

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

*Weekly Update January 23, 2015*

## **Administration:** A

columbarium was installed at the cemetery this week by a private contractor. The wall will offer families an alternative to a typical burial. The columbarium consists of numerous niches that will hold cremated remains. Niches will be available for sale in the near future.



The Oregon Liquor Control

**Commission held a “listening session” concerning the new rules that they will be establishing for retail marijuana sales.** The majority of the attendees, that numbered as many as 100, were from outside of Baker County. Mayor Mosier, as well as Police Chief Lohner attended the meeting. If you would like to comment on the formation of rules for recreational marijuana you can do so at the following email address: [marijuana@oregon.gov](mailto:marijuana@oregon.gov).

You can find information concerning recreational marijuana at the following link: <http://www.oregon.gov/olcc/marijuana/Pages/default.aspx>

If you would like email updates on the rulemaking process you can subscribe at: [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/OLCC/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=OLCC\\_69](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/OLCC/subscriber/new?topic_id=OLCC_69)

## **Boards and Commissions Vacancies:**

If you are interested in volunteering to improve this community, there are still two vacancies, one on the Historic District Design Review Commission and one on the Planning Commission.

The Historic District Design Review Commission was created to promote the community participation in reviewing and approving applications submitted by the property owners wanting to alter structures within the Historic District. This Commission consists of seven members, three-year terms. The Planning Commission was created to manage issues related to land use in our town. The Commission consists of seven members with four-year terms.

## City Council

### Agenda Items January 27th

\*Executive  
Session

\*Boards &  
Commissions  
Volunteer  
Applications

\*Appoint  
Councilors to  
Boards and  
Commissions

\*Financial





## **Finance Department**

### ***A Message from the Finance Director:***

December's financial report will be available online January 26<sup>th</sup>.  
<http://www.bakercity.com/departments/finance>.

The Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 is now available on the web at <http://www.bakercity.com/departments/finance>.

### ***Accounts Payable***

The second of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated today.

### ***Local Improvement District (LID) Billings***

LIDs are billed every six months over a twenty year period. Interest is charged at the Local Government Investment Pool Rate plus 1% which is currently an annual rate of 1.53%. These LIDs can be paid off at any time with interest charged through the payoff date.

The final billing for the 1994 Primary Street Improvement LID was sent January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The original assessment in 1994 for improvements on D Street (between Birch and Cedar) and Church Street (between 10<sup>th</sup> and Union Pacific Railroad) included 40 property owners for a total of \$58,780. The remaining balance outstanding is \$28.

### ***Utilities***



- ◆ Fourteen customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and sixteen customers disconnected service from January 16<sup>th</sup> through January 22<sup>nd</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed today which includes 493 residential and 49 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 81 or 15% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ 103 late notices were sent January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Six residential customers (Zone 2) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non pay (over 60 days past due); four of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.



# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Baker City Building Department provides full plan review and inspection services for building, plumbing, and mechanical on new and remodel construction within Baker County. For more information please visit: [www.bakercity.com/departments/building](http://www.bakercity.com/departments/building)



Photo by: Base Camp Baker

### **RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS:**

A permit was issued for a new single family home at 42971 Old Foothill Road.

### **COMMERCIAL PROJECTS:**

A roofing permit was issued for 3515 Pocahontas Road.

### Permits

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
BUILDING*	1	0	1	1
MANUFACTURED DWELLING	0	0	0	1
ELECTRICAL	0	N/A	6	N/A
MECHANICAL	3	0	2	0
PLUMBING	1	2	2	4
FENCE	0	N/A	0	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>

### Historic District Design Review Commission

HDDRC members met on Wednesday January 21<sup>st</sup> to review and discuss applications for a Certified Local Government Pass-Through Grant for historic preservation. Applicants will be notified prior to January 31<sup>st</sup> if their projects meet the minimum eligibility requirements to continue in the grant process.

### Compliance

No new compliance inspections were completed this week.



The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to protect the community through quality preparation and excellent service.



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Last week the Fire Department responded to a total of **33** emergency alarms.

### AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

Rural Calls	9
City Calls	21
Patient Transported	33
No Patient Trip	5

Out of Town Transfers	5
Airport Transfers	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1*
Simultaneous Calls	3
Triple Calls	1

### TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 33\*

\* This weeks' information includes the response to the multi-vehicle collision on I-84.

### FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Still Alarms	2

<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>3</b>
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- False Alarm—Baker Street
- False Alarm—Cedar Street

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed **59** hours of in-house training during the week.

- Chart reviews.
- EMS – Anatomy & Physiology
- Fire behavior – Basement fires, Structural collapse

### MAINTENANCE/OTHER

**61** hours of station, apparatus, equipment maintenance, and other activities including:

- Station, apparatus and equipment maintenance including:
  - Daily medication and equipment checks and maintenance
  - Station maintenance
  - SCBA flow testing
  - SCBA fit testing

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Additional Services to the community:

- BP checks at senior center.



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11am. Don't miss the next check on January 27<sup>th</sup>.



"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**



**BCPD handled over 150 incidents this past week, opening 20 new cases which resulted in multiple arrests. Also during this week BCPD, with the assistance of the Baker County Sheriff's Office, served 3 search warrants and arrested 12 people on nearly 30 drug related charges.**



- ★ Chief Lohner spoke to a group of senior care givers at St. Alphonsus Hospital, outlining the new Senior Citizen Welfare Check program that was instituted with the use of police volunteers.
- ★ 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.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

Property Maintenance

Followed up on 7 old cases  
Closed out 4 cases  
Cited 1 case

Animal complaint

Followed up on 2 complaints

Dog License

Started 3 new no dog license cases  
Followed up on 10 old cases

Parking Violations

Followed up on 24 parking complaints  
Issued 8 parking citations

Dog at Large

1 dog at large returned to owner

Dangerous Dog

Followed up on 1 case

Kennel Permit

Followed up on 2 permits

Livestock Permit

Followed up on 2 permits

Temporary Use Permit

Cited 1 case  
Followed up on 1 case

**Prescription Drug Drop Box**

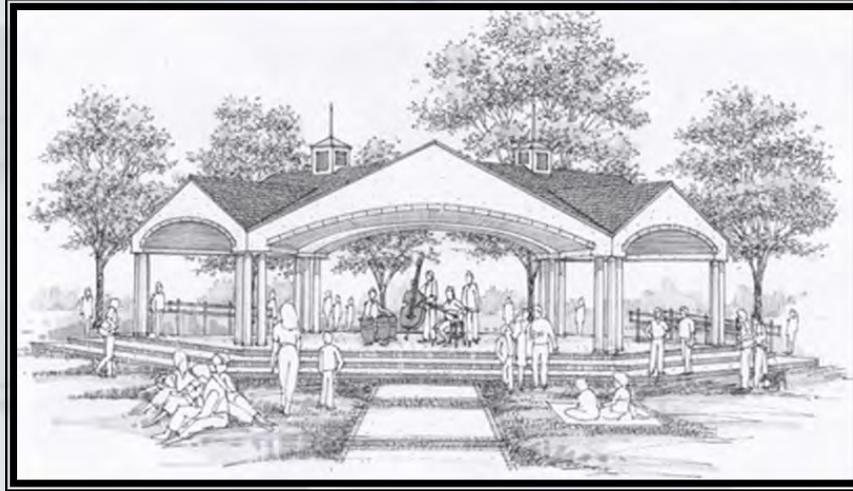
Since December 2013, a prescription drug drop box has been installed in the lobby at the Baker City Police Department, allowing citizens to drop off outdated or unneeded prescription drugs at any time. This new option is in addition to the BCPD bi-annual prescription drug take back program, initiated by the Drug Enforcement Administration.



## **Planning Department**

### **Planning Actions:**

An application was filed by the Bandstand Committee Chair, David Hunsaker, for a conditional use permit to construct a 1200 square foot bandstand in Geiser Pollman Park. Pre-notice for a public hearing to be held on February 18<sup>th</sup> were sent out to impacted neighbors, agencies, partners, and a public notice will appear in the Baker City Herald on January 28<sup>th</sup>.



The Planning Director attended the Oregon Liquor Control Commission listening session at the Baker City Armory on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> to hear questions, answers and community ideas about implementation of the new recreational marijuana legislation and its potential impact on land use planning.

The Planning Department provided a flood zone map and related information for 3104 Estes Street.

### **Updates:**

The next Baker City Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Baker City Hall.

On January 27, 2015, beginning at noon, the Eastern Oregon Mining & Aggregate Summit will be held in Baker City at the Baker County Conference & Event Center at 2600 East Street. The Summit is put on by Baker County Economic Development, Eastern Oregon Mining Association, Oregon Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association, and Oregonians in Action. The event is free, though registration is requested, and will focus on opportunities, challenges and legislative solutions for the mining industry. The Planning Director will be a part of the panel discussions, focusing on the land use regulations for mining. More information can be found at <http://www.easternoregonminingsummit.com>.



## PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works is working to comply with new traffic sign retro reflectivity requirements. Streets will be driven at night so that street signs which need replaced can be identified and brought up to national standards. To the right are four signs of different colors which have been borrowed from The La Grande (Region 5) Sign Division. These signs are used for comparison purposes. Signs that reflect better than these examples pass. Those that reflect less than or equal to these signs fail and will be replaced as time and budget will allow. Of course, those signs which are more important for safety purposes will be replaced expediently.



Public Works worked for a drain cleaner on Cedar Street to trace a sewer lateral which regularly plugs. To the left, Keith and Rick forced the Duct Hunter cable into the lateral. An electrical current was then introduced into the cable and the line was successfully traced. The line location can now be dug up with confidence and repaired. The drain cleaner was billed for the work.

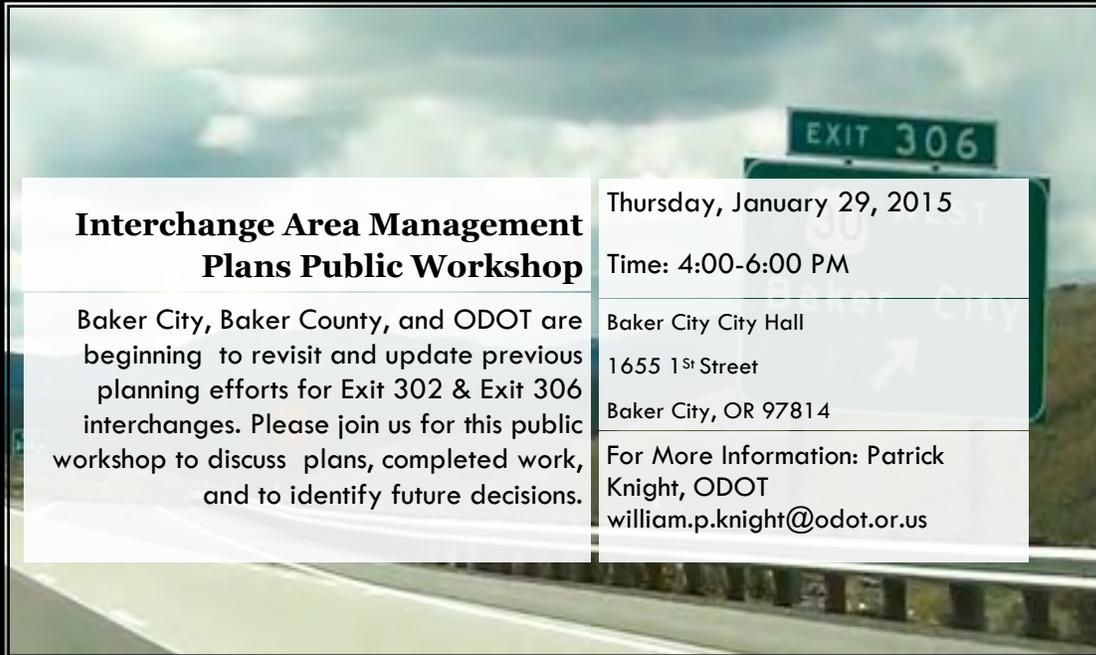
The last few days, a City crew has been filling potholes in paved and gravel streets. With the absence of snow and ice on the streets the crew was able to blade some rock into the potholes which will hopefully hold until the frozen roads can thaw and be bladed with the grader. Numerous holes have been filled in paved streets, with more to be filled this week.





## Public Works

### This coming week!



<p><b>Interchange Area Management Plans Public Workshop</b></p>	<p>Thursday, January 29, 2015 Time: 4:00-6:00 PM</p>
<p>Baker City, Baker County, and ODOT are beginning to revisit and update previous planning efforts for Exit 302 &amp; Exit 306 interchanges. Please join us for this public workshop to discuss plans, completed work, and to identify future decisions.</p>	<p>Baker City City Hall 1655 1<sup>st</sup> Street Baker City, OR 97814  For More Information: Patrick Knight, ODOT william.p.knight@odot.or.us</p>

## Water Department

A more than normal amount of water has been coming into the basement of a house near Myrtle Street. Water main lines in the area were checked for any sign of leaks. The incoming water was also sampled and tested for chlorine residual. To the right, Dennis is pictured examining water valve boxes looking for standing water; none was detected near the Myrtle Street house. Below, Dennis tested the water which is flowing into the basement. No chlorine residual was detected. Ground water has been historically high in this area.



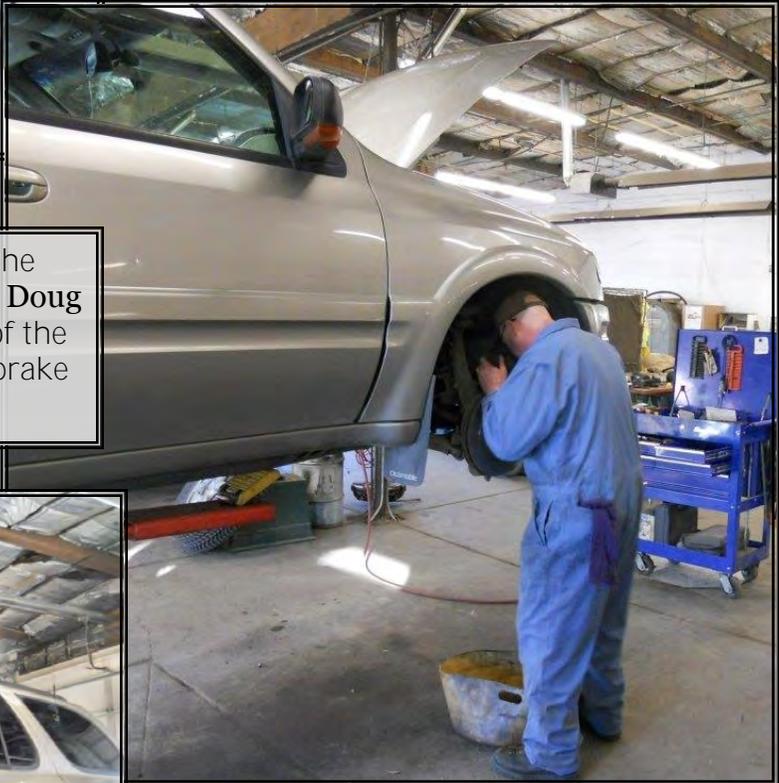


# PUBLIC WORKS *City Shop*

Doug and Wes installed a new trailer hitch on one of the City's pickup trucks. Wes also performed a service tune up on the truck as well.



Wes replaced the front brakes on the administration department's vehicle. Doug is pictured below letting the air out of the brake lines after replacing the front brake calipers.



Until next week, have a great weekend!