

Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
Attn: Vice Chairperson Sandra Knight
125 Mission Ranch Blvd.
Chico, CA 95926

March 12, 2019

Dear Vice Chairperson Knight:

RE: Notification Pursuant to the SR99 Corridor Bikeway Facility (Bikeway 99) – Phase 5 in Chico, California

The City of Chico is offering the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria the opportunity to consult regarding potential Tribal Cultural Resources at a specific project site located in the City of Chico. The purpose of the consultation is to allow an opportunity for participation in land use decisions to protect or mitigate impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources.

Project Title: SR99 Corridor Bikeway Facility (Bikeway 99) – Phase 5

Project Location: The project is located on the east side of State Route 99 corridor over 20th street.

Brief Description: The City of Chico in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes to construct a Class I bikeway street overcrossing above 20th Street, while establishing a bikeway gap closure along the east side of State Route (SR) 99 corridor. The completed Bikeway 99 Corridor will serve as a continuous alternative transportation and recreational route from Eaton Road to Skyway, spanning nearly 7 miles. The current lack of a safe and direct pedestrian/bike path discourages residents from walking or biking to local schools, job centers, commercial areas, and public services. This Project will connect people to goods and services including the Chico Mall. The area is zoned RC-Regional Commercial by the General Plan. The site is classified Medium Sensitivity on the Prehistoric Archaeological Sensitivity Areas map in the General Plan. Additional project details are available upon request.

The project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and will require an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration level of environmental documentation.

A search of the Sacred Land File at the Native American Heritage Commission resulted in negative results and a search of the files at the Northeastern Information Center noted three prehistoric sites approximately ½ mile north of the project area by Little Chico Creek.

The City of Chico would appreciate notification of whether your Tribe has input regarding this project at your earliest convenience. Please contact me at (530) 879-6903 or via email at tracy.bettencourt@chicoca.gov regarding your Tribe's interest in this matter. I would also be happy to provide any further information the Tribe may need regarding this project or the City's role in this particular matter.

Sincerely,

Tracy Bettencourt
Regulatory and Grants Manager