
Willows Monthly - August 2023



Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- **September 12** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- **September 26** - Regular Meeting **CANCELLED**
- **October 10** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

- **October 18** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

Now Hiring - Check out the City's

current vacancies!

[Community Development & Services Director](#)

[Accounting Manager](#)

[Fire Fighter/Engineer](#)

For more information, visit the [City's webpage](#), or contact the City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager, [Amos Hoover](#).



Vacancies & Department Management

While the City recruits for its three current vacancies, the City Engineer is managing Public Works and Engineering (e.g., sewage, streets, parks, facilities, fleet) and the City Manager is managing Planning, Building, Code Enforcement, and front counter/phone coverage. The City Manager is also managing portions of the Accounting Manager position (e.g., coding bills, risk management, HR). The City is currently seeking temporary contract staff to assist with the other aspects of the Accounting Manager position. Lastly, the Fire Department is backfilling the vacant Fire Engineer position with part-time Fire Department Engineers, Fire Captain overtime, and additional coverage by the Fire Chief.

California Water Service - Emergency Preparedness Drill

Representatives from CAL Water, along with the Mayor, City Manager, and City Clerk, participated in emergency preparedness training and a table top exercise consisting of simulated water emergencies across the City following an earthquake. Participants identified and prioritized each emergency while coordinating logistics and dispatching teams to address those emergencies. It was a unique and educational exercise that the City is hoping repeat again in early 2024.



Overhaul of Willows Municipal Code (WMC)

An initial Kickoff meeting was held with the consulting firm, as well as an internal City staff and contractor kickoff meeting. As a result, staff is currently completing an initial review and comment on the overall WMC before handing it off to the consulting team. Once a draft is prepared, there will be a public Town Hall meeting to receive feedback from the community, as well as a presentation to the Planning Commission regarding the zoning section of the WMC. Stay tuned for future updates!

Council Roundup - City Council Actions for July 25, August 8, and August 16

- Sworn in - newly appointed Councilmember Forrest Sprague.
- Approved - Amendment to increase maintenance and repair budget contract with Inframark by \$44,159 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Approved - Resolution confirming costs of abatement and declaring a special assessment on those properties abated by the City as of August 4, 2023.
- Appointed - Vice Mayor Vodden to the Finance committee, Councilmember Hofhenke as the Primary for the Regional Transit committee, and Councilmember Sprague to the Glenn County Waste Management Regional Agency, Regional Transit committee, and Transportation Commission.
- Approved - Street Banner Program Applications for VFW Post 1770, VFW Auxillary, Willows Lions Club, and the Willows Car and Bike Association.
- Approved - City responses to the Glenn County Civil Grand Jury report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Planning Division - Major Project Updates

Hampton Inn Hotel Project

On August 16, 2023, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to approve the design review and use permit for the Hampton Inn Hotel Project on North Humboldt Avenue. Following the public hearing, the commission adopted a resolution approving the use permit change as well as the design review. The project is moving forward!



Northern Valley Indian Health Rezone Project

Also at the August 16, 2023 Planning Commission meeting, a public hearing was held to consider rezoning five parcels of, as well as General Plan Amendment, Northern Valley Indian Health. Following the hearing, the Commission approved a resolution recommending approval of the parcel rezones and the General Plan amendment, which will be presented for final approval to the City Council in the near future.

Public Works Division

Civic Center Landscape and Beautification

This month Public Works completed significant work around the Civic Center, cutting back overgrown bushes, and completely re-landscaping around the building. The landscaping looks great and their efforts are appreciated!



Traffic Safety Reminder!

The new school year has begun and with that comes increased foot traffic in the mornings and afternoons. Please be extra vigilant when driving near and during school hours. Let's keep our students safe! For more information on driver/pedestrian safety visit the [AAA website](#).



Community Clean-Up Day

On Saturday July 22nd, Waste Management with assistance from Public Works and City staff, hosted a Community Clean-Up Day for Willows residents. The event was a resounding success! The amount of trash/recycling collected included:

- Mattresses: 68
- House Trash: 40,540 pounds
- Scrap Metal: 29,660 pounds
- E-waste: 4,800 pounds
- **Total Weight: 75,000 pounds!**

"Big Thank you" to Waste Management and all those involved in making this event possible - helping to make our community cleaner and a more beautiful place to live!



Playground Equipment Repairs

Public Works diligently repaired Jensen Park playground equipment, as well as ensuring that it was properly secured and safe for use. Please properly use playground equipment in City parks so that our parks remain a safe and fun place for children to play. Thank you!



Recreation Division

Summer Swim Season has Ended

The 2023 summer swim season ended on August 5. Summer staffing included one manager and nine full-time lifeguards. The city enjoyed a successful season hosting 1,453 swimmers! Thank you to all the lifeguards that tirelessly worked to keep this year's season fun and safe!

of Month Swimmers

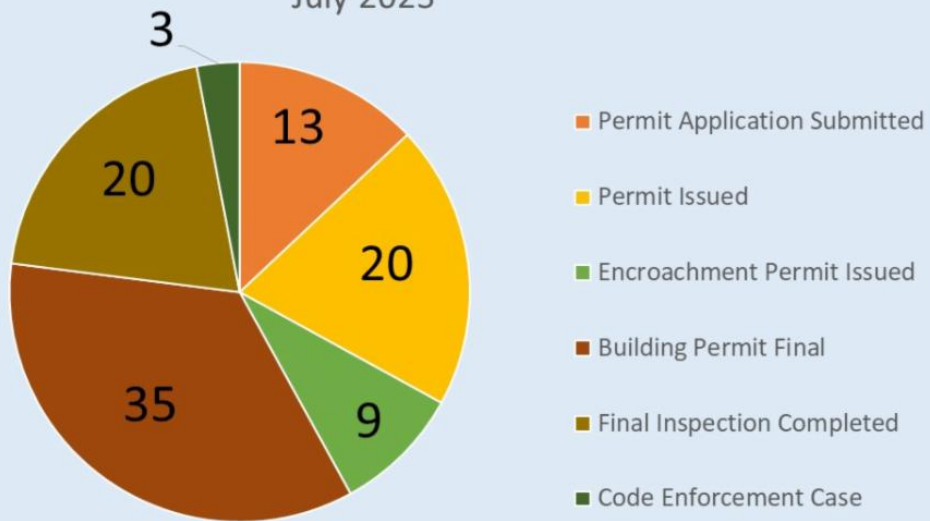
June - 474

July - 860

August - 119



Community Development Activity
July 2023

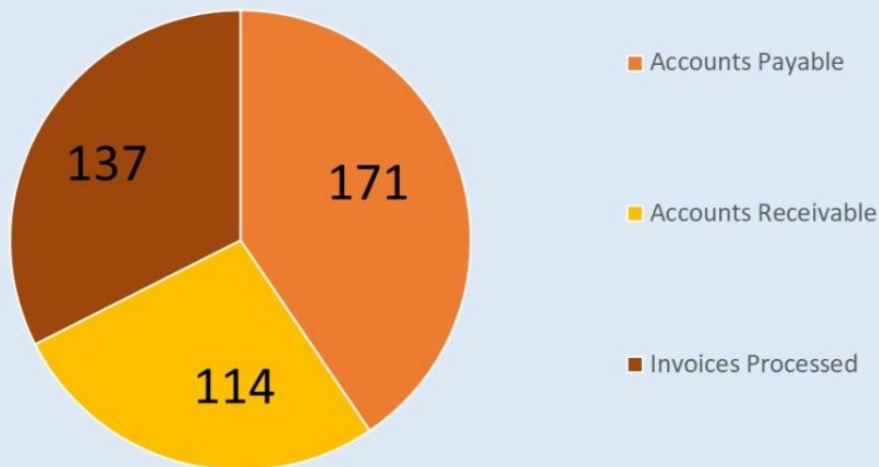


FINANCE

DELAYED - Finance Software Conversion to Tyler Technologies

While the City has completed conversion from the 1974 MOMS finance software to Tyler Technologies for Accounts Payable/Receivable and Payroll, bringing business license renewals back in house have been delayed due to the recent Accounting Manager vacancy. That said, the City plans to continue moving forward with converting its permitting and recreation software to Tyler.

Finance Activity July 2023



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

EMERGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

Structure Fire

On July 21, Willows Fire Department (WFD) was dispatched to a reported structure fire in the area of Elm and South Tehama Streets. The initial Engine Company arrived to find a commercial building well involved with fire threatening to destroy nearby residential homes and commercial buildings. WFD initiated a defensive fire attack with the goal of confining the fire to the building of origin. Automatic aid resources arrived from Artois and Orland Fire Departments and mutual aid was also requested from Bayliss Fire Department. The fire was controlled and extinguished prior to any damage to surrounding structures. No injuries were reported, and the cause of the fire was undetermined after investigation.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Monthly Blood Drive

On July 12, the Willows Fire Department Hosted its bi-monthly blood drive. The Department appreciates the community's continued support. These donations are critical to maintaining a ready supply of blood that could save someone's life!

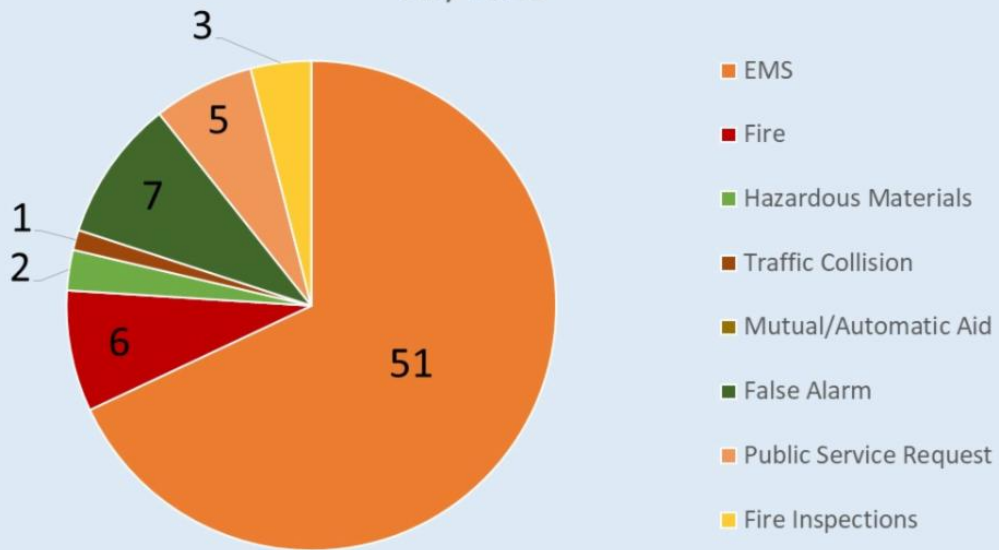
Fire Department hosts Summer Reading Program

On July 18, as part of the Library's Summer Reading Program, the Willows Fire

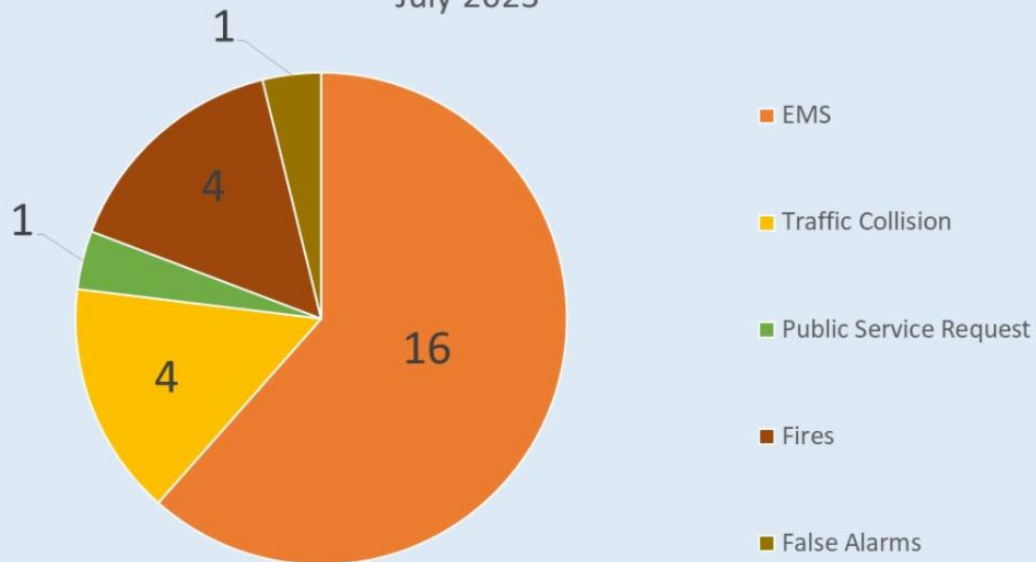
Department hosted the Program in the park. After reading stories, the children were able to learn about and gain hands-on experience with some of the equipment firefighters use everyday!



Willows Fire Department Activity
July 2023



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity July 2023



LIBRARY

Willows Rotary Club "Rocks of Kindness"

Willows Rotary Club and the Willows Library teamed up to spread "Rocks of Kindness." On August 17, from 1pm-4pm, the community created and distributed hand painted rocks around town for everyone to search for and discover. When a painted rock was found, participants shared a picture of the new found treasure on the Willows Rotary Club Facebook page. Afterwards, the rock was placed in a new location to be discovered and enjoyed again by someone else.



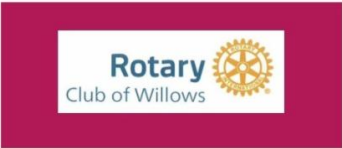
Willows Rotary Club & Willows Library have teamed up to spread rocks of kindness.

The kids will create and place their hand painted rocks around town to be found by all. When you find a painted rock, please share a picture on the Willows Rotary Club Facebook page. Then place the rock in a new location to be discovered and enjoyed again.

ROTARY ROCKS OF KINDNESS

ROCK PAINTING
AUGUST 17, 2023
1:00PM - 4:00PM

WILLOWS LIBRARY
201 N. LASSON ST, WILLOWS, CA



Library Summer Reading Program

The Willows Public Library would like to extend a "big thank you" to all of our summer reading program participants, partners, and supporters for another successful summer of books and programs. More than 140 readers participated and more than 640 children, teens, and adults attended Library programs and events. Raffle winners were drawn the week of August 21.

Library Card Sign-Up Month

Be sure you visit the Library in September! It is **Library Card Sign Up Month** and the Library will hold a raffle for free books for patrons who check out materials during the month of September or sign up for a new library card.



Willows Public Library Children's Events

AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Hours: Tues 11 am - 5 pm Wed 11 am - 7 pm Thu 11 am - 7 pm Fri 11 am - 5 pm Closed Sat, Sun & Mon		1 Ice Cream Social 3 PM	2 Storytime 11 AM	3 Water Play Day 2 PM	4	5
6	7	8	9 Storytime 11 AM	10 Block Party 3 PM	11	12
13	14	15 Game Day 3 PM	16 Storytime 11 AM	17 Rock Painting 1-4 PM	18 Last day of Summer Reading	19
20	21	22	23 Storytime 11 AM	24 Crafternoon 4:30 PM	25	26
27	28	29 Messy Art 3 PM	30 Storytime 11 AM	31		

Library Activity July 2023



Door Count – 647



Public Computer Use – 96



New Library Card - 20



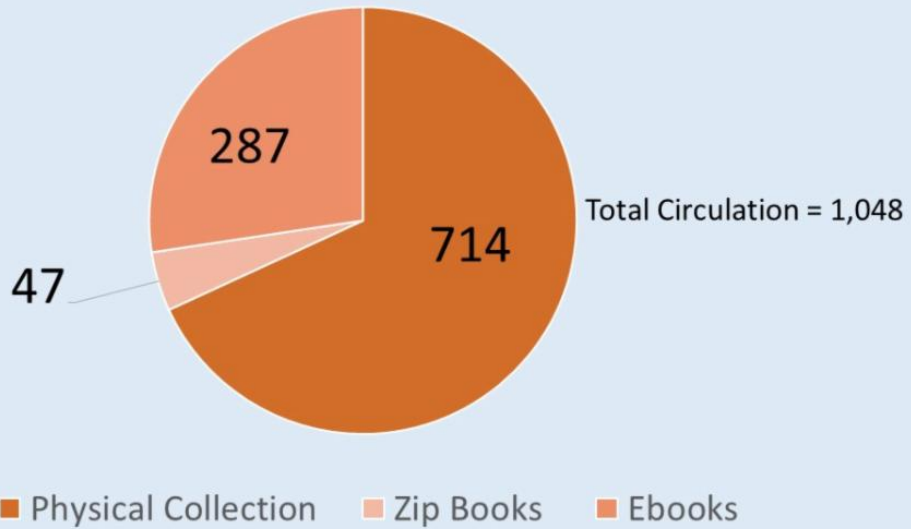
Items Added to Collection – 87



Program Participants – 257*

*Includes 14 programs and 55 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials
July 2023



City Of Willows

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



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