

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail, Established 1874

Weekly Update October 13, 2017

Administration:

The City Council spent two nights this week analyzing the information surrounding the SAFER Grant. This grant from FEMA would allow Baker City to add three fire fighter positions for the next three years. The federal government will pay 62% of these costs. The City is struggling to be able to guarantee that we can come up with our 38% of the grant. The City Council and County Commissioners met Wednesday to discuss the issue and had a productive interchange of information. The City has until the end of October to accept or reject the grant. Without the grant, it may be difficult for Baker City EMS to serve areas within the County that we presently serve. The City Council will be making a final decision at our October 24th City Council meeting.

The snow on the mountains reminds us that Winter is around the corner. Have a great weekend!!

City Council

October 24th

- SAFTER Grant Discussion
- Development Code Update
- Justice Court Update



Photo by Timothy Bishop, Basecamp Baker



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	13	2	16
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	1
Electrical	5	1	7	1
Mechanical	5	4	8	11
Plumbing	2	3	1	1
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	14	21	18	30

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 44985 Snake River Rd., Richland—New commercial/residential building.

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 44963 Pine View Rd., Baker City—New residence.
- 2160 Colorado St., Baker City—Detached accessory structure.
- 2501 Valley Ave., Baker City—Roof repair/replacement.

HISTORIC DESIGN

REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Office.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

The next Planning Commission hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2017 at 7:00pm. The Planning Commission will hear two matters:

- A request to convert an existing motel into apartments at 3055 10th Street. The property is in the General Commercial Zone.
- A proposal to revise the chapter text and boundaries of the Freeway Overlay Zone.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- An open house was held on October 11th to discuss the changes to the Freeway Overlay Zone for anyone to ask questions or make suggestions about the Freeway Overlay Zone.
- Two ±200 square foot detached carports were approved at 2407 1st Street, located in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.
- Two carports, three accessory structures, and a deck expansion were approved at 3515 Carter Street in the Residential Medium-Density (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 September 24th through September 30th the Fire Department responded to a total of **29** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	21
Rural Calls	0
Patient Transported	12
No Patient Trip	9

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 21



Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	4
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	3

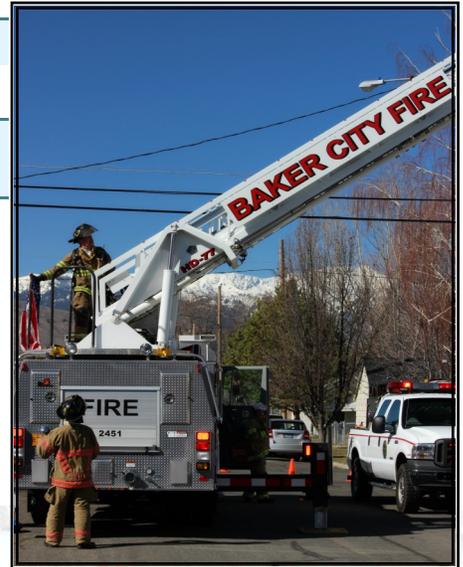
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	8

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 8



Valley St.—Rubbish fire.
4th St.—False Alarm, Accidental Activation.
8th St.—Gas odor, unable to locate.
D St.—Brush pile.
1st St.—Burn complaint.
Court St.—Smoke from vehicle.
Colorado St.—Legal burn.
Washington Ave. —Carbon monoxide alarm, false alarm.



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	6
Persons Arrived for Cover	1
Incidents Not Covered	5

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 27 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 7 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training—Training with Heart-N-Home
- 2 hrs Community Events—Haines Pre-School Tour



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on October 17th.



"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 197 incidents and opened 39 new cases this past week. One case resulted in the arrest of a subject with an outstanding warrant following a short foot chase. The following press release was issued in response to this incident:

On October 9, 2017 at about 12:35 pm Officer Shannon Regan observed a subject on a bicycle, who she believed to be wanted, in the area of Myrtle and Dewey Streets in Baker City. Officer Regan radioed the information and dispatch confirmed that the person Officer Regan recognized as Robert James Gray (11/18/1987) did have a valid Probation Violation Detainer for his arrest.

Officer Regan lost sight of Gray and other BCPD police units responded and began searching. Gray was spotted at about 12:57 pm in the area of Myrtle and Walnut Streets, where he pedaled away from pursuing officers up an alley. Gray ditched his bike in the back yard of 1130 Resort Street jumped a fence and ran toward the river. Gray crossed the river where he was cornered again by BCPD units in the backyard of 1380 Dewey and then jumped back in the river and started walking up stream.

Gray was surrounded by several BCPD units and a Baker County Sheriff's Deputy, while still in the river. Gray dropped his back pack in the river and let it float away. He then complied with commands and walked to the shore where he was taken into custody by Officer Regan.

The backpack was retrieved from the river by Sergeant Chastain, who then deployed Canine Capa on the backpack. Capa alerted and a search warrant for the backpack is pending.

Gray has been charged with: Probation Violation Detainer, Escape III, Criminal Trespass II (2 counts), Offensive Littering, and Placing Offensive Substances in Waterway.

- ★ BCPD staff participated in survival skills training and attended an informational presentation given by Heart N' Home Hospice.
- ★ 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

- Issued 1 citation for non-compliance
- Followed up with 5 grass and weed violations

Animal Violations and Complaints

- Followed up on 5 animal complaints
- Issued 1 citation for dog at large
- Chicken at large impounded
- Issued 1 citation for a barking violation
- 1 dog at large returned to owner
- 1 dangerous dog hearing

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Issued 7 parking citations
- Followed up on 2 parking violations
- Orange tagged 3 abandoned vehicles

Miscellaneous

- 1 found item returned to owner
- Followed up on 1 TUP violation
- Assisted Officers with 1 search warrant



Public Works: Water Department

Public Works crews worked the past two weeks completing some of the tasks concerning Baker City's water supply system. The new self-cleaning screen pipeline for the Mill Creek Diversion was completed. Concrete was poured this week to support the pipe. The pipe was then buried with proper backfill material for protection from freezing.

Pictured right, you can see the pipe joints were connected using megalug mechanical joint restraints. Justin, Blain and Scott performed the work. The pipe on the left is from the new self-cleaning screen and the pipe on the right is from the old screen. Installing the new screen will improve the flow of clean water from Mill Creek into the pipeline coming to town.



The new pipeline is covered and Scott is operating the mini-excavator to carefully place rocks to act as rip-rap to protect where the pipe is exposed for a short distance in the streambed.

A portable concrete mixer was towed into the Mill Creek site and 26 bags of concrete were mixed and placed to support the ductile iron pipe.





Public Works: Water Department Continued

The newly purchased used CAT Hightrack D-5 dozer was used on Tuesday to complete backfill and clean-up work at the Mill Creek Pipeline Project.

Pictured right, Justin is taking the D-5 dozer to Mill Creek from Goodrich Road.



Pictured left, is an historic log cabin lying just below the pipeline road. It may have been constructed to provide shelter to the crews who originally constructed the ditch running from Goodrich Creek south toward "Old Auburn Reservoir".

Public Works: Wastewater Department

Residents on Tracy Street requested a new wastewater lateral connection for their home.

A local contractor excavated the site and exposed the terra cotta main line. Karl drilled and "tapped" the line (which had been lined using the CIPP process last year) and used an insert-a-tee to provide a secure connection into the CIPP line.

The next day a plumber installed the line from the new "tap" to the house.





Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

The "Muffin Monster" grinder was hoisted from the vault at the Wastewater Treatment Plant this week. A towing contractor was hired to lift the unit.

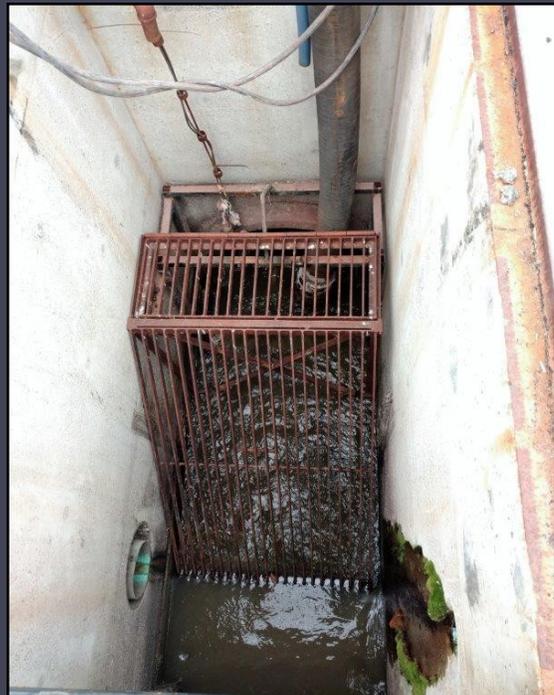
The grinder runs constantly and grinds items into small pieces (rags, wood, plastics, towels, sheets etc.) so that they won't plug the pumps which are essential for pumping the wastewater into Cell "A".



Recently the grinder had developed a squeak and a deeper grinding noise.

It was inspected by Baker City head mechanic Wes and determined that there were problems with the bushings and shaft.

A bar screen was installed in place of the grinder to catch any large objects that could plug the pumps in the lift station.





Public Works: Street Department

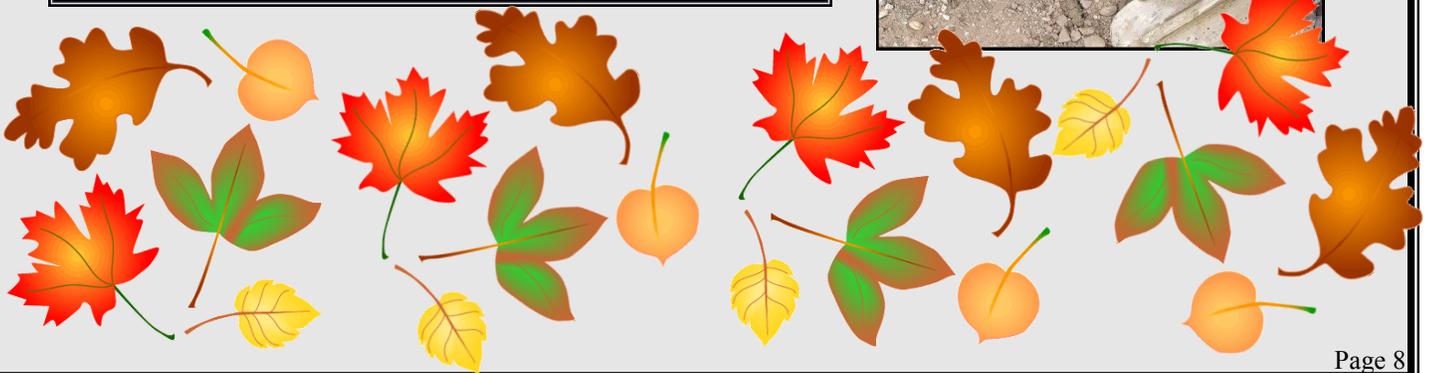
The leaves have started to fall marking the beginning of the leaf pick-up season for Public Works. Matt continued to pick up leaves using the Elgin Crosswind sweeper this week.



Craig hauled sanding rock from the O.D.O.T. facility to the Public Works stockpile site.

Final stages of the Auburn Street reconstruction project have been completed.

Concrete cylinders were taken and will be tested. As soon as the concrete hardens enough to support vehicular traffic the street will be opened for normal use.





Public Works: Street Department Continued

Public Works assisted a local contractor working on a Century Link utility vault this week.

The vault center was located and the asphalt marked and cut out in a diamond shape using the walk behind concrete saw.



Blain and Karl worked to place concrete around the Century Link vault.

Water valve cases are cut to a specific length for the work. ↓



Blain is marking a water valve for cutting and repair at the intersection of Auburn and Main Street.





Public Works: Street Department Continued

Last Friday likely marked the last day of street patching for Public Works this year.

The crew of Craig, Tommy, Karl and Jacob patched several locations in town.

Karl and Jacob are patching a water repair location in an alley. →

Three tons of asphalt was used to patch the storm water repair site at the Baker county Library.



Due to recent paving projects, yellow curbs and handi-cap parking locations were repainted recently.

Brian is pictured here just after painting the white portion of the handi-cap symbol on Washington Street in front of the Geiser Grand Hotel.

The police chase down Campbell Street Saturday resulted in damage to vehicles and the stop sign at the intersection of Campbell and College Streets. Most stop signs in town are 30" diameter.

This particular one is 36" diameter. A new 36" diameter stop sign will be installed once it arrives from the supplier.





Public Works: Shop

The sweeper was brought into the shop for a service check. A portion of the conveyor assembly needs to be repaired. Parts have been ordered and it should be back in service within a week.



Wes and Scott mounted the blade on the dozer, replaced some grease zerts and sent it up to the mountain for work.

Wes and Scott completed a safety check and full service on this City vehicle.



Wes and Scott fabricated a hook for the front end loader, welded hooks to the backhoe bucket, mounted a new beacon, and installed a radio. This equipment is now in service.

