



NEWS RELEASE

City of Chico

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2025

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INTERMITTENT CLOSURE OF SOUTH PARK DRIVE TO VEHICLES AND PEDESTRIANS DUE TO TREE MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WINTER SEASON

CHICO, CA — Temporary closures will impact park access throughout the winter season.

To ensure the safety of park visitors and workers, **sections of South Park Drive will be temporarily closed to all park users**, including pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles, during active tree work. These closures will occur intermittently depending on contractor scheduling, weather conditions, and site needs. Work is scheduled to start at the 4th St entrance and will continue east towards the Centennial exit.

The upcoming work includes tree pruning, removals, and hazard mitigation to improve public safety and support long-term forest health within the park. This maintenance is part of the City's ongoing commitment to managing and high-use woodland areas in Bidwell Park.

Public Cooperation Requested: To ensure public safety during tree removal operations, temporary access restrictions will be in place on South Park Drive. The city requests public cooperation during this period. Visitors should remain aware of their surroundings and follow all directions provided by tree removal contractors.

"We understand that temporary closures impact the public's ability to use certain areas of the park, but these operations are necessary to maintain safety and protect the long-term health of Bidwell Park's urban forest," said Richie Bamlet, City of Chico Urban Forest Manager.

Additional updates will be provided as the project progresses.

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.chicoca.gov.

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