

Willows Monthly - May 2022



TOP STORIES:

- FY 2022-23 Council Budget Workshop - [DATE AND TIME CHANGE](#)
- Now hiring - Community Development Technician
- It's *still* weed abatement season - Last day to abate, June 5
- Public Works hires a new Maintenance Worker
- City Awarded \$177K Grant for Pool Improvements
- Summer swim season starts June 16 (@ high school swimming pool)!

ADMINISTRATION

Management & Operations

Upcoming City Council Meetings

- May 24 at 6:00 pm - Regular City Council Meeting
- [May 27 at 2:00 pm - Special City Council Meeting, First Budget Workshop](#)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning, Building & Code Enforcement

Now hiring - Community Development Technician!

The City of Willows is now hiring a Community Development Technician to coordinate Building, Planning and Engineering permits, as well as jointly staff the counter and phones at City Hall. For more information and to apply, please visit the [City's website](#).

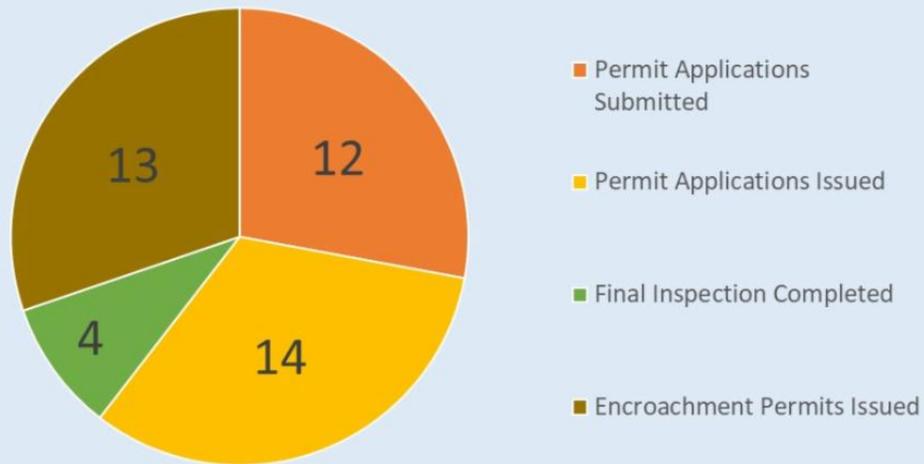


Planning Division Activity

During the month of April and in early May, the Planning Division was busy with a variety of planning activities, including:

- Released the Cannabis Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking new proposals for one or two viable Cannabis dispensaries in the City of Willows.
- Processed 4 business licenses.
- Reviewed two site plans submitted for building permits.
- Submitted two Code Enforcement complaints for building code violations.
- Prepared update to the Council to seek direction on the expenditure of the available Facade Improvement Funds.
- Prepared recommendation to the City Council from the Planning Commission regarding the design of the new Street Banner Program.
- Continued working on the Housing Element and General Plan Updates.

Community Development Activity April 2022

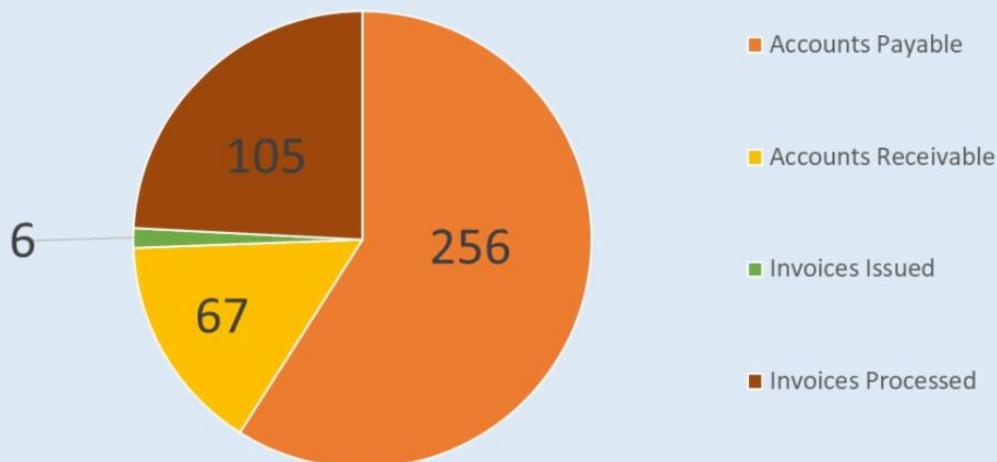


FINANCE

First Budget Workshop - Coming up in May!

The first FY 2022-23 budget workshop has been moved to a Special Council meeting on **Friday, May 27 at 2:00 pm in Council Chambers**. The presentation will provide the first glimpse of proposed increases and decreases in revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as it relates to the General Fund, including staff recommendations for new expenditures and impacts to the City's seven-year financial forecasting model.

Finance Activity April 2022



FIRE

Fire Response, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services

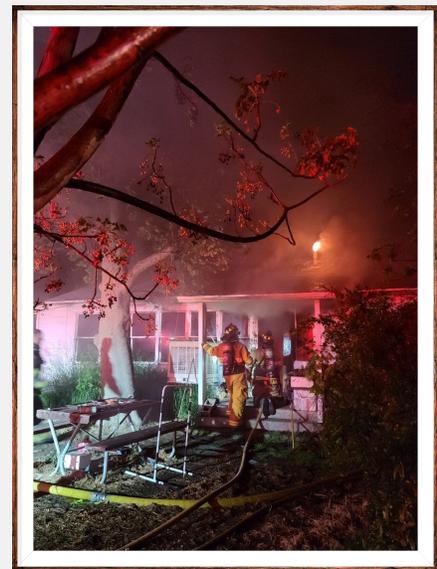


It's *still* weed Abatement season!

As a reminder, **June 5** is the last day for property owners to abate their own properties. **Starting June 6**, the City's abatement contractor will start mandatorily abating properties and property owners will be billed accordingly for the service.

Concurrent Calls

- **April 4** - While already attending the scene of a unresponsive patient, dispatched to a stroke victim call; Medics responded from Orland and Williams.
- **April 5** - while attending to a medical patient for shortness of breath, the Department was dispatched to a vegetation fire.
- **April 9** - While at the scene of a vegetation fire, the Department was dispatched to a second vegetation fire.
- **April 24** - While at the scene of a vegetation fire, the Department was dispatched to a public service request.
- **April 25** - While responding to a medical call for 2 patients, dispatched to a stroke victim call; Medics responded from Red Bluff and Chico.



Maintenance

The Fire Department completed required annual testing of all pump equipment. Pump testing ensures that Willows Fire equipment is capable of reliably pumping sufficient water at emergency scenes in order to effectively extinguish a fire. In

addition to pump testing being mandated, it is imperative that firefighters can trust

Handheld Radios

The City of Willows applied for a **\$20,000** (50-50) Cal Fire grant in order to purchase 10 new handheld radios and associated equipment. The grant requires a **\$20,000** match from the City for a total of **\$40,000** in new equipment. The Willows Rural District has also applied for the same grant and same amount of monies to upgrade its handheld radios as well.



The new radios will replace the current ones, which have been in use well past their projected lifespan. The current radios are not rated for firefighting activities and are in disrepair. In addition, they cannot be upgraded and are incompatible with the future digital radio system that the city will be moving to in the next year. Over the past few years, it has also become increasingly difficult to source parts and find technicians to work on the outdated equipment.

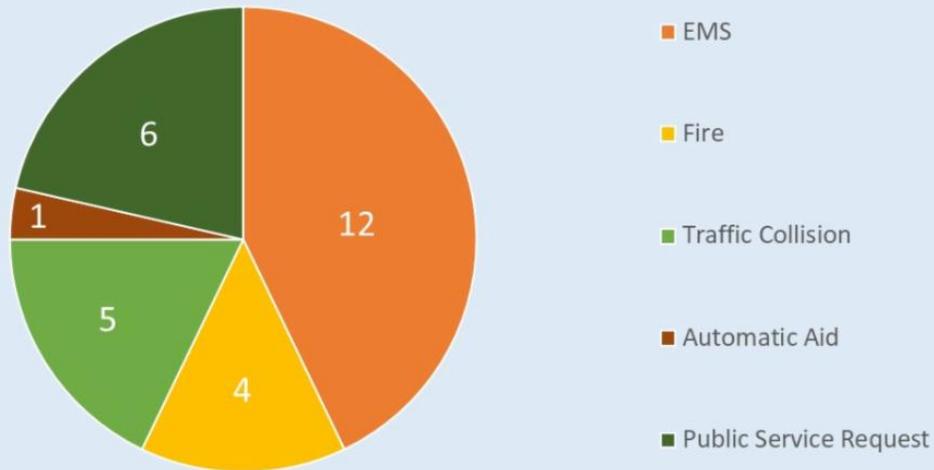
While these funds will go a long way towards stocking both departments with effective, reliable and safe communication equipment, additional funds are needed in order to purchase both handheld and mobile radios (e.g., engine mounted) to complete the necessary radio infrastructure upgrades.

Training

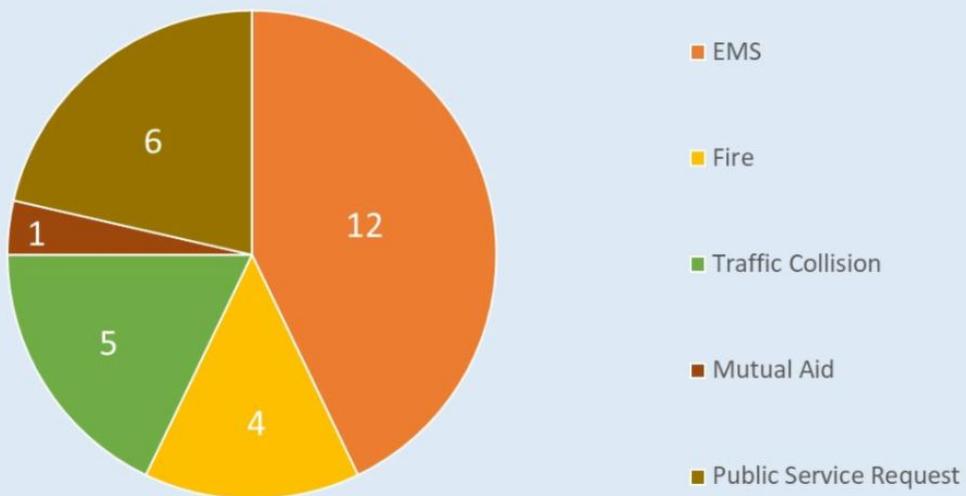
Willows Firefighters completed their Annual RT-130 Wildland refresher class, which is mandatory training before responding to wildfire incidents. The course contains training on mobile attack, progressive hose lays, handline construction, fire shelter deployment, emergency medical procedures, firefighter survival, entrapment avoidance, wildland urban interface tactics, aircraft safety and handheld radio use.



Willows Fire Department Activity April 2022



Willows Rural Fire District Activity April 2022



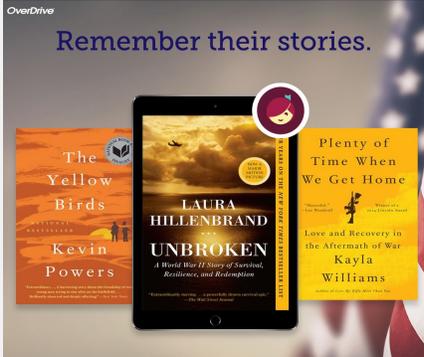
LIBRARY

Memorial Day - Honoring Military Service & Sacrifice

Celebrate Memorial Day this month by honoring those who have served our country and sacrificed. Learn more about their history by checking out the special library displays that illustrate and tell their stories in print and via the digital

OverDrive

Remember their stories.



Libby.
The one-tap reading app from our library.

collection on the [Library's website](#) or the [Libby app](#).

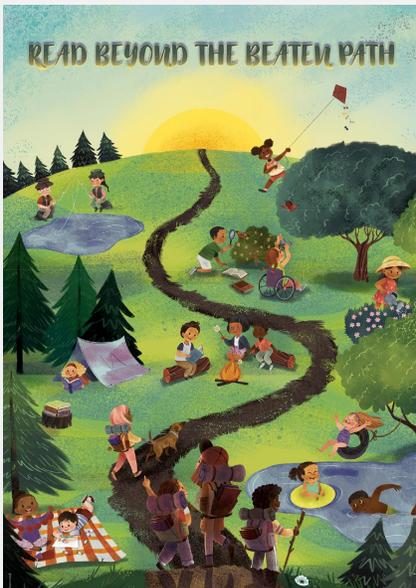
Storytime Continues

Storytime continues on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Introduce your little ones to new words, listening and motor skills, and provide socialization. Miss Ashley, the Children's Librarian, reads stories, shares rhymes and fingerplays, and teaches a craft activity. In partnership with KIXE, Clifford (from the Big Red Dog) will be our special guest at storytime on June 15.



JOIN US
FOR **STORYTIME**
WEDNESDAYS @ 11 AM
Come enjoy books, songs and
crafts

Willows Public Library
201 N. Lassen St, Willows
(530) 934-5156



Summer Reading Program

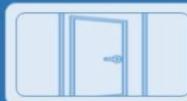
The Willows Public Library Summer Reading Program, "Read Beyond the Beaten Path," will begin on June 10 encouraging readers of all ages to explore the world through reading and to enjoy the great outdoors. Go on a new adventure in the pages of a book or take the adventure outside: from books to crafts, it's time to try something new! The library will offer fun summer programs for kids, including the Wild Things Live Animal Show and much more. All participants will win prizes throughout the summer by logging their reading and library activities.

Past Library Events

This past month, the library hosted a *Mother's Day Crafternoon*, the Families for Literacy program, and *Adopt a Reading Buddy!* on May 13 for ages 4-12. After checking out a book, library cardholders may "adopt" and name a stuffed animal (e.g., small plush puppies) to take home and share their reading experience with. The Reading Buddy program is a fun way to encourage students to read both in school and at home.



Library Activity April 2022



Door Count - 722



Public Computer Use - 91



New Library Card - 17



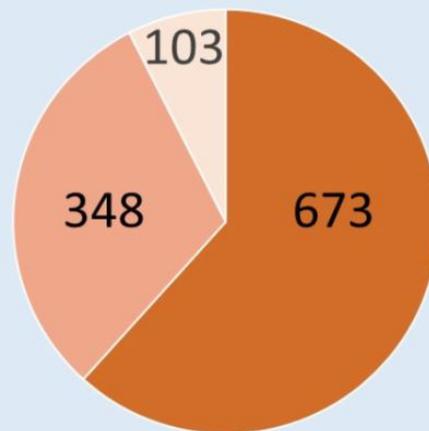
New Items Added to Collection - 159



Program Attendance – 110*

*Includes 8 programs and 68 Storytime
"To Go kits" distributed.

Check Out Materials April 2022



Total Check Outs = 1,373

■ Physical Collection ■ Ebooks ■ Zip Books

PUBLIC WORKS

Streets, Parks, Sewage & Capital Improvements



Public Works Announces New Hire!

The City's Public Works Division is pleased to introduce and welcome Ben Cazares, Maintenance Worker, to the Public Works team. He joined the City on May 9 and was previously employed by Briggs Manufacturing.

City Awarded Prop 68 Grant for Swimming Pool Upgrades

The City received a Prop 68 Grant of \$177K to fund park improvements. The City Council recently approved using those monies for repairs and upgrades to the City-owned swimming pool. To that end, the extent and cost of the necessary upgrades to the pool and its associated equipment are currently being assessed. The final report is expected by early June. The City's swimming pool will be closed for the 2022 swim season.

City Seeks \$400K Grant for Sewage System

The City of Willows is applying to the California State Water Resources Control Board for a \$400K grant to assess its sewer system, including Closed Circuit Television Video (CTTV) of the City's sewer lines in order to identify and better prioritize repairs.

Road Construction Project Updates

- North Lassen Street Improvements - Construction of this street improvement project (between Sycamore and Wood Streets) will begin in the next three to four weeks and is expected to be complete by the end of July.
- Green Street Improvements - The City has started design and construction drawings to include grinding down old pavement and repaving Green Street between North Lassen and Butte Streets. This joint City-County construction project is expected to begin in the fall of 2022.



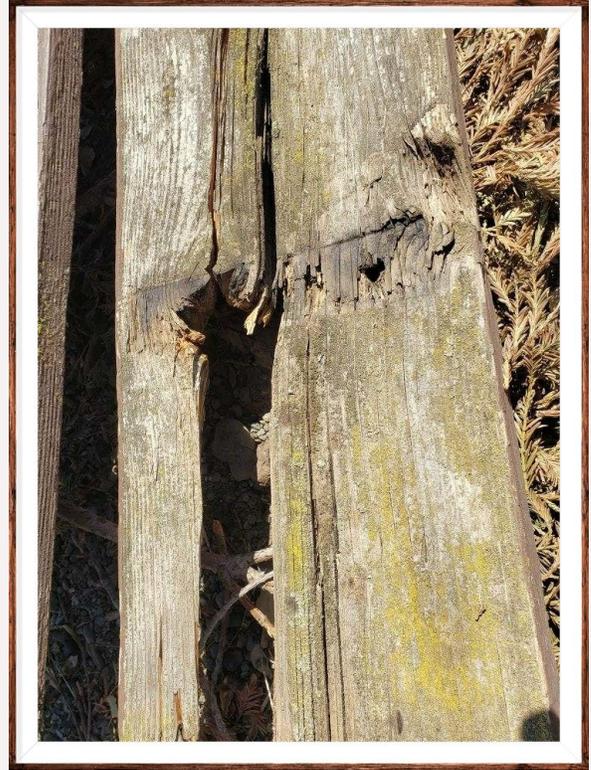
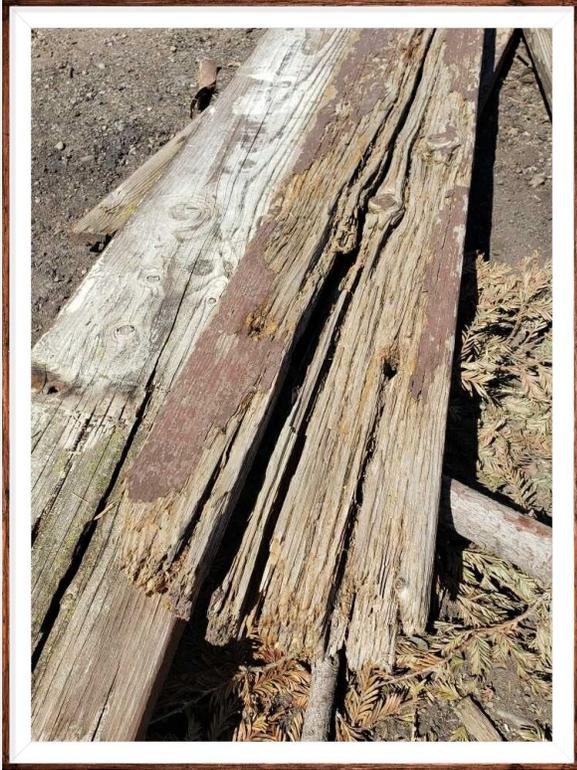
- Pacific Avenue Rehabilitation - The City is currently wrapping up 100% construction drawings. It is anticipated that the City will bid the project in July and construction will begin in the fall of 2022.

Special Public Works Projects

In addition several days of preparation for the Lamb Derby a few weeks ago, Public Works crews upgraded picnic tables at Jensen Park and replaced bleacher board seating at the baseball field in preparation for the summer baseball season.



Upgrades to picnic tables at Jensen Park.



Baseball Field Bleachers - BEFORE



Baseball Field Bleachers - AFTER

Public Works Activity
April 2022



Park and Street Tree Trimming - 16



Call Requests - Sewage Line Issues - 3



Poured 1.5 tons of cold patch to fill potholes.



New USA Markings – 25

RECREATION

2022 Summer Swim Program

The City's 2022 Summer Swim Program will start on June 16 at the high school's swimming pool at 203 N. Murdock Street (on the north side of the school, behind the track and gym). The program will run Monday through Friday, 1:00 to 5:00 pm and will end on August 6. All nine lifeguards have been hired - six returning and three new.

Special thank you and shout out to the Willows Unified School District for their support and partnership with the City making it possible to provide another public summer swim program.



City Of Willows

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



Email Us



City of Willows | 201 North Lassen Street, City of Willows, CA 95988

[Unsubscribe mbrown@cityofwillows.org](mailto:mbrown@cityofwillows.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@cityofwillows.org in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!