



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 6, 2021

**Contact: Noel Carvalho, [noel.carvalho@chicoca.gov](mailto:noel.carvalho@chicoca.gov) or (530) 879-6935**

**Lynda Gizzi, [lynda.gizzi@chicoca.gov](mailto:lynda.gizzi@chicoca.gov) or (530) 879-6908**

**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\***

## **CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN ON STATE ROUTE 99 & EATON ROAD INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**(Chico, CA – August 6, 2021 –)** Beginning Monday, August 9, 2021, the City of Chico’s contractor, Knife River Construction, will begin construction work on the State Route 99 and Eaton Road Interchange Improvement Project.

This project will convert State Route 99 (SR 99) North Bound (NB) ramps at Eaton Road and Hicks Lane into one multilane, five-leg roundabout intersection. Although the two intersections will be combined, the local circulation and access will remain unchanged.

The primary purpose of this project is to improve safety for all travel modes at the SR 99 NB ramp intersection and Hicks Lane intersection with Eaton Road. The secondary purpose of this project is to improve operations, reduce delay, and enhance mobility for modes of transportation (e.g. motor vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and transit), incorporating the [Complete Streets](#) approach into the intersection.

“As many have experienced, significant traffic backups and severe collisions have occurred at this intersection over the past number of years,” said Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works Engineering Department Director. “This investment in infrastructure will improve those conditions, not just in the near-term, but also as a part of the overall long-term circulation plans for the north part of Chico. City staff have once again brought in State and Federal grant funds into our community to make this project a reality. We are extremely excited to make this improvement a reality.”

Construction work will consist of removal and/or resurfacing existing pavement, roadway excavation, construction of new pavement, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, storm drain facilities, lighting, fencing, signage, striping, and landscape improvements. Construction will be phased in order to maintain local access to SR 99 and to the properties adjacent to Eaton Road and Hicks Lane. Working hours will vary depending upon the type of activity conducted, and the project is anticipated to be completed in early 2022.

Local access throughout the project construction zone will be subject to traffic controls, temporary delays, detours and closures in order to accommodate construction crews and equipment. Project detours and additional information may be found on the State Route 99 & Eaton Road Interchange Improvement Project webpage at <https://chico.ca.us/sr-99-eaton-road-interchange-improvement-project>.

Drivers are encouraged to build extra time into their schedules and to drive with caution to avoid hazards and maximize the safety of workers in the roadway. The City acknowledges the inconvenience and appreciates the community's cooperation and patience during this time.

For media inquiries, please contact Noel Carvalho, Project Manager, at (530) 879-6935; or Lynda Gizzi, Public Works Department Public Information Officer, at (530) 879-6908.

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