

## Willows Monthly - February 2022



Road 57/I-5 Exit

## Welcome to the City's First Monthly Newsletter!

### TOP STORIES:

- City-County partner to launch Covid 19 business grants
- Jack in the Box is moving forward
- Fire Department aggressively seeks more than \$2.4 million in grant funds - Already received \$26,500!
- City prepares for North Lassen Street and Pacific Avenue Road Rehabilitation Projects



## Upcoming Meetings

## City Council (Council Chambers)

- March 1 at 6:00 PM
- March 22 at 5:00 PM
- April 12 at 6:00 PM

## Planning Commission (Council Chambers)

- March 16 at 6:00 PM

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Planning, Building & Code Enforcement

## City-County partner to distribute

## Covid 19 business grants

To mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and the mandated closures on Glenn County businesses and employees, the County of Glenn, in conjunction with the City of Willows and City of Orland, has authorized funding of COVID-19 assistance grants for local businesses. The grants are for up to \$7500 per business. Funds are limited and applications will be processed in the order received.



Business eligibility requirements include:

- Must have five or fewer employees.
- Must have a presence in Glenn County (includes mobile and online vendors).
- Stay-at-home orders and mandated shutdowns must have caused or be causing an impact to business revenues.
- Glenn County resident(s) must own the majority of the business.
- National chains and franchises are not eligible.

For more information, see the [County of Glenn announcement](#).

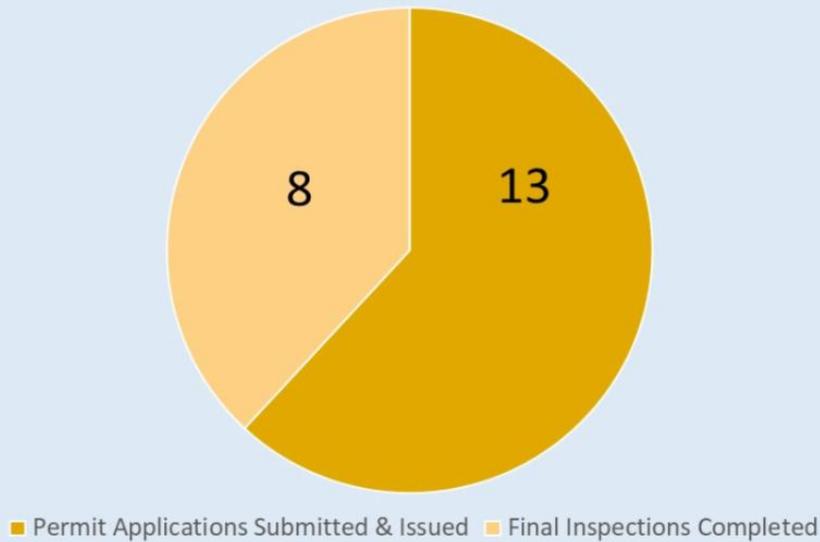


## Jack in the Box is Moving Forward

Jack in the Box is opening a new 2739 square foot location at 1240 West Wood Street with a double drive through on two parcels that will be merged into one. The building and civil plans are currently under review. Entrances will be located on the

north and west sides of the parcel. The proposed hours of operation are Monday through Sunday from 6:00am to midnight for dining room area eating and 24-hours operation for the drive through. The project includes two proposed signs - one 8' high x 5.5' wide monument sign with the company brand logo and one building and marquee sign including both identity and incidental signage.

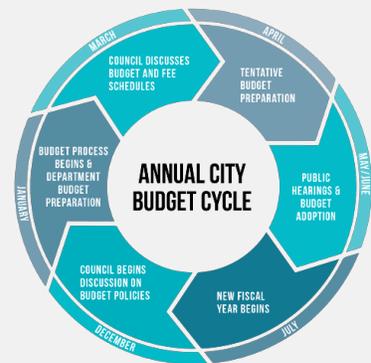
Building Permits & Inspections  
January 2022



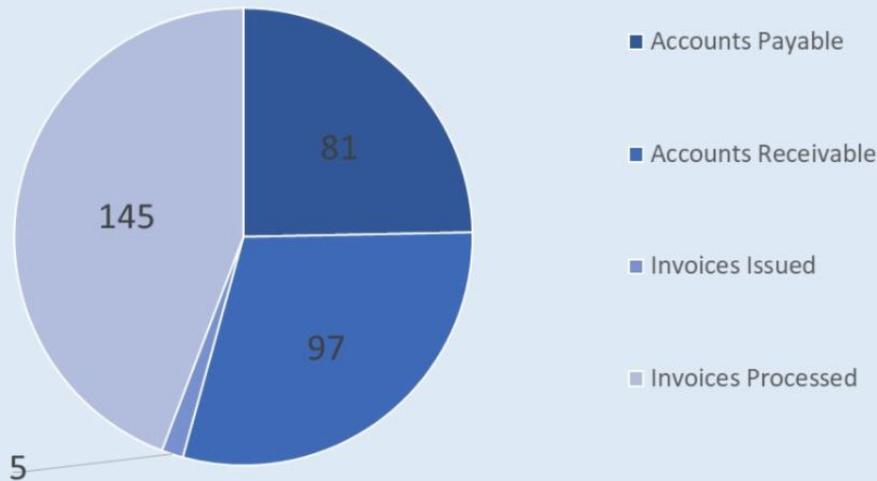
## FINANCE

### FY 2022-23 Budget & FY 2020-21 Audit

City staff and the City's finance consultant have been working diligently to cleanup the budget, make it more understandable and transparent, and complete the fiscal year 2020-21 audit. Next up, the mid-year budget adjustment will be presented to the Council in March/April 2022. Preparations for the next fiscal year budget are already underway, as well as developing a seven-year financial forecasting model. There is considerable work to be done in the Finance Department between now and June 30. Stay tuned!



## Finance Activity January 2022



## FIRE

### Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

**Fire Department aggressively seeks more than \$2.4 million in grant funds - Already received \$26,500!**



Over the past four months, the City of Willows Fire Department has been applying for several grants - two, of which, have already been awarded - in an effort to upgrade the City and Rural District's equipment.

Recently awarded grants include:

- **Cal Water Assistance to Firefighters Grant** for \$25,000
- **California Office of Emergency Services C-19 PPE Grant** for \$1,500 worth of medical PPE.

Pending grants include:

- **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)** for \$913,140 - a regional grant for the City of Willows and Orland; and Willows Rural, Orland, Bayliss, and Glenn Codora Fire Protection Districts to replace Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) that are more than 20 Years old, unsafe, and non-compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)/National Fire Protection Association

(NFPA) standards.

- **Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant** for \$729,316 - City of Willows grant to fund "B shift" Fire Engineer, fire prevention and training, and a Reserve Firefighter program for the next three years in an effort to regain 2016 staffing levels.
- **CAL FIRE Hazardous Fuels Reduction grant** for \$733,000 - City of Willows grant to fund weed abatement costs including personnel over a three year period, as well as an additional staff vehicle.

## Concurrent Calls - January 2022

- Jan 14 - Dispatched to structure fire while at the scene of an EMS call.
- Jan 15 - Dispatch received **three** EMS 9-1-1 calls within 5 minutes.
- Jan 16 - Dispatch received **two** EMS 9-1-1 calls at the same time.
- Jan 23 - Dispatch received **two** EMS 9-1-1 calls at the same time.
- Jan 24 - Dispatch received **two** EMS 9-1-1 calls at the same time.
- Jan 29 - Dispatched to structure fire while at scene of EMS call; meanwhile **two** more EMS calls were dispatched while WFD was committed to structure fire response.

\*EMS = Emergency Medical Services.

## Photo Gallery - Structure Fire





## Annual Volunteer Fire Installation Dinner

The Willows Volunteer Fire Association held its Annual Installation Dinner on January 15, 2022 thanking its volunteers for their service. As part of the annual tradition, new officers were promoted and the volunteer leadership were also sworn into office by Mayor Domenghini. The new sworn Association leadership included:

- President - John Peterich,
- Vice President - Evan Hutson,
- Treasurer - Lorri Pride, and
- Secretary - Jorge Lopez.

The Firefighter of the Year award was given to Lorri Pride and the Community Service Award was given to Hillgard Muller. The Association also announced the following new Fire Captains: Jorge Lopez, Carlynn Dyck, and Evan Hutson, as well as new Fire Engineer, John Peterich.



Fire Fighter of the Year, Lorri Pride, and City of Willows Fire Chief Nathan Monck.



Newly sworn in Volunteer Fire Captains Lopez, Dyck and Hutson and Fire Engineer Peterich along side Fire Chief Monck and Paraiso.

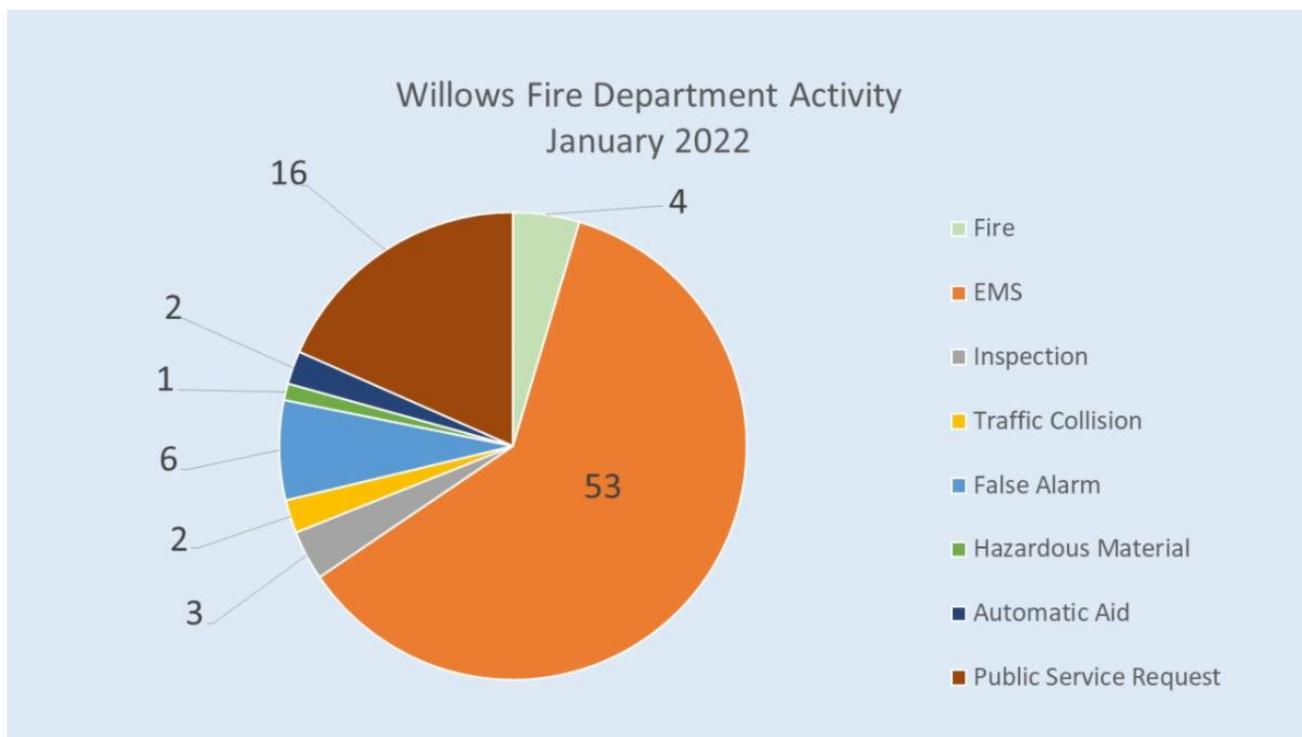
## Training

Over the past few months, Fire Department staff have participated in and completed

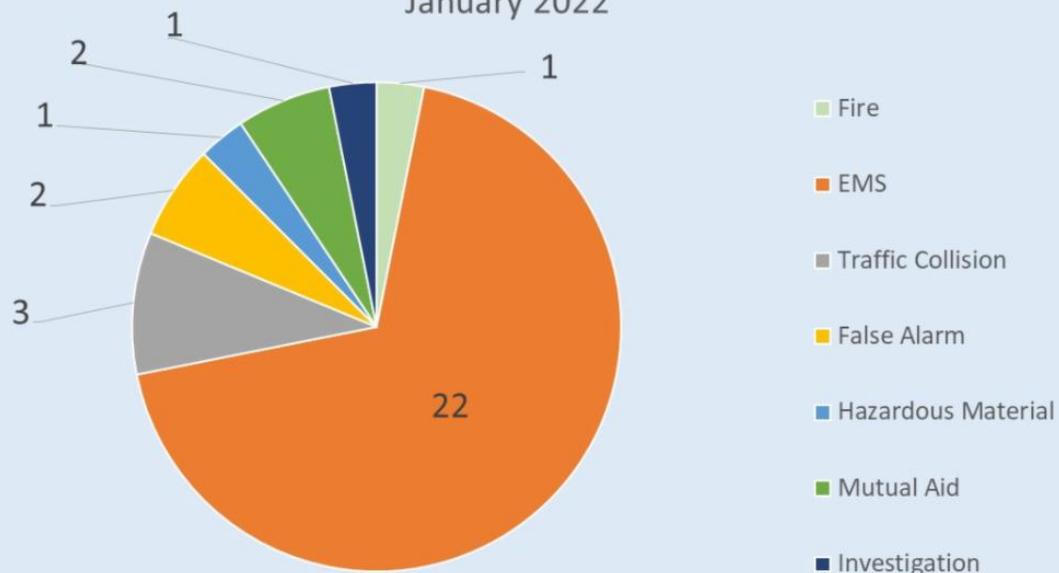
several trainings, including:

- **S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior** - Hosted by the Willows Fire Department resulting in a 50% discount for Willows Firefighters to participate in the training (because the City hosted).
- **CPR Bi Annual recertification** - Hosted by the Willows Fire Department. As a result, all members were recertified in CPR/AED/First Aide.
- **Live Burn Training (x2)** - Willows Fire Department staff and Rural District Volunteers led and participated in this training at the Orland fire training facility.
- Since joining the City of Willows team, Chief Monck has enrolled in and completed the following classes:
  - AH-330- All Risk Strike Team Leader,
  - Chief Officer 3A- Human Resource Management,
  - Chief Officer 3B- Budget and Fiscal Responsibilities,
  - Chief Officer 3C- General Administration Functions, and
  - League of Cities Fire Chiefs Seminar.

## Fire Department & Rural District Activity - January 2022



Willows Rural Fire District Activity  
January 2022



## LIBRARY

### Library launches Chromebook and WIFI hotspot lending program!

Willows Library cardholders may now borrow chromebooks and WIFI hotspots for home use. The equipment may be used to access a variety of resources that provide job training, skill building, test preparation, and professional development for job seekers and learners of all levels. These resources, dubbed CAREER Pathways, are from some of the top online learning companies. They are also available from the library's public computers or by accessing the library's website on personal devices at home. Access to these platforms, which are in multiple languages, normally comes with subscription and other fees. Now, for at least one year, they are all available for free to our library users.



Thanks to funding from the California State Library, CAREER Pathways offers free access to Coursera, GetSetUp, LearningExpress, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar Digital Literacy, and Skillshare. As an example of the value of these services, the annual cost of subscriptions to access all of Coursera's more than 5,000 online classes, Skillshare's 35,000 videos, GetSetUp's interactive classes, and LinkedIn Learning's suite of courses would cost an individual over \$1,000 per year.

The Library also offers resources such as Brainfuse's JobNow/VetNow, which offers

specialized help to job seekers and Veterans and California's K-12 Online Content Project for students.

Students and library patrons can also access National Geographic Kids, Gale Interactive: Science and Gale, and In Context: Environmental Studies (to help children complete homework and learn about a variety of educational concepts including biology, chemistry, earth and space science, among others). These resources are available cost free to all library cardholders at the [Willows Library](#) in an effort to aid personal economic development, build and encourage a community of lifelong learners, increase digital equity, and support the information needs of our community.



## **LiNew Children's Librarian resumes Youth Services Program**

The Library is pleased to announce that the new Children's Librarian, Ashley Arellanes, has resumed Youth Services Programming starting with storytime on

Wednesdays at 11:00 am. Designed for children 0-5 and their caregivers, the program is intended to introduce early learning and literacy activities that will help prepare them to start school and develop a lifelong love of reading.

In partnership with the Glenn Literacy Project, in person tutoring is currently being offered for all ages on Tuesdays from 3:00-5:00 PM.

The Library is planning other programs and services for children and adults that will offer a variety of fun, inspirational and educational learning opportunities. Check out the [library's website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for announcements about Storytime, Library Bingo, CricutCrafting, and more.

Library Activity  
January 2022



Door Count - 408



Public Computer Use - 70



New Library Card - 13



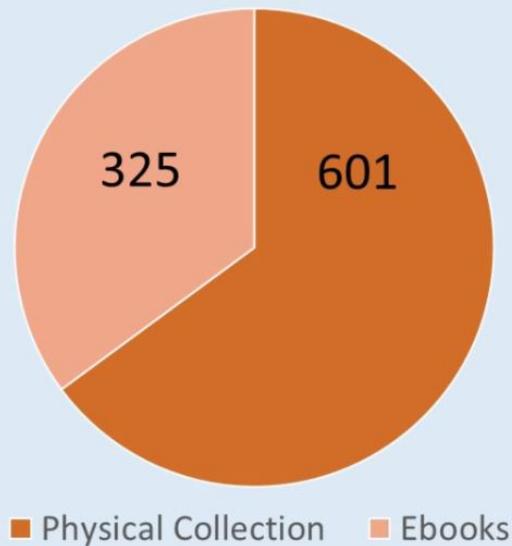
New Items Added to Collection - 108



Program Attendance – 48

\*Storytime To Go kits picked up at library.

Check Out Materials  
January 2022



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Streets, Parks, Sewage & Capital Improvements

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#### North Lassen Street

#### Rehabilitation Project

This summer, the City will begin street rehabilitation of North Lassen Street

between Sycamore and Wood Streets. The project includes a grind and overlay of the pavement surface course, replacement of broken curb, gutter, sidewalk, and replacement and/or reconstruction of non-conforming curb ramps and accessible paths of travel to the maximum extent practical. In addition, the project will also require removing 22 trees along North Lassen Street. The total cost of the project is approximately \$790,000 and will be funded by Statewide Transportation Improvement funds and supplemented by Senate Bill (SB) 1 monies - both are State funding sources.



## **Pacific Avenue Rehabilitation Project**

In early fall, the City will also begin rehabilitation of Pacific Avenue between Wood Street and Northgate Drive. Anticipated improvements include a grind and overlay of the pavement surface course, replacement of broken curb, gutter, sidewalk, non-conforming curb ramps and accessible paths of travel to the maximum extent possible. Areas of pavement exhibiting signs of section failure will be removed and a full-depth asphalt concrete plug will be installed. Based on a field review, five non-conforming curb ramps need to be reconstructed at the intersections of French Street and Northgate Drive. Three new curb ramps will also be constructed where none currently exist at the intersections of Jackson and French Streets.

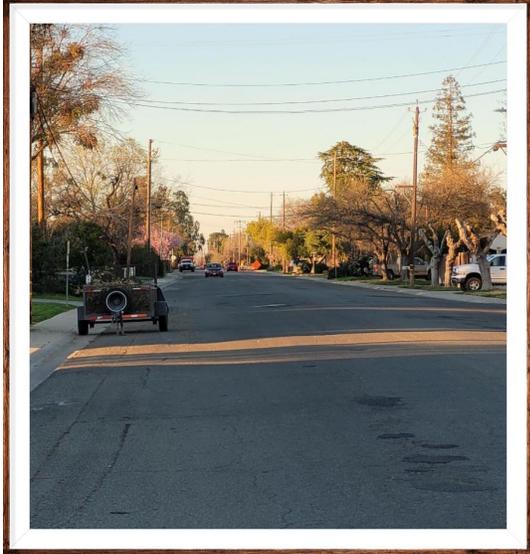
Also included in this project is installation of in-fill sidewalk from Wood to French Streets, where none currently exist. It is anticipated that approximately 850' of new sidewalk will be installed. The new sidewalk alignment will be designed to limit impacts to utility poles, private landscaping, and driveways to the extent feasible. All work is anticipated to be within existing street right-of-way.

The existing parking lot at the corner of Pacific Avenue and Wood Street (408 Pacific Avenue) does not conform to City standards. The existing driveway requires vehicles to back out of parking stalls and into the City's right-of-way. This existing non-standard condition will conflict with the new sidewalk and, more importantly, could cause conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles backing out of the parking lot. City staff will work with the property owner to evaluate sidewalk alternatives that maintains access to businesses while providing safety for pedestrians.

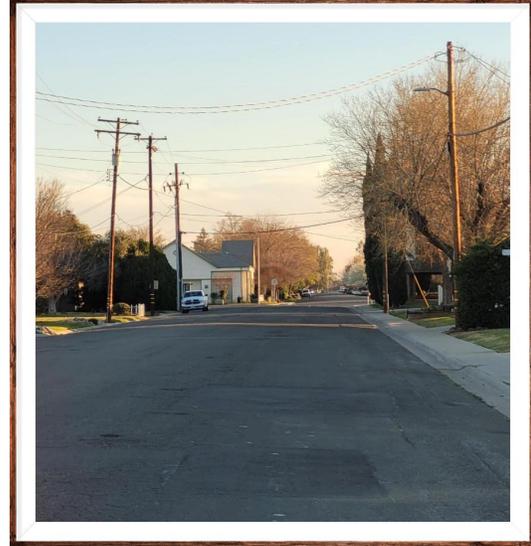
The existing pedestrian ramps at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and Wood Street are within the Caltrans' right-of-way and will not be reconstructed with this project (all

work is anticipated to be completed outside of the Caltrans' right-of-way.)

The project was submitted several years ago to the County for possible funding by State and/or Federal funding sources. Glenn County submitted a multi-year project list to Caltrans and this project was funded. It is believed that this street was selected due to the heavy school traffic use (both vehicle and pedestrian). The project will cost approximately \$880K and is funded by a Caltrans grant.



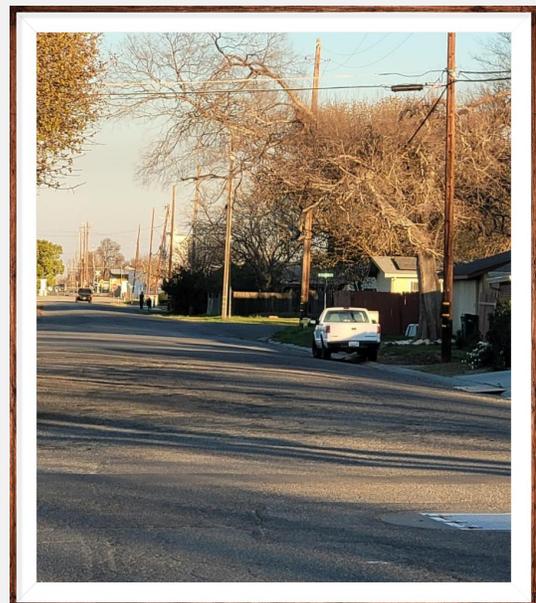
Pacific Avenue - Looking North



Pacific Avenue - Looking South

## Green Street Paving Project

Partnering with the County, one and a half blocks of Green Street will be rehabilitated between North Lassen and Butte Streets in late summer. This stretch of Green Street is approximately 60% inside the City limits and 40% in the County. The City will provide engineering drawings to the County and the County will complete the paving. The City will pay 60% or ~ \$40-60K of the cost of repairs using Gas Tax funds.



Public Works Activity  
January 2022



Tree Removal Requests – 16  
Upcoming City Tree Removals - 22



Sewage Related Calls - Line Issues - 4



Poured 6 tons of cold patch to  
fill potholes.



New USA Markings – 17

## City Of Willows

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