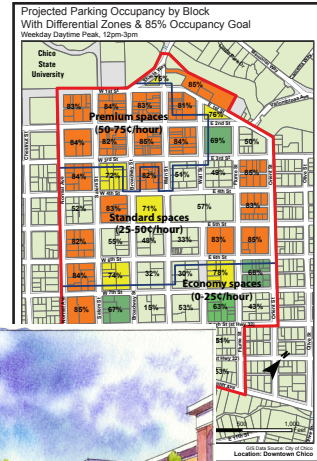
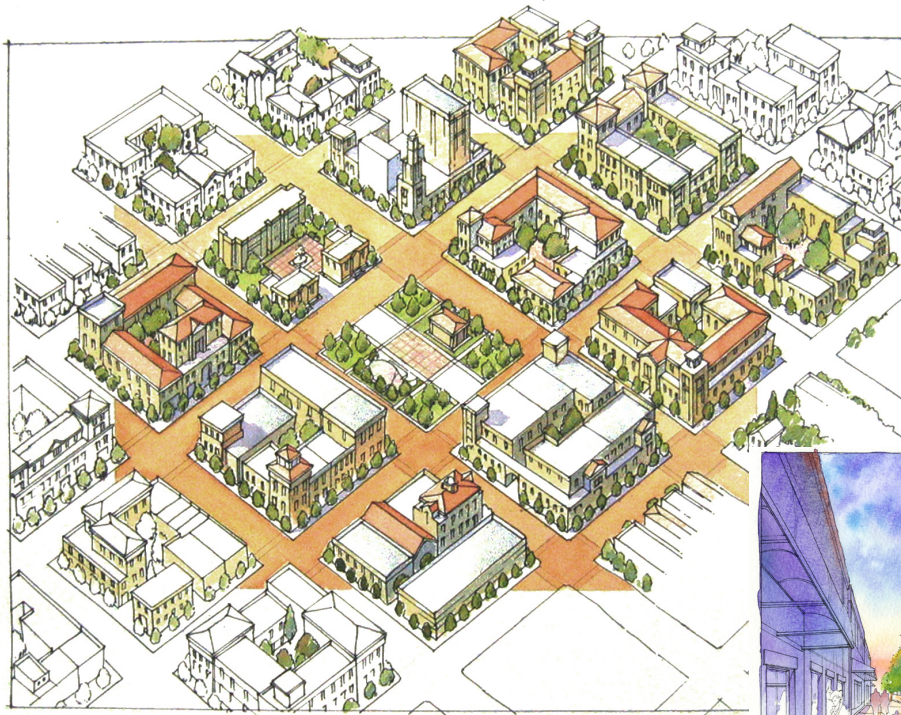




## Chico Downtown Access Plan

Chico, California



Client  
The City of Chico

Reference  
Claudia Stuart  
Senior Planner  
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Size  
230 acres

Designed  
2006

Services  
A public design Charrette  
Preparation of the  
Downtown Access Plan

The Chico Downtown Access Plan consisted of three parts: Downtown Circulation, Parking, and Development.

The Plan recommends improvements to the circulation of pedestrians, bicyclist, cars, delivery trucks, emergency vehicles, and transit both within the Downtown core, and the CSUC campus, and also recommends ways to improve the primary streets and paths that connect to the Downtown. The Plan proposes strategies and techniques for increasing pedestrian, bicycle, private motor vehicle, and transit safety and convenience, to provide a balance between the need or desire to drive, walk or bike, and to make the streetscape more attractive and user-friendly for all modes of circulation.

The parking component of the Plan recommends improvements to both public and private parking availability for all citizens, including students, and suggests policies, strategies, and tactics for reducing parking demand and increasing parking supply. Potential sites for one or more new parking structures that will in the future be warranted by retail and office growth in the Downtown are indicated in the Plan, which also describes

policies and techniques for reducing parking demand by increasing the convenience, safety, and attractiveness of walking, biking, and transit, a more cost-effective means of providing access, than building parking structures. The improvements include safer and shorter street crosswalks, better bike parking, and a recommended transit center location. Finally, the Plan suggests ways to protect surrounding neighborhood residents from student and Downtown overflow parking impacts through permit programs.

In order to determine potential parking and access impacts of future development in Downtown Chico, the Plan includes a projected Downtown growth plan designed within the height and lot coverage constraints of the City's General Plan, respecting historic and other valuable built and natural assets, and assuming a mix of retail, office, and housing that reflects current development trends. Looking both ahead to and back from this future, the Plan then recommends circulation and parking improvements that can anticipate, accommodate and adjust to (as opposed to undermining) Downtown growth.