

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update August 4, 2017

Administration:

The Economic Development Committee met this week and covered a lot of topics. They are working with the City to come up with guidelines to make the Elkhorn Industrial Park shovel ready. There has been quite a bit of interest shown in businesses moving to the Industrial Park and we are committed to making the process transparent and to provide clear guidance to businesses as to what is needed for the site development.

This weekend brings the E/W Shrine game to the City. The City will be full of Shriners, as well as parents and families of the players. Many activities are planned for the weekend including the Shrine parade at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday and the game that night at 7:00 p.m. Remember for those wanting to view the Parade the new route will start on 4th Street turning east on Valley Street then turning north to go down Main Street.

Have a great weekend. Don't forget to hydrate and use plenty of sunscreen.

City Council

August 8th

- Planning Commission Board Appointment
- National Historic Preservation Award
- BIG DEAL Grant Applications
- TLT Council Appointment
- Windwave and Inland Franchise Ordinance



Announcements:

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse will occur in the U.S. along a path from Oregon to South Carolina. We expect many visitors will be in our area or traveling through our area.

The City of Baker City would like to encourage local residents to visit the following links for additional information and guidance while preparing for this once in a lifetime event:



[Baker County Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau](#)



[Oregon Emergency Management](#)



[Travel Oregon-Solar Eclipse](#)



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	5	0	16
Manufactured Dwelling	0	1	0	2
Electrical	3	8	5	6
Mechanical	0	2	2	6
Plumbing	3	3	1	3
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	9	19	8	33

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 1812 Main Street, Baker City—Commercial Roof.

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- None to report this week.



HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Office.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on August 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers and Baker City Hall to hear a request for the vacation of a portion of Allen Street, located within the Commercial-General Zone. The street is located in Township 9 South, Range 40 East, Section 15. A work session is scheduled to follow the hearing to discuss sign code language for the Freeway Overlay Zone and how zoning matches up to existing land use for different areas of the City.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A Lot of Record approval was approved for property located at the corner of Ash and Church Streets, within the Residential Medium-Density (RM-D) Zone.
- ◆ A ±640 square foot storage building and a ±144 square foot storage building were approved at 2325 Birch Street, in the Industrial Zone.
- ◆ A wall sign was permitted at 2915 10th Street in the Commercial-General (C-G) Zone.
- ◆ A Land Use Compatibility Statement was approved for a new residence at 1425 Colorado Avenue.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of July 16th to July 22nd the Fire Department responded to a total of **34** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	26
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	14
No Patient Trip	18

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 32



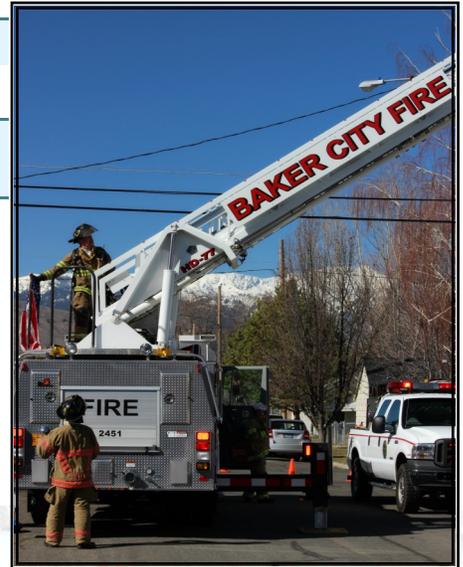
Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	7
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Public Assists	3

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	2
TOTAL FIRE	2



3rd Street—Broken Waterline
Pocahontas Road—Auto Aid to Baker Rural



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	11
Persons Arrived for Cover	5
Incidents Not Covered	6

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 56 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 7 hrs of Fire/ EMS or Safety Training



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on August 8th.



"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 220 incidents and opened 48 new cases this past week.

- One case resulted in the pursuit of a vehicle reportedly containing an endangered juvenile female from Idaho. That vehicle hit a sign on I-84 at the 302 exit and became disabled, where a juvenile male from Idaho was taken into custody. Two Baker City juvenile females were also found to be in the car.

- BCPD responded to three more runaway reports this week.

- Three cases resulted in investigations of Criminal Trespass, while three others resulted in vandalism investigations.

- Seven cases resulted in investigations for reported thefts, one of which was a mail theft.

- Three suspects were arrested for outstanding warrants and one was arrested for a probation violation.

- ★ BCPD personnel participated in National Night Out, where hundreds of Baker City residents joined first responders and many other community partners for a "Night Out" in the park, with a musical performance by Frank Carlson. Special thanks go to BCPD Administrative Assistant Phoebe Wachtel for leading the efforts to make this event happen with Lynette Perry and Jeff Nelson. Drinks were donated by Safeway and Albertsons, while all the food was provided at cost by the Oregon Trail Restaurant! Thank you to all who helped and to all of you in attendance!

- ★ BCPD Administrative Assistant Phoebe Wachtel also attended the Baker City monthly safety committee meeting.

- ★ Chief Lohner covered a twelve hour patrol shift on Saturday, due to the illness of a scheduled patrol officer, and spent considerable time monitoring speeds on Main Street. Only one traffic stop was made, which was of the fastest violator traveling at six mile per hour over the 25 MPH speed limit.

- ★ 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 Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Followed up on 3 pending cases
- Issued 9 citations for non-compliance
- Started 1 new case
- Issued 1 citation for a weed and grass violation
- Followed up on 13 weed and grass complaints

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Multiple parking warnings

- 5 parking citations
- 6 abandoned vehicles orange tagged

Animal Violations and Complaints

- Followed up on 2 animal abandonment cases
- Issued 1 citation for animal abandonment
- 1 dog at large impounded
- Followed up on 2 animal complaints



Public Works: Water Department



A property agent working for the Oregon Department of Transportation contacted the Water Department this week to request that the water service be turned on to the old Oregon State Police building located on South Bridge Street. The building has been vacant for approximately seven years. Some maintenance work will have to be completed on the supply line and meter before water service can be restored. ODOT was contacted Thursday concerning the size of the water meter needed. This information must be determined before repair work can commence. As you can see in the photo - an underground locate has been requested for the repair work.

The crew of Riley, Stephen, Kyle and Ryan worked Wednesday cutting brush and saplings from the face of Goodrich Dam. This is necessary every year to keep the dam slopes clear of intrusive tree roots. Kyle and Stephen are working on the downstream slope to remove brush and young trees.



A beautiful photo of Goodrich Reservoir taken by the work crew Wednesday. The Reservoir is still completely full.



Public Works: Tree Board



Tree Board member Clair Button recently worked with property owners to prune street trees at Resort Street and Main Street. The structural pruning accomplished by Clair eliminated tree limb conflicts such as branches rubbing against each other or growing into other portions of the tree, and low tree limbs were also addressed in order to provide better pedestrian access at the sidewalks.

Because we are reaching some of our peak seasonal high temperatures outside, the Tree Board would like to remind everyone to please water their trees.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

Two push-cam jobs were requested by a local drain cleaning professional. They were scheduled for Thursday morning.



The first one was in the Hillcrest neighborhood where the lateral was inspected and roots were seen in the line 22 feet from the house. The property owner plans to hire a contractor to excavate and install a cleanout at the problem area.

The other site was on Auburn Street where the line was found to be plugged with debris. The location of the plug was marked using the Vi-Vax locator unit. This owner also plans to install a cleanout.





Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

A new lateral was requested for a church on Washington Street this week. Blain, Karl and Jake worked Thursday to install the line.

Washington Street was blocked off so that the work could be safely done.

The tractor truck was used extensively to excavate around the old terra cotta line.



Pictured above, Karl operates the zipper unit attached to the case loader while Blain gives direction for proper alignment.

A romac saddle attachment was used for the connection onto the 6" Terra Cotta main line.



Hydraulic shoring was used to keep the banks stable while the work was being accomplished.





Public Works: Street Department



Pictured below the crew patches a driveway approach on Park Street. Riley is operating the roller while Jake F. cleans the new curb line.



Last week Baker City Public Works and the Baker County Road Department worked together to crackfill a section of Pocahontas Road.

On Tuesday, a Public Works crew used 10.5 ton of asphalt to patch over 25 locations in Baker City. These particular potholes were caused from a semi-truck becoming stuck on a curb on Windmill Lane and spinning his tires for a considerable amount of time.





Public Works: Street Department Continued

Final preparations for next week's chip seal work are being completed. All streets have been crackfilled and patched. Trees which still encroached were trimmed Tuesday by an arborist.



← Here the contractor is shown trimming a tree on Valley Street while his assistants are prepared to load the cut limbs.



Jake flushed all the chip seal streets Thursday and Matt (pictured here) swept debris from the gutter lines. →

On Wednesday, Wes and Scott drove the Bearcat chip spreader out to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to verify that the calibration of the gates were set properly for this year's project. It worked flawlessly.



Trees which have been planted too close to the curbs or have grown too large for the parking strip often cause problems with the streetscape. Pictured left, some trees on Valley Avenue have caused the curb to heave which in turn creates a dam stopping the flow of water.



Public Works: Auburn Street Improvements

The Auburn Street project continues to progress on schedule. City crews completed all of the curb and sidewalk base prep work this week in preparation for the concrete contractor who will begin installing new curbs on Monday. The full length of the street is now open to traffic and, other than some minor disruptions during construction, should remain open throughout the month of August. Please be aware that this is an active construction zone with open trenches along the edge of the road and several closed sidewalks. Please use extreme caution when traveling along this section of Auburn Street and watch for construction crews and equipment. Because so many of the sidewalks are closed, pedestrians are encouraged to choose alternate routes whenever possible.



Steve with Tech Services is shown here using the robotic total station to set curb stakes for alignment and grade. The robotic total station can be operated remotely allowing staking to be completed by a single individual. Crews use these stakes to ensure that base rock is set to the proper grade for the new curb.

A light pole at the northeast corner of 1st & Auburn was in conflict with the new ADA ramp location and had to be moved. Blain, Brian, Scott, and Justin manually moved the pole out of the excavation area. This pole will be reset in the proper location in a couple of weeks (following the chip seal project).



As much as possible, old utilities are replaced prior to a new paving project to reduce the chance that the new street will have to be cut to conduct utility repairs. Pictured left, a new water service has been installed to one of the buildings on Auburn Street. Scott is using the backhoe to place bedding material around the new service while Justin gives directions from the ground.



Public Works: Auburn Street Improvements Continued



Justin is using a rented excavator to remove the curb and sidewalk ramp at the southwest corner of 1st & Auburn adjacent to City Hall. The old ramp was not ADA compliant, and federal rules require that all existing sidewalk connections be brought up to code when a street improvement project occurs. Crews waited as long as possible to remove this ramp because it sees fairly high pedestrian traffic on a daily basis. With the concrete contractor arriving next week, it was time to close off the sidewalk and get the area ready for new concrete.

During excavation for a new catch basin several weeks ago, crews discovered an old steel pipe running across Auburn just a few inches below the surface of the street. This pipe was too shallow for the planned pulverization work that is scheduled and had to be removed. Scott is shown operating the zipper to pulverize the overlying asphalt while Brian directs from the ground. This pipe was successfully removed and the trench backfilled the same day.



Similar to 1st Street, the sidewalks on the west side of 4th Street see fairly heavy use and were left in place as long as possible to minimize disruptions to pedestrians. These approaches were finally removed and prep'd this week in preparation for the start of the contractor's work next week. During excavation of the northerly approach, an abandoned concrete-encased pipe was found just below the surface of the sidewalk and had to be removed. Here Justin uses the City's mini-excavator to load the chunk of abandoned concrete into a waiting dump truck.



Public Works: Shop

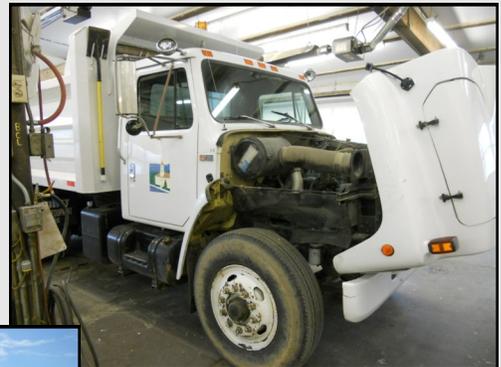


Wes and Scott had to pull the radiator, clean it, mount the computers, and finish calibrating the machine for chip seal.



The auto leveler on the bucket was repaired on this loader.

In preparation of the chip seal project next week, Wes and Scott equipped this dump truck with a beaver tail and hitch.





Public Works: Sidewalk Grants

To date, there is approximately \$5,500 remaining in the Sidewalk Replacement Grant Program! This is the last year of the grant program, so please consider applying.

Thus far, 17 property owners have been awarded grant funding through the 2017/18 grant cycle. Currently 5,869 sq.ft. of public sidewalks are proposed to be replaced through this year's grant.



Grant applications can be found at www.bakercity.com or in the Baker City Public Works Department in City Hall.