



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** December 14, 2020

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

## **SUMMARY OF COUNCILMEMBER REQUESTS FOR DISCUSSION AT UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

(Chico, CA – December 14, 2020 –) Pursuant to AP&P 10-10, City of Chico City Councilmembers may verbally request an item to be agendaized at a future meeting. During the regular City Council meeting of December 1, 2020 held at City Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, six Councilmember requests were made. The requests, with their respective agenda dates, are as follows:

- **Police Staffing**

A request was made by Vice Mayor Kasey Reynolds to reexamine police staffing positions that were frozen due to potential COVID-19 budget restrictions.

“Public Safety is consistently the number one priority for the majority of our community,” said Vice Mayor Reynolds. “In order for us to provide the best service possible, we need to ensure we have a fully staffed department.”

This item will be on the December 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting agenda.

- **Needle Program Ban**

A request was made by Councilmember Kami Denlay to discuss banning needle distribution programs within the City of Chico.

“Our community has been vocal about desiring a discussion be had regarding the possibility of a ban on needle programs in the City of Chico,” said Councilmember Denlay. “We heard this concern loud and clear and I agree the discussion should definitely be had. Several of our neighboring communities have already taken steps to ban these programs, and I believe it’s important to look into what our options might be should Council choose to take action.”

This item will be on the December 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting agenda.

- **Reconsideration of vote – Cannabis Fees**

A request was made by Councilmember Sean Morgan to reconsider his vote of “yes” on the Establishment of New Fees for the Commercial Cannabis Program made during the Regular Council Meeting on October 20, 2020.

“The City was promised a windfall of revenue from retail cannabis but no method for revenue generation was contained in the fee schedule,” said Councilmember Morgan. “To maintain

the integrity of what was promised, the fee schedule must be reevaluated, and a revenue generator added.”

This item will be on the December 15, 2020 Regular Council Meeting agenda.

- **Behavioral Health funding**

A request was made by Mayor Andrew Coolidge to assess behavior health funding sources and amounts coming into Butte County and the percentages being spent in the City as well as identifying the programs where these funds are being spent.

“The goal behind bringing forward this item is to provide an in-depth analysis of Butte County Behavioral Health department and their budget so the city can assess the full extent of the services they are providing and citizens can be informed about what efforts they are making and, most importantly where, these funds are being spent,” said Mayor Coolidge. “Behavioral Health can and should be providing more services to the City of Chico; we must be keenly aware of their actions and advocate for the citizens of Chico for their fair share of these services.”

This item is anticipated to return in January for Council discussion.

- **Review of Housing Committee Report**

A request was made by Vice Mayor Kasey Reynolds to review the Housing Committee Report for items that may need to be operationalized.

“The Housing Committee did a good amount of work with a lot of focus on one portion of housing in our community,” said Vice Mayor Reynolds. “I think it’s important that we review the whole report and ensure we are considering the needs and growth of all types of housing in Chico.”

This item is anticipated to return in January for Council discussion.

- **Reconsideration of vote – Special Planning areas**

A request was made by Councilmember Sean Morgan to reconsider his vote of “yes” on former Councilmember Karl Ory’s request to pause building in Special Planning Areas until the next Housing Element and General Plan update. This request was voted on during the Regular City Council Meeting on November 17, 2020.

“Special Planning Areas allow the City to work within the goals of the General Plan and promote development in areas desired by the City, potential homeowners, renters, and builders,” said Councilmember Morgan.

This item is anticipated to return in January for Council discussion.

For media inquiries, please contact Lynda Gizzi, Public Information Officer, at (530) 896-7204.

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