

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update July 31, 2020

Administration:

The City Council met and reviewed the changes to the Baker City Development Code in a work session with the Baker City Planning Commission. The Commission has been working on updates to the Code for a number of years and we believe that this will better streamline the process for development in our community. The Council will take public comment on the Code changes at the August 25th Council meeting.

The City has received some resources from the CARES ACT that can be used for assistance to local government, businesses and individuals who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City will pass some of these resources on to our local non-profits that are in a position to help our citizens who have lost their jobs or have suffered financial hardship due to the virus. Stay tuned for more information as the City works out the details.

The summer heat with temperatures topping a 100 degrees are with us. Water use is rising very fast and citizens are encouraged to voluntarily practice good water conservation practices.

Keep washing your hands, wear your mask in our businesses and practice social distancing to help keep all of us safe.

Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	3	3	18
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	7	5	3	4
Mechanical	7	4	8	7
Plumbing	2	5	2	3
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	20	17	16	32

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 39956 Sumpter Valley Hwy, Baker City—New residence
- 43207 Brown Road, Baker City—Revision to detached accessory structure
- 437 Hwy 7, Baker City—Roof mounted solar system
- 120 3rd Street, Baker City—Structural repair to subfloor system

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 2725 7th Street, Baker City—Commercial alarm

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is
August 5, 2020 at 8am
in the Building Department offices



Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Baker City Planning Commission held a public hearing on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, at Baker City Hall and approved revisions of the following items:

- The Baker City Comprehensive Plan - Goal 9 Economic Element, based on an Economic Opportunity Analysis Report completed for Baker City; and
- Revisions to the Baker City Development Code; and
- Revisions to the Baker City zoning map for select properties in the City

These recommended items will be presented to City Council for final review during Council’s regularly scheduled session on August 25, 2020.

APPLICATIONS

- A lot line adjustment was approved for property addressed as 2825 Colorado Avenue in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A lot line adjustment was approved for property northwest of the corner of Place Street and 11th Street in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- An accessory structure at 445 Highway 7 was approved. The property is located in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A deck addition was approved for an existing single-family dwelling at 970 G Street. The property is located in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- An accessory structure (gazebo) at 3078 Resort Street was approved. The property is located in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An extension of time for a Subdivision at 615 Baker Street was approved. The property is located in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Responded to five new complaints
- Followed up on five previous complaints
- Made four preventative contacts
- Abated one property

Animal violations and complaints

- Responded to six animals running at large
- Followed up on two previous complaints
- Impounded two dogs

Parking violations

- Issued one orange tag
- Responded to seven new complaints
- Followed up on four previous complaints

Miscellaneous

- Twenty-nine miscellaneous community contacts
- Three community service stops
- One officer assist
- THREE FOUND ITEMS



"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 opened 50 new cases, responded to 232 calls for service and made eleven arrests for outstanding arrests. The high number of warrant arrests was the result of sweep conducted by the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team. The following press release was issued in response to this operation:

On July 27th and 28th, 2020 the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team conducted a warrant sweep in Baker City. The sweep was in conjunction with an operation on a known residence of criminal activity. The following two individuals were located near 10th and D street: Matthew John Agard, 35, cited and released for Contempt of Court/original charge of Disorderly Conduct II and Criminal Mischief II and Justin Marshall Robinson, 35, cited and released on a warrant for two counts of Forgery in the First Degree.

On July 28th 2020, BCPD Narcotics Detectives and uniformed officers and Baker County Parole and Probation went to the residence of Gary Kramer located at 1226 Washington Avenue in Baker City. This residence had become an ongoing issue of criminal and transient activity over the last 6 months. The only individual who should be residing at the home is Mr. Kramer's adult son. As part of the operation at 1226 Washington, the following individuals were served trespass notices: Alex Wise, 18, (transient); Trevor Heath, 24, (transient); Alex Horn, 24, (transient); Chad Cox, 39, (transient); and Victoria Mclean (38), (transient).

Victoria Mclean was also cited and released for a warrant on a charge of Possession of Methamphetamine and Dog at Large. Her dog was seized as it had been deemed a dangerous dog in a prior case. Alex Wise was cited and released on a Union County Warrant for fail to appear on an original charge of Theft I and Theft II.

Alen Brown, 20, was contacted at The Knights Inn Motel. He was cited to appear on a charge of Possession of Methamphetamine.

Jace Prowell, 29, was contacted at the Baker County Parole and Probation office where he was cited and released for a charge of Possession of Methamphetamine.

Caleb Flint, 34, was contacted at Cedar and Campbell Street. He was lodged at the Baker County Jail on a warrant for a Probation Violation on an original charge of Burglary in the First Degree. He was cited for contempt of court on an original charge of Theft II.

In addition, Josalynne Hallett, 20, was cited and released at the Baker City Police Department for Disorderly Conduct in the Second Degree and K-Leigh Pogue, 25, was also cited and released on a Union County Warrant for Failure to Appear X2 on an original charge of Theft in the Second Degree.

The Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team is comprised of members from the Baker City Police Department and the Baker County Sheriff's Office. The team is supported by the Baker County District Attorney's Office and the Oregon State Police.

★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public. This policy is in response to Governor Kate Brown's order requiring face coverings be worn in public indoor spaces by anyone 5 years of age and older.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of July 21st through July 27th the Fire Department responded to a total of **30** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	22	Request for Cover	5	General Alarms	0
Rural Calls	6	Arrived for Cover	0	Dispatched Alarms	2
Patient Transported	17			TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	2
No Patient Trip	11				

TOTAL MEDIC	28
--------------------	-----------



Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	3
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	0

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **45 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **8 hrs** of Fire Training
- **20 hrs** of EMS Training
- **0** Burn Permits Issued—**BURN BAN IN EFFECT**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fire Department is POSTPONING the free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am.

We will resume once social distancing is not required.





Public Works: Shop



We installed a new track tensioner of the left side.
This rig is back to work.



We are adjusting the clutch and mounting hitches to get the truck ready for chip seal.



We pulled the hydraulic cooler, cleaned it, and straightened the fins.

We greased the D7 Cat so it was ready for the County to pick up.

We pulled the fuel tank and installed a new fuel pump.

Public Works: All Inclusive Playground



Here is a brief video about our new all-inclusive playground:

<https://youtu.be/HjjR54ocfzw>





Public Works: Wastewater Department



Karl and Rick responded to a call about a plugged wastewater line. The video-inspection camera was used to navigate the problem and the jetter was brought to the site in case there was a plugged main line.



A root ball was the cause and a professional drain cleaner was able to cut it out of the line.



Public Works was able to assist ODOT in the removal of two pumps from their wash rack wastewater vault.



Karl tested the atmosphere for proper oxygen content before entering the confined space.

Public Works: Street Department



The approach portion of the "C" Street alley concrete work was completed earlier this week. Three cylinders were cast for strength testing to help determine when to open the alley for vehicular traffic.



Left: Two new information signs were installed to help provide improved directions to residences.

Right: Sidewalk replacement work began again on Madison Street. The portion of the sidewalk between Geiser-Pollman park and the Powder River bridge is being replaced to be ADA compliant.





Public Works: Street Department continued



Hot asphalt was used to repair the street gutter line on "A" Street between Main and 1st Streets. The existing asphalt along the curb had deteriorated to the point where it needed replacing.



Public Works: Water Department



The water leak on Carter Street was repaired last Friday. Nate and Blain excavated the site.

A chisel and hammer were used to drive packing material into the joint to stop the leak.



Next a bell clamp was attached to the connection to keep the leak from reoccurring. The concrete curb will be replaced as time allows.



Left: With high temperatures this week, water usage climbed. To meet demands, water from Goodrich Reservoir has been supplied to the town. The level has dropped approximately 6' below full pool.

Right: Several fire hydrants in town are receiving a fresh coat of paint this year.



Very good progress continues to be made on the Elk Creek to Salmon Creek portion of the pipeline project.

The crew hauled over 9,000 lineal feet of the 24" PVC pipe from the stage site near Elk Creek to the installation location in only 5 days!

On Thursday, over 500' of pipe was installed in the ground.





Public Works: Water Department continued



Kris and Scott worked to repair the interior of the Little Marble Diversion Water Vault.

By Tuesday afternoon it was back in service diverting Mountain water to Baker City faucets.



A new water meter and service was installed on "D" Street. Blain and Brady excavated down to the copper line that was installed just prior to the construction of "D" Street.



Have you ever considered being on City Council?

The Baker City Council will have six positions on the November ballot.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the City Recorder, Katie LaFavor at klafavor@bakercity.com, or at 541-524-2033.

Applications are being accepted now through August 25, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

You can find the application and other related information on our website:

<http://bakercity.com/2248/City-Council-Elections>

The City of Baker City is seeking volunteers for the following:

- ⇒ Historic District Design Review Commission—2 positions available
- ⇒ Tree Board—2 positions available

Positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit www.bakercity.com to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email admin@bakercity.com or call 524-2033 for more information.

The direct link to the volunteer form page is: <http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>

For COVID-19 Updates: www.bakercountycovid19.com