



## CITY OF WILLITS

### Public Works and Engineering Department

380 E. Commercial St., Willits, CA 95490

Voice: (707) 459-4605 • Fax: (707) 459-2481

# PRESS RELEASE

*By Brandi Burtness  
City of Willits*

## **The City of Willits Will Now Have Design and Construction Standards of its Own**

The City of Willits is excited to announce, that it will now have Design and Construction Standards of its own. Unlike most municipalities, Willits does not have its own Standards and has relied upon the Standards from surrounding communities, such as Ukiah and Cloverdale. There is an unquestionable need to produce design standards for its own construction projects, as well as the projects of the contractors working within the city limits.

Designs Standards are utilized in the design phase of a project, and are needed in order to provide standard, equitable design and construction. The new Standards will be a reliable benchmark for good design and will offer contractors doing business in the City, clear design guidance.

In June 2008, the City of Willits was awarded a grant through the Mendocino Council of Governments, for the preparation of the Standards and subsequently, proceeded with the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. After much consideration of the proposals received, the City selected Winzler & Kelly, of Santa Rosa, to assist the City with this process.

In March 2009, the City entered into a Professional Services Contract with Winzler & Kelly, and creation of the Design and Construction Standards is now underway. As part of the design process, the City and the Consultant believe that it is important to have community input before the Standards are finalized. The City would like to invite residents and industry professionals to a community workshop on May 16, from 10:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the City Council Chambers. The Consultant will then give consideration to the community feedback while finalizing the City Standards and in June 2009, the City will once again invite individuals to meet, in order to see how the feedback was incorporated. The City's goal is to have the final draft presented to the Willits City Council for adoption in July 2009.

The City of Willits is eager to finally have its own Design and Construction Standards. Good design is not only a matter of appearance, but suitability of construction methods. By having a guide, the City will be able to conserve and enhance existing locale, while providing the needed methodology for new design and construction. By taking this important step, the City of Willits has recognized that sound design is an essential ingredient, if we are to achieve the value for our money when it comes to construction.