



NEWS RELEASE
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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

CITY OF CHICO ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT IN 2024-2025

(CHICO, CA – SEPTEMBER 9, 2024) - The City of Chico is making an unprecedented level of investment in streets, roads, and sewer infrastructure with a total budget of \$70,664,845 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Fiscal year (FY) 2024-2025 will mark the first full year of funds allocated from Measure H, the City's add-on one-cent sales tax. In addition, according to City Manager, Mark Sorensen, any unspent capital project funds from FY 2023-2024 will roll over to the FY 2024-2025 budget in late fall 2024, growing the approximate amount of budgeted funds for roadway projects to an impressive **\$151,664,845**.

"The citizens of Chico wanted the roads fixed...so we are fixing the roads. While residents may often think of road maintenance as simply filling potholes, this budget reflects a broader commitment to significant infrastructure improvements that will enhance the safety, connectivity, and overall quality of life for the entire community," said Mayor Andrew Coolidge.

The City's roadway investment includes both **road rehabilitation** and **roadway maintenance** efforts. A road rehabilitation involves reconstruction of the structural section of an existing, failed roadway. This ultimately improves the failure and provides for a strong roadway foundation, resetting the deterioration process. This includes treatments such as grind and repaving, full-depth reclamation (cement treated base) or lime treating the subgrade. Whereas maintenance activities slow the rate of deterioration of an existing pavement by identifying and addressing the specific pavement deficiencies. This includes activities such as crack sealing, slurry sealing, dig-out patch repairs, or overlays.

The City is planning several key construction projects for 2025 including:

- Salem St. Bridge Replacement: \$3,932,000
- Pomona Ave. Bridge Replacement: \$5,993,000
- Airport Pond / Sewer Repairs: \$500,000
- Southeast Chico Sewer Trunk Line (P-18) – Phase 1: \$7,000,063
- Parkwood Dr. Sewer Main Installation: \$990,230
- Floral Ave. / Eaton Rd. Roundabout: \$3,395,700
- 2025 Road Rehabilitation (Peterson Memorial Wy, N. Bruce Rd.): \$8,000,000
- 2025 Pavement Preservation (various locations): \$1,500,000
- Commerce Court Gap Closure: \$1,686,110
- Park Ave. Beautification: \$2,954,000

Looking ahead to 2026, major projects include:

- Eaton Rd. Corridor Improvements: \$5,430,000
- N. Esplanade Widening & Reconstruction: \$13,208,125
- Notre Dame Bridge at Little Chico Creek: \$7,286,000
- SR99 / Eaton Rd. Southbound Off-Ramp Roundabout: \$7,698,768

- 2026 Road Rehabilitation (E. 20th St., Ceanothus Ave.): \$13,000,000
- 2026 Pavement Preservation (various locations): \$1,500,000
- 2026 Sewer Main Replacement: \$5,000,000
- N. Cedar Reconstruction & Street Improvements: \$3,329,112
- Fair St. Multi-Modal Improvements: \$5,102,409
- Southeast Chico Sewer Trunk Line (P-18) – Phase 2: \$4,000,000

For details on upcoming roadway construction projects see: <https://chico.ca.us/Departments/Engineering/Capital-Projects/Upcoming-Annual-Street-Repair-Projects/index.html>.

In addition to the major roadway construction projects, the City has increased an already aggressive roadway maintenance program including:

- Routine Maintenance – filling potholes, repairing cracks, and clearing debris to keep roads in good condition,
- Preventative Maintenance – extending the life of a road by sealing cracks and applying protective coatings before issues become severe.

“Timely preventative maintenance extends the lifespan, improves safety, and reduces costs by addressing minor issues before they become major problems. It also minimizes traffic disruptions and supports economic activity by ensuring smooth, efficient transportation,” said Director of Public Works Operation and Maintenance, Erik Gustafson.

Each type of road work plays a crucial role in ensuring that roads remain safe, functional, and efficient for public use. The City of Chico is committed to enhancing its infrastructure to meet the growing needs of the community. This commitment is demonstrated by the resources dedicated to completing these roadway infrastructure projects.

“It took time to get the financing in place to make these improvements, but it’s important that we do this so we can improve public safety, mobility, and the overall quality of life for Chico residents,” said Coolidge.

For more information, contact Brendan Ottoboni – Director, Public Works Engineering 530-879-6901, brendan.ottoboni@chicoca.gov.

Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the United States. For more information, visit www.chico.ca.us.

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