

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update August 24, 2018

Administration:

New Directions Northwest, one of Baker City's largest employers held their annual employee picnic in Geiser Pollman Park. I was fortunate to be a judge for a lip-sync challenge between the different program areas. All groups did an outstanding job of choreography for the skits and music. The crowd, consisting of employees, families and general public had a great time.

It appears that the smoke from all the fires in the West is finally dissipating from the valley. Cooler temperatures will be coming in the next week. The Memory Cruise will be held this weekend in the park and some of the classic cars will also be at the Durkee Steak Feed which will be held at Quail Ridge Golf Course on Saturday evening. Have a great weekend.

City Council

Agenda

August 28th

- Contract Approval for Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- Councilor Vacancy
- Public Meetings Video/Audio Update

****DON'T FORGET****
Sidewalk Grant Funds are still available. For additional details please visit our website, www.bakercity.com

Finance:

Utilities

- ◆ 8 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 4 customers disconnected service from August 17th through August 23rd. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed August 21st and included 503 residential and 52 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 118 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 26 (5%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today which includes 473 residential and 20 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 104 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 16 (3%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Twenty-two residential customers (Zones 3 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) five were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.



BAKER CITY BURN BAN

The Baker City Fire Department closed all burning within the city limits as of Wednesday, July 11th, 2018 at 4:30 PM. This is due to rapidly drying conditions throughout the county and with high temperatures forecast into the future. Residents can continue to use barbecues but no open burning or warming fires are allowed. Residents can contact the fire station at 541-523-3711 with any questions.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	5	2	14
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	1	0
Electrical	3	6	7	2
Mechanical	0	5	0	13
Plumbing	0	4	0	2
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	6	20	10	31

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 48264 Floodwater Flat, Baker City – Replacement dwelling.
- 920 Robert Street, Haines – Manufactured dwelling.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 1350 Washington Street, Baker City – Interior wall addition.
- 1720 Resort Street, Baker City – Commercial roof replacement .
- 255 Church Street, Halfway – Commercial roof replacement.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is September 12th at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ **CUP-18-084:** The Planning Commission held a public hearing on August 15th, 2018, to consider a Conditional Use application from Baker School District 5J to construct a ±35’ x ±96’ greenhouse at 2500 E Street. The hearing was continued to August 29th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.
- ◆ **Work Session:** The Planning Commission reviewed materials for proposed updates to the Baker City Development Code, including revisions/additions relating to accessory dwelling units, mobile food units and hostels. These materials will be further reviewed at the next work session on September 19th, 2018.



Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A final plat was approved for a 3-parcel re-plat at 105 Foothill Drive, located within the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ Two lot line adjustments were approved between parcels located near the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Foothill Drive.
- ◆ The Planning Department has received an application for a replat to reconfigure the boundaries of four existing lots located in the block bordered between Estes Street to the north, Carter Street to the south, and 10th Street to the east. Notices were sent to nearby property owners notifying them of the application this week, and signs were posted at the property.



The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of August 14th through August 20th Fire Department responded to a total of **33** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	22
Rural Calls	8
Patient Transported	23
No Patient Trip	7

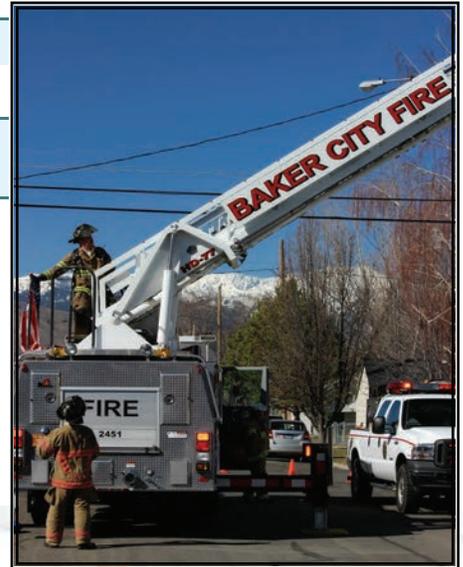
TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 30

Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	2
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	5
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Public Assists	2

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	3

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 3



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	11
Persons Arrived for Cover	13
Incidents Not Covered	0

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **65** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **54** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training: Hose evolutions, engine company operations, miscellaneous EMS subjects, address drills, after action reviews, ladder truck placements.
- **6** hrs of Fire Prevention: Business Inspections & Safety Inspection for Tribute Fest
- **40** hrs of Community Events: Standby for Tribute Fest.



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on August 28th.



"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ✪ This past week, BCPD handled over 212 incidents and opened 37 new cases during the previous week, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ✪ BCPD Reserve Officers and Patrol Staff actively patrolled during the Eastern Oregon TributeFest, a two-day concert event held at the Baker County Fairgrounds, during which only one altercation was reported and investigated.
- ✪ Additional cases investigated involved a burglary at a local business and the report of several sticks of dynamite located in a shed within the City limits. The following press releases were issued in response to these incidents:

In the early morning hours of August 19, 2018, multiple subjects unlawfully entered Eastern Oregon Rental and Sales located at 3925 10th Street, Baker City, Oregon. Spending several hours inside, the subjects secured numerous construction grade tools valued at an estimated \$20,000 and placed them into the back of an Eastern Oregon Rental and Sales pickup truck that they had taken from the yard. The subjects then left the scene but later returned and left the pickup and tools behind. An undisclosed amount of cash was also taken from the business during the burglary that has not been recovered.

During the investigation one of the subjects was identified, located and arrested. The investigation is ongoing and future arrests are expected. The Baker County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police assisted in the initial investigation. The following person has been arrested in this case: Kayle Dawn Johnson DOB: 10/08/1993 from Nampa, Idaho; Aggravated Theft in the First Degree; Burglary in the Second Degree; Unlawful Use of a Vehicle; Criminal Conspiracy.

On August 22, 2018, at around 1054 hours, officers were dispatched to 2145 17th Street, Baker City, Oregon, for a discovery of what was believed to be dynamite. Officers responded and notified the Oregon State Police Bomb Squad. They also requested the evacuation of the residence for the resident's safety.

The Oregon State Police Bomb Squad from Hermiston, Oregon, was dispatched and arrived by mid-afternoon. After assessing the suspected dynamite, they began preparing it for transport out of the area. During this time, a two block cordon was established and traffic was detoured out of the area.

Shortly after starting preparations for transport, the Oregon State Police Bomb Squad was able to determine it was not dynamite, but actually a non-explosive, non-hazardous material. The residence was released back to its owner.

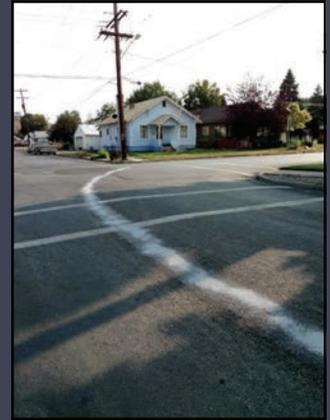


- ✪ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.
- ✪ BCPD Administrative Assistant / Car Seat Technician Phoebe Wachtel continues to assist families with car seat installations each week.



Public Works: Street Department

A vehicle driving through town Tuesday began leaking diesel fuel. Instead of pulling over they continued to drive to car repair shops until locating one that would repair the problem. Pictured left is a portion of Washington Street where some of the diesel has been absorbed and later was swept up and disposed of properly.



O.D.O.T. contacted Public Works this week inquiring about attaching a communication antenna to one of the street light poles on Campbell Street. Joe (O.D.O.T. Electrician) and Tom met to discuss the details.

An art exhibit this weekend showed an African crocodile lying on Court Street while having a turtle snack. This crocodile was created by an artist in the area of Kenya.



There are numerous STOP signs throughout town which are obstructed by tree limbs and other vegetation.



This STOP sign is located on the west side of Main St.





Public Works: Street Department Continued

CHIP SEAL PROJECT: This years' chip seal project was completed Wednesday.

The project was scheduled to be completed Thursday of last week. The threat of rain Thursday afternoon caused the project to be postponed until this week. As seen on this radar image rain appeared to be imminent. →



It was decided that it wasn't worth the risk of spraying a street with chip seal oil and then having a rain storm start. The oil/water mixture would have run off the road into the gutter and catch basins and created a major problem.



In order to reduce the cost of freight to supply oil, Albina worked in conjunction with O.D.O.T. and Public Works to haul additional oil with the last O.D.O.T. tanker to provide the oil necessary oil to complete the City Project.

← Two different stockpiles of rock were used to chip seal streets this year. Rock from the pile shown in this photo was used on Walnut, 2nd Street, "L" Street and "H" Street.



Pictured right, Kris is loading rock into R-244 for use Wednesday. Only a small portion of the rock in the loader bucket was placed into the bed of the truck.

The first street of the last day was "L" Street. The pattern of oil coming from the spray bar is consistent and provided excellent coverage onto the street surface.



Because "L" Street is a "dead end" there was no room to access from the west so the surface had to be sprayed from the Birch Street side then covered with rock. Then the remainder of the street could be completed.





Public Works: Street Department Continued



All three rollers were used to embed the rock into the fresh HFE100S oil.

There was a section on 2nd Street that was chip sealed last year where the rock didn't adhere well to the oil. Upon becoming aware of the problem Albina insisted upon supplying the oil necessary (at no expense to the City) to re-treat the section.



Pictured left, the crew is chip sealing 2nd Street between "A" and "B" Streets.

Jay sweeping some of the rock from 2nd Street back onto the treated street.



Remaining oil in the distributor truck was used to seal the surface of a portion of Walnut Street. The oil was applied 13 feet wide beginning at "C" Street and traveling south until the tanker was emptied.





Public Works: Water and Wastewater Department

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT: There were numerous wastewater problems reported over the weekend and early this week - it was determined that none of the problems were caused from blockages in city maintained lines.

WATER DEPARTMENT: A new water service was installed Tuesday on Auburn Avenue west of 17th Street. The main line was exposed and tapped using a 1" corp stop. A 3/4" meter was then installed.



←
Blain and Jacob discussing proper compaction methods during the backfill portion of the project.



Public Works worked with the 5J School District Tuesday to raise two water valves and a 2" water meter top. Work had to be done on short notice as 5J was having this part of their parking lot paved Wednesday.



Logs from the BLM portion of the Pipeline Project were loaded onto a log truck Thursday and taken to the Boise Cascade mill in LaGrande.

Public Works: Shop

Wes working on an ambulance while Scott runs some diagnostic tests.





Public Works: Shop Continued

Besides working with the crew to help chip seal Baker City streets Wes and Scott have been repairing the fire department ambulance and the tracks on the CAT dozer. Several of the bolts that secure the lower rollers broke off when the rollers were removed. An electric drill magnetic base had to be rented and used to drill out the broken bolts. The new bolt holes will have to be "tapped" by hand to recreate threads for new slightly larger bolts to fit into.



The mag drill lined up and ready to drill out one of the broken bolts.

A closed cell pad was laid out for Wes and Scott to lay on while they worked on the dozer. →



Public Works: Announcements

Due to current fire restrictions, the Baker City Watershed is closed to all hunters at this time and hunting access permits are not being issued.

The Watershed will remain closed until the fire danger is classified as **"Low"** or **"Moderate"**. Please call (541) 524-2047 if you have questions.



Public Works: Announcements



Be Visible—Stay SAFE!

Just the Facts Ma'am...



20%

of the U.S. highway system is under construction during peak construction season.



40,000

or more workers are injured in work zone crashes each year.



5

An estimated average of 5 firefighters lose their lives in traffic related accidents each year.



12

An estimated average of 12 police officers lose their lives in traffic related accidents each year.



10,000

From 2012–2016, 10,000 crashes in Oregon were caused by distracted driving.



1,232

From 2003–2012, 1,232 people were killed in crashes involving a drunk driver in Oregon.



Monthly Safety Focus

August 2018

Your Committee Members



Joyce Bornstedt
Chair

Jason Jacobs
Vice Chair

Matt McBride

Meagan Paoletti

Julie Smith

Phoebe Wachtel

Fred Warner
City Manager

YOU keeping YOU VISIBLE and SAFE...

- Wear proper safety equipment—PPE.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid blind spots.
- Have a competent person (per OSHA definition) on hand.
- Have daily safety briefing.
- Have site specific safety program.
- Stay hydrated to avoid heat related illness.
- Avoid distractions—phones, music, social media while on duty.
- Stay alert at all times!

Tips to be Visible...

If you work in a street or highway right-of-way and you're exposed to traffic or construction equipment, OR-OSHA requires you to wear a highly visible upper body garment in accordance with *High Visibility Garments—OAR requirements*. Emergency responders and law enforcement officers must also wear high-visibility apparel **AFTER** an emergency has

Tips to Stay Safe...

- Have a Plan—use traffic control devices and utilize a plan that manages the flow of heavy equipment, construction vehicles, and workers.
- Control Traffic—set up the work zone using advance warning area, buffer area, work area and termination area to allow traffic to move safely through the work zone.
- Create Separate Work Areas—To avoid accidents, use cones, barrels, and barriers to delineate specific areas of the work zone such as material storage, heavy equipment