

Willows Monthly - October 2023



Upcoming Meetings

City Council

- **November 14** - Regular Meeting @6:00 PM
- **November 28** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

Planning Commission

- **November 15** - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

ADMINISTRATION

Recent Press Releases

In case you missed any, the City recently released several press releases. Please see the links below for more information.

- [October 18, City of Willows and Glenn County Sheriff's Office reach temporary agreement](#)
- [October 16, \\$4,034,000 grant received for improvements to Sycamore Park](#)
- [October 12, Willows City Council Declares Fiscal Emergency & Places 1% Sales Tax on March 2024 Ballot](#)
- [October 9, Glenn Groundwater Authority](#)
- [October 5, Willows City Council Agrees with Glenn County Sheriff: The City needs to move forward with rebuilding its own law enforcement services](#)

City hires new CD&S Director, Accounting Manager and Fire Engineer!

The City of Willows is pleased to welcome **Joe Bettencourt**, **Joanne Moore** and **Jaime Fuentes** to the Willows team!



On November 6, Joe Bettencourt will start as the new Community Development & Services Director. Since 2019, Joe has been the Supervising Staff Services Analyst with Glenn County in the Facilities Department. Prior to re-joining the County, Joe was a Program Analyst in the City of Sacramento's Department of Utilities from 2017 to 2019. Before working in Sacramento, he also worked for Glenn County in the Planning and Public Works Departments as an Administrative Analyst II/III. Joe holds a Master of Public Administration from American Public University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Chico.

On November 13, Joanne Moore will start as the City's new Accounting Manager. Currently, Joanne is the Fiscal Services Director for the E Center of Yuba City, a non-profit organization that manages Head Start Programs, Women and Infant Children (WIC), and State funded child care services. She has also held the positions of Assistant Fiscal Services Director and Accounting Manager. Prior to joining the E Center in 2015, Joanne was employed with the Colusa Indian Community Council and Colusa Casino Resort holding a variety of finance related positions including Grant Writer/Administrator, Staff Accountant and Accounting Manager. Joanne holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Phoenix.

The City is pleased to announce that Jaimie Fuentes has filled the full-time Fire Engineer

vacancy. Jaime began work for the Willows Fire Department on September 25, 2023. He completed a 2 week inhouse academy and has been assigned to the C-shift. Jaimie is a Willows resident, and has been an active Willows Volunteer Firefighter since 2022. Prior to working for the Willows Fire Department, Jaimie worked for CAL FIRE as a seasonal firefighter.

Welcome aboard, Joe, Joanne and Jaime!

Now Hiring - Check out the City's current vacancy!

[Finance & Human Resources Analyst](#)

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



CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP:

Council Actions for September 12, October 4, October 10, and October 24 City Council Meetings

September 12 Council Meeting

- Proclamations - Awards of Appreciation to Rural District Fire Chief Alex Parisio, Firefighter Riley Eck and Fire Engineer John Peterich, and Awarded a Commendation for Valor to Fire Captain Kyle Enos.
- Amended - FY 2023-2024 Budget rescinding approval of the design contract for repairs to the City Swimming Pool and the full-time Recreation Director.
- Approved - Bid award of contract Planning Services to LACO Associates.
- Approved - Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with North State Air Conditioning for \$15,000 to replace one of the HVAC units on the roof of City Hall.

October 4 Council Meeting

- Swear in - newly appointed Councilmember Evan Hutson.

October 10 Council Meeting

- Authorized - Library Director, or designee, to sign the agreement with the Health and Human Services Agency for the purpose of the Willows Library partnering with Glenn County HHSA to provide the citizens of Glenn County with public health education, including timely access to COVID-19 mitigation, treatment, and prevention.
- Approved - Resolution declaring the City's election to adopt the informal bidding

procedures and other provisions of the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (ACT).

- Appointed - Sherry Brott to the Planning Commission
- First Reading Approved - General Plan Update, North Valley Indian Health Rezone to re-designate five parcels from office and professional to general commercial.
- Approved - Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with NorCal Pipeline Services for 13,210 to perform a Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) Inspection of City Sewer Mains.
- Approved - Resolution declaring a fiscal emergency, and authorizing the placement of a 1% sales tax measure on the March 2024 election ballot.
- Appointed - Councilmember Hutson as an alternate to the Regional Transit Committee and the Library Board Committee, and appointed Mayor Thomas to the Public Safety Committee.

October 24 Council Meeting

- Second Reading Approved - Opt-in to the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (ACT).
- Approved - New sewage pumps for Cherry Street Lift Station contingent upon Northeast Willows Community Service District Approval.
- Approved - City Hall HVAC Unit Replacement
- Approved - Bid process for city owned land (e.g., rice fields) with extraction of 1.5 acres for future solar array installation to offset wastewater treatment plant electrical expenses.
- Approved - Award bid to Willdan to update Master Fee Schedule.
- Second Reading Approved - General Plan Update, North Valley Indian Health Rezone to re-designate five parcels from office and professional to general commercial.
- Approved - Temporary Law Enforcement Agreement with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$1,285,306 from July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
- Approved - 1% Sales Tax Measure Ordinance to place on the March 2024 ballot.
- Appointed - Councilmember Gary Hansen was appointed to the County's Drought Management Committee.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

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

Northern Valley Indian Health Rezone Project

At the October 10, 2023 City Council 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 Council approved the first reading of a resolution approving the parcel rezones and the General Plan amendment, which was presented again for final approval at the October 24, 2023 City Council meeting.



Jack in the box

The City's Planning Division is awaiting the fifth round of revised plans from Jack in the Box before approvals to move forward with the project.

Hampton Inn

The Hampton Inn project, including Design Review, was approved by the Planning Commission (PC). Currently, City staff await the applicant's approved Conditions of Approval and plan submission for final approval.

Sundial Collective (Cannabis)

The Collective's Use Permit deadline was recently extended. City await applicant's plan submission, including proposed temporary structure.

Red 88 Noodle House

Planning Commission reviewed and approved Design Review process on October 18. Project moving forward.

Super 8 Motel

Planning Commission approved color scheme. Project moving forward.

Public Works Division

Cal Water Main Connection

The City is very pleased to announce that the water main connection from the Cal Water system to the City owned water wells in South Willows is complete. As a result, the City is poised to transfer responsibility of water purveying services, for its three customers that receive water services from the City, to Cal Water. The transfer of this city resource to Cal Water will eliminate the city's tremendous responsibility and liability of managing a highly regulated resource - potable water (e.g., future water treatment for

Chrome 6), as well as a Water Enterprise Fund that operates at a structural deficit and has for several years, relying on General Fund resources to balance its budget.

With one less utility to construct, the new water main connection will also help promote new development and investment in South Willows.



Public Works Division Activity September 2023



Trees Cut Down- 6
Trees Trimmed - 5



New USA Markings - 53

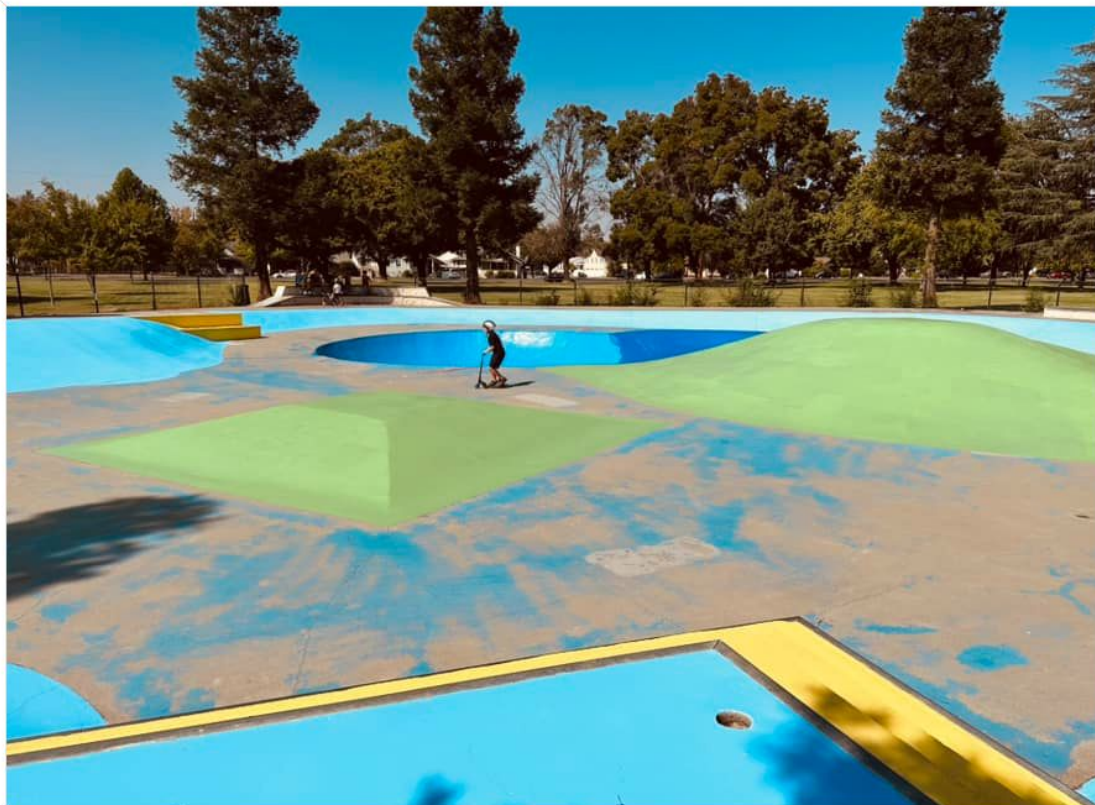
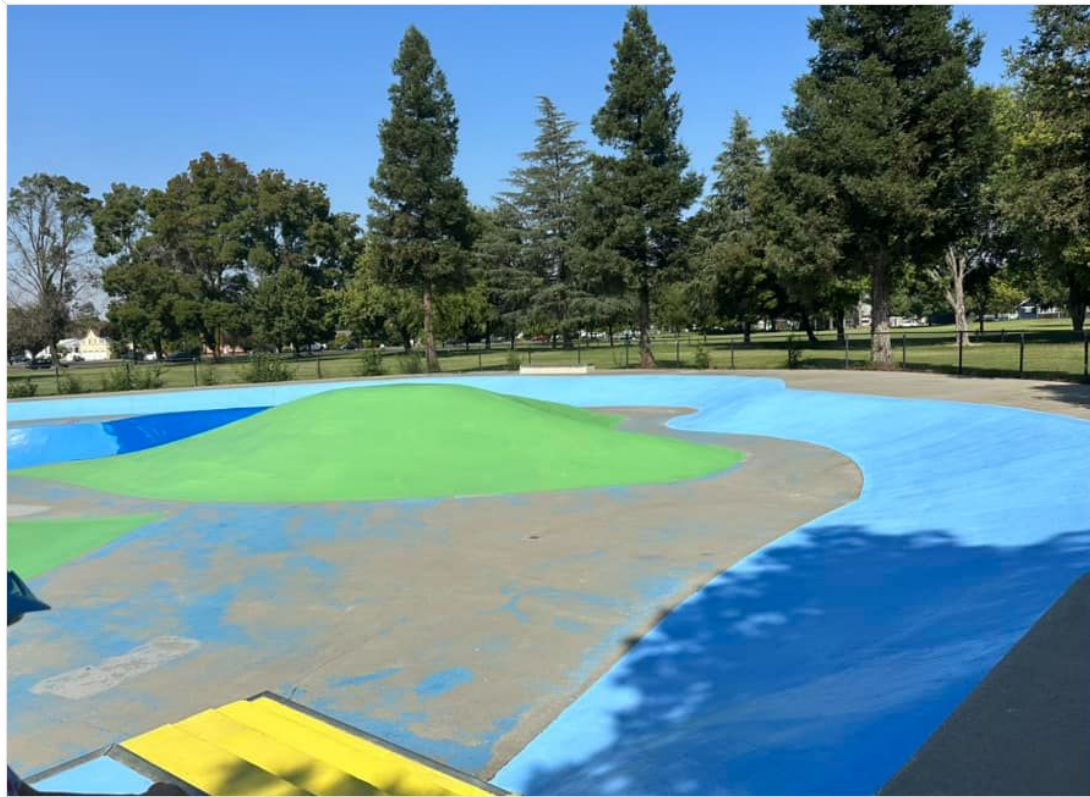


Sewer Calls - 3

Recreation Division

Willows Skate Park Project

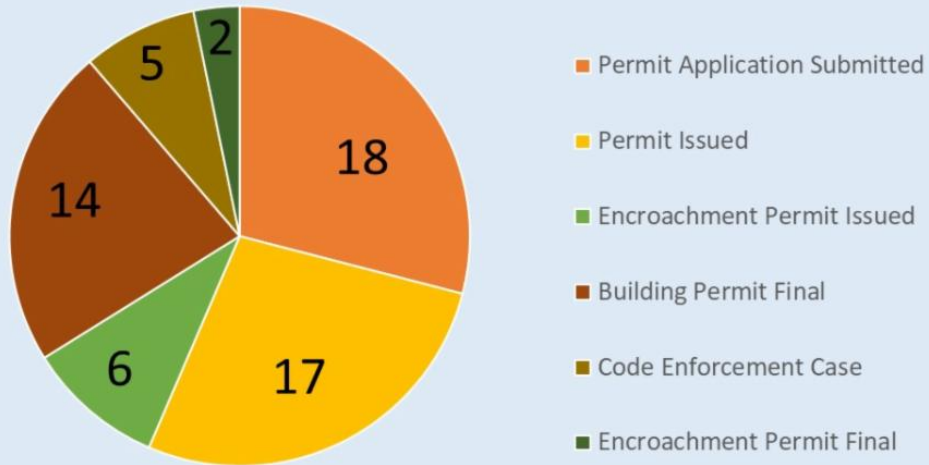
On September 23, community volunteers painted the skate park in Sycamore Park. Their efforts greatly improved the park's appearance. Big thank you to the Willows Rotary Club, Johns Mansville, and Ace Hardware for their efforts to improve our community and beautify the skate park!



Soccer Season is in Full Swing!

On September 30, the Willows Recreation Youth Soccer Season started and has been a great success so far. Checkout the season schedule on the [Recreation Division's Facebook page](#) for more information.

Community Development Activity September 2023



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

EMERGENCY HIGHLIGHT

Vehicle Accident

On September 22, Willows Fire Department responded to a vehicle accident at the intersection of Highway 162 and County Road D. Thankfully the accident was non-injury, however travel was impacted along Highway 162 for some time. This accident was in the Kanawha Fire Protection District and Kanawha Volunteer Fire Department also responded.



PUBLIC EVENTS

Monthly Blood Drive

On September 13, the Willows Fire Department hosted its bi-monthly blood drive and a total of 14 donors contributed. 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 Education

WFD Captain Tyler Lombard coordinated with Bayliss Fire Department at Walden

Academy to participate in public fire education, and WFD Firefighter Matt Lopez demonstrated how structure fires occur with the use of a "doll house."

TRAININGS

WVFD Firefighters have begun transitioning from Wildland training to structural firefighting. Firefighters practiced donning and doffing Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) as well as used "Palmer's Dollhouse" to better understand fire behavior in a burning structure.

AWARDS

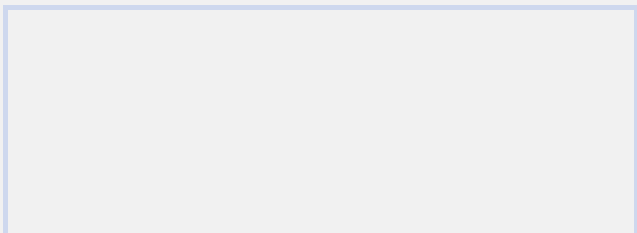
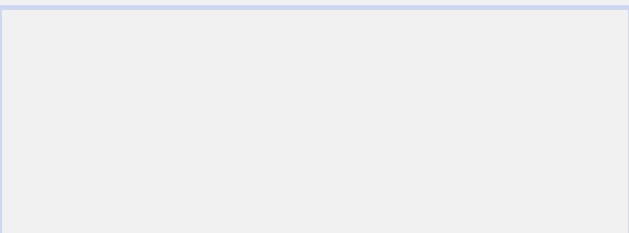
WFD Captain Kyle Enos was honored with the Award of Valor at the Willows City Council meeting. This award was for saving a citizen's life from a structure fire on August 22, 2023. Captain Enos searched and located a victim in the smoke filled building, then personally pulled the victim from the fire and administered medical aid. Willows Volunteer Firefighters, Engineer John Peterich and Probationary Firefighter Riley Eck arrived soon after and extinguished the fire. Engineer Peterich and Probationary Firefighter Eck were awarded Certificates of Appreciation at the same City Council meeting. If you see any of these three heroes, make sure to shake their hand. Someone is alive today because of their actions!

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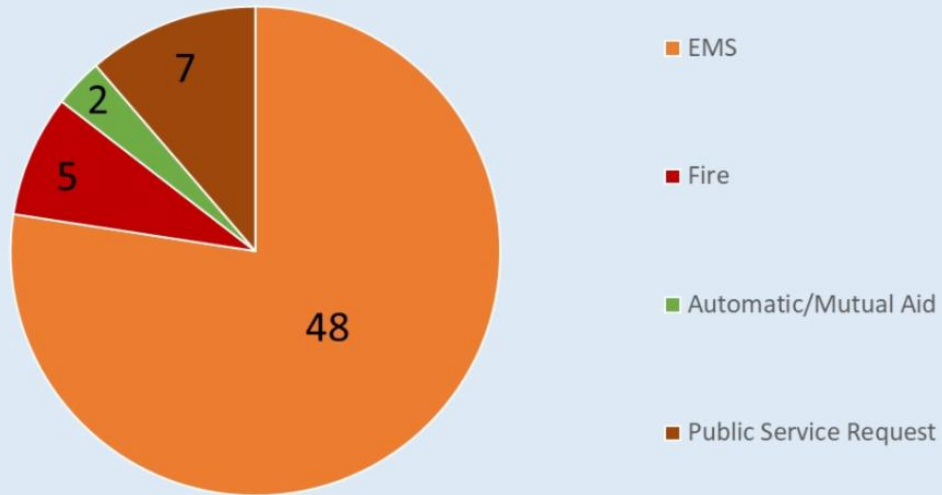


VOLUNTEERS

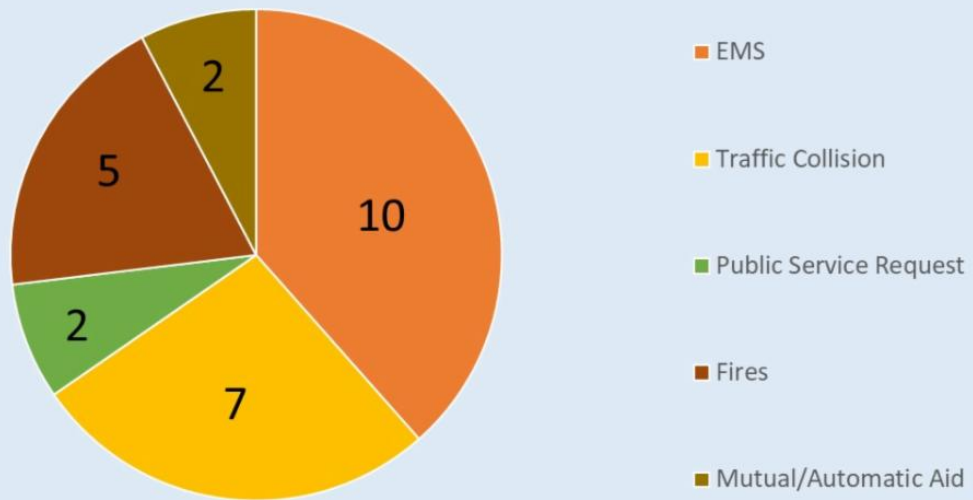
Riley Eck completed his probationary period and was sworn in as a volunteer firefighter.



Willows Fire Department Activity September 2023



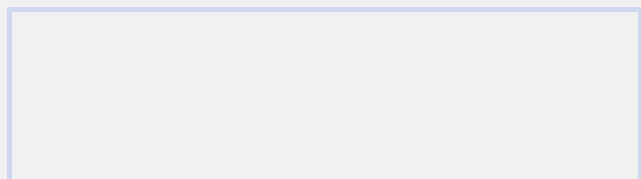
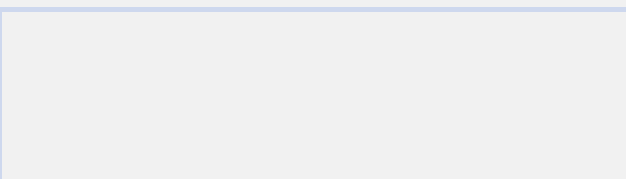
Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity September 2023

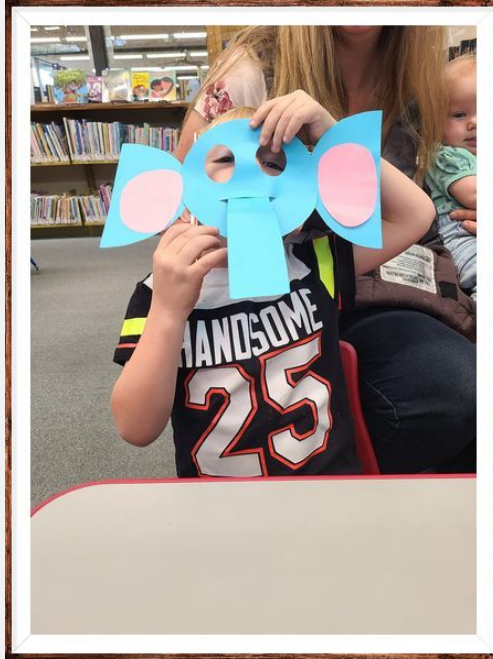


LIBRARY

Elephant Story Time

On September 22, The Willows Public Library had a whole herd of elephants at story time in honor of Elephant Appreciation Day, Check out the photos below!





October Special Events

Thursday, October 12, 4-5 p.m. Eclipse Party:

Get ready for Saturday's annular eclipse with the Willows Public Library! Join us October 12th at 4pm for a children's STEM Activity, book giveaway and free eclipse glasses, and snacks too... SUN chips and CapriSUNs!

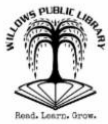
Wednesday, October 25, 3:30 p.m. NorCal Bats:

Live bats of California native species will be presented for viewing and discussion! NorCal Bats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of bats throughout Northern California. In addition, they are committed to public education regarding the environmental benefits of bats, and dispelling fears and myths. Located in the Sacramento Valley, trained volunteers care for injured and orphaned bats throughout the valley and surrounding foothills.

Tuesday, October 31, 3:00 p.m. Adopt a ZomBee Storytime:

Enjoy a zombie story before adopting a "zombie" of your very own! "Bee" sure to check out a book to read to your new friend each night!

Thanks to the Glenn County Board of Supervisors, the Libraries have funding to purchase new materials and we would like your input on how best to spend it! Please take a few minutes to complete our [online survey](#) or if you'd like to fill it out in person, hard copies are available in each Library. We will be raffling off a \$25 gift card to Barnes and Noble for completing the survey.



Willows Public Library Events OCTOBER 2023

Follow us on Facebook for the latest news and upcoming events.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Hours: Tues 11am - 5pm Wed 11am - 7pm Thu 11am - 7pm Fri 11am - 5pm	2	3 Game Day 4-5	4 Storytime 11 AM	5 Block Party 3 PM	6	7
8	9	10	11 Storytime 11 AM	12 Eclipse Party 4-5	13	14
15	16	17	18 Storytime 11 AM	19	20	21
22	23	24 Families For Literacy 4 PM	25 Storytime 11 AM NorCal Bats 3:30	26 Crafternoon 4 PM	27	28
29	30	31 Adopt a "Zombee" Story 3 PM				

Library Activity September 2023



Door Count – 718



Public Computer Use – 628



New Library Card - 38



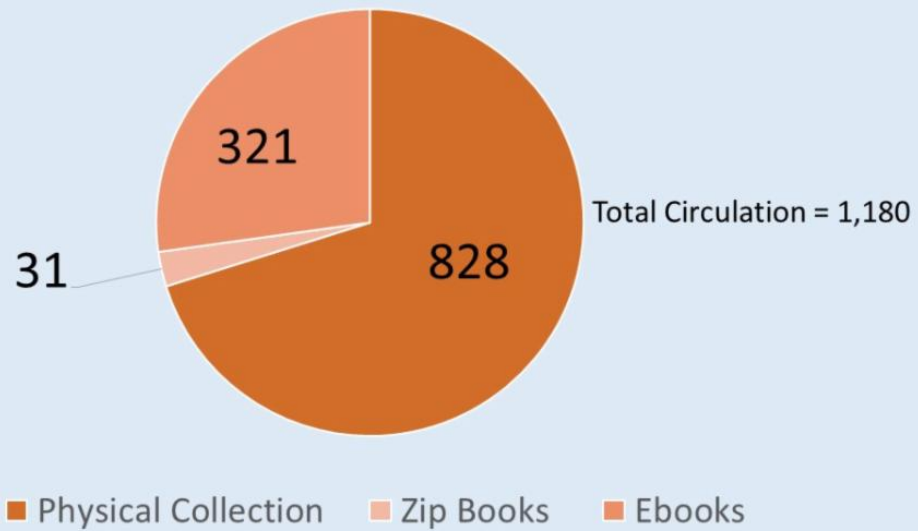
Items Added to Collection – 85



Program Participants – 145*

*Includes 13 programs and 78 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials
September 2023



City Of Willows

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



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