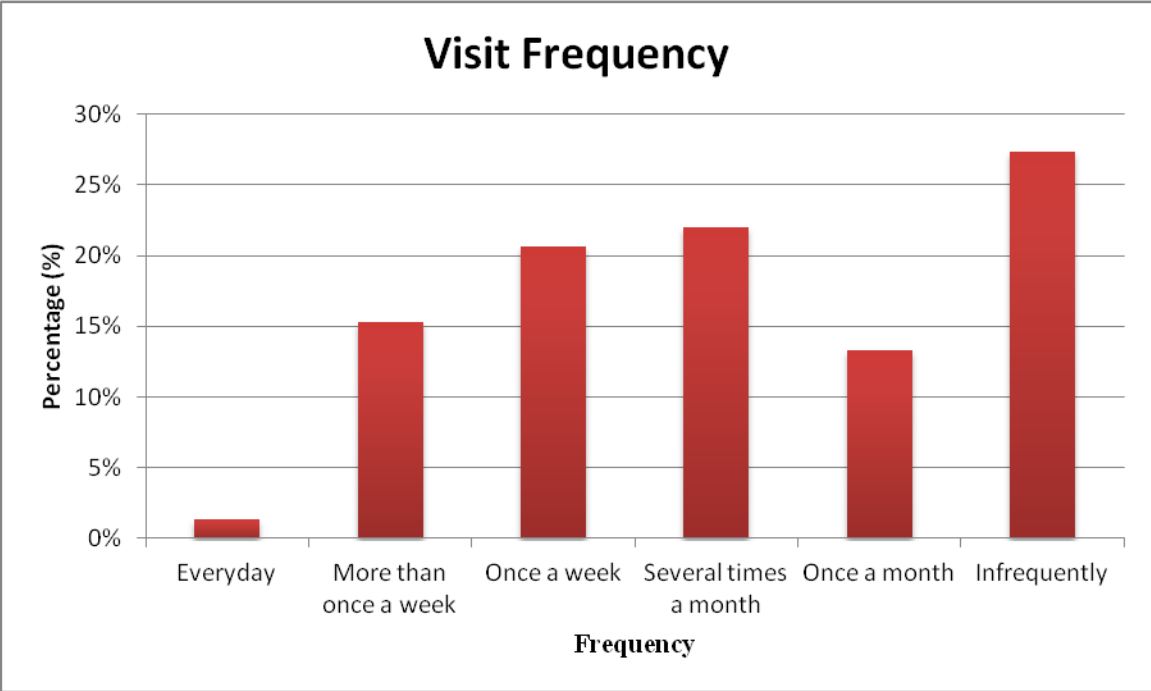
Eighty-five percent (85%) of respondents who identified themselves as City of Chico residents were in favor of paying a local tax to fund the maintenance and renovation of Caper Acres. Forty-seven percent (47%) of all respondents would be willing to pay some sort of parking fee.

There are qualitative components related to the above results. Many of respondents in favor of paying a local tax noted they wanted the funds to be earmarked for Caper Acres/Lower Park specifically. One individual stated, "If the city charged all the residents two dollars a year, it would amount to \$180,000." Additionally, the majority of those in favor of paying a tax, preferred not to pay a parking fee. Respondents were less inclined to pay the parking fee for various reasons. Some of the reasons stated were: inconvenience of having and paying with cash; to avoid the parking fee, they would park outside the park and it could negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood with traffic and parked cars; and, the fee would discourage lower income families from visiting a park that is expressly for all children. Results for these questions may have been affected by the order in which they were given. After responding "yes" to a local tax, the parking fee question may have prompted a "no" answer for additional funding.

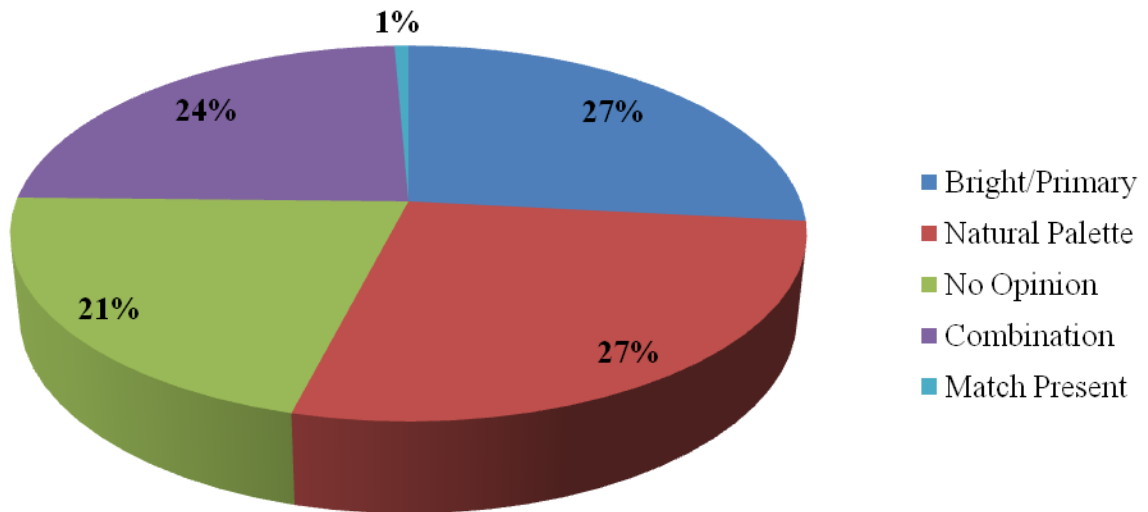
Northern California Survey Results By Zip Code



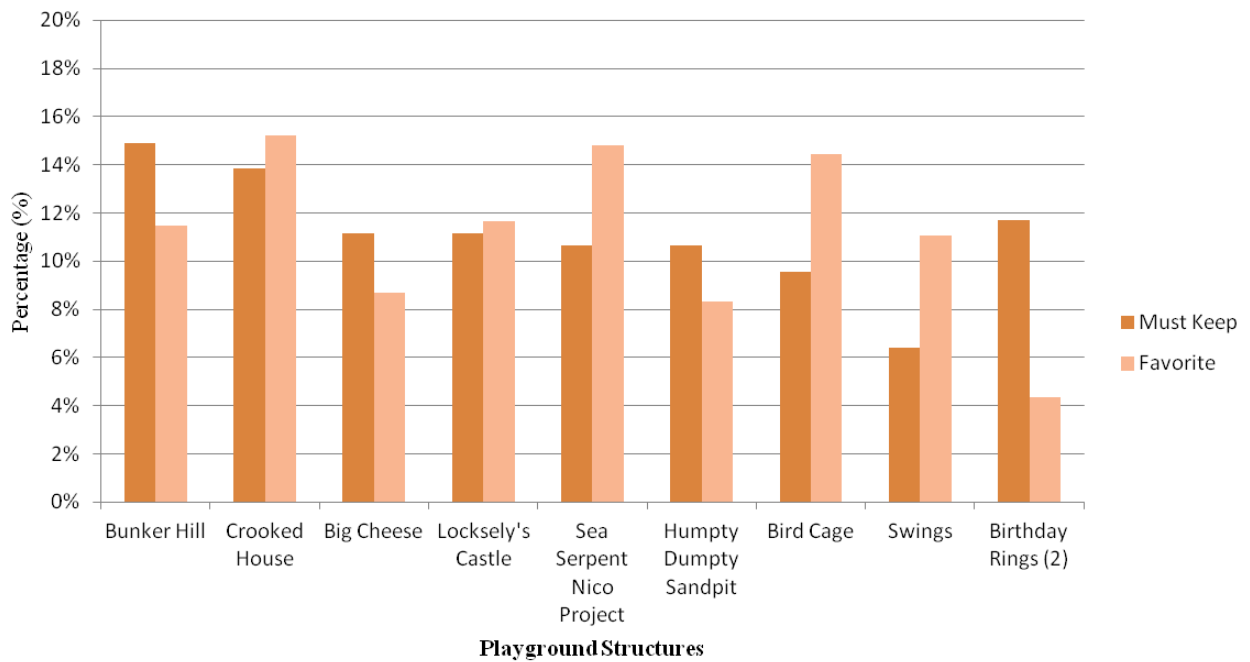




Caper Acres Color Scheme



Must Keep Equipment vs. Kids Favorite



QUALITATIVE RESPONSES

Below are a collection of responses from the respondents. Excluding the first entries that are related to the local tax and parking fee questions, the responses are not categorized, grouped, ranked or analyzed. Many visitors were passionate about Caper Acres and expressed their sentiments to the survey teams.

If it goes for Caper Acres

The fee would limit guests

Use meters like downtown

If the fee went to maintenance of the park

As long as it is affordable

Would visit the park less

A donation box would be good

Hesitant on parking fee

It would create more parking issues

Would prefer the fee or the tax

Have annual pass

Make clear for maintenance

Annual permit would be good

Annual pass

Only if the park offered more amenities

The turf is falling apart

The park has special memories to many generations

Wished Bunker Hill Mine was open

Keep bikes off Lower Bidwell Park

Keep bathroom open all week.

We bought our house because of Caper Acres

Parking on side street would upset neighbors, parking should be free

Cut out driving through Lower Bidwell Park - no vehicles

Keep it open and clean - everything else is for adults; reproduce the Hooker Oak for a climbing structure; have information about how Robin Hood was filmed in Bidwell Park

No cars in park

Need more parking

Like one entrance, one exit; skate park for older kids so they don't come to Caper Acres - saw older kids riding bikes in Caper Acres

Moved to Chico for city programs

Well worth it, Caper Acres, very family friendly

Upset that Caper Acres does not seem important; Chico's jewel

Teenagers came over from baseball park when waiting for games and broke things in Caper Acres

Survey Margin of Error

All survey results include a margin of error. There are several types of errors that can occur. Three types of errors that may have occurred when analyzing our survey results: sampling, measurement and processing. A sampling error occurs because the random sample cannot poll the entire population. This is statistical imprecision. With 150 surveys, the sampling error is approximately 8%. The measurement error can be a bias or error, and results when the survey misses what was intended to measure. This occurs when there is a flaw in the survey instrument such as the wording of the question, question response options, timing (order), interviewer error, etc. (pewsocialtrends.org) Processing the data may result in errors when data is lost, duplicated, or entered wrongly. (National Statistical Service - Australia)

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Researching the history of the playground and conducting the User Survey substantiated what we presumed to be true: Caper Acres is a much appreciated and cherished feature of Lower Bidwell Park. We also learned that the Chico community has supported the playground from its inception, through its many repairs and renovations with their ingenuity, labor and dollars. It appears highly probable that the 2014 Caper Acres Master Plan and Renovation will be supported by the Chico community, its service clubs and citizens alike as they once again rally to the cause with donations of time and money. Of course, this takes organization and human-hours to make it happen. The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission has begun the process by conducting public workshops, having a design firm in place and starting a work plan with priorities for budgeting this year.

Our experience conducting the survey was very positive. In only a couple of instances did the visitors to Caper Acres decline to participate in the survey and they were polite. Most respondents were very pleased to contribute their opinions and suggestions. The survey site was a happy place with the sounds of children delighting in the wonders of Caper Acres - a place just for them with adoring parents and grandparents watching the fun. For the students, it was an opportunity to leave the confines of the classroom and the homogenous blur of students, staff and faculty moving through the campus and spend some time in a glorious park and recall their own childhood.

While conducting the work for our report, the students mentally compiled a list of recommendations based on their research and observations. In class, recommendations were discussed. The recommendations follow:

1. Use park volunteers to provide oversight in Caper Acres (with Ranger back up and coordination).
2. Maintain current "Storybook" theme with enhancements and renovations.
3. Use a combination of primary colors and natural earth tone colors.
4. Consider a local city tax that is directed to Caper Acres funding (ballot).
5. Analyze sufficiency of parking lot capacity.
6. Include interactive and educational displays/activities along the playground perimeter.
 - History of indigenous people
 - Native and invasive plants
 - Big Chico Creek Eco-System
7. Form an ad hoc committee of community members, Park Commission representatives and city staff (if available) to organize fundraising events.
8. Continue to use Anne B's community funding, Buy-a-Brick and other successful funding programs and consider using a crowdfunding site such as Indiegogo or Kickstarter.
9. Ask community members to submit photos they may have of Caper Acres through the years that can be scanned/copied. Plan a fundraiser and display the photographs or present a PowerPoint presentation. (Researching the CSUC Meriam Library Special Collections, Chico Museum, City of Chico files, Chico Heritage Files and the Chico Enterprise Record, very few photographs of Caper Acres could be found.)

APPENDICES

Bibliography
City of Chico Building Division File Information
Buy-A-Brick Donation
Survey Instrument
Information Sheet
Survey Approval Letter
Excel Survey Results

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Please note: This bibliography does not have standard formatting and citation as students varied in their submittal of references. The timeframe for preparation of this report limited efforts to rectify the citations

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Photographs:

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Chico Heritage Association, Chico, CA
Chico Enterprise Record, Chico, CA
Pam Figge, Lecturer, CSUC

Initial Chronological Findings Concerning Caper Acres: APN 005-310-001-000

Visit to Building Department: City of Chico, February 11, 2014 Report by Richard and Marshall

1. 1962 Copy of Engineer Survey Map (General Plan (for Original Caper Acres – Received City of Chico, Department of Public Works, January 11, 1963
2. 1962 -1967 Various Service Requests for Repairs such as: "No Parking Sign Damaged", "Bottom fell out of tree house", etc
3. 30 June, 1967: Inspection Made by Chris H. Gage, John Bramble. Various notations: "Water pump rewired", "rest rooms not marked for respective sexes", "Need sand in bottom of concrete pipes of the tunnels."
4. 1967 – 1992 Nothing for this period of time.
5. An initial Status of Plan Check was issued on March 23, 1992 that seem to focus on the rest rooms at Caper Acres such as: Provide plumbing and electrical drawing, provide adequate ventilation to restrooms, provide Title 24 handicap requirements, etc.
6. A sewer Main Extension was issued in March 1994
7. 1995: On July 24, 1995 Status of Plan for renovating Caper Acres was received by Community Development Dept. Included were specific plans for renovation of Caper Acres in accordance with requirements for Americans with Disabilities Act, Title III and UBC Chapter 31A (Accessibility). Questions were asked on the plan and suggestions made for the Masterplan and each of the various features of the park such as: Locksley Castle, the Tree House, etc.
8. 1996: Major work was done and Inspections were conducted. A completion list was included costing \$16,885.00 dated 7/18/96
9. 1996: On August 1, 1996, a City of Chico Memorandum was issued adding a few more renovations needed such as: railing for the Crooked House, installing access bars at viewing window, etc. Mention of finishing before rainy season was also included.
10. 1998: Document approving Welding Inspector on July 17, 1998 for Bird House Project
11. 1998: The Bird House Plan was approved by the Building Division for Griffin & Associates was approved 10/6/1998
12. 2003: Encroachment Permit for California Water Service Co, crossing Woodland Avenue to tie in with new water facilities.



Caper Acres Brick

Leave a lasting legacy in Caper Acres through the purchase of a Caper Acres Brick. Bricks cost \$100 each.

Brick engraving information: Bricks may have up to 3 lines of 15 characters each and are 8" x 3.75" x 2.5". Please print clearly in the space provided below how you would like your brick to be inscribed. Place one letter, number, or blank per space.



Contact information:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____

Please make check payable to the City of Chico and write "CA Brick" in the memo space on your check. For more information, call the Park Division at 896-7800.

Return checks and completed form to: Park Division, City of Chico, P.O. Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927.

CAPER ACRES QUESTIONNAIRE - GEOGRAPHY 428 SITE PLANNING SPRING 2014

1. How did you get to Caper Acres Park today?
Walked Biked Drove Other
2. How far did you travel to get to Lower Park?
0-5 miles 5-10 miles 10-25 miles over 25 miles over 50 miles
3. What is your zip code? _____
4. Why are you visiting Caper Acres today? _____
Are you with a group? Yes No
5. How often do you come to Caper Acres?
 - Everyday
 - More than once a week
 - Once a week
 - Several times a month
 - Infrequently
 - Once a Month
6. In addition to Caper Acres, what areas of Lower Park do you use?
 - None, I just walk, run or bike
 - Horseshoe pit
 - Sycamore pool
 - Picnic areas
 - Baseball field
7. Do you know there's a seasonal (May-Sept) concession stand at Sycamore Pool?
Yes No If yes, how did you learn of the concession stand? _____
8. When you visit Caper Acres is there adequate seating for parents to watch their children? Yes No
9. What amenities are most important during your visit to Caper Acres?
 - Drinking fountains
 - Seating
 - Playground equipment
 - Trees and Shade
 - Restrooms
 - Bike Racks
 - Trash Receptacles
 - Other _____
10. What playground equipment does your child(ren) most like?
 - Locksley's Castle
 - Bunker Hill Mine
 - Big Cheese
 - Crooked House
 - Birthday Rings (2)
 - Humpty Dumpty Sand Pit
 - Bird Cage Play Equipment
 - Swings
 - Sea Serpent Ship Nico Project

CAPER ACRES QUESTIONNAIRE - GEOGRAPHY 428 SITE PLANNING SPRING 2014

Now, we'd like to ask you about future improvements to Caper Acres

11. Would you like to see a design theme for Caper Acres? Yes No
If yes, what theme would you like to see? _____
12. The playground equipment should be:
- Bright, primary colors
 - A natural palette of colors
 - Neutral (no opinion) Other _____
13. Is there a feature and/or equipment that you'd like to have added to the playground? Yes No If yes, what feature and/or equipment?

14. Would you like to have interactive, environmental and educational displays/activities incorporated into the perimeter of Caper Acres? Yes No
15. What features and/or equipment are "must keep" for any future renovations to Caper Acres?

16. Are you a City resident? If not, are you a Butte County resident?
Yes No Yes No
17. If you're a City resident, would you be in favor of a local tax to help fund the improvement and maintenance of Lower Park? Yes No
18. If you drive to Lower Bidwell Park would you be willing to pay a small parking fee?
Yes No

"Hello, my name is _____. I am a student at CSU, Chico and my Geography class is conducting a survey regarding Caper Acres. You were selected to participate in this study because we are conducting a user survey of citizens visiting Caper Acres. This study is being done by Professor Pam Figge of the Geography and Planning Department. Only persons eighteen (18) years of age and older will be asked to participate in the study. No children will be questioned. The purpose of this research study is to receive public input that will help the City of Chico prepare a Master Plan for Caper Acres. Your responses to the questions are completely anonymous and no identifying personal information will be collected or used in conjunction with the research. The questionnaire will take approximately five (5) minutes and you will be asked about your (or your children's) use of Lower Bidwell Park and Caper Acres; what facilities your child(ren) and you enjoy; and what improvements you might want to see in the future. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time. You are free to skip any questions you choose."

Contact Information:

"Thank you for participating in the survey. If you have any questions, you may contact Professor Figge at pfigge@csu.chico.edu" (students will hand the contact information to the participant).

"Hello, my name is _____. I am a student at CSU, Chico and my Geography class is conducting a survey regarding Caper Acres. You were selected to participate in this study because we are conducting a user survey of citizens visiting Caper Acres. This study is being done by Professor Pam Figge of the Geography and Planning Department. Only persons eighteen (18) years of age and older will be asked to participate in the study. No children will be questioned. The purpose of this research study is to receive public input that will help the City of Chico prepare a Master Plan for Caper Acres. Your responses to the questions are completely anonymous and no identifying personal information will be collected or used in conjunction with the research. The questionnaire will take approximately five (5) minutes and you will be asked about your (or your children's) use of Lower Bidwell Park and Caper Acres; what facilities your child(ren) and you enjoy; and what improvements you might want to see in the future. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time. You are free to skip any questions you choose."

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"Thank you for participating in the survey. If you have any questions, you may contact Professor Figge at pfigge@csu.chico.edu" (students will hand the contact information to the participant).

California State University, Chico
Chico, California 95929-2575

Office of Graduate Studies
530 895 6680
Fax: 530-895-1147
www.csuchico.edu/graduatestudies



February 28, 2014

Pamela Figue
583 East 6th Street
Chico, CA 95928



Dear Pamela Figue,

As the Chair of the Campus Institutional Review Board, I have determined that your research proposal entitled "USER STUDY FOR CAPER ACRES, CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, LOWER BIDWELL PARK, CHICO, CA" is exempt from full committee review. This clearance allows you to proceed with your study.

I do ask that you notify our office should there be any further modifications to, or complications arising from or within, the study. In addition, should this project continue longer than the authorized date, you will need to apply for an extension from our office. When your data collection is complete, you will need to turn in the attached Post Data Collection Report for final approval. Students should be aware that failure to comply with any HSRG requirements will delay graduation. If you should have any questions regarding this clearance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John Mahoney, Ph.D., Chair
Human Subjects in Research Committee

Attachment: Post Data Collection Report

Gender		
Male	48	29%
Female	104	63%
Unknown	12	7%
	164	100%

Mode of Transportation		
Walked	12	8%
Biked	8	5%
Drove	133	84%
Other	5	3%
	158	100%

How Far		
0mi-5mi	87	58%
5mi-10mi	21	14%
10mi-25mi	16	11%
25mi +	19	13%
50mi +	8	5%
	151	100%

Group		
yes	26	17%
no	124	83%
	150	100%

Frequency		
Everyday	2	1%
More than once a week	23	15%
Once a week	31	21%
Several times a month	33	22%
Once a month	20	13%
Infrequently	41	27%
	150	100%

Simplified:		
Everyday	2	1%
At least once a week	54	36%
At least once a month	53	35%
Infrequently	41	27%
	150	100%

Other areas of Lower Park		
None/walk/bike/run	120	42%
Horseshow	14	5%
pool	85	30%
picnic	47	16%
baseball	18	6%
other	4	1%
	288	100%

Other	
N/A	2
creek	1
Wildlife center	1
	4

Seasonal Concession		
Yes	106	71%
No	43	29%
	149	100%

If yes, how?		
Familiar with area	52	84%
Media	4	6%
Word of mouth	3	5%
Friends and Family	3	5%
	62	100%

Enough seating?		
Yes	125	82%
No	23	15%
Other	5	3%
	153	100%

Other:	
N/A:	2
More Shade	1
More benches	1
walking	1
	5

Most important amenities		
Drinking Fountains	78	22%
Seating	28	8%
Trees and Shade	68	20%
Restrooms	102	29%
Bike Racks	17	5%
Trash Cans	34	10%
Other	21	6%
Playground Equipment	0	0%
	348	100%

Other:	
cleanliness/maintenance	5
picnic	1
parking	3
quiet	1
safety	5
enclosed/fence	4
N/A	1
Creek	1
concession	2
nostalgic	1
	24

Kids Favorite Equipment		
Crooked House	77	15%
Sea Serpent Nico Proj	75	15%
Bird Cage	73	14%
Locksley's Castle	59	12%
Bunker Hill Mine	58	11%
Swings	56	11%
Big Cheese	44	9%
Humpty Dumpty Sandpit	42	8%
Birthday Rings (2)	22	4%
other	7	1%
	513	

Other:	
Unknown:	1
No Sand Pit	1
N/A	1
open space	1
climbing	1
stage	1
slides	1
	7

Theme		
yes	110	75%
no	36	25%
	146	100%

Interactive		
yes	88	82%
no	15	14%
other/ NA	4	4%
	107	100%

Suggestions:		
Content	78	73%
Chico History	2	2%
H2O	2	2%
natural	1	1%
something new	1	1%
princess/superhero	1	1%
Disney	2	2%
tunnels	1	1%
future	1	1%
age appropriate	1	1%
variety	2	2%
robin hood	2	2%
animal/zoo	2	2%
fairytale	4	4%
N/A	7	7%
	107	

Must Keep		
Bunker Hill Mine	28	14%
Crooked House	26	13%
Cheese	21	11%
castle	21	11%
Nico	20	10%
Humpty Dumpty Sandpit	20	10%
birdcage	18	9%
swings	12	6%
original Pieces	8	4%
Slides	7	4%
trees	3	2%
everything	3	2%
N/A	3	2%
Birthday Rings (2)	2	1%
handicap equipment	1	1%
soft ground	1	1%
improve picnic areas	1	1%
restrooms	1	1%
upkeep	1	1%
	197	100%

Color Scheme:		
Bright/Primary	40	27%
Natural Palette	41	27%
No Opinion	32	21%
Combination	36	24%
Match Present	1	1%
	150	100%

City Resident?		
yes	93	62%
no	58	38%
	151	100%

Added Feature:		
Yes	106	71%
no	43	29%
	149	100%

Butte County Resident		
yes	22	39%
no	23	40%
unknown	7	12%
N/A	5	9%
	57	100%

If yes, what?		
Swings	44	27%
water feature element	21	13%
Active Climbing	48	29%
Spinning/Jumping	29	18%
other	23	14%
	165	100%

Favor local tax:		
yes	81	85%
no	14	15%
	95	100%

Parking Fee:		
yes	66	47%
no	75	53%
	141	100%

Dan Efseaff

From: Richard Ober <richard.h.ober@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2014 10:04 AM
To: BPPC-Lisa Emmerich
Cc: Dan Efseaff
Subject: BPPC Agenda Item Request

Lisa and Dan,

I would like to formally request that the following item be discussed at the October BPPC meeting for inclusion on the November commission agenda:

Discussion of Urban Forest Needs

- A) Status of Urban Forester role and duties/priorities/timeline for work to be assigned - Action: BPPC to comment on plan and provide direction (include vote on support of plan).
- B) Urban Forest Management Plan - Action: BPPC to vote to approve plan and designate timeline for plan review and revisions (if necessary).

Here is my rationale for these two items:

Urban Forester: we know that the council has rejected the commission's request to fully fund this position ASAP and has, instead, directed that this role be contracted out. It is the BPPC's responsibility to provide oversight on the implementation of that decision. When will that role be filled? By whom (what person or agency)? What are the priorities for the tasks that are to be assigned to a contracted person/agency? What is the timeline for completing those tasks? How do we measure success? I realize some of the detail required to answer these questions may be hard to produce by November. Still, I believe the public deserves to hear the full commission discuss and comment on whatever information we have at this time.

Urban Forest Management Plan:

This plan has been thoroughly reviewed and revised by the Tree Committee and by staff. I propose that the plan receive a thumb's up or down vote. I also propose that this plan be treated much like the Peregrine Point management plan and that "adaptive management" principles be applied -- i.e., the plan can be reviewed and adapted as changes in budget, tree science, street planning and construction, etc. change over time. (For instance: clearly the list of approved street trees will need to be under regular review; a tree species that we thought would work well in one location may be found to be unsuitable 5-7 years later. Etc.)

I'd be happy to provide more information and/or to clarify the rationale for this request. But I do formally request that this item be brought to the full commission in October to be considered for inclusion on the November agenda.

Thank you,

Rich Ober
BPPC

--

Richard Ober
667 E. 5th St.
Chico, CA 95928

530.588.5789
richard.h.ober@gmail.com

Dan Efseaff

From: Emmerich, Lisa <LEmmerich@csuchico.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2014 2:38 PM
To: Dan Efseaff
Subject: FW: Bidwell Park Review / Summit Co-Sponsorship and Steering Committee Attendance By BPPC

Hi, Dan,

I received this last week. I'd appreciate it if you would distribute this communication to the commissioners. I would like to add a discussion of this to the October agenda.

Thanks,
Lisa

From: Woody Elliott [mailto:woody.elliott@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2014 11:11 AM
To: Emmerich, Lisa
Cc: John Merz; Josephine Guardino; Michael Bruhn; Patsy Schutz; Steve Green; Susan Mason
Subject: Bidwell Park Review / Summit Co-Sponsorship and Steering Committee Attendance By BPPC

Dear Ms. Emmerich, Chair - Bidwell Park & Playground Commission:

Friends of Bidwell Park is requesting that (1) the Bidwell Parks and Playground Commission cosponsor with FOBP and other local NGOs, who may volunteer, a 1/2 to 1 day review of management of Bidwell Park's natural, cultural and recreational resources. The gathering could be held on a Saturday in Feb. or March 2015 in the large "ball" room on the 2nd floor of the Old Chico Muni Building or the City Council Chambers. FOBP will be organizing a Steering Committee to develop a program that would stimulate interest in management and support (financial and volunteer) for Bidwell Park. FOBP would (2) welcome participation by representative(s) of the BPPC on the Steering Committee. Please let me know the pleasure of the BPPC regarding these two requests.

Sincerely,
Woody Elliott & John Merz, Steering Committee Organizers



PO Box 4837
Chico, Ca 95927