

Willows Monthly - December 2023

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Holiday Closure

Please note, City Hall & the Corporation Yard will be closed over the holidays from Monday, December 25, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024. Should you require emergency assistance other than 9-1-1 (e.g., sewage, flooding), please contact the City's fire station at (530) 934-3323.

Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- **January 9** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- **January 17** - Special Meeting, Mid-Year Budget Adjustment & Sales Tax Ballot Measure Discussion @ 5:30 PM
- **January 23** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

- January 24 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

Overall Day-to-Day Operations & Economic Development

NOW HIRING!

Check out the City's current vacancy. Please share this great employment opportunity with your network!

[Finance & Human Resources Specialist](#)

For more information, visit the [City's Employment Opportunities web page](#).



CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP:

Council Actions for November 23, December 12, and December 19, 2023 City Council Meetings

November 23 Council Meeting

- Approved - Execution of documents accepting \$4+ million dollar award from the Clean California Grant for improvements to Sycamore Park.
- Awarded - Lease of City Owned Property for Agricultural Purposes to Mr. Qaiser Ahmad.
- Approved - The 2024 City Council meeting calendar and the City Hall closure schedule.
- Approved - Name change of the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee to the Law Enforcement Services Ad Hoc Committee.

December 12 Council Meeting

- Approved - Extension of agreement with CAL FIRE to provide dispatch services through June 30, 2024.
- Approved - Amendment to the general plan land use map and zoning map for the property associated with assessor's parcel number 003-121-015.
- Approved - Award of contract to replace the library's HVAC system to B&M Builders Inc. for \$64,000.
- Approved - Annual Waste Management consumer price index increase of 3.32%.

- Approved - 2.5 year contract with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services.
- Appointed - Council appointed Councilmembers Gary Hansen and Evan Hutson as the 2024 Mayor and Vice-Mayor, respectively.
- Approved - [2024 Council Committee Appointments.](#)

December 19 Council Meeting

- Approved - Authorizing the City Manager to rescind the hiring freeze of the Finance & Human Resources Specialist and resume filling the current vacancy.
- Re-appointed - Planning Commissioners Holly Meyers, Llanira Valencia, and Pedro Bobadilla to the Planning Commission for a full term.
- Approved - Execution of a Letter of Intent for a Solar Power Purchase Agreement with Trinary Capital to install solar panels at the Civic Center, Fire House, and Wastewater Treatment Plant.

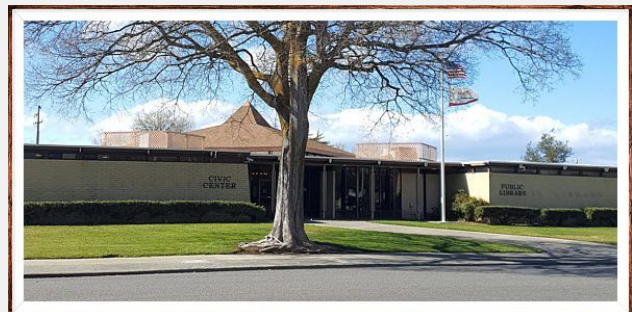
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Engineering Division

Library HVAC Replacement

The contract to replace the library's HVAC system has been awarded to B&M Builders Inc. for \$64,000. This project will replace three outdated HVAC units on the roof of the library ensuring they will be able to provide dependable climate control to patrons. This is especially important as the library is one of the County's identified cold-hot safety centers for vulnerable members of our community who may need cooling during hot weather or warmth during the cold weather season. This project is funded through a State grant and the City's library impact fees.



Solar Power Purchase Agreement

On Tuesday, December 19, the City Council authorized a Letter of Intent to pursue a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Trinary Capital. If the PPA is approved by Council in early 2024, the agreement would authorize installation of solar panels on the Civic Center and Fire House, as well as an additional solar array system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

Project installation would reduce future energy costs to operate the fire station and

civic center resulting in cost savings to the General Fund. Solar array installation at the WWTP would result in a cost savings to the Sewage Enterprise Fund.

Public Works Division

Willows Light Parade

On December 2, 2023, a time-honored holiday tradition lit up the City of Willows as Santa Claus and local organizations took to the streets for the annual Willows Light Parade. Vehicles of all types adorned with string lights made their way downtown where Santa lit the town tree. Demonstrating civic pride and community support, school children, business owners and local service club members participated in the event.

Big "shout out" and thank you to the Public Works Division for their hard work in preparing for the festivities!



Recreation Division

Youth Basketball Registration

Willows Recreation Youth Basketball is just around the corner! The fee is \$35 per player. Check out the [Recreation Division's Facebook page](#) for more information. Registration ends January 12th. Sign up now!



YOUTH BASKETBALL

Registration ends January 12th!

Must pre-register online @ www.willowsrecreation.com

Fee - \$35 per player

Ages - 6 yrs. thru 8th grade

Where - WIS Gym

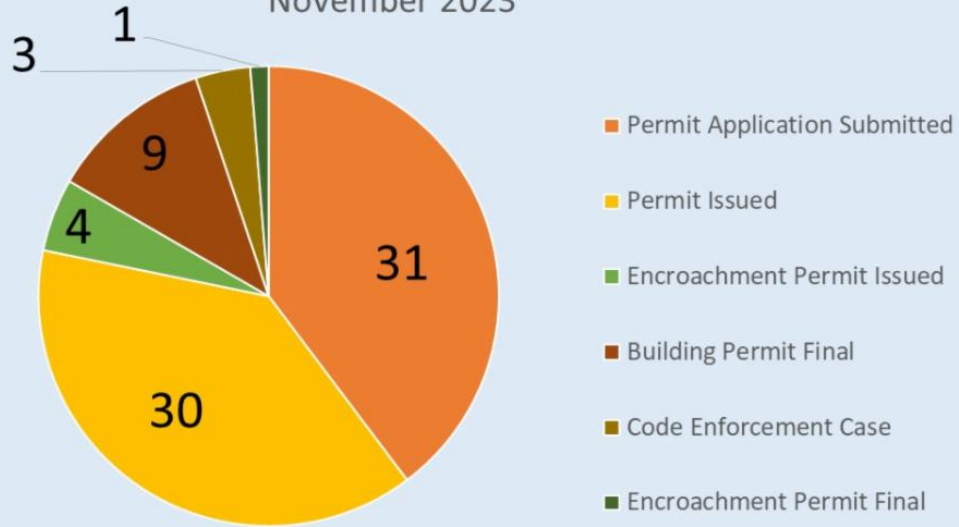
When - Saturdays Only

for more information, check:

www.willowsrecreation.com or

<https://www.facebook.com/willowsrecreationdepartment/>

Community Development Activity November 2023



Public Works Division Activity November 2023



Citywide Leaf Pickup - 3



New USA Markings - 29



Sewer Calls - 2

FINANCE

Audit

The auditors visited City Hall during the last week in November. As continuous improvements have been made in the Finance Department, the lead Auditor commented that this year's audit went more smoothly although the City needs to continue to improve upon its



Audit

[ah-dət]

A thorough review of a company's financial statements to ensure the financial records are fair and accurate.

grant monitoring and reporting.

In addition, the auditor voiced strong concern over the heavy reliance on and use of General Fund Reserves to balance this year's budget. It was also noted that if Reserves continue to decline next year, the Auditor may need to formally address the concern in the written audit. Negative reviews in the City's audit could adversely impact its bond rating and ability to secure future funding if needed (e.g., ability to borrow).

Finance Department - Continued Transition

With the hiring of Joanne Moore, Accounting Manager, the City's Finance Department is slowly returning to normal after two and half months with no Finance Department staff. Accounts payable is now being completed in-house and, once the Finance & HR Specialist position is filled, payroll and business licenses will also return to the city's Finance Department. Starting in January, the department will resume transitioning to Tyler Technologies, the city's new finance and permitting software, which was abruptly halted in late August when the city's only two Finance Department staff terminated their employment. The goal is to complete the entire Tyler Technology transition of all finance and permitting modules by July 1, 2024 (the new fiscal year).

FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

EMERGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

Commercial Structure Fire

On November 27, at approximately 11:30 am, WFD was dispatched to the chemical distribution facility at Wilbur Ellis for a commercial structure fire. Crews arrived to find smoke billowing from a holding bin and determined the substance to be Tiger 90, a primarily sulfur-based fertilizer used in the agricultural industry. Crews were at the scene for approximately 3.5 hours and contained the fire to the bin of origin. The property was turned back over to Willbur Ellis. No injuries were reported, and no evacuations were issued. Artois Fire District and Orland Fire Department provided automatic aid. Orland Fire Department also sent one engine to cover the Willows response area during the incident.



Residential Fire

On November 26, a residential structure fire at 130 South Butte was called into the Fire Department. Units arrived at the scene with billowing smoke from the eaves and a

working attic fire. The fire crew confirmed that all residents were out of the structure and began an offensive interior fire attack. The fire origin was located and extinguished. The cause of the fire was chimney failure. The fire was not deemed suspicious. Red Cross arrived at scene for and assisted with displaced residents.

Vehicle Accident

On November 17, WFD was dispatched for a Vehicle vs. Pedestrian accident at North Butte and Wood Streets. Units arrived to find one patient with major injuries. WFD provided care until Westside ambulance from Orland arrived. One Patient was transported to Enloe hospital by ground transport with two firefighter riders to assist with patient care.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Bi-Monthly Blood Drive

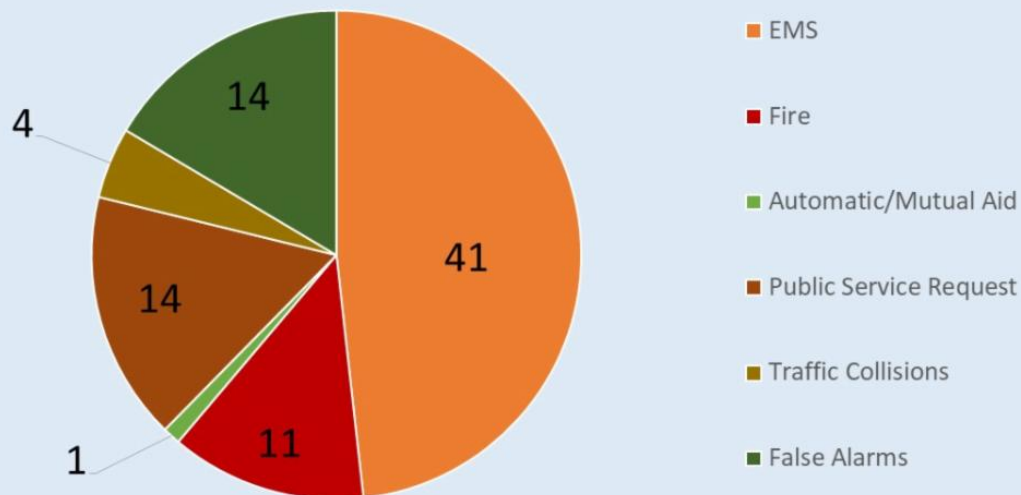
The Willows Fire Department will hold the first bi-monthly blood drive of 2024 on January 10 from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Please support an important life saving program!



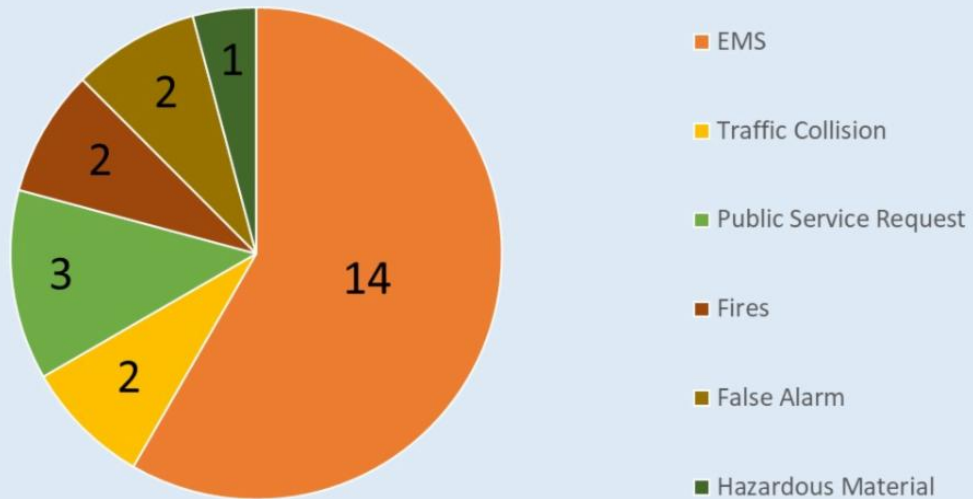
TRAINING

Fire Engineer Jaimie Fuentes has finished his on board training and is now working shifts solo. Please meet and greet Jaime if and when you run into him around town.

Willows Fire Department Activity
November 2023



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity November 2023



LIBRARY

The Library is Now Open on Mondays!

The Library is pleased to announce that open hours have been restored due to the expansion of the Children's Librarian position from part-time to full-time. The Library will now be open on Mondays, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., providing services to students and families after school and to all community members.

THE
LIBRARY
IS NOW OPEN
MONDAY

1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.



Willows Light Parade

Library staff members Caitlin Ehorn and Ashley Arellanes participated in the Willows Light Parade, distributing bookmarks and glow stick bracelets, spreading some Christmas cheer and encouraging everyone to visit the library during this holiday season!



Library Activity November 2023



Door Count – 671



Public Computer Use – 89



New Library Card - 8



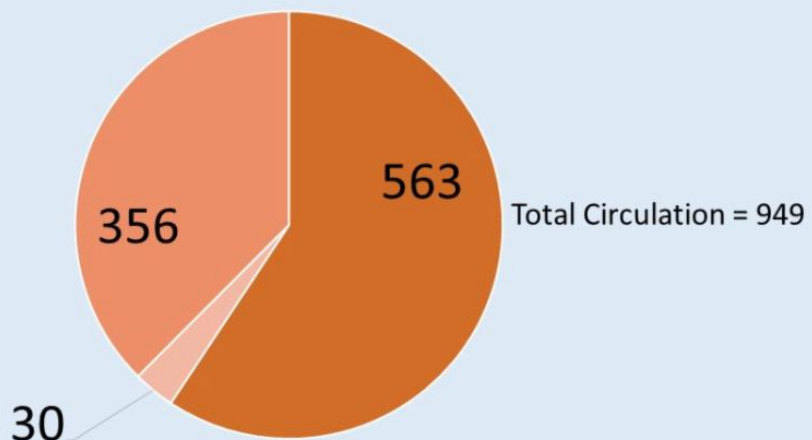
Items Added to Collection – 86



Program Participants – 154*

*Includes 11 programs and 77 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials November 2023



■ Physical Collection ■ Zip Books ■ Ebooks

City Of Willows


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



Email Us



 Share This Email

 Share This Email

 Share This Email

City of Willows | 201 North Lassen Street, City of Willows, CA 95988

[Unsubscribe mbrown@cityofwillows.org](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@cityofwillows.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!