

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## ***Weekly Update August 25, 2017***

### **Administration:**

I hope that most of you got to witness the Total Solar Eclipse. It was truly breathtaking and for most, a once in a lifetime event. Though we didn't have the visitors that were expected, many people visited our City and the County over the multi-day event. As I walked down town on Monday, it appeared that people were busy shopping and our local merchants were slammed with the rush of customers. A big thank you goes out to the people who put on the events in our City as well as folks who planned and staffed for the big event. There were no serious incidents within the City and we have heard multiple reports that our visitors loved the Baker City experience.

The City Council met this week for a short agenda. The Economic Development Committee also met and worked on issues surrounding the Elkhorn Industrial Park. New signage for the property is in the works and the City is working with Oregon Trail Electric Coop to continue power into the site.

The Durkee Steak Feed is Saturday at Quail Ridge Golf Course. Come down and enjoy the steaks and pan bread.

Have a great weekend!!!

### **City Council**

**September 12th**

- TBD



### **Finance:**

Don't forget to register for the new paperless E-billing for utility bills. The registration forms are available online at [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) or at the Water Department. Customers that participate in this program will receive a monthly \$1.00 discount on their utility bill. E-billing will replace paper billing for those that sign up beginning with their September bill.

#### **Utilities:**

- ◆ Nine customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and eight customers disconnected service from August 18<sup>th</sup> thru August 24<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed August 22<sup>nd</sup> which included 496 residential and 50 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 103 or 19% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today and includes 473 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 106 or 22% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Seven residential customers (Zone 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) one was actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

#### **Payroll:**

Seventy-five employees were paid today including eight paid volunteer firefighters, one part-time Building Department Assistant, one temporary public work's summer worker, and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 75 employees, 66 or 88% are signed up for direct deposit.



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	0	9	2	8
Manufactured Dwelling	0	1	0	0
Electrical	4	4	1	2
Mechanical	0	0	3	4
Plumbing	3	8	0	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 160 Main St., Halfway—Roof repair.

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 39971 Rhody Rd., Baker City—New residence.



**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next meeting is scheduled for August 30, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Office.

**Planning Department:**

**Public Meetings**

- ◆ The Planning Commission made a recommendation to City Council to approve an application to vacate a portion of undeveloped Allen Street, located east of I-84 in the Commercial-General Zone. The street is located in Township 9 South, Range 40 East, Section 15. The request will be heard before the Baker City Council on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00pm for the first of three City Council Ordinance readings.
- ◆ The Planning Commission will meet on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, for a work session to discuss revisions to the chapter text and boundaries of the Freeway Overlay Zone.

**Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- ◆ A porch addition to an existing single-family dwelling was approved at 1390 11<sup>th</sup> Street within the Residential Medium-Density (RM-D) Zone.
- ◆ A kennel buffer map and address list were generated for the Baker City Police Department for a property on 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- ◆ A new, single-family dwelling was approved for property located on the corner of Ash and Church Streets. A variance to the front setback requirement was also approved.



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of August 6th to August 12th the Fire Department responded to a total of **26** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	20
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	17
No Patient Trip	7

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 24



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

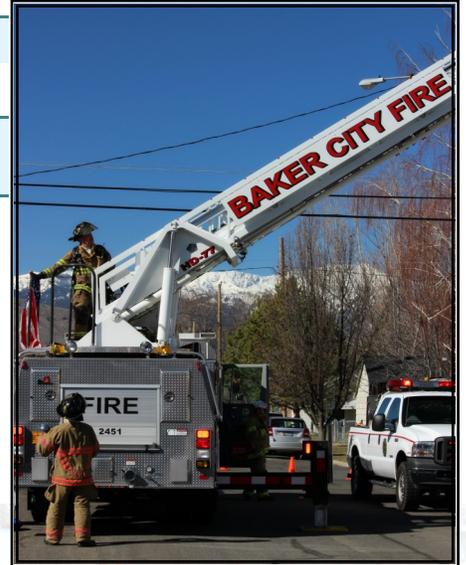
## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	2

## TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 2



17th Street, Baker City—  
Faulty Sensor.  
Pocahontas Rd., Baker City—  
System Malfunction.

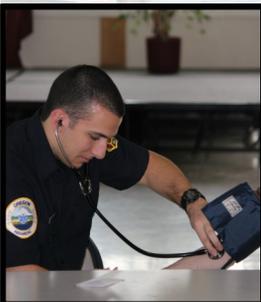


## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	10
Persons Arrived for Cover	4
Incidents Not Covered	6

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 68 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 14 hrs of Fire/ EMS or Safety Training
- 1 hr of Fire Prevention Inspections



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 29th.



*"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**

- ✪ In an extremely busy week, BCPD handled over 400 incidents and opened 48 new cases.
  - Well over 200 of those incidents were traffic stops, mostly conducted over the 3 days prior to the eclipse. BCPD had two DUII cars out for 4 days in a row, totaling 80 hours of "grant" overtime, which led to 113 tickets (warnings and citations) and 3 DUIIs.
  - Seven suspects were cited for Minor in Possession of Alcohol, 5 of them stemming from one MIP Party.
  - Four cases resulted in vandalism investigations.
  - Six cases resulted in investigations for reported thefts, one of which was an identity theft.
  - Two suspects were arrested for outstanding warrants and two others were arrested for probation violations.
  - BCPD also investigated one suicide and another attempted suicide.
- ✪ BCPD personnel, along with citizen assistance, conducted a garage sale fundraiser for our Drug Canine Program, which netted almost \$1,000 for the program.
- ✪ 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**

- Started 1 new case
- Followed up on 5 pending cases
- Closed out 3 cases-compliance gained
- Followed up on 8 grass and weed violations

#### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

- 2 dogs running at large returned to owner
- Issued 10 citations for dangerous dog violations

#### **Parking Violations and Complaints**

- Issued 4 parking citations
- Followed up on 2 parking violations
- Orange tagged 7 abandoned vehicles



## Public Works: City Hall

Stone masons were in town this week to do some restoration work on the entrance of City Hall. This picture shows the “before” condition at the north side of the main entrance. As you can see, much of the stone near the base of one of the columns is cracked and in poor condition. 



Pictured below the masons work to repair some broken stone around the base of the southerly column.



The stone around the base of both columns were crumbling and had to be replaced. Special stones were fabricated to match the original building appearance. As you can see, the replacement stones at the base of the column have been fabricated to match the texture pattern found on the column above.

The stone adjacent to the bottom step is new. The old stone had to be replaced because it was completely cracked and degraded. The mason took care to acquire this stone from the same quarry that supplied the original building materials in order to preserve a uniform appearance. Other than the lack of weathering, it is very difficult to tell that this is not original construction. In this photo you can also see repairs in progress around the column base. The corner of the base broke off this past winter and is being epoxied back into place. The wood shims are holding the piece in place while the epoxy cures.





## Public Works: Street Department

Work on the Auburn project was halted for a couple of days this week in order to avoid conflicts with the anticipated eclipse crowds.

The crews are now back on the project and continue to make progress on the curb and sidewalk work.

Pictured here the contractor completes a curb pour at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Auburn.



A new solar powered stop sign with flashing L.E.D. lights will be installed at the southwest corner of 17th and Campbell Streets. The hole was dug and concrete placed around the new sign stub earlier this week.



A wastewater manhole was raised to grade on 5th Street this week to allow for maintenance access.



### Public Works: Watershed



The Solar Eclipse went off with very few problems encountered within the Baker City Watershed.

The aura around the sun while in totality was still bright enough to "washout" the dark center in this "Smartphone" photograph.

There were between 60 and 70 vehicles parked on Marble Creek Road. Many people hiked into Twin Lakes for the event.



### Public Works: Wastewater

Several wastewater collection lines in town were video-inspected this week by Keith and Brian.

Here they are inspecting a lateral connection on 1st Street which serves a business fronting Main Street.





## Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

A crew from Cascade Pipeline out of Meridian, ID was on-site this week to perform a pipe bursting project on the wastewater mainline located in the alley between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Streets south of Auburn. This line was an old undersized 6” terracotta line in poor condition. It was located in a narrow alley at a depth of about 10 feet, making replacement by conventional trenching methods very difficult. The City elected to go with pipe bursting for this mainline replacement due to the space constraints on this project. Pipe bursting is accomplished by pulling an oversized head through the original pipe to “burst” the pipe and make room for the new pipeline. New 8” HDPE pipe was pulled in behind the breaker head to provide a new and continuous pipeline in the original pipe location.



Baker City Public Works worked together with the contractor to repair, improve and provide a permanent replacement for over 300 feet of old broken wastewater line.

The line would not have lasted very many more years before collapsing. This line serves 5 city blocks of houses upstream from Auburn Avenue including South Baker School. Here are a few photos of some of the problems with this line.





# Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued-Pipe Bursting Project

Property owners were notified of the interruption of service. Reinstallation of service connections began immediately after the new 8" pipe was pulled into place.



It is extremely tight quarters for equipment access with only inches to spare in some areas.

Underground utility marks were more permanently marked so their locations wouldn't be lost as the crews performed their work.



Justin is shown here using the rental trackhoe to excavate for the new manhole on Place Street.



Blain helping contractor Dustin during the fusing process.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued-Pipe Bursting Project



A special machine is used to heat up the ends of each pipe segment and fuse them together prior to pulling the pipe into the trench.



The new pipe has a very durable wall thickness of 1/2".



A completed weld.

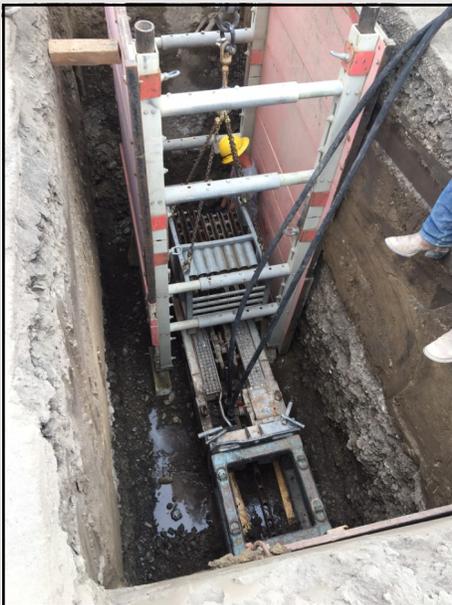


The inside of the welds are trimmed off so material will flow smoothly through the pipe.



# Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued-Pipe Bursting Project

A hydraulic unit is inserted into the pit and slowly pulls the bursting head through the old pipe. As each rod segment is pulled back into the pit, it is removed from the machine and placed back into the tray.



The bursting head is retrieved by pulling on a series of steel rods that are linked together.

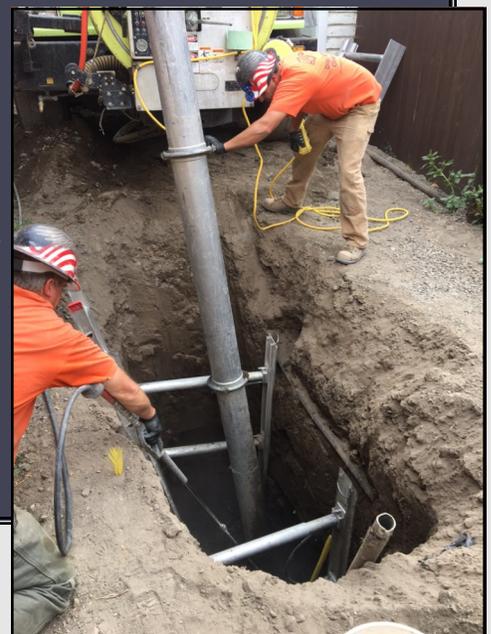
These rods have to be inserted into the pipe before the bursting head is attached at the upstream end.

Pictured above, Justin assists the Cascade Pipeline crew with lowering a tray of the pulling rods into the receiving pit.



One of the nine laterals successfully reconnected.

Once the new mainline is in place, crews must go through and reconnect each service lateral. This is a difficult task on this project because of the depth of the pipe and the small working space within the alley. Scott and Blain use the vector to excavate around the pipe so that a hole can be cut into the side of the pipe in order to reconnect one of the laterals.





## Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued-Pipe Bursting Project

Sixteen 20 foot long pieces of HDPE pipe were fused together and then the 320 foot long pipe was pulled into the same location as the old 6" terra cotta pipe. Nine laterals serving houses had to be reconnected manually onto the new 8" pipe. A new manhole also had to be constructed on Place Street after the larger pipe was pulled into place.



Pictured left, the continuous length of pipe is being pulled into the trench.

The pipe was elevated on the forks of a backhoe in order to achieve the proper angle to reach the 10 foot deep sewer line.



A hydraulic ram exerting 250,000 pounds of force is used to drag the 300+ foot long piece of 8" pipe through the 6" pipe. Pictured below, the contractor is operating the control box.



The new manhole forms are ready for concrete which was poured late Thursday.



## Public Works: Shop



An air bag switch was replaced to allow for the lowering of the ambulance when loading patients.



Wes and Scott rebuilt the rear end and installed new brakes and an engine fan. This patrol car is now back in service.



A low pressure switch on the a/c unit was replaced on this ambulance. It is now back in service.



Once the chip seal project was completed, the beaver tails were removed from the dump truck.



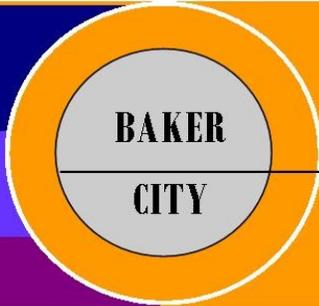
Blain and Justin switched the compactor over from R58 to the backhoe as R58 is scheduled to be replaced.



Scott cleaned and organized the metal storage area.



# Public Works: Announcements

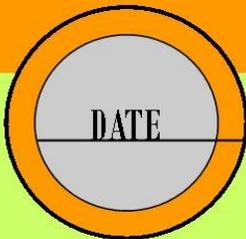


*Partners for Paws Present...*  
1st Annual



## Dog Jog!

Join us for a fun run/walk starting and ending at Central Park. All proceeds go to support construction and maintenance of a Dog Park in Baker City! Prizes will be awarded for best "dressed" pet and participant. All pet participants will receive a treat at the finish line. *Dog optional for participation!*



October 7, 2017



9 am



Forms are available at City Hall or may be downloaded from the Baker City Partners for Paws Facebook Page

☉ fun ☉ PRIZES ☉ Pet treats ☉ T-shirts ☉

