



CHICO
CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022 - 6:00 P.M.
(VIRTUAL MEETING)

Chico

CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION

Cheri Chastain, Chair
Mark Stemen, Vice Chair
Ann Bykerk-Kauffman
Ashley Koller
Brian Kress
Kirk Monfort
Joshua Pierce

**Copies of this agenda
available from:**

Community Development Department
411 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Chico, CA 95928
(530) 879-6800

Or

www.chico.ca.us

Posted: June 7, 2022
Prior to: 5:00 p.m.

The Commission appreciates your cooperation in turning off all cell phones during this meeting.

City Staff

Brendan Vieg – Community Development Director
Molly Marcussen – Associate Planner



Please contact the City Clerk at (530) 896-7250 should you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting. This request should be received at least three working days prior to the meeting in order to accommodate your request.

Information and Procedures Concerning Climate Action Commission Meetings

Public Participation:

All members of the public may address the Climate Action Commission on any item listed on the agenda. Public participation in the hearing process is encouraged.

Please step up to the podium microphone when addressing the Commission.

Each speaker will be asked to voluntarily state his/her name before speaking, and after speaking to voluntarily write his/her name on a record to be maintained by the City Staff.

The Commission and City staff will ensure order and decorum during all Commission meetings. Persons demonstrating rude, boisterous or profane behavior will be called to order by the Chair. If such conduct continues, the Chair may call a recess, requesting the removal of such person(s) from the Council Chamber, adjourn the meeting or take other appropriate action.

Time Limit:

Presentations should be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes, unless otherwise determined by the Chair.

A speaker may not defer his/her time to other speakers.

Groups or organizations are encouraged to select a spokesperson to speak on their behalf. Each subsequent speaker is encouraged to submit new information, rather than repeating comments made by prior speakers.

Written Material:

The Climate Action Commission may not have sufficient time to fully review written materials presented at the public hearing. Interested parties are encouraged to provide written materials at least eight (8) days prior to the public hearing to allow distribution with the Climate Action Commission's agenda packet to provide adequate time for review by the Climate Action Commission. Written materials submitted in advance of the public hearing must be submitted to the City of Chico, Community Development Department, 411 Main Street, 2nd Floor, or by mail to: P. O. Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Climate Action Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Community Development Department at 411 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Chico, CA 95928 during normal business hours.

Hearing Impaired:

Anyone who has difficulty hearing the proceedings of a meeting may be provided with a portable listening device by requesting one from the City Staff. The device works directly from the public-address system, and the listener can hear all speakers who are using a microphone.

Special Presentations:

Special presentations which include slides, films, etc. during the course of a meeting will only be allowed with **prior** approval of the Climate Action Commission.

Business from the Floor:

The Chair will invite anyone in the audience wishing to speak to the Climate Action Commission to identify themselves and the matter

they wish to discuss which would involve matters not already on the posted agenda.

The Commission may also be direct that a matter be placed on a future agenda, provide direction to staff, or request that staff research a particular issue. No action may be taken until a subsequent meeting.

Agenda Copies are:

-Available at the meeting.

-May be mailed by subscription, at an annual cost set forth in the City of Chico Fee Schedule.

-May be picked up the Friday prior to the meeting at the Community Development Department without charge.

-Available on the internet at www.chico.ca.us

Copies of Agenda Reports are:

-Available for public inspection at City of Chico Community Development Department the Friday prior to the meeting.

-Copies may be obtained after payment of applicable copy fees.

Agenda Items:

The agenda items will be considered in the order listed unless the Commission requests a change. In order that all items may be considered, any item may be continued to another meeting if it appears there will be insufficient time for full consideration of the item.

Items Not Appearing on Posted Agenda:

This agenda was posted on the Council Chamber bulletin board at least 72 hours in advance of this meeting. For each item not appearing on the posted agenda, upon which the Climate Action Commission wishes to take action, the Commission must make one of the following determinations:

1. Determine by a majority vote that an emergency exists as defined in Government Code Sec. 54956.5.
2. Determine by a two-thirds vote, or by a unanimous vote if less than two-thirds of the Climate Action Commission is present, that need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the City subsequent to the agenda being posted.

Use of Cell Phones During Meetings:

The Climate Action Commission appreciates your cooperation in turning off all cell phones.

Appeal of Climate Action Commission Decision:

Any aggrieved person or persons dissatisfied with a Climate Action *Commission* decision may appeal that decision to the City Council within 10 calendar days. In accordance with Government Code Section 65009, if any person(s) challenges the action of the Climate Action *Commission*, said person(s) may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Climate Action *Commission* at, or prior to, the public hearing.

CITY OF CHICO
CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF THURSDAY, July 14, 2022
Municipal Center - 421 Main Street - Council Chambers - 6:00 pm
(Virtual Meeting)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of the public may virtually attend the meeting using the City’s Zoom platform. Zoom public participants may use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Climate Action Commission meeting online:

Event Name: Climate Action Commission Meeting

Date/Time: Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 6:00 PM

Event URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87932815581?pwd=VXJMWmJHaHovdmlqYWZ6SmgwVStidz09>

Password: Climate22

Webinar ID: 879 3281 5581

Call-in #: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968 **Call-in Password:** 512633171

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll Call

2. CONSENT AGENDA

*All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the Climate Action Commission. A member of the public may request that an item be removed, provided the item does not relate to a noticed hearing which has been closed to further public comment. **Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered immediately following the approval of the Consent Agenda.***

2.1. Approval of Minutes

June 9, 2022 (Attachment A)

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1. Department of Public Works (Operations and Maintenance) Presentation on Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Resiliency Efforts - Director Erik Gustafson will highlight efforts the Department of Public Works (Operations and Maintenance) has underway to reduce GHG emissions and improve adaptation and resiliency, including an update on the PG&E Sustainable Solutions Turnkey Energy program.

4. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

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

5. REPORTS & 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.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the Adjourned Regular Meeting of Thursday, August 11, 2022.

CITY OF CHICO
CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022
Municipal Center - 421 Main Street - Council Chambers - 6:00 pm
(Virtual Meeting)

Commissioners Present: Cheri Chastain, Chair
Mark Stemen, Vice Chair
Ann Bykerk-Kauffman
Ashley Koller
Brian Kress
Kirk Monfort

Commissioners Absent: Joshua Pierce

Staff Members Present: Molly Marcussen, Associate Planner
Nick Hart, CivicSpark Fellow

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Chastain called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

1.1. Roll Call

Commissioners were present as noted above.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1. Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Stemen moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Monfort seconded. *Minutes approved 6-0-1.*
(Attachment A)

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1. Urban Forest Master Plan Update

The City's Urban Forester, Richie Bamlet, provided the commission with an update on the Urban Forest Master Plan planning effort that has been taking place since May 2021.

3.2. CA Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) Report on Climate Change

The commission held a discussion on the memo to Council (**Attachment B**) that Vice Chair Stemen drafted. The memo contains information on the recent California Legislative Analyst's Office Report on Climate Change and how the data in this report will affect the City of Chico.

Commissioner Stemen made a motion to approve the memo as written with the understanding that language will be added by Commissioner Kress and Commissioner Stemen and that an additional attachment with a summary of key findings will be added as "Attachment A". Chair Chastain seconded. *Motion approved 6-0-1.*

4. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Associate Planner Molly Marcussen informed the commission that the first round of community engagement for the Environmental Justice Element will be taking place on Wednesday June 15th at 6:00 pm in Chapman Park. Commissioner Bykerk Kauffman asked to agendaize a discussion around supporting a federal carbon tax at the July or August meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn at 7:22 to the Adjourned Regular Meeting of Thursday, July 14, 2022.



CITY OF CHICO MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY OF CHICO CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING
COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

DATE: 06/16/22

FROM: CITY OF CHICO CLIMATE ACTION
COMMISSION

RE: CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE ANALYST OFFICE REPORTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Action Commission (CAC) voted unanimously to bring to your attention a series of six reports recently released by the nonpartisan California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) outlining dire consequences for Californians as our changing climate continues to alter most aspects of daily life. Here is a link to the reports: [LAO Series: Climate Change Impacts Across California](#)

The reports are intended to help policymakers think about how climate change will impact various sectors and includes key policy and fiscal issues we will be forced to address in the coming years. Since the City of Chico and its residents will be facing these issues, the CAC believes it is important that our elected officials and City staff are aware of the reports and their findings.

The six reports include climate driven impacts as they relate to Transportation, Health, Housing, K-12 Education, Workers and Employers, and Crosscutting Issues. While the reports do not include specific plans or recommendations on how to move forward, they do provide a framework for decision makers to develop a "climate lens." Each report contains a summary of climate hazards and how each sector is impacted, pertinent state-level efforts underway, and key relevant issues and questions facing policymakers.

Here are key summary statements from three of the reports (see **Attachment A** for a more detailed look at the key findings of the reports):

- "In this report, we find that climate change will affect where and how new housing should be built. For example, decision makers will not be able to depend solely on historical data—such as on maps of past flooding and fire activity—when determining where to locate new housing. Instead, given increasing climate change impacts, decisions will need to incorporate information about the projected future risks of these hazards." [<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4584>]
- "Climate change will impact transportation infrastructure in California in a number of ways. Mainly, we find that some existing transportation infrastructure will need to be modified or relocated to remain useable, and that planning, construction, and maintenance processes will increasingly need to account for the effects of climate change to maintain the infrastructure's longevity." [<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4576>]
- "More frequent extreme weather and climate-related emergencies will be increasingly disruptive for California's residents and economy. These disruptions often will be unpredictable and will include (1) short-term incidents, such as when wildfire smoke or

extreme heat events make it unsafe to work or recreate outside; (2) longer-term impacts, such as when floods or fires damage homes, businesses, and infrastructure; and (3) permanent changes, such as higher sea levels or more prolonged droughts causing current activities to become impractical in certain regions.”
[<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4575>]

The CAC exists to serve as a resources and advisory body to Council and City Staff on climate change policymaking. The CAC urges Council and City Staff to adopt this “climate lens” in future discussions on housing and public safety and to consider the changing landscape of where it’s safe to build, who is likely to be most impacted or disrupted, what natural resources will be threatened, and what costs will be incurred by the local government and its citizens. The CAC is available to assist in any capacity that might be needed to help apply the "climate lens" provided in these reports to decisions being made locally.

Cheri Chastain

Climate Action Commission
Cheri Chastain, Chair

Mark Stemen

Climate Action Commission
Mark Stemen, Vice Chair

Attachment

Attachment A: Key Finding from the LAO Series: Climate Change Impacts Across California

Attachment A: Sections of the LAO series of six reports on Climate Change Impacts Across California that are Especially Relevant to Chico

Summary Statement of Hazards:¹

“California faces five major hazards as the result of climate change. Specifically, increasing temperatures, a changing hydrology, and rising sea levels will lead to:

- Higher average temperatures and periods of extreme heat.
- More frequent and intense droughts.
- Increased risk of floods.
- More severe wildfires.
- Coastal flooding and erosion.”

The City of Chico will be affected by the first four hazards, but not the last (coastal flooding and erosion).

Report 1: Climate Change Impacts Across California: Crosscutting Issues

“Although uncertainty remains about the timing and magnitude of when and how these hazards and their resulting impacts will manifest, the science is conclusive that they will be part of California’s future.” (p. 2)

California’s five major hazards as the result of climate change

- Higher average temperatures and periods of extreme heat.

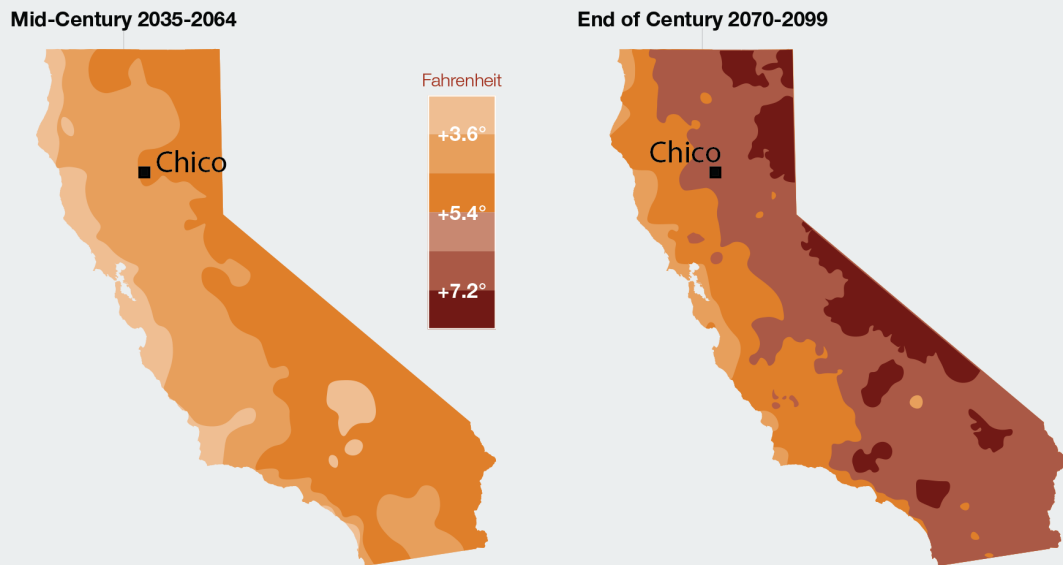
“As illustrated in Figure 2 (next page), inland areas will experience greater increases in average maximum temperatures than coastal regions.” (p. 2)

The projected increase in average maximum temperature for Chico is 4.5 – 5.4°F by mid-century and 6.3 – 7.2°F by the end of the century. For example, in July, the average high temperature in Chico is currently 95°F. By mid-century, that average is projected to be around 100°F. By the end of the century, that average is projected to be almost 102°F, higher than the current average high temperature in July for Tucson, Arizona.

¹ This statement is fleshed out in Report 1 and appears near the beginning of each of the other reports.

Figure 2

Projected Increases in Statewide Average Maximum Temperatures



Reflects changes from historical baseline 30-year average maximum temperatures (1961-1990). These estimates assume the moderate climate change scenario of "RCP 4.5," in which international practices result in the rate of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions slowly declining in the coming decades.

Data from www.Cal-Adapt.org

LAO

- More frequent and intense droughts

“Warmer temperatures also contribute to more frequent and intense droughts by leading to a decline in and faster melting of winter snowpack, greater rates of evaporation, and drier soils. These conditions decrease the amount of spring and early summer snowmelt runoff upon which the state historically has depended for its annual water supply, at the same time that they increase the demand for irrigation water in both agricultural and urban settings.” (p. 4)

- Increased risk of floods

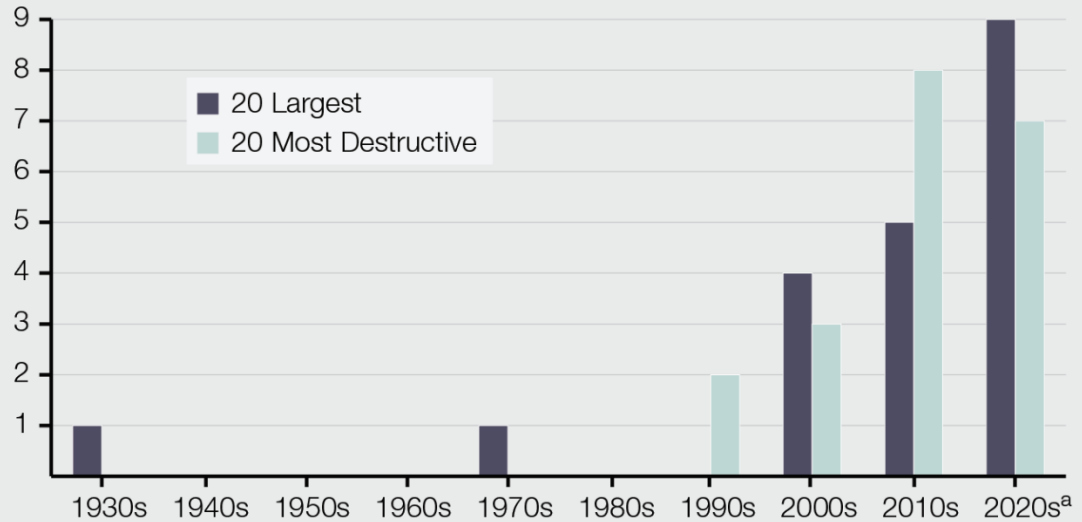
“Scientists suggest ... a 50 percent increase in runoff in future years, challenging the capacity of the state’s existing reservoirs, canals, levees, and other flood control systems, and increasing the risk of inland flooding.” (p. 4)

- More severe wildfires

“According to the state’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment, by 2100, the frequency of extreme wildfires burning over 25,000 acres could increase by nearly 50 percent.” (p. 5)

Figure 3

Most of the Largest and Most Destructive Wildfires Have Occurred in Recent Decades



^a Includes wildfires that occurred in 2020 and 2021.

LAO

“Climate Change Should Inform the Location and Design of Housing and Infrastructure.” (p. 16)

“Pre-Disaster Mitigation Is Often Less Costly Than Recovering.” (p. 20)

Report 2: Climate Change Impacts Across California: Transportation

“Planning, construction, and maintenance processes will increasingly need to account for the effects of climate change to maintain the infrastructure’s longevity.” (p. 1)

“Transportation infrastructure is typically planned to withstand once-in-a-century weather events. As the climate changes and extreme weather events become more common, maintaining transportation infrastructure’s expected usable lifespan will quickly become infeasible unless it is developed to be resilient to more frequent and intense stressors. For example, this will involve adopting higher design standards to ensure the longevity and safety of transportation infrastructure given more prevalent flood risks. These higher standards likely will require using more complex forecasting data, based not solely on historical flooding patterns, but also informed by changing and anticipated conditions” (p. 2–3)

“To adequately respond to extreme weather and climate-driven events such as heatwaves, flooding, and wildfires, transportation infrastructure needs to be stronger and more resilient to new stressors. Depending on the region, construction materials should change in response to

the climate change threat that is most prevalent. For example, research suggests that a projected increase in average temperature of 4 degrees Fahrenheit over the next several decades will decrease the life expectancy of asphalt by 3 to 7 years for roads with a service life of about 20 years. As such, in areas where prolonged and extreme heatwaves are becoming more common, shifting to paving material that better reflects the sun may prolong the longevity of the roadways. In other regions where flooding and mudslides are becoming more frequent, roads likely will require more permeable materials.” (p. 3)

Report 4: Climate Change Impacts Across California: Housing

“Strategically building more dense communities can both mitigate the future effects of climate change *and* help to respond to its current impacts. This is because building dense housing—near jobs, schools, and other community amenities that can be accessed with public transportation—can help reduce dependence on vehicles, thereby limiting greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, if dense housing is placed strategically, it can enable the state to build more housing without having to resort to building in locations that are at the highest risk for climate change impacts such as wildfires and extreme heat.” (p. 2)

“Decision makers will not be able to depend solely on historical data—such as on maps of past flooding and fire activity—when determining where to locate new housing. Instead, given increasing climate change impacts, decisions will need to incorporate information about the projected future risks of these hazards.” (p. 3 – 4)

“Climate change will not only affect where but also how new housing should be built. This includes both the design of individual homes as well as of communities. For example, unless new homes in areas expected to face high flood risks are elevated, they could confront a greater likelihood of inundation. Similarly, new housing that is built in areas that are expected to face high wildfire risks will encounter greater threats, particularly if they do not incorporate defensible space and home hardening approaches, such as fire-resistant siding. Additionally, new communities in these high fire-risk areas will need to be built with adequate access for evacuations. New communities will also need to be surrounded by design elements that can serve as natural fuel breaks, such as roads or greenbelts.” (p. 4)