
Willows Monthly - August 2022



TOP STORIES:

- Street Banner Program About to be Launched
- Plans to Overhaul City Finance and Permitting Software Underway
- Fire Engineer Resigns
- Council Approves First-Ever Capital Improvement Program
- Recreation Seeks Fall Soccer Program Coordinator
- Quarterly Updates from Recreation Division & Sheriff's Department

ADMINISTRATION

Management & Operations

Upcoming City Council Meetings

- August 23, 2020 at 6:00 pm
- September 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm
- September 27, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Upcoming Event - Annual Citywide Cleanup Day

- Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 8:00 to 12:00 pm at the Willows Wastewater Treatment Plant

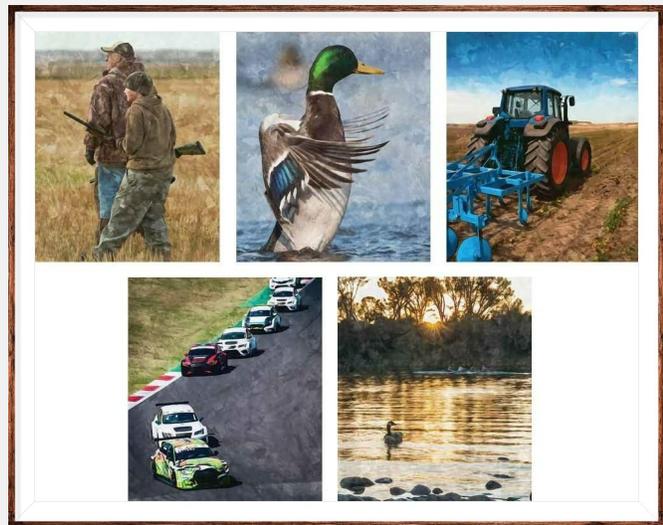
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning, Building & Code Enforcement

Street Banner Program

About to be Launched

City Council recently approved the Planning Commission's recommended street banner theme - "Find Your Refuge." The theme resulted in the five images to the right that will be placed in the street banner design (as depicted below). Banner sponsorships will be available for purchase no later than October and the banners are scheduled to be installed by the holiday season.



WELCOME TO
**HISTORIC
WILLOWS**



FIND YOUR REFUGE

Banner Sponsor
- Name
- Address

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WILLOWS**



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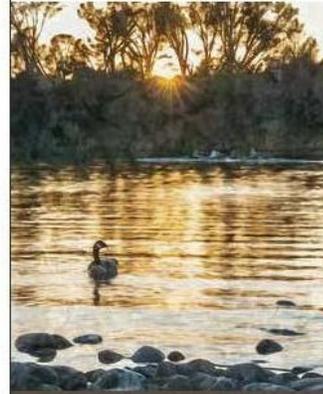
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Planning Division Activity

Over the past few months, the Planning Division has also been working on a few other projects including:

- **Housing Element Update:** The revised Housing Element Update was sent to the

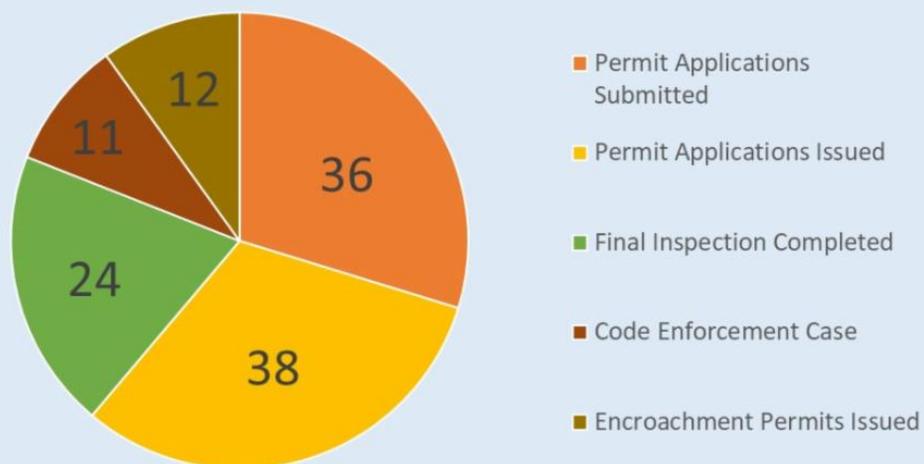
State's Housing & Community Development Department for final review and hopefully approval. If accepted, it will be presented to the Council later this calendar year for final approval.

- **Four-Plex Apartment Project:** Staff presented to the Planning Commission for approval a four-plex apartment project planned for 245 South Tehama Street. Project components included: a variance to use an existing stonewall foundation in the front yard setback, a use permit to build a residential, multi-family apartment in the Central Commercial District, and design review by the Commission to ensure consistency with city guidelines. The project was approved by the Planning Commission.

Other CD&S Department Activity Include:

- Reviewed and approved six business licenses.
- Reviewed the draft General Plan Update and Environmental Impact Report should be presented to the Council for consideration and approval in the fall.
- Continued to work with CHIP to find an appropriate supportive housing project site in the city limits.
- Continued to work with the Cannabis dispensary license applicant on phase 2 planning and building application submittals.
- Staff is also working with an architect to design and establish a new downtown restaurant.

Community Development Activity
June & July 2022



FINANCE

Plans to Overhaul City Finance and Permitting

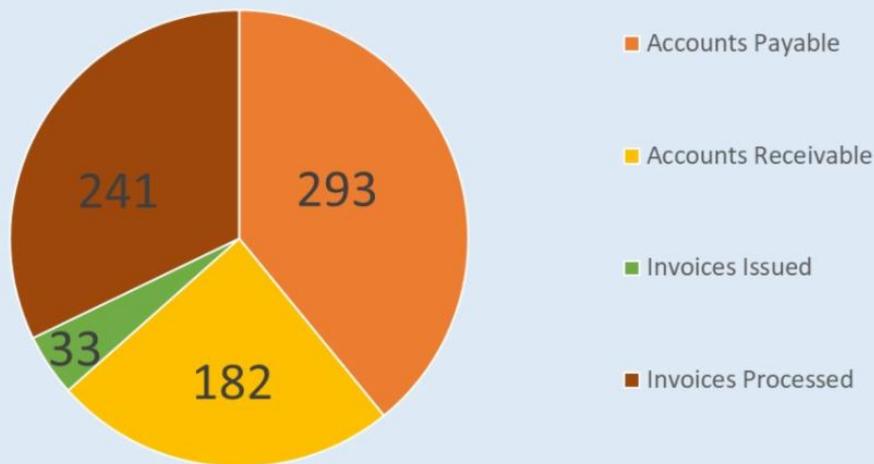
Software Underway

At the August 9, 2022 City Council meeting, Tyler Technologies presented its state-of-the-art suite of software modules for the Finance and Community Development & Services Departments. Software features include payroll, human resources, business licensing, permitting (e.g., Building, Planning, Engineering), Code Enforcement and the ability to track cost recovery efforts. Staff looks forward to bringing an action item to Council to purchase new finance software and licensing at the August 23, 2022 City Council meeting.

FY 2021-22 Audit

The Fiscal Year is barely over and the City is already preparing for the next audit. The Auditors will be back at City Hall in September, which means a final Audit will be completed by or before December 2022 - placing the City back on schedule with its audits and making budget preparation that much easier.

Finance Activity
June & July 2022



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

WFD Fire Engineer Resigns

On August 6, Fire Engineer Matthew Petersen tendered his resignation and accepted a comparable position with the City of Red Bluff. Matthew will remain with the City of Willows as a part-



time Fire Engineer.

That said, we are very sad to see him leave the WFD and city as a full-time employee, but grateful for his service and desire to continue working for the City part-time. Red Bluff is very lucky to have him. We wish Matthew and his family all the best in the future.

WFD/WRFPD - Grants, Grants and More Grants

- **Cal Water Grant:** The new turn outs from last year's Cal Water Grant (\$25K) have arrived and were recently placed into service.
- **California Fire Foundation Grant:** The City, Rural District and Volunteers were awarded a \$15k grant (of the \$55K that was requested) by the California Fire Foundation for communications equipment. Chief Monck prepared the grant application. Fire plans to leverage those monies as a local match for a future USDA grant.
- **United Way of Northern California Grant:** Prepared by the WFD, the Willows Volunteer Fire Department was awarded a \$6,500 grant for Wildland PPE from the United Way.
- **Barceloux Tibbesart Foundation (BTF) Grant:** The Glenn County Fire Chiefs Association was awarded a \$10k regional grant from the Barceloux Tibbesart Foundation (BTF) to purchase two pagers for each of the region's 13 fire departments. This award will be used as a USDA grant match to leverage four times as much money (e.g., \$40K). The WFD prepared the BTF Grant, and Elk Creek Fire will write the USDA grant as they have the best USDA match rate, 25% match and 75% grant funded. As a result of their collective efforts, the Fire Chiefs Association will have \$40k remaining to purchase emergency pagers, approximately eight for each department.
- **Willows Rural District Grant Award:** Prepared by the WFD and WRFPD, the Willows Rural District was awarded \$100k grant to replace Engine 12, a small Type 6 fire engine.



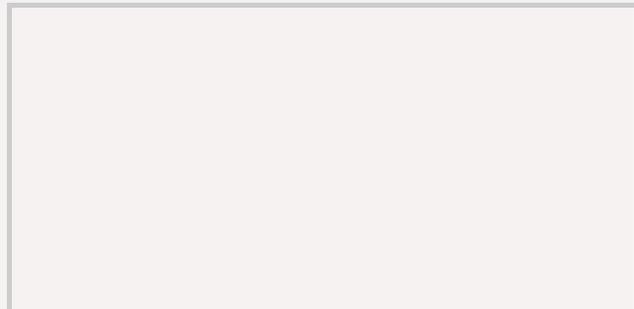
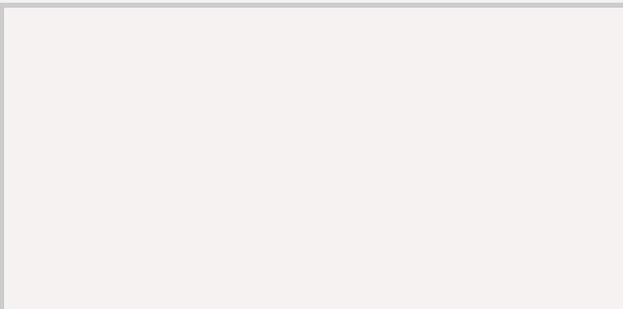
Concurrent Calls

- June 13 - While attending the scene of a medical call, dispatched to a second medical call.
- June 28 - While responding to a vegetation fire, dispatched to a second vegetation fire.
- June 29 - While responding to a vegetation fire, dispatched to a medical call.
- July 11 - Dispatched to a Carbon Monoxide alarm while at the scene of a vehicle roll over.
- July 12 - Responded to five medical calls within one hour; WFD attended three separate emergency calls concurrently.
- July 14 - Dispatched to a stroke call while responding to a vegetation fire.
- July 17 - While responding to a lift assist, dispatched to a medical emergency.
- July 18 - While attending the scene of a medical call, dispatched to a lift assist.
- July 30 - Again, while attending the scene of a medical call, dispatched to a lift assist.
- July 30 - While attending to a vegetation fire, dispatched for a smoke check.
- July 31 - Dispatched to a medical emergency while attending a vegetation fire.



Training

The Willows Volunteer Fire Department was busy in June and July burning along Highway 99, and other lots in and around town. Most of the controlled burning will be completed in August.





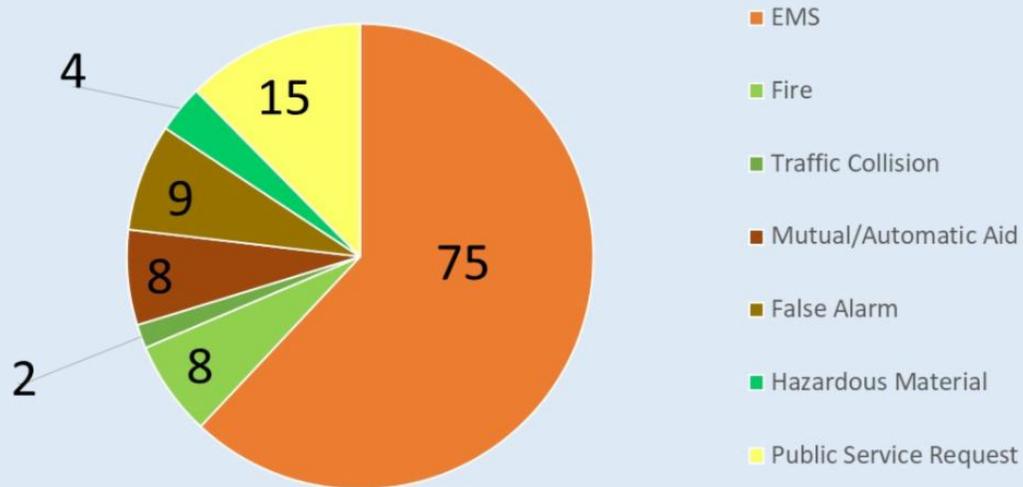
Grab Bag - Other Fire News

- July 4 Flag Flown - On July 4, the WFD flew the flag during fireworks. See newsletter cover photo.
- Public Events - The WFD assisted several daycare programs and the library with fire-related demonstrations to the city's youth. Event topics included fire safety, building escape plans, and just plain old fun squirting the fire hoses and sitting in the trucks. Please contact Tlombard@cityofwillows.org for WFD participation in public education events. The WFD loves the opportunity and privilege to serve and educate.
- Volunteers Pass Probation - Kimberly Bennett and Chino Esparza completed their 6 month firefighter probation period after attending training and responding to calls, and were officially accepted into the the Willows Volunteer Fire Department.
- Strike Team Activity - On July 25, the WFD/WRPFD was deployed to the Oak Incident (Mariposa County). Since then, the crew has been reassigned to the Mckinney Fire (Siskiyou County) . Willows Fire remains fully staffed.

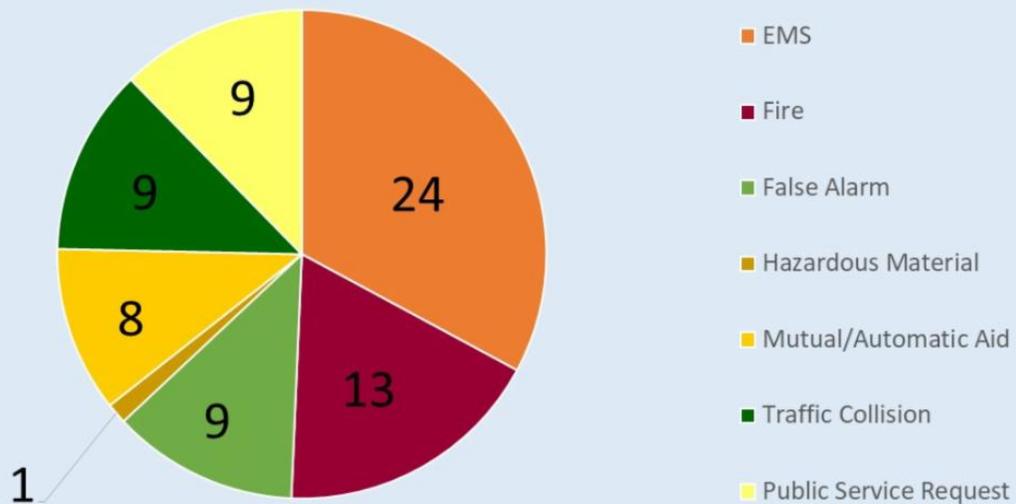


*WFD Demonstration
Youth Programs*

Willows Fire Department Activity
June & July 2022



Willows Rural Fire Protection District Activity
June & July 2022



LIBRARY

Willows Library Offers Expanded Digital Access

The Willows Library now offers expanded digital access with Home Connectivity Kits for checkout. Library cardholders in good standing may check out the kits, which include a Chromebook,

mouse, headset with a microphone, hotspot device, USB drive, as well as power adapters and carrying case for use at home for up to three weeks.

Home Connectivity Kit borrowers can perform everyday tasks such as completing job applications, logging into online classes, video chatting, or reading important news and information available on the web.



An increased demand for WiFi connectivity and computers was illuminated during pandemic-related closures and service disruptions. As a result, the California State Library is funding equipment and data plans, to enable libraries throughout the State to create more digitally inclusive communities.

This project was supported in whole or part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

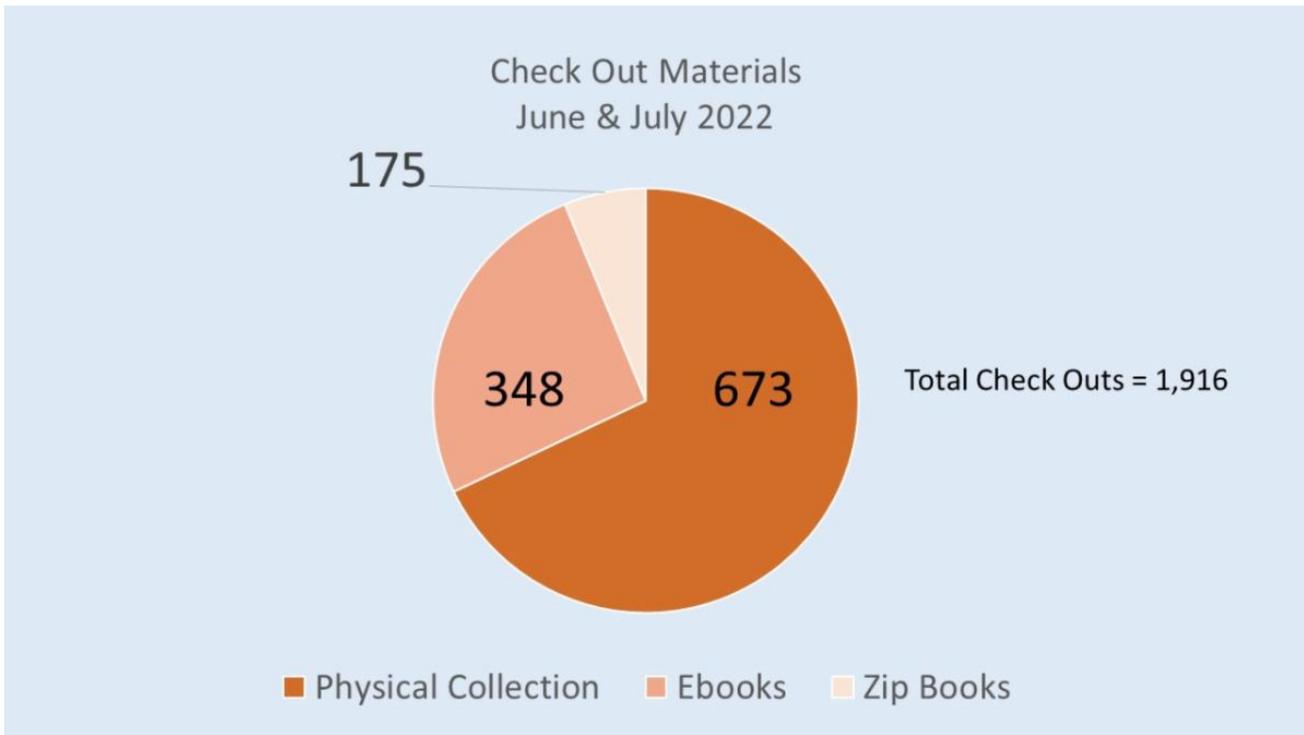
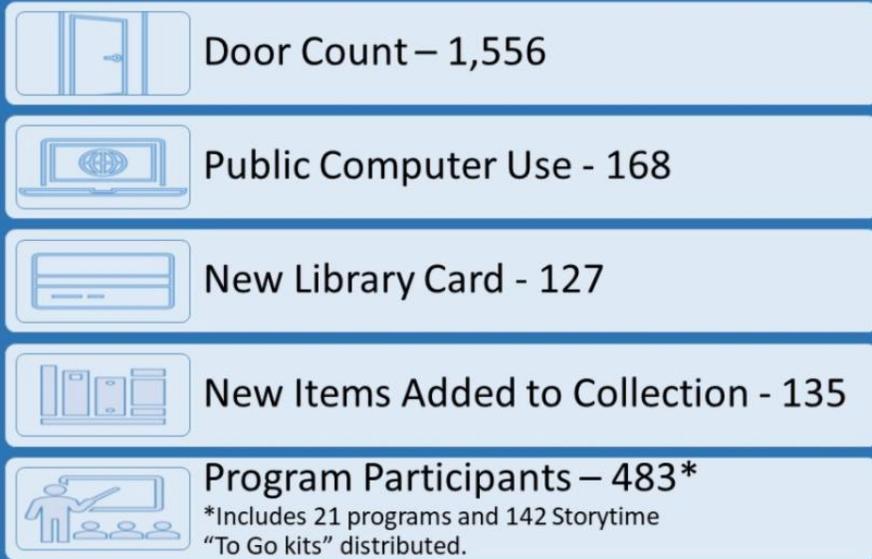
Current & Upcoming Library Events

- Wednesdays @ 11:00 AM - Storytime
- August 17 @ 4:00 PM - Stained Glass Workshop
- August 25 @ 4:00 PM - STEM Activity
- August 31 @ 11:00 AM - Storytime with CHP and Chipper
- September 1 @ 3:00 PM - Building Block Party
- September 8 @ 4:00 PM - Crafternoon
- September 22 @ 4:00 PM - STEM Activity



Library hosts Fire Department Demonstration for Youth.

Library Activity
June & July 2022



PUBLIC WORKS

Streets, Parks, Sewage & Capital Improvements

Council Approves First-Ever Capital Improvement Program!

At the July 26 City Council meeting, the Council adopted the City's [first-ever 5-year Capital](#)

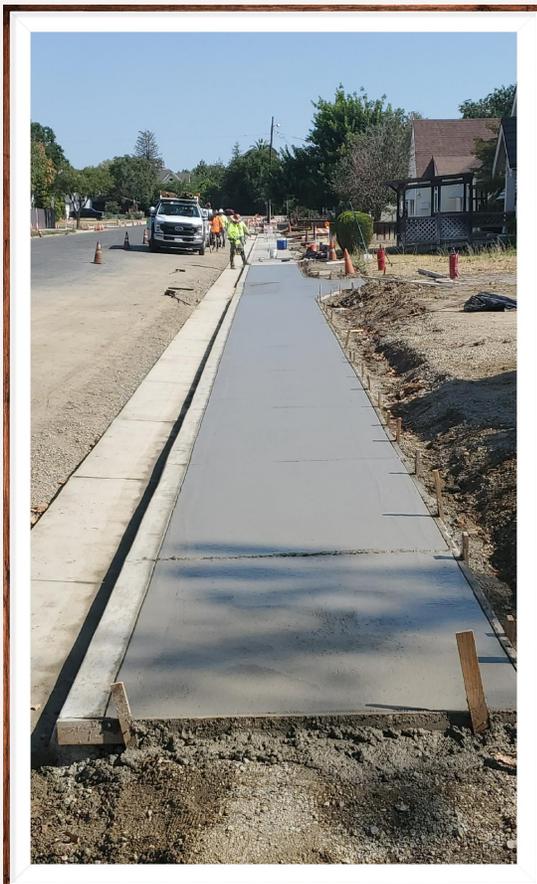
[Improvement Program \(CIP\)](#). The adopted CIP identified 42 capital projects over the



next five years, including repairs and improvements to streets, sidewalks, the sewer collection system, the wastewater treatment plant, city-owned buildings, parks and other improvements totaling more than \$4.3M this fiscal year and another \$40M over the next 5 years.

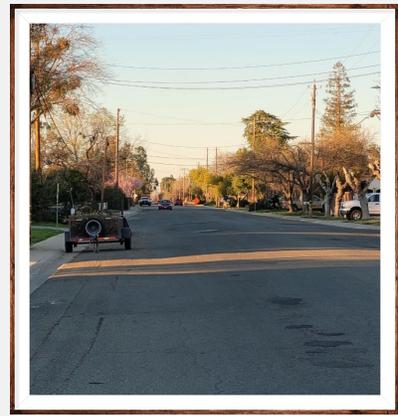
North Lassen Street Update

Construction on North Lassen Street has progressed and nearly all curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements have been completed. The contractor still needs to install storm drain improvements. Final paving will occur at the end of August and beginning of September. During those days of paving, the contractor will shut down at least half of the street at one time and may need to shut down the entire road for one day during business hours. Both the City and contractor will contact all property owners adjacent to the section of the street being paved to inform them of the situation as the paving dates approach.



Pacific Avenue Reconstruction Project

Reconstruction plans for a portion of Pacific Avenue have been completed and the project is currently circulating for bids. The project will rehabilitate Pacific Avenue from Wood Street to Northgate Street including installation of new sidewalk where none currently exists, reconstruction of pedestrian ramps to ensure compliance with ADA standards, and new pavement and other minor improvements. If responsive bids are received at the end of August, the project will be awarded for construction at the end of September with construction most likely beginning sometime in mid- to late October.



Green Street Repaving

The City recently completed draft plans to rehabilitate the paving on Green Street from North Lassen North Butte Streets. This section of the road is owned in part by both the City and the County. In the upcoming months, City and County staff will coordinate and partner on this joint and long awaited project and oversee its completion.

Other Public Works Activity

Cross-Walks & Picnic Tables: In addition to regular Public Works' duties, crews painted all the yellow school cross walks and replaced two park picnic tables.

Tree Trimming: With the help of Salt Creek Conservation Camp, all the trees at Jensen Park and Central Park were trimmed and about half of the trees at Sycamore Park were also cut back.



Public Works Activity
June & July 2022



Tree Trimming – All of Jensen and Central Parks and half of Sycamore Park.



Call Requests - Sewage Line Issues - 2



Poured 2 tons of cold patch to fill potholes.



New USA Markings – 62

RECREATION

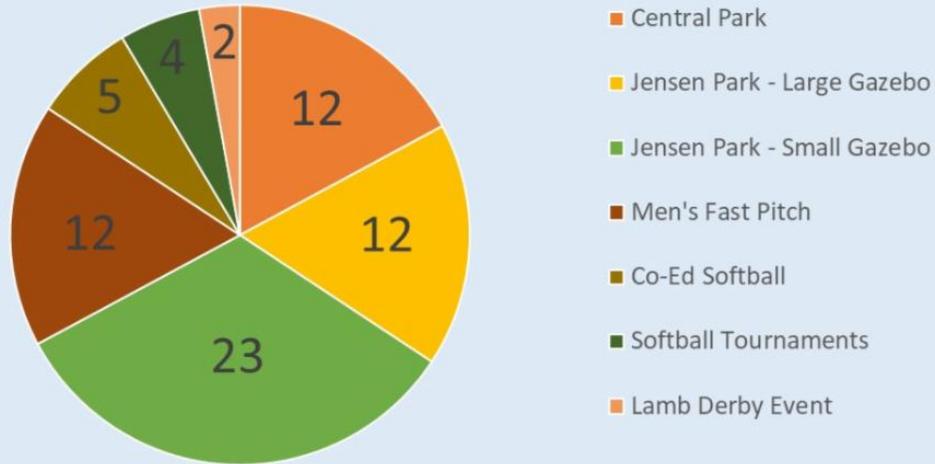
City Seeks Fall Soccer Program Coordinator

The City of Willows seeks a part-time temporary Fall Soccer Program Coordinator to work 4-5 hours on Saturdays only from October 1 thru November 5, 2022. The Coordinator must have a working knowledge of soccer rules and be able to enforce both the rules of the game and facility use, as well as manage six to eight youth referees. Please contact Kristina Hutson, Recreation Manager, at khutson@cityofwillows.org to submit an application and/or for more information about the position.

Summer Swim Season was a success!

The City contracted with the Willows Unified School District for the City's annual summer swim season. Opening day was Thursday, June 16 and the last day of the season was Saturday, August 6. Hours of operation were from 1-5 pm, Monday thru Saturday. Swimming pool staff included one manager, and eight full- and one part-time lifeguards. From June 16-30 (2nd quarter activity) 528 swimmers participated in the City's summer swim program.

Recreation Activity – Park & Field Rentals
2nd Quarter – April thru June, 2022



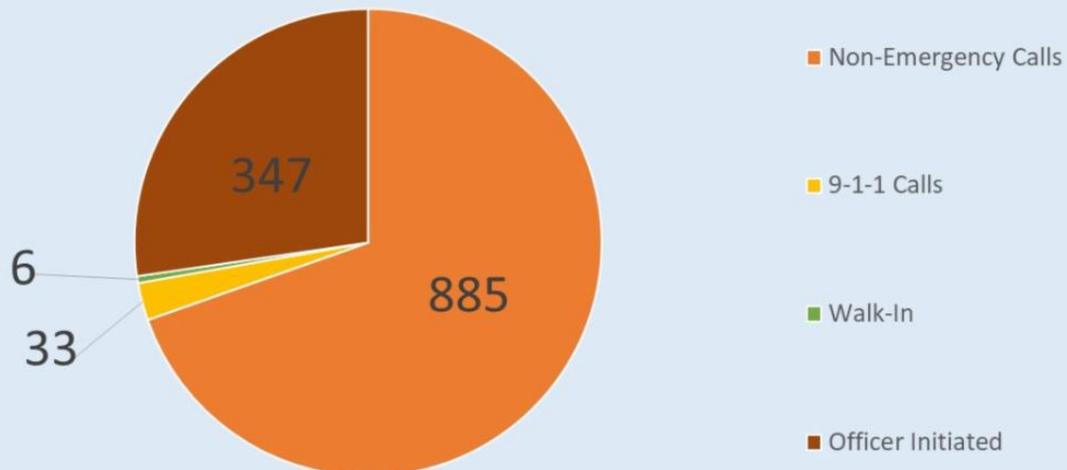
SHERIFF

Sheriff Department Activity Reports - Quarterly Update

Check out the following Sheriff Department's monthly activity reports for the second quarter of 2022:

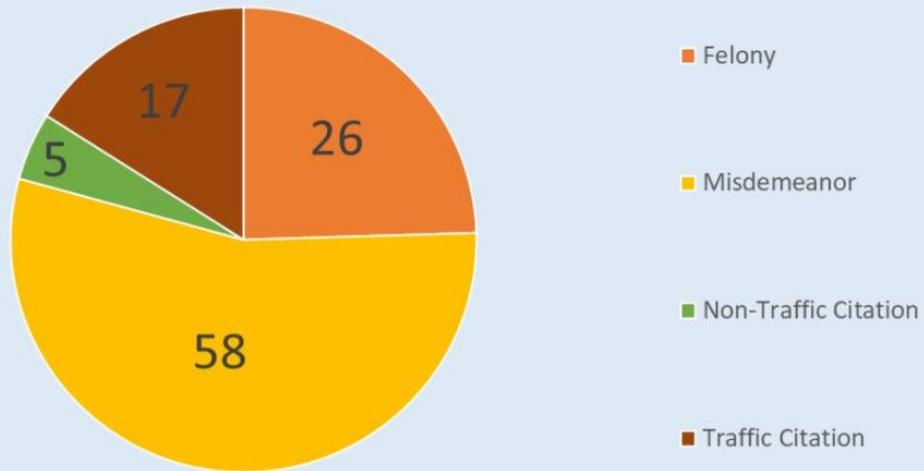
- [April Activity Report](#),
- [May Activity Report](#), and
- [June Activity Report](#).

Sheriff Department Activity – Calls for Service Second Quarter 2022*



*(April, May and June)

Sheriff Department Activity – Arrests & Citations Second Quarter 2022*



*(April, May and June)

City Of Willows

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Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-7041

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