



Public Works Department, Park Division
965 Fir Street
Chico, CA 95928
(530) 896-7800

Agenda Prepared: 10/22/2020
Agenda Posted: 10/23/2020
Prior to: 6:00 p.m.

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

Regular Meeting Agenda
October 26, 2020, 6:00 pm
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. Members of the public may virtually attend the meeting by using the City's WebEx platform, by calling into the meeting, or by sending an email to the following email address. ***This meeting will not be televised on Comcast Channel 11.***

*Emailed public comments will be accepted with the subject line **PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM ____**, sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov during the meeting prior to the close of public comment on an item. The public is encouraged not to send more than one email per item and not to comment on numerous items in one email. For any emails received during the meeting, the names of the people submitting the email will be read, but not the email itself. However, emails will become part of the public record and available to the public for review after the meeting.*

WebEx public participants may use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission meeting online:

Event Name: **BIDWELL PARK & PLAYGROUND COMMISSION MEETING 10-26-2020**
Date/Time: Monday, October 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm

WebEx Event URL <https://chico.webex.com/chico/onstage/g.php?MTID=ec71a36a17a63b89408c4ee9d3a554da2>

Event #: 146 272 7440

Attendee Password: bppc102620 (Case Sensitive)

Call-in Number: 1-844-517-1442 Call-in Password: 146 272 7440

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Roll Call

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

2.1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 9/28/20.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – IF ANY

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT

The Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) will receive an update and presentation from the City's consultants on the status of the Upper Bidwell Park Road Sediment Reduction Project and the environmental review for the project. *(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager):*

Recommendation: None this is an informational item only

5.2. CONSIDERATION OF COMMISSIONER MOORE'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS SEEKING FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL PARK DIVISION STAFF.

At its 9/28/20 meeting, the BPPC approved Commissioner Moore's request to agendize discussion regarding requesting City Council approval of funding to hire additional maintenance workers, a natural resource manager, and a development director for the Parks Division. *(Verbal Report – Anna Moore, Commissioner)*

Recommendation: The BPPC is requested to provide direction on whether to recommend that the City Council approve funding for these proposed new positions.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

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

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

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

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

8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the commission will be needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. If agendized, public comment will be taken at that meeting. Speaker cards will not be accepted for these items.

8.1. By emails dated 9/16/20 and cc respectively , Commissioners Moore and Haar request to agendize discussion regarding addressing fire concerns in Bidwell Park.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on **11/30/20** at **6:00 p.m.** at a location or format to be determined.



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

**CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTES OF
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 MEETING
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29_20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:11 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Anna Moore
Garrett Liles
Lise Smith-Peters
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds
Jeff Glatz (*Commissioner Glatz had difficulty logging in and joined the meeting after the consent agenda*)

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager), Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager), Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator), and Becky Anderson (Office Assistant)

1.3 Natural Resource Committee Vacancy – Commission members were requested to notify the Chair if interested in filling the vacant seat on the BPPC's Natural Resource Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29_20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 8/31/20.
A motion was made by Commissioner Smith-Peters and seconded by Commissioner Liles to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Glatz ***

*****Commissioner Glatz had difficulty logging in and joined the meeting after the consent agenda*****

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

**** Commissioner Glatz joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m. ****

5.1 PRESENTATION ON UPPER BIDWELL PARK TRAILS INVENTORY DRAFT REPORT

The City's consultant, Trail Labs Co, presented the baseline conditions draft report from the surveys and inventory of the trails in Upper Bidwell Park, and provided an update on the development of a new trails plan. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager)**

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT FROM THE 9/16/20 BPPC NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Natural Resource Committee provided a report on the following agenda items that were discussed at its 9/16/20 meeting. **(Report – Lise Smith-Peters, Committee Interim Chair)**

5.2.1 CONSIDERATION OF NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN EIR FOR THE DRAFT VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being prepared for the draft Vegetative Fuels Management Plan ("VFMP") prepared for City-owned parks, greenways and open spaces. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15082(a), the Commission reviewed the Notice of Preparation requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR and heard public comments.

Commissioner Smith-Peters requested that the Verbena Fields project be dropped from the list of implementation projects in the VFMP, and that a project to address the understory of Lower Bidwell Park and Comanche Creek be added to the list of projects.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email Comments were also received from Raphael Genova.

The Commission directed Staff to consult with the Mechoopda Indian Tribe on whether Verbena Fields should be removed from the plan and report back to the Commission.

5.2.2 REVIEW OF THE PEREGRINE POINT DISC GOLF AGREEMENT WITH OUTSIDE RECREATION ADVOCATES, INC (ORAI).

At its 2/24/20 meeting, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission forwarded the five-year review of the operating agreement with ORAI for the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course to the Committee. The Committee reviewed the status of ORAI's compliance with the agreement terms.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore and seconded by Commissioner Smith-Peters to approve and direct Staff to

1. Work with ORAI to propose amendments to the Agreement that reflect the group's current capability to maintain the course.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters,
Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

The Commission recessed at 8:41 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was reconvened, and all members of the Commission were present.

5.3 REVIEW OF THE CHICO MUNICIPAL (CMA) CODE NOISE RESTRICTIONS

At its 8/31/20 meeting, the BPPC approved Commissioner Glatz's request to agendize review of the current noise restrictions in City parks and greenways and discuss a possible ban on amplified sound, unless allowed by a park permit. **(Report – Jeff Glatz, Commissioner)**

Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Liles to ban or put further restrictions on amplified sound in City parks and greenways.

The motion failed by the following tie vote:

AYES: Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

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Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

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

8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the commission will be needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. If agendized, public comment will be taken at that meeting. Speaker cards will not be accepted for these items.

8.1 By email dated 9/16/20, Commissioner Moore requested to agendize discussion regarding requesting funding to hire maintenance workers, a resource manager, and a development director for the Park Division.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith-Peters and seconded by Commissioner Haar to agendize the item.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:57 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 10/26/20 at 6:00 p.m. at a location or format to be determined.

Date Approved: ___/___/___

Prepared by:

(Becky Anderson, Office Assistant)

Date



Bidwell Park & Playground Commission Report

Meeting Date 10/26/20

DATE: 10/23/20
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager (P&NRM)
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT

REPORT IN BRIEF:

The Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) will receive an update and presentation from the City's consultants on the status of the Upper Bidwell Park Road Sediment Reduction Project and the environmental review for the project

Recommendation: None, this is an informational item only.

BACKGROUND:

The unpaved section of the Upper Park Road (UPR) in Bidwell Park between the Diversion Dam gate and the end of the road has been closed to private vehicles since 2012 when the road was severely damaged from winter storms. The City retained Pacific Watershed Associates (PWA) to assess and make recommendations regarding repairing and improving approximately 4.4 miles of the road between Horseshoe Lake and the end, which identified 43 erosion sites within this section of UPR that needed either road drainage repairs or redesign, and/or sediment control treatments. This project extends along 3.4 miles of Upper Park Road and will reduce and largely eliminate a total threat of 3,570 cubic yards of sediment from entering Big Chico Creek. The plan to make the necessary repairs and to the UPR has been approved by both the BPPC and the City Council

The City with the help from the Butte County Resource Conservation District was also successful in obtaining a Nonpoint Source (NPS) Grant administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the amount of \$706,352, with a local match of \$291,450 in existing Park Division Capital and Operating budgets (Fund 002) to complete the project.

DISCUSSION:

Staff and the City's consultants, PWA and BCRCB have been working on final project designs, environmental review, and the regulatory permits for the project. Biological and cultural surveys have been completed. Since this is an existing highly used historically graded and filled road, biological, botanical and cultural impacts from this project are considered low. Additional surveys and measures such as avoidance where possible, contractor education, and guidance by biologists and archeologists will also be implemented prior and during construction.

However, there will be the need to remove some trees, shrubs, and other vegetation when replacing the targeted culverts and realigning some of the road edges. The site with the most vegetation removal is Site 1, which is approximately 750 feet from the Horseshoe Lake Lot E gate but is also the site with much erosion and sediment. Site 1 and other sites, where needed, will be restored to natural stream flow, and by replanting native trees, and installing best management practices, such as reseeding and straw, on hydrologically connected disturbed areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND PERMITS:

Based on the CEQA surveys, PWA's experience in similar projects in other areas, and after consultation with the SWRCB, a CEQA Categorical Exemption is proposed for this project as follows:

1. **PRC Section 15301 - Existing Facilities**, - Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety.
2. **PRC Section 15302. -Replacement or Reconstruction** - Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

3. **PRC Section 15333 d)(6) - Small Habitat Restoration Projects** - project consisting of 5 acres or less with the primary purpose of improving habitat and reducing sedimentation. The culvert replacements will also be conducted in accordance with published guidelines of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and NOAA Fisheries.

Although the project is considered exempt from CEQA, permits will need to be obtained from the several regulatory agencies. Staff and the consultants are in the process of preparing applications for the following:

1. CA Department of Fish & Wildlife – Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA or 1600 Permit)
2. State Water Resources Control Boards-Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters (CWA 401) Permit.
3. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters (CWA 404) Permit.

Staff will be filing the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk and the State Clearing House, and the applications for the regulatory permits in the next week or so. In the meantime, work will continue on the preparation of the construction bid documents with construction on the project anticipated to begin in June 2021.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Map of Upper Park Road Treatments

EXHIBIT A - MAPS OF EROSION SITES BY TYPE AND PRIORITY

Map 2. Road related sediment sources **by type** for the Upper Bidwell Park Road, Big Chico Creek, Butte County, California.

Sites by type

- Stream crossing
- ⊕ Ditch relief culvert
- + Spring
- ⊕ Start of survey
- ⊕ End of survey
- * Parking areas
- ⊕ Gate

PWA assessed roads
 Other roads
 Streams
 State Highway 32


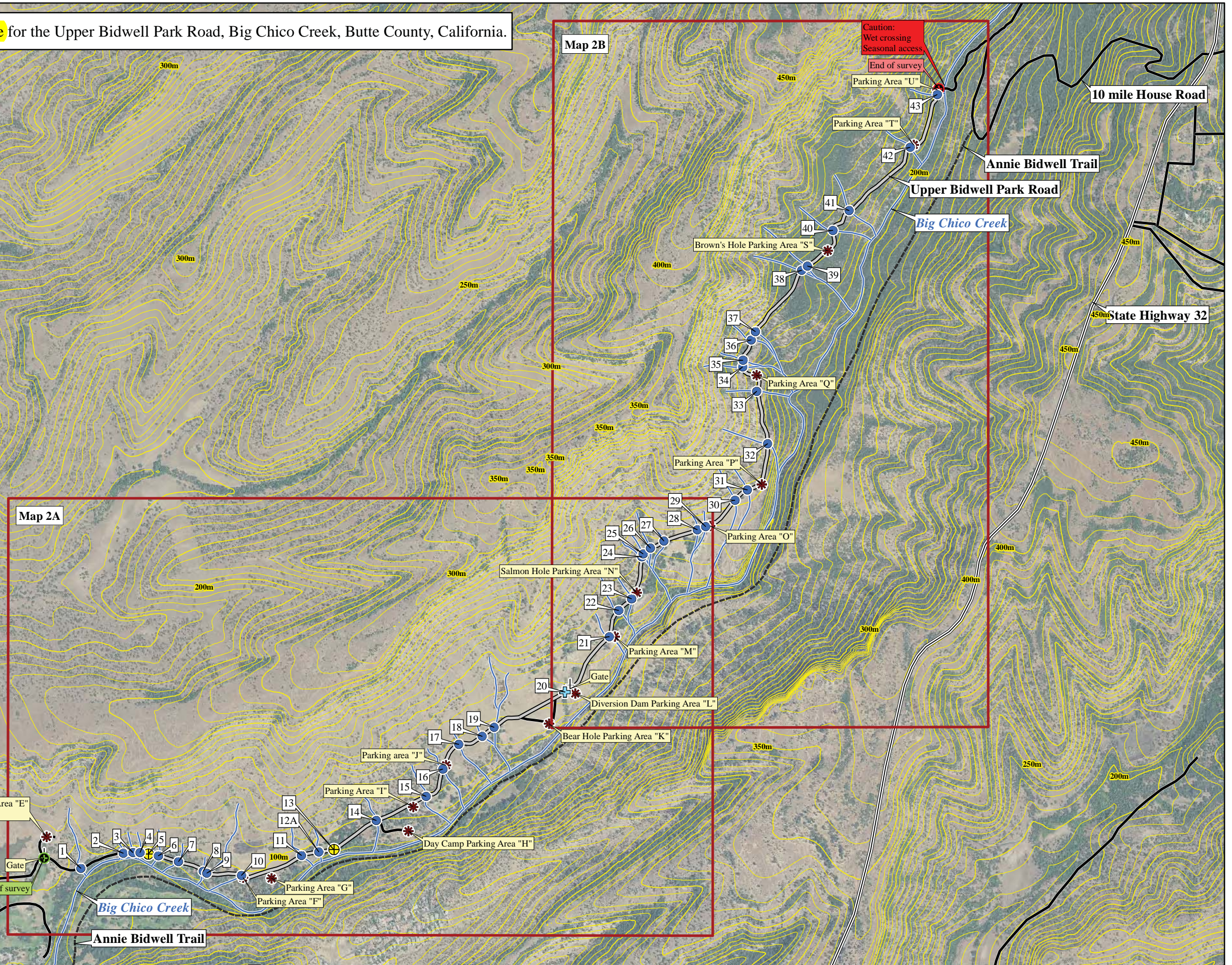
Map 2A/2B area of interest

0 750 1,500 3,000
 Feet

Scale: 1:18,000 1 in : 1,500 ft
 Contour interval: 10m
 Imagery: NAIP 2016

Note: Streams displayed are based on field mapping and aerial photo interpretation.

Prepared May 2017 by:
 Pacific Watershed Associates
www.pacificwatershed.com



DATE: 10/21/20
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager
SUBJECT: Parks Division Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

a. Illegal Encampments– On 10/20/20, the City Council considered a 3-year plan to improve Chico's quality of life which includes authorizing up to \$1.8 million in supplemental appropriations for the following:

- Action 1.2.C Sanctioned camping site at the Airport for 90 days (\$700,000)
- Action 1.3.A - Expand existing emergency shelter beds by 50 (\$300,000)
- Action 1.3.B Short-term 160 bed emergency shelter beds (\$282,933 in CDBG funds)
- Action 1.3.C Evaluate and conduct environmental assessment for a non-congregate shelter at the current BMX site (up to \$100,000).
- Action 2.1.A Conduct fire risk assessment (\$100,000)
- Action 2.2.A Municipal code enforcement (\$60,000)
- Action 2.2.B Parks & waterways clean up (\$300,000)
- Action 2.2.C Increase TARGET Team hours (TBD)
- Action 2.2.D Invite partner organizations to participate in an outreach/engagement effort with TARGET Team (\$20,000)

The Council's approved all of the proposed Actions, except Action 1.2.C.–Sanctioned camping site. Staff is to come back with a possible alternative camping site location.

b. Council Action on Park Rules– Also at its 11/03/20 meeting, the City Council will consider an ordinance that amends the Chico Municipal Code to add a new Chapter 12.18 to Title 12 to include the Park Rules currently found in Title 12R. This action, if approved by Council, will allow Rangers and the Police Department the ability to issue either infraction or misdemeanor citations to violators of Park Rules depending on the severity or frequency of the violations.

c. Commission Recruitments – Currently there is one vacancy on the Commission and four current Commissioner terms will expire in December 2020. The City Clerk will begin the Boards and Commissions recruitment process on November 1, with anticipated Council appointments to be made in January 2021.

2. Administrative and Visitor Services

a. Park Reservations & COVID -19– With the continued State and County restrictions on large gatherings, the Park Division is not allowing reservations for both public and private events in City park facilities.

3. Maintenance Program

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

a. Lower Park: Routine maintenance, Route 99 overpass foot bridge repair staff replaced more of the deck planks and noted that the complete structure needs replacement. Staff have reopened Caper Acres per the covid guidelines. Sycamore pool damage has been mostly repaired from the fall tree at the south steps.

- b. Middle Park: Routine maintenance, (I. E. lawns, irrigation, building maintenance, ETC). The pump house at lot D is in the process of being rebuilt due to age and cars backing into it on occasion.
- c. Upper Park: Horseshoe Lake Lot E is an ongoing repair issue with the fence being ran into on a regular basis we need to find a better solution than replacing the materials, as they have doubled in price from last year. I have suggested changing the flow of the lot by making it a one-way loop. Not sure where that stands at the moment. I am open to suggestions so we can stop the daily destruction of the fence line. Staff delivered 80 cubic yards of chip materials throughout the Disc golf course. The new Bear hole sign was installed at the entrance to the parking area (see picture in this report).
- d. Green way Parks: Routine maintenance. As time and staff permit. Staff worked with Rangers and ACS to clean camps along Lindo channel this month.

4. Natural Resource Management

- a. Vegetative Fuels Management Plan– The public comment period on the Notice of Intent to prepare a programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (VFMP) closed on 10/9/20. The Project Team is compiling the comments received and preparing the Draft EIR and the final Draft VFMP which are anticipated to be reviewed by the BPPC in December 2020.

5. Volunteer and Donor Program

- a. BEC Bidwell Park and Creeks Cleanup - The 33rd annual Bidwell Park and Creek cleanup garnered over 550 volunteers that removed an estimated 20+ tons of debris from Chico's parks and creeks. The final numbers are still be tallied. Actuals will be released within a couple weeks. A huge thank you to the Butte Environmental Council for organizing such a successful event!
- b. New Upper Park Signs– The Explore Butte County Tourism District liked the new Bear Hole sign design (see Figure 2 in Photographs section) and have generously offered to provide funding in the amount of approximately \$5,000 to replace signs at other swimming holes and points of interest in Upper Bidwell Park.
- c. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
 - Volunteer Calendar – To find out about upcoming volunteer events please [CLICK HERE](#) or visit <https://www.chico.ca.us/post/volunteer-calendar>

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. Monthly Volunteer Hours

Parks and Greenway -PALS- (Partners, Ambassadors, Leaders & Stewards) Volunteer Activities, September 2020							
Date	Location	Partner/Agency	# of Volunteers	Hrs. Worked	# of Vols Xs Hrs. = Total Hrs.	Task	Leader
Various	Bidwell Park and Greenways	PALS Ambassadors	140	various	1266	Various/ Ambassadors	Shane Romain
9/4/2020	Comanche Creek	FOCCG	4	3	12	Gen. Cleanup	Liz Stewart
9/5/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	2	4	8	Bench install hole 13	Phil Brock
9/6/2020	Middle Park	BEC	4	2	8	Veg. Mgmt.	Anna Weins
9/9/2020	Comanche Creek	FOCCG	2	3	6	Gen. Cleanup	Liz Stewart
9/13/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	4	4	Print tee signs	Phil Brock
9/14/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	4	4	Install tee signs	Phil Brock
9/15/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	2	3	6	Gen. Cleanup, Trailwork	Phil Brock
9/16/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	2	2	Admin work	Phil Brock
9/17/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	2	2	Monitoring walk	Phil Brock
9/20/2020	Middle Park	BEC	6	2	12	Veg. Mgmt.	Anna Weins
9/22/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	5	5	Gen. Cleanup	Phil Brock
9/26/2020	Comanche Creek	FOCCG	16	3	48	Gen. Cleanup	Liz Stewart
9/26/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	4	3	12	mulch	Phil Brock
9/27/2020	Peregrine Point	ORAI	1	2	2	mulch	Phil Brock
				TOTAL HRS.	1397		

Table 2. Monthly Ranger and Other Incidents

Significant Incidents, October 2020		
Date	Location	Incident details
9/19/2020	Bear Hole	DUI Arrest
10/5/2020	Lower Park near site 37	About 1/4 acre burned before extinguished
10/5/2020	Just east of Wildwood Park	Grass fire burned about a 1/2 acre before extinguished
10/7/2020	Lindo Channel behind S & S produce. Vegetation fire	Slow moving burned about 200 square feet before extinguished.
10/9/2020	Peterson Memorial Dr.	Vegetation fire. Engine 15 has found the folks with the fire at a "campsite", they have agreed to put the fire out.
10/11/2020	Little Chico Creek bike path near Little Chico Creek Elementary	1/4 acre vegetation fire near transient camp started at approximately 9:10 am fire on scene until about noon.
10/15/2020	South 5 Mile	Felony warrant arrest
10/16/2020	Wildwood Park	Full response ordered for a vegetation fire. Started by model rocket. Approx. 2 acres burned before control.
10/17/2020	Lower Park	Hit and run South Park Dr. Vehicle vs bicycle altercation
10/17/2020	Comanche Creek	Illegal burn. Transients lighting fires
10/20/2020	Comanche Creek	Possible heroin overdose. Transported to Enloe
10/22/2020	Sycamore Pool	Drowning

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Fire west of Wildwood Park



Figure 2: New Bear Hole sign



Figure 3: CAVE at Verbena Fields



Figure 4: CAVE pokeweed removal 1 Mile



Figure 5: 1 Mile Dam graffiti removal



Figure 6: BEC Cleanup



DATE: 10/26/20
TO: Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC)
FROM: Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager
SUBJECT: Street Trees Division Report

NARRATIVE

1. Updates

- a. Tree Division has started tree pruning of the DCBA.
- b. West Coast Arborists continues working on the City removal list of dead dying and diseased trees.
- c. Public Works continues planning fall tree planting campaign with non-profit partners

2. Planning/Monitoring

- a. Damage Reports – There were two damage reports in September. Claims were for property damage to property from falling limbs

3. Planning and Building Development

- a. UFM reviewed many plan reviews in the new Trakit permitting system. Comments included Tree Protection Zone enforcement, submission of adequate tree protection plans, correct tree planting methods.

4. Miscellaneous

- a. CalFire State Coordinator for the grant funded Urban Forest Revitalization Project visited Chico for the annual inspection. The coordinator praised the ongoing efforts to re-canopy low-income and Disadvantaged areas of town that have denuded levels of tree cover.

5. Maintenance

- a. City tree crews commenced tree maintenance operations in the Downtown Core Business Area (DCBA). Trees are being trimmed to improve sidewalk, road and building clearance as well as to correct structural defects. See Figures 1 and 2. This pro-active program will improve the downtown environment
- b. City contractor West Coast Arborists (WCA) continued work on removal of dead and dying trees in various parts of the City. Locations that will make suitable replant locations and that have irrigation will be stump ground and added to the fall replant list.

6. Outreach, Training and Education

- a. UFM attended Tree Risk assessment Qualification (TRAQ) re-certification training, a webinar on Best Practices for the Development Plan Review Process, trees and water, soil assessments as well as qualified pesticide applicator CE education.
- b. UFM took part in a Connect Chico media outreach story. Topics included the upcoming fall leaf program, City reforestation efforts and upcoming maintenance programs.
- c. Butte Environmental Council released media outreach to promote the upcoming fall neighborhood community canopy campaign.

7. Street Tree Supervisor Report

The Street Tree Supervisors monthly summary data tables for September is included below:

MONTHLY SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1










Category	Staff Hours	% of Total	% Change from Last Month	Trend
Tree Crew Hours				
1. Safety	89	8.6%	59.1%	
2. Tree Work	808.5	77.9%	102.9%	
3. Special Projects	10	1.0%	20.8%	
4. Admin Time/Other	130	12.5%	108.3%	
Monthly Totals	1037.5	100.0%	93.9%	

Table 2

Item	Values	% Change from Last Month	Trend
5. Productivity			
Calls			
Call Outs	107	76.4%	
Service Requests: Submitted	0	-	
Service Requests: Completed	114	97.4%	
Sub Total	0	-	

Trees

Planted: Trees	0	-	0
Pruned	100	60.6%		
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	-		
Removed: Stumps	0	-		
Removed: Trees	17	566.7%	
Sub Total	117	69.6%		

Tree Permits (#)

Submitted	7	233.3%	--	□□
Approved	5	166.7%	--	□□
Denied	2	-		□
Total	14	466.7%	--	□□

6. Contracts

Expenditures (\$)	\$ 5,075	-		□-
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Trees (#)

Planted	0	-		
Pruned	0	-		
Removed: Trees (smaller)	0	-		□
Removed: Stumps	0	-		□
Removed: Trees	5	17.9%		
Routine Maintenance	0	-		□-
Total	5	-		

8. Upcoming Issues/Miscellaneous:

- a. Butte Environmental Council Urban Forest Coordinators continue to make progress preparing for the fall tree planting campaign and associated community outreach. See figures 5 & .6
- b. A 3-year Tree Emergency Response Contract has been awarded to a local tree contractor. Contract details are being finalized.
- c. A 3-year back-up to the main tree maintenance contract is also being finalized.
- d. Public Works is in discussion with CARD / Rotary club to provide trees for the new Rotary Centennial park. Donated trees will count towards the city pledge to plant 700 trees within the city focus area.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figures 1 & 2. City crews pruning DCBA trees. This pro-active program will improve the downtown environment



Figures 3 & 4. Fallen limbs from City trees. Tree crew worked to keep public rights-of-way open.

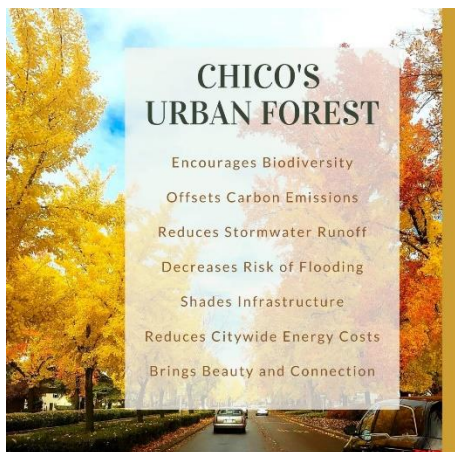


Figure 5 and 6. A selection of media outreach material produced by Butte Environmental Council

From: [Anna Moore](#)
To: [Linda Herman](#)
Subject: Agenda Item for Oct BPPCMeeting
Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020 9:50:15 AM

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Hi Linda—I'd like to add an item to be discussed about fire prevention in the park with I hope something sent to city council with suggestions on what to do. I'd also like to hear from rangers and others who are in the park more about the actual threats and situations (as I said in a previous email). Thank you.

—Anna B Moore

From: [Anna Moore](#)
To: [Linda Herman](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Letter Regarding Fire Danger in Bidwell Park
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 10:27:49 PM

ATTENTION: This message originated from outside **City of Chico**. Please exercise judgment before opening attachments, clicking on links, or replying.

Hello, Linda—After the list of fire incidents in the parks division report last week and the concerns expressed in this letter, could we get a report at the next BPPC meeting on the actual risk of fire in the park? How likely or unlikely is the scenario discussed in the letter? And what kind of recommendation to council can we make regarding this issue?

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 13, 2020 at 2:37 PM Linda Herman <linda.herman@chicoca.gov> wrote:

Hi Commissioners and City Clerk,

Ms. Noel Brown requested that I forward the attached letter to the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission and the City Council regarding her and some of her neighbor's concerns about potential fire dangers in Bidwell Park.

Thank you

Linda

BC: BPPC

Linda Herman

Park & Natural Resources Manager

City of Chico

[965 Fir Street](#)

P.O. Box 3420

From: [Aaron Haar](#)
To: [Linda Herman](#)
Subject: Agenda
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:48:05 PM

ATTENTION: This message originated from outside **City of Chico**. Please exercise judgment before opening attachments, clicking on links, or replying.

Greetings Linda, I forgot to put my request in email. I hope its not to late.

request to vote to put on Agenda addressing tall grasses and vegetation in lower park to mitigate fire hazards.

Thanks
Aaron