
INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

A Committee of the Chico City Council: Councilmembers Bennett, Winslow, and Chair O'Brien

Meeting of September 8, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

Council Chamber Building, 421 Main Street, Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair O'Brien, with all Committee members present.

A. AMENDMENTS TO TITLES 10, 14, 16, 16R, & 18R OF THE CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE

At its meeting of 8/19/25 the City Council voted to refer this item to the Internal Affairs Committee to discuss potential costs related to the proposed amendments including further discussion of traffic impact analyses. **(Report – Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works Director-Engineering)**

Director Ottoboni reported that there were far too many proposed amendments to have a detailed discussion regarding each one. He stated that the Engineering Department established the development standards for three main reasons: 1) public safety, 2) stewardship of tax-payer dollars, and 3) regulatory requirements. He stated that while considering costs is not necessarily a primary function, staff is committed to do things as cost effectively as possible with the overall intent to create long lasting infrastructures that meet the public safety standards and provide consistency and durability.

Bill Webb, representing the Chico Builder's Association, addressed the Committee on this item.

A motion by Vice-Mayor Bennett was seconded by Chair O'Brien to recommend to Council to direct staff to review the four main areas of concern brought up by the Chico Builders Association regarding proposed amendments in 1) rainfall intensity calculations, 2) pavement design standards, 3) street lighting, and 4) traffic analysis requirements. In addition, direct staff further review the other proposed code amendments to see if there could be any additional flexibility to allow for some building cost saving without compromising public safety or infrastructure durability, with the goal of striking a balance between affordable housing and public safety. The motion passed (2-1, Winslow opposed).

B. CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 5.44 AMENDMENTS - MESSAGE ORDINANCE (WAIVERS)

At its meeting of 8/19/25 the City Council voted to refer this item to the Internal Affairs Committee to discuss possible amendments to the proposed ordinance to include waivers, grandfathering of long-time massage therapists, limitation on business hours, and clarified exemptions. **(Report – Charlene Durkin, Code Enforcement Supervisor)**

Supervisor Durkin provided the Committee with a page of proposed amendments to the exemption portion of the ordinance.

Addressing the committee on this item were Dan Hayes, Melanie Fune, Ruth Dyer, Cathy Camp, Candi Williamson, Amy Alward, Cara Ernest, Mike Ariza, Ann Bykerek-Kauffman, and Sierra Sisk.

A motion by Vice-Mayor Bennett was seconded by Chair O'Brien to recommend to the Council to direct staff to continue to receive public feedback regarding the proposed ordinance and report back at the October Internal Affairs Committee meeting with any additional proposed changes to the ordinance for further discussion. The motion passed (3-0).

C. 2027 ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT – FLORAL AVENUE - PARKING RESTRICTION

Consideration of eliminating parking along the east side of Floral Avenue between Manzanita Avenue and East Avenue. Public Works Engineering staff are in the process of designing the 2027 Road Rehabilitation project along Floral Avenue. To be consistent with the Active Transportation Plan and the General Plan goals and actions, the removal of on-street parking on the east side of Floral Avenue between Manzanita Avenue and East Avenue is being considered. Following approval from the Internal Affairs Committee, staff will move forward with the appropriate restriping when the 2027 Road Rehabilitation Project is constructed. **(Report – Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works Director – Engineering)**

Addressing the Committee on this item were Tami Ritter, Ann Bykerk-Kauffman, and Karen Laslo.

A motion by Vice-Mayor Bennett to approve Traffic Regulation Amendment (TRA) # 872 which will eliminate parking on the east side of Floral Avenue between Manzanita Avenue and East Avenue and to recommend to Council to direct staff to consider adding traffic calming measures, crosswalks, curb & gutter, and lowering the speed limit as the budget allows when the 2027 Road Rehabilitation project is constructed was seconded by Chair O'Brien. The motion passed (3-0).

D. LOWERING THE SPEED LIMITS IN SPECIFIED CORRIDORS *(Information Only)*

At its meeting of 07-08-25, the City Council voted to approve Traffic Regulation Amendment (TRA) #869 and directed staff to review the following corridors to determine if lowering the speed limits could be justified and report their findings to the Committee. **(Report – Brendan Ottoboni, Public Works Director-Engineering)**

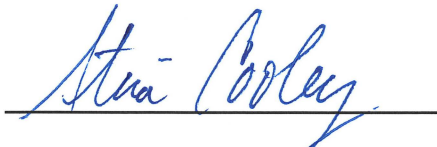
Director Ottoboni reported that there was no legal justification to lower the speed limits in the identified corridors.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT - *None*

F. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. to the next regular Internal Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Prepared by:



Stina Cooley, Administrative Specialist