

Willows Monthly - May 2025



Top Stories

- City Celebrates National Public Works Week (May 18 - 24)
- City Council Updates its Priorities and Goals
- Community Cleanup Day scheduled for June 7

Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- **May 19** - Special Meeting @ 4:00 pm
- **May 27** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- **June 10** - Regular Meeting **CANCELLED**
- **June 17** - Special Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- **June 24** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission

- **May 20** - Special Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- **June 3** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 pm

Library Board

- **June 12** - Regular Meeting @ 11:00 am

Upcoming Events

City of Willows Celebrates National Public Works Week



Join us in recognizing the vital contributions of our Public Works team! To celebrate

National Public Works Week, the Willows City Council issued an official [proclamation](#) and is hosting an "Open Corporation Yard" event on **Thursday, May 22 from 11:00am to 1:00pm** at 400 East Ash Street in Willows.

Stop by and tour the facility, enjoy hamburgers and drinks, meet the City's dedicated Public Works staff, and learn more about the essential services the team provides to keep Willows running smoothly. We hope to see you there!



COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY!



Community Cleanup Day - June 7!

Join us in helping to keep the city clean and beautiful! **Community Cleanup Day** is a great opportunity for residents of all ages to come together and make a visible difference in the City's neighborhoods. Let's keep Willows clean, vibrant, and welcoming to all!

Date: Saturday, June 7, 2025

Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Waste Water Treatment Plant, 1600 South Tehama Street, Willows

Please bring a valid ID or proof of residency to participate.

This is a self-disposal event - residents are responsible for unloading their own waste. A large dumpster will be available on-site for eligible waste items, including household garbage, metal furniture, mattresses, e-waste (electronics), and appliances.

Please note: The following items will not be accepted, including hazardous materials, concrete, green waste, flammable or poisonous substances, paint, and oil.

ADMINISTRATION

General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development

City Council Priorities and Visioning Workshop (Update)

On Monday, May 5 at 2:00 pm, the City Council held a special meeting to revisit its 2024 Council priorities and goals and re-prioritize them as necessary. The session was facilitated by Jovanni Tricerri of RCA Collaborations, who will compile a final report summarizing the outcome and present it to the Council for review and approval at the July 8 Council meeting.



Council Workshop



Updated



Priorities

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:

April 22, May 5, City Council Meetings

April 22 Council Meeting

- Approved a Letter of Opposition for Senate Bill (SB) 634 - Homelessness - Civil and Criminal Penalties.
- Adopted Resolution #12-2025 declaring Public Nuisances for the 2025 Fire Season, and approved the 2025 Weed and Rubbish Abatement Schedule.
- Adopted Resolution #13-2025 amending the Master Fee Schedule to correct a clerical error.
- Updated the job classification and salary schedule for the Mechanic Job Classification and Position.

May 5 Special Meeting

- Council updated their Priorities & Goals for 2025.

May 13 Council Meeting

- Adopted Resolution #14-2025 authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Modern Building, Inc. for the emergency repairs of the partially collapsed library ceiling and approve an overall budget for the project.
- Awarded Weed Abatement Contract to Robert Burt Construction.
- Adopted Resolution #15-2025 confirming declarations of nuisances as amended and confirming order of abatement.
- Approved Resolution #16-2025 adopting a list of street improvement projects for fiscal year 2025-2026 and recommending the use of SB 1 monies.
- Approved Resolution #17-2025 of intention to levy and collect annual assessments, preliminarily approving the engineer's report for the FY 2025-206 for the City of Willows Landscape and Lighting Assessment District and setting the time and date for the public hearing.
- Approved the Mid-Year Budget Review and amendments.

Proclamations



**Light the Night for Fallen
Firefighters (April 27 - May 4)**
Presented by Mayor Hutson to
Fire Chief Nathan Monck.



National Police Week (May 11-17)
Presented by Councilmember Hansen to
Sergeant Jon Owens, GCSO.



**National Small Business Week
(May 4 - May 10)**
Presented by Vice-Mayor Thomas to Jamie
Millen, Willows Chamber of Commerce.



National Foster Care Month (May)
Presented by Councilmember Busby to
Amber Arnold and Lisa Permann, Glenn
County Child Welfare Services.



Mental Health Matters Month (May)

Presented by Mayor Hutson to
Bridget Estrada, Glenn County
Behavioral Health.



National Poppy Day!

Presented by
Councilmember Pride to
Dan Roach, VFW Auxiliary
Post 1770.



Memorial Day

Presented by Mayor
Hutson to VFW Auxiliary
Post 1770.



National Learn to Swim Day

Presented by Vice-Mayor
Thomas to Michelle Odell,
Willows Unified School
District.



Wildfire Awareness Month

Presented by Mayor Hutson
to Fire Chief Nathan Monck.



National Nascar Day

Presented by Councilmember
Busby to David Vodden,
Formerly of Thunderhill
Raceway.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Willows Municipal Code

Fun Fact:

[Title 12- Streets, Sidewalks and](#)

Chapter 12.20- Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk Construction

12.20.090 Requiring curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

Any person who constructs or causes to be constructed any building or dwelling in the city of Willows shall construct curbs, gutters, and sidewalks in

accordance with the city of Willows standards. Any person who causes improvements to be made to an existing building, dwelling, or lot which exceed 50 percent of the value of such building, dwelling, or lot over a 12-month period shall construct curbs, gutters, and sidewalks in accordance with city standards. Such curbs, gutters, and sidewalks shall extend the distance of the property which borders on a street. Whether or not adequate curbs, gutters and sidewalks already exist shall be determined in each instance by the public works department of the City of Willows, and an endorsement to that effect shall be made upon each building permit at the time it is issued.



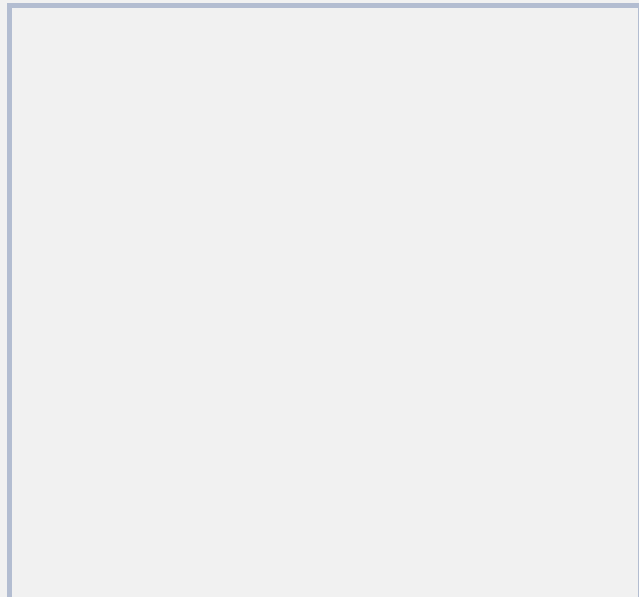
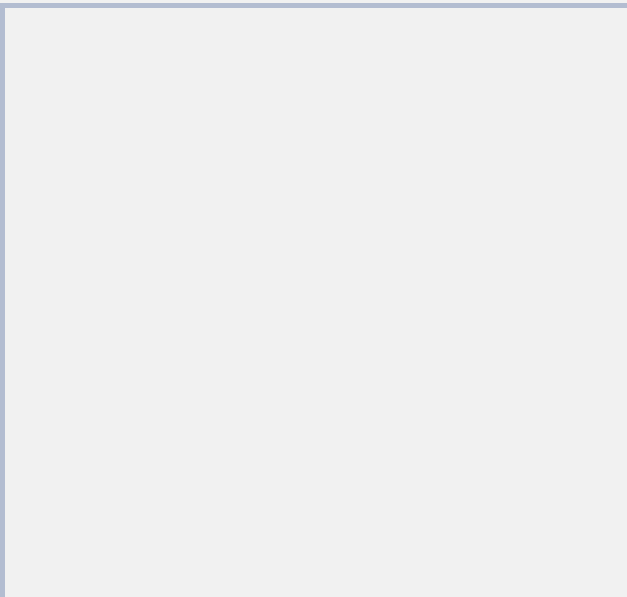
Engineering Division

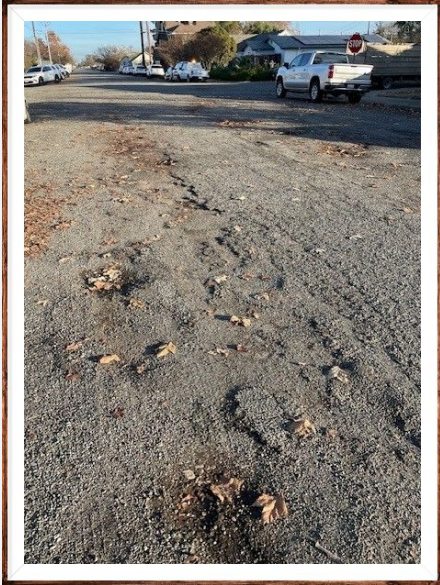
Future Road Projects

Planned 2025-26 road projects include full removal and reconstruction of the following roads:

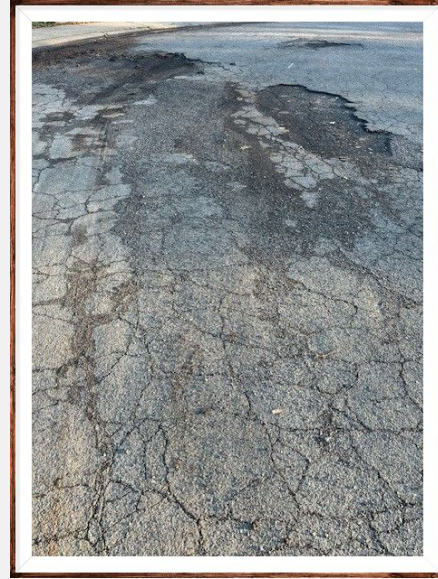
- West Oak Street from South Marshall Avenue to South Murdock Avenue; and
- Madrone Manor cul-de-sac.

These streets were determined using data from the City's Pavement Management Plan, focusing on roadway segments with low Pavement Condition Index ratings.





West Oak Street



Madrone Manor

Planning Division

Planning Commission Agenda Items - May 5, 2025

CONTINUED - 510 West Wood Street - Land Use Variance

A public hearing was held to consider a Land Use Variance for 510 West Wood Street to convert a commercial property to residential use. This item was continued until the Willows Municipal Code is updated (e.g., 2026).

APPROVED - Food Truck Moratorium

The moratorium on future applications for mobile food trucks—which does **NOT** affect existing food truck operations—will move forward to the City Council for consideration. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the proposed ordinance. The public hearing focused on whether to support the moratorium to provide time for reviewing and updating the existing zoning regulations related to mobile food vendors.

APPROVED - Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Plan was approved and will proceed to City Council for consideration, with the Planning Commission's recommendation. The public hearing focused on the adoption of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Informational - Tacos Ocampo

Staff responded to Commission inquiries regarding Tacos Ocampo's waste bin, parking on the pad, deliveries on-site, and commissary location.

CONTINUED - Willows Municipal Code Title 18 Section 2 Review

In preparation for the upcoming Joint City Council/Planning Commission meeting on July 10 to discuss Willows Municipal Code Chapter 18 – Zoning, staff reviewed with the

Two New Planning Commissioners Sworn in!

Commissioners Cristina Ocampo and Keith Corum were sworn in prior to the Planning Commission Meeting on May 6, 2025. Welcome aboard!



Commissioner Corum



Commissioner Ocampo

Jack in the Box

The City of Willows approved the Civil and Building plans for the Jack in the Box project. The applicant submitted plans to Caltrans to approve construction in the Highway 162 right-of-way. This project is located on the vacant parcel on the southside of Highway 162/Wood Street to the east of the existing Chevron gas station.



Public Works Division

Parks & Streets Maintenance

Public Works crews prepared Jensen Park to ensure it was safe and well-maintained for Lamb Derby — which was a great success! In addition to event preparations, the team completed the "Spring Spray" program across all city parks and rights-of-ways. Continued treatments are planned for problem areas throughout the remainder of spring and summer. Additional seasonal maintenance includes cold patching potholes, street sweeping, and ongoing park and tree maintenance.

Tree Maintenance

Over the past month, Public Works staff used the department's boom truck to trim the bay laurel trees around downtown. Regular trimming keeps the trees healthy, the sidewalks clear, and everything looking great for residents



and visitors. Thanks to the crew for keeping Willows downtown safe and beautiful!

Sewer Repairs

The Public Works crew has been hard at work making sewer repairs around the city helping to prevent backups, reduce the risk of overflows, and keep everything flowing smoothly underground. It's all part of maintaining a reliable system that protects public health and supports the daily needs of residents.



Recreation Division

Free Summer Swim at Willows High School

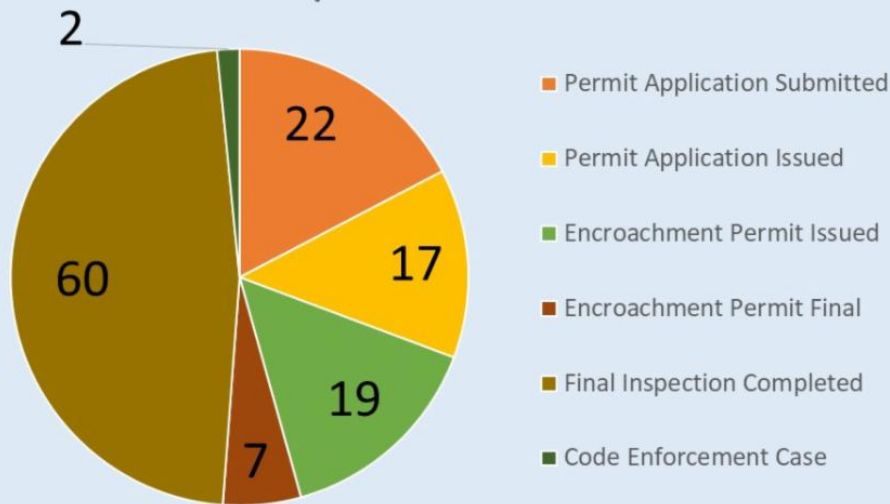
The City of Willows has arranged to use the Willows High School swimming pool for the 2025 summer season while rehabilitation work continues on the City-owned pool in Sycamore Park. The High School pool will be open to the public from June 14

through August 2, 2025, Monday through Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the exception of June 16, 18, 23, and 25, when it will be reserved for swim lessons sponsored by the Willows Unified School District.



It's anticipate that the City swimming pool will be fully rehabilitated and operational in time for the 2026 swim season. Thank you for your continued patience and support as we work to improve community facilities.

Community Development Activity April 2025



Public Works Division Activity April 2025

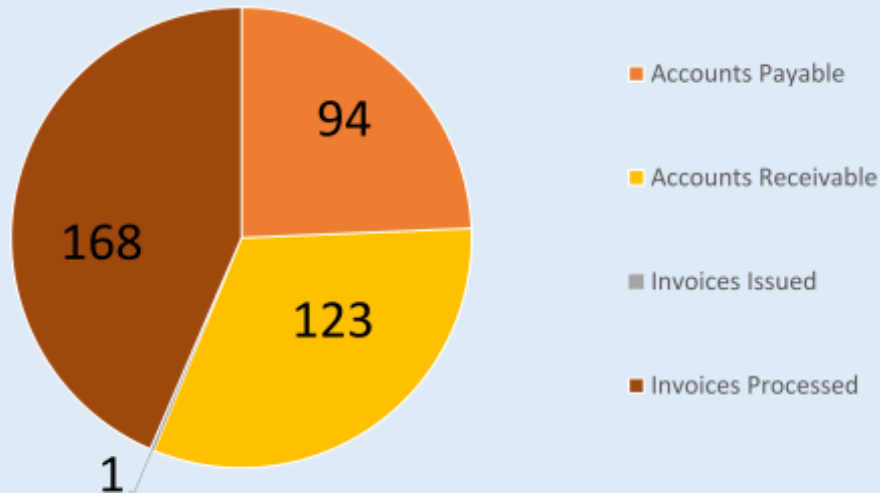


FINANCE

FY 2024-2025 Mid-Year Budget Forecast

The [2024-2025 Mid-Year Budget Forecast](#) was presented at the May 13, 2025, City Council Meeting and has been posted to the City website for review.

Finance Activity April 2025



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Major Local Incidents

Structure Fire on the 100 block of North Yolo Street (April 22)

Willows Fire Department was dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 100 block of North Yolo Street, Willows, California. First-arriving units reached the scene within five minutes of and encountered a single-story, multi-family

residence with heavy fire showing from two sides of the structure. An adjacent apartment complex was also immediately threatened. Crews initiated a primary search of units that were not boarded up and began an offensive interior attack to locate the fire's origin and identify any possible victims.

During the initial firefight, a partial roof collapse forced crews to withdraw and transition to a defensive fire strategy. The primary objectives of this approach were civilian and firefighter safety, and confinement of the fire to the building of origin—which was successfully achieved.

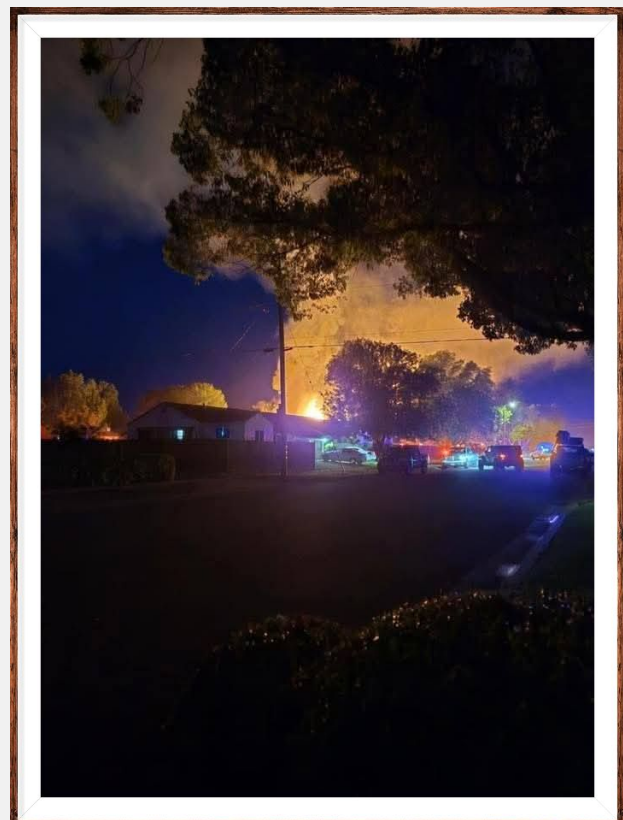


An investigation conducted by members of the Willows Fire Department determined that the fire was suspicious in nature and human-caused. No injuries were reported as a result of the incident. The building involved was a condemned property and has been the subject of long-term code enforcement activity. Despite numerous attempts—at significant taxpayer expense—to secure the building and bring it into compliance, the structure remained occupied by unauthorized persons. Fire units performed an interior search during the initial phase of the fire due to this known occupancy. Over the past 18–24 months, the occupants were repeatedly offered services and alternative housing, all of which were declined.

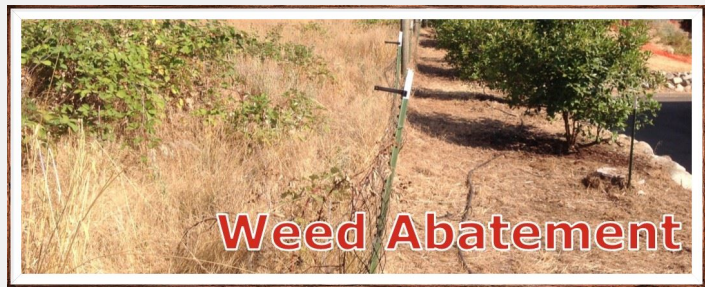
The Willows Fire Department extends its sincere gratitude to all mutual and automatic aid partners who responded and assisted during this incident. Anyone with information related to this fire is encouraged to contact the Glenn County Sheriff's Office at (530) 934-6431. The Willows Fire Department also released a [Press Release](#) regarding this incident that can be viewed by clicking on the link.

Structure Fire 436 Jefferson Street (April 6)

Willows Fire Department was dispatched to a reported Residential Structure Fire in the area of Wood and Jefferson Street. Willows Fire Department arrived on scene within 5 minutes and found a detached garage fully involved with the residential home to the south beginning to ignite. Willows Fire Fighters initiated an offensive fire attack and limited the spread of the fire to the building of origin. The residential home was damaged and so was a second detached shed. The fire was investigated and determined to be suspicious in nature and the investigation is ongoing in coordination with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office.



2025 Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program is underway!



The Willows Fire Department began its Annual Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program on April 14, 2025. This long-running annual initiative aims to reduce wildfire risk by clearing flammable vegetation and debris from properties.

Fire crews conduct surveys during the weeks of April 15, May 14, and May 26 to identify potential hazards. Property owners receive official notices if action is needed. Even those who plan to clear their own lots must be noticed to comply with the city's legal process.

All fire hazards must be resolved by May 31, 2025. If not addressed, the City will hire a contractor to complete the work starting June 1 and the property owner will be billed for the cost.

The Fire Department thanks the community for supporting this important safety effort and helping protect lives, property, and the city's future.

For more information, please review the [Weed Abatement Announcement Letter](#).

Trainings

- **RT-130 Training** - On Saturday April 5, Chief Monck instructed the annual RT-130 training which is the required Wildland refresher. The training included entrapment avoidance, Fireline safety, radio usage, and performed annual skills such as mobile attack, progressive hose lays, and fire shelter deployment. Approximately 14 participants attended the training for a duration of five hours.



Gas Safety & Emergency Response - On April 1, PG&E instructed a three hour Gas Safety & Emergency Response class to WFD and members of KVFD and Artois Fire. It was well attended and very informative.

Extrication & Confined Spaces - On April 3, WFD spent a few hours in the morning

training at American Commodity Company (ACC) rice dryers. The training covered extrication and confined space rescue during a mock scenario. The Drill incorporated WFD, Kraemer Manufacturing and ACC employees.

Stop the Bleed - On April 9, WFD instructed Stop the Bleed Training to Willows Highschool teachers. The training included approximately 25 staff members. This training was funded by a Homeland Security grant.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Proposition 172 Presentation to Board of Supervisors

On April 8, Chief Monck presented to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) the Glenn County Fire Chiefs Association's proposal to share the PILT and Prop 172 Funding more equitably than past allocations. The [presentation may be viewed online](#), and the recording may also be heard at the County's website at approximately 49:30.

The BOS unanimously supported developing a plan to share a greater portion of these funds with the rural fire districts. County staff were directed to develop a plan to bring back to the BOS for final approval. The new funding would start in FY 2025-26. While not directly related to the City of Willows Fire Department, stronger and more financially sustainable rural fire districts in Glenn County is good for everyone since fire protection services are integrated between all jurisdictions in the County and everyone heavily relies upon mutual aid.

Grants

Community Project Funding – Congressman LaMalfa's Office

The Department prepared and submitted a grant application to fund the majority of the purchase of a new Fire Engine 2. Thank you to the City Council for providing letters of support for the application. As soon as the City learns the results of the application, the public will be notified.

Cal Fire Safe Council - Grant

The Glenn County Coordinator grant application was submitted to the California Fire Safe Council to hire another Countywide Coordinator to provide administrative support to the fire districts in Glenn County (a similar grant was applied for and awarded in 2023).

Willows Rural Fire Protection District (WRFPD)

District Voters Approve Proposition 218 Special Assessment Rate Increase

The Willows Rural Fire Protection District is

pleased to announce the successful passage of the Proposition 218 special assessment rate increase, following a public hearing and ballot process. The measure received strong community support, with 64% of submitted ballots voting “Yes” and an 80% approval on a weighted basis.



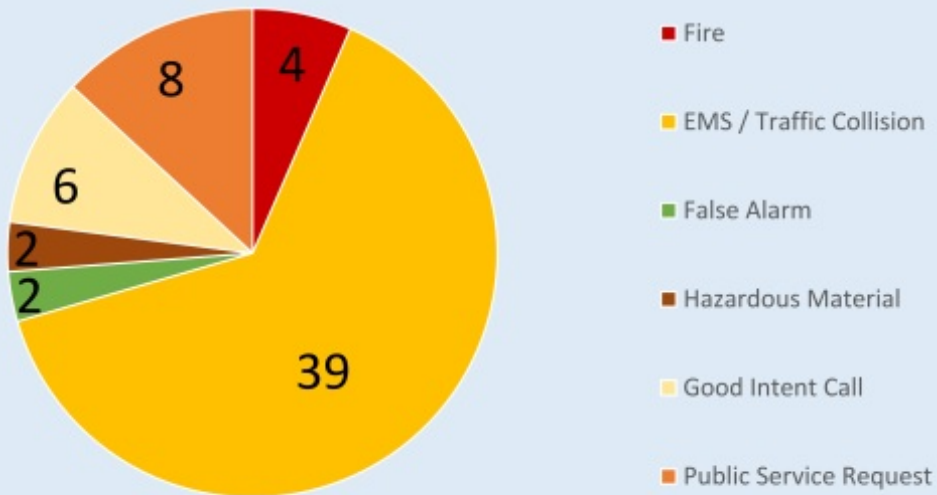
The approved assessment increase will provide essential funding to maintain and improve fire protection and emergency response services across the District. This includes upgrading outdated equipment, maintaining fire apparatus, ensuring adequate staffing, and enhancing training and wildfire readiness.

“This is a big win for our community’s safety,” said Fire Chief Alex Parisio of the Willows Rural Fire Protection District. “We are incredibly thankful for the support shown by our residents and property owners. The approval of this measure allows us to continue providing reliable, life-saving services and invest in the tools and people who make it all possible.”

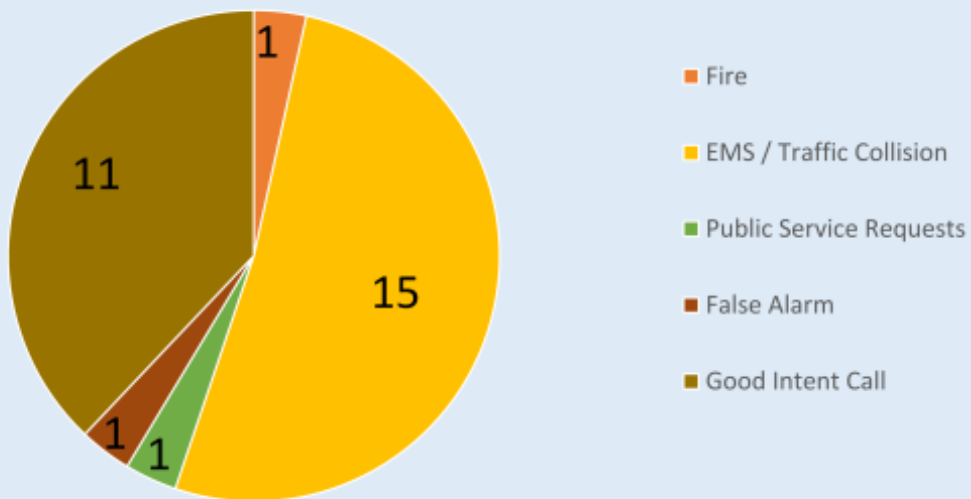
The Willows Rural Fire Protection District covers approximately 78 square miles of rural and agricultural land surrounding Willows, serving a population of approximately 5,000. The passage of this measure ensures the District can meet growing service demands and better protect the community.

The updated assessment will appear on property tax bills beginning in August 2025, with all revenue dedicated solely to fire protection and emergency response services within the District. The new assessment will replace the prior assessment that was in place and unchanged since 1992.

Willows Fire Department Activity April 2025



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity April 2025



LIBRARY

Listen While you Garden

Did you know that you can access over 26,000 audiobooks for free with your Willows Library card using the Libby app? Listening to audiobooks while gardening is a great way to combine the enjoyment of reading with the therapeutic benefits of gardening. It allows you to learn or

engage with a story while engaging in a physically active hobby.

Listen while you garden.



Wilde Things - Special Event

Join the Willows Library on June 11 for the **Wild Things Live Animal Show**, a family favorite! Come to the show and experience a "wild thing!" Last year's participants met a Capybara up close—the world's largest rodent. It was an unforgettable encounter capturing the magic of learning through real-life experiences. We can't wait to see what amazing animals this year will bring!

Summer Program

Library staff are currently busy preparing for this year's exciting summer reading program and welcoming local schools for library orientation class visits. On April 2, the library hosted Walden Academy's Kindergarten class — It was a great success!



Walden Academy's Kindergarteners



Teachers and students.

Library Activity April 2025



Door Count - 790

Public Computer Use - 61

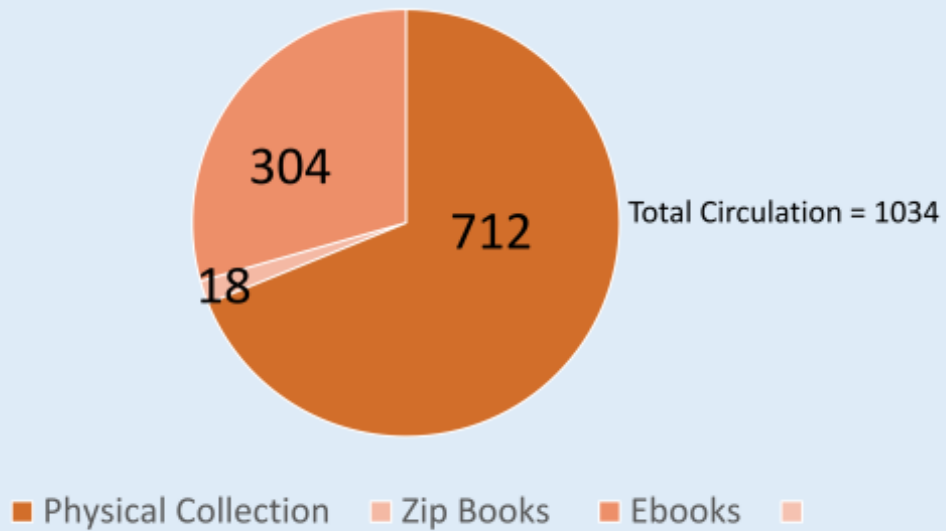


New Library Card - 21

Items Added to Collection - 60



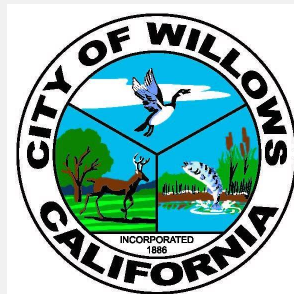
Circulation of Materials April 2025



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