

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update April 21, 2017

Administration:

The sun is out in Baker City today. It has been a busy week here at the City. The planning around the August 21st Solar Eclipse is really starting to ratchet up. Preliminarily, the State of Oregon is estimating that Baker County may see an influx of up to 45,000 people in Baker County to view the once in a lifetime Total Solar Eclipse. City and County personnel are working to develop safety and logistic plans in case the estimate is accurate. It will be a great opportunity to capture business for our area but that many people may cause traffic, medical and basic services challenges. The event is only 120 days away so stay tuned for more updates.

We have a new flashing stop sign on the corners of First and Campbell Streets. This is an ODOT safety program as this intersection has a past history of high accident rates. We will be having representatives from ODOT attend a City Council meeting to explain their reasoning and give the public an opportunity to weigh in on the new technology.

Let's hope the sunshine stays around for a while. Stay safe and have a great weekend!!

City Council

April 25th Agenda Items:

- Arbor Day Proclamation
- School District's Long Range Facility Plan Discussion
- Appoint Volunteers to 911 Advisory Board
- Adoption of 2017 Council Goals
- Aquifer Storage & Recovery Report
- Parking Resolution #3790
- Watershed Letter to USDA Forest Service

Finance:

Utilities:

- ◆ Thirteen customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and five customers disconnected service from April 14th through April 20th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed on April 17th. This zone includes 494 residential and 49 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 100 or 18% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed today. This zone includes 546 residential and 26 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 121 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Twenty-one residential customers (Zones 2 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) eight were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.



Announcements:

City Hall Phone System: Last Friday all City departments lost the ability to have voicemail due to a hard drive malfunction. Your calls are important to us and we apologize for the inconvenience. We are working quickly with vendors to solve the issue. Thank you.

On **April 29th, 2017 from 10am to 2pm** the Baker City Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for safe disposal to the Police Department located at 1768 Auburn Avenue, Baker City, Oregon on Saturday, April 29th from 10am -2pm. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

For more information, please contact: Administrative Assistant, Phoebe Wachtel at (541) 524-2014, ext. 20 or Evidence Technician, Lynn Magnuson at (541) 524-2014, ext. 29.



**LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE
2017 SOLAR ECLIPSE?**

PLEASE CLICK THE FOLLOWING LINK:

<http://basecampbaker.com/wp/eclipse-2017>

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission's regularly-scheduled hearing for April 19th was canceled.
- ◆ The Planning Commission's next meeting will be held on May 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A ±720 square foot garage was approved at 972 Hillcrest Circle in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A ±5,308 square foot single-family dwelling was approved at 475 Washington Avenue in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of April 2nd to April 8th the Fire Department responded to a total of **34** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	22
Rural Calls	10
Patient Transported	26
No Patient Trip	6

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 32

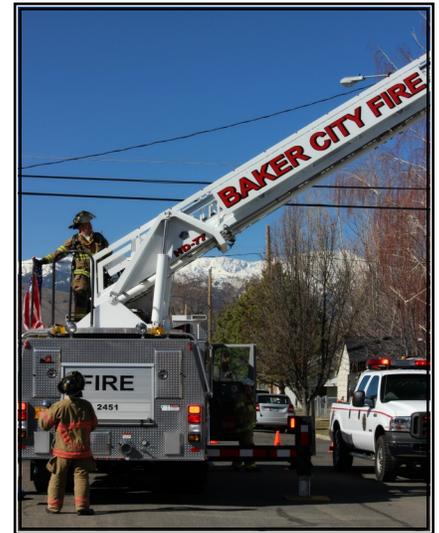
Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Simultaneous Calls	6
Triple Calls	1
Public Assist	3

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	2

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 2

- ◆ Resort Street—Dumpster Fire
- ◆ 13th Street—Power Pole Fire



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	26
Personnel Arrived for Cover	18
Incidents Not Covered	7

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 38hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 8 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 15 hrs of Fire Prevention Inspections
- 4 hrs Community Events



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 25th.



"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 175 incidents and opened 39 new cases this past week.

- Ten of these cases resulted in fraud/theft investigations.
- Four cases involved juvenile runaways.

- ★ Chief Lohner attended the 2017 Oregon Association Chiefs of Police conference in Bend last week. Chief Lohner was selected to serve on the Executive Board of the Chiefs' Association, alongside of 4 other Chiefs from around the State.
- ★ Chief Lohner met with the new Superintendent at the Powder River Correctional Institution.
- ★ BCPD personnel provided security for Senator Wyden's town hall meeting at Baker High School.
- ★ 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.



Pictured left is the active COP volunteers taken during last weekend's Easter egg hunt at the Geiser Pollman Park. They assisted with various aspects of this event and had even worked on stuffing the Easter eggs prior to the event. COPs assist with a variety of community functions and work in and around the Police Department. More information about the program is available by contacting the Police Department.

Pictured from right to left, back row: Linda Hudson, Marc Mansholt, Jim White, Dick Pedersen; front row: Edith Richerson and Marlene Rogers.

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Issued 2 citations for non-compliance
- Followed up on 4 pending cases
- Issued 2 citations for building code violations

Parking violations and complaints

- Issued 2 parking citations
- Orange tagged 2 abandoned vehicles

Animal Violations and Complaints

- Followed up on 3 animal complaints
- Followed up on 2 livestock complaints
- 1 new dangerous dog case



Public Works: Street Department

AUBURN AVENUE: Utility work is now occurring on Auburn Avenue in preparation for the upcoming Full-Depth Reclamation and Paving Project. Full-depth reclamation involves pulverizing the existing street to a depth of about 12”, so all of the existing utilities (including manholes and valve cases) must be lowered below that elevation.

Scott and Karl work to exposed buried utilities in the vicinity of a wastewater manhole on Auburn while Justin operates the trackhoe. The top of the 3’ cone on this manhole was too high for the future full-depth reclamation work, so it was replaced with a shorter 2’ cone.



Justin, Karl and Scott work to lower the sanitary manhole on Auburn between Main and 1st Streets. Justin is moving manhole shoring into place so that personnel can safely enter the hole to assist with placement of the new cone.



Along with utility adjustments, many of the old storm inlets and laterals in Auburn Avenue are being replaced in preparation for the street reconstruction work.

Pictured below, Scott operates the zipper to pulverize the asphalt surface around a catch basin at 1st and Auburn while Justin gives direction from the ground. This inlet was a very large (and old) concrete cylinder that was most likely originally installed as a drywell. This inlet will be replaced with a standard square precast concrete catch basin and grate.





Public Works: Street Department Continued



Karl and Scott work to backfill and compact material around a sanitary manhole on Auburn Avenue between 1st and 2nd Streets.

This week a contractor working for O.D.O.T. installed new 36" retro-reflective stop signs on Campbell Street this week between Main and 10th Streets as part of a Safety Improvement Project.

The project is funded through the Federal Government and administered via Oregon Department of Transportation. O.D.O.T. Region 5 was allocated \$625,000 to be used between cities and counties located within Region 5. Campbell Street was the only site identified within Baker City to receive these safety improvements.

Existing 30" Stop signs have been replaced with retro-reflective 36" stop signs on square perforated steel posts.

Two solar powered L.E.D. Flashing stop signs were also installed at the intersection of 1st and Campbell Streets.



High winds recently caused this globe to lean over onto the street light on Windmill Lane.

Heat from the bulb melted the plastic globe.





Public Works: Street Department

Our Street Sweeper Needs Your Help!



The City street sweeper is having a difficult time getting close to the curb in many areas throughout town due to low hanging tree limbs. Section 94 of the Baker City Municipal Code requires that property owners maintain **12' of clearance above streets and 8' of clearance above sidewalks.** Please go outside and look at your trees. If they need pruned, please prune them properly or call a professional tree company. Proper pruning techniques can be found at : www.arborday.org and do a search for "pruning." A list of local tree companies is available in the Public Works Department.

Public Works: Water Department

Reservoir Meter Replacement: The installation was completed this week for the new meter at the 3 MG reservoir. This meter is located on the main trunk line below the 3 MG reservoir and measures the total amount of water that is delivered to town from the Water Treatment Facility.



The existing meter vault at the Reservoir had to be pumped out and the top removed in order to successfully install the new meter.

The vault lid weighed approximately 5,000 lbs and was attached to the vault base with mastic. This lid was too heavy for any of the City's backhoes to lift, so an excavator had to be rented to remove the lid. Even with the lifting power of the excavator, the mastic had to be heated with a torch before crews were able to separate the lid from the base of the vault.



With the vault lid removed, crews were able to unbolt and remove the barrel of the old ultrasonic flow meter. The previously constructed bypass line was used to deliver water to town while this work was being completed.

A new electromagnetic flow meter (manufactured by Endress+Hauser) was then installed in the vault. After the pipe work was completed, the pipeline was chlorinated, disinfected, and tested.

The bacteria tests came back clean and the pipeline can now be placed into service. Wiring and programming for the new meter is scheduled to be completed on Tuesday of next week.





Public Works: Water Department Continued

A water leak was reported earlier this week emanating from a water meter box. Upon removal of the meter it was discovered that the top housing had separated from the brass body of the meter. It must have cracked during the last stretch of cold weather but not fully split apart until this week. The meter was replaced and water service restored.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

A resident on Auburn Street experienced sewer problems this week. Flow in the main line was slightly affected by tree roots. The roots were cut from the line and the lateral inspected.



Keith and Karl are root cutting and video-inspecting the Auburn Street line. →

← Roots can be seen growing out from the lateral. The resident hired a drain cleaning professional to cut the roots from the line.



A manhole at the intersection of "D" and Cedar Street was found to be partially plugged with congealed cooking grease. The manhole and line were both cleaned to resolve the problem.

Public Works: Storm Water Department

A new storm water catch basin was installed this week on Place Street. A 6" p.v.c. pipe was placed Thursday from the new catch basin to the existing storm water manhole.





Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

CIPP Project: Here are a few before and after photos from this year's CIPP Project.



← A before picture of the rusty 12" C.M.P. storm line on Valley Street.

Here is the same pipe after lining it using the C.I.P.P. process. →



← This photo is of the 8" terra cotta pipe in the Hillcrest neighborhood prior to lining. You can see cracks and a hole on the left side. The second hole is a lateral coming from a residence.

After the pipe has been lined the lateral is cut out to restore flow and the crack and hole are rendered harmless by the lining. →



2017 Pipe Bursting Project:

Doug and Tom met with a contractor from Cascade Pipeline Corporation concerning a pipe bursting project proposed for 2017.

The existing 6" terra cotta line is in very poor condition and is undersized. The two blocks upstream from this 6" line were replaced over 20 years ago using 8" p.v.c. pipe. The pipe bursting project will in essence replace the 6" cracked and broken terra cotta line with a new one-piece fused A.B.S. pipe (similar to the project done last year in South Baker between 4th Street and David Eccles Road). As part of the meeting with the contractor a test hole was dug to examine soils for "cave-in" potential. Justin is digging the test hole using the City's Volvo compact excavator.





Public Works: Shop Department



Work continues on the mower. Scott is replacing some shielding in the flail mower and it should be working next week.

Wes and Scott repaired the push bumper, the brackets and the cracked frame. It is now back in service.



Pictured above, Scott works on rebuilding a mail box and stand that was hit this last winter while snow plowing.

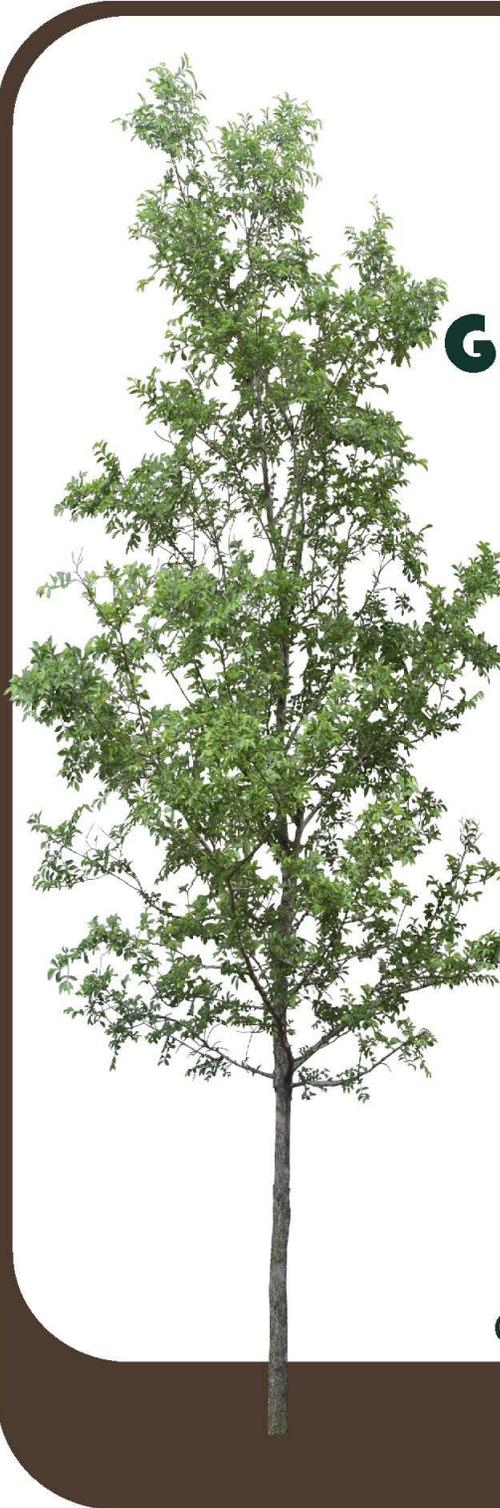
The sweeper had an issue with the oil level site glass. With Elgin's help we were able to make the repair and get it back into service.



This emergency services vehicle was serviced and the ignition was repaired. It will be back in service on Friday.



Public Works: Street Tree



2016/2017 Street Tree Grant Application

**Made possible by Anthony Silvers,
a man with a passion for trees.**

Grant applications will be accepted by the Baker City Public Works Department April 3, 2017 through June 16, 2017. Grant funds are available only to plant street trees (trees within the public right-of-way).

Click on the following link for additional information and application:

[Street Tree Application](#)

Questions: Please call Jennifer in the Public Works Department at 541-524-2063 or jmurphy@bakercity.com.

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