

Willows Monthly - November 2024



Upcoming Meetings

City Council - Last Two of 2024!

- November 26 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- December 10 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

- November 20 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development

Willows Voters Approve Measure i!

Thank you to Willows voters for supporting Measure i, the City's 1.5% sales tax ballot

measure. While the votes have not been certified and Glenn County still has a few more ballots to count, as of Friday, November 8, the total count was 1,207 "yes" votes and 792 "no" votes. Please see the [City's press release](#) for more information.

Special thank you to the core members of the **Financial Sustainability Advisory Committee (FSAC) - Lorri Pride, Ardythe Brandon, LaVonne Hinton, and Karen Johnson** - who provided tremendous support, feedback and guidance on the education efforts and action plan to get out the word about Measure i and the City's critical financial circumstances.

2024 City Council Election Results

Congratulations to the 2024 City Council winners - **Gary Hansen, Evan Hutson, Matt Busby, and Lorri Pride!** Members of the new Council will be sworn in at the December 10, 2024 City Council meeting.

To outgoing members, thank you Councilmembers David Vodden and Forrest Sprague for your service to the citizens of Willows.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:

October 15 and October 22, 2024 City Council Meetings

October 15 City Council Meeting

- Approved establishing the The Finance & Measure i Oversight Committee.

October 22 City Council Meeting

- Approved submission of the 2024 Community Development Block Grant Over-the-Counter Sidewalk Rehabilitation and Competitive Planning Grant Applications.
- Approved the Lift Station Rehabilitation Project and construction contract agreement for an amount not to exceed \$1,564,980.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Engineering Division

Jensen Park Pathway Upgrades

Solicitation for bids will be circulated by the City in mid-November. The project improvements will include upgrading and 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, playgrounds). In addition, ADA-compliant picnic tables will also be installed providing concrete pads adjacent to some of the existing benches to allow wheelchair access and sitting areas for disabled visitors.

Planning Division

Planning Services - New Contractor

Effective October 1, 2024, the City of Willows established a new contract with

Harris & Associates (H&A) to provide all city planning services. While the city is instituting remote planning services, a public office at City Hall has been established so that planning applicants may schedule and participate in virtual meets with Harris & Associates Planning staff during the Planning Division's virtual office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.



Harris and Associates offers extensive planning support services, including full staff augmentation (e.g., functioning as an extension of staff, leading projects through the entitlement process, development of project-specific staff reports/resolutions, presenting at public hearings). The staff have worked in both large and small municipal cities (e.g., San Juan Bautista, Marina, Pacific Grove, Walnut Creek, Gonzales, Salinas, San Diego) and un-incorporated county jurisdictions of varying sizes (e.g., Monterey, San Diego, and Humboldt Counties).

Starting in January, H&A's contract Planner, Delainie Garlick, will attend Planning Commission meetings in person. For more information about Harris & Associates, please visit the [company website](#).

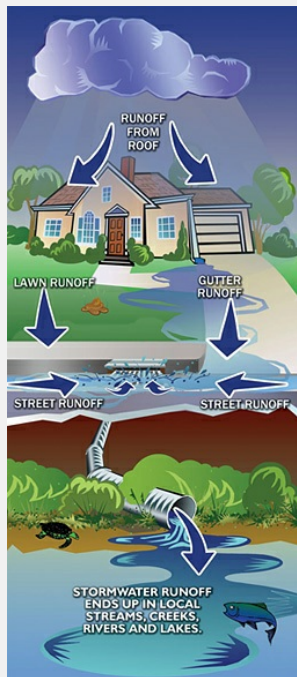
Public Works Division

Leaf Pick Up - It's time! Leaf pickup will begin on Tuesday November 12. Please rake only leaves into piles for collection. Piles should be two to three feet away from the gutter so that they do not block storm water drainage. Do

not include brush, sticks, rocks, metal or other debris in the leaf pile as this will damage the equipment and lead to delays. We look forward to another successful year of leaf



pickup for city residents!



Storm Water Pollution Prevention

- Please do not dump waste in storm drains.
- Keep yard clippings out of the street.
- Dispose of household chemicals properly (e.g., follow the directions on the package or call the Public Works Division for proper disposal guidelines).
- Clean up oil spills and fix leaking automobiles.
- Sweep driveways clean - do not hose them down.

For more information on storm water pollution prevention, please visit the [California State Water Resources Control Board](http://www.watercontrolboard.ca.gov/).

Recreation Division

Basketball Season is about to begin!

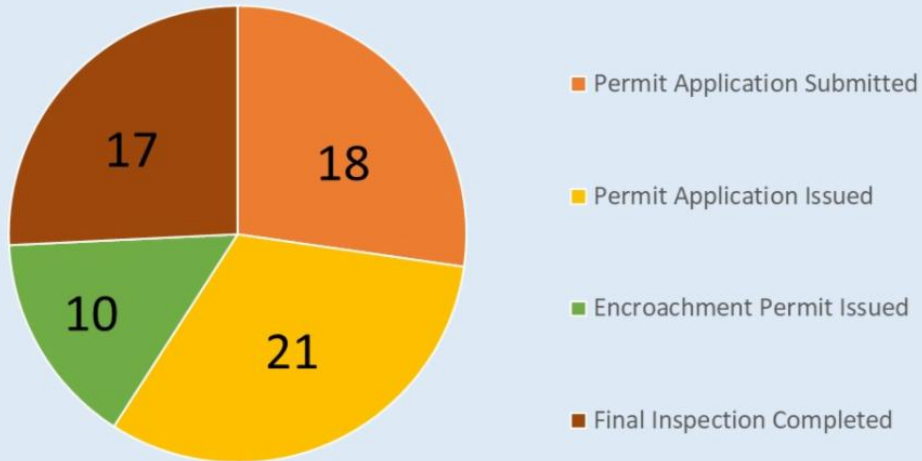
Registration for Winter/Spring Basketball will start December 1 and run through January 18. Basketball Camp will be available to the following three age groups:

- 6-8 years old,
- 9-11 years old, and
- 12-14 years old.



Additional information about registration and the camps will be provided as the season gets closer.

Community Development Activity October 2024



Public Works Division Activity October 2024



Call Requests - Sewage Line Issues - 2



New USA Markings - 27

FINANCE

The Finance and Measure i Oversight Committee

On October 15, the Willows City Council unanimously approved establishing the Finance and Measure i Oversight Committee.

Purpose: The purpose of the Committee is to review city finances and make recommendations to the City Council. Review of the city's fiscal matters shall include but are not limited to, the City's annual independent audit, City fees, City service

charges, and budgets, accounts payable, Investment, General Fund reserve and Pension Funding policies.

Roles & Responsibilities:

The role of the Finance and Measure i Oversight Committee is to provide quarterly updates to the full City Council as part of the regular agenda to inform the City Council and the public of the City's overall fiscal management including the performance of Measure i (e.g., revenue, expenditures).

Membership:

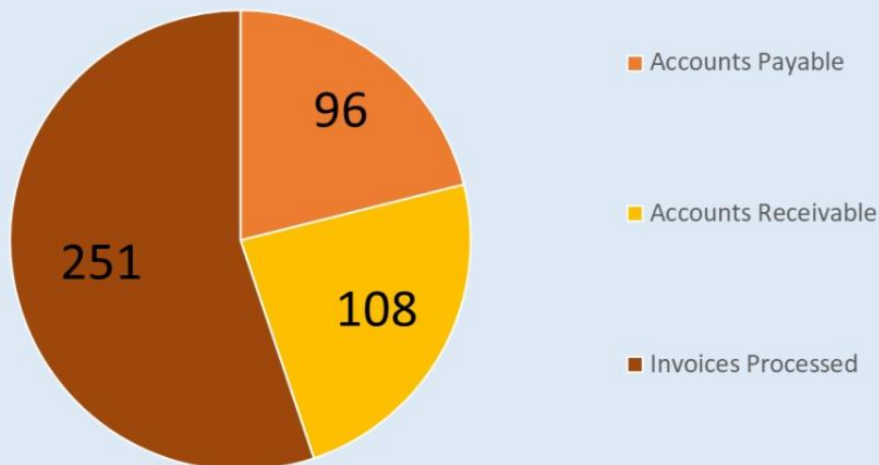
The Finance Committee shall consist of two (2) City Councilmembers appointed by the entire City Council. The Mayor shall serve as the Committee alternate.

Meeting Schedule:

- All meetings are open to the public and agendas will be publicly posted.
- Regular meetings of the FMiOC shall be held on the third Tuesday of October, January, April, and July starting at 5:30 pm. The first meeting of this committee will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025.
- All meetings will be recorded via video and/or audio and will be posted on the City's website after the meeting.

For more information about the Committee, please review [FMiOC's Bylaws](#).

Finance Activity
October 2024



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Upstaffing - Office of Emergency Services

Willows Fire Department requested emergency upstaffing through Office of Emergency Services (OES) twice in October for Red Flag Fire weather events. OES approved each request and, as a result, funded additional firefighters, fire engines, and other firefighting equipment in the County. These prepositioning resources responded to several fires in the County.

Volunteers

On October 15, Firefighter Chris Millen was sworn in after completing his six months of probationary training. We're thrilled to have you join the team, Chris!



Events

Mangia Lasagna!

On October 3, the Willows Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) Auxillary held their Annual Lasagna Drive-Thru Dinner. The event was a huge success and completely sold out! These funds will be used to fund the Fire Department Auxillary's volunteer work and efforts.

There is hardship in everything except eating pancakes. ~ Charles Spurgeon

On October 12, the WVFD held its Annual Pancake Breakfast. Funds from the event will be used for public education efforts that the Department executes through out the year. The WVFD served more than 300 meals.



Pancake Fundraiser



Annual Lasagna Fundraiser



Willows career and volunteer staff spent the week visiting Walden, Murdock, WIS and local pre-schools performing fire safety demonstrations. Firefighters engaged with the youth and discussed fire evacuation plans, fire alarms, stop drop and roll, and the use of 9-1-1.

Training

WVFD Conducted two internal trainings in the month of October. Members spent one drill evening working with Enloe a=Ambulance in safe gurney use and operation, LUCAS device operation and teamwork, and infrequently used medical skills.

The second monthly drill night consisted of hose line deployment and use, and engine pumping drills for the newly promoted Fire Engineers.

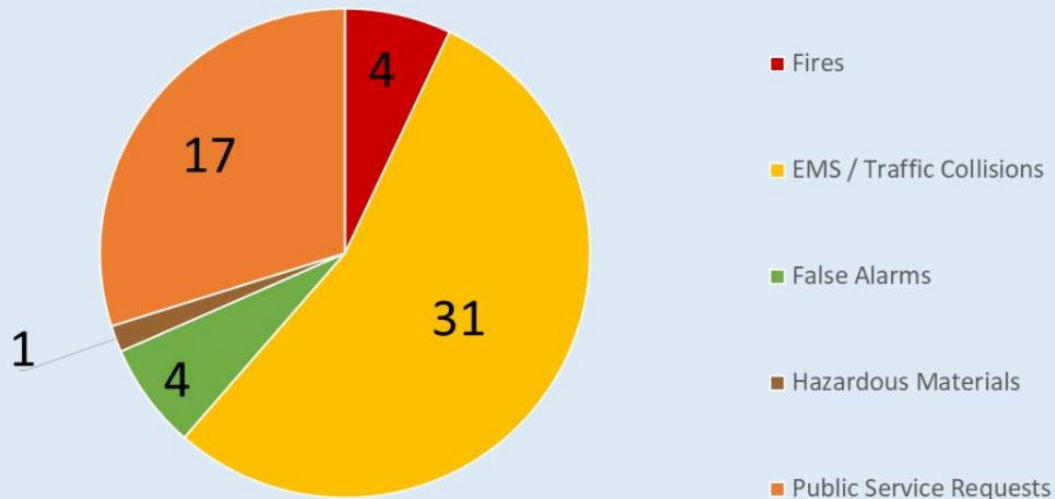
On October 17, WFD Career staff conducted a joint training at Glenn Medical Center. WFD members instructed the emergency department staff in the use of our new grant funded automated CPR machine known as a LUCAS device. Lucas devices provide more efficient and consistent CPR, greatly improving physical therapy care in rural EMS settings (like Glenn County).



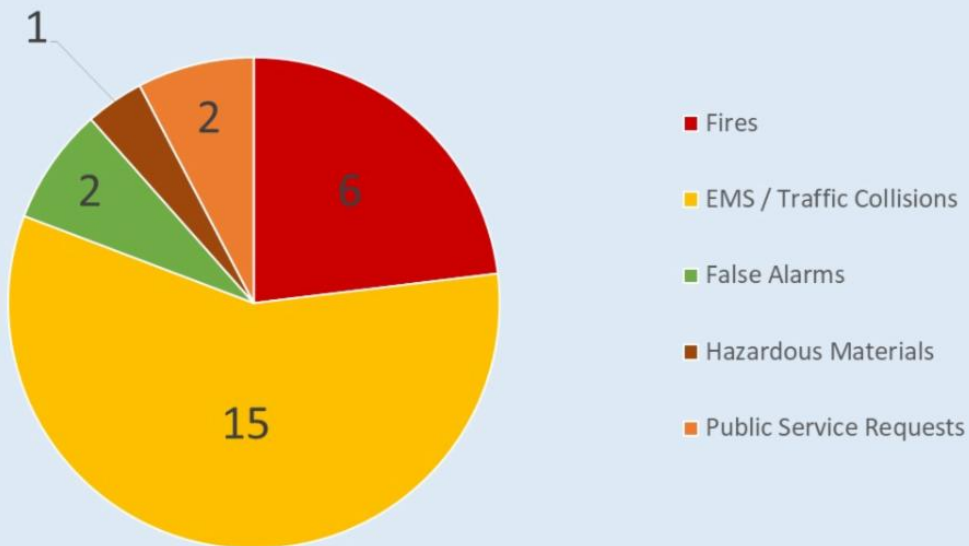
Code Enforcement

WFD has been actively engaged in several large code enforcement cases in the City, as well as working in conjunction with Glenn County Community Action Department (CAD) staff, Amber Bill. For example, the team provided the homeless encampment in "the bamboo" with a 30 yard dumpster. The transient population has made significant progress with cleaning up "the bamboo" encampment. The dumpster was funded by Glenn County CAD.

Willows Fire Department Activity October 2024



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity October 2024



LIBRARY

Generous Donation - Thank you!

The Library extends a huge thank you to the Willows Community Thrift Shoppe for awarding a \$2,500 donation to support the purchase of children's books and materials at the Library. Donations such these allow the library to offer great youth programs, including story time, crafternoons, movie nights, Block

Party, and much more.



The Zip Books Program has returned!

The California State Library has awarded \$6,302 to the library so that book or audiobook that you want may be shipped right to your door! Call or stop by the library to submit your order (up to three items) will be shipped at no cost to you from Amazon. Return them within six weeks and request more books and items! Zip Books is a statewide project of the California State Library. The Project is funded by the California Library Services Act.



Library Activity October 2024



Door Count – 1061



Public Computer Use – 82



New Library Card - 20



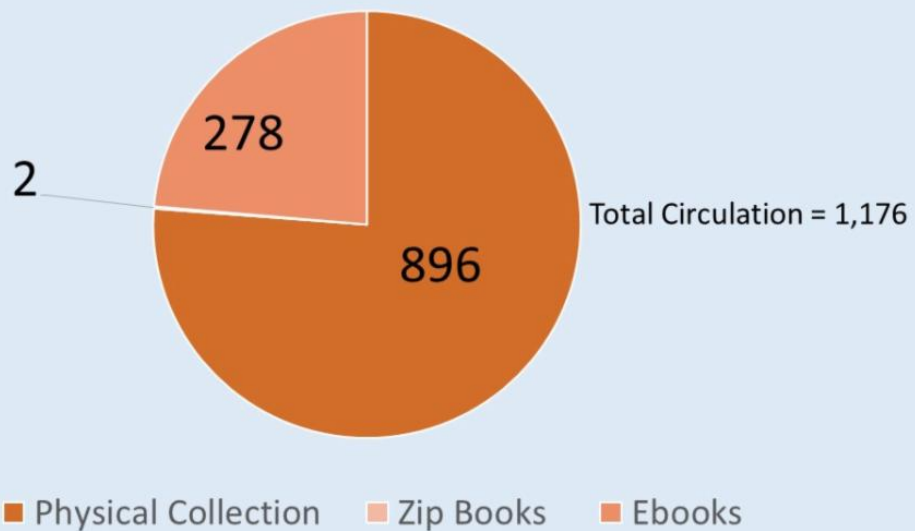
Items Added to Collection – 69



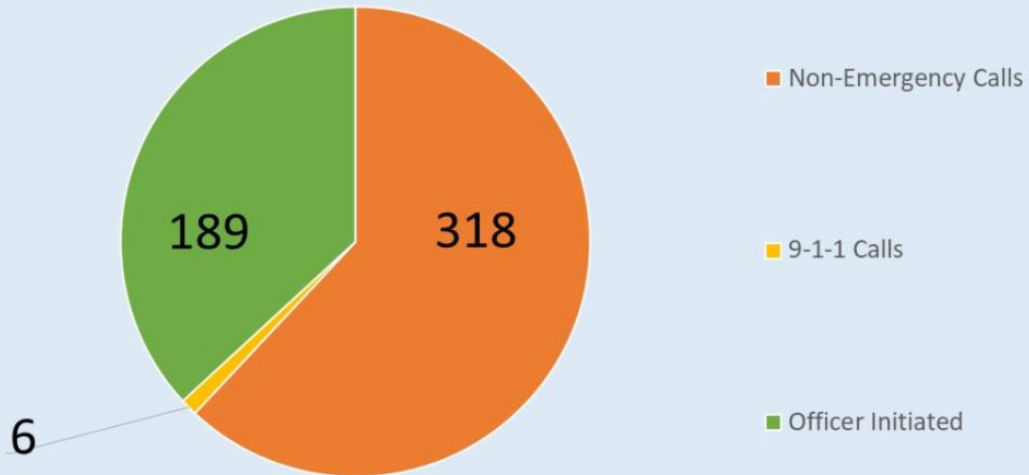
Program Participants – 145*

*Includes 14 programs and 50 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

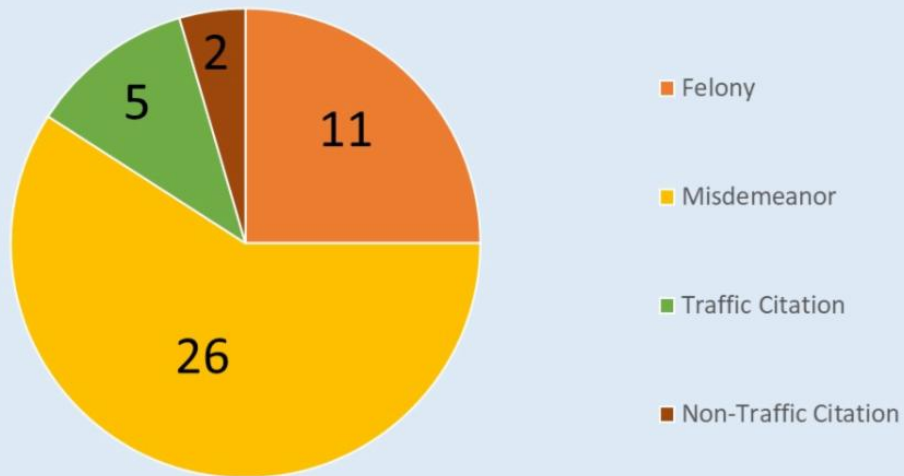
Circulation of Materials October 2024



Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service October 2024



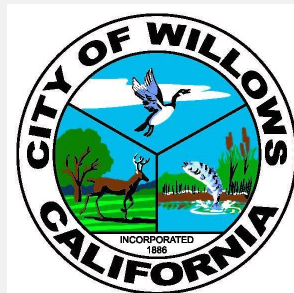
Sheriff Department Activity – Arrests & Citations October 2024



City Of Willows

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

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