

## Willows Monthly - March 2025



### Top Stories

- **Planning Commission applications due on Friday, March 14 - Apply now!**
- Save the Date: City's Finance Committee holds Townhall Meeting on April 15!
- Three applications received for Two Retail Cannabis Business licenses!
- Construction of Jensen Park Pathway Improvement Project is underway
- Planning Commission approves Multi-Family Triplex at 725 North Tehama
- Spring Soccer Registration is Open

### Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- March 25 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- April 8 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- April 22 - Regular Meeting @6:00PM

### **Planning Commission**

- April 1 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

### **Finance & Measure I Oversight Committee**

- April 15 - Special Town Hall Meeting @ 5:30 PM

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **General Operations, City Clerk's Office & Economic Development**

#### **Save the Date! Measure i Townhall Meeting**

**On Tuesday, April 15 at 5:30 pm**, the Finance and Measure i Oversight Committee will hold a townhall meeting to discuss anticipated and projected Measure i revenues and expenditures.

The meeting will provide the opportunity for community members to share their goals and objectives with the Committee for the upcoming FY 2025-26 budget.



#### **New City Attorney**

Carolyn Walker, the former City Attorney, resigned from Prentice Long, the City's contract law firm, effective February 28. Prentice Long's Andrew Plett has since been appointed to represent the City of Willows effective March 3, 2025.

Andrew D. Plett is an Associate Attorney at Prentice Long specializing in civil litigation, municipal law, dependency law, conservatorship law, and mental health law. Prior to joining the law firm, Mr. Plett served as Deputy County Counsel for Tehama County for six years where he represented a myriad of departments including, Social Services, Health Services, Sheriff, Planning as well as the Tehama County Air Pollution Control District. The City of Willows is delighted to have him on board.



## **CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:**

### **February 11 and February 28 City Council Meetings**

## **February 11 Council Meeting**

- Authorized the City Manager to execute a Facilities Use Agreement with the Willows Unified School District to use the School District's swimming pool during the 2025 summer swim season for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.
- Authorized the City Manager to renew the city's agreement with Paxton Family Inspection Services to perform Building Official duties, building inspections, residential plan checks, and code enforcement services.
- Held a Public Hearing and approved the Resolution and the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement so that Pioneer Community Energy may expand the Joint Power Authority membership to include the City of Willows.
- Received presentation and directed staff to work with CGI and recommend Street Banner designs to Council for final approval.

## **February 25 Council Meeting**

- Received finance update from the FMiOC Committee and provided direction to staff.
- Approved Ordinance 763-2025, authorizing the implementation of a Community Choice Aggregation Program in the City of Willows.
- Authorized the City Manager to execute a contract amendment to Coastland's Sewer Rehabilitation Project agreement.
- Appointed Coastland Civil Engineering as the Engineer of Work for the City of Willows Landscaping and Lighting Special Assessment District.
- Authorized the City Manager to execute a Power Purchase Agreement for the installation of a roof mounted solar system at the Willows Civic Center and the Willows Firehouse and authorize the City Manager to execute a Side Letter for financial reimbursement of the roof replacement at the Willows Civic Center.
- Declared a State of Emergency re: Failure of Library Ceiling and Roof and approved emergency expenditure of funds to stabilize ceiling and roof.

## **Library Ceiling Collapse Update**

The City Engineer has executed a contract with a structural engineer to design the plans to replace a major beam in the back area of library, as well as supporting joists. Staff anticipates starting construction of the permanent repairs in roughly four weeks.

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# **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES**

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

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## **Engineering Division**

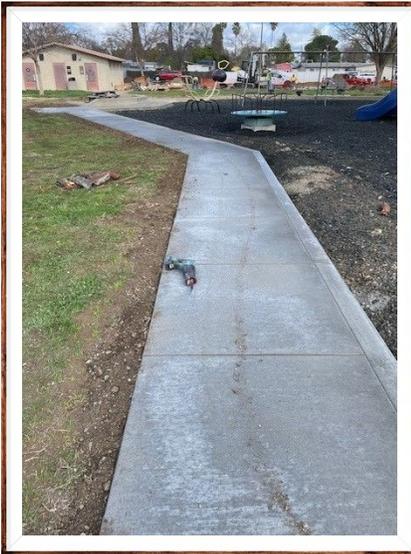
## City Hall ADA Door and Parking Upgrades

The notice to proceed for this project has been issued and construction will begin shortly. The project entails a significant upgrade to three exterior doorways at Willows City Hall, featuring the installation of new ADA-compliant doors, state-of-the-art hardware, power-assisted door operators, and accessible push buttons. Additionally, accessibility to city facilities will be enhanced with pavement rehabilitation, improved signage, and clear striping in ADA parking stalls, ensuring compliant and convenient paths of travel from parking areas to the entrances.

Staff will keep the public informed about any areas of City Hall that may be affected during this time. The City appreciates your understanding and support as we work to create a more accessible and welcoming environment for everyone.

## Jensen Park Pathway Improvement Project

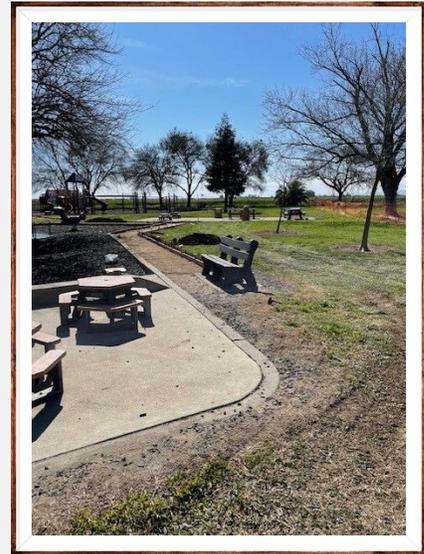
This project is off to a phenomenal start and is already ahead of schedule. Staff anticipates completion by the end of March. Whether taking a leisurely walk, spending time with family in the playgrounds, or relaxing by the gazebo, these improvements will create a more connected, enjoyable space for the entire community.



New Pathway



Path to Playground



Picnic Area

## Planning Division

### Planning Commission Vacancies

Due to recent resignations, there are currently two vacancies on the Willows Planning Commission. Upcoming appointments will include one for the remaining term through December 31, 2025 and the other for the remaining term through December 31, 2027.

Interested candidates should download the [Planning Commission Application](#) from the

[City of Willows website](#). Appointments to the Planning Commission are made by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. **Applications are due by 4:00 pm on Friday, March 14.**

### Planning Commission Approvals - March 4, 2025

**PASSED** - 725 North Tehama Street, Multi-Family Triplex

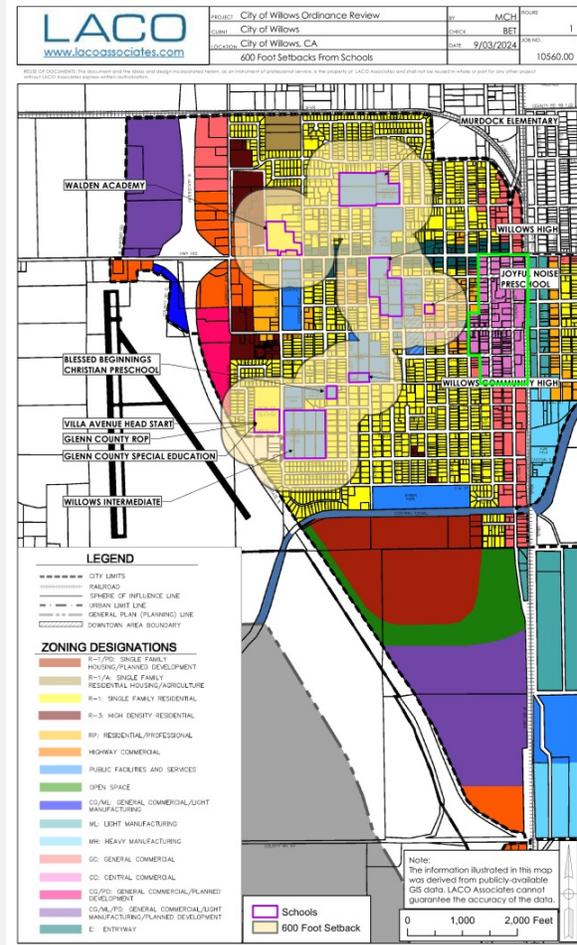
The Conditional Use Permit Amendment and Design Review were approved for the construction of a Triplex. The applicant recently completed the conversion of 17 motel units to apartments, with the addition of the triplex. The site is now home to 20 rental units.

### Retail Cannabis Business Applications

On March 7, the Phase 1 application filing period closed for the City's two available cannabis retail business licenses. Three applications were received. Applications that successfully complete Phase 1 will be invited to proceed to Phase 2 of the application process.

The City's focus is on businesses that not only satisfy regulatory standards but also contribute to the Willows community, creating welcoming retail that resonates with the community.

By prioritizing responsible practices, fostering community engagement, and incorporating thoughtful design, the City will ensure that these businesses become community assets that add value.



## Public Works Division

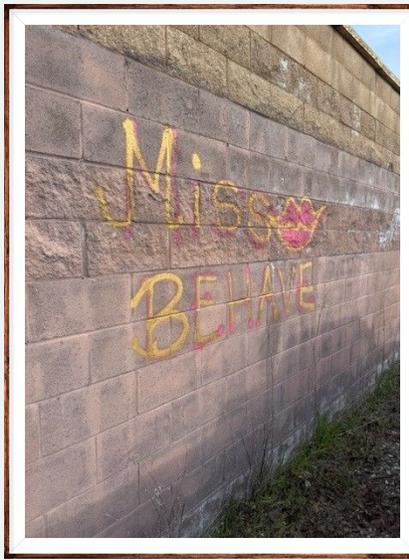
### Graffiti Removal

Staff painted over several areas of graffiti on the Birch/El Dorado Street Subdivision retaining wall, which is prominently visible to those traveling along I-5. Additionally, they covered graffiti at the Sycamore and Central Park restrooms. If you witness any acts of vandalism in progress, please call the Glenn County Sheriff's Office immediately.

Together, we can foster a cleaner, more inviting environment for everyone and inspire a sense of ownership and respect for our shared spaces.



Graffiti along I-5



Graffiti along I-5



Covered Graffiti



### New Swing Harnesses Installed

Public Works staff installed new swing harnesses at the Sycamore Park Playground.

Thanks to the Willows Rotary Club's generous donation of these swing harnesses, there are two more safe toddler swings in the Willows park system! Thank you, Rotary!

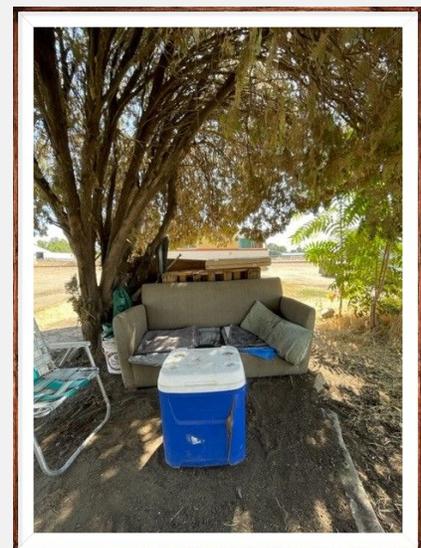
### Willows Municipal Code Fun Fact:

#### Title 8- Health and Safety

#### Chapter 8.05- Garbage, Rubbish and Weeds

#### **8.05.020 Unlawful accumulations – Regulations for accumulations.**

(1) Compliance with Sections. It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit, keep, accumulate or permit, cause or suffer any garbage or rubbish to be accumulated upon any lot or parcel of land, or on any public or private place, street, lane, alley, or drive.



## Recreation Division

Spring Soccer registration is now open!

Register online through March 22 at The [Willows Recreation Division's new registration portal and website!](#)

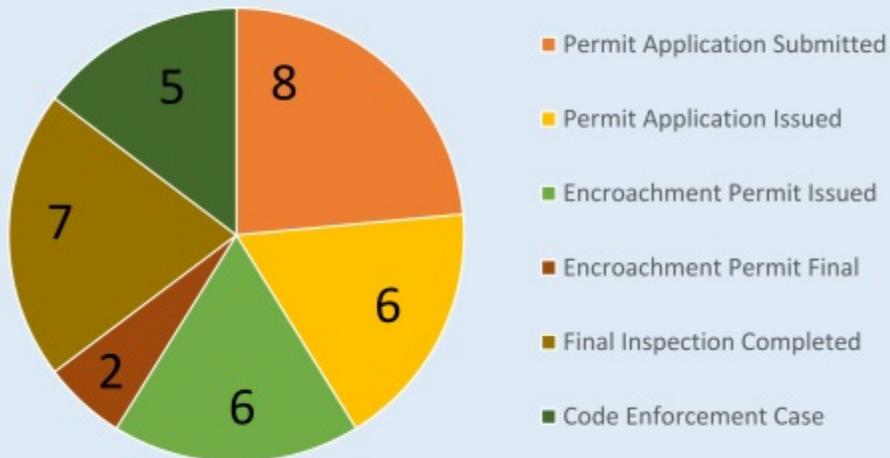
Registration is split into age groups and there is a \$50 fee per participant. The season will kick-off in early April. We look forward to seeing you on the playing field!



### 2025 Summer Swim Season is almost here!

The City of Willows will be leasing the Willows High School swimming pool again this summer. The pool will open June 14, 2025 to August 2, 2025, Monday through Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (excluding June 16, 18, 23, and 25). As the season approaches, additional information will be forthcoming. The use of the pool is **FREE** and open to all members of the public!

Community Development Activity  
February 2025

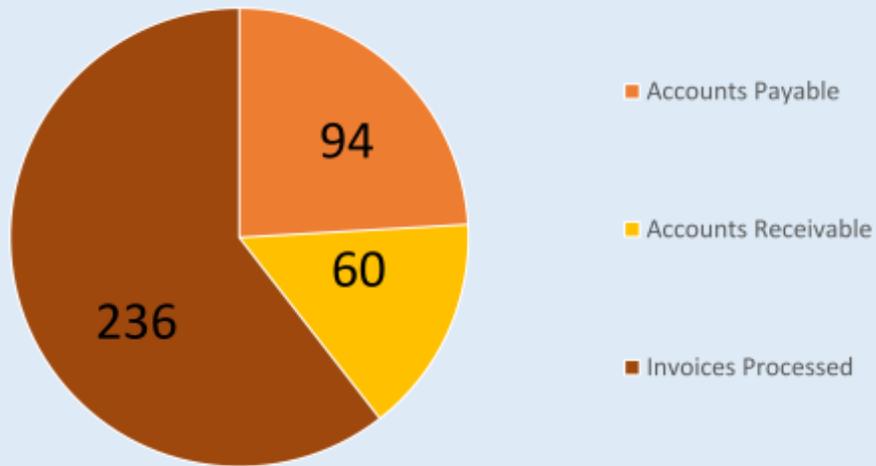


Public Works Division Activity  
February 2025



**FINANCE**

Finance Activity  
February 2025



**FIRE**

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

Major Local Incidents

- January 27 - Structure Fire At 644 North Shasta Street: Please see the [WFD's](#)

- **January 27** - Mutual Aid Vegetation Fire in Orland: WFD sent two engines and one water tender to Orland for a fast-moving, wind driven vegetation fire threatening structures.
- **January 23** - Mutual Aid Commercial Structure Fire, Hamilton City

## Trainings

### Annual Standards Training

Several times per year, WFD career staff complete “Engine Company Standards” sheets, which involve a skill set and a time standard to complete the skill set, including donning/doffing PPE, 1.75” hose line deployment, 2.25” hose line deployment, donning SCBAs, 24’ Ladder deployment and other activities.



These activities are a critical component of WFD readiness. The assessment is a tool used to assist in setting and maintaining standards; however, it also assists in tactical decision-making processes, as many tasks take longer than they might in a more robustly staffed department due to the city’s single career employee model.

### Arson Investigation Training

Chief Monck and Captain Lombard attended PC832 Arson Investigation Training in Redding. Both staff passed the course.

### Company Officer B Training

Captain Enos and Fire Engineer Fuentes successfully completed the Company Officer B Training.

### Driver Operator Training

WVFD volunteers participated in Driver Operator 1A and 1B training. Both classes total 40 hours.

### Ladder Truck is Out of Service

The City of Willows 20 year old ladder truck is out of service for major repairs. The ladder truck will not start and is at a mechanic for diagnostic review and repairs. Staff is working diligently to restore this critical piece of firefighting equipment back to service as soon as possible. In the interim, any ladder truck needs will be fulfilled by the City of Orland under the City's existing automatic aid agreements.



## Code Enforcement

- **151 South Tehama Street** - The property owner plans to demolish the structure at this site in March. This has been a multi-year code enforcement project (e.g., addressing public health and safety concerns). Staff are pleased to see it finally moving forward.
- **800 Tamarack Way** - Chief Monck continues to make slow but consistent progress working with the property owner to abate the large volume of garbage at the site.
- **225.5 Fern Street** - Chief Monck continues to also work with this property owner to remove large volumes of garbage and appliances at the site. As the owner's finances permit, he will continue to abate the property.

## Office of Emergency Services (OES) Prepositioning - "What's Prepositioning?"

"Preposition upstaffing" refers to the practice of temporarily increasing staffing or resource levels in anticipation of a potential emergency or high-demand situation. In the case of WFD, it means that additional personnel and resources were stationed or on standby in specific areas before an emergency actually occurs (e.g., floods, fires, rescues) so that the jurisdiction is ready to respond quickly if needed.

February 1-10, 2025 Preposition Upstaffing Resources:

- During this period, WFD had upstaffed resources, resulting in approximately \$50K of reimbursable funds.
- **While on assignment, WFD assisted with eight water rescues in Glenn County.**

February 12-15, 2025 Upstaffed Resources:

- WFD was prepositioned again, and this resulted in about \$7K in reimburseable funds to the City.

## Willows Rural Fire Protection District (WRFPD)

### Townhall Meeting

Willows Rural Fire Protection District (WRFPD) held its first townhall meeting to discuss the

upcoming Proposition 218 assessment. There was one attendee and the person was not a resident of the Willows Rural Fire Protection District.



The District intends to hold more meetings to educate the public. The Prop 218 assessment is contingent on Johns Manville voting “yes” to approve the proposed assessment increase since the company controls 24% of the vote.

The second town hall meeting was held March 5.

This time there were two attendees. Ballots are due by the end of the public hearing portion of the April 16, 2025 Willows Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting.

### **WRFPD Forcible Entry Prop**

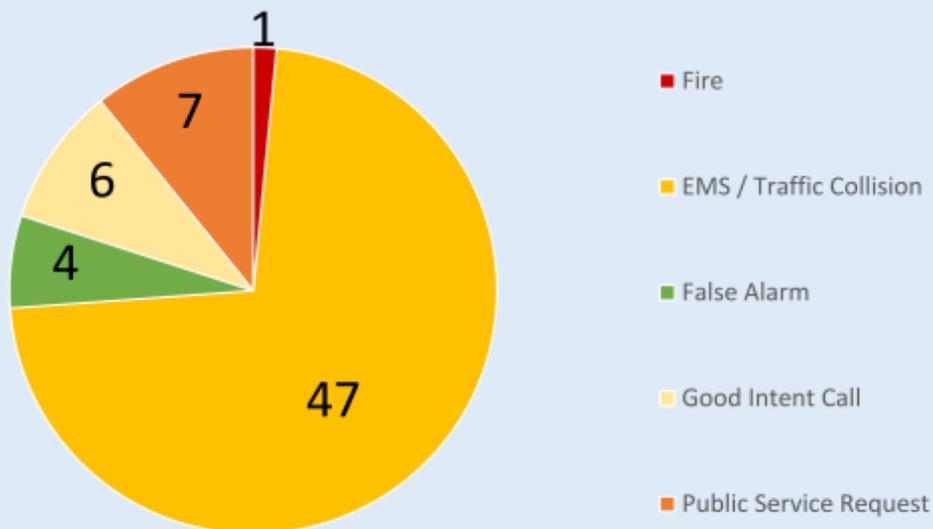
For several years, a forcible entry prop for firefighters to train on has been needed by both fire departments. At the Feb 25 Board meeting, WRFPD approved the purchase of a state-of-the-art forcible entry door prop in the amount of \$9,625. It will arrive in 8-12 weeks. It will be useful for firefighter training for many years to come.

While the Rural District and the City are separate legal entities, they have been sharing resources and response capabilities since 1975, as well as work seamlessly together everyday to protect and serve the greater Willows community.

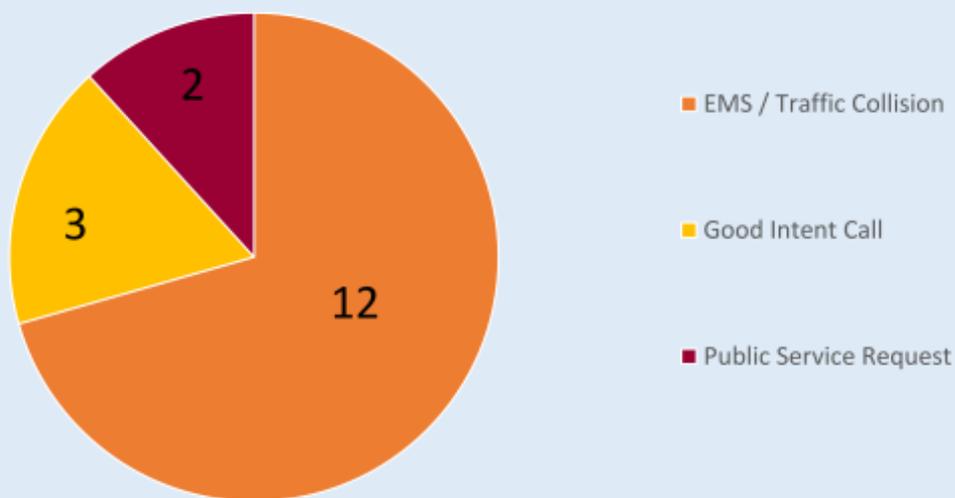
### **Grant Management Update**

- **CAL Water Grant (\$35K):** [Cal Water awarded](#) a \$35K grant to the WFD requiring NO local match in order to purchase Advanced Life Support (ALS) monitors. This equipment will help WFD overcome a major hurdle in its effort to expand emergency medical capabilities to the citizens of Willows.
- **Cal Fire Weed Abatement Grant (\$80K):** WFD completed a grant amendment for the multi year Weed Abatement Grant Project to ensure the grant award is maximized to purchase \$80K of hazardous fuels reduction equipment that may be used for other city needs as well. The approved equipment includes a new tow behind brush chipper (e.g., Bandit Intimidator 12xc), backhoe mounted stump grinder (e.g., Blue Diamond 26” wheel) and a claw attachment (e.g., Tink 520 Claw) for the backhoe to collect and pickup leaves, as well as cut vegetation.

### Willows Fire Department Activity February 2025



### Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity February 2025



## LIBRARY

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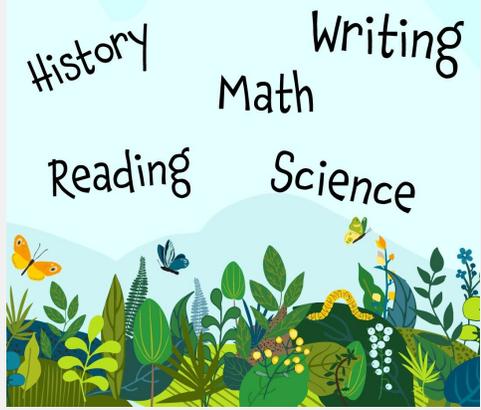
### Get Help With Your Studies!

The Willows Library offers assistance on our website: [Brianfuse HelpNow](#). Use your library card for free access to online tutoring, homework assistance, practice tests, writing reviews, study tools, and more.

Spring is the perfect time to grow your skills.

Whether it's math, science, reading, writing, or history, Brainfuse HelpNow offers interactive skill-building modules for all learning levels and needs. Start growing your knowledge today!

# Grow your Skills



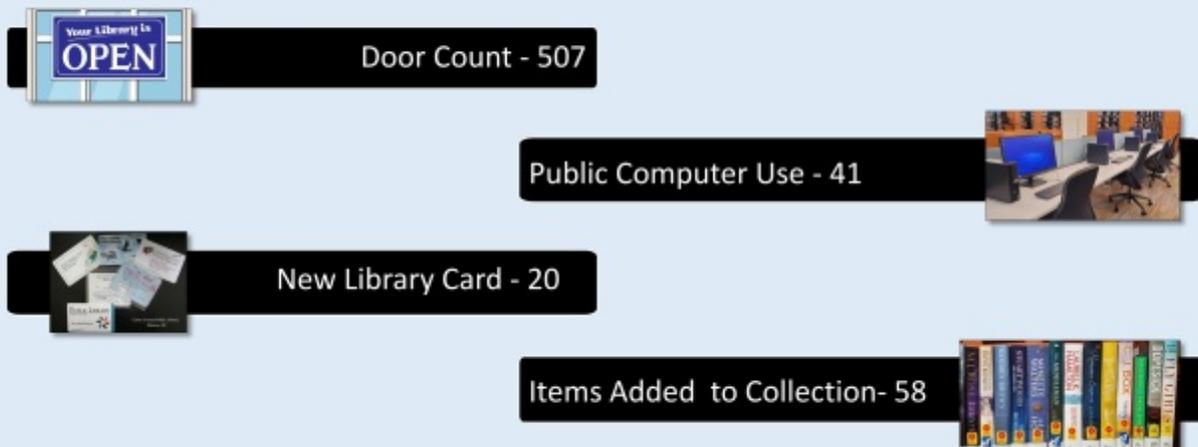
## Events

### Community Health Worker at the Library

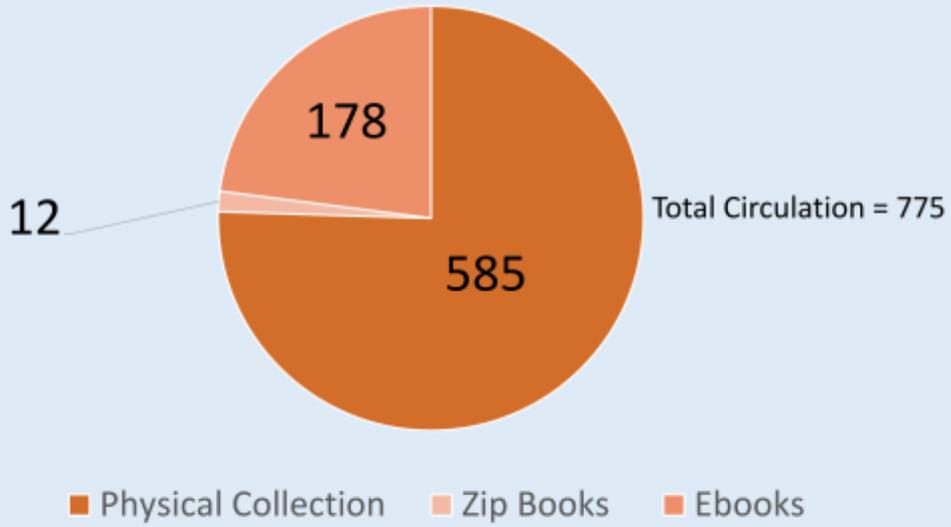
- March 14, 11am-3pm
- March 28, 11am-3pm

A Community Health Worker from Tri Counties Community Action Partnership will be at the library to assist members of the public with making connections to needed resources, programs, and benefits, as well as application assistance, healthcare navigation, coordinating transportation, translation (Spanish/English/Laotian), and so much more! Please ask library staff for more information.

## Library Activity February 2025



Circulation of Materials  
February 2025



**City Of Willows**

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Willows, CA 95988  
(530) 934-7041



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