

Willows Monthly - October 2024



Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- October 22 Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- November 12 Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

• November 20 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development

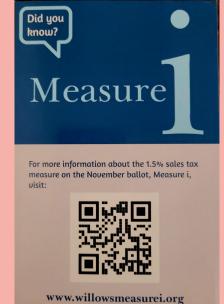
Measure i and the Upcoming Election

Just a quick reminder that the November 5, 2024 election is right around the corner and, if you have not already, you may

wish to review the <u>Measure i website</u> to get the facts about the City of Willows finances and the 1.5% sales tax measure on the November ballot.

There is plenty of useful information to facilitate making an informed decision on the ballot initiative this November including:

- Factual information about Measure i in both English and Spanish;
- Current City of Willows sales tax trends for 2024;
- New: Support for Measure i In Their Own Words;
- Frequently Asked Questions;
- City Finance and Budget Fact Sheets in both English and Spanish;
- The Willows City Council's 2024 Vision and Priorities;
- The City of Willows in the News Videos, Press Releases, and Media Kit; and
- City Budgets and Audits for the past three years (the rest of the budgets and audits can be found on the <u>City of Willows website</u>).



Willows Second Biennial City 'Crawl'

On Thursday, September 19, 2024, an estimated 200 local residents participated in the City of Willows' Second Biennial 'City Crawl'. Event sponsors included: PG&E, WM, Cal Water and Coastland | DCCM (the City's contract engineering firm).

Event participants grabbed their "City passports" and "crawled" to four city facilities:

- Touring the wastewater treatment plant and enjoying mocktails mudslides and lemon drops;
- Learning more about Public Works at the Corporation Yard while indulging in tasty appetizers;
- Riding fire trucks and learning to use fire hoses at the fire station while enjoying a magic show, face painting, and a light supper of hamburgers and hot dogs; and
- Wrapping up at the Civic Center with dessert, raffle prizes, information tables by event sponsors and the County, wildlife display including an alligator, capybara and raptors, face painting, dunk tank, water slide, and drone demonstration by OES.

The City would like to thank its four sponsors - PG&E, WM, Cal Water, and Coastland | DCCM, as well as the Glenn County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Services, the County, and the following local businesses for their generous raffle prize donations:

- Ace Hardware
- Barber Serjio
- Black Bear Diner
- Brickyard Gym
- Fatco

- Gandy & Staley
- Henry's Trading Post
- House of Tatoos
- Marval Grocery Store
- · Mercado's Meat
- Red88
- Rumiano Cheese
- The Gatherings
- Treasure Time
- Willows Jiu Jitsu & MMA

Thank you all for your generous financial support, in kind donations, and your time - we greatly appreciate it!













Sycamore Park Design Kickoff Celebration!

On October 8, 2024, community members stopped by the Sycamore Park Design Kickoff Celebration to view design renderings of the proposed \$4.5 million capital improvement project planned for Sycamore Park. Attendees enjoyed DJ music, popcorn, cookies, face

painting and an obstacle course, as well as plenty of factual information about the status of the City's finances and Measure i, the 1.5% sales tax measure on the November 2024 ballot in the City of Willows.

Guest speakers included Mayor Gary Hansen, Councilmember Rick Thomas, Caltrans Public Information Officer Megan Reese, County Supervisor Jim Yoder, and Fire Chief Nathan Monck. While all lauded city efforts in getting this project off the ground, especially those of Chief Monck who prepared the \$4+ million Caltrans grant, event attendees were also reminded that the City of Willows' Recreation Division (which only includes one part-time contract employee) enables the City to engage approximately 1200 youth annually in its swim, soccer and basketball programs that run all year-round.







CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP: September 24, 2024 City Council Meeting

September 24 City Council Meeting

 Authorized the City Manager to execute a contract with Harris & Associates to provide city planning services.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Engineering Division

Willows Lift Station Rehabilitation Project

On Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 2:30 pm, the bids for the Sewer Lift Station Rehabilitation Project were opened. A total of seven bids were received ranging from approximately 1.5 million to 2.2 million dollars. The project will rehabilitate the City's five sewer lift stations throughout Willows and upgrade to a SCADA system providing real-time alerts to any sewage problems, as well as increase accuracy of volumetric data of waste entering the system.



Planning Division

Planning Commission - October 16, 2024 Agenda

<u>Jack in the Box</u> Public Hearing for approval of their Signage Conditional Use Permit and Design Review. The applicant can't extend their current permit as it was a condition of approval that they need to re-apply if the project was not completed by July 2024. They are currently working with CalTrans on remaining requirements and hope to start construction by the end of the year



Mercado's Meat Market, 555 North

<u>Tehama Street</u>Applicant seeks

approval of exterior colors on building.





Taco Truck Commissary, 125 Willows Street
Applicant seeks approval to locate a 40' x
50' metal building on the site. The structure
would be used as a commissary (e.g.,
covered parking for a mobile food truck,
food preparation, restroom for employees).
This item was continued from the previous
Planning Commission meeting as additional

information was requested regarding building appearance.

Code Enforcement Division

Trailers, Vehicles, and Debris on Railroad Property The two trailers that were occupied have vacated the property and staff are working with Union Pacific Railroad to remove the remaining debris.

Vegetation Blocking Stop signs Staff is actively identify locations where vegetation or other obstructions are hindering road and stop sign visibility. Staff will seek voluntary compliance with property owners whose vegetation may be impeding visibility. If voluntary compliance is unsuccessful, staff will move forward to abate the problem.





Willows Municipal Code - Fun Fact

Title 12- Streets, Sidewalks, Public Places

Chapter 12.30 - Trees

Section 090 - Public Nuisances

The following may be declared a public nuisances by the safety committee:

- (1) Any tree or other plant or part thereof growing upon private property but overhanging the street or interfering with the use of any street which in the opinion of the safety committee endangers the life, health, safety or property of the public;
- (2) Any plant which does interfere with, impair or destroy any street improvement, sidewalk, curb, gutter, sewer, street trees, or any public improvement;
- (3) Vines or climbing plants growing into or over any street or any public hydrant, pole, or electrolier;
- (4) Any tree, shrub, or portion thereof planted in a triangular area measured 35 feet along the face of the existing curb or projected curb in either direction from the curb intersection in such condition as to constitute a hazard or impediment to the progress or vision of anyone traveling on a public street. [Ord. 469-69 § 9, 2-24-69. Prior code § 16.5-9].

Public Works Division

Pacific Avenue Lift Station

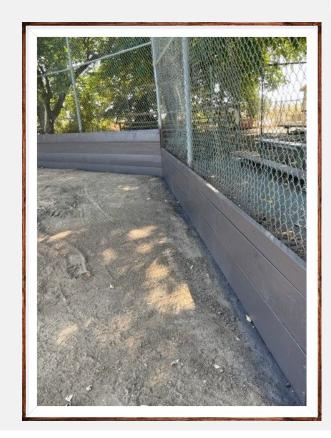
Public Works Staff responded to a reported clog at the Pacific Avenue sewer lift station. Upon inspection, a rag was entangled around the drive shaft making it inoperable.

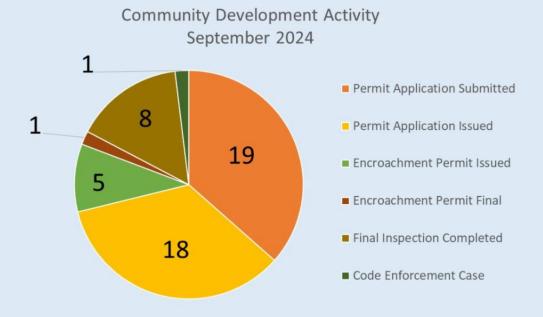


Little League and Softball Field - Backstop Repair

Staff replaced damaged backstop and field line boards that were damaged and posed a safety concern. Materials were purchased by Willows Little League and City staff provided the replacement labor. We would like to thank Willows Little League for the donation and looked forward to a continuing relationship that fosters enhanced recreation opportunities for the City of Willows.



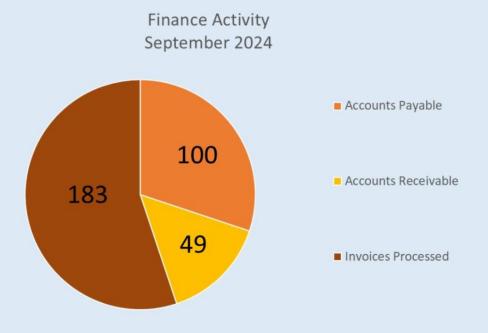




FINANCE

Fiscal Year 2023-24 AuditDuring the first week of October, the City's Auditors spent three days at City Hall reviewing the City's finances over the past fiscal year from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. While the City will receive the final Audit by early 2025, the City Manager's closing meeting with the Principal Auditor on the third day was sobering as they discussed the more than \$700,000 of General Fund Reserve that was needed to balance the City's budget in fiscal year 2024-25. The potential issuance of a "Going Concern" opinion in the upcoming final audit was also discussed.

According to the Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs, a " Going Concern" opinions indicate that auditors have significant doubt about an entity's ability to continue operation one year after the financial statement date. In essence, there is substantial concern that the City may "go out of business."



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Major Incidents

Strike Team

The Willows Fire Department along with multiple other neighboring fire jurisdictions staffed a Pre-Position Strike Team on September 30, 2024, to enhance the City and County's ability to respond to major incidents across Glenn County as a whole. The Strike Team consisted of five fire engines and one water tender. Willows Fire staffed a Strike Team Leader position and one engine, Orland Fire, Artois Volunteer Fire, Hamilton City Fire, and Elk Creek Fire staffed engines, and Bayliss Fire staffed a water tender. These pre-position teams are funded by the California Office of Emergency Services.

Vehicle Collision

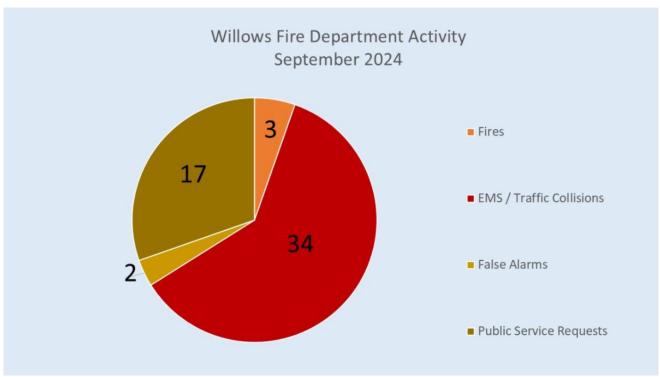
Willows Fire Department responded to a two victim vehicle versus pedestrian accident near Wood Street and Pacific Avenue. One patient was transported to Glenn Medical Center with minor injuries, and one patient was transported via air ambulance.

Community Events

Willows Volunteer Fire Department hosted a four-hour "Kids Camp" on September 2, 2024. Volunteers set stations up for community youth which demonstrated tasks such as, search, rescue, ladders, hose deployment, auto extrication and more.

On September 13, 2024, the Willows Fire Department provided stand by assistance for the Willows versus Orland "Battle of the Axe" football game.





Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity September 2024 Fires EMS / Traffic Collisions Public Service Requests

LIBRARY

New Storytime Schedule!

Weekly Storytime is now scheduled for Mondays at 11:00 a.m. Join us for fun songs, activities, crafts, and books designed to support early learning skills for children and to help them get ready to succeed in school.

Red Cross Training

The Library has partnered with Red Cross to host trainings focusing on extreme heat and home fire preparedness. The Library's next event will be "Prepare with Pedro" on Monday, October 14 at 11:00 am. This program teaches kids how to BE PREPARED and TAKE ACTION for either home fires or a local hazard.

Health Worker Schedule

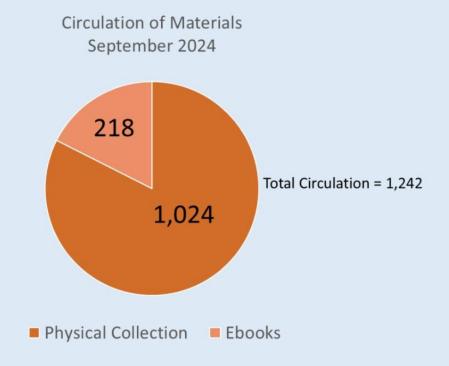
A Community Health Worker will be at the Library on Thursday, October 17 from 11am-1pm and Friday, October 25 from 11am-5pm. Stop by the library to receive assistance with resources/programs/benefits, completing applications, healthcare navigation, coordinating transportation, and translation (Spanish, English, Laotian). For any other desired services, please ask! To make an appointment or for more information, please call: (530) 433-4420 or email: INFO@TRICOUNTIESCAP.ORG.



Congratulations to the September Library Card Sign-Up Month winners!

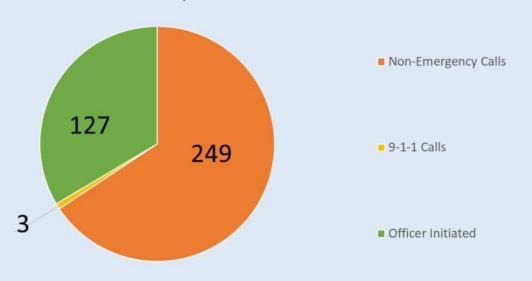




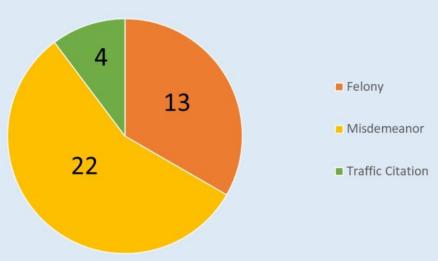


SHERIFF

Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service September 2024







City Of Willows

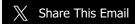
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