

# BUSINESS WALK REPORT



August 2016

## Park Avenue, Humboldt Road & Meyers Street Business Walk & Community Safety Meeting

**124 Businesses Visited | 2 Business Walks | 12 Team members | 1 Community Safety Meeting**

On behalf of Team Chico and our partners, the information below is provided as a report on the activities and outcomes related to our monthly Business Walks and Community Safety Meetings. The purpose of the Business Walks is to increase awareness and improve communications between Team Chico and its partners, including the City, and business owners. **Our goal is to identify needs, challenges, and opportunities for local businesses, and to provide services, resources, and solutions when possible.**  
Please note: the most critical "Red Team" issues are addressed by the Team and are not included below.



### Key Accomplishments & Projects:

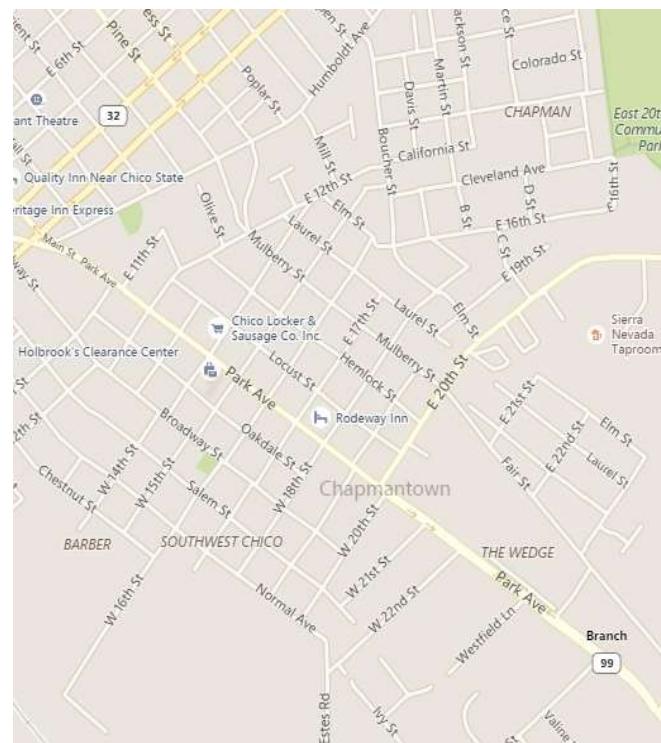
1. Comanche Bridge beautification project allows for bike travel.

**→Next step:** Convene Meyers Street business and property owners to discuss elevated need and opportunities for private patrol and CPTED.



### Red Team Issues:

1. Considerable and chronic vandalism to businesses in the Park/20<sup>th</sup> Street intersection.
2. Meyers Lane experiencing more issues with the installation of the Comanche Bridge.
3. Encampments on business property and the creek are troublesome.
4. Businesses are sensing they are unwelcome due to the increase in crime.
5. Sense that the police are not patrolling adequately – staffing issue.



**Business Walk Dates:**

1. July 29, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – noon
2. August 1, 2016 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Business Feedback:** The Team asked standard Business Walk questions such as: “Tell us what it’s like doing business in this area.” “Do you have any concerns about doing business here?” We also asked for feedback and observations on traffic, congestion, safety, and general business climate/health issues:

- **Homelessness:** Businesses reported encampments outside or on their business property, pan-handling, loitering, harassment of customers and employees, building of fires on the side of the physical building, all hours of public intoxication, defecation on business and property, and stealing of water/electrical.
- **Cleanliness:** Businesses reported issues with other businesses’ customers leaving behind trash and bodily fluids on their property.
- **Security/Safety of Businesses & Properties:** Businesses reported issues with drug paraphernalia, police not patrolling their area, the need to personally police because they feel the actual police aren’t properly patrolling or able to help, theft, break-ins, and vandalism.
- **Curb/Street Signage:** Business reported issue with the curb in their back alley not properly painted, allowing cars to block their business.

## 124 Businesses Visited

- 1<sup>st</sup> Gear
- Affordable Automotive
- AG Mart
- Alter Ego
- America's Best Western Value Inn
- American RV
- AMPM
- ARC
- Army Surplus
- Auto Doctor
- Auto Zone
- AVL Looms
- Aztlan Mexican Food
- Bacio Restaurant
- Bearing Belt Chain Co.
- Billson Construction
- Blazin J's
- Bruno Lima Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Academy
- Budget Truck Rental
- Business Solutions
- Butte County Public Works
- Café Coda
- Cash n Carry
- Casino 99
- Chico Antique Center
- Chico Auto Masters
- Chico Bike & Board
- Chico Cash Exchange
- Chico Chai
- Chico Motor Sports
- Chico Natural Foods
- Chico Top Imports
- Circle K
- Culligan
- Danielle Taylor For Hair
- Design By Humans / Merriam Park Office
- Devereaux Architectural Glass
- Dimensions Salon
- DirectGov Source
- Donut Nook
- Dukes Cork & Bottle
- Dutch Bros. Coffee
- Dutch Bros. Headquarters
- Finish Master
- Food Mart / Money Saver
- Four Counties Roofing
- Genetix Distribution
- Has Beans
- Heritage Inn
- Herrid Music
- Hi Five Tobacco
- Holbrooks Clearance Center
- Holdrege & Kull
- Holt Construction
- Infamous Tile & Stone
- Interstate Batteries
- Italian Guy Catering
- JW Wood Co., Inc.
- Kaman Industrial Technologies
- Kodak Photography
- La Cocina Economica
- La Michocana
- Lash's Glass
- Leete Construction
- Leon Bistro
- Liquor Bank
- Lobdell Cleaners
- Lotus Flower Imports
- Lovely Layers Cakery
- Lulu's
- Magoon Signs
- Maltese
- Meyers Street Studio's
- Mim's Bakery
- Moonstone
- Nobby's
- Northstate Auto Sales

- Old Dominion Freight Line
- Omni Gym
- Orient & Flume
- Ostendorf Electric
- Park Ave Apartments
- PBM Supply & Mfg., Inc.
- Perfection Pool & Spa
- PJ's Paint and Body Works
- Platinum Powder Coating
- Powder Coating
- Pullins Cyclery
- Putnam Mulholland Auto
- Red Hot Metal
- Restore
- Riebes Auto Parts
- Rodeway Inn
- RofuChico
- Russel Gallaway Associates
- S & L Meats
- Sabbath House & Jesus Center
- Schwan's
- Sicilian Café
- Shasta Water
- Show Love Thrift
- Sierra Market
- Smog Buster
- Spec-West
- Steve Bunch Plastering
- SubStation
- Sun Valley Acoustical Corporation
- Taco's Tijuana
- Tacos Cortez
- The Print Shop
- The Printed Image
- The Roost Café
- Thrifty Rooter
- Tile Bargain Barn
- Upper Park Crossfit
- Urban Solar
- US Tire & Wheel
- Volkswagen
- Wacky Wags Dog Care
- Wilburs
- Winchester Goose
- Wolfe Electric
- WREX Products
- XS Platform



#### **Business Walkers:**

1. Zachary Mustaine, Golden Valley Bank
2. Esteban Tadeo, AFWD
3. Katie Simmons, Chico Chamber
4. Michelle Woods, Chico Chamber (not pictured)
5. Kelsey Torres, Chico Chamber
6. Courtney Farrell, 3CORE
7. Nicole Clift, AFWD
8. Melanie Bassett, DCBA
9. Jaclynne Phelps, Golden Valley Bank
10. Chief Michael O'Brian, City of Chico
11. BT Chapman, SCORE
12. Brett Sanders, Farmers Insurance

**Next Business Walk:** August 26, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - noon. RSVP to [cfarrell@3coreedc.org](mailto:cfarrell@3coreedc.org) or call (530) 893-8732 x211. Questions? Email [katie@chicochamber.com](mailto:katie@chicochamber.com) or call (530) 891-5556 x303.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING – August 4, 2016**



On Thursday, August 4, 2016, a Community Safety Meeting was co-hosted by Team Chico and the Chico Police Department at Chico Country Day School on Broadway Street in Chico. Business owners and area residents were invited to gather, share feedback, and hear updates on safety projects, new technology, and policy updates. Below is a summary of agenda and discussion from this community gathering.

### **Community Safety Meeting Agenda**

- Introductions
- Issues & Concerns: Vandalism, Theft, Panhandling, Car Break-ins
- Chico Police Department Update – Chief Michael O'Brien
  - Target Team
  - NextDoor Web Site and Chico PD App
  - Immediate and long-term staffing
  - Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED)
  - Contact Information for the police department
- Audience Q & A
- Please Return Completed Survey

### **Summary of Discussion:**

- Multiple businesses concerned with homeless camps and they feel helpless.
- Private security is used on Meyers but multiple businesses don't feel it is effective.
- Concerns there will be accidents by Comanche Bridge Area between cars and bikes. Cars drive too fast and eventually there will be problems.
- Comanche Bridge Area is on the Police Department's daily route.
- Jesus Center understands their non-profit attracts issues and/or perceptions of issues. Jesus Center states they are a non-profit and can apply standards to each individual who is using their facilities. If businesses can photograph or name the individual causing the problem and forward to the Jesus Center, the Jesus Center can then create consequences for those individuals (i.e. give warnings which then can turn into that individual being refused service etc.). We need "compassion joined with accountability".
- Best way to call Police Department, for NON EMERGENCY or reporting issues, call the non-emergency number. OR use the Chico PD App to report concerns.

- Best way to call Police Department, for EMERGENCY or immediate assistance, call 911.
- Chief asked businesses to begin reporting issues again. Plug in burglar alarms, etc.
- Comanche Creek area may be a candidate for surveillance (if Nord bike path safety camera project is successful and program is expanded).
- Homelessness and the impacts on individuals and communities is count-wide and state-wide issue. Not just a Chico issue. California is a magnet and California is not assisting with solutions with Prop 47 and AB109. Complex, but being discussed.

## **UPCOMING SAFETY MEETINGS**

- **Nord Corridor & Campus Perimeter:** Friday, September 16, 2016, Noon - 1 p.m. at Azad's Martial Arts Family Center, 313 Walnut Street #150, Chico.
- **North Esplanade & East Avenue:** October TBD
- **Hegan Lane, Otterson Drive, and Midway:** November TBD
- Additional meetings are being scheduled throughout business districts in Chico in 2016.

**Businesses, property owners, and community members in the corresponding areas are welcome and encouraged to attend these free Community Safety Meetings. No RSVPs are required.**

### *Team Chico Partners*



*Many thanks to the Chamber Ambassadors, Chamber Young Professionals Organization, Butte County, Butte College, and Chico State.*