

## Willows Monthly - September 2024



### Upcoming Event

#### **Sycamore Park Design Kickoff Celebration**

Please join us for the **Sycamore Park Design Kickoff Celebration** as the design improvements for the Sycamore Park Project get underway. In late 2023, Caltrans awarded the City of Willows more than \$4 million in grant funds to improve Sycamore Park, included in the grant are plans to repair the city swimming pool and tennis courts, convert two tennis courts to pickleball courts, and improve pathways throughout the park. Come and checkout the design renderings and park improvements that are just around the corner and will be completed in 2025!

**Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024**

**Time: 3:00 to 4:30 pm**

**Location: Sycamore Park, Willows, CA**

## Upcoming Meetings

### City Council

- October 8 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- October 22 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

### Planning Commission

- October 16 - Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

## ADMINISTRATION

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

## City Speakers Bureau - Getting Answers About Measure i!

There's still time to book a City of Willows Speakers Bureau event with your organization, civic or neighborhood group, or an informal gathering of friends to learn factual information about the City's finances and Measure i, the 1.5% sales tax measure on the November ballot, and **GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED!**

Invite one or two Speakers Bureau members from the City Council, City Management and/or Financial Sustainability Advisory Committee (FSAC) to speak to your group. Tell us who you want to hear from – Councilmembers, city management, local residents and community members on the FSAC or a combination of all three! We're here to answer your questions about the City's financial circumstances and the sales tax measure on the November 2024 ballot.

To schedule one or more speakers for your event, please contact the City Clerk, Amos Hoover, at [ahoover@cityofwillows.org](mailto:ahoover@cityofwillows.org), or call City Hall at (530) 934-7041.

## Willows Townhall Meeting - City Finances and Measure I

On Thursday, September 12, 2024, the City of Willows and the Financial Sustainability Advisory Committee (FSAC) hosted a townhall meeting at the Ark Christian Center to discuss the current state of the City's General Fund and answer questions about Measure i. Approximately 43 residents participated in the Townhall meeting and asked excellent questions and provided great feedback. If you were unable to attend the event, please [listen to the recording](#). Thank you.



## Round Up - Recent City Press Releases

- [City of Willows Special Townhall Meeting on City Finances and Measure I, 1.5% Sales Tax Measure](#)
- [City of Willows Hosts its Second Biennial 2024 'City Crawl'](#)

## CITY COUNCIL ACTION ROUNDUP:

### August 27 and September 10, 2024 City Council Meetings

#### August 27 City Council Meeting

- Directed staff to proceed with planning a softball field lighting upgrade project using Parks and Recreation Development Impact fees.
- Directed staff to prepare a Community Development Block Grant application to repair sidewalks.

#### September 10 City Council Meeting

- Authorized the City Manager, or her designee, to execute and accept \$19,570 of grant funding through CAL FIRE's Rural Fire Capacity Grant.
- Directed staff to pursue modifying the General Commercial, Central Commercial, and Light Industrial zones to allow retail cannabis businesses with a Conditional Use Permit and reduce the setback distance that retail cannabis businesses may operate from schools to 600 feet.

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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

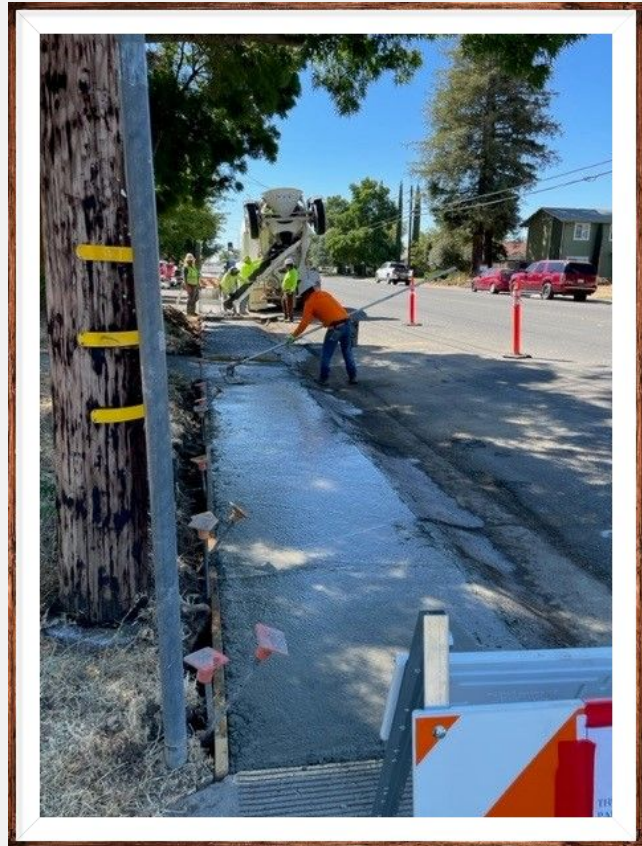
Planning, Building, Code Enforcement, Engineering, Public Works, Sewage, Public Facilities, Fleet and Capital Projects

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### Engineering Division

## Annual Sidewalk Rehabilitation Project

This project replaced approximately 1,430 square feet of non-compliant sidewalk at 4 locations. Sidewalks were brought up to American with Disability Act (ADA) standards. This ensures that persons with disabilities can access and use pedestrian routes and eliminates hazards for all citizens.



## Planning Division

### Mercado's Meats

Located at 555 North Tehama Street, the business will offer a meat market, groceries and bakery. The applicant has pulled building permits and started to remodel the building. The applicant is working to secure all necessary approvals for the business license, and building and planning permits.

### Tacos Ocampo

A Conditional Use Permit was granted by the City Council for a mobile food truck at the northeast Corner of Plumas and Sycamore Streets, which is located in the Central Commercial Zone. Construction has begun on the project and we are excited to welcome a new business to our downtown area!



## Code Enforcement Division

### **332 North Butte Street**

The house contains major structural damage, and the owner has been issued a notice to abate. The owner is working to secure a demolition permit to demolish the structure and clear the land.

### **143 North Yolo Street**

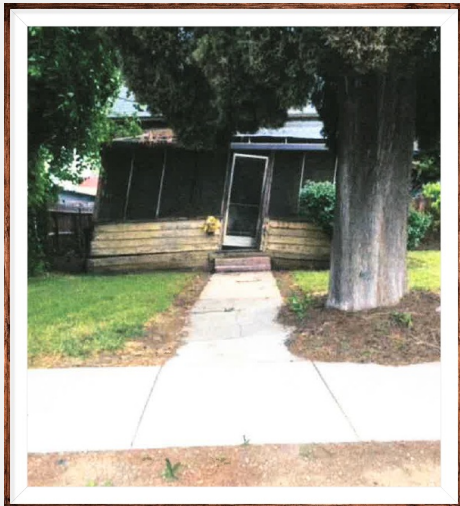
The City is currently seeking court approval for receivership of the property.

### **151 South Tehama Street**

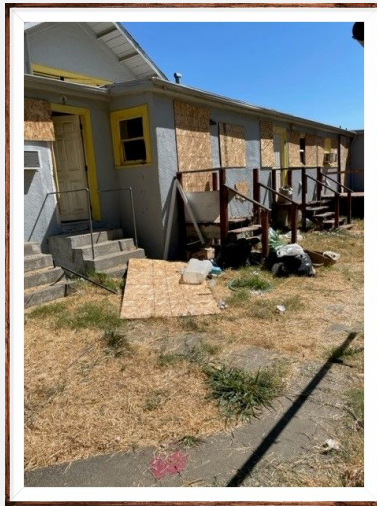
This building is structurally deficient and has been red tagged. The property owner recently renewed his demolition permit and plans to demolish the building in the near future.

### **Trailers/Vehicles/Debris on Railroad Property**

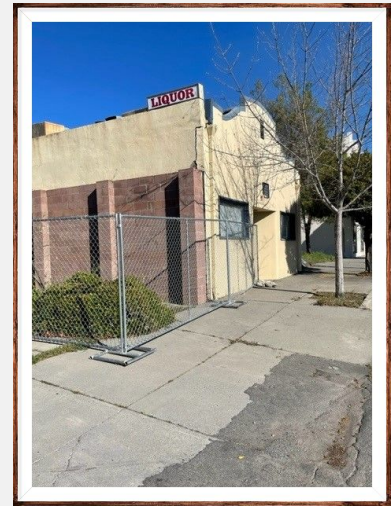
Staff recently notified Union Pacific Railroad (UPR) that they are in violation of the Willows Municipal Code and their property needs to be abated. There are two camper trailers, vehicles and other debris on the property located on Tehama Street south of Sycamore Street.



*332 North Butte Street*



*143 North Yolo Street*



*151 South Tehama Street*

## **Willows Municipal Code Fun Fact**

### **Title 10- Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 10.05 General Provisions, 10.05.130**

#### **Injuring pavement.**

No person shall drive, propel, draw, trail or move any vehicle, plow, harrow, scarifier, equipment, device or any other object, instrument or article in or upon any public street, road, avenue, alley, highway or other public place within the city, the surface of which has been improved or finished by or with an oil pavement, macadam pavement, concrete pavement or other type of pavement or improvement, in such a way or manner as to scratch, tear, injure, mutilate, cut, disfigure or mar any such pavement or improved surface or improvement; provided, however, the provisions of this section

shall not apply to official acts performed in the exercise of official duty, nor to employees of the city or of contractors holding contracts with the city, in the lawful exercise of their respective duties and assignments or in the lawful execution of their respective contracts. [Code 1959 § 11.14; prior code § 16-13].

## Public Works Division

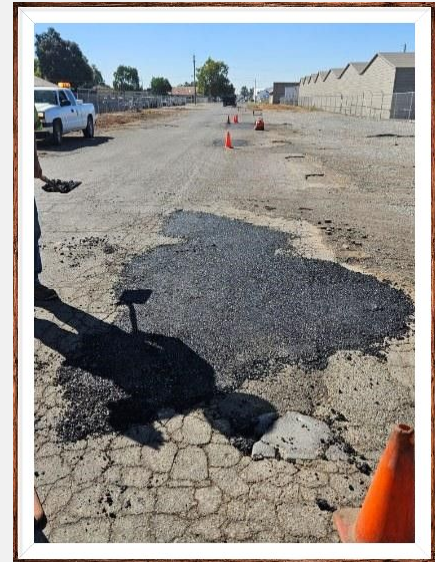
### Street Repairs

Public Works Staff completed hot patch repairs of the road at the following locations:

- Colusa Street to the north of Sycamore Street, and
- South Culver Avenue to the South of Sycamore Street.

### Recycle & Garbage Bins at Central Park

Crews installed two concrete pads to place garbage and recycle bins by the playground. They also installed bins at the restroom and gazebo on existing concrete pads.



### Recycle & Garbage Bins at Central Park

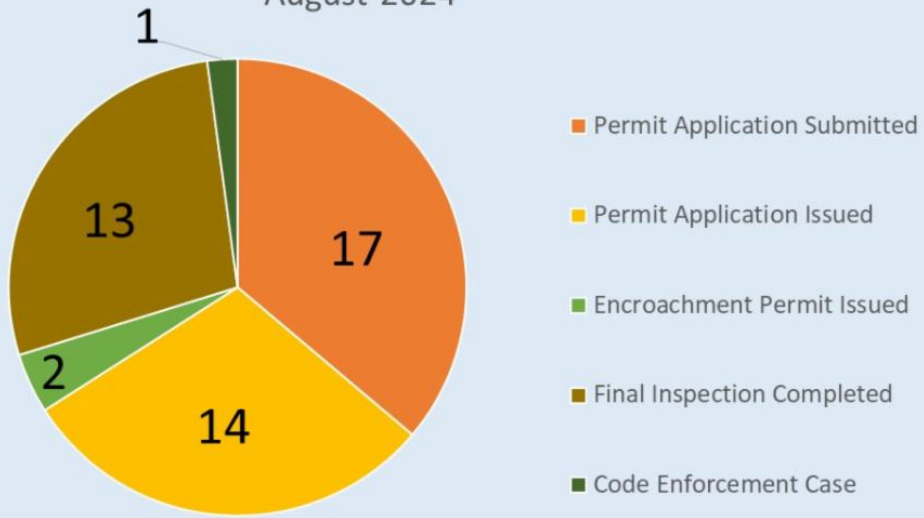
Crews installed two concrete pads to place garbage and recycle bins by the playground. They also installed bins at the restroom and gazebo on existing concrete pads.



### Installation of Memorial Bench

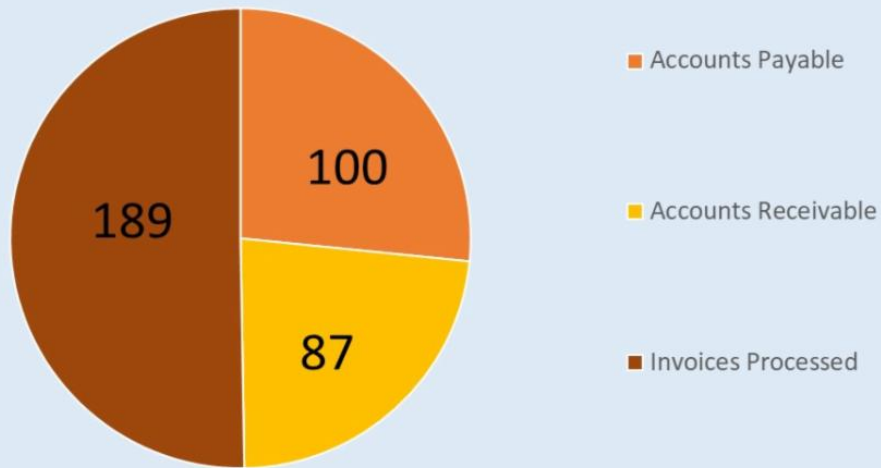
The Public Works crew installed the Lions Club Memorial Bench at Jensen Park near the Lions Club Gazebo in memoriam of Joe Hinton.

Community Development Activity  
August 2024



## FINANCE

Finance Activity  
August 2024



## FIRE

### Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

#### Major Incidents

## **Vegetation Fire**

Willows Fire Department (WFD), responded to a mutual aid request on August 6, 2024, in the Elk Creek area for a vegetation fire with one engine and one water tender.



## **Park Fire - Strike Team**

Chief Monck and Captain

Lombard returned from the Park Fire incident (Butte/Tehama County) on August 13. Captain Lombard successfully completed his strike team leader task book. To date, the WFD has generated approximately \$75K in strike team revenue for the 2024 fire season using strike team deployments.

## **LUCAS Device**

The Fire Department received its LUCAS device procured under the Homeland Security Grant. The LUCAS device provides state-of-the-art mechanical chest compressions to patients in cardiac arrest. It will bring new Emergency Medical Services and lifesaving equipment to the Willows community.

## **New Structure Gear**

The Fire Department is ordering five additional sets of structure gear for new Fire Volunteers. The purchase will be funded with a SAFER grant sponsored by the California Volunteer Firefighters Association.

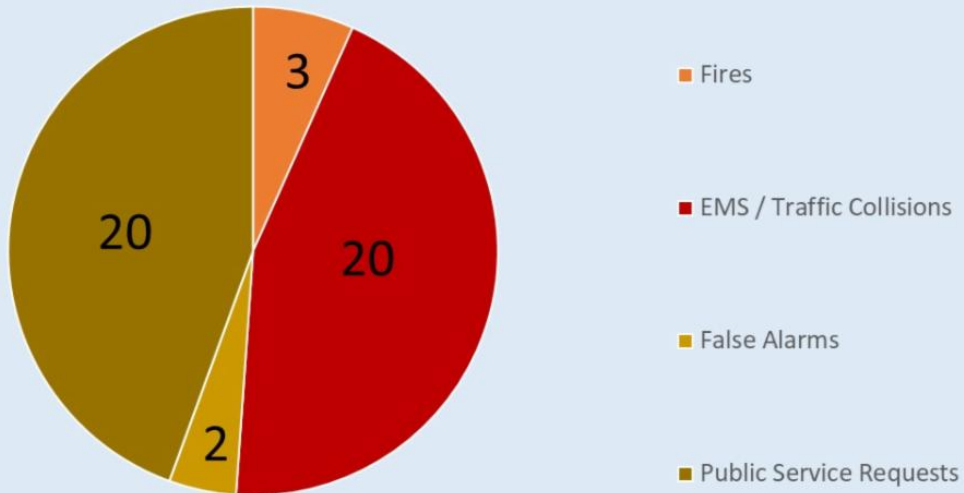
## **Other News**

Willows Rural Fire Protection District Engine 12 is now fully in service. The District will run the new engine for a few months to make sure its fully operational before using it for regular calls. This engine was purchased with grant funding.

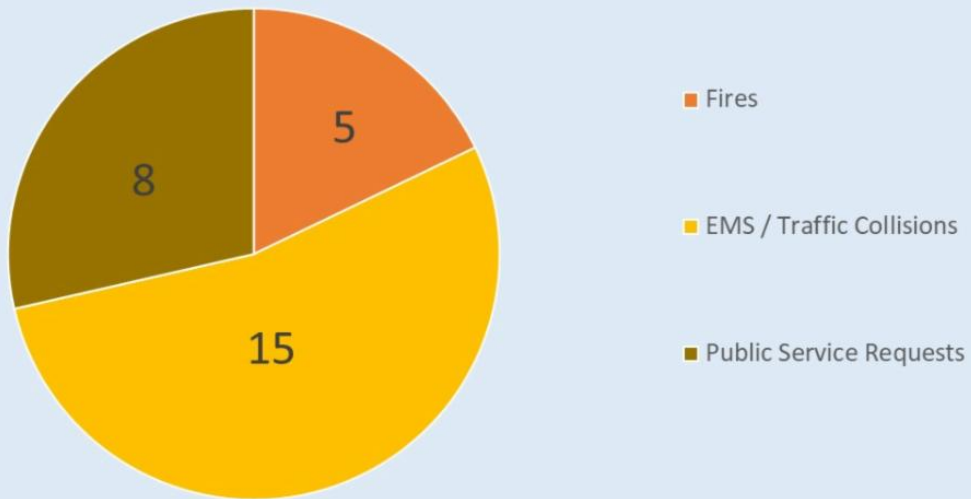
WFD was awarded a \$15,000 grant through the California Fire Foundation for the purchase of new wildland firefighting equipment (hoses, nozzles, clamps, fittings, etc..).



### Willows Fire Department Activity August 2024



### Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity August 2024



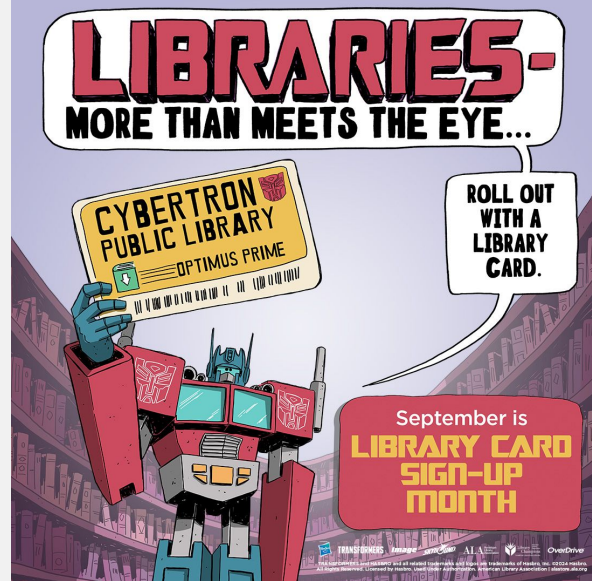
## LIBRARY

### National Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month! We're inviting everyone to discover the incredible resources and opportunities available by signing up for a library card at the Willows Public Library.

Whether you're looking to enhance your skills, find valuable information, or connect with fellow avid readers, a library card unlocks a world of possibilities.

The library is a vibrant community center offering much more than just books. At the library you will find programs like job search assistance, homework help, book clubs, movie nights, story times, community health workers, and more.



Curious about learning a new language, streaming films, or downloading ebooks or audio? We have the resources you need through online services such as Libby the “library-to-go” ebook app, Kanopy streaming video service, and Mango Languages. For those needing homework or job search assistance, your library card gives you access to HelpNow and JobNow for live help and access to free lessons, practice tests, and videos.

Did you know that the library also offers unique items for checkout? It has chromebooks, California Parks Passes, telescopes, outdoor exploration backpacks, and Learning2Go kits. There’s truly something for everyone at the Library! Getting a library card is free, easy and an essential step toward academic success and lifelong learning for students. Everyone should have one!

Join us throughout September for our Library Card Month Sign-Up activities, including fun literary raffle prizes donated by the Friends of the Library and spin-the-wheel prizes for everybody who checks out material or signs up for a card.

Library Activity  
August 2024



Door Count – 947



Public Computer Use – 77



New Library Card - 15



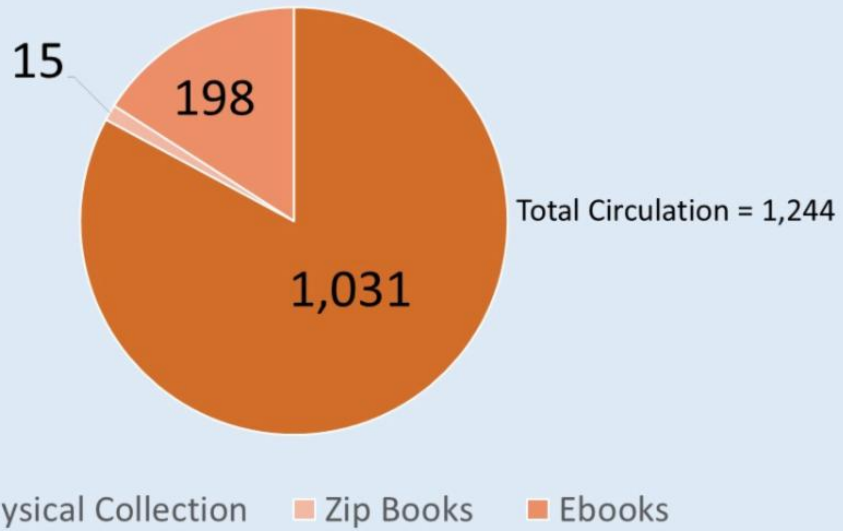
Items Added to Collection – 72



Program Participants – 141\*

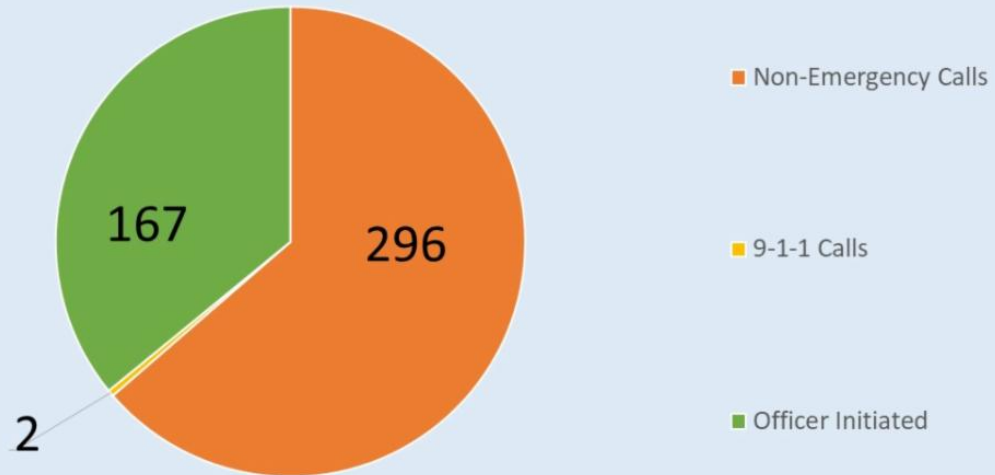
\*Includes 12 programs and 95 Storytime  
"To Go kits" distributed.

Circulation of Materials  
August 2024

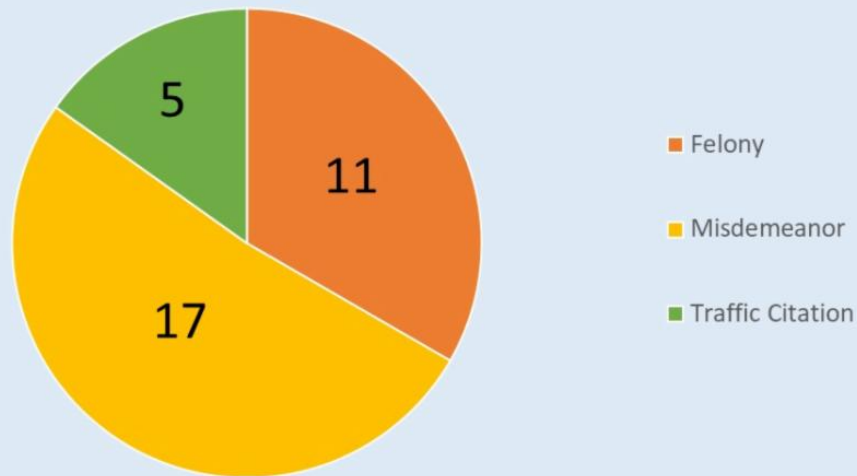


**SHERIFF**

Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service  
August 2024



Sheriff Department Activity – Arrests & Citations  
August 2024



**City Of Willows**

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