

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail, Established 1874

Weekly Update October 27, 2017

Administration:

It has really been a beautiful Indian Summer here in Baker City. Days like these remind us that we live and work in such a great place. This week we had many people from Business Oregon in town to showcase our City as well as learn about ways the State of Oregon can help us with economic and community development. I think they left here understanding our strengths and challenges and we are positioned to get help when the occasions arise.

The City Council had a busy agenda this week. They approved the SAFER Grant which will help our Fire/EMS services not only in the City but throughout the County. The Council also passed the first reading of an ordinance changing our development code to allow an expanded Freeway Overlay Zone and making changes to the sign requirements in that zone.

City staff, Councilor Andersen and Forest Service personnel toured some of the Baker City Watershed and brainstormed ways to make the Watershed more resilient. We agreed that the City would make recommendations to the Forest Service on treatments we believe are needed to protect the Baker City Watershed from a catastrophic fire event. There is a lot of work ahead of us but all partners are working hard to protect this precious resource.

Enjoy the beautiful weather this weekend and get ready for all the ghosts and goblins next week.

Finance:

The City received a one-time distribution for HB 3400 local option tax distribution for marijuana tax of \$28,189. The City will not receive future marijuana tax distributions due to the City ordinance which disallows marijuana distribution centers in Baker City.

Utilities

- ◆ Ten customers signed up for new water/sewer service and nineteen customers disconnected service from October 20th thru October 26th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today and includes 467 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 101 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed October 24th and includes 500 residential and 48 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 107 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Thirty-six residential customers (Zones 2, 3 and 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) twelve were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Payroll: Sixty-seven employees were paid today including five paid volunteer firefighters and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 67 employees, 63 or 94% are signed up for direct deposit.

Accounts Payable: The second of two accounts payable runs for October was generated today.

City Council

November 14th

- 2nd Reading of Ordinance 3359 Development Code Update
- Ordinance Adopting State Statutes
- Ordinance on Chronic Disorderly Property Violation



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	4	1	10
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	3	5	5	2
Mechanical	2	1	0	10
Plumbing	1	2	3	7
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	10	12	9	29

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- None to report this week.

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 1425 Colorado St., Baker City—New residence, foundation only.
- 2243 Baker St., Baker City—Interior remodel.
- 43800 Spring Cr. Loop, Baker City—Detached accessory structure.

HISTORIC DESIGN

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

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

The Baker City Council held the first of two public hearings to discuss revisions to the chapter text and boundaries of the Freeway Overlay District. The second of two public hearings will be held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of Baker City Hall.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A request to convert an existing motel into apartments at 3055 10th Street, in the General Commercial Zone, was approved by the Planning Commission. Notice of the decision was sent to all property owners within 100 feet of the property boundary. The appeal period for the decision will end on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017.
- ◆ A sign permit was approved for a new, projecting sign in the Central-Commercial Zone at 1912 Main Street. The applicant must also receive approval from the Baker City Historic District Design Review Commission, prior to installation.
- ◆ A Land Use Review and Floodplain Development Permit were approved for a carport in the Residential-Medium Density Zone located at 1235 8th Street.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of **October 8th** through **October 14th** the Fire Department responded to a total of **32** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	24
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	20
No Patient Trip	8

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES **28**



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	1
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	0

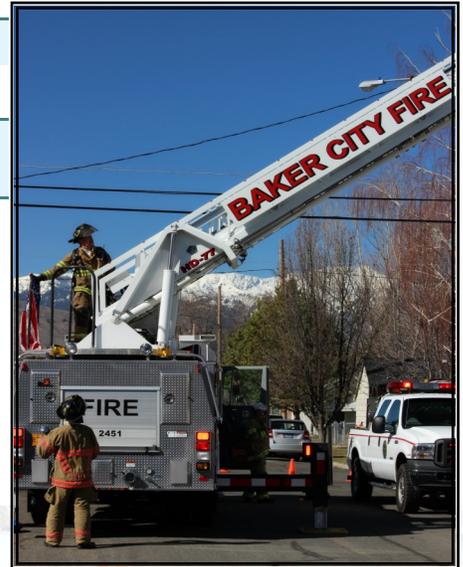
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES **4**



Baker Street—Structure fire
Hughes Lane—False Alarm
Pocahontas Road—False Alarm
Carter Street—Burn complain, legal burn

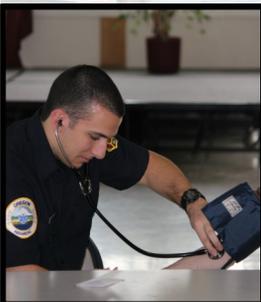


EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	15
Persons Arrived for Cover	4
Incidents Not Covered	11

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **39** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **41** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training—Auto Extrication, Bloodborne Pathogens
- **11** hrs Community Events—Install smoke and CO detectors, Fire Prevention at YMCA Preschool



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 31st.



"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 180 incidents and opened 30 new cases this past week.

- A Baker City woman was arrested for Assault II and Burglary I, after she entered the living space of a tenant who was renting a basement apartment from her and hit him multiple times with a baseball bat.
- Two cases were investigated for reported Harassments and one for an Assault IV.
- Four cases resulted in investigations for reported thefts.
- One subject was arrested for an outstanding warrant and another for a probation violation.
- BCPD personnel assisted a local citizen who was being scammed and managed to stop a payment to the scammer of several thousands of dollars.

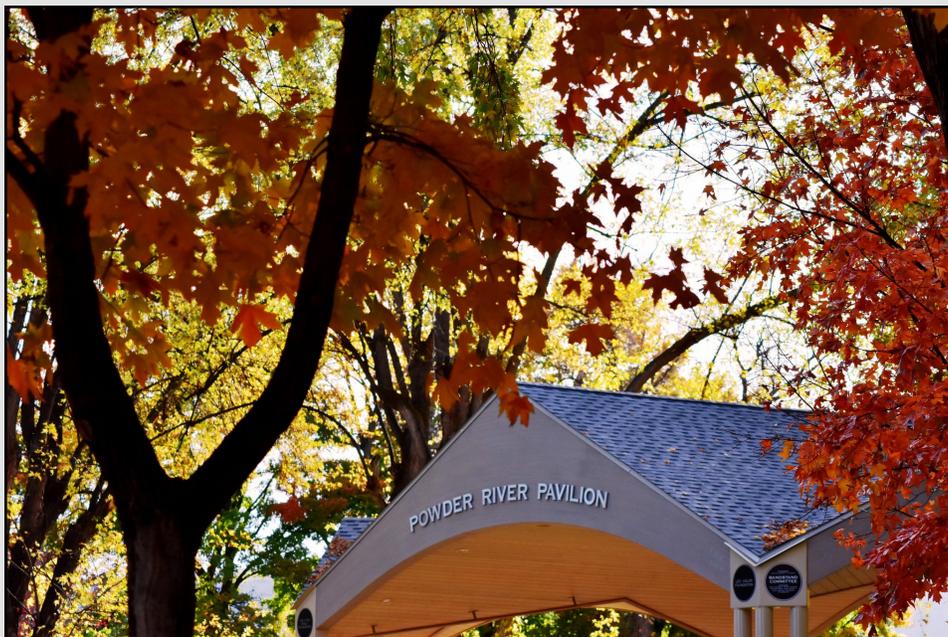
★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman participated in the Prison Advisory Council meeting.

★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman met with the Ontario police chief and the Nyssa police chief, to discuss basic police academy training.

★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman met with members of the Oregon State Police, who oversee the uniformed crime reporting system.

★ 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.





Public Works: Street Department



Autumn is here and the leaves continue to fall – often faster than the sweeper can keep up with. Matt is pictured here operating the Elgin Crosswind sweeper along the south side of Auburn Ave in an attempt to keep the gutters as free of leaves as possible.



On Tuesday top soil was placed around the new sidewalk that was constructed on Valley Street last week. Weed barrier fabric and washed rock will be placed between the curb and sidewalk. Top soil will be placed on the north side of the new sidewalk.





Public Works: Water Department

Water meter readings are being recorded for the last time this fall. Throughout the winter residential customers are charged base rate only. Commercial accounts continue to be read for water usage throughout the winter.



Several water meter boxes in town become filled with dirt every year from gophers digging in the vicinity. Sometimes the dirt completely covers the water meter.

This can create a problem for the meter reader to record the reading.

It can be especially bad if the water meter needs to be turned off because of a leak and the shut off valve is covered with dirt.

This week the vacor truck was used to vacuum out the dirt from several water meter boxes in town.



Rock was used to line the bottom of the water meter boxes to discourage the gophers from future digging.

Blain and Tommy are using a small suction tube to suck dirt from a water meter on Miller Street.





Public Works: Water Department Continued

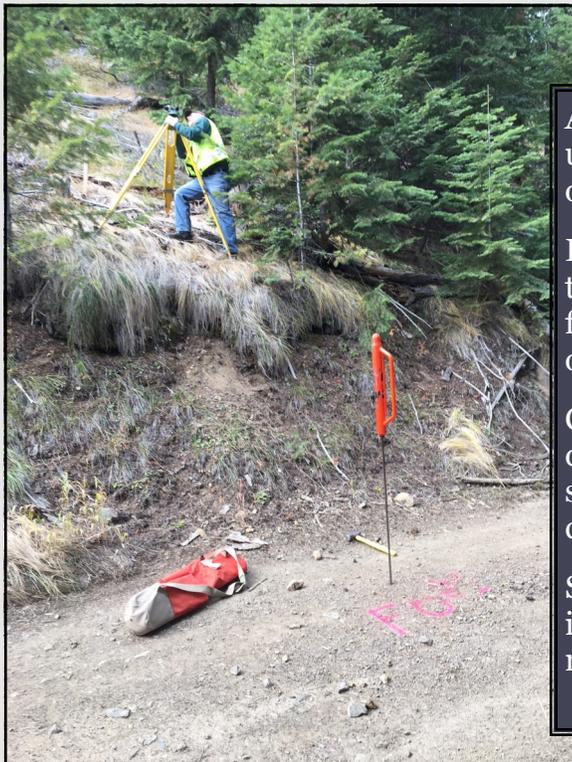
The Goodrich Pipeline and Marble Creek Intertie were constructed with steel pipe that uses cathodic protection to prevent corrosion of the pipeline due to electrolysis.

During normal operation of the cathodic system, a small electrical current is continuously applied and passes through the entire length of the pipeline.

In order to accomplish this, small “jumper” wires are installed across each pipe joint where the rubber gaskets in the joints would otherwise prevent the current from passing.

Toward the upper end of the Marble Creek Intertie line, some of these jumpers had become corroded and needed to be replaced.

Justin and Scott are working to expose each joint along this section of pipeline so that the jumpers can be inspected and repaired. This work was completed earlier this week and the cathodic system is once again fully operational.



A private landowner has requested permission to use a portion of the pipeline road for hauling logs off of their property.

In order to protect the existing concrete pipeline, the City has required the logging contractor to add fill to the road in order to provide adequate cover over the pipeline.

City crews used a probe to locate and measure the depth of the existing pipeline below the road surface so that the required amount of fill material could be determined.

Steve is pictured here leveling the survey instrument so that grade stakes can be set at the minimum finished grade.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

A line on 7th Street was inspected Tuesday using the Vi-Vax push camera.

Karl and Jacob inspected the line as requested by a drain cleaning professional. A nominal fee is charged for this service.

Unfortunately heavy roots were encountered within the lateral. The homeowner is planning to have the line replaced from the house to the City main line located near the center of the street this fall.



Several other City main lines in town were video-inspected this week. In the photo to the left you can see roots entering into a line which was lined using the CIPP process in 2011.

The CIPP process successfully keeps tree roots out of main lines except for the locations where laterals need to connect into the main line so wastewater from dwellings can flow into the line.

Karl and Jacob cleaning and video-inspecting lines on 8th Street.





Public Works: Shop



The engine was serviced on this Public Works vehicle and it is back in service.

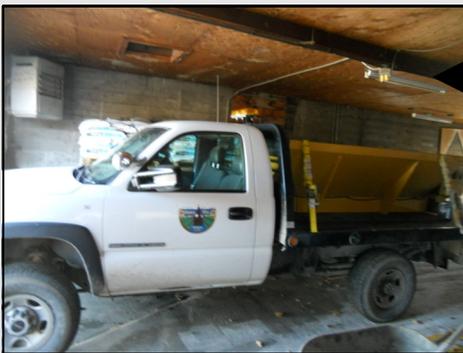
Scott made repairs to the leaking transmission and ran a computer scan on the van.



This week Scott has been working on preparing equipment to battle the upcoming winter elements.



Scott and Craig worked together to set the sander unit in the bed of the Sterling dump truck. A hydraulic leak was fixed on this dump truck and it is now ready for winter.



A salter was installed on this truck. Sprayer tanks were removed from the 4-wheeler and a plow will be installed for the winter.





Public Works: Announcement



The fall season is upon us, and the Public Works Department would like to recruit your help in keeping our streets clean!

Please do not rake or blow fallen leaves or other debris into the streets. Street sweepers are not designed to pick up large pieces and piles or wet debris.

