

1 parcel for the year. The real property may be described by reference to maps prepared in accordance
2 with Section 327 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and on file in the office of the county assessor
3 or by reference to plats or maps on file in the office of the County Clerk.

4 2. The City Manager/designee shall cause written notice to be mailed to each person
5 to whom any parcel or parcels of real property described in said report is assessed in the last
6 equalized assessment roll available on the date said report is prepared, at the address shown on said
7 assessment roll or as otherwise known to the City. Such mailed notice may be sent as part of a
8 regular sewer utility bill if the addressee is the owner of the property.

9 3. The notice shall inform the owner of the property that if the delinquent fees are not
10 paid within 30 days of the notice date, the delinquent fees will be placed on the Butte County Tax
11 Roll to be collected in the same manner as property taxes. The notice shall also inform the owner
12 that they may within 21 days of the notice date submit written objections to the collection of the
13 delinquent sewer fees on the County Tax Roll stating specifically why the delinquent fees are not
14 properly due and/or why the delinquent sewer fees should not be placed on the County Tax Roll
15 for collection.

16 4. The City Manager/designee shall review all of the written objections timely received
17 and may delete from the report any properties which were erroneously or improperly included in
18 the report or that show just and reasonable cause why the property/owner should be deleted from
19 the report.

20 a. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the filing of the report and of the time and
21 place of the hearing thereon to be published pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government
22 Code at least ten days prior to the date set for hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation
23 printed and published within the City.

24 b. The City Council shall hold a public hearing on the report. At the time stated in
25 the notice, the City Council shall hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the
26 report. The City Council may continue the hearing from time to time. If the City Council
27 finds that protest is made by the owners of a majority of separate parcels of property
28 described in the report, then the report shall not be adopted and the charges shall be collected
separately from the tax roll and shall not constitute a lien against any parcel or parcels of
land.

1 c. Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the City Council may adopt, revise, change,
2 reduce, or modify any charge or overrule any or all objections and shall make its
3 determination upon each charge as described in the report, which determination shall be
4 final. The City Council shall confirm the report by resolution.

5 5. Not later than August 10 of each year, or such earlier date as the County Assessor
6 may request, the City Clerk shall file with the Butte County Auditor-Controller a copy of the report
7 as finally adopted by the City Council, together with a statement endorsed thereon that the report
8 has been finally adopted, and requesting the County Auditor-Controller to place those properties
9 on the County Tax Roll for collection of delinquent sewer fees.

10 B. Administrative lien. The City Manager or his/her designee may collect delinquent
11 sewer fees by recording a lien against all real property in Butte County owned by the party owing
12 delinquent sewer fees to the City of Chico in accordance with the following procedures:

13 1. The City Manager/designee shall cause a written report to be prepared not more
14 often than every three months which shall contain a description of each parcel of real property
15 receiving such services and facilities and the amount of the delinquent charges and administrative
16 collection fees due for each parcel. The real property may be described by reference to maps
17 prepared in accordance with Section 327 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and on file in the
18 office of the county assessor or by reference to plats or maps on file in the office of the County
19 Clerk.

20 2. The City Manager/designee shall cause written notice to be mailed to each person
21 to whom any parcel or parcels of real property described in said report is assessed in the last
22 equalized assessment roll available on the date said report is prepared, at the address shown on said
23 assessment roll or as otherwise known to the City. Such mailed notice may be sent as part of a
24 regular sewer utility bill if the addressee is the owner of the property.

25 3. The notice shall inform the owner of the property that if the delinquent fees are not
26 paid within 30 days of the notice date, the delinquent fees will be recorded as a lien against all
27 property of the owner located in Butte County. The notice shall also inform the owner that they
28 may within 21 days of the notice date submit written objections to the recordation of the lien stating
specifically why the delinquent fees are not properly due and/or why the delinquent sewer fees
should not be recorded as a lien against the owner's property.

1 4. The City Manager/designee shall review all of the written objections timely received
2 and may delete from the report any properties which were erroneously or improperly included in
3 the report or that show just and reasonable cause why the property should be deleted from the
4 report.

5 5. If the delinquent sewer fees are not paid within the time allowed, the City
6 Manager/designee shall cause the report, a list of delinquent properties, or individual properties (as
7 requested by the Butte County Recorder) to be recorded with the Butte County Recorder as a lien
8 against the identified delinquent properties.

9 C. Administrative agreement. The City Manager or his/her designee may collect
10 delinquent sewer fees in accordance with the following procedures:

11 1. The City Manager or his/her designee may enter into written repayment agreements
12 for delinquent sewer service charges with utility customers. Upon entering into a repayment
13 agreement, the City Manager or his/her designee may waive any penalties, charges, and interest.
14 Agreements may not exceed 36 months. If at any time payments are not received on a monthly
15 basis, the agreement is void. In the event the utility customer does not meet the requirements of the
16 repayment agreement, a collections administrative fee will be added to the amount due and filed
17 for collections efforts.

18 2. In conjunction with a utility service repayment agreement entered into by and
19 between the utility customer and the city, the City Manager or his/her designee may also require a
20 stipulated utility service repayment lien and notice of intent for satisfaction of lien through proceeds
21 of sale of the property to be entered into by and between the utility customer and the city. The city
22 shall file the stipulated utility service repayment lien and notice of intent for satisfaction of lien
23 through sale of property directly with the Butte County recorder.

24 D. Collection agency. The City Manager or his/her designee may collect delinquent
25 sewer fees through the hiring of a licensed, bonded and reputable collection agency.

26 E. Court legal action. As a separate, distinct and cumulative remedy established for the
27 collection of said charges and penalties thereon, an action may be brought in the name of the City
28 of Chico in any court in the County of Butte to enforce collection of the amount of delinquent sewer
fees and associated penalties or the municipal service lien for the charges and all penalties thereon.
In such action, reasonable attorney's fees shall be awarded to the City of Chico.

1 **Section 2. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of
2 this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court
3 of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of
4 this ordinance.

5 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after the second
6 reading and adoption.

7 **Section 4. Publication.** The City Clerk is directed to publish this ordinance or a summary
8 thereof in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15)
9 days after its passage.

10 INTRODUCED at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 19th day of May 2026.

11 THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of
12 Chico at its meeting held on **June 2** , 2026, by the following vote:

13 AYES: **Goldstein, Hawley, O'Brien, van Overbeek, Winslow, Bennett, Reynolds**


14 NOES: **None**

15 ABSENT: **None**

16 ABSTAINED: **None**

17 DISQUALIFIED: **None**

18 **ATTEST:**
19 
20 Deborah R. Presson, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ryan Jones (May 19, 2026 21:17:41 PDT)
21 **Ryan R. Jones, City Attorney***
22 ***Pursuant to The Charter of the City of**
23 **Chico, Section 906(E)**