

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

**Weekly Update March 12, 2021**

## Administration:

As City Manager, I am a participant in countless meetings. I hear many individuals speak about issues which they are passionate about. This week, I listened to the Public Arts Commission as they discussed ideas on how to beautify the city, improve safety through art and improve economic development using art. These individuals are self-motivated, take on assignments and work hard. I enjoy seeing the fruits of their labor throughout the city. The many animals, murals, paintings and wraps provide interest and beauty. Thank you for the efforts and to everyone and every business who add a little interest and spice to the city.

This week Council approved the Capital Plan and Pavement Plan. These plans guide the upcoming work on the water system and the streets. Links can be found on the city website for the plans. They are very informative and give an overview of just how much it takes to manage a pipe and street network. Did you know the city maintains approximately 70 miles of streets? Take a moment to look at these plans and you will find some amazing and interesting information. Thank you to Public Works and the Public Works Advisory Committee for participating in the preparation of these plans.

## 2021-2022 City Council

### **Mayor:**

Kerry McQuisten [mayor@bakercity.com](mailto:mayor@bakercity.com)

### **Acting Mayor:**

Lynette Perry [lperry@bakercity.com](mailto:lperry@bakercity.com)

### **Councilors:**

Shane Alderson: [salderson@bakercity.com](mailto:salderson@bakercity.com)

Joanna Dixon: [jdixon@bakercity.com](mailto:jdixon@bakercity.com)

Heather Sells: [hsells@bakercity.com](mailto:hsells@bakercity.com)

Jason Spriet: [jspriet@bakercity.com](mailto:jspriet@bakercity.com)

Johnny Waggoner Sr.:

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[www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com)

## Looking for Volunteers!!

**The City of Baker City is seeking volunteers  
for the following:**

⇒ **HDDRC: 3 positions available**

**Applications are due by March 17, 2021.**

Positions are for a 3-year term unless noted.  
Anyone interested in volunteering should visit

<http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>  
to fill out a volunteer form.

The direct link to the volunteer form page is:

<http://bakercity.com/FormCenter/Boards-Commissions-2/Volunteer-Form-33>



*"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**

★ During this past week, BCPD opened 33 new cases and responded to 165 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainer. On Monday March 8, 2021, the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team with assistance from Baker City Police Department's K-9 (Capa), executed a search warrant on an individual and vehicle near the corner of 4th and Place Street in Baker City, Oregon. As a result of the investigation and warrant, a substantial amount of methamphetamine was located along with other items indicative of narcotics distribution. In addition to methamphetamine, over a user quantity of heroin was located in along with numerous Oxycodone pills. Oxycodone is a schedule II-controlled substance.

In addition to the drug charges, the Baker City Police Department had probable cause to arrest for assault III, criminal conspiracy, coercion and tampering with a witness. These charges stemmed from an investigation in February 2021 in which the suspect and other individuals beat up two persons resulting in injuries that sent one person to the hospital. This event occurred at the Knights Inn in Baker City, Oregon.

LOREN DEAN ALEXANDER PREVO, age 32, was transported to the Baker County Jail and lodged for assault III, criminal conspiracy, coercion, tampering with a witness, delivery and possession of methamphetamine, heroin and oxycodone and possession of a restricted weapon (Electro-Muscular Disruption Technology device).

Loren Prevo currently has no fixed address. He had recently been staying at 1690 Indiana Avenue in Baker City. The Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team executed a narcotics related search warrant at that address on September 15, 2020, in which methamphetamine, stolen property and firearms were located. Mr. Prevo was not at that address during the time of that warrant. Prior to staying at the 1690 address, Mr. Prevo was residing at the Torrance Apartments at 1604 4th Street in Baker City. Community members had complained to police about possible drug trafficking at both address where Mr. Prevo was residing.

Officers located numerous hand power tools that were believed to be possibly stolen; however, due to identifying marks and/or serial numbers not matching any stolen property, we have not been able to connect them to any recent burglaries or thefts. Officers did locate a yellow tape measure with the initials VS written on it as well as a DeWalt 20-volt battery that has blue paint and the name of Josh written on it.

The Baker City Police Department would like to remind people that without serial numbers or other identifying markings, police are often times unable to recover and return stolen items.

The Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team is comprised of members from the Baker City Police Department, and is supported by the Baker County Sheriff's Office, the Baker County District Attorney's Office and the Oregon State Police.

★ We want to hear from you! What are the major issues involving safety in Baker City? Take this brief survey to let us know how we're doing and how we can improve. Community involvement helps BCPD better understand how to deliver our services, target problem areas and provide better service to the community, by working in partnership with the citizens of Baker City. Participation in this survey will help us identify community concerns, allocate resources in a more efficient manner and create a safer community for all. The survey can be found at <https://s.surveyplanet.com/eQRJNcie>. Thank you for your participation!



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## **POLICE DEPARTMENT continued**

- ★ Baker City Police Department is still actively working on the missing persons case of Linda Peterson. Crime Stoppers of Oregon has a link for tips and/or leads. There are currently adding \$2,500 to the reward money, increasing it to \$5,000 total for information leading to an arrest in her disappearance. Any information and/or tips can be submitted through the Crime Stoppers of Oregon website at the following link: [Oregon Crime Stoppers](#). You may remain anonymous.
- ★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public.

## **Code Enforcement Weekly Activity**

### **Property Maintenance**

- Followed up on four property maintenance cases
- Opened three new property maintenance cases

### **Animal violations and complaints**

- Four dogs running at large complaints
- One dangerous dog report
- One livestock permit review & inspection

### **Parking violations**

- Tagged three vehicles for removal
- Issued one parking citation
- Tagged two trailers for removal
- Towed one abandoned vehicle
- Issued one abandoned vehicle warning

### **Miscellaneous**

- Two patrol assists
- Two found bicycles

## **Planning Department:**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING**

The Planning Commission meeting for March 17, 2021 has been cancelled. The next Planning Commission meeting will be April 21.

### **APPLICATIONS**

- A detached carport was approved at 935 D Street in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A personal greenhouse was approved at 1390 D Street in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- An accessory structure was approved for an existing business at 2155 Windmill Lane in the General Commercial (C-G) Zone.
- A single-family dwelling was approved for property located in the 900 block of Resort Street in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An accessory structure was approved at 2203 20<sup>th</sup> 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 **March 2nd through March 8th** the Fire Department responded to a total of **39** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	28	Request for Cover	8	General Alarms	1
Rural Calls	9	Arrived for Cover	2	Dispatched Alarms	1
Patient Transported	26			<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>2</b>
No Patient Trip	11			<b>TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS</b>	
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>37</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 Burn Permits Issued</li> <li>• 26 hrs of Station &amp; Equipment Maintenance</li> <li>• 4 hrs of Fire Training</li> <li>• 56 hrs of EMS Training</li> <li>• 0 hrs of Safety Training</li> <li>• 0 hrs Community Events</li> <li>• 1.5 hrs Fire Prevention Inspections</li> </ul>	
Airport Transfers	0			<div style="background-color: black; color: yellow; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>New Year, New Burn Permit</b></p> <p><b>FREE burn permits are available in person at the Fire Station.</b></p> </div>	
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0				
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	2				
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3				
Doubles (2 calls at once)	3				
Triples (3 calls at once)	0				
Quads (4 calls at once)	0				
Public Assist	0				

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fire Department is POSTPONING the free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. We will resume once social distancing is not required.

**Weed Complaint and Abatement**  
Weed Complaints or yard maintenance concerns should be reported to the Fire Department at 541-523-3711 x 508 or emailed to [sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com](mailto:sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com)



## Public Works: Street Department



Left: A large material storage structure is currently under construction at the new Simplot facility on Settlers Loop. Sewer and water services were provided to the property several months ago.



Right: a new stop sign was installed for westbound traffic at the intersection of 9th and "C" Streets. With the new parking lot being established for North Baker School, it became apparent that a stop sign needed to be installed to prevent accidents.

## Public Works: Water Department



A water meter valve for a residence on Main Street became inoperable this week.

When that occurs, there is no way to immediately turn off that flow of water through the meter besides turning off the main water lines.

To perform the repair, the water in the meter supply was super cooled to well below freezing temperatures. Once solid ice formed inside the pipe, the valve was removed and replaced with a new valve. With the new valve in place, the freezing tool was removed and the ice inside the pipe was allowed to thaw.



## Public Works: Parks



One of the new street light poles was painted and installed in the Geiser Pollman park. Electrical conduit was also installed between an electrical junction box and the new light pole.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department



A business owner contacted Public Works about a failed septic tank next to a building. The top of the steel tank had rusted away. The line running from the old tank to the wastewater main line in the street was “Push-camed” at the request of the owner and found to be positively connected to the main line in “H” Street.



A resident on 7th Street reported that their wastewater line was completely plugged. Public Works performed an inspection of the lateral at the point where it connects to the mainline. No obstruction was found.



Left: Trench shielding ladder and trailer improvements were made this week.

Right: At the lagoon, migrating waterfowl found temporary refuge on the 100 acres of surface area.



A wastewater lateral on College Street was installed to replace a failed line. The new line was installed further north so that the existing concrete driveway and garage floor would not be disturbed.

The street surface was ground out using the Volvo loader and zipper attachment, which pulverizes the asphalt.

Upon excavation, a concrete manhole cone was encountered near the street curb. The cone was probably installed in the 1950’s when College Street was constructed. The crew was able to successfully install the new 4” PVC lateral alongside the north edge of the cone.



A local contractor and plumber worked to install the new line on the private property side of the project while Public Works installed the portion within the street. Elevations were measured to assure that proper grade could be maintained throughout the full length of the new pipe.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



Trench shielding was placed into the trench to protect workers while they performed the pipe installation work.



Once the pipe was in place, material was placed and compacted around the pipe. Next the shielding was removed and placed onto the trailer for transportation back to the warehouse.



The remaining backfill material was placed and compacted.



The street was cleaned-up before the end of the day.





## Public Works: Shop



We pulled the hydraulic ram out of the liftgate and had it rebuilt. We reinstalled it once fixed.



We installed new brake pads and rotors. This car is back in service.

We are replacing the power steering pump. This rig will be back in service later today.

This plow for the airport got new cutting edges.



This rig is now in service since we finished installing the tool boxes, inverter and wiring. Thanks to all the guys for helping get this rig ready!



We pulled this plow off the dump truck. It will be sold on GovDeals later this month.





## It's that time of year again!

In prep for this year's snow plow season, Baker City Public Works is asking citizens to help our snow removal crews by **removing all travel or utility trailers, non-working or infrequently used vehicles and any other miscellaneous items currently being stored on the street or directly next to the street.** Our citizens play a key role in the success of our snow removal program!

**\*\*\*Did you know: It is legal to salvage road killed deer and elk.\*\*\***

If you are interested in salvaging the meat from road kill deer, please call 541-524-2047 and we will put you on a call list.