

Willows Monthly - August 2024



Remember "Open City Hall Crawl" 2022?

Well, it's that time again!

Save the Date: September 19, 2024, 4:30 to 7:30 pm

Top Stories:

- Upcoming Events
- City Launches New Website Dedicated to City Finances and **Measure I, 1.5% Sales Tax**
- Council Candidate Filing Deadline for the November Ballot is Closed
- Jensen Park pathways get upgraded!
- City of Willows Experiences Decrease in Q1 Sales Tax Revenues
- Willows Fire Department provides extended Strike Team support to "Thompson", "Lake" and "Park" Fires

Upcoming Events

- **Town Hall Meeting** Get the facts and your questions answered about the City's current fiscal circumstances & *Measure I, 1.5% Sales Tax Measure*. Date: Thursday, September 12 Time: Reception at 5:30 PM, Presentation & Discussion at 6:00 PM Location: 'The Ark,' 222 North Butte Street, Willows, CA
- **"Open City Hall Crawl"** Grab your City passport and "crawl" to the Waste Water Treatment Plant for a mocktail, the Corporation Yard for an appetizer, the Fire Station for dinner, and City Hall for desert! Along the way, learn more about your community assets, city services and finances. It'll be a fun evening of activities, prizes and food. Date: Thursday, September 19 Time: 4:30 - 7:30 PM Locations: Wastewater Treatment Plant (1600 South Tehama Street), Corporation Yard (400 East Ash Street), Fire Station (445 South Butte Street), and City Hall (201 North Lassen Street)

Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- August 27 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- September 10 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

- August 28 - Special Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- September 18 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development

City Launches New Website Dedicated to Finances & Measure I

Check out the City's new website dedicated to accurate and factual information about the City's financial circumstances and the upcoming **Measure I** ballot initiative on the November 2024 election ballot.

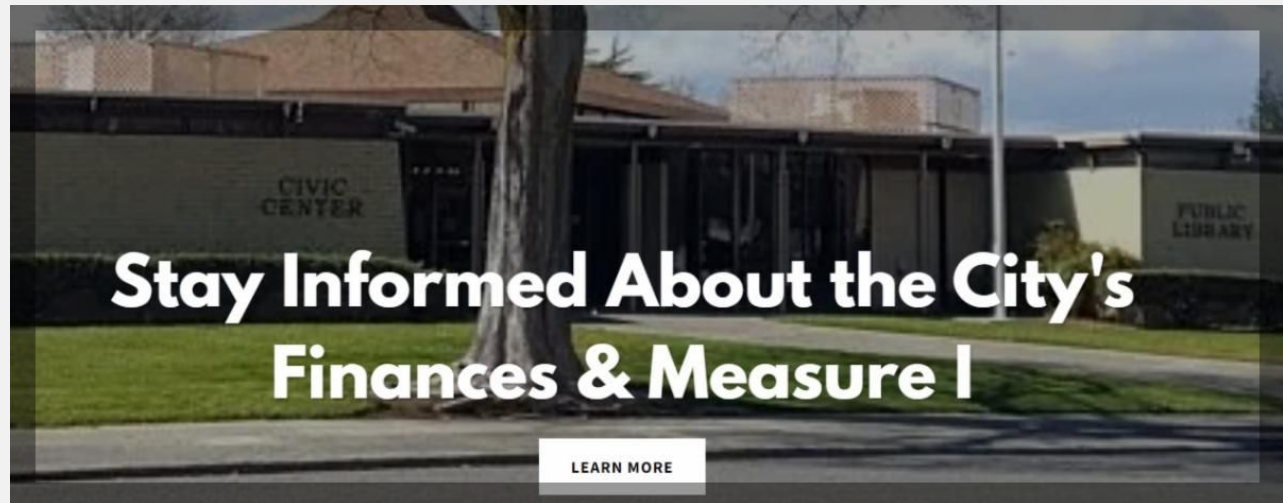
There are several documents with helpful information so that voters may make informed decisions about the upcoming election and **Measure I**, the 1.5% sales tax measure on the November ballot.

For example, did you know:

- 48% of the City's sales tax is paid for by non-Willows residents?
- Of the current 7.5% sales tax, the **City only receives 1% of it** - the rest goes to

the State?

- If approved by the voters, all of **Measure I (the 1.5% sales tax)** will fund City of Willows' services and activities - not a single penny will be shared with the State?!



2024 City Council General Election

Election day is just around the corner and the window for City Council candidate filing has closed as of August 14, 2024. With three 4-year open seats and one 2-year open seat slated to be on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot, the final candidate list is as follows:



Four-Year Seat (Three Vacancies)

- Gary Hansen,
- Evan Hutson, and
- Matt Busby.

Two-Year Seat (One Vacancy)

- David Vodden, and
- Lorri Pride.

For residents that are not currently registered to vote and are interested in doing so, visit the [State's online portal](#) or the City of Willows Post Office.

Round Up of Recent City Press Releases

- [City of Willows Partners with Glenn County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Services, and Cal Water to Celebrate National Night Out](#)
- [City of Willows Launches Separate Website Focused on Facts about City Finances and Measure I](#)

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:

July 23 and August 13, 2024 City Council Meetings

July 23 City Council Meeting

- Appointed Councilmember Thomas as a liaison to the Chamber of Commerce.
- Conducted a public hearing and approved a resolution confirming costs of abatement as amended and declaring a special assessment as of August 2, 2024.
- Adopted a resolution confirming the cost of abatement work that occurred at 141 North Crawford Street, APN 001-152-007, in the amount of \$18,970.75.
- Approved the list of recommended street projects for the FY 2024-25 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account project list.

August 13 City Council Meeting

- Authorized the City Manager to execute a contract amendment to Coastland's Professional Service's Agreement to provide design services for the FY 2024-25 Sewer Rehabilitation Project.
- Authorized the City Manager to execute a contract with Willdan to provide design services for the Willows Mobility, Recreation, and Beautification Project - Rehabilitation of City Swimming Pool and improvements to Sycamore Park.
- Denied Mr. Chang Wang's appeal to the City Council's prior decision to place a lien on 141 North Crawford Street for the cost to abate the property in the amount of \$18,970.75.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

Planning, Building, Code Enforcement, Engineering, Public Works, Sewage, Public Facilities, Fleet and Capital Projects

Engineering Division

Jensen Park Pathway Upgrades

Project upgrades include expansion of existing pathway infrastructure to improve walkability and connect areas of the park that are not currently accessible by pathways or trails (e.g. access to the gazebo areas, BBQ areas and playgrounds). Other improvements include, installing ADA compliant picnic tables and concrete pads adjacent to existing benches providing wheelchair accessibility and seating areas for the disabled. These upgrades will improve accessibility inside the park and provide a welcoming environment for users of all ages and abilities.



Annual Sidewalk Improvement Plan

A contractor has been awarded for the Annual Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program! In an ongoing effort to improve city sidewalks, 1,100 square feet of sidewalk will be replaced this year. This is an ongoing program in which damaged sidewalks in high and/or sensitive paths of travel will be selected yearly for replacement.

List of Sidewalk Repair Locations:

- South Side of Sycamore Park - 760 Square Feet
- 1135 West Laurel Street - 100 Square Feet
- 101 South Villa Avenue - 120 Square Feet
- 302 West Walnut Street - 120 Square Feet

Planning Division

Planning Commission Meeting - July 17

Tacos Ocampo Mobile Food Truck - By a 2-1 vote (two Commissioners were absent), the Planning Commission considered and denied a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a mobile food truck located in the Central Commercial Zone at the northeast corner of Plumas and Sycamore Streets. The majority of the Commissioners in attendance at the meeting determined that the use is inconsistent with the purposes of the zoning district in which the site is located. The applicant appealed the decision to the City Council. The Public Hearing for the appeal was heard at the August 13, 2024 City Council meeting. The City Council returned the application for the CUP to the Planning Commission for further consideration. A Special Planning Commission is scheduled for August 28, 2024 to reconsider the application.

Cannabis Dispensary Zoning - At a previous meeting, the Council directed the Planning Commission to consider expanding the number of zoning districts that Cannabis Dispensary businesses may operate in and make recommendations to the Council. The Commission elected not to increase the current zoning. Staff will return to the Council

on August 27 with the Commission's status quo recommendation for further Council consideration.

Code Enforcement

City staff have observed and received complaints of vehicles, campers and trailers occupying private and public vacant parcels throughout the City for extended periods of time. The City is increasing its code enforcement efforts to address this concern by notifying individuals that they are in violation of [Title 8 - Healthy and Safety of the Willows Municipal Code](#) and that they will be fined if the premises are not vacated.

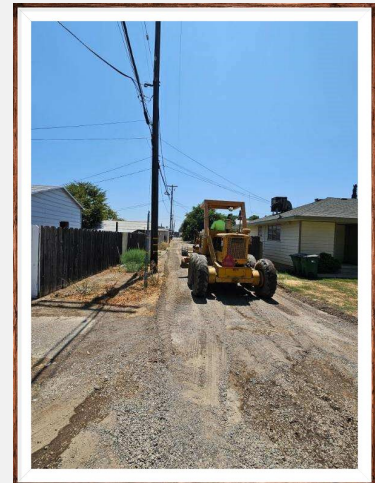
Because the City relies heavily on the public to report code enforcement cases, please submit a [COMPLAINT FORM](#) to City Hall at 201 North Lassen Street or via email to building@cityofwillows.org should you observe a real or potential code violation.

Public Works Division

Public Works Staff completed the following hot patch repairs of city roads, as well as grading of alleys:

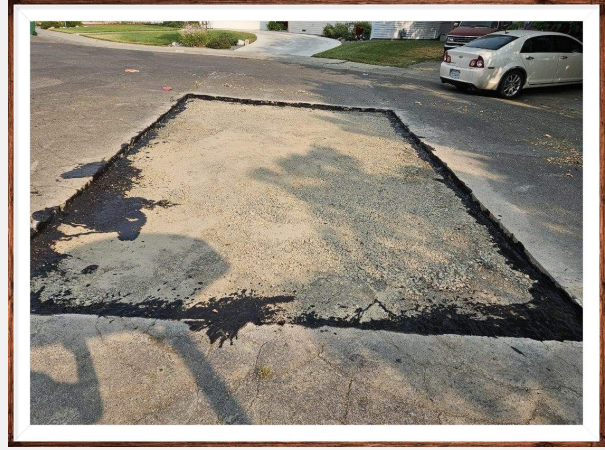
Hot Patch:

- Cutout at the Corner of Glenwood Lane and Lassen Street,
- 3 cutouts at the wastewater treatment plant, and
- Left over patch used to fill rough road at Yolo Street north of Ash Street.



Alley Grading:

- Between Plumas and Shasta Streets north of Wood to Vine Street,
- Between Plumas and Shasta Streets south of Wood to Willow Street,
- Between Tehama and Butte Streets north of Wood to Vine Street,
- Between Butte and Shasta Streets south of Wood to Willow Street, and
- Between Culver and Merrill Streets south of Wood to Willow Street.



Recreation Division

Fall Soccer Registration

Registration for Fall Soccer opened August 12! Registration (willowsca.myrec.com) will be split by age groups 4-6, 7-9, 10- 14 with a fee of \$50 per participant. The season will kick-off September 28. We look forward to seeing you at the games and practice!



WILLOWS RECREATION FALL SOCCER

OPEN TO KIDS AGES 4-14

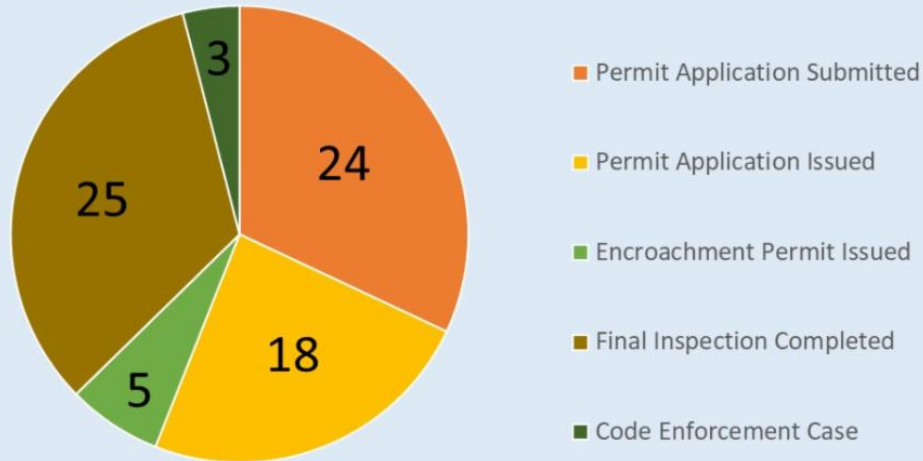
SEPTEMBER 28TH-NOVEMBER 2ND

REGISTRATION OPENS: AUGUST 12



Scan To Register

Community Development Activity July 2024



Public Works Division Activity July 2024



Tree Trimming - 5



New USA Markings - 29



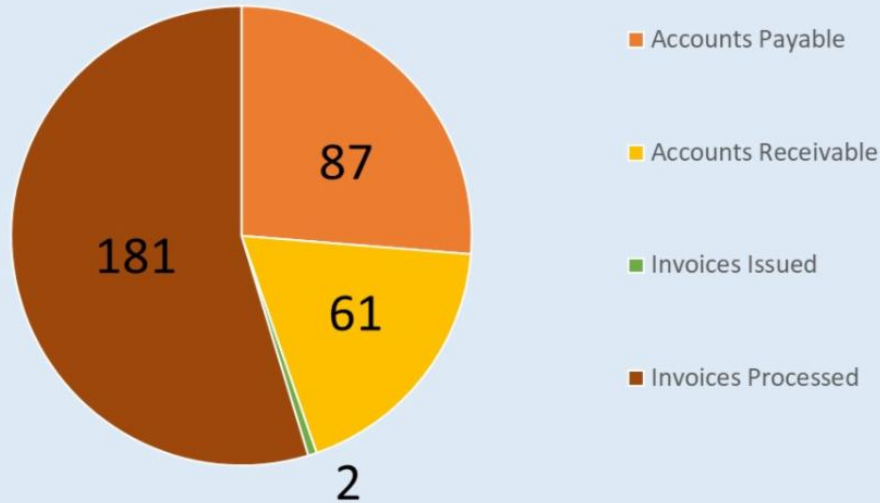
Sewer Calls for Service- 2

FINANCE

City of Willows Experiences Decrease in Q1 Sales Tax Revenues

In the first quarter (January - March) of FY 2023-24, the City of Willows experienced a 16.4% decrease in its sales tax as compared to the same quarter in FY 2022-23. The decrease was primarily the result of 20.1% decrease in Countywide use tax pool as a result of "last year's business investments in the energy segment, and fewer third party vehicle transactions." For more information, see the [Q1 Sales Tax Update](#) and the [July California Forecast](#).

Finance Activity July 2024



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Major Incidents

Willows Fire Department (WFD), along with other Glenn County fire departments, responded to several large scale wildfire incidents throughout the state in the month of July, including the "Thompson",

"Lake", and "Park" Fires. All costs associated with these emergency responses (e.g., staffing) are funded by CAL OES, CAL FIRE, and the US Forest Service.



Willows Fire also upstaffed seven days in the month of July for elevated Red Flag Fire conditions. The up staffing was requested and approved through CAL OES Pre-Position Program and all costs were funded through CAL OES.

Structure & Vegetation Fire

On July 1, 2024, WFD provided automatic aid to a residential structure fire that spread to the surrounding vegetation in the Orland area. WFD sent one engine and one water tender.

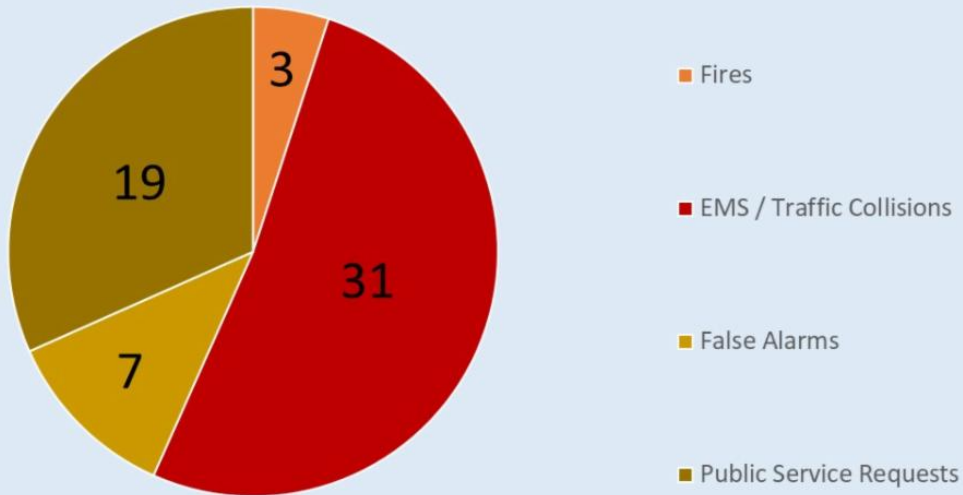
Vegetation Fire

On July 2, 2024, WFD responded to a vegetation fire On County Road 45 and County Road D. The Fire was contained to a half acre.

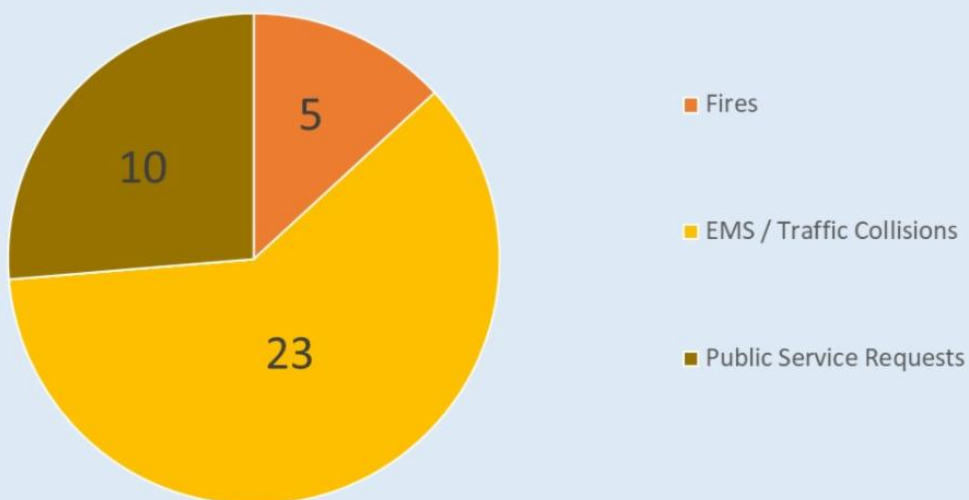
Public Events

On July 16, 2024, WFD hosted a blood drive at the Willows Fire Station. There were nine donors, which exceeded the goal. The next Blood Drive will be October 25.

Willows Fire Department Activity
July 2024



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity
July 2024



Willows City Library Partners with Red Cross

The Library has partnered with Red Cross to host trainings including a “Be Red Cross Ready” event on July 30 focusing on extreme heat and home fire preparedness. Our next event will be “Prepare with Pedro” on October 16 at 11 AM. This event will train children to BE PREPARED and TAKE ACTION for either home fires and/or a local hazard.



Library Donor Tree

Show your support for the Willows Library by donating to fund new books, materials, and children’s programs and be recognized on the Willows’ Library Donor Tree.

Centrally located in the Willows library, the Donor Recognition Tree has beautiful copper, silver and gold leaves engraved with the name of and/or message from the donor recognizing their generous gift and a testament to their community support of the library.

Please join the City of Willows in this effort to provide the best library services to our wonderful patrons! For more information, please download the [Donor Tree Campaign brochure](#).

Dairy Princess Story Time

Thank you to Aubree Eddy, California Dairy Princess District 3, for “Storytime with a Dairy Princess!”





AUGUST

Willows Public Library



2024

SUN Closed	MON 1-5 pm	TUE 11-5 pm	WED 11-7 pm	THU 11-7 pm	FRI 11-5 pm	SAT Closed
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 MOVIE MONDAY 3 PM	6 GAME DAY 3 PM	7 STORY 11 AM ICE CREAM SOCIAL 1 PM	8 BLOCK PARTY 3 PM	9	10
11 LAST WEEK TO TURN IN READING LOGS!	12 MOVIE MONDAY 3 PM	13	14 FISH & WILDLIFE STORY 11AM	15 CRAFTER -NOON 4 PM	16	17
18	19	20	21 STORY 11 AM TEEN 3 PM	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 STORY 11 AM	29 MOVIE NIGHT 5 PM	30	31

201 N. Lassen St. Willows - (530) 934-5156 - willowspubliclibrary.org

Library Activity July 2024



Door Count – 878



Public Computer Use – 75



New Library Card - 20



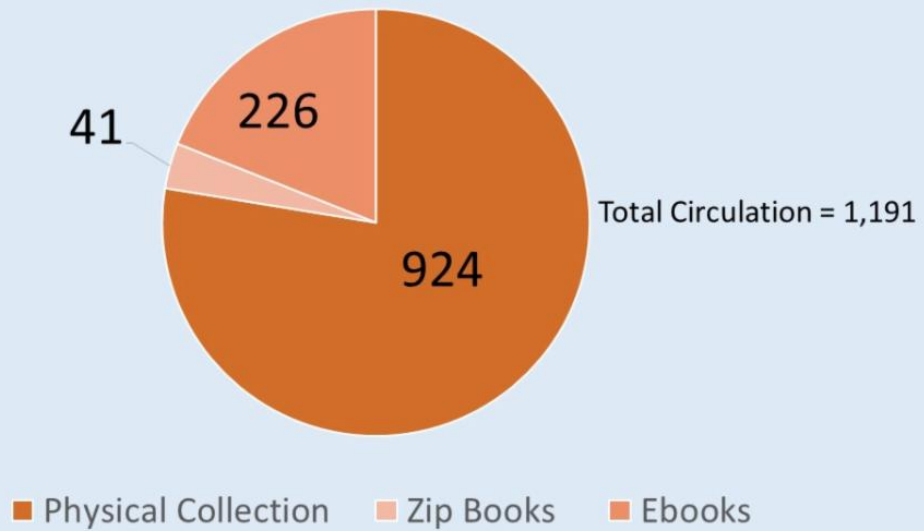
Items Added to Collection – 87



Program Participants – 531*

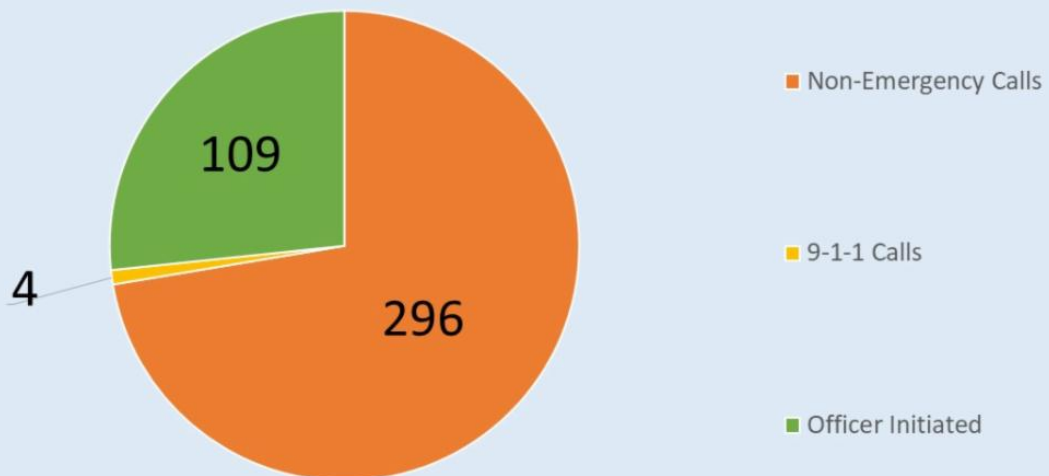
*Includes 29 programs and 78 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials July 2024

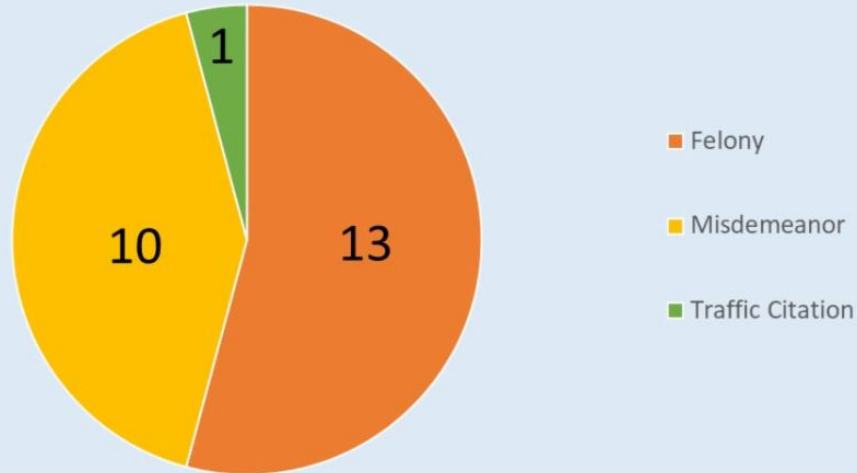


SHERIFF

Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service July 2024



Sheriff Department Activity – Arrests & Citations July 2024



City Of Willows

201 North Lassen Street
Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-7041

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