

The Overflow situation presented a high level of safety risks and kinetic management for our tidy staff.

Tierra Bella members and the public, due to highly trafficked and the high speed of motor vehicles along Uvas Parkway, faced high risks of bodily and vehicular collision when entering and exiting the Overflow dirt lot.

Staff was faced with having to manage movements of all kinds of souls, objects and predict foreseeable hazards, all while standing on uneven ground, with their presence itself presenting an additional visual distraction for passing motorists.

Many near collisions and unsafe behaviors were witnessed by our crew and bystanders.

In addition, please be mindful of members with Special Needs. Members were presented with a dilemma:

1. Pedal to Registration along busy Uvas Parkway (crew understood and discouraged this in real time)
2. Take the stairs and follow the bike path.

This was presented, after dealing with a dusty, deeply rutted lot with plenty of hidden hazards, like large, soccer ball-sized wildlife burrow hidden in the debris and vegetation.

In addition, many asked for restrooms, (none in Overflow) causing further delays for our crew in expediting their start of our event.

*Also, lack of ADA access for one participant was a prolonged concern for one arriving group and required special attention and walkie talkie communications by our crew. This poses a significant risk, in terms of litigation, to our event organization.*

Please refer to my prior images and reports citing these safety issues, in preparation for Tierra Bella 2024.

**To say Overflow was a legal and safety liability, and mortal risk to all souls, would be a realistic and repeated statement for this year's version of Tierra Bella 2025.**

**THE CANARY HAS SUNG.**

On behalf of our Parking Crew,  
Brian Chun

Parking crew was put into a defensive position in dealing with other members of our athletic community.

Therefore we noted a couple of additional observations/suggestions that apply to CHP-Miller Avenue frontage lane, Ranch and CHP Overflow lots:

- The parents bringing their kids for softball practices were clearly frustrated that we had blocked off the parking and did not prepare any area to drop off their kids. We asked that they try to find street parking which caused the parents and kids to cross Miller in an un-protected manner. We need to plan for this in the future.
- Mobilize registration staff to the overflow parking area. They can still direct to the start and initial registration area. This is one work-around for dispersed parking, Overflow in particular.
- Hasten rider registration, help them and prevent parking staff from needing to explain the centralized registration location and be distracted from safety and parking.
- ADA access impaired by congestion and dispersed parking .

By: Parking Crew

Following up on your email about the CHP opening and the early morning rush, I wanted to suggest a few things to help streamline things next year. It sounds like it got a little hectic before the official start time.

To avoid the early morning chaos, perhaps we could open the restrooms and all gates 30 minutes before the event officially begins? Having them ready earlier would really help ease the congestion. We could also have some friendly faces there to greet people – maybe registration, tech, SAG, and HAM folks could help out?

One thing to consider is the parking situation. Having everyone in one area is definitely easier to manage than dispersed parking. With dispersed parking we might need to coordinate with law enforcement and make sure everyone is parked legally and safely. Parking staff should focus solely on parking and safety, not managing traffic flow on public roads.

A smooth operation from the get-go will make a huge difference. Let's chat about these ideas and see what works best for everyone! We can also revisit some of the points from our previous emails.

Overflow usage, due to its distance, stairs, lack of restrooms, surface hazards, other users, and dangerous motor vehicle access.

Also, keep in mind parking volunteers are dispersed throughout the venue to guide incoming participants. They should enjoy their coffee, etc. well before their shift starts!

A consolidated venue, wherein everyone is together and on one lot, should be attained.

Get it together,

Brian Chun  
Tierra Bella 2025 Parking

Fyi:

From our Parking Crew:

(This described disruption pinned down our crew from completely migrating to Overflow, which complicated things even more):

“I am not sure of the parking capacity at the ride start, but when the baseball teams started to arrive at the park, we were filled in the main parking area and only had 22 parking spaces left in the part of the lot where the ride finish line was set-up. That was when we started directing riders, ball teams, soccer teams, and dance participants to the Ranch lot.

When these other park users started arriving, the parking situation became very uncomfortable and there were several baseball and soccer coaches and parents that were downright very rude to the bike participants and volunteers. Some were in our faces, yelled at us, cussed us out, made unsafe U-turns at the park entrance, dove at high speed around the cyclists, and definitely did NOT follow the vehicle code requiring motor vehicles share the road with cyclists.

The Ranch was at capacity by around 8:30 am - I do feel that more of the baseball/soccer/general public parked in the Ranch Lot, was a larger percentage than the CHP lot.

Since the Cherry City Cyclist volunteers only worked CHP, I cannot speak to the Overflow lot, except to report that riders diverted from the CHP/Ranch lots were very upset over having to park so far away from the registration/ride start and not having bathroom facilities in the Overflow lot.

Hope this helps for better coordination and smoother sailing for the 2026 Tierra Bella.”

By: Tierra Bella Parking Crew.

Suggestion:

Plan for non-exclusive users, as we did at Gavilan College, and have ample capacity for such use.

Solely relying upon leadership’s pronouncement of

“We paid for exclusive use” just doesn’t cut it with having friendly community relations.

here are 7 Parking provisional suggestions for improving CHP flows and community acceptance for TB 2026:

Solution for Registration Congestion and swarming motorists close to the entrance/ADA parking stalls:

1. Cordon off areas of concern in advance, such as parking stalls around registration, and ones that may create a blockade issue. This does not require the entrance gate being opened, so this can be done prior to the opening time of the lot. Devices can be a few cones and plenty of high visibility cordage.
2. Loss of drop off and parking spaces for other CHP users: Check with the scheduled activities and notify their chat group in advance of the upcoming bicycle event so their expectations are properly set.
3. Confusion on the roads and aisles: Like (1.), placards such as "Lot Open", "Lot Full", "Please continue to Ranch", "Please Turn around and go to Overflow" can be erected in plain view at the appropriate places and times, to that motorists need not necessarily poke around asking staff about what/where/why, etc. Devices can be A frame signage on coroplast, large black lettering with a white background and Tierra Bella logo.
4. Overflow workaround/dangerous entry from westbound Uvas Parkway: motorists will continue to Miller then when safe, will turn around to enter Overflow, without having to cross oncoming traffic, using (3.). Overflow's eastern driveway access will be cordoned off and opened only after the lot is full. All entry will be from the northwest entry point. Lot adjacent to Gilroy High School will be flagged by parking staff for possible use as the first motorists enter. Parking staff will help motorists avoid unpaved surface hazards as they arrive. Devices can be same as items 1. and 3.
5. Parking staff can be a self-contained early bird operation, if need be, or if other morning crews can come at the same early bird time, then this would certainly help with field communication and coordination.
6. Ham crew's operation area should be cordoned off in advance, so there are no last-minute changes or unrelated occupiers, that may require the Ham crew to move to a less functional location. Best if they are close to registration, refreshments, etc.
7. In coordination with (3.), parking staff can take visual count of cars as these enter each lot and close the lot when the capacity number is reached and change the placards when this happens. Devices are (1. and 3.), mascot Uni, bicycles, clickers and walkie-talkies.

Thank you for all your support of Tierra Bella,  
Have a wonderful Summer of Cycling,  
Brian Chun  
Tierra Bella Parking 2025