



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

CITY OF CHICO ENGAGES ILLEGAL ENCAMPMENTS ALONG CITY WATERWAYS

(Chico, CA – July 7, 2020 –) The City of Chico is proactively engaging illegal encampments along City waterways, pursuant to the policy directive authorized by City Council.

“Many within our community have voiced concern over the growing number of encampments hindering citizens use of these public spaces in addition to the continuing concerns related to the degradation of the natural resources in these spaces,” said Mark Orme, City of Chico City Manager. “These are real concerns that deserve the City’s focused attention.”

The City Council’s directive authorized tent encampments to exist during Governor Newsom’s “Stay at Home” mandate, however, tents should be at least 50 feet from the high waterline of the creeks and waterways. With the continuing violation of this policy directive, additional City resources are being deployed to proactively engage since the rules are not being followed.

The City is approaching this concern with the utmost professionalism and compassion as they contact those illegally camping within these sensitive areas. While enforcing this policy directive, staff will be handing out informational pamphlets on homeless services in the hope of encouraging individuals to find a path out of their current circumstances and into a healthier living condition.

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

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