

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update April 19, 2019

Administration:

The Beautify Baker City committee met this week to plan for helping to spruce up our community. This is an ad hoc committee that is working with the City to clean up our major thoroughfares of weeds and trash. They have divided the City into 13 zones and individuals will work their areas throughout the summer. They are always in need of more help, so if you are so inclined, call City Hall at 541-524-2036 or Rocky Brown at 541-523-3679. Hats off to all the volunteers who give their time to make our City more attractive.

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday night with a full agenda. They will be hearing from Baker Sanitary about waste disposal rates and receive the annual audit as well as other miscellaneous issues. What great spring weather. I hope you get out and enjoy the sunshine while we have it. Have a great weekend.

City Council

Agenda

April 23rd

- YMCA Update
- Wildfire Awareness Proclamation
- Carnegie Library 110th Anniversary Proclamation
- 2018-19 Audit Presentation
- 2nd Reading of Tree Ordinance
- ASR Well Report
- Resolution: Sidewalk Grants

Finance:

Finance Director: The Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2018 is now available on the web at www.bakercity.com.

Utilities

- ◆ Nine customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and two customers disconnected service from April 12th thru April 18th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed April 16th and included 463 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 93 (20%) are signed up for direct payment and 29 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed today and included 557 residential and 26 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 168 (29%) are signed up for direct payment and 28 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Eighteen residential customers (Zones 2 and 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Four of those customers actually had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	2	5	17
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	0	3	5	7
Mechanical	2	2	0	5
Plumbing	6	9	1	3
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	12	16	11	32

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 320 Record St., Halfway—Detached accessory structure.
- 15844 High Country Ln., Baker City, New residence & detached accessory structure.
- 12 Iron Horse Loop, Halfway—Deck enclosure & deck addition.
- 117 3rd St., Richland—Interior remodel.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- **208 Settler’s Loop, Baker City**—New commercial warehouse.
- 3815 Pocahontas Rd., Baker City—Detached accessory structure.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next regularly scheduled meeting is May 8, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission will hold a public meeting on May 15, 2019, at 6:00pm, to discuss:
 - VAR-19-020: An application to construct a single-family dwelling on a substandard parcel at 601 Auburn Avenue, Baker City, on property zoned Residential Medium-Density (R-MD).
 - CU-19-046: An application to construct a ±960 square foot accessory structure with a ±14-foot eave height at 1320 D Street, Baker City, on property zoned Residential High-Density (R-HD).

Copies of the applications and work session materials will be available for inspection on or before May 8, 2019, at the Baker County Courthouse at 1995 3rd Street. All materials can be viewed for no cost, or provided at a reasonable cost; digital versions can be e-mailed for free. Comments on the proposal may be submitted prior to or at the public hearing. If you have questions, please contact the Planning Department at planning@bakercounty.org or 541-523-8219.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A ±288 square foot addition to a ±672 square foot accessory structure was approved at 2730 1st Street, in the Residential – High Density (R-HD) Zone.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of April 9th through April 15th the Fire Department responded to a total of **27** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	18
Rural Calls	8
Patient Transported	18
No Patient Trip	8

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 26

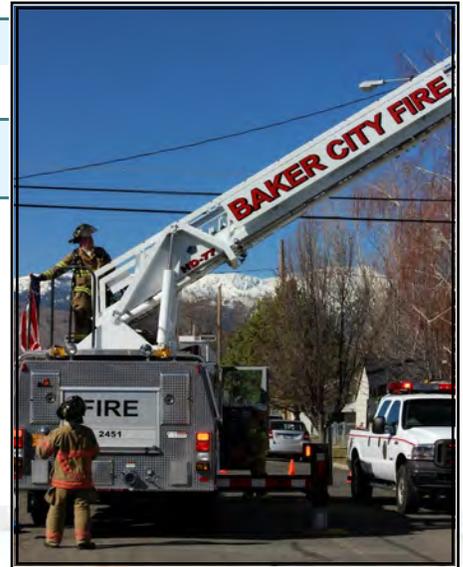


Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Doubles (2 calls at once)	2
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	2

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	1

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 1



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	1
Persons Arrived for Cover	1

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **49 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **80 hrs** of Fire Training
- **8 hrs** of EMS Training
- **8 hr** of Fire Prevention Inspections
- **12 hrs** Community Events
- **17** Burn Permits Issued



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on April 23rd.



"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

- ✪ During a particularly busy week, BCPD handled over 144 incidents and opened 74 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. One case involved the arrest of an Athena man after he reportedly fled the scene on foot after crashing through a fence near milepost 45 along Highway 30. An extensive search of the area following the crash initially resulted in no arrest; however, the following morning, BCPD officers located the suspect, 47-year-old Mark Andres Johnston, who was subsequently arrested and charged with Failure to Perform Duties of a Driver in an Accident with Property Damage, Driving with Suspended or Revoked – Misdemeanor, Reckless Driving and Criminal Mischief II. According to Oregon State Police, **additional charges are pending. Baker County Sheriff's Department assisted at the crash scene** and search for the driver.
- ✪ Renovations to the front lobby area of the Police Department, which include the placement of a counter and window inside the front entry way for added security and new flooring throughout the lobby and adjacent hallway, continued through this week and are nearing completion.
- ✪ Congratulations to Code Enforcement Officer Mark Powell who was recently selected as the **Department's newest Patrol Officer Recruit. Powell, who has over five years of service as a Reserve Officer** in addition to his time working in Code Enforcement for the Department, will start the Basic Police Academy in May.
- ✪ Gun locks are available upon request from the Baker City Police Department, located at 1768 Auburn Avenue. These locks, donated courtesy of Project ChildSafe, are available during regular business hours. Please note, the lobby is closed during the lunch hour. More information about Project ChildSafe can be found at <https://www.projectchildsafe.org/>.
- ✪ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.

The Baker City Police Department is currently making some changes to the front lobby of their building.

Business will continue as usual however access to the building may be limited at times.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

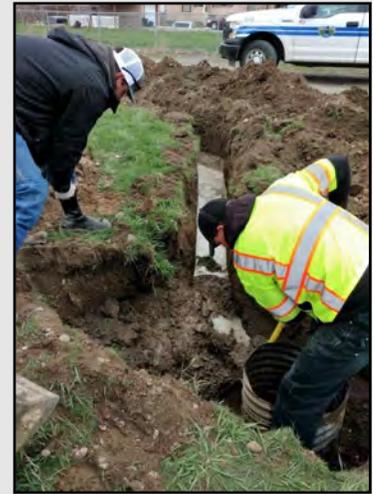
We are very excited to make these improvements and hope to share them with you soon. Thank you.





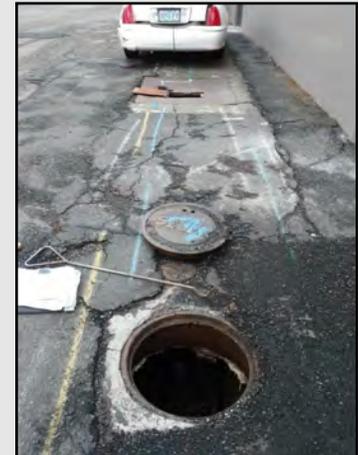
Public Works: Water Department

Dennis assisted a contractor with a water repair on 14th Street. Pictured right, Dennis is uncovering what was believed to be the source of the problem. Actually the sully line from the water main in the street had pulled out of the bottom of the water meter yoke after just a little yank with the contractors track hoe bucket. The repair was made quickly after the main line was shut down to slow the flow of water.



Scott performed some repairs on the water system at the City's Reservoir.

Public Works has been working with Dan at the Baker 5J School District to adjust water meter valve tops and meter and manhole lids for an upcoming paving project in their parking and maintenance area at the High School. Pictured right is an access hatch that was opened for inspection. The actual water meter for the High School complex is located under a steel plate near the back of the white car.



On Monday morning Scott and Justin traveled to Goodrich Reservoir to check on the level of the reservoir. With the extremely heavy winter snowpack it is very important that the reservoir be monitored closely. Even though conditions in the valley were relatively good the fog at that elevation was very thick.

After traveling to Goodrich they went to Little Mill Creek to uncover and close a valve there. Pictured left is the Goodrich Cabin. The snow level is still up to the eaves.



Public Works: Water Department Continued

One of the major Public Works projects for the week was the installation of two water line crossings on Washington Street. Two construction crews were assigned to this task. The plan was to install both lines during the morning and then use hot asphalt to patch the crossings in the afternoon. That way the street could be opened for regular traffic Friday morning after the asphalt had completely cooled.



← Blain and Tommy worked on the crossing at Grove Street while Justin and Brian (shown in the distance) installed the crossing at Clifford Street. Both crossings were scheduled to be completed prior to this year's major overlay project on Washington Street.



← An automatic rotating laser level is used to keep proper grade.

Justin and Brian installing the new 8" water line crossing Washington Street. →



Justin cleaning up the edge of the trench line after compacting the back-fill material with the Volvo Mini-Excavator. →



After coming in early to work on the 4th Street storm line, Karl and Jake assisted the Washington Street patching effort by applying a coat of tack oil to the edges of the trenches. The tack oil helps seal the new patch edges so that it adheres better and keeps water from penetrating through the surface and into the road base.



Craig made the pilgrimage to LaGrande and returned with a full 12 tons of hot asphalt to repair the trench crossings. Blain Brian and Justin work to fill the water line trench with type "C" hot asphalt. →



Notices were put out the day ahead to inform residents of the planned water crossing work.



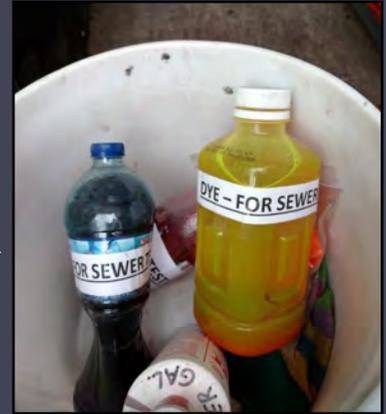
There will be one more major portion of the water improvement work scheduled for later this spring. That will be to have a contractor install an 8" diameter H.D.P.E. water line completely under the Powder River....so we can all look forward to that soon!



Public Works: Wastewater Department



Public Works assisted a property owner on 7th Street. It had been thought that the sewer lateral from the business building was connected to the resident to the north. Public Works performed a dye test on both laterals. Karl and Jake used the video-inspection camera to determine exactly where the dye came into the main line.



The dye testing supplies used for the testing. →

← This is what the dye looks like looking into a manhole as it comes down the main line.

A wastewater manhole on South Bridge Street was raised approximately 26 inches to the street surface.

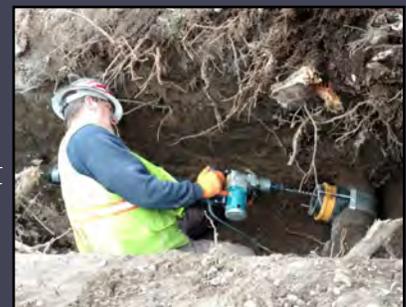


Public Works worked in conjunction with the property owner and his contractor to solve a wastewater issue at a house on 5th Street. The house had been served by a lateral which was approximately 225 feet long. This lateral ceased to drain properly and had to be replaced or abandoned. The cost to replace such a long lateral would have been very expensive. The owner decided to install a grinder pump and then access a shallow city line which runs directly in front of the residence. However, there existed a line which had already been installed 60+ years ago for use but it had never been connected to the house. Upon inspection of the existing (unused) lateral it was agreed upon by all involved that it should not be used.



← Here is what the inside of the unused lateral looked like after 60+ years.

Blain installed a new connection onto the main line. The new lateral from the house will consist of P.V.C. and ABS pipe and is expected to be trouble free for the foreseeable future. →





Public Works: Street Department

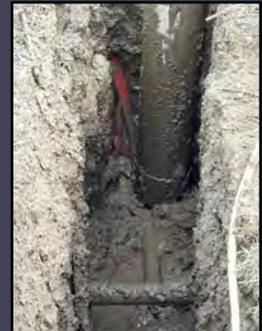
Public Works used the vector truck on Settlers Loop to locate 6 conduits for OTEC which were installed for future use over a decade ago. The future arrived this week. After searching by hydro-excavating for quite a distance - all ends of the conduits were uncovered and marked.

Blain and Brian excavating a trench line parallel to the road shoulder in search of one of the conduit crossings.



← Brian using the rotozip nozzle making surgical type cuts into the ground.

Here you can see two conduits and a warning post which was completely buried beneath the ground. →



An "End of Road" marker was installed on the south side of "H" Street to warn drivers should they turn off "H" Street onto the unopened Resort Street right of way.

Public Works: Stormwater Department

Karl and Jake started early two days this week to cut roots and clean a section of storm water line on 4th Street between Broadway and Washington.

Stormwater and wastewater lines both are most effectively cleaned while accessing from the downstream manhole.

In this case that meant sitting right in the middle of the intersection of 4th and Broadway....not a very good spot to be with the oversized vector truck during normal working hours. Pictured right are portions of the roots cut from the line.





Public Works: Parks and Recreation Department

Three ADA tables in three different Baker City Parks are scheduled to have concrete sidewalks installed for better wheel chair access.

Brian and Blain installed the one pictured here at Cedar Acres Park located on Park Street. Brian is shown putting on the "final touches" before applying a light broom finish.



Public Works: Surplus Property



Anyone needing the old Police Station accordion style door?

It has been removed from the Police Department and is currently for sale on Govdeals.com.

It lets in a lot of light and would make a good greenhouse door.

Opening bid is only \$5.00!

Announcements:



Please join us in celebrating the 110th Anniversary of the Carnegie Library

Saturday, May 4, 2019 • 10:00am to 2:00pm

2020 Auburn Avenue, Baker City

Auburn Avenue from 1st to 2nd Street will be closed for the celebration.

Free Family Friendly Event

For more information please visit

www.crossroads-arts.org

Arbor Day Celebration 2019

Mayor Loran Joseph proclaimed Friday, April 26th, 2019, as Baker City Arbor Day at the April 9, 2019, City Council meeting. In celebration of this proclamation, the Baker City Tree Board is sponsoring a planting project. It will be held at the former Churchill School.

Come help us celebrate Arbor Day 2019 with the planting of 5 trees on Saturday, April 27th from 9 a.m. to noon.





Safety Committee:

Baker City Safety and Wellness Committee

Lets Take A Walk Work Stress Prevention



The American Institute of Stress Reports...

- In 2014, the number one cause of stress was work including coworker tension, bosses, & work overload
- 40% of workers reported their job was very or extremely stressful
- 25% view their jobs as their number one stressor
- 80% of workers feel stress on the job, nearly half say they need help in learning how to manage the stress, and 42% say their coworkers need help
- Job stress is more strongly associated with health complaints than financial or family problems

Monthly Safety Focus

Committee Members

Joyce Bornstedt: Chair

Jason Jacobs: Vice Chair

Matt McBride

Meagan Paoletti

Julie Smith

Phoebe Wachtel

Fred Warner: City Manager

Signs You're Stressed

- Headaches
- Muscle / Tension Pain
- Chest pain
- Anxiety
- Fatigue
- Sleep problems
- Upset stomach
- Restlessness
- Lack of motivation/focus
- Irritability or anger
- Sadness or depression
- Overeating or under eating

Why Take Breaks?

- Movement breaks are good for your health
- It helps reduce the negative health affects from too much sitting
- They can prevent decision fatigue
 - Breaks restore motivation
- Our long term goals feel the affect of this when we come back to them after a break
- An increase in productivity and creativity
- We refresh our minds and decrease stress and exhaustion
- Waking rest helps memory and improve learning
- Our brains review the information we have learned

April 3rd is

NATIONAL WALKING DAY!

An encouraged break to take is a walk. There are many benefits to taking that short walk.

1. It will make you more creative
2. It will help you stay healthy
3. It will help you be more productive
4. It's a great way to communicate with others
5. You will follow suite of some of the most innovative brains of companies

How to Manage Stress



Get good sleep



Exercise



Eat healthy



Do something you love

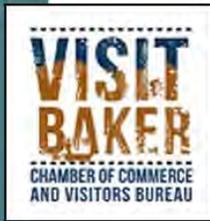


Good time management



Beautify Baker

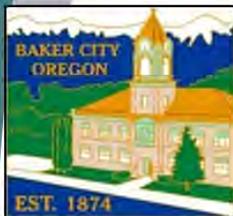
Beautify Baker is a volunteer group in Baker City working to keep weeds and debris cleaned up along the City's public right of ways.



We currently have 12 zones that volunteers have adopted and we are hoping that with additional volunteers, we can expand our efforts.



If you'd like to join our efforts, or if you see an area that needs help please give one of our



partners a call:

Rocky Brown, Lew Bros/Les Schwab: 523-3679

Robin Nudd, City of Baker City: 524-2036

Shelly Cutler, Chamber of Commerce: 523-5855

Julee Hicks, Economic Development: 523-5460



Thank you for keeping Baker Beautiful!

