



The WEEKLY

September 30th, 2022



The latest news, views, and announcements of Baker City.

INSIDE

Volunteers Needed!

Multiple openings on boards and commissions

Now Hiring

Multiple job openings within City Hall.

New Website is Live!

Please check out our all redesigned website.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 27th:

Regular Council Meeting
MEETING CANCELLED

September 29th:

Airport Masterplan Meeting



Pictured above: Photo of the Elkhorn Mountains-reminds us how blessed we are to live in Baker.

City Manager's Message...

September is quickly coming to a close. Tomorrow, Bay Cities Ambulance a member of the Metro West Family of Ambulances will be the official provider of ambulance services in the Baker ASA. This morning I sent an email out to all of the FireMed customers for which I have an email. The email is provided herein. I recognize an email of this nature would have been appropriate to send sooner, however, we do not hold records with email addresses or physical addresses for our FireMed membership customers in our databases. We only received the email addresses and mailing addresses just recently from the company that holds that information. They have worked diligently to prepare, format, and provide that information. Even so, it has taken several weeks to complete the task. I would have liked to have sent something out through email and direct mail sooner. Additional information will be provided from Baker City by email and direct mail in the near future as well as through the previously mentioned outlets. It will include information for contacting the new provider and enrolling directly with them.

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City Manager's Message Continued...



Here is the email I sent:

Dear FireMed customers,

Baker City and LifeFlight have enjoyed a long partnership providing air and ground ambulance transport in Baker County. We at Baker City appreciate this quality partnership with LifeFlight. LifeFlight will continue to provide air ambulance transport for its customers within Baker County. Baker City is no longer the ambulance service provider for Baker County beginning October 1, 2022.

Many have asked what will happen to their FireMed ground transportation memberships. Bay Cities Ambulance located in Coos Bay Oregon and a member of the Metro West Ambulance Family of Companies is the new ambulance service provider for Baker County. As the new service provider, they will provide ground ambulance transportation. Bay Cities Ambulance offers a program similar to FireMed under the title of LifeGuard. They are completing the online and phone setup process for this program in Baker County. If you are a FireMed enrollee, consider the following:

1. If you are a current FireMed enrollee with a membership expiration after September 30, 2022, your membership will automatically transfer to the new LifeGuard program.
2. If you are a current FireMed enrollee with a membership expiration on September 30, 2022, you will need to reach out to Bay Cities Ambulance before October 15, 2022, to enroll in their LifeGuard program. The membership phone number and website will be released as soon as available. Bay Cities Ambulance has indicated they will work with customers who might need an ambulance but have not completed the LifeGuard enrollment process during the first part of October as if there is no lapse in coverage.
3. If you hold a FireMed Lifetime membership, you will receive a prorated refund from Baker City. You will need to contact Bay Cities Ambulance before October 15, 2022 to begin the enrollment process and purchase a LifeGuard Ground Transportation Membership. The website and enrollment phone number will be provided as soon as available.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Why was I told there is no LifeGuard ground ambulance coverage service when I called Metro West?

A. Bay Cities Ambulance is a member of the Metro West Ambulance Family of Companies and is the new ambulance service provider for Baker County. The call center for the parent corporation Metro West is not set up to answer questions about the Baker County service provider. Bay Cities Ambulance is training its staff to answer questions about the Baker County service and LifeGuard in Baker County.

Q. When will I be able to sign up for LifeGuard with Bay Cities Ambulance?

A. Bay Cities Ambulance is working diligently to provide the website and phone number for direct enrollment into the LifeGuard program. The enrollment website and phone number will be released as soon as it is available.

Thank you for your patience as Baker City works with Bay Cities Ambulance to transition FireMed to LifeGuard.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Cannon

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City Manager's Message Continued...



On another note, I recently had a discussion with a representative from Baker County. Baker City and Baker County have seen an increase in the number of animals abandoned and left in the streets. I ask residents to consider the impacts on the community if an animal is abandoned. One impact is obviously on the health and treatment of the animal. Abandoned animals are in danger of harm, and starvation, and with winter approaching, freezing to death. Two, some abandoned animals become aggressive and can endanger people both with aggressive behaviors and disease. Third, there is a cost to the taxpayers. Baker City employs a code enforcement officer who weekly deals with animals including abandoned animals. They are picked up and impounded. Unclaimed animals incur additional expenses to the city to figure out what to do with them. Annually the city pays for an organization to spay and neuter numerous abandoned animals as well. Please take care of your animals or find them a new home. Abandonment is not a free or humane option for an unwanted animal.

Finally, Baker City has numerous Boards and Commissions with open vacancies or soon to be open vacancies. If you want to be part of the discussion of the future of Baker City then apply with the City Recorder to participate on a Board or Commission. Included in this weekly is an advertisement of openings.

Have a great weekend.

-Jonathan Cannon, City Manager

Boards and Commissions

Apply for a Baker City Board or Commission and join your fellow residents in **shaping the future.**

Currently, Baker City has openings for the following Boards & Commissions:

- Historic District Design Review Committee
- Public Works Advisory Committee
- Tree Board
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Public Arts Commission

Openings coming soon:

- Budget Board
- Golf Board

Human Resources

The City of Baker City provides employment opportunity to all qualified employees and applicants, without unlawful regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran's status, or any other status protected by applicable federal, Oregon, or local law. Our EEO policy applies to all aspects of the employment relationship—including, but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, compensation, promotion, demotion, transfer, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, and termination of employment.

NOW HIRING

Fire Chief**Fire Department**First Review: **October 7, 2022**

Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Fire Chief within the Fire Department. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, however the first review will be October 7, 2022. This is a full-time benefited position. The job description and application can be found on the city's website:

<http://bakercity.com/2241/Human-ResourcesEmployment-Opportunities>

[Fire Chief Brochure](#)

Accounts Receivable/Cashier**Finance Department**First Review: **October 7, 2022**

Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Accounts Receivable/Cashier within the Finance Department. Application will be accepted until the position is filled, however the first review will be October 7, 2022. This is a full-time represented position. The job description and application can be found on the city's website:

<http://bakercity.com/2241/Human-ResourcesEmployment-Opportunities>



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Please call **541-426-7500** and tell us about your situation*.

*All data is secured, confidential and will not be used to contact you.
**More survey information on the back of this postcard and website.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

Thank you!

The Faster Internet Oregon coalition developed a **quick and safe speed test** that allows everyone to help map the availability and quality of internet service across Oregon. This information will:

- Identify Oregon homes that lack high-speed Internet
- Clarify which households don't have an Internet connection and why
- Provide cost estimates and assess solutions for areas with gaps
- Help secure broadband funding and ensure funds are equitably allocated so that **everyone has access to fast, affordable Internet service.**



“ I encourage everyone to participate in Faster Internet Oregon. The speed test is safe and easy. New federal funding creates a rare opportunity to improve internet access and affordability in Oregon, especially in communities that need it most. Your participation helps provide accurate information about gaps in service and the best approaches to fix them.

~ Mark Bennett, Baker County Commissioner



Planning Department**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- The Baker City Planning Commission held a public hearing at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, and recommended approval to City Council for the two requests from applicants and property owners, Leonard H., II and Gayle Gazley, which include a Baker City Comprehensive Plan Map and Zone Map Amendment to change the zoning designation of their property from General Industrial (I) to General Commercial (C-G), along with a concurrent Conditional Use Permit to convert an existing building into a dwelling. The ±.55 acre subject property is addressed as 560 Elm Street, Baker City, OR, also identified as Tax Lot 501 of Assessor's Map 09s40e21cd (Ref. 17582). The first public hearing with City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022.
- The Baker City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing both in-person and virtually at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, in the Council Chambers at the Baker City Hall, 1655 1st Street, Baker City, Oregon, to consider a Conditional Use Permit request by applicant, Steven Walborn, and property owner, Oregon Department of Corrections, to replace an existing radio communication tower with a 52-foot tower in the same location on the Powder River Correctional Facility property. The property is addressed as 3600 13th Street and is also identified as Tax Lots 2800, 2801, and 2901 of Assessor's Map 09s40e08cd (Refs. 15418, 15664, 15663), located in the General Commercial (C-G) Zone.

APPLICATIONS

- A property line adjustment was approved between two properties at 3510 Cedar Street in the Residential-Low Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A post-notice was sent to property owners regarding a proposed co-location of two new microwave antenna on an existing wireless facility located at 1205 Vista Heights Drive, in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone. The post-notice period ends October 10, 2022, at 5 p.m.

Fire Department



MAINTENANCE/TRAINING/ FIRE PREVENTION – INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

07 Hrs.	Station and vehicle maintenance
04 Hrs.	Fire training
00Hrs.	EMS training
00 Hrs.	Safety training
02	Fire Prevention/Inspections
01hrs	Community Events
00	Residential Burn Permits

09/20/2022-09/26/2022

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

The Baker City Fire Department emergency alarms detailed as follows:

FIRE REPORTS	02
General alarms	00
Dispatched alarms	02
EMERGENCY MEDICAL	04
In-City Responses	04
Out of City Responses	00
Transports	01
No Transports	02
Airport Transfers	00
Out of town transfers accepted	00
Out of town Transfers rejected	00
MVA's	00
Doubles (2 simultaneous)	00
Triples (3 simultaneous)	00
Quads (4 simultaneous)	00
MCI's	00
Public assist	00
EMS Assist	01
Emergency Call Back	
Requests for cover	00
# of staff requested	00
Staff response for cover	00
No staff response for cover	00

Burn Ban is lifted!

Public Works:

Public Works Weekly Update for 9/23/22



Here is a new manhole formed up ready to pour on the new mainline from 13th street.

Public works crews are installing reflective thermo-plastic lines in the Auburn street crosswalk.



Public works crews are using a concrete bucket to pour the new manhole.





Here is the finished manhole base.



The Sam-O-Swim center was refilled and is now back open.



Public works crews are installing eco-blocks to help hold back the bank on Indiana Ave.

Have a great weekend!





Elected Officials

Mayor: Kerry McQuisten mayor@bakercity.gov

Acting Mayor: Joanna Dixon jdixon@bakercity.gov

Shane Alderson: salderson@bakercity.gov

Jason Spriet: jspriet@bakercity.gov

Johnny Waggoner Sr.: jwaggonersr@bakercity.gov

Dean Guyer: dguyer@bakercity.gov

Kenyon Damschen: kdamschen@bakercity.gov