

Willows Monthly - July 2024



Happy 4th of July!

Top Stories:

- City launches Speakers Bureau - City Finances & Measure I
- Sycamore Park and Swimming Pool upgrades get underway!
- Updated Master Fee Schedule is Approved
- City Releases Informational Flyers on City Finances & Measure I
- Annual Community Cleanup Day - Huge success!
- Meet this summer's City Hall Interns!

Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- **August 13 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **August 27 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM**

Planning Commission

- **August 21 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM**

ADMINISTRATION

General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development

City Launches Speakers Bureau:

City Finances & Measure I

The City's Speakers Bureau is now available to

engage the community to explain and answer questions about the city's financial circumstances and/or Measure I. Please contact the City Clerk, Amos Hoover, should you wish to schedule a member of the City Council and/or city management to speak to your civic or church group, non-profit organization, and/or an informal group of community members who wish to learn more about the critical status of the City's finances and the 1.5% sales tax measure on the November 2024 ballot. The City Clerk can be reached at ahoover@cityofwillows.org or (530) 934-7041.



Round Up of Recent City Press Releases

- [City of Willows Approved FY 2024-25 Budget - Forecasts Significant Decline in General Fund Balance](#)
- [Willows City Council Approves Updated Master Fee Schedule](#)

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:

June 25 and June 26, 2024 City Council Meetings

June 25 City Council Meeting

- Authorized the City Manager to amend the contract with Prentice Long for a time extension until December 31, 2024, to complete comprehensively updating the City of Willows Municipal Code.
- Approved the Landscaping and Lighting Special Assessment District final engineer's report and authorized the levy and collection of assessments for the Fiscal Year 2024-25.
- Approved the proposed updates to the City's Master Fee Schedule
- Approved the list of recommended street projects for the FY 2024-25 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account project list.

June 26 City Council Special Meeting

- Approved the FY 2024-25 Final Budget.
- Adopted a resolution establishing the FY 2024-25 Appropriations Limit for the City of Willows.

Willows High School Interns Learn about Municipal Government

Using the \$5,000 grant the City received from the Judy L. Kelsey Memorial Fund Awards Program, the City created two paid summer internships offering two Willows High

School students the opportunity to work in and learn about City Government. A total of 10 highly competitive applications were received. The following two Willows students were selected and have spent the past six weeks learning about the various aspects of municipal government, including Community Development, urban planning, code enforcement and customer service at the front counter and over the phones.



Helen Harlan Helen is a 17-year-old senior at Willows High School. She is involved in various clubs and sports, including FFA, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, ASB leadership, volleyball, and track. Outside of school activities, Helen enjoys reading, lifeguarding, and serving at her local church. After graduation, she plans to attend a four-year university to become an anatomy teacher.

"This internship has been an amazing experience and I have learned so much! My favorite part has been learning the importance of civics and seeing how everyone in city hall plays a crucial role in keeping our town running."

Karissa Vasquez

Karissa Vasquez is also a 17-year-old senior at Willows High School. After graduating, she plans to attend Butte College, and then go on to a University to become an Ultrasound Technician, or a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse. Karissa enjoys playing volleyball, participating in the Recycle and Crochet Clubs, and being a member of ASB among other interests.

"Throughout my internship here at the City of Willows, I would have to say that my favorite part has been learning more about the community and making new connections."



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Engineering Division

Sycamore Park and Pool Upgrades

In the second half of 2023, the City of Willows was awarded a Clean California grant of slightly more than \$4 million to upgrade and improve Sycamore Park and the City's Swimming Pool.

On July 18, 2024, the City of Willows received two bid proposals for design services of the Willows Mobility, Recreation, and Beautification Project. Once staff reviews the proposals and the lowest responsible bidder is identified, the bidder will be presented to Council for approval and a contract will be executed. As a reminder, project improvements to restore and upgrade the community pool complex and Sycamore Park include:

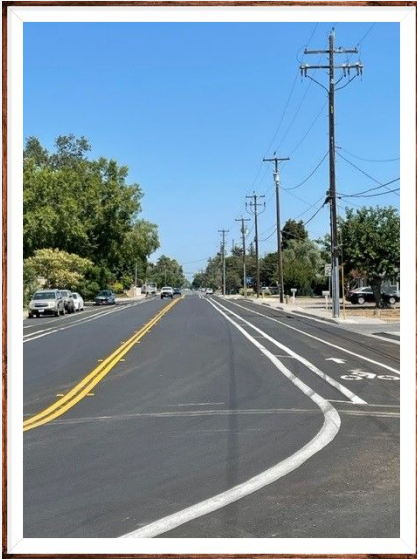
- Pool Rehabilitation: Remove fiberglass coating in both the main and tot pool, and replaster both; install lane lines in the main pool; replace depth markers; replace concrete decking around the pools; renovate mechanical equipment; replace disinfection system; replace filter media; replace fencing around the pool; replace starting blocks; install a new shade structure on the existing concrete pad (located adjacent to the main pool area); install a portable/mobile lifeguard stand; install an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant pool lift; replace electrical panels; and consider replacement of the diving board stand.
- Adding new curb ramps and over 2,000 linear feet of sidewalk along the perimeter of the park.
- Reconstructing over 2,100 linear feet of pathways inside the park with new mixed use concrete pathways.
- Installing new trash receptacles and drinking fountains in the park.
- Installing new solar facilities needed to illuminate park interior pathways, the tennis court area, and to provide power to the pool heater. The solar facilities will be installed on both the existing pool changing room/bathroom building, as well as on top of a shade structure proposed at the pool area.
- Resurfacing of the existing tennis courts and two of the existing four courts will be repurposed into six (6) pickleball courts.

Annual Paving Project

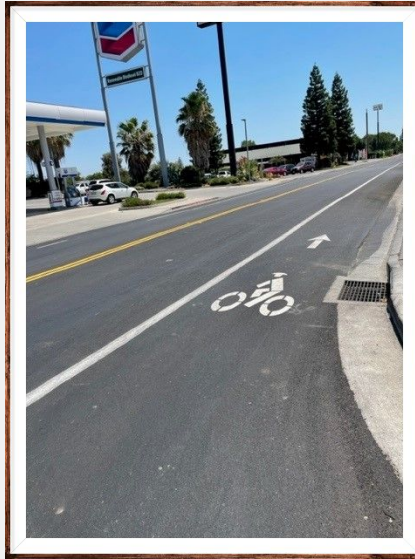
The Annual Pavement Project is complete! Streets were treated with a rubberized cape seal which is designed to extend the life of pavements in fair to good condition. Cape seals provide the benefits of both the chip seal and the micro surfacing treatment, namely sealing moderate cracks, providing skid resistance, sealing the pavement against moisture intrusion, protecting the structure from further oxidation and raveling, and restoring a uniform black appearance. The following locations were treated:

- Cape Seal - North Humboldt Street between Wood and Sycamore Streets;
- Cape Seal - Sycamore Street between North Humboldt Street and Villa Avenue;
- Cape Seal - Crawford Avenue between Sycamore and Laurel Streets;
- Alley Aprons - Alleyway between South Shasta and South Butte Streets; and

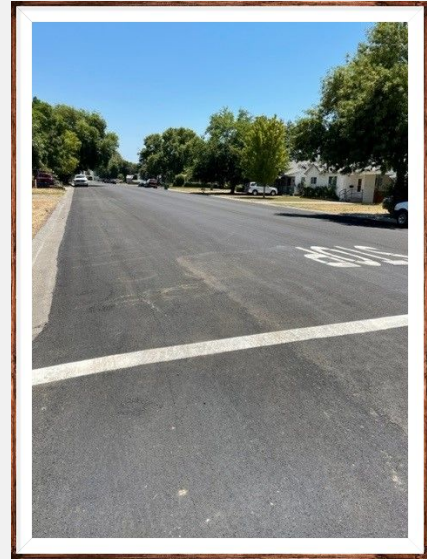
- Curb Ramps, Curb/Gutter and Sidewalks - Various locations on North Humboldt Avenue, Sycamore Street, and Crawford Avenue.



West Sycamore Street



North Humboldt Avenue



Crawford Avenue

Planning Division

Master Fee Schedule

There is no record of the last time the City's fee schedule was comprehensively updated. For example, some fees have not been updated since the 1990's. Because the City's Master Fee Schedule is long overdue for review and adjustment, staff circulated a Request for Proposals to hire a qualified consultant to review and recommend changes to the Schedule. Since then, the schedule has been updated and the City Council adopted the new [Master Fee Schedule](#) at the June 25, 2024 City Council meeting. All fees are updated based on the estimated time it takes for staff and contractors to issue, inspect and finalize permits. The new fee schedule will be implemented by September 1, 2024.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Efforts

The City will increase efforts to enforce the Willows Municipal Code (WMC) Title 8- Health and Safety. In particular, enforcement will focus on three main areas:

1. Accumulation of rubbish on properties,
2. Food handlers operating without appropriate licenses, and
3. Unsafe residential buildings.

We want Willows to be a safe, attractive place for residents and businesses, enforcing code violations is one way to assist in reaching this goal. As part of these efforts, we will increase drive-around inspections and issuing violations to those not in compliance

with the Willows Municipal Code. We rely heavily on the public to report real and potential code enforcement violations. Please submit any [COMPLAINT FORMs](#) to Willows City Hall at 201 North Lassen Street or via email to building@cityofwillows.org

Public Works Division

Community Cleanup Day

On June 15, 2024, Waste Management hosted its annual Community Cleanup Day for Willows Residents. This was an extremely successful event in both the number of participants and the effortless operations. The City "thanks!" Waste Management (WM) for holding the event with assistance from the City of Willows Public Works Crew (as well as Library Assistant Caitlyn Ehorn checking IDs). PW staff would also like to thank the public for bearing the heat and working with staff to make the event as successful as possible.



Waste Type	2024	2023	Increase from 2023
Household Waste	34.4 Tons	20.5 Tons	13.9 Tons
Metal	20.1 Tons	14.8 Tons	5.3 Tons
E-waste	3 Tons	1.4 Tons	1.6 Tons
Appliances	194 Items	Included in Metal Weight	N/A
Furniture	44 Items	Included in Household Waste Weight	N/A
Mattresses	84 Items	68 Items	16 Items

Recreation Division

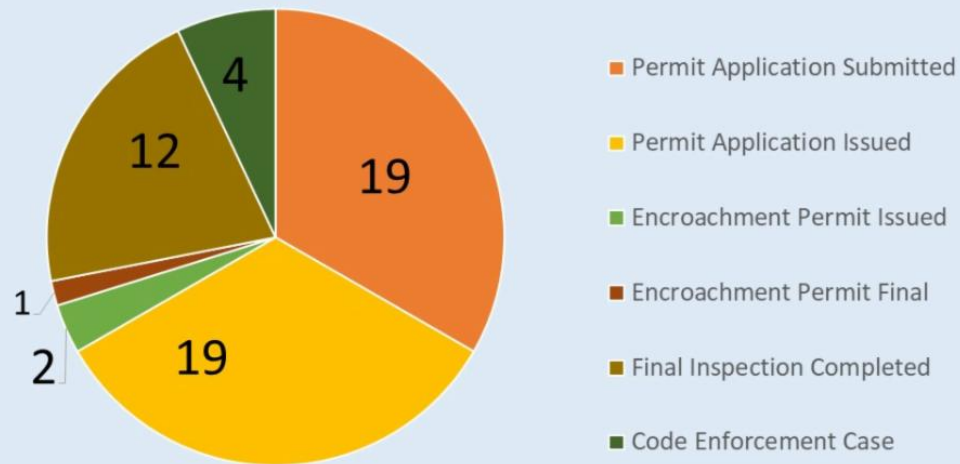
Jump Start Program

The Jump Start Program has begun; however, registration is available

through the entirety of the program from July 8 through August 2. If interested, please visit willowsca.myrec.com to register!



Community Development Activity June 2024



Public Works Division Activity June 2024



Tree Trimming - 30



New USA Markings - 28

City's Financial Status

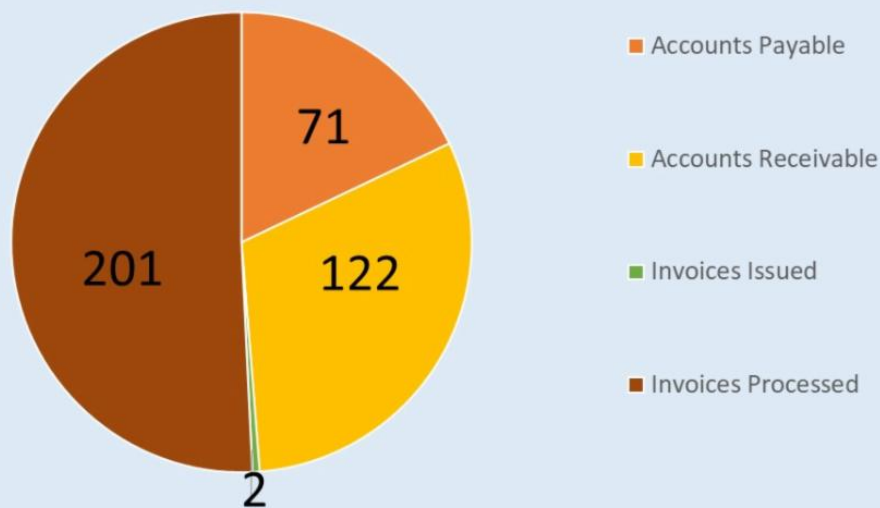
The City has prepared the following informational handouts regarding the current status of the City's finances, and the upcoming 1.5% sales tax ballot measure that will appear on the November 5, 2024 Presidential Election ballot:

- [City of Willows Budget FAQ](#),
- [City of Willows Budget Fact Sheet](#),
- [Sales Tax Ballot Measure FAQ](#), and
- [Sales Tax Ballot Measure Fact Sheet](#).



Please contact the City of Willows should you have additional questions regarding the City's finances and/or Measure I by contacting the City Clerk, Amos Hoover, at ahoover@cityofwillows.org or (530) 934-7041.

Finance Activity
June 2024



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Major Incidents

Vehicle Fire

On June 13, 2024, the Willows Fire Department (WFD) was

dispatched to a reported car fire near the Highway 162 overpass. Firefighters arrived on scene to find a fully engulfed van with all occupants safely out of the vehicle. Fire Personnel were able to quickly extinguish the flames and neither of the occupants were injured. The cause of the fire is still under investigation; however, it is believed that there may have been a problem with the fuel line.



Vegetation Fire

On June 23, 2024, WFD responded to a vegetation fire in the area of CR 68 and I-5. Units arrived to find a $\frac{1}{4}$ acre vegetation fire moving with a moderate rate of spread threatening a structure. Units began an offensive fire attack and mitigated the threat, extinguishing the fire before damage to structures could occur. No injuries occurred on this incident. The cause of the fire was determined to be from mowing.

Vegetation Fire

On June 23, 2024, WFD was dispatched to a vegetation fire in the area of CR 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ and CR KK. Units arrived to find a fast moving vegetation fire threatening several residential homes. Units extinguished the fire before any injuries or damage to homes occurred. The cause of the fire was determined to be substandard wiring.

Public Events

On June 7, City Firefighters were out at Walden Academy and Murdock Elementary helping everyone stay cool with a Water Day. The WFD set up the engines and sprayed a nice cooling mist for everyone to play in and celebrate the end of the school year.



Community Information - Red Flag Warning

In June, Glenn County experienced record-setting temperatures that have remained consistent through July. On June 15, the north state received its first RED FLAG warning of the 2024 fire season. There have since been several more issued. Please be cautious

and avoid activities such as mowing or other hot work on red flag warning days. For more information, please review the flyer below.

Ready, Set, Go!

GET SET: Red Flag Warning



Wildland fire is an increasing threat and a year-round reality in many areas. **As a resident, it's important to educate yourself and do your part to prepare.**

The Ready, Set, Go! Program provides valuable guidance to increase the safety of you and your family. This includes speaking with local fire department personnel about your area's threat for wildland fire and learning more about the wildland urban interface (WUI), an area which is not only limited to forest vegetation.

Use this guide to help educate yourself on ways to be fire-adapted and implement the following wildland fire safety tips.

For more information visit
www.WildlandFireRSG.org.

Ready – Be ready.

Create defensible space by clearing brush away from structures. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden structures using fire-safe construction. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe place. Plan escape routes. Prepare and share your action plan with everyone involved.

Set – Be alert.

Put together a "Go" kit. Learn how to receive and stay aware of the latest news and information on the fire from local media, fire departments and public safety agencies.

Go! – Act early!

Follow your personal wildland fire action plan. Doing so will not only support your safety, but will allow firefighters to best maneuver resources during a fire.



What is a Red Flag Warning?

A Red Flag Warning is a **weather warning** issued only by the National Weather Service for a select area.

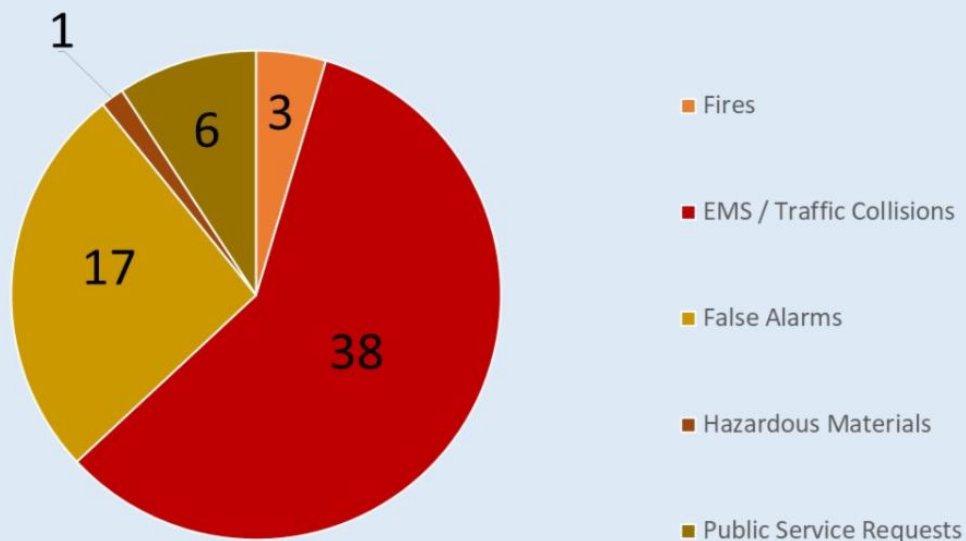
This warning forecasts warm temperatures, low humidity in dried fuel moistures, and strong winds expected within 24 hours. The combination of these increased risks results in an increased risk for a wildland fire or rapid-fire growth if an incident were to occur.

During a Red Flag Warning, **ALWAYS** follow the instructions provided by your local fire department and maintain a heightened awareness of anything that can generate a spark or flame. **ALWAYS** be prepared to take action if a wildland fire develops in your area.

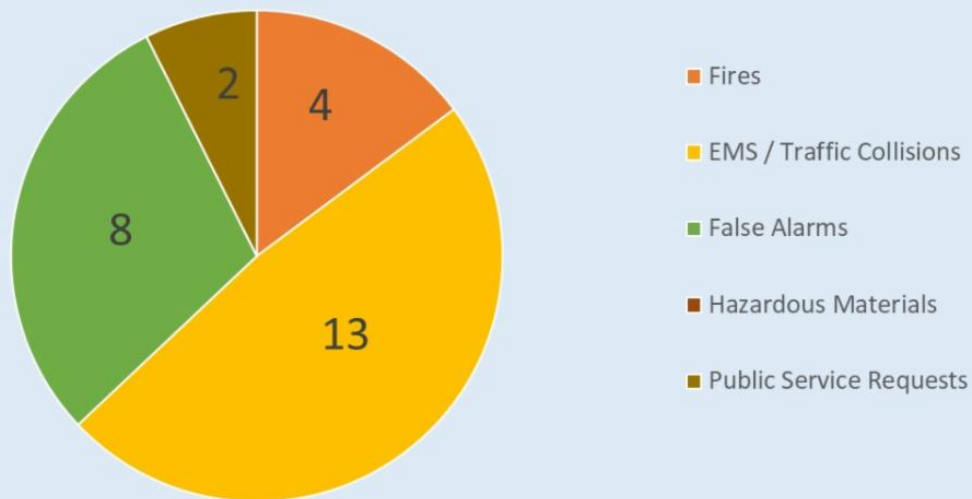


A fire adapted community is a community located in a WUI that requires little assistance from firefighters during a wildland fire. Residents accept the responsibility for living in a high fire-hazard area. They possess the knowledge and skills to prepare their homes and property to survive wildland fire and evacuate early, safely, and efficiently.

Willows Fire Department Activity June 2024



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity June 2024



LIBRARY

Willows Library joins the Senior Expo!

On June 27, the Willows Public Library participated in the first Glenn County Senior Expo at the Glenn County Fairgrounds in Orland. They provided information on all the great resources and programs the Library offers and even

registered 12 new library patrons!



WUSD Lunch at the Library

Our Children's Librarian, Ms. Ashley, has been participating in the Lunch at the Library program that gives out new books from grant funding to patrons of Willows Unified School District's free lunch program at the Willows High School cafeteria. So far the Library has distributed 264 books!

The Library's Summer Reading Program is in Full Swing!

The Library's Summer Reading Program started in June; however, signups may take place throughout the summer. All participants win prizes and some lucky readers may be awarded a grand prize including a Nintendo Switch, Barnes & Noble gift card, Lego set, and more. This program is for all ages and the library will host a range of free activities to encourage and support the love of reading.

To learn more about the summer reading adventure at the library, please call the library and check out its [website](#), and [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.



Who can sign up?
Everyone!

How do I sign up?
Sign up with staff at the front desk.

How do I win prizes?
Track progress with a reading log.

12 & Under:
Fill in a bubble for every 15 minutes spent reading. Spin for a prize and raffle ticket each time you complete 1/2 of a log.

13 & Up:
Fill in a bubble for every 15 minutes spent reading. Complete log & 1 book review to spin for a prize and raffle ticket.



Follow us on
Facebook for
news and
events!



**Please thank our
summer reading
partners:**

Willows Pediatrics

Thunderhill

Central Valley Gas Storage

Western Physical Therapy

Willows Hardware



MON 1 PM – 5 PM
TUES 11 AM – 5 PM
WED 11 AM – 7 PM
THUR 11 AM – 7 PM
FRI 11 AM – 5 PM



Willows Public Library



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

BOOK SALE

**3\$ BAG
SALE**

**Thursday,
June 27th
11am-6pm**



201 N. Lassen St. Willows, CA 95988

(530) 934-5156

Glenn County Clean Air Centers



OPEN

The following locations provide additional air filtration systems during business hours following adverse smoke events:

Willows Public Library - 201 N. LASSEN ST. Willows

Orland Free Library - 333 MILL ST. Orland

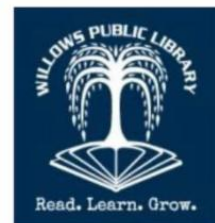
Elk Creek Library - 3434 Co Rd 309 Elk Creek

Bayliss Library - 7830 ROAD 309 Glenn

Hamilton City Library - 330 BROADWAY Hamilton City



Orland Free Library



Library Activity June 2024



Door Count – 1070



Public Computer Use – 104



New Library Card - 40



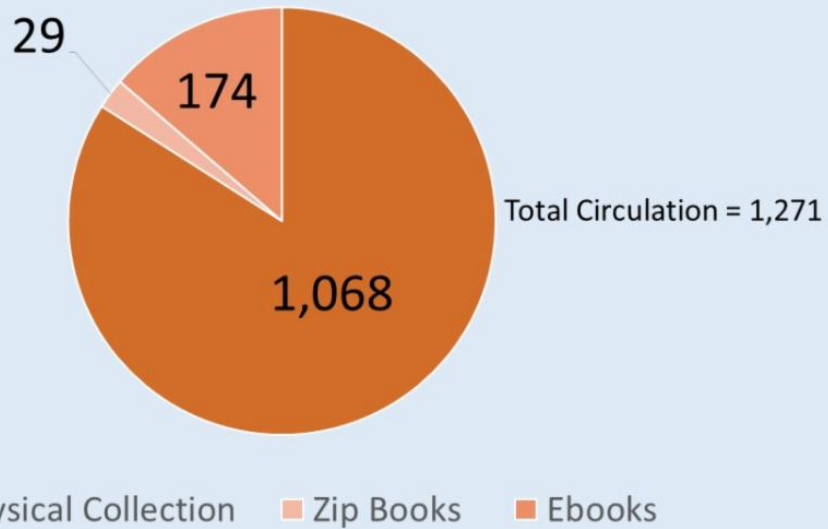
Items Added to Collection – 88



Program Participants – 286*

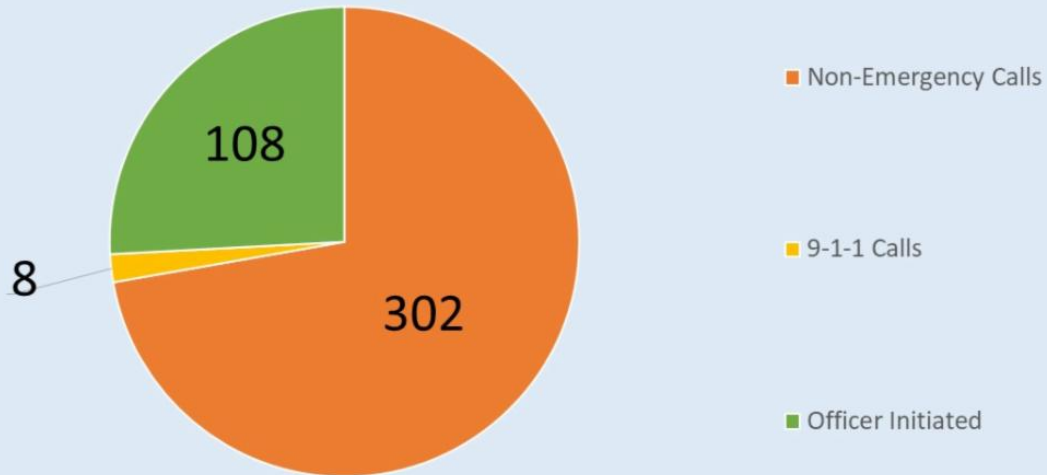
*Includes 14 programs and 70 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials June 2024

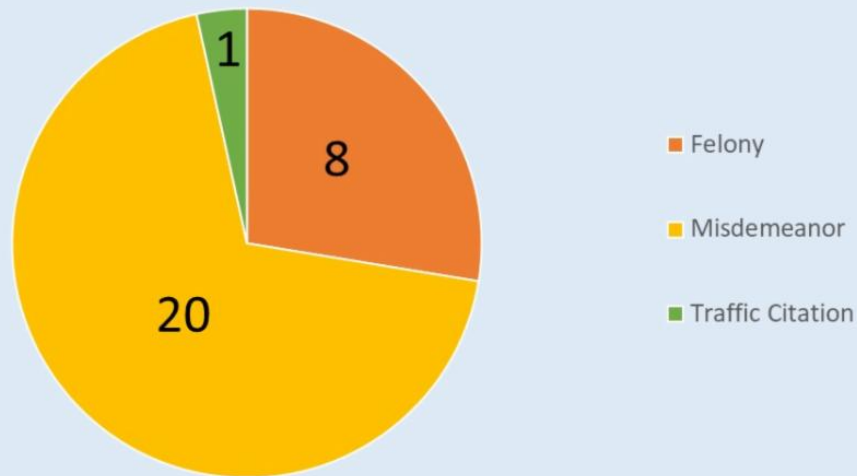


SHERIFF

Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service June 2024



Sheriff Department Activity – Arrests & Citations June 2024



City Of Willows

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

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