



CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)

Regular Meeting Agenda
June 26, 2017, 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 5/31/17.

2.2. CONSIDERATION OF A MINUTE ORDER RECOMMENDING A LEASE WITH THE CHICO AREA PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT (CARD) FOR AN AREA ADJACENT TO THE NATURE CENTER.

CARD, as the operator of the Nature Center, is considering applying for a grant to obtain funds to construct an outdoor classroom in the grassy area in lower Bidwell Park adjacent to the existing Exhibit building. The grant guidelines require land tenure or a lease agreement with a 30-year term to receive funding.

Recommendation: Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends BPPC approval of the Minute Order recommending City Council approval of the 30-year lease, if the grant is awarded to CARD.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – IF ANY

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1. CONSIDERATION OF AN APPEAL OF A DENIED TREE REMOVAL PERMIT FOR 1241 ARCADIAN AVE.

Teisha and Edwin Hase (Applicant) requested a permit to remove two Pin Oaks located at 1241 Arcadian Drive. Applicant cites utility line concerns and aesthetics as the principal reasons for removal. Staff denied the permit as the trees are not dead, dying, or pose a dangerous or defective condition. Per the Chico Municipal Code and at the request of the Applicant, the BPPC is considering an appeal of the denied permit.

Urban Forest Manager requests BPPC commission to consider and chose one of two presented options.

- Option 1. Repeal denial of the tree removal permit. Approve removal of two pin oaks at 1241 Arcadian.
- Option 2: Uphold denial of the tree removal permit.

4.2. CONTINUED REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF TRANSITIONING NON-SWORN PARK RANGERS TO SWORN STATUS

The Commission is continuing its consideration of the proposal to transition Park Rangers into sworn, armed Rangers and changing the reporting structure from Public Works to the Chico Police Department. The Commission will continue to discuss the implementation alternatives, and will review a draft Memorandum

of Understanding between the Public Works and the Police Departments should the proposal be approved by the BPPC and the City Council consideration.

Recommendation: City staff requests the Commission:

- 1) Provide their thoughts, perspectives, concerns, or any other input on the proposed Hybrid Program recognizing that it is only conceptual and recently considered; and
- 2) Provide their perspective on the three potential options below.

Option 1 Full Conversion: The existing three Park Ranger positions would convert to sworn Park Ranger status and be moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018.

Option 2 Hybrid: Two existing Park Rangers would be converted to sworn Park Rangers and moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018. One Park Ranger would be retained within Public Works to coordinate all park ranger activity between Police and Public Works and to oversee a Reserve Park Ranger program which will predominately provide non-enforcement related education, interpretation, and service to the parks and greenways.

Option 3 No Change: No change to current Park Ranger Program

4.3. PRIORITIZATION OF CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE REVISIONS

At its 5/31/17 meeting, the Commission was requested to provide to Staff a list of potential Chico Municipal Code (CMC) regulations pertaining to City Parks and trees that they believe may need revising for consideration and prioritization at tonight's meeting.

Recommendation: Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends that the BPPC review the list of CMC Sections provided by the Commissioners and:

- 1) Prioritize and approve the top CMC Sections to be reviewed over the 2017-18 fiscal year, and
- 2) Forward any of the priority CMC Sections to the pertinent BPPC Committees for review and recommendation, if desired.

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 AND COMMUNICATION

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 Division Report

6.2. Street Tree Division Report

6.3. Park & Natural Resource Manager Report (***Verbal Report—Linda Herman, Interim Park and Natural Resource Manager***)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on **July 31, 2017 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
May 30, 2017 Regular Meeting

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

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

1.2. Roll Call

Commissioners present:

Aaron Haar
Alberto Hernandez
Elaina McReynolds
Tom Nickell
Valerie Reddemann
Marisa Stoller
Jeff Glatz

Staff present: Assistant City Manager Chris Constantin (ACM), Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager (P&NRM) Linda Herman, Public Works Director- Operations and Maintenance Erik Gustafson (PWD-OM) Urban Forest Manager Richie Bamlet (OFM) and Park Services Coordinator Shane Romain (PSC).

2. CONSENT AGENDA.

2.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action: *Approve minutes of Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meetings held on 03/27/17 and 04/24/17*

2.2. Permit Application for wedding ceremony at Picnic Site #37 (10/21/17)

Applicant Jenna Tubbs would like to reserve picnic site #37 in Lower Bidwell Park for her wedding ceremony. **Recommendation:** *Conditional approval.*

MOTION: Approve items to approve the consent agenda as submitted **MADE BY:** Harr **SECOND:** Reddemann **AYES:** 7 (Haar, Stoller, Hernandez, McReynolds, Reddemann, Glatz and Nickell). **NOES:** 0. **ABSENT:** 0

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – NONE

4. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. Review and consideration of transitioning non-sworn park rangers to sworn status.

The City is considering empowering Park Rangers as sworn, armed Park Rangers and changing the reporting structure from Public Works to the Chico Police Department. The Commission will discuss several alternative options for City Council consideration.

Recommendation: *City staff requests the Commission to:*

- 1) Provide their thoughts, perspectives, concerns, or any other input on the proposed Hybrid Program recognizing that it is only conceptual and recently considered; and
- 2) Provide perspective on the three potential options.

A written report that included the 3 proposals and current job descriptions for the Senior Park Ranger and Park Ranger job descriptions was submitted.

Gustafson gave an overview and recap of where discussions had left off on the Park Ranger conversion to sworn peace officers.

Constantin also recapped where discussion left off with just the one proposal and then outlined the other options.

Option 1 Full Conversion: The existing three Park Ranger positions would convert to sworn Park Ranger status and be moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018.

Option 2 Hybrid: Two existing Park Ranger positions would be converted to sworn Park Rangers and moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018. One Park Ranger would be retained within Public Works to coordinate all park ranger activity between Police and Public Works and to oversee a Reserve Park Ranger program which will predominately provide non-enforcement related education, interpretation, and service to the parks and greenways.

Option 3 No Change: No change to current Park Ranger Program.

Commissioners asked several questions and provided input regarding the proposed options. Some examples of questions and input;

How would reserve rangers be paid? How does any change impact the Master Management Plan of Bidwell Park? How are the gaps in park coverage going to be filled when the rangers are in training? If there are budget cuts in the future, how will that impact Park Rangers? Is there evidence that this change needs to be done now?

There was a request for a matrix outlining how the program would work. There were concerns about the reputation of Bidwell Park. A draft memorandum of understanding between the Chico Police Department and the Public Works Department was requested to be presented at the June BPPC meeting.

Public comment: There were 12 speakers on the topic who were opposed to the conversion of the Park Rangers to become sworn, armed, peace officers. The primary concern the rangers being armed.

Chair Stoller brought the discussion back to the commission who mainly focused on discussion of funding for ideas built onto the proposed options.

Commission members Haar and McReynolds requested to see an Option 4, which is a variant on Option 2 **Hybrid** where one existing Park Ranger would be converted to sworn Park and two Park Rangers would remain within Public Works providing primarily non-enforcement related education, interpretation, and service to the parks and greens ways.

5.2 Consideration and prioritization of potential revisions to park related Chico Municipal Code provisions.

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) was provided copies of certain Chico Municipal Code (CMC) regulations pertaining to City Parks and trees that may need revision. Review of CMC Chapters 12.08 and 12R.10 regarding Park reservations have already been

approved by the Commission as part of its annual Work Plan. The Commission is asked to review the other regulations provided by Staff for areas of concern and potential revisions.

Recommendation: *Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends that the Commission:*

- 1) Forward Chapters 12R.08 and 12R.10 to the Policy Advisory Committee for review and recommendation; and
- 2) Each provide to the P&NRM by June 15, 2017 their top priority CMC topics they would like to review over the next fiscal year for discussion at the June BPPC meeting.

Public comment: Karen Laslo expressed that she felt the public needs to be more aware of various regulations in the parks.

MOTION: To forward Chapters 12R.08 and 12R.10 to the Policy Advisory Committee for review and recommendation **MADE BY:** McReynolds **SECOND:** Nickell **AYES:** 7 Approve items to approve the consent agenda as submitted **MADE BY:** Harr **SECOND:** Reddemann **AYES:** 7 (Haar, Stoller, Hernandez, McReynolds, Reddemann, Glatz and Nickell). **NOES:** 0. **ABSENT:** 0

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Teisha Hase – Submitted paperwork and photos regarding a denied tree removal permit for her property located at 1241 Arcadian Ave. Hase was advised on how to proceed with the appeal process.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The following items are provided for the Commission's information only. No action or public comment can be taken on any of the items unless the Commission agrees to include them on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1. Park & Street Tree Division Reports

7.2. Park & Natural Resource Manager Report – **Verbal Report - Interim Park and Natural Resource Manager Linda Herman; No items to report on verbally.**

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on **June 26, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, California.

Date Approved: / / .

Prepared By:

Shane Romain, Park Services Coordinator

Date

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MINUTE ORDER NO. _____

SUBJECT:

RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CHICO AREA PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT (CARD) TO LEASE A PORTION OF LOWER BIDWELL PARK NEAR THE CHICO CREEK NATURE CENTER FOR AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM.

EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY: Linda Herman, Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager Initials (*LH*)

SEE ATTACHED

RECOMMENDATION: Linda Herman, Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager Initials ()

The Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends that the Commission recommend City Council approval of an agreement with CARD to lease a portion of Bidwell Park near the Chico Creek Nature Center.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR O&M: Erik Gustafson Initials (*EG*)

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (MEETING OF 6/26/17)

I hereby certify that the BPPC took the following action on this Minute Order:

Approved Other (explain below)

Shane Romain, Park Services Coordinator

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original Minute Order on file in the Park Division Office.

Shane Romain, Park Services Coordinator

DISTRIBUTION

Preliminary:
BPPC (7)
P&NRM
Ann Willmann, CARD

Final:
File No./Chrono
CARD File
Ann Willmann, CARD

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTE ORDER NO. _____

RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CHICO AREA PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT (CARD) TO LEASE A PORTION OF LOWER BIDWELL PARK NEAR THE CHICO CREEK NATURE CENTER FOR AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM.

EXPLANATION:

1. The City entered into an Agreement with the Chico Creek Nature Center, Inc (“Center”) to lease a portion of Bidwell Park to offer an interpretive center to the community.
2. The Chico Creek Nature Center has entered into an Agreement with the Chico Area Park & Recreation District (CARD) to manage and operate the Center.
3. As operator of the Center, CARD desires to apply for a California State Parks Outdoor Education Facilities grant to build an outdoor classroom in grassy area located just west of the Center’s existing Exhibit Building.
4. CARD will be seeking approximately \$160,000 in grant funds to build a 20 x 30 ft. open shelter classroom on a concrete pad, and access to water, if possible. Solar lighting may also be included. The request letter from CARD with copy of the preliminary designs are in Exhibit “A”.
5. To receive a grant award, the applicant must own the land or have a lease agreement with a term of at least 30-years, plus a non-binding option to renew the agreement beyond 30-years. Because CARD, and not the Center, is the grant applicant, CARD is requesting that the Commission and the City Council consider executing a lease agreement for the proposed classroom area, which is approximate 90x50 foot (0.10 acre) and depicted in the attached Exhibit “B”.
6. The grant application is due on 7/14/17, and the guidelines will accept a motion of intent to execute a lease during the grant application process. Should CARD not receive the grant, then the lease agreement will not be executed.
7. If approved by the BPPC, the City Council will consider at its 7/5/17 meeting a Minute Order authorizing the City Manager to execute the lease agreement with CARD if awarded a grant.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends that the Commission recommend City Council approval of an agreement with CARD to lease a portion of Bidwell Park near the Center for an outdoor classroom if awarded a grant from the State Parks.


ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit “A”: CARD Letter/Classroom Design

Exhibit “B”: Map of Proposed Lease Area



Chico Area
Recreation and
Park District

DATE: June 27, 2017
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
FROM: Ann Willmann, General Manager 
SUBJECT: Chico Creek Nature Center Outdoor Education Facility Grant

California State Parks has released a grant opportunity for Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities. This would be an excellent opportunity to further develop the site near the Chico Creek Nature Center to include an outdoor classroom. It would be an open shelter with tables, and if possible, access to water. If lighting is needed, we would attempt to use solar lights to eliminate the need for electricity. This area would be a great location for hosting the many school field trips that already take place at the Nature Center.

Eligible projects are development of public outdoor structures and exhibits that facilitate focused learning. The focused learning must take place in a natural outdoor setting, with native vegetation. The learning must encompass the natural environment, and inspire environmental stewardship, and an appreciation of the natural world. The learning must include an understanding of how humans interact with, and are dependent on, natural ecosystems. These structures and exhibits may provide outdoor education on their own (such as signs, kiosks, nature trails), or facilitate providing outdoor education (such as campfire centers, amphitheaters, group campgrounds).

Per the requirements of the grant, CARD and the City of Chico would need to enter into a 30-year lease agreement for the property. We are requesting the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission support our request of this lease agreement and recommend approval to the Chico City Council.

Attached, you will find a concept drawing of the proposed classroom as well as the requirements for the land tenure agreement. We will be requesting a maximum of \$160,000 to complete the structure. Should we be a recipient of the grant, CARD would return to the commission for final approval of the project prior to construction. We are excited about potential new activities out at the center and look forward to educating more children about the wonderful natural resources Bidwell Park and Chico have to offer.

545 Vallombrosa Avenue

Chico, CA 95926

office: 530 895.4711

fax: 530 895.4721

Proposed CARD Lease Area



Exhibit "B"





DATE: 6/26/17
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
FROM: Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager
SUBJECT: 4.1 CONSIDERATION OF AN APPEAL OF A DENIED TREE REMOVAL PERMIT FOR 1241 ARCADIAN AVE.

REPORT IN BRIEF:

Applicant Teisha Hase is requesting to have two Pin oaks removed in front of her residence at 1241 Arcadian. Mrs. Hase cites the unsuitability of the trees for planting under powerlines and the poor aesthetics of the trees following utility line clearance operations. She also cites the mess that the trees make due to them retaining their dead leaves until the following spring. At that time of year there is no leaf pickup service.

Recommendation: *Urban Forest Manager requests BPPC commission to consider and chose one of two presented options:*

- Option 1. Repeal denial of the tree removal permit. Approve removal of two pin oaks at 1241 Arcadian.
- Option 2: Uphold denial of the tree removal permit.

Discussion:

The pruning dates for these two oak trees were obtained from the PG&E contractor: The trees have been pruned for utility line clearance on five occasions:

- 10/19/16
- 10/8/13
- 6/27/12
- 8/2/11
- 5/10/10
- 7/23/08

The trees were pruned annually for a while, but they are now trimmed every 2nd or 3rd year. The contractor just finished inspections of that area, and the trees are not scheduled for any work in 2017.

Exhibit 1 shows the Permit application. Exhibit 2 shows the denial of permit. Pin oaks have a very distinctive form of branching habit. Lower branches usually sweep downwards. Middle branches grow out from the trunk horizontally and branches in the upper canopy sweep upwards. Exhibit 4 shows photos provided by the UFM. As can be seen, the trees have been essentially cut in half to accommodate the utility ROW. The remaining branches are what would have been the lower branches of a taller tree. They all sweep downwards. Pin oaks would not normally be a tree chosen to be planted under a utility easement. They typically attain a size of 50-75 feet. Pin oaks are not currently in the City of Chico's approved street tree and parking lot planting list. The nearest type of oak tree that is approved is the Shumard oak. Generally, it is preferred that trees selected are species that will only attain heights of 25-30' in utility ROW's. Exhibit 6 provides a tree canopy analysis of the area around 1241 Arcadian Avenue. There are twelve Pin oaks in the immediate surroundings (including the two in the permit). There are eight pink crape myrtles oaks in the immediate surroundings.

Analysis of the city tree database shows that there are currently 1373 pink bloom Crape myrtles in the city ROW. There are 1616 Crape myrtles of all varieties. There are currently 420 Pin oaks in the city ROW. There are 3604 oaks of all varieties.

Timeline of permit application:

- Permit to remove two city Pin oaks was received on 4/15/17.
- The trees were assessed 5/17/17 by the Urban Forest Manager.
- The permit to deny the removal request was sent by email to Mrs. Hase 5/24/17. The permit denial document carried a date 4/27/17. This was the date the initial document was created by administrative staff.
- On 5/30/17 Mrs. Hase appeared before BPPC commission to voice objection to the denial of her removal permit.
- On 5/31/17 The denial of permit was re-issued and sent by email to Mrs. Hase.
- On 6/20/17 the Urban Forest Manager met onsite with Mrs. Hase to develop options.

The trees were measured. One tree is 18 DBH and the second tree is 15 DBH. Total combined diameter is therefore 33"

Two options are presented to BPPC commission:

Option 1. Repeal denial of the tree removal permit. Commission will approve removal of two pin oaks at 1241 Arcadian.

- Per 14.40.180 the resident will remove the trees and grind stumps at their expense.
- Per 14.40.190 the city will replant three crape myrtles. The resident will reimburse the city for the costs of replanting.
- Pursuant to CMC 14.40.150 the director can impose additional conditions. The resident will recompense the city for loss of tree cover. The resident will recompense the city the additional sum of \$736 per the Tree Replacement In-Lieu Fee pursuant with fee schedule #962; \$368 for every six inches of tree diameter.

The calculations are based on one replacement tree per six inches' diameter of removed trees. This would account for 18" of tree diameter. Of the 33" of tree diameter, the remaining 15" of tree diameter divided by six = 2.5. This is rounded down to 2. This accounts for 2 x \$368 replacement in-lieu fee.

Option 2: Uphold the denial of the tree removal permit.

- As a courtesy, the city will trim the pin oaks for removal of dead branches in the tree canopy.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1	Permit application
Exhibit 2	Denial of permit
Exhibit 3	Photographs provided by applicant
Exhibit 4	Letter received from applicant dated 5/24/17
Exhibit 5	Additional photos provided by UFM
Exhibit 6	Tree canopy analysis map of Arcadian Avenue



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PARK DIVISION**

411 Main St., 3rd Fl.
P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927-3420

(530) 896-7800
(530) 895-4825 Fax
Email: Parkinfo@chicoca.gov
Website: www.chico.ca.us

CITY OF CHICO

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

Teisha and Edwin Hase

Property Owner	Representative
1241 Arcadian Ave	
Property Owner Address including zip code	Representative Address
Owner's Phone Number 530 519 3633	Representative's Phone Number
Owner's Email Address teisha@chico.com	Representative's Email Address

REQUEST TO: _____ Plant Remove _____ Alter _____ Disturb _____

Address where tree(s) are located: **1241 Arcadian Ave.**

Number of Tree(s): **2**

Diameter of Tree(s)	Species of tree(s): (Use additional paper if necessary)
22"-24"	pin oak
_____	_____
_____	_____

Reason for request:

The pin oaks planted in front of our home should have NEVER been planted. They are directly under the powerlines, and so yearly PG&E crews chop the hell out of them. Consequently they are UGLY. Furthermore they do not drop their leaves in fall. UGH!

(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)

ONLY QUALIFIED TREE SERVICES MAY PERFORM WORK ON CITY TREES

Tree Service Performing Work	North Valley Tree Service	Phone #	893-9649
Chico Business License #	2732	California Contractor's License #	664421
Certified Arborist #	WE-2123A	Attach Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance/Homeowner's Ins	

4-15-17
Date

Signature of Property Owner or Authorized Representative



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Parks Division**

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

(530) 896-7800
parkinfo@chicoca.gov
<http://www.chico.ca.us>

*Sen. Exhibit 2 Denial of permit
to the 5/24/17 email*

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

TO: Teisha and Edwin Hase
1241 Arcadian Ave
Chico, CA 95926

DATE: 4/27/15

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

- Approved subject to the condition(s) listed below.
- Denied for reason(s) listed below
- Permit Not Required

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:

Trees are healthy.

Pin oaks characteristically retain leaves when brown.

Utility line techniques are an accepted practice.

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2017

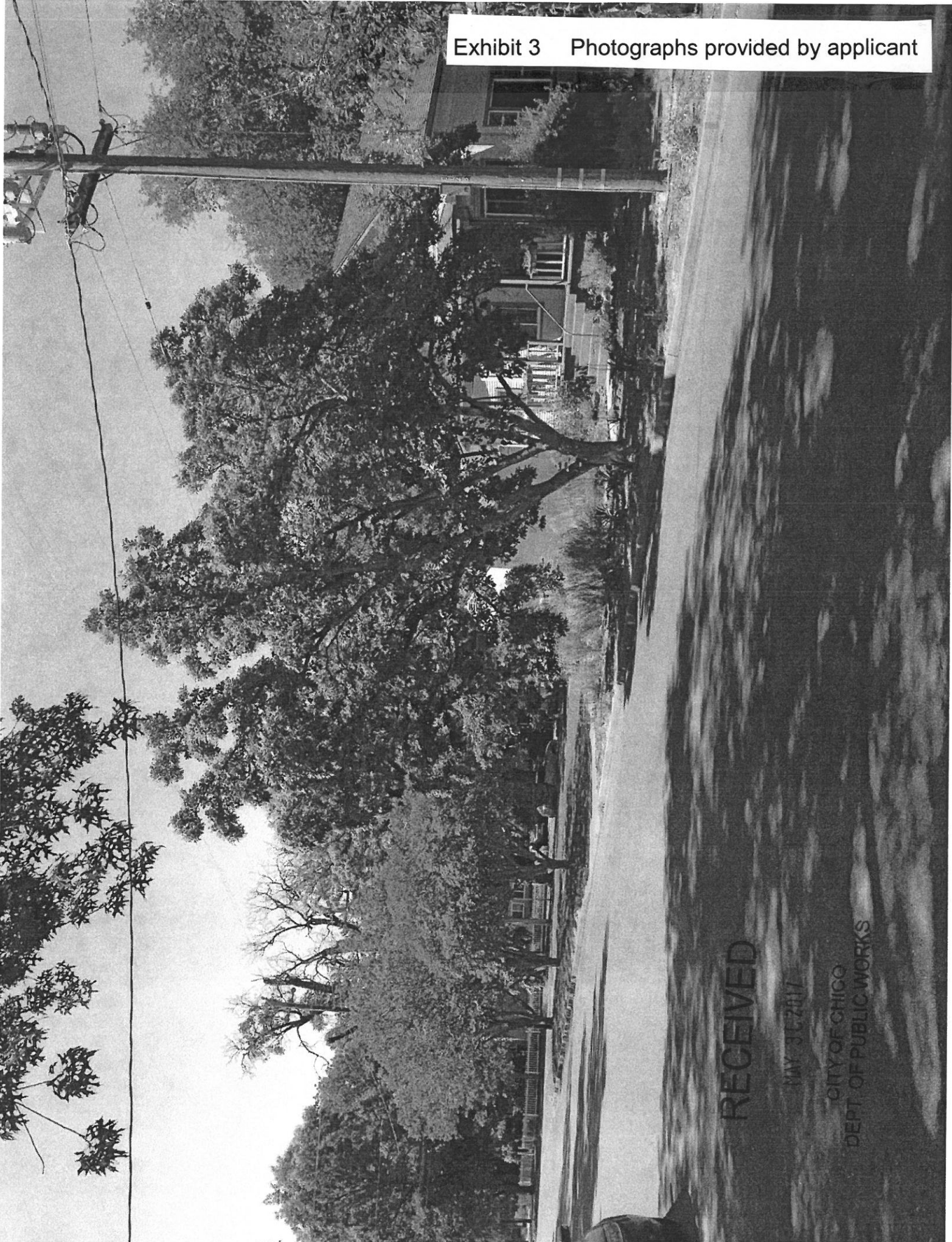
CITY OF CHICO
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

____ (Date) _____ Park Director or authorized City representative

Distribution: (When fully executed)

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

Exhibit 3 Photographs provided by applicant



RECEIVED

MAY 31 2017

CITY OF CHICGO
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS



RECEIVED

MAY 31 2017

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RECEIVED

MAY 30 2017

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RECEIVED

MAY 31 2011

CITY OF CHICO
DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Exhibit 4 Letter received from applicant dated 5/24/17

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

RECEIVED

Teisha Hase
1241 Arcadian Ave.
Chico, CA 95926

MAY 30 2017

CITY OF CHICO
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission:

I am contacting you in regards to the denial of the permit to remove the pin oaks, which are planted in front of our residence at the address noted above.

First, let me tell you about the OTHER trees planted on our side (the west side) of Arcadian. Our neighbors to the south have a lovely "tulip" magnolia, and two crape myrtle trees. As one continues to the end of the block, there are more crape myrtles. The tulip magnolia and crape myrtle trees are perfect for the west side of the street since PG&E power lines run the length of Arcadian. These trees reach a height of 15 to 25 feet tall at full maturity--perfect for under the power lines.

Pin oaks, on the other hand are NOT perfect for under the power lines. Our property and our neighbor to the north are the only residents that have pin oaks planted in the berm. Pin oaks reach 60 to 70 feet tall at full maturity! They are a poor choice for the west side of Arcadian due to the power lines with which they interfere. In fact, when I spoke to Dave Bettencourt at the tree division in Chico asking how I might be able to remove the pin oaks and replace them with crape myrtle trees at OUR cost, he told me how to apply for a permit and stated, "Pin oaks should have never been planted there. When they were planted, someone forgot to look up." I urge you to ask your *own* tree specialist about the appropriateness of these trees' placement.

Because these trees yearly interfere with the power lines, PG&E crews come out and chop out huge hunks of limbs anywhere the tree comes close to the power lines. As the years have progressed, the limbs at the "bottom" of the canopy have grown closer to the power lines, and the limbs near the top of the canopy get cut back. So the effect is a misshapen mess. The trees look like a chimney sweep tool with some long off shoots over the street. The trees will NEVER have a nice shape, because they simply grow too tall to live under power lines.

We have all likely seen trees butchered due to power lines as we have driven along roads and highways, and I mourn for those trees that could have been lovely if not for the power lines. Unfortunately, I have to look at butchered trees daily! Our house was built in 1898, and it has a covered front porch on which we enjoy sitting. The pin oaks are an eyesore, and according to Chico's OWN tree personnel "should never have been planted there."

In addition to their being an eyesore due to the horrific pruning they require yearly, the pin oaks are also an eyesore each winter and spring because pin oaks do not drop their leaves in the fall. Every winter the oaks have ugly brown leaves clinging to them until well into spring, when my flowers begin to bloom and the new leaves come on the pin oaks. Not only are my flowerbeds invaded by massive amounts of leaves, but, of course, there is no leaf pick up provided in the spring, and so the leaves are a nuisance to our neighbors and my husband and me.

I am unsure why the city has denied a permit to remove these trees that "should never have been planted," especially since we would bear the cost to remove and replace them. They are a poor, ugly choice for our yard. Please reconsider our request for a permit to remove the two pin oaks on our property.

Sincerely,

Teisha Hase



Pin oaks
1241 Arcadian

photo taken by UFM 5/17/17

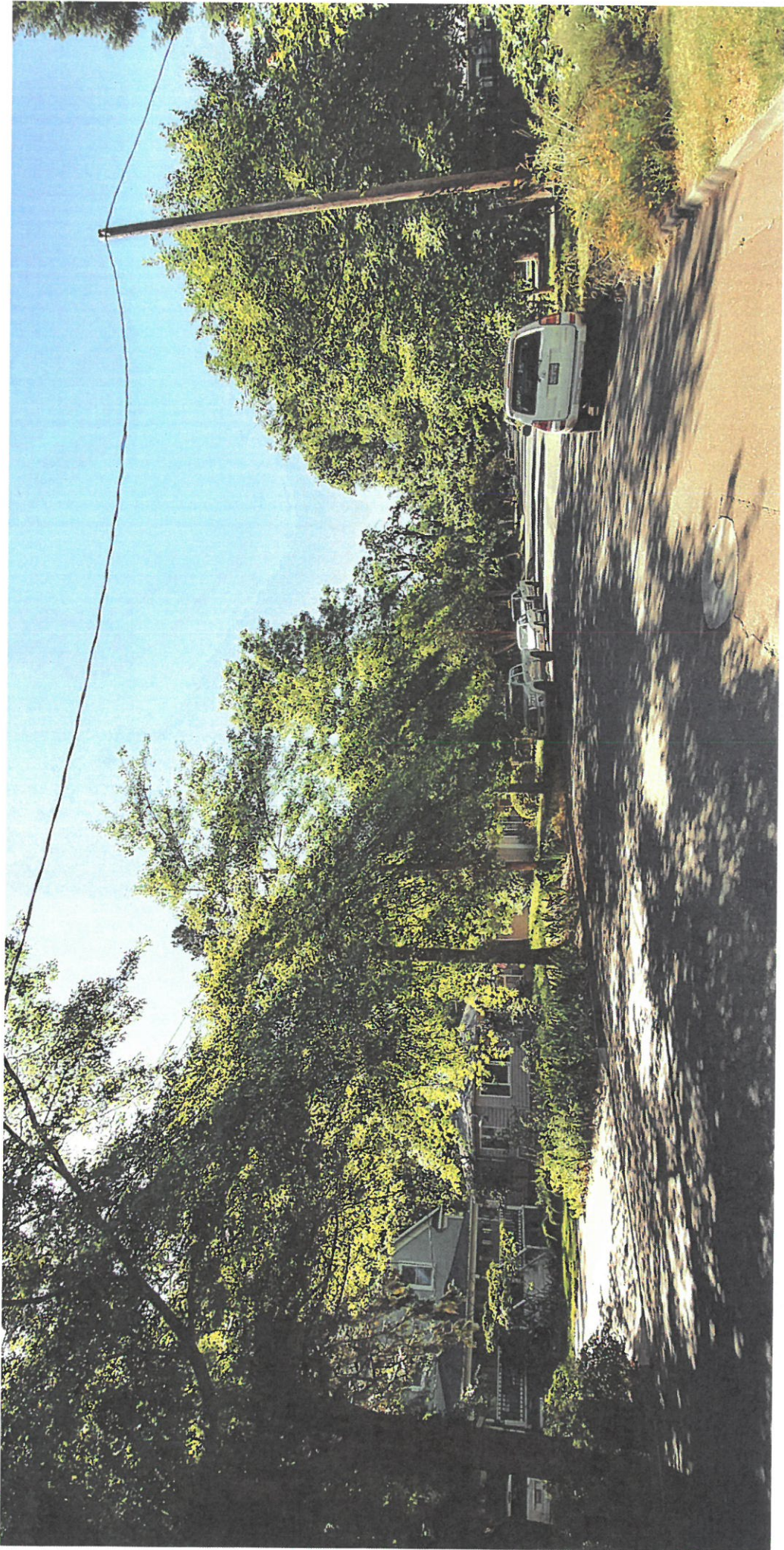
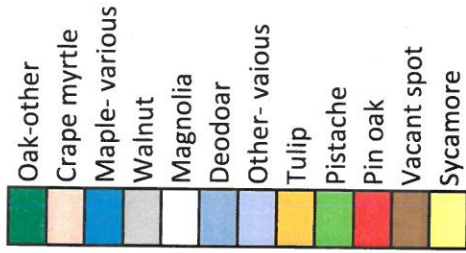


photo taken by UFM 5/17/17

pin oaks
1241 Arcadian.

Exhibit 6 Tree canopy analysis map of Arcadian Avenue

Canopy analysis Arcadian Ave and surroundings





TO: Commissioners

FROM: Chris Constantin, Assistant City Manager
Erik Gustafson, Public Works Director - Operations

RE: Review and Consideration of Transitioning Non-Sworn Park Rangers to Sworn Status

REPORT IN BRIEF:

The City is considering empowering Park Rangers as sworn, armed Park Rangers and changing the reporting structure from Public Works to the Chico Police Department. The Public Works and Police Department would enter into an agreement which codifies how operations, assignments, and activities occur to ensure that the transition does not degrade the current and future activities required within the parks and greenways. An alternative option would transition two Park Rangers to a sworn status but would leave a non-sworn Park Ranger within Public Works to manage a volunteer Reserve Park Ranger program focused on education, interpretation, and other maintenance services. During the May 30, 2017 Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meeting, members of the commission indicated they would like to see another hybrid option.

Recommendation:

- 1) City staff request the Commission provide their thoughts, perspectives, concerns, or any other input on the proposed Hybrid Program recognizing that it is only conceptual and recently considered; and
- 2) City staff request the Commission to provide their perspective on the three potential options below.

Potential Option:

Option 1 Full Conversion: The existing three Park Ranger positions would covert to sworn Park Ranger status and be moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018.

Option 2 Hybrid: Two existing Park Rangers would be converted to sworn Park Rangers and moved into the Police Department effective July 1, 2018. One Park Ranger would be retained within Public Works to coordinate all park ranger activity between Police and Public Works and to oversee a Reserve Park Ranger program which will predominately provide non-enforcement related education, interpretation, and service to the parks and greenways.

Option 3 No Change: No change to current Park Ranger Program.

Requested Option: Commission members requested to see an Option 4 which is a variant on Option 2 **Hybrid** where one existing Park Ranger was converted to sworn Park Ranger to manage an Illegal Encampment Clean-up program and to conduct patrol

predominately in lower Bidwell, problem parks, and greenways. Two Park Rangers would remain within Public Works providing primarily non-enforcement related education, interpretation, and service to the parks and greens ways. After discussing this option and its impacts, City staff would not recommend this option as this option would not address the primary concern of the City Council as it relates to public safety and would likely result in increased need for Chico Police to response to issues in the parks.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The first option is estimated to cost about \$40,000-\$50,000 to implement due to the increase in cost and benefits related to sworn positions versus Public Works Park Ranger positions. The second option is estimated to cost about \$25,000-\$35,000 to implement the sworn conversion and about \$15,000-\$25,000 in equipment, uniform, and training costs for the Reserve Park Rangers. This fiscal impact assumes that there are no other internal savings within departments which would could cover the expenditures, and City staff will continue to explore opportunities to leverage already appropriate funding sources to reduce the overall cost of the change.

BACKGROUND:

Since 2013-14, the City's financial crisis necessitated the City to reduce staffing across all departments and to reduce ongoing expenditures. The result was to severely impact the ability for departments to perform any function with an adequate or desired level of staffing. Consequently, the City has had to adjust and improvise to provide basic services to Chico residents. In adjusting and improvising, City departments are always on the look-out for more efficient and effective ways to leverage limited resources in providing services to the public.

In reviewing operations within the Public Works Department, it appeared that changes to the Park Ranger program would further the City Council's priority for providing increased public safety capacity within the parks and greenways. One option includes converting non-sworn Park Rangers to sworn Park Rangers and providing them with the ability to enforce a broader range of public laws, similar to police officers. A second option would convert only two Park Rangers to sworn and provide a Park Ranger to conduct overall program coordination for the three rangers and the activities of a newly formed Reserve Park Ranger program focused on education, interpretation and park service. The Reserve Park Ranger program would open the opportunity to provide community members a higher level of training and ability in providing much needed education, interpretation and park service.

Chico Park Rangers

Current Chico Park Rangers (rangers) are provided for City parks and greenways. The reporting structure of the rangers places them within the Public Works – Operations department. Rangers provide valuable services including activities such as, but not limited to visitor assistance, general patrol of properties, opening gates/restrooms citywide, coordinating events, inspecting facilities/equipment, issuing citations, performing janitorial and maintenance duties, assisting in volunteer efforts and much more. Rangers are also authorized to enforce various codes, while specifically enforcing park rules and regulations adopted under Chapter 12R of the Chico Municipal Code.

Chico City Council Priority

The Chico City Council has identified their primary priority as public safety, and more specifically, sworn police officer staffing. While the City has made movement in replacing lost positions, the City is not able to fully staff all sworn activities to adequate levels. Sworn officers respond to parks and greenways as needed by rangers as well as in response to reactive and proactive patrol activity. As the

rangers are not sworn and do not possess all the training and skills of a Chico Police Officer, the Police Department, in certain cases, is required to send not one but two officers to deal with situations called in by rangers. This results in a reduction of service to the remaining City where the proposed conversion to sworn ranger status would reduce the need of two regular Chico Police Officers to one or none depending on the ranger staffing level in the park or greenway. However, rangers remain primarily responsible for activities within the parks and greenways, and as such, they become the first line of defense in any public safety related activity.

Park Ranger Activity Changed in 2013

The City faced significant cutbacks and layoffs in 2013. Consequently, many services were slashed or reduced. According to City staff, the cutbacks also resulted in rangers spending a much higher percentage of their time focusing on patrol safety and enforcement related activities. Maintenance activity in the parks and greenways are also nowhere near the level seen prior to 2013. While City staff perform admirably, the services provided today do not match the services seen before and a return to pre-2013 levels are not likely for the foreseeable future without a significant resource increase into Public Works – Operations.

Currently, three rangers serve the City's parks and greenways. Ranger staffing fell below three as one position was not full-time. In 2014, the City found the ability to restore the position bringing the rangers up to three full-time equivalent positions. However, their job duties continued under the new reality of a higher focus on enforcement and patrol related activities. The parks and greenways have also changed over the past four years resulting in rangers working closely with Police Department staff.

DISCUSSION:

Rangers in California and the United States are both sworn and non-sworn, carry more advanced tools such as weapons and handheld machinery, and a variety of them have enforcement powers while some do not. The concept to better train and arm park rangers is not a new concept, but it does represent a change in the current practice of Chico. Current discussion heavily centers around the lessening of the education, interpretation and maintenance work performed by Chico Park Rangers by converting them to armed officers and placing them under the management of the Chico Police Department. While the concern is valid, the current reality requires the City to explore options to allow existing employees to be able to do a broader range of activities. The conversion option allows for that, but in order to protect against a further change in the scope of ranger activity, the Public Works and Police Department would sign an agreement defining reporting structures, duties, assignment and other key areas needed for Public Works to ensure activity in the park and greenways stays consistent.

Rangers Enforce the Law but Receive Little Training

Rangers are authorized to enforce laws and regulations and all three rangers receive the appropriate basic training to legally make arrests. However, they only received a small portion of the training provided to typical law enforcement officers. The additional training also provides many scenario-based exercises intended to prepare officers for what may occur in the real world, extensive emergency vehicle operations training, and additional arrest control techniques training.

While rangers are equipped with Conducted Energy Devices and pepper spray, they do not possess adequate arrest control techniques training (hand-to-hand defensive tactics and handcuffing), do not carry a baton, or have not received the appropriate ongoing training for the equipment they currently carry. Some of the training needs were specifically identified as needed for the rangers over several years where it wasn't addressed. Further, the rangers have acknowledged that they are called "deputy" or "officer" and that some have mistaken them as a law enforcement officer due to the uniform, badge,

and duty vest they wear even when the uniform is an olive brown instead of the Chico Police blue. The lack of tools, training, and obvious look of a police officer raises the risk incurred when the rangers engage in their daily work. Although, the last assault on a ranger was about a year ago, the presence of the continued risk would be further reduced with training provided to law enforcement officers. What is worse is that the lack of these tools and training may lead a ranger not to act to protect when the expectation would dictate otherwise or to engage in a matter that may escalate or increase beyond the capabilities of the ranger – neither being a desired outcome.

Public Works staff is working with the Chico Police Department to obtain the appropriate ongoing training¹. However, annual training alone does not substitute for the more comprehensive academy training provide by Butte College or the ongoing and regular oversight by supervisors with sufficient knowledge, skills, and abilities in the tools used by rangers, to provide more frequent development opportunities as events unfold. Currently, none of the ranger chain of command possess these knowledge, skills, and abilities, but the Chico Police Department does.

Ranger Supervision Needs Improvement

Park Rangers serve either alone, with overlap of one other ranger, or in few cases, overlap with two other rangers. This results from the low staffing level within the Public Works Park Division and the seven days a week operations required in the parks and greenways. Further, while a supervisor is available at some times, the manager and director do not provide continuous monitoring of ranger activity, nor is there a supervisor on duty for all hours rangers are deployed in the field. This differs from the model implemented by the Chico Police Department that requires a supervisor to monitor operations, and at time to respond to officer locations for any time an officer is on duty.

The ability for rangers to take enforcement action, use force, or respond Code 3 (lights and sirens) increases risk exposure when a supervisor is not readily available or monitoring/responding to ranger activities. While rangers operate on the police radio which allows the police supervisors to listen on ranger operations, the lack of a chain of command, responsibility for managing, and a feeling that rangers are not part of their operations, police supervisors do not replace the need for proper ranger supervision. A change of reporting structure would resolve this deficiency.

Ranger Nature Resources Capabilities are Limited

While rangers spend much of their time doing patrol and enforcement related activities, rangers do participate in education and interpretation type activities. In reviewing the current rangers training files, only one possesses formal training within the Natural Resources area. The others have gained knowledge through on the job training and do not regularly attend formal trainings within the Natural Resources area. The question that arises which has not been defined by Public Works is the level of training and expertise within Natural Resources that each ranger must have or obtain – current job descriptions would allow for one with no training to serve.

Any conversion in status would necessitate rangers to attend the law enforcement academy. Since Butte College operates the State Park Ranger Academy, which includes the 664 hour law enforcement modules but also includes 8 weeks of park specific training, the City has the opportunity to send rangers through the State Park Ranger Academy which will make them a more versatile and adaptable force within parks and greenways. This training would also provide a more consistent skill set for all rangers in the areas of park related operations as well as further align their abilities to those of the City's sworn law enforcement officers.

¹ Some training has occurred to address current deficiencies.

Concerns Related to Potential Change

With any change involving Bidwell Park, there are passionate views and perspectives provided for how the ranger program should operate. The following table highlights a few of the key issues and how each of the three proposed options address the issues.

Exhibit 1 Matrix of Key Issues

Issue	1 Full Conversion	2 Hybrid	3 No Change
Emphasis will change to more enforcement less education/interpretation	Agreement signed by Public Works and Police would define the level of service and priorities of the Rangers with input driven by Public Works. It is expected that Target Team and Rangers will more frequently coordinate park and greenway activities.	Agreement similar to Option 1. Additionally, one ranger within Public Works will still define activity of all rangers and new Reserve Park Rangers. Reserve Program will increase education and interpretation activities from post-2013 levels.	No Change. Program will remain heavily enforcement and patrol related as has existed since 2013.
Mindset of Officers versus Rangers are different and will impact services	Preference for rangers to attend State Parks Ranger Academy or alternate academy model that provides both law enforcement and park operations training. Given the focus on park operations, a balance of enforcement and education should still exist. Potential to include Public Works Parks Manager on selection panel.	Preference for rangers to attend State Parks Ranger Academy or alternate academy model that provides both law enforcement and park operations training. Given the focus on park operations, a balance of enforcement and education should still exist. Potential to include Public Works Parks Manager on selection panel. Public Works Ranger and Reserve Rangers will possess or receive a much higher level of education in Natural Resources.	No Change
Decision will be made by untrained Police Officers	Agreement will specify Public Works as the driver of the overarching priorities of the sworn rangers.	Agreement will specify Public Works as the driver of the overarching priorities of the sworn rangers. Public Works ranger will be overseeing ranger activities and will be responsible for educating key police staff of mission in Public Works.	No Change
Costs are higher with a conversion	Yes, salaries and benefits will be nominally higher, yet less than police officers. However, it is not easy to measure the cost-savings from reducing risk (training, supervision, etc.) as well as the benefit to better coordination between Parks and Police.	Yes, salaries and benefits will be nominally higher, yet less than police officers. There will be additional cost for a Reserve Ranger Program. However, volunteer hours offset the cost, and the change in mission of the Public Works Ranger from primarily enforcement to more education and interpretation will add value to a primary purpose of having rangers.	No Change
Rangers will be spread too thin with new duties	No. The change will enhance their capabilities but should not change their mission. Agreement will define levels of service and expectations.	No. The change will enhance their capabilities but should not change their mission. Agreement will define levels of service and expectations.	No Change.

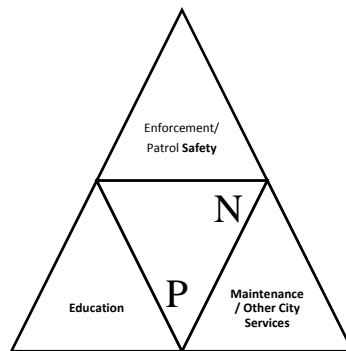
Issue	1 Full Conversion	2 Hybrid	3 No Change
	Sworn status should reduce the need to pull patrol officers from the rest of the City resulting in a lesser need to pull rangers from the park (although the current practice of using rangers for certain activities may continue).	Sworn status should reduce the need to pull patrol officers from the rest of the City resulting in a lesser need to pull rangers from the park (although the current practice of using rangers for certain activities may continue).	
More training alone should fix any concerns about risk	Training will match the higher level provided to existing officers (664+ hours, plus monthly training). Rangers will have constant supervision with on-duty personnel.	Training will match the higher level provided to existing officers (664+ hours, Field Training, and monthly training). Two rangers will have constant supervision with on-duty personnel. Public Works ranger will not require same training and supervision due to focus on education and interpretation.	Training does not resolve the supervision needs and foundational training provided during academy and Field Training.

Focus of Park Ranger Program is Already Heavily Enforcement/Patrol Safety

There has not been discussion regarding the overarching purpose of the Park Ranger program. City staff primarily define operating requirements for line staff. In some cases, while Chico Municipal Code or actions taken by the City Council or commissions have a bearing on some operations, the managers and directors overseeing the functions ultimately make the call on how to deploy their limited resources.

In Exhibit 2 below, the three key functional areas for rangers are placed within the triangle. The middle-inverted triangle is the space where you can demonstrate where the focus of the ranger program is today – the closer to one edge of the inner triangle, the more emphasis is placed on that functional responsibility. In the case of the rangers, the change in 2013 placed rangers quite heavily towards the enforcement/patrol and maintenance/other services side as depicted by the “N”. Option 1 would retain today’s focus and would provide a written agreement specifying that requirement. Option 2 would retain today’s focus similar to Option 1 for the two sworn rangers. For the remaining Public Works ranger and Reserve Park Ranger force, the new focus would be far closer to Education and Maintenance/Other Services as depicted by the “P” – a change more aligned with activities of the past.

Exhibit 2 Activities Triangle



More discussion and input is needed on the potential Hybrid Option #2

The idea for the Hybrid Option #2 came initially from an idea provided by a current ranger and expanded upon by City staff. Considering that this is also a new potential option, more discussion and input from the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (Commission) is appreciated.

The idea is to have a bifurcated program where one side continues the current enforcement/patrol type activity while the other moves towards more of education, maintenance and other services. This would allow the City to improve upon the City Council’s priority related to public safety but also increase the level of education, information, and other services in the park for a nominal cost. Exhibit 3 provides a comparison between the current ranger program and the proposed Hybrid program.

Exhibit 3 Comparison of Current and Hybrid Program

Key Aspects	Today	Hybrid
Staffing	3 Non-sworn Rangers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Sworn Rangers in PD • 1 Non-Sworn Ranger in Public Works
Supplemental Staffing	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of Reserve Park Ranger program (up to 20)
Focus	Mostly enforcement/patrol with addition of education and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD Rangers: Continue with current focus • PW Ranger: Focus on overall ranger activities and oversee education and maintenance program • PW Reserve Ranger Program providing predominately education, information, and other activities
Candidate Selection	Public Works staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD Rangers: Police and PW staff • PW Ranger: PW staff • Reserve Rangers: PW staff
Job Description Requirements: Education	No specific education level in Natural Resources required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD Rangers: State Parks Academy attendance required • PW Ranger: Natural Resources background required or strongly preferred • Reserve Rangers: Prefer Natural Resources background but not required
Job Description Requirements: Supervision	Public Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD Rangers: Police Department with Direction from Public Works • PW Ranger: Public Works • Reserve Rangers: Public Works

Commission Request to consider alternate Hybrid Ranger Option

During the May 30, 2017 meeting, some commissioners requested staff evaluate and provide information on a fourth option which would result in one sworn Park Ranger and two non-enforcement and education related Park Rangers. In evaluating this option, it became clear that this option would change the tenor of the Park Ranger program from its current form which represents predominately enforcement and patrol and would reduce the Park Rangers’ capability to respond and resolve enforcement related matters without requiring additional Chico Police assistance. Further, the original rationale for considering a change in the Park Ranger program was to improve the City’s ability to deal with enforcement related activity without placing a higher burden on existing Chico Police officers, reducing risk exposures for existing non-sworn Park Rangers, and addressing internal supervisory and training weaknesses.

The fourth option would address risk exposure and supervisory weaknesses by eliminating responsibility for enforcing park regulations and laws from two-thirds of the rangers in exchange for gaining more education and interpretation. While it would be ideal to have dedicated education and interpretation employees in the parks and separate sworn officers dedicated to the parks and greenways, the current resource constraints of the City would not allow for this type of change unless the Police Department believes it can absorb the workload and/or the City Council changes its focus on public safety.

Within the hybrid option includes the opportunity to establish a Reserve Park Ranger program. The Commission desired additional information about this program. Reserve programs are akin to volunteer programs utilized to supplement activities when the need arises. In many cases, reserve programs existing in the police and fire areas where public members obtain the requisite training and are appointed to serve in a police or fire function. Depending on the level of training and authority given to these reserves, the level of services that they can provide can range from ancillary assistance to full-service activity similar to full-time employees. For example, the City of Hayward, CA and the Los Angeles Sherriff's Office utilize reserve police officers in a fully-sworn capacity where they perform almost any job performed by full-time officers, including patrol, SWAT, traffic, investigations, and even in some cases, working in the air unit. The City of Chico authorizes reserve fire fighters, and it is the City's intent to utilize those reserves to supplement fire services.

For the Park Ranger program, a reserve program can take several forms based on the desire of the department and the capacity of individuals willing to participate in the program. This may include taking volunteers, akin to the Park Watch program, providing additional park operations training, and allowing these reserves to perform additional functions which are currently limited to employee Park Rangers. This program can be elevated where reserves are trained not just in operations but also basic/intermediate medical aid as well as rescue training which would allow the City to call upon them during emergency situations. The next step may be to provide more formal natural resources and operations training to allow reserves to engage in more rigorous activity such as trail improvement, light construction, etc. These are just three options which can be explored further.

In discussing the opportunity of the reserve program, there was interest at the university to explore further the opportunity to leverage this program with other activities at the university which would offer real-life, local experiences for students, accelerate the university's ability to apply for and obtain grants, and combine efforts between the City and university to create a more integrated natural resources education program within the park.

CONCLUSION:

City staff request the Commission provide their thoughts, perspectives, concerns, or any other input on the proposed Hybrid Program recognizing that it is only conceptual and recently considered. Further, City staff request the Commission provide input on the three Options provided at the beginning of this report.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A – Draft Memorandum of Understanding between Public Works and Police

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHICO PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT AND POLICE DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE OVERSIGHT AND
COOPERATION OF CITY OF CHICO PARK RANGER FUNCTIONS

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, entered into this ____ day of _____, 2017, by and between the CHICO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (“PWD”) and the CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT (“CPD”) establishes clear duties and responsibilities for both parties related to the conversion of City Park Rangers (“Rangers”) into sworn peace officer positions.

WHEREAS, City of Chico (“City”) Rangers play a fundamental role in the success of Bidwell Park and service provided to all park users;

WHEREAS, Ranger duties are integrated with many Public Works Park Division functions in which the Park Division relies heavily on Rangers to complete those functions;

WHEREAS, enforcement requirements in City of Chico (“City”) parks and greenways has risen dramatically.

WHEREAS, The City of Chico has growing concerns for Rangers safety, impacts to the Parks and Greenways and desires to move the Park Ranger classification into the Police Department to become sworn peace officers. However, it is essential that Rangers continue to perform Park Division support, interpretive and educational functions in Bidwell Park.

NOW THEREFORE, the Chico Public Works Department and the Chico Police Department (“Parties”) agree as follows:

SCOPE OF SERVICES AND PARK RANGER OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **Conduct Routine Patrols:** A primary function of the Park Ranger position is to patrol all City operated parks and City greenways. During patrols Rangers shall scan for City municipal code violations, penal code violations, safety concerns, environmental impacts, illegal camping, facility cleanliness, proper facility operation, accurate site reservations, monitor natural resources and overall safe operation of the park. Rangers shall work to make themselves available and approachable to the public to answer questions and offer assistance when needed.
2. **Open Gates and Ensure Access:** Bidwell Park features multiple facilities, recreation areas, preservation areas, and world class trail systems. Daily tasks shall include the timely opening of public access to the Park and ensure all facilities are clean and operating properly. If facilities are found unsightly or not up to standard at the time of opening, Rangers shall take all means necessary to quickly remedy the situation. This shall include but not limited to; picking up litter, cleaning restrooms, unclogging toilets, cleaning picnic reservations sites, removing abandoned property, and reporting any further vandalism to the Police and Public Works Departments. Facilities that require daily opening go as follows:
 - A. 7:30am opening includes North One-Mile parking lot, One-Mile restrooms, Cedar Grove parking lot, Cedar Grove restrooms, South Park Drive exit on Centennial, Five-Mile parking lot, Five-Mile restrooms, Upper Park Road gate at lot E, Horse Arena Gate, Ringle Park restrooms, and a security sweep at City Plaza restrooms.
 - B. 9:00am opening includes opening of South Park Drive gates, Caper Acres playground, and a security sweep of Annie’s Glenn from Camelia to One-Mile. This security sweep shall be conducted daily due to the high level of illegal campers and

drug activity in this area that is also a popular bicycled route for children on their way to school.

- C. 11:00am opening includes South Park Drive at Cedar Grove and the Peterson Memorial Drive entrance. A safety patrol of each road is conducted after the opening of each gate.
3. Coordinate Public and Private Events: Hundreds of public and private events are held in Bidwell Park each year. Some events have been held in the Park for decades and the City continually receives additional reservations for more and more events each year. Managing these events takes careful consideration and there are often multiple event reservations for a single park facility each day. Rangers play a crucial role in management of these events and must efficiently move through each area to confirm public safety, site coordination, cleanliness, and access to permitted facilities. Typical event duties included the following:
 - A. Review upcoming event permits and place phone calls to event organizers. Phone calls are both a courtesy to the organizers as well as a means to establish Park expectations of event participants with organizers. In some cases, event organizers may request face-to-face meetings in the area reserved to go over these expectations. Rangers shall meet with event organizers if asked to do so and answer questions, discuss needs, concerns, and review Park rules and site specific requirements. Rangers shall communicate with Public Works Field Supervisor of any needs or site specific corrections stemming from these meetings prior to the scheduled event.
 - B. Rangers shall conduct a safety security sweep prior to the events to identify unsafe facilities, uncleaned areas, and address any illegal activity.
 - C. On the event day, Rangers shall meet with the organizers at the schedule time and location to provide access to gates, electricity, restrooms, BBQ facilities, and any other special request needed.
 - D. During the event Rangers shall monitor event staff and participants to ensure they are following permit terms and Park rules. Compliance issues to monitor include having enough garbage, recycling and restroom facilities, ensuring vehicle and pedestrian traffic are not in conflict and traffic laws are followed and checking that event noise levels do not exceed levels permitted by the Chico Municipal Code.
 - E. Upon completions of an event, Rangers shall conduct a final walk-through of the reservation area to ensure organizers upheld the terms of the permit. Rangers shall also coordinate with event organizers to ensure items such as portable toilets and additional garbage/recycling receptacles are removed from the Park in a timely manner.
 - F. Rangers shall complete the “event evaluation form” making any notes of any issues that occurred during the event. These evaluations must be completed in a timely manner as they are used as criteria for refunding damage deposits. Comments by Rangers on the evaluation form are used to correct any issues for future, recurring events or can result in the denial of future permits if issues are not corrected.
 4. Assist with Volunteer Efforts: Partners and volunteers contribute thousands of hours each year to the maintenance of City parks and greenways. Rangers play a vital role in managing volunteer groups and shall provide the following services:
 - A. Supervise work crews and provide safety briefings, conduct prior security checks of work zones, communicate goals and objectives of the project to between Park volunteer group leaders.
 - B. Handle found property including any hazardous waste found by volunteer group.

- C. Approve and log work hours by filling out appropriate forms and submitting them to Park Services Coordinator.
 - D. Work Park Services Coordinator to provide hand tools, personal protective equipment, and drinking water to volunteers.
 - E. Provide assistance with to transport equipment to and from job site as well as transport debris for proper disposal.
 - F. Communicate with the Park Services Coordinator about plans and logistics for the project.
5. Coordinate and Manage Removal of Illegal Encampments: Rangers are responsible to manage the notification and removal of illegal encampments in City parks and greenways. Rangers shall be responsible for noticing illegal encampments of impending cleanups and coordinate efforts both internally and with partner organizations Duties include but are not limited to:
- A. Review the illegal encampment sections of the City's GIS service request system on a continuous basis. Coordinate planning to focus on a series of illegal encampments t in a concentrated to reduce mobilization time and costs.
 - B. Coordinate with Public Works Field Supervisor(s) to schedule operators for needed equipment. Schedule cleanups as needed and as staff are available. Coordinate cleanup events with the Butte County Sheriff's Office Alternative Custody Service (ACS) or Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP)
 - C. Walk through and notify illegal encampments found 48-hour removal notice.
 - D. Provide supervision and coordination. During cleanups
 - E. Provide bags, gloves, and appropriate tools for cleanup efforts.
 - F. Receive all drugs, paraphernalia, property valued over \$100.00 or personal property of reasonable value and deliver to Chico PD.
 - G. Notify Chico Fire Department of potentially hazardous material found during the cleanup.
6. Inspect and monitor Park trails, facilities, and equipment for safety and operation: Bidwell Park and the surrounding parks operated by the City contain miles of trails, roadways, fencing, play structures, buildings, restrooms, signs, and kiosks. Ranger staff shall inspect these facilities and amenities for proper operation, public health, safety concerns, breaches, vandalism, and over all damage. If deficiencies are found, Ranger staff shall correct items within their jurisdiction or immediately relay information to the Park Field Supervisor.
- A. Rangers shall perform routine checks of Park restrooms upon opening them each day and throughout the day when possible. Restrooms are inspected for trash trash or vandalism to the fixtures, clogged toilets or sinks, function locks on stall doors, and supply of toiletries including soap and toilet paper. Rangers shall perform a cleanup of any vandalism that is within their means including pickup up trash, unclogging toilets or sinks and restock soap and toilet paper. If vandalism is more severe and outside of general cleanup and parameters, then Ranger shall notify Park Division Field Supervisor or park maintenance personnel.
 - B. If damage to play equipment or other infrastructure is noticed during inspections, Rangers shall make an onsite determination if it is safe for the public to use. If a Park feature or infrastructure is found to be hazardous, Rangers shall close the facility and place caution tape around the affected feature. Damage shall be immediately reported to Park Division Field Supervisor. If the damage occurred due to vandalism, Ranger staff shall fill out a City property damage report and submit it to both HR/Risk and Public Works Park Division.
 - C. Conduct checks of emergency call box phones in Upper Park. Emergency call box phone at Bear Hole and call box phone at Salmon Hole shall be checked weekly.

during May through August. During September through April, phones shall be checked monthly.

- H. As possible, Rangers shall remove trash and abandoned items found in the Park. , Property valued over \$100.00 or personal property of reasonable value shall be delivered to Chico PD.
 - D. Rangers shall consistently inspect trails, walking paths, and roadways for potential hazards. Issues such as erosion, trail damage, growing potholes, divots, encroachment of plant life or trees, and dangerous tree limbs shall be reported to the Park Division.
 - E. Rangers shall also monitor trails for proper use by the public. Unauthorized alternation of trails shall be reported to the Park Field Supervisor.
7. Monitor and Implement Wet Weather Policy: The policy is a defines the parameters when Park trails and vehicular access shall be closed due to wet weather conditions. Rangers shall be familiar with the Wet Weather Policy and be able to educate Park users on the specifics of the policy.
- A. In the event of rainfall overnight, the first Ranger on shift shall review rainfall over the prior 24-hours. If rain is measured above ¼ inch, the policy dictates that all Upper Park trails, Peregrine Point disc golf course, and Upper Park Road past lot E shall be closed.
 - B. Trail closure requires Rangers to change trailhead signs, update the City webpage, social media page and trail hotline to communicate the closed status.
 - C. Rangers shall monitor closed trails for unlawful entry.
 - D. Rangers shall monitor weather conditions during trail closures. Assessments are conducted daily following the Wet Weather Policy protocol until trails have reached a condition to be reopened.
8. Generate Park signage, press releases, and social media outreach: Chico's parks and greenways requires the creation of signs, posters, and banners to deliver effective messaging to the public. Rangers shall assist with the creation and posting of signage.
9. Assist in data collection: Rangers shall work to collect data in the following areas:
- A. Conduct bi-weekly water turbidity tests of Big Chico Creek both upstream and downstream of Sycamore pool during the open pool season. The data will be recorded in the Sycamore Pool monitoring spreadsheet.
 - B. Rangers shall deploy the TRAX vehicle monitoring system at the direction of the Park and Natural Resource Manager. All data collected shall be submitted via TRAX monitoring software to the Park and Natural Resource Manager and the TRAX system shall be removed by Ranger staff at the direction of the Manager.
 - C. Log wet weather policy closure data into the closure spreadsheet and keep it updated.
 - D. Keep track and submit monthly warning and citation information to Park and Natural Resource Manager prior to the Bidwell Park and Playground (BPPC) agenda deadline.
 - E. Record all illegal encampment removal data.
10. Provide education and outreach to Park visitors: Rangers shall consistently work to make themselves available in a friendly manner to connect with Park visitors and provide education on Park features. Rangers shall
- A. Participate in continuous education in the natural resource field to better understand Bidwell Parks historical value natural and cultural resources.

- B. Preserve the Park's natural resources including wildlife, native plants, water ways, and natural geology and educate the public on how to do the same.
 - C. Work with Park and Natural Resource Manager to develop an interpretive manual that can be used to confirm interpretive programming will be a Park Ranger priority.
 - D. Work with Park and Natural Resource manager to develop interpretive sign standards.
 - E. Guide educational tours of key areas of the Park. Examples can be nature walks, historical talks, skills demonstrations, campfire type programs, school tours, field trip tours, and Jr. Ranger programs for children.
11. Coordinate with local, State, and Federal agencies: Rangers shall:
- A. Coordinate with CPD on any needed incident.
 - B. Provide Animal Control services as needed
 - C. Assist with any medical or fire suppression activity in the Park or wherever needed. Rangers shall carry fire retardant clothing, emergency shelters, and fire suppression pumps to extinguish small spot fires inside and around the Park.
 - D. Rangers shall be certified in CPR and First Aid. Rangers shall carry a basic first aid kit and applying basic first aid as appropriate.
 - E. Enforce City municipal code and State and Federal regulations against environmental crimes. Rangers shall investigate and prosecute any environmental law violators.
 - F. Protect Plant and Animal life in the Park and greenways against illegal poaching, harvesting, or illegal removal of any form.
 - G. Protect the Park and greenways against illegal encroachment on City property from development or adjacent property expansions.

AUTHORITY FOR DETERMINING PARK RELATED PRIORITY AND WORK

Overall Ranger priorities shall be determined by the PWD in consultation with the CPD for all parks/greenway related work absent exigent circumstance

EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES

Defining instances when CPD direction to change operational priorities will be based on the severity of this situation. In particular, CPD can deploy rangers for the infrequent events where risk to life, great bodily injury, is present and such direction will be at the discretion of the CPD supervisor. Otherwise, the primary responsibilities of the MOU take precedence. Once exigency is eliminated, ranger shall return to activities identified in the MOU.

NO INCOMPATIBLE DUTIES

Rangers will not be utilized in any fashion which substantially mirrors the responsibilities of Chico Police Officers unless an exigent circumstance exists or where no alternative police staffing to address the need is available.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute in implementation shall first be resolved at the Park Manager and Target Team Manager level. The second level will be at the department head level, and the final will be at the CM level. CM determination is final and not appealable.

REVERT

If frequent or systemic violations occur which substantially negatively impact Park Division's ability to perform park functions and where dispute resolution does not resolve the issues, the PW Director can request of the City Manager to initiate changing the program back to its current form.



DATE: 6/21/17
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission
FROM: Linda Herman, Interim Parks and Natural Resource Manager
SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION AND PRIORTIZATION OF POTENTIAL REVISIONS TO PARK RELATED CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE PROVISIONS.

REPORT IN BRIEF:

At its 5/30/17 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) was provided copies of those Chico Municipal Code (CMC) regulations pertaining to City Parks and trees that may need revision. The Commission was asked to review the CMC sections and provide their top priority CMC topics for discussion at the 6/26/17 meeting.

Recommendation: Interim Park & Natural Resource Manager recommends that the BPPC review the list of CMC Sections provided by the Commissioners and:

- 1) Prioritize and approve the top CMC Sections to be reviewed over the 2017-18 fiscal year, and
- 2) If desired, forward any of the priority CMC Sections to the pertinent BPPC Committees for review and recommendation.

FISCAL IMPACT: None at this time

BACKGROUND:

CMC Title 12R entitled "Rules and Regulations of Bidwell Park and Other Parks and Playgrounds" provides rules and regulations governing the use of the City's parks, playgrounds and open spaces. Title 12R further provides that the Public Works Director ("Director") be primarily responsible for administering the rules and regulations, but provides for an appeal process to be aggrieved by the BPPC is necessary.

CMC Chapter 14.40 entitled "Street Trees" establishes regulations controlling and governing the planting, removal and maintenance of trees and shrubs on city-owned property and right-of-way.

CMC Chapter 16.66 entitled "Tree Preservation Regulations" provides for the protection of City and private trees during the development process. A copy of Chapter 16.66 is attached as Attachment C.

Copies of the above referenced CMC provisions were provided to the Commission as part of the 5/30/17 BPPC meeting agenda. The Commission also forwarded CMC Chapters 12.08 and 12R.10 regarding Park reservations and fees to the BPPC Policy Advisory Committee at that meeting.

DISCUSSION:

All of the Commissioners provided Staff with their CMC sections that they consider to be important and need to be revised, which are listed, not in order of priority, in the table on the next page. Based on the number of occurrences on the list, there appear to be several topics that are of interest to three or more Commissioners.

The BPPC is requested to review the list and determine the agreed upon topics to be discuss, to prioritize the topics, and to forward to the pertinent BPPC Committee, if desired.

BPPC CMC REVISION LIST

COMMISSIONER	CMC Code Section	Title	Specific Topics Noted
Glatz	12R.04.050	Alcoholic Beverages	Possession or Consumption
Glatz	12R.04.070	Bicycles-Safety	Other Restrictions
Glatz	12R.04.080	Bicycles-safety	Reckless Operation
Nickell	12R.04.070	Bicycles-Safety	Other Restrictions
Nickell	12R.04.080	Bicycles-safety	Reckless Operation
Glatz	12R.04.340	Camping	
Glatz	12R.04.370	Closure of Parks	
Hernandez	12R.04.110	Dog Leash Requirements	
McReynolds	12R.04.110	Dog Leash Requirements	
Reddemann	12R.04.110	Dog Leash Requirements	
Glatz	12R.04.150	Glass Containers	
McReynolds	12R.17	Humboldt Skate Park	Upgrade Maintenance/Rules Staff note: This is a CARD park and this CMC section should be deleted.
Glatz	12R.04.190	Noise	
Hernandez	12R.04.190	Noise	
Reddemann	3.85-Title V	Park Facility Fees	Development Impact Fees for Park Facilities/Nexus
Haar	12R.08	Park Reservation/Fees	Already Delegated to Policy Advisory Committee
McReynolds	12R.08	Park Reservation/Fees	Already Delegated to Policy Advisory Committee
Stoller	12R.08	Park Reservation/Fees	Already Delegated to Policy Advisory Committee
Stoller	12R.10	Park Reservation/Fees	Already Delegated to Policy Advisory Committee
Glatz	12R.04.180	Rubbish/Trash	
Hernandez	12R.04.180	Rubbish/Trash	
Hernandez	12R.04.195	Signage	Need more signs informing public of rules
McReynolds	12R.04.195	Signage	Need more signs informing public of rules
Nickell	12R.04.195	Signage	Need more signs informing public of rules
Glatz	12R.04.230	Smoking-Bidwell Park	zero tolerance
Glatz	12R.04.235	Smoking-Other Parks, Greenways & Open Space	zero tolerance
McReynolds	14.40.120	Street Trees	Director Definition
McReynolds	14.40.150	Street Trees	Revise Tree Plant calculation
McReynolds	14.40.300	Street Trees	Reduce Site Clearance
Reddemann	14.40	Street Trees	Tracking Tree Planting/Compliance
Stoller	14.40	Street Trees	Update Approve Street Tree List and Streamline Permitting
Stoller	16.66	Tree Preservation Regulations	Streamlined Permitting Process
McReynolds	16.68	Heritage Trees	Reduce Application fee



DATE: 6/21/17
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Linda Herman, Interim Park and Natural Resource Manager
SUBJECT: Parks and Street Trees and Public Landscapes Report

NARRATIVE

1. 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 open park restrooms. Maintenance and repair of park fixtures, daily opening of gates, posting reservations, unauthorized camp clean up and the constant removal of graffiti from all park infrastructure.

- a. Lower Park: Staff prepared the top sides of the Sycamore pool for the upcoming season with lifeguard chair rebuilds and fresh paint on all warning signs. The Oak Grove reservation area received a much-needed new drinking fountain.
- b. Middle Park: Staff flail mowed and string trimmed upper park road and the Horseshoe lake area in preparation for Hooked on Fishing event. Parks supported Chico Velo volunteers on the Maidu trail restoration project with all the materials, tools and some pre-event labor.
- c. Upper Park: Graffiti and trash removal when possible.
- d. Greenway Parks: Weekly checks and garbage clean up at Comanche creek.
- e. Upcoming projects: Comanche creek trail; Valeen to Wrex, Teichert ponds trail, Peregrine point disc golf alternative hole placement, start to install the replacement PAR course equipment along exiting course.

2. Ranger and Lifeguard Programs

- a. Lifeguards– After a delay of two weeks, Sycamore Pool opened June 9th with a full contingent of lifeguards for the summer season. A record amount of debris was cleared from the pool after the winter/spring storm season. To date, lifeguards have had one child rescue, minor first aid incidents and a two inch diameter limb fall from high atop a Cottonwood tree on the north side of the pool and hit a woman on the head. The patron was taken to the hospital as a precaution, where she was treated and released.
- b. Rangers have spent a significant amount of time since the rains ceased dealing with illegal encampments and cleanups in greenways and the parks. To keep up with the amount of debris from camps, cleanups with ACS will occur twice monthly in the greenways for the summer season.
- c. The official end of the spring event season culminated with multiple graduation events by schools and the ever popular Hooked on Fishing event at Horseshoe Lake.
- d. In May, a litter on nine pit bull mix puppies estimated to be four week old were found by park patrons and given to the ranger on duty. The tick and worm infested pups were treated by the City animal shelter and put up for adoption.
- e. Significant Incidents – On 6/2/17 around noon, a park patron was struck down by a large falling tree limb on South Park Drive. The woman sustained significant injuries and was transported to Enloe for treatment.
- f. In the early morning hours on June 6th, a fire erupted in Upper Park at a popular lookout point between Santos Ranch Road and Peregrine Point. The burnt out shell of a motorhome within park boundaries was found and thought to be the origin of a three acre fire. A witness reported an explosion like sound heard ¼ a mile away from the incident. It is thought that a fire started and spread throughout the motorhome eventually exploding the propane tanks. The vehicle was burned so badly that a VIN number was undetectable. No responsible people have been found to date.

3. Volunteer and Donor Program

- a. Caper Acres Fun Run– There were over 200 participants at the 2nd annual Caper Acres Fun Run. The generosity of the Chico Community was demonstrated by contributions toward the event of In-kind donations of goods and services totaling \$9,400.00. A total of \$3,000.00 in cash was raised to go toward the Caper Acres Renovation Project.
- b. Keller William Reality Volunteer Day– On May 11th 55 employees from Keller Williams Reality contributed 165 hours of volunteer labor to the Bidwell Park. They painted the Kiosk, both birthday rings in and completed extensive weeding within and around Caper Acres.
- c. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities –
 - i. Comanche Creek Greenway– There are several volunteer opportunities scheduled at Comanche Creek
 - ii. Chico Community Watch– Bi weekly cleanups in the Lindo Channel
 - iii. Stream Team – Monthly Water Quality Monitoring

Call 896-7831 or check visit the volunteer calendar on the City of Chico website for volunteer opportunity details.

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Volunteer Hours

Park and Greenway Volunteer Activities, May 2017						
Date	Location	Agency	Task	# of Volunteers	Total Hours	Leader
All of May	Various	Park Watch	Park Ambassadors	110	1218	Shane Romain
various	Bidwell Park	Park Steward	Vegetation Mgmt	1	8	Susan Mason
various	Memorial Way	Park Steward	Vegetation Mgmt	1	5	Susan Mason
various	CCG	FCCG	Trash pickup, Camp cleanup, Vegetation Mgmt., Misc.	1	34	Susan Mason
various	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt.	1	3	Heidi Gysin
various	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt.	1	7	Sara Stowe
various	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt.	6	70	Janet Ellner
various	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt., Misc.	1	7	John Cervantes
5/4/2017	Lower Park	CAVE	Gen. Cleanup	4	12	Shane Romain
5/6/2017	DTA	Parks	Event	7	21	Heidi Chervet
5/11/2017	Lower Park	Keller Williams	Gen. Cleanup	55	165	Shane Romain
5/13/2017	Lower Park	Keller Williams	Event	3	9	Shane Romain
5/13/2017	Humboldt Park	BEC	Gen. Cleanup	18	57	Angel Gomez
5/17/2017	Upper Park	Trailworks	Veg. Mgmt.	16	48	Thad Walker
5/18/2017	Caper Acres	Neal Dow	Gen. Cleanup	5	10	Shane Romain
5/20/2017	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt., Trail work	9	31	Susan Mason
5/20/2017	Lindo Channel	Chico Community Watch	Gen. Cleanup	8	24	Dan Bringolf
5/20/2017	Lindo Channel	Chico Community Watch	Gen. Cleanup	1	3	Dan Bringolf
5/22/2017	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt.	9	17	Janet Ellner
5/23/2017	CCG	FCCG	Vegetation Mgmt.	3	5	Janet Ellner
5/31/2017	Upper Park	Park Steward	Gen. Cleanup	14	42	Shelly Rogers
					1838	

Table 2. Monthly Public and Private Permits

Monthly Public Permits - May				
Date	Location	Organization	Event	Participant #
05/04/17	City Plaza	Chico City Prayer	National Day of Prayer	200
05/06/17	City Plaza	Celebration of People	Parade	250
05/05/17	City Plaza	DCBA	Friday Night Concert	400
05/06/2017	1 Mile	Butte Environmental Council	Endangered Species Faire	3,000
05/07/2017	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
05/07/2017	Cedar Grove	Chico Running Club	Chico Running Masters Race	100
05/07/2017	1 Mile	Paradise Hospice	Celebration of Life 5K	500
05/14/2017	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
05/20/2017	Horseshoe Lake	Hooked on Fishing Not of Drugs	Fishing Derby	1,001
05/21/2017	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
05/21/2017	Cedar Grove	Earthbound Skills	Summer Camp	20
05/22/2017	Council Ring	Earthbound Skills	Summer Camp	20
05/29/2017	Council Ring	God Squad	AA Meeting	60
Totals				5,731

Table 3. Monthly Private Permits

Monthly Private Permits - May		
Type	# Permits	# Participants
Private	42	1789
Caper Acres	20	555
Totals	62	2344

Table 4. Monthly Maintenance Hours.

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	2017 Trend
1. Safety	152	25.5%	101.3%	
2. Infrastructure Maintenance	199	33.3%	209.5%	
3. Vegetation Maintenance	127	21.2%	105.4%	
4. Admin Time/Other	120	20.0%	61.3%	
Monthly Totals	597	100%	106.6%	

Table 5. Monthly Incidents

05/14/2017	Middle Park	Petty theft	Cop Logic RPT
05/16/2017	Lower Park	(484) Theft from vehicle	Cop Logic RPT
05/20/2017	Middle Park	Lost Property	Cop Logic RPT
05/23/2017	Middle Park	(484) Theft from vehicle	Cop Logic RPT
05/30/2017	Middle Park	Vehicle Vandalism	Cop Logic RPT

Table 6. Monthly Citations and Warnings

Ranger Report - Citations 2017						
	Monthly			Annual		
Violation - Citations	Total Citations	%	Rank	Total Citations	%	Rank
Alcohol	4	11%	4	6	5%	7
Animal Control Violations	0	0%	7	7	5%	5
Bicycle Violation	0	0%	7	7	5%	5
Glass	7	20%	2	8	6%	4
Illegal Camping	4	11%	4	14	11%	3
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	7	0	0%	10
Littering	0	0%	7	2	2%	9
Other Violations	5	14%	3	21	16%	2
Parking Violations	12	34%	1	62	47%	1
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	0	0%	7	0	0%	10
Smoking	3	9%	6	5	4%	8
Totals	35	100%		132	100%	

Ranger Report - Warnings 2017						
	Monthly			Annual		
Violation - Warnings	Total Warnings	%	Rank	Total Warnings	%	Rank
Alcohol	10	12%	3	21	6%	6
Animal Control Violations	16	19%	2	63	19%	2
Bicycle Violation	26	31%	1	40	12%	4
Glass	2	2%	8	6	2%	9
Illegal Camping	10	12%	3	97	30%	1
Injury/Destruction City Property	0	0%	10	1	0%	10
Littering	6	7%	6	10	3%	8
Other Violations	5	6%	7	13	4%	7
Parking Violations	0	0%	10	23	7%	5
Resist/Delay Park Ranger	1	1%	9	1	0%	10
Smoking	8	10%	5	49	15%	3
Totals	84	100%		324	100%	

Photographs



Figure 1. Porta potty rescue at Bear Hole in Upper Bidwell Park. Vandals drug the unit from the parking lot and pushed it over the bank along the creek.



Figure 2. Tree and Park staff attached a winch line and pulled it up from the creek and set it back in place 5-3-17.



Figure 3. Mayor Sean Morgan and Vice-Mayor Reanette Fillmer with Caper Acres Fun Run finishers



Figure 4. Azads Martial Arts demonstration at Caper Acres Fun Run



Figure 5. Excited Caper Acres Fun Run participant

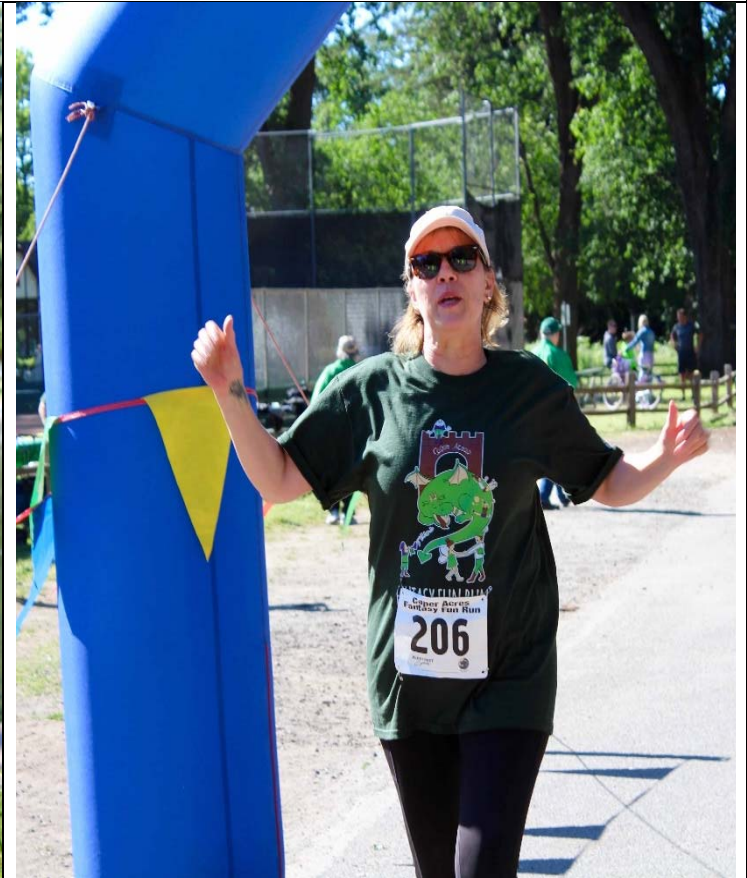


Figure 6. Caper Acres Fun Run finisher



Figure 7. Ranger Daniel educating children at the Endangered Species Faire



Figure 8. An illegally parked motorhome catches fire and claims 3 acres of parkland between disc golf and Santos Ranch Road on June 6th.

Attachments:

A.

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6/22/2017



DATE: 6/22/17
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager
SUBJECT: Street Trees Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. Enloe Medical Center- Park addition. Modification to Street Tree pruning– Enloe Medical Center has been in discussions with the Director of Public Works and City staff to agree on the way forward following the pre-mature removal of two city street trees. Enloe has agreed to fund a street tree trimming program around perimeter of the medical plaza on Esplanade. See Exhibit A Urban Forest Managers Street tree report.
Table 1 in the report shows initial prescriptions that included the removal of eight trees. As an alternative plan the City has negotiated the removal of only four trees with an additional sixteen trees undergoing structural pruning. This will further enhance the street tree environment around the medical facility. It is anticipated that the contractual value of the revised pruning plan will far in exceed mitigation fees that would be payable per CMC 16.66
- b. PG & E utility line modification by negotiation– The Urban Forest Manager met with PG & E contractors in May 2017 to discuss utility line right-of-way clearance along Manzanita. See Exhibit B. The proposed recommendation was to remove four trees and trim 3 trees. By negotiation revised recommendations include removing two trees and trimming two trees. Note the sycamore in photos A and B. This tree was initially scheduled to be trimmed. Further inspection revealed that the tree had no roots and was being propped up by a neighboring oak tree. The PG & E contractor agreed to remove this tree.
- c. Summer Limb Drop– The current heatwave has resulted in many service request calls relating to falling branches. Staff is currently preparing a tree trimming contract to go out to bid. This will help mitigate tree concerns over target paved areas in Bidwell park.

2. Planning/Monitoring

- a. Permits– The UFM approved a number of permits in May. Of note include: Maintenance of Fox TV microwave signal from 400 Main St; invasive weeds impacting utility lines on the golf course; Removal of a tallow with agreement to replant with a more suitable species; Three planting permits were approved.

In addition to 1241 Arcadian, denied permits included a removal request due to falling acorns; request to remove an ugly zelkova with negotiation that city will trim and structurally prune the tree, resident will alter irrigation; A building development tree permit was also returned and by negotiation developer will revisit saving an oak tree.
- b. Damage reports– UFM completed two damage reports for Risk Management. Three further reports are pending.
- c. Bruce Road widening project– UFM attended an initial meeting to get introduced to the design and development team.
- d. UFM is reviewing Building development guidance as it relates to the proper planting of trees.
- e. Planning and Building development– UFM has attended several weekly Planning meetings. These meetings give the UFM the opportunity to review and comment on development plans as they relate to trees.

3. Maintenance

- a. Mobile MMS– UFM is working with IT and other staff to roll out new service request software. It is anticipated that this software will also assist in urban forest management planning.
- b. Parking lot shade– UFM conducted a tour with the Building Development Director of various parking lots in Chico. This tour followed research conducted by Chico Tree Advocates. This initial tour looked for common factors determining success or failure of shade tree plantings. Initial observations suggest that rooting volume is a strong predictor of success. Many trees that had been planted in 6' x 6' islands were missing or of low vigor. Trees that were planted in continuous strips of dirt were generally larger and had improved vigor. UFM plans to discuss the next-steps with relevant stakeholder groups

4. Outreach and Education

- a. Summer Limb Drop– UFM prepared one press release. See Exhibit C. Two television interviews were also conducted. It is noted that the phenomenon is very complex and not fully understood. It is thought that on hot calm days, humidity in the tree canopy causes the trees water cycle to break down. Water pressure increases in the xylem. Eventually the pressure becomes so great that the limb breaks. Other theories suggest that the tree can become predisposed to summer limb drop due to the buildup of gases produced by wet wood bacteria. This is often not visible from the exterior of the tree. Another theory is that the high temperatures in the branch could increase the production of ethylene and other substances within the branch. This would in turn weaken the branch, predisposing it to branch failure.
- b. UFM met Butte Environmental Council Executive Director. Public Works staff are excited to know that BEC is committed to collaborating with the City for the health of the community and environment. BEC recognizes the immense value of Chico's Urban Forest and want to see it thrive and grow in the coming years.
- c. UFM reached out to CTA member Karen Laslo. Karen has a great photographic library of Chico's urban forest. See Exhibit's D & E. It is anticipated that Karen's photos will be used in the urban forest management plan in due course.

Staff training

- d. UFM met with Andrew Conlin, NRCS soil scientist. Andrew gave an overview of the soil formations found in Chico. This will help to refine street tree planting lists.
- e. UFM and Street Tree Supervisor attended online training "Managing trees during drought". UFM also attended a webinar hosted by US Forest Service "Citizen Science: Open Data and Urban Forestry; Opportunities and challenges," "Selecting tough urban trees for tough urban sites" and "Tree risk assessments: cutting edge science meets practical applications". These webinars are free and open to the public. The UFM can provide links to anyone who wishes to view recordings of these great educational resources.
- f. With the rising number of service requests, staff were trained on the location, use and purpose the City tree permit system. Many service requests fall under the realm of the permit system because the resident would be the exclusive beneficiary of the proposed work. Other cases where the permit system would be appropriate include low priority work that would ordinarily be done by the city tree but the resident does not wish to wait for city tree crews to get to. See Exhibit F.

5. Street Trees

The Street Tree Supervisors monthly summary data tables for May are included below in this report.

Additional highlights:

- a. Line of Sight clearance work– Street Tree crew continue to trim stop signs, traffic lights, school crossings and other right-of-way fixtures to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety. See photos labeled Figure 3 and 4 in the Street Tree Supervisors report for "before" and "after" photos.
- b. Chipper on loan for bike trail work– On Friday, June 16th, City Public Works right-of-way crews teamed-up with Cal Fire crews out of Magalia to begin some trash removal, trimming of low hanging limbs and removal of dead or intrusive vegetation along a section of the "airport" bike path that extends from Eaton south to the Lindo Channel. Crews used pickers, pole saws, rakes, blowers and a chipper from the Street Tree Division to elevate the canopy above light standards and clear a few feet on either side of the path to improve illumination, safety sight-lines, and access to trash that may be deposited along the sides in these areas. Another work day is scheduled with Cal Fire for Friday, July 30th. Tree Crew will loan the chipper on that day also.
- c. Development of the 2017 removal list is ongoing. Trees eligible for this list are predominantly trees that are dying or dead. There are currently sixty-seven trees on the list.






- d. There are currently 317 trees on the watering list. 245 trees are being watered by the city. In addition, residents watered 71 trees funded by the In-lieu fee/black walnut fund. Door hangers were sent to each resident to remind them of their agreement to water the trees. See Exhibit G.
- e. Tree cleaning work is scheduled to commence around Citrus elementary. During the school break, 15 city-owned walnuts around the perimeter of the school will be cleaned of deadwood and structural defects.
- f. Exhibit H photographs highlight the nature of tree conditions that prompt emergency response. This tree showed evidence of recent movement in the root plate. Located at 1063 Polar.
- g. Street Tree crew received several Thank You calls and emails. See Exhibit I. Staff are working hard against a rising tide of service calls, reduced staffing and extreme heat to deal with tree safety issues as they arise.
- h. The Director of Public Works anticipates recruiting for a Senior maintenance worker to work in the tree crew soon.

6. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous

- a. Tree contracts– Many tree service provider contracts will be coming up for renewal. Staff are working on revised terms and service standards.
- b. Tree planting sites– UFM has started a preliminary survey of vacant planting sites. This will be used to inform tree planting decisions throughout the city. Future focus will be given on planting sites that can sustain large trees and/or areas that have reduced canopy cover. See Exhibit J
- C Dead Walnut removals and local use of wood.
- D. UFM is currently investigating several unauthorized tree removals in the city.
- E. UFM is researching the Tree City USA Growth Award and the steps needed to achieve this accolade.
- F. The possibility of a CSU intern position is being developed to assist the UFM.
- G UFM anticipates the resurrection of monthly Tree Committee meetings to guide the urban forest management process.

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Street Tree Productivity.

Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	Trend
Tree Crew Hours				
1. Safety	37	5.9%	97.4%	
Establishment, and Maintenance)	367.5	58.3%	121.5%	
3. Special Projects	11	1.7%	91.7%	
4. Admin Time/Other	215	34.1%	108.0%	
Monthly Totals	630.5	100.0%	114.3%	

Item	Values	% Change from Last Month	Trend
5. Productivity			
Calls			
Call Outs	38	67.9%	□□□□□
Service Requests: Submitted	0	-	
Service Requests: Completed	95	215.9%	□□□□□
Sub Total	133	133.0%	□□□□□
Trees			
Planted: Trees	0	0.0%	□□.
Pruned	88	463.2%	□ □□□
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	0.0%	□□ □
Removed: Stumps	0	-	□
Removed: Trees	0	-	
Sub Total	88	220.0%	□□□□□
Tree Permits (#)			
Submitted	8	-	
Approved (includes 6 older permits)	14	100.0%	□□□□□
Denied	2	-	
Total	24	100.0%	□□□□□
6. Contracts			
Expenditures (\$)	\$ 6,219	16.9%	□□□□□
Trees (#)			
Planted	0	-	
Pruned	10	1000.0%	□ □□□
Removed: Trees (smaller)		-	
Removed: Stumps	2	-	□ □□
Removed: Trees	2	7.7%	□ □□□
Total	14	51.9%	□□ □□

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Porta potty rescue at Bear Hole in Upper Bidwell Park. Vandals drag the unit from the parking lot and pushed it over the bank along the creek.



Figure 2. Tree and Park staff attached a winch line and pulled it up from the creek and set it back in place 5-3-17.



Figure 3. On Esplanade @ Aspen Glenn the intersection has low growing branches blocking site of oncoming traffic.



Figure 4. After pruning we discovered a 35 MPH speed limit sign attached to the street light pole. The pruning at this intersection improved traffic safety and the neighbors were very thankful 5-18-17.

Attachments:

Exhibits A through J
Table 1
Photos A and B

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6/22/2017

Exhibit A

City of Chico
Supplemental arborist report
Enloe medical center

May 15 2017

All City trees surrounding the Enloe Medical Center 1531 Esplanade located in the City median were assessed by Richard Bamlet, Urban forest Manager, City of Chico between May 10 and May 12, 2017

A Level 2 – Basic Assessment was conducted. This included a detailed, ground-based, visual inspection of the trees and their surrounding site, and a synthesis of the information collected. Each tree was inspected with a 360 degree walk around, observing the site, buttress roots, root collar, trunk, and branches. The basic assessment included the use of simple tools for measuring the tree and acquiring more information about the tree and potential defects. Level 2 assessments are limited in that they are restricted to conditions that can be detected from the ground. Internal, below ground, and upper-crown defects may be impossible to see or difficult to assess and may remain largely undetected.

The following is a list of typical parameters assessed in a Level 2 inspection. This list is not exhaustive:

Root flare quality, exposed roots, poor trunk taper, bows and sweeps, general tree architecture, codominant limbs, weak attachments, included bark, excessive end weight and lion tailing, cracks and splits, hanging branches, girdling roots, wounds, seams and reaction wood, decay, cavities and holding wood, conks, sap, bleeding, sloughing bark, nesting wildlife and bees, boring insects termites and ants, deadwood and stubs, cankers galls and burls, previous failure, presence of power lines,



Richie Bamlet

City of Chico | Urban Forest Manager

(530) 896 – 7801 Office - (530) 895-2634

Fax

[Website](#) | [Contact Us](#)

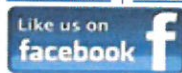


Table 1

Enloe Park addition to Enloe Medical Center.

Table to Show initial recommendations and revisions following discussions with Public Works O&M

Tree ID #	Type	DBH	Dripline	Vigor	Initial prescription	New prescription
204	Sycamore	42	na	stump	na	na
205	Pistache	12	na	stump	na	na
210	Pistache	11	32	High	Remove	Structural prune
213	sycamore	20	45	Low	no proposal	Clean
BFLA1	Sycamore	23	40	Low	no proposal	Clean/prune
BFLA 2	Sycamore	18	38	Low	no proposal	Clean
BFLA 3	Sycamore	20	42	Low	no proposal	Clean
BFLA 4	Sycamore	31	65	Low	no proposal	Clean
227	English Walnut	24	30	poor	Remove	Remove
228	Water oak	21	49	Medium	no proposal	Structural Prune
229	Rose of Sharon	multi=5	10	Low	Remove	Structural Prune
230	Black Walnut	30		poor	Remove	Remove
235	Sweetgum	18	41	High	no proposal	Structural Prune
236	sweetgum	27	54	High	no proposal	Structural prune
238	Valley oak	21		Medium	Remove	Remove
244	Pistache	26	48	High	no proposal	Structural Prune
237	Pecan			High	Remove	Clean/prune
BFLA 10	Pine	4	8	Medium	Remove	Remove
240	Pecan	24		High	Remove	Clean/ prune
A	Pistache	4		High	no proposal	Structural prune
B	Pistache	5		High	no proposal	Structural prune
C	Ginko	4		Hign	no proposal	Structural prune
D	Ginko	4		Hign	no proposal	Structural prune
S10	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune
S9	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune
S8	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune
S7	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune
S6	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune
S5	Ginko	9		High	no proposal	Structural prune

Summary	Initial prescription	New prescription
Remove	7	4
no proposal	20	0
Structural prune	0	16
Clean	0	7

Photographic summary

General notes and Recommendations

#204 Sycamore stump



#205 Pistache stump



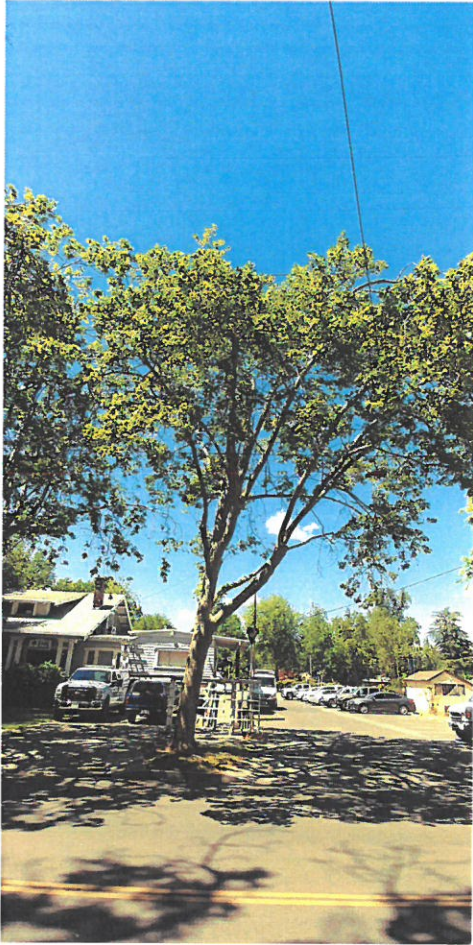
#210 Pistache

General comments.
Tree has good vigor.

Recommendation:
Remove minor deadwood.
Structural prune to promote stable shade canopy



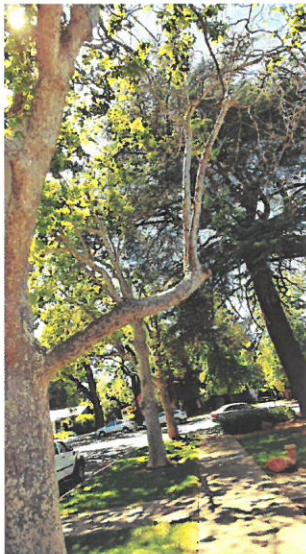
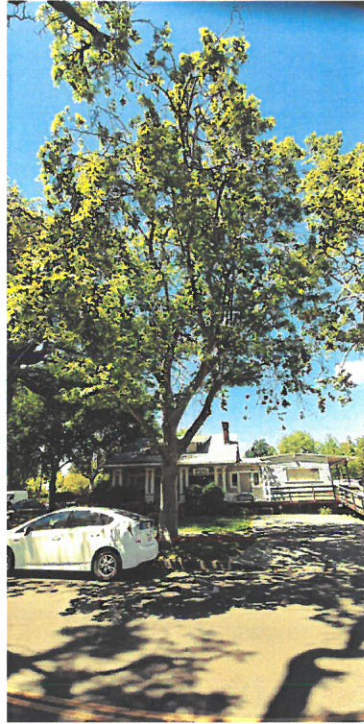
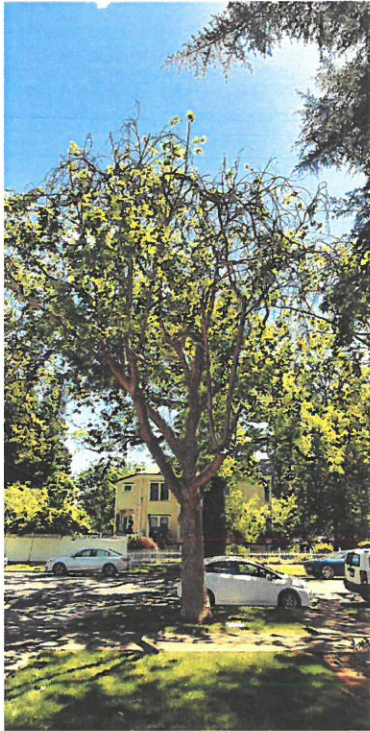
#213 sycamore.



Tree was topped in the past, most likely for clearance of power lines that run through the tree.

Recommendation:
Crown clean.
Remove deadwood.

#BFLA1 Sycamore



Remove dead limbs

General comments:

Tree was topped in the past, most likely for clearance of power lines that run through the tree.

Root flare is approx 3" below grade.

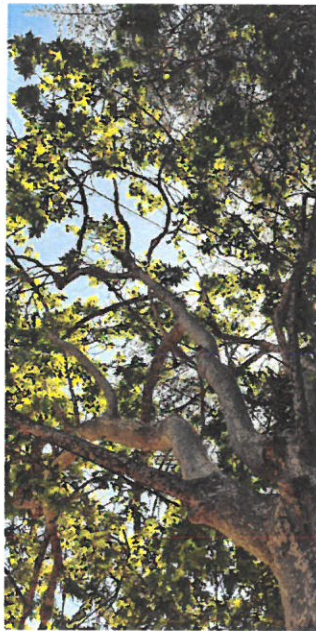
Note wildlife cavity

Recommendation:

Crown clean and prune for structure

Remove deadwood.

BFLA2 Sycamore



Deadwood in canopy



Hanger

General comments:

Tree is impacted by larger Deodar.#215

Tree has significant quantities of deadwood in the crown.

Tree was topped in the past, most likely for clearance of power lines that run through the tree.

Recommendation:

Crown clean.

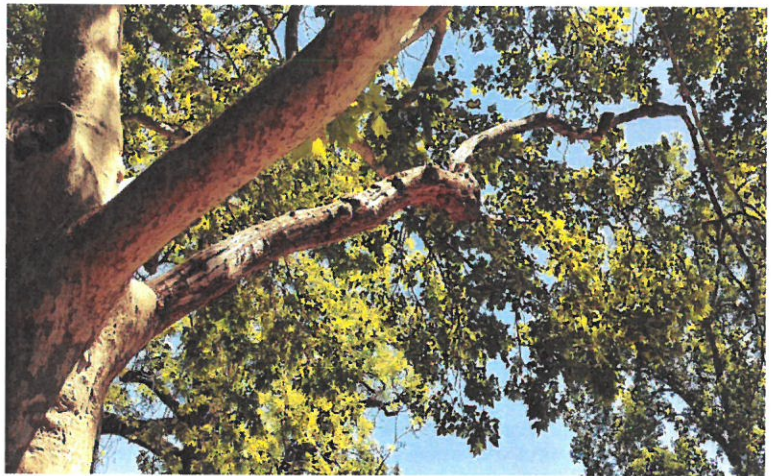
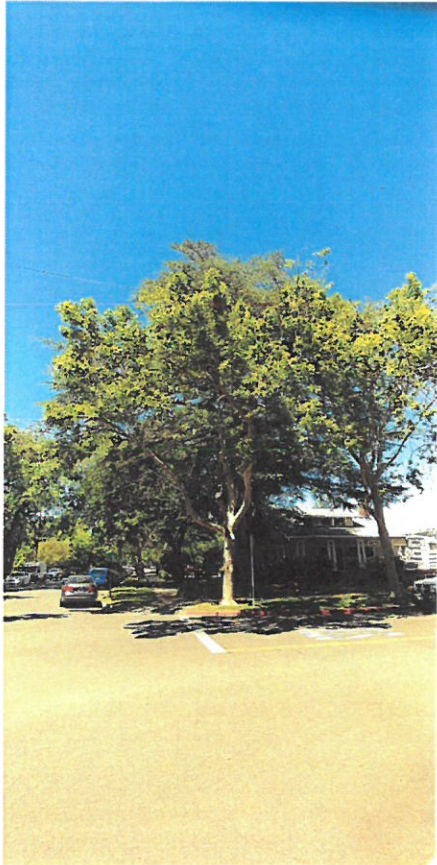
Remove deadwood.

Remove hanger

BFLA3

Tree is impacted by larger Deodar.
Cavities.

Recommendation:
Crown clean
Remove deadwood



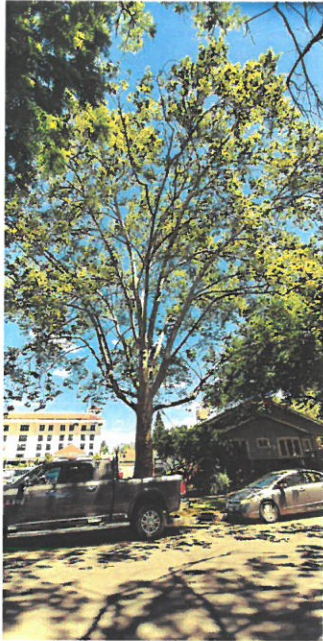
Deadlimb to be removed.

BFLA4: Sycamore

General Notes:

Tree has significant quantities of deadwood in the crown.

Tree was topped in the past, most likely for clearance of power lines that run through the tree.



Recommendation:

Crown clean.

Prune to improve structure

Remove large lateral which in decline.

#227 English Walnut

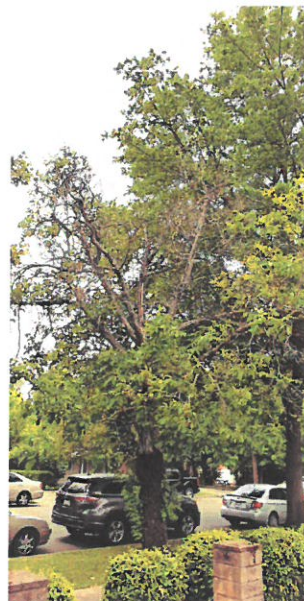
Tree is grafted to native root stock at c. 12'

Significant deadwood.

in severe decline

Recommendation:

Removal.



#228 Water oak

General notes:

Tree is healthy but requires structural pruning to correct weak branch attachments.
Irrigation head noted near base of tree.

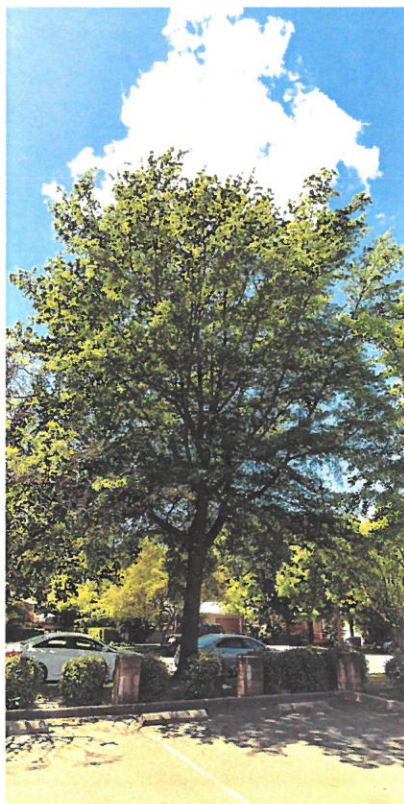
Recommendation:

Structural prune

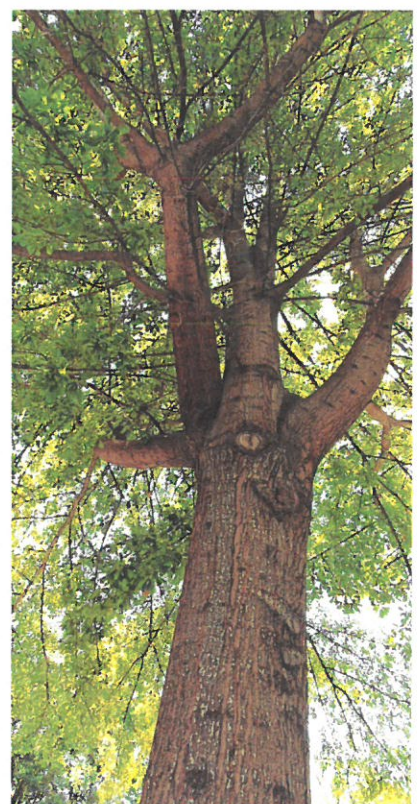
Reduce Co-dom stem with included bark for removal in follow up pruning cycle.

Reduce outsized waterspout.

Sever girdling roots. (Sawzall or similar)



Co-dom trunks



Large waterspout

#229 Rose of Sharon

General notes:

Tree/ bush is a feature.

In state of neglect.

Recommendation:

Crown clean deadwood.

Prune to comply with 10' ROW Requirement.

Prune for vigor after blooms.



Deadwood removal

#230 Black Walnut

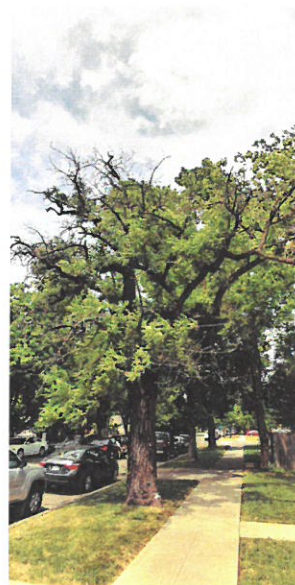
General notes:

Tree is in severe decline.

Crown clean is unlikely to reinvigorate tree.

Recommendation:

Removal.



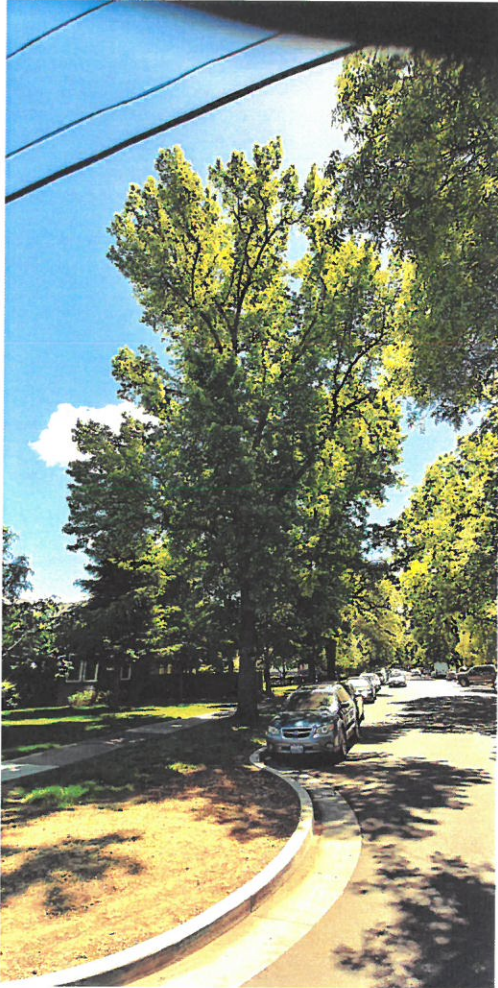
#235 Sweetgum
General notes:
Tree has good vigor.
Columnar variety.

Recommendation:
Minor pruning for structure
Remove minor deadwood.



#236 Sweetgum
General notes:
Tree has good vigor.

Recommendation:
Crown clean small amounts of 1-3" deadwood
Reduce overextended lateral branch growing over the road.



#238 Valley oak

General notes:

Tree is c.5' away from tree #244 Pistache.

Co-dom trunk stems with deeply included bark. Few options for restorative pruning cycle.

This tree will become more hazardous in time.

Recommendation:

Remove.

This option will eliminate future hazard and provide more space for the Pistache.#244



Included co-dominant trunks

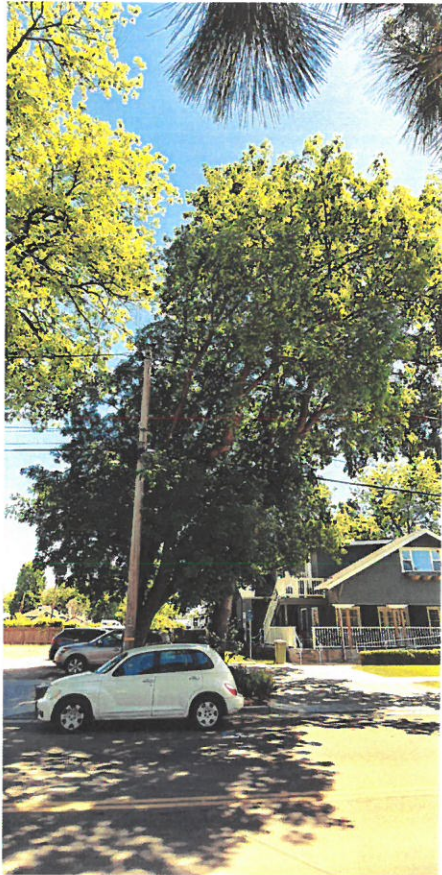
#244 Pistache

General notes:

tree has good vigor but has never been formatively pruned.

Recommendation:

End weight reduction of branches over the road and growing towards Sierra house.

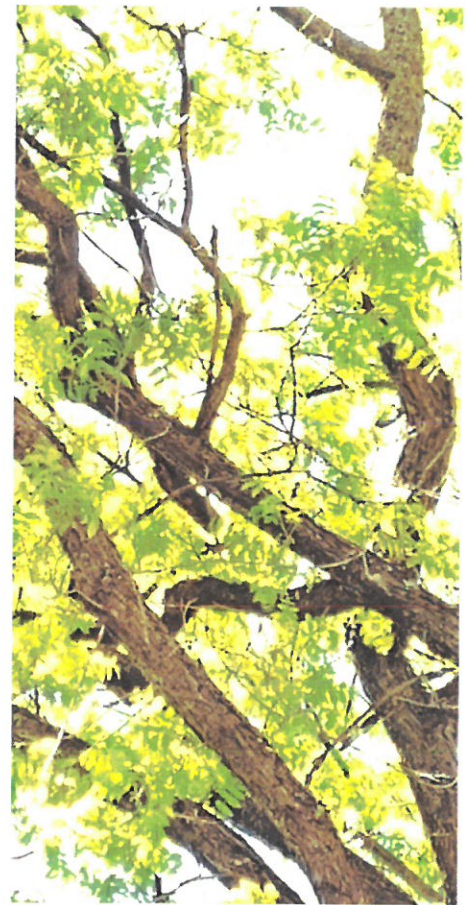
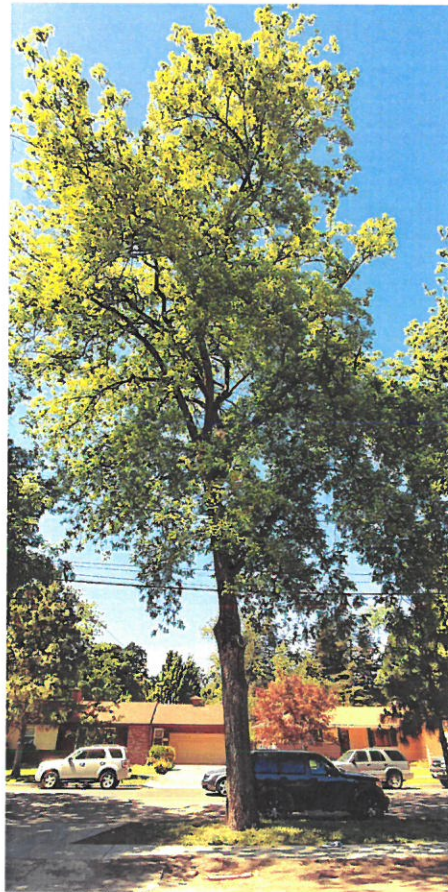


Overhead photo of branches needing end-weight reduction

#237 Pecan

Tree has good vigor.

Recommendations
Crown clean
Remove hanger



Hanger

BFLA 10 - Pine.
Unlikely to gain canopy presence.

Recommendation
Remove

No photo

#240 Pecan
General comments
Tree has good vigor.

Recommendations
Crown clean



#A. and #B Pistache

Recently planted trees
Excellent vigor

Recommendation:
Formative prune to promote training for typical umbrella growth habit



Tree A



Tree B

Tree #C and #D
Gingko

Recently planted

Recommendation:

Structurally prune for strong central leader. Reduce codoms for removal in next pruning cycle.

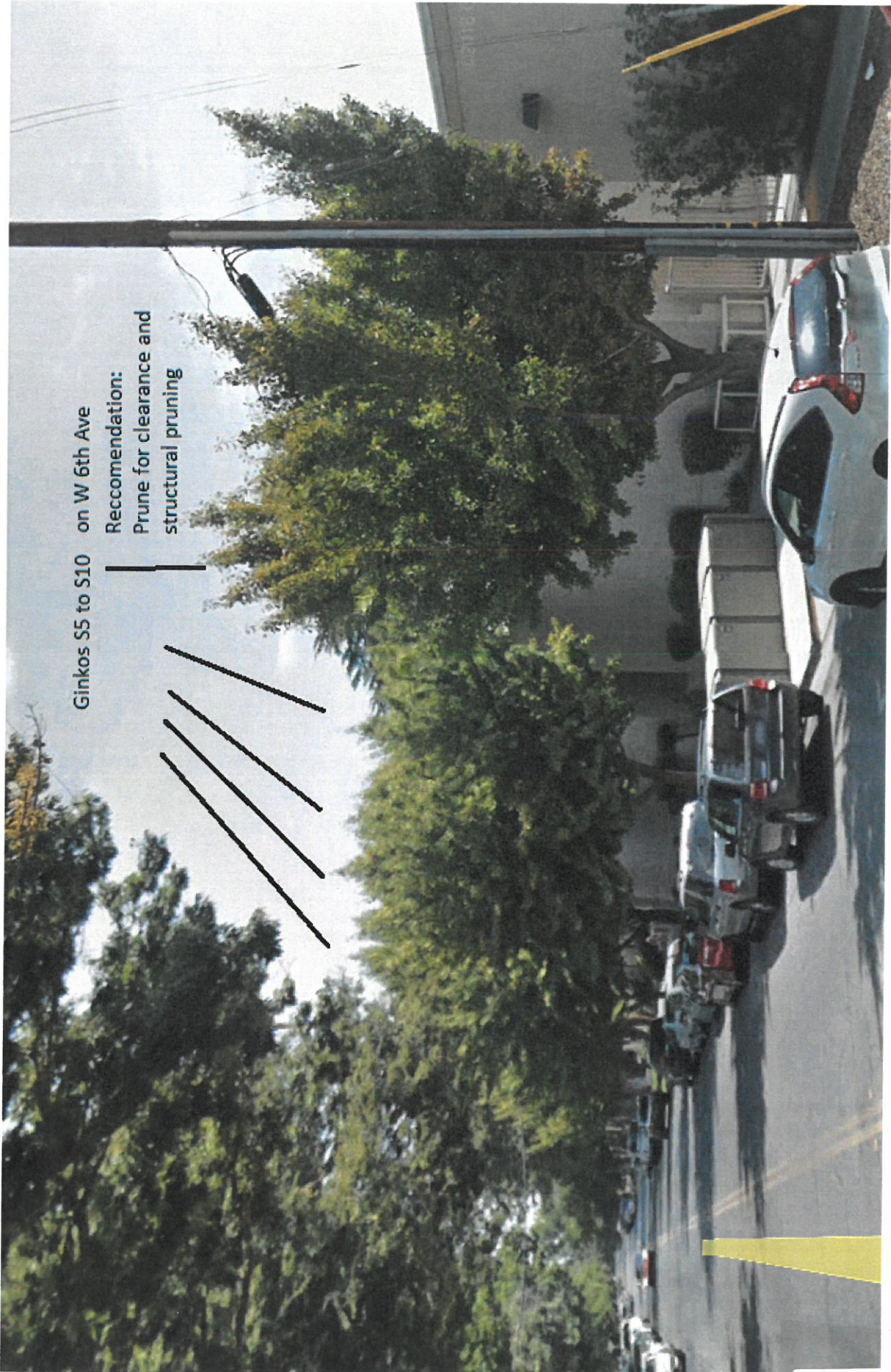


Tree C Pistache

Tree D Pistache



Reduce codoms for removal in next pruning cycle



Ginkos S5 to S10 on W 6th Ave

Reccommendation:
Prune for clearance and
structural pruning

Exhibit B

PG&E

Table to Show initial recommendations and revisions following discussions with Public Works O&M
Manzanita avenue utility line clearance work

	DBH	Initial prescription	Revised prescription
Valley oak	11	remove	Leave
Valley oak	11	remove	Leave
Valley oak	22	Remove	leave
Valley oak	23	Remove	Remove
Valley oak	30	Trim	Trim
Valley oak	24	Trim	Trim
Sycamore	36	Trim	Remove

Photo A Sycamore on Manzanita



Photograph B Sycamore on Manzanita - No Roots!





NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
www.chico.ca.us

Exhibit C Sudden Limb Drop Press Release

CONTACT:
ORGANIZATION:

Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

Street Tree Division, Public Works Department City of Chico, 965 Fir St, P.O. Box 3420,
Chico, CA 95928.

PHONE:

530-896-7800

EMAIL:

Richard.bamlet@chicoca.gov

June 19, 2017

Summer Limb Drop

During the summer months, Bidwell Park and our community experience a sudden rise of reported tree limbs falling to the ground. Healthy tree limbs that drop in the summer without any apparent cause are not uncommon. Arborists call it “summer limb drop.” This phenomenon usually occurs in the afternoon on hot, dry, windless days, which are typical of Chico’s summer months. Summer limb drop is more common in larger, over-mature trees. Oak and Sycamore trees most commonly experience sudden limb drop but Ash, Poplar, Pear, Pines, Cedars, Eucalyptus, Sweet gum, Pistache and Maple trees can also be affected. Over the past few weeks, the City has received several limb drop calls. As we enter the heatwave over the coming week, the number of calls is expected to increase.

So when outdoors enjoying our beautiful City of Trees, please exercise caution and be aware of your surroundings, especially if wearing headphones. Citizens should be alert when out driving, parking, walking, or any outdoor activity that brings them under the shade of trees. Sudden noises of cracking or “popping” like fireworks often indicate imminent branch drop. Take evasive action because you might only have a few seconds to get out of the way.

If citizen’s notice any hazardous conditions such as broken branches (especially those greater than 2 inches diameter) or limbs blocking a trail or road in Bidwell Park or in the public right of way, please contact the Public Works Department at 530-896-7800.

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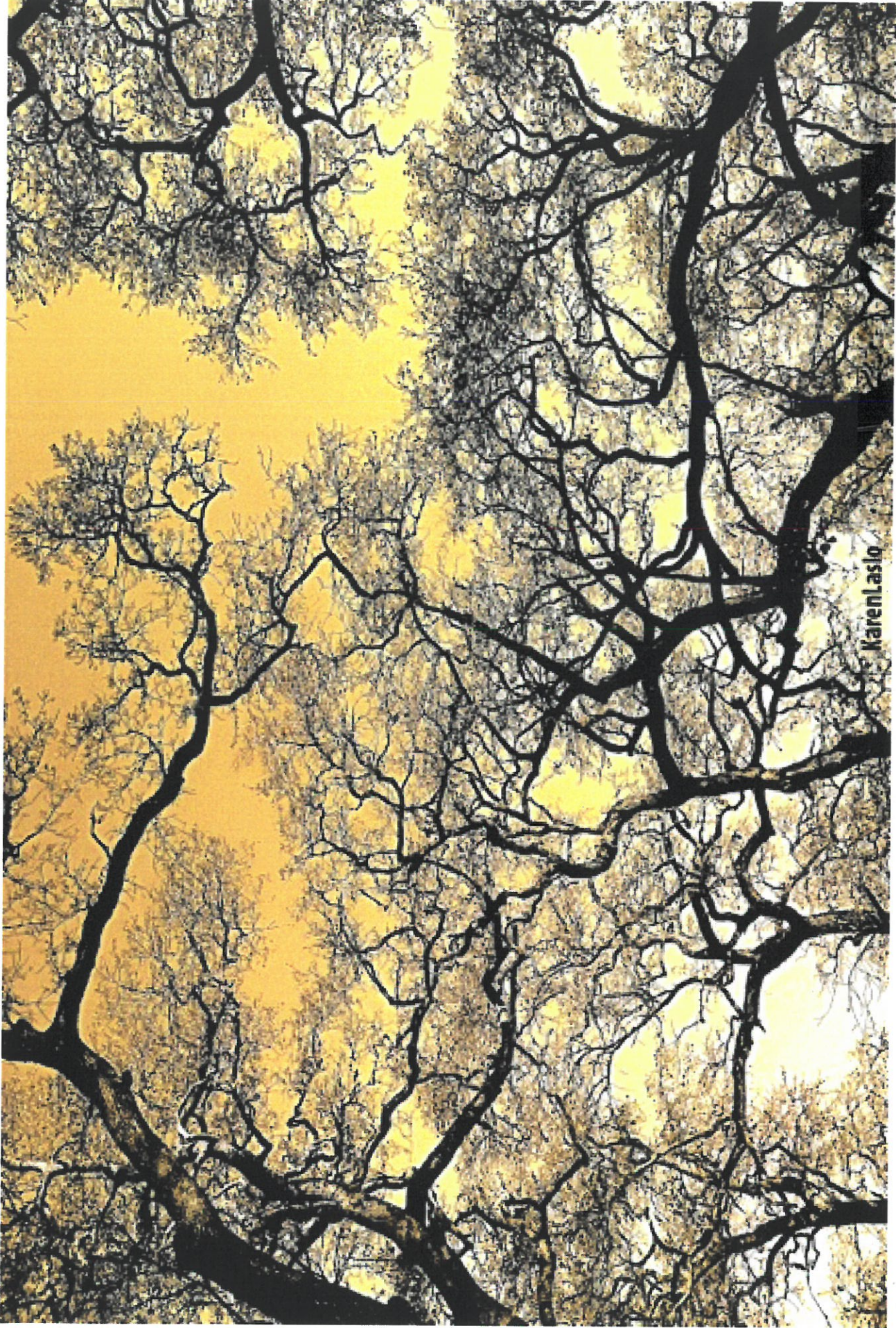
Distribution:

All City, City Council, BPPC, Media, City Website

"Red Mailbox and Black Walnut"



KarenLaslo



KarenLaslo

Exhibit E

Karen Laslo photography

"Oak Canopy In Winter"

Exhibit F Example of service request that should go to permitting system

Division: TREES/PURM Landscapes
Requestor: [REDACTED] Requestor Phone: [REDACTED]
Status: Pending
Address: [REDACTED]
Parcel #: [REDACTED]
Location: [REDACTED]
Description: BLACK WALNUT: RP called on this several times; tree is rubbing on business roof - he would like it trimmed back before it damages building any further. He has called to report this several times. Would at least like a call. RB spoke to RP. Will field recon. Refer to permit system

Notes	Date Entered	Entered By
Changed Status on SR To Assigned	6/14/2017	rbamlet
Assigned Service Request To rbamlet	6/14/2017	rbamlet
Changed Status on SR To Pending	6/14/2017	rbamlet
Changed Status on SR To Pending	6/14/2017	rbamlet
Changed Status on SR To Pending	6/13/2017	kmasters
	6/13/2017	kmasters

Exhibit G Residential Tree Irrigation letter



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PARK DIVISION/STREET TREES

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

(530) 896-7800
parkinfo@chicoca.gov
<http://www.chico.ca.us>

May 2, 2017

Subject: Irrigation for recently planted City tree.

Dear Resident:

This is a courtesy notice to inform the property owner/resident that the City of Chico has planted a street tree in the public right of way at your address.

The tree needs a generous drink of water each week during the summer months and at least twice a month during the spring/fall depending on how much rain fall we get. Leave the ring of mulch around the tree to facilitate watering and help hold moisture. The tree also needs protection from lawn mowers, automobiles and vandals. The City of Chico requests that the resident/owner take on the responsibility for irrigating the tree, however, the maintenance and future pruning and all other care will be provided by the Street Tree Division. Please **DO NOT** trim the tree.

Please help prepare the new tree for the hot summer months ahead by irrigating at least once a week for this time of the year. For questions or concerns please call the Street Tree Field Supervisor, Dave Bettencourt, at (530) 896-7821.

Sincerely,

Dave Bettencourt
Field Supervisor – Street Tree Division

Exhibit H Oak at 1063 Poplar – Imminent hazard



Exhibit I Thank You notes to City Tree Crew

Richard Bamlet

From: Melissa Beck
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:57 PM
To: Dave Bettencourt; Richard Bamlet; Erik Gustafson
Subject: THANK YOU from Matt at 1206 Normal

Good afternoon,

I pulled voicemails left on Karen's personal line, and there was a message from Matt at 1206 Normal Ave. **thanking us for picking up the palm fronds on his street.** I wanted to pass along the thank-you message from May 31.

Have a great day,

Melissa Beck
Administrative Assistant
City of Chico
Public Works Department, O&M Division
PO Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927
P 530 896-4200 F 530 895-4825
melissa.beck@chicoca.gov

Richard Bamlet

From: Theresa Rodriguez
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Dave Bettencourt
Cc: Richard Bamlet; Erik Gustafson
Subject: KUDOS!!

A woman called to say job well done at the Cohasset / Mangrove for clearing the sight line.

T

Theresa Rodriguez
City of Chico, Parks Division
PO Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927
530.896-7800
Theresa.rodriguez@chicoca.gov

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is honest, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ~Paul

Richard Bamlet

From: Benjamin J Duarte <bduarte@csuchico.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 2:13 PM
To: Richard Bamlet
Subject: Re: tree gone

Sorry to see the tree go, it was great shade, but it could have been tragic had it fallen over towards the apartments.

On the flip side, the folks living there, can now see the corner house!

I was shocked to see it go so fast! I'm guessing, that it would have had to come down, once the city starts putting sidewalks on Poplar. That tree would have been in the direct path.

Thanks for leaving a message about the tree report. I was going to call back to say thank you. The folks at the city have always been real responsive when I have had to call in. Mostly for crazy potholes in my neighborhood on North St. and East Ave. But also for when I have had to have inspections for work on that rental unit on Poplar. Everyone has been helpful given me direction to make sure all was not just okay, but better than okay.

Much better experience here than where I grew up.

Again thank you for such quick service. I know that the city is heavy with tree issues.

Benjamin Duarte
California State University, Chico
On Campus Mail: ZIP 0100

(530) 898-4413 Office

From: Richard Bamlet <richard.bamlet@Chicoca.gov>
Date: Monday, June 19, 2017 at 8:43 PM
To: Benjamin J Duarte <bduarte@csuchico.edu>
Subject: tree gone

Hello Mr Duarte

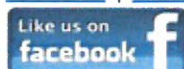
Thank you for notifying me about the leaning oak tree that was shifting on Poplar

The tree has been removed.

Thanks



Richie Bamlet
City of Chico | Urban Forest Manager
(530) 896 – 7801 Office - (530) 895-2634 Fax
[Website](#) | [Contact Us](#)



Richard Bamlet

From: Sarah Hard
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 11:03 AM
To: Erik Gustafson; Dave Bettencourt; Linda Herman; Richard Bamlet
Subject: LARGE LIMB REMOVED ON COLUSA ST

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To all involved, a great **BIG THANK YOU** from John Bush, for the quick response to a heavy, low limb on Colusa St. John is out of town and heard from a neighbor that the tree was in trouble of losing this limb & called us. The Tree Crew managed to take care of it the same day. He was well pleased and said thank you many times over. Good job all. ~ Sarah

Richard Bamlet

From: Theresa Rodriguez
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Dave Bettencourt; Richard Bamlet
Subject: A Pat On The Back

Verda MacKay
583 Coit Tower Wy

Verda called to say a big Thank You for pruning the dead branches at her house and also at the house around the corner. She was surprised that her request was addressed so quickly.

Good Job!!!

Theresa Rodriguez
City of Chico, Parks Division
PO Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927
530.896-7800
Theresa.rodriguez@chicoca.gov

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is honest, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ~Paul

Exhibit J Urban Forest vacant planting spots analysis

Chico Tree population and vacancy analysis

Table 1

Trees + vacant sites	Number
Total tree inventory	36653
Resident	3934
Off-ROW	574
Total City Tree+ vacant sites	32145
vacant sites	3781
total sites currently with trees	28364

Table 2

Tree planting sites in Chico

Size class	Number	% of vacant spots
Large	544	14%
Medium	2289	61%
small	948	25%
TOTAL	3781	100%

Table 3

Estimates of vacancy rate	Contribution to total vacancy rate		
	scenario 1		Scenario 2
	All vacant sites are plantable		only some sites plantable
Large	All suitable	574	75% suitable 408
Medium	All suitable	2289	50% suitable 1145
small	All suitable	948	none suitable 0
Available planting spots		3781	1553
Vacancy rate		12%	5%

Summary of initial findings

The tree planting vacancy rate in Chico is estimated to be between 5% and 12%