

ORDINANCE NO. 2535
(codified)

**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICO
ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 2.54 ENTITLED “CLIMATE ACTION
COMMISSION” OF THE CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE**

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere through human activity have a profound effect on the Earth’s climate; and

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for local government, its businesses, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, since 2006, the City of Chico has diligently worked to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including signing the U.S. Conference of Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement (2006), preparing a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and adopting a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 25 percent below 2005 levels by the year 2020 (2008), and approving the 2020 Climate Action Plan (2012) to achieve its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013, the City Council reconstituted the City’s ad hoc Sustainability Task Force with a focus on implementing the City’s 2020 Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council agreed to reconsider the role of the Sustainability Task Force upon completion of the City of Chico’s 2020 Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, a City of Chico Vulnerability Assessment was prepared consistent with State guidelines, which concluded that direct and indirect impacts of climate change will create a wide variety of negative consequences for the community, including human health and safety risks, economic disruptions, shifts in ecosystem function and habitat qualities, and difficulties with the provision of public services; and

1 **WHEREAS**, on September 8, 2016, Senate Bill 32 established a new statewide
2 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 as a
3 benchmark to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction target established by Executive
4 Order S-3-05 on June 1, 2005, of 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the City Council desires that a new climate action plan be prepared to
6 achieve the State’s new greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; and

7 **WHEREAS**, at its April 2, 2019 meeting, the City Council approved a resolution
8 declaring a climate emergency initiating a mobilization effort to restore a safe climate; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to transition the Sustainability Task Force to a
10 standing commission, the Climate Action Commission, to acknowledge the policy priority of
11 climate action, adaptation, and resiliency, including preparation and implementation of a new
12 climate action plan.

13 BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Chico:

14 **Section 1.** A new Chapter 2.54 of the Chico Municipal Code, to be entitled Climate
15 Action Commission, hereby is enacted to read as follows:

16 **2.54.010 Created.**

17 There is hereby established the climate action commission of the City of Chico.

18 **2.54.020 Functions generally.**

19 The functions of the climate action commission shall include the following powers and
20 duties:

- 21 A. To prepare and recommend for adoption by the council a comprehensive, long-term
22 climate action plan, and any amendments thereto or revisions thereof;
23 B. Monitor and recommend for update the climate action plan based on quantified
24 metrics to measure and evaluate reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and
25 community benefits;
26 C. Advise the council on how to strategically accelerate Chico’s progress towards
27 achieving the goals in the climate action plan and recommend priorities to promote
28 continued regional leadership;

- 1 D. Accept public input on subject areas noted above and advise the council on ways to
2 drive community awareness, behavior change, education and participation in City
3 programs modeled upon the field's best practices;
- 4 E. Review and make recommendations to council on federal, state and regional policies
5 and programs related to greenhouse gas emissions reduction and community
6 adaptation and resiliency to climate change;
- 7 F. Perform such other duties as the council may require pertaining to climate mitigation
8 or adaptation;
- 9 G. In creating the climate action commission, it is not the intent of the council to
10 duplicate or overlap the functions, duties, or responsibilities assigned to any other
11 board or commission. It is likely, however, that the work of the climate action
12 commission may involve areas of concern of other City boards and commissions. In
13 these situations, the climate action commission may form ad hoc work groups that
14 can work constructively with the relevant boards and commissions and adhere to the
15 requirements of the Brown Act.

16 **2.54.030 Composition**

17 The climate action commission shall consist of seven members, with three of the
18 members having experience in at least one of the following areas: social or community services,
19 greenhouse gas emission accounting, energy, transportation, economics, community
20 engagement, or business leadership or ownership.

21 **2.54.040 Members' terms of office.**

22 Members of the climate action commission shall be appointed and serve terms consistent
23 with Chico Municipal Code Section 1001 (Appointments; terms).

24 **2.54.050 Regular Meetings – Time.**

25 The climate action commission shall meet no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the second
26 Thursday of each month. The climate action commission may adjourn from time to time to other
27 meeting dates and may call such special meetings as may be required.

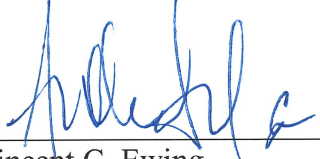
28 **2.54.060 Regular Meetings - Place.**

1 Regular meetings shall be held by the climate action commission in the council chamber
2 building of the City, or in such place to which any such meeting may be adjourned. If by reason
3 of fire, flood, earthquake or other emergency it shall be unsafe to meet in the place designated,
4 the meeting may be held at such place as is designated by the presiding officer of the climate
5 action commission and notice thereof given to the city manager and to others as may be required
6 by law.

7 THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE was adopted by the City Council of the City of Chico
8 at its meeting held on September 17, 2019, by the following vote:

- 9 AYES: Huber, Morgan, Ory Reynolds, Schwab, Brown, Stone
10 NOES: None
11 ABSENT: None
12 ABSTAINED: None
13 DISQUALIFIED: None

14 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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16 _____
17 Vincent C. Ewing
18 City Attorney*

ATTEST:

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16 _____
17 Deborah R. Presson
18 City Clerk

19 *Pursuant to the Charter of the
20 City of Chico, Section 906(E)
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