

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## Weekly Update March 22, 2019

### Administration:

For those that haven't heard, Baker City is the winner of the all-abilities playground through the Moda Assist program. A big thank you to everyone that campaigned, supported and voted. Baker City had 63,748 votes!

Our next step is to apply for grant funding for the remainder of the costs. One of those grants is through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. City Council will hold a special session on Tuesday, March 26th at 5:30 p.m. to consider a resolution in support of applying for these funds.

The all-abilities playground will be a huge asset to our community and we are so thankful for the opportunity that's been provided through Moda Health and the Portland Trail Blazers.

Have a great weekend!

### City Council

#### Agenda

#### March 26th

#### Special Meeting

- Resolution in Support of Oregon Parks Grant for All-abilities Playground



### Finance:

#### Utilities

- ◆ Nine customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and three customers disconnected service from March 15<sup>th</sup> thru March 21<sup>st</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed March 19<sup>th</sup> and included 553 residential and 26 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 161 (28%) are signed up for direct payment and 28 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed today and included 498 residential and 50 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 121 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 33 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Seventeen residential customers (Zones 2 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Eight of those customers actually had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.





## **Planning Department:**

### **Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm and made the following decisions:

- ◆ Approval of SDR-19-014 for the conversion of an existing, ±15,250-square-foot industrial building at 2345 11<sup>th</sup> Street to a mixed use building, with a ±6,180 square foot retail space, a ±1,642 square foot wood-working shop, a ±234 square foot office, a ±567 square foot warehouse, **and a ±902 square foot caretaker's unit.**
- ◆ Approval of MM-19-017 for the addition of ±17,168 square feet to an existing building used as a church and school, originally approved through Conditional Use Permit (90-C-2) at 3720 Birch Street.

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 7:00pm in Council Chambers at Baker City Hall.

### **Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- ◆ A land use review for a ±480 square foot accessory structure was approved at 2042 East Street, located in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- ◆ A land use review to construct three accessory structures including: a ±300 square foot attached **raised deck, a ±252 square foot detached carport and a ±96 square foot "playhouse"** at 1339 Valley Avenue, located in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A land use review for a ±420 square foot accessory structure was approved at 3645 Cedar Street, located in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- ◆ A floodplain development permit and land use review for a ±120 square foot accessory structure was approved at 3660 9<sup>th</sup> Drive, located in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A land use compatibility statement was issued for property located at 1840 Resort Street in the Central-Commercial (C-C) Zone.
- ◆ A ±9.83 square foot wall sign was approved at 1912 Main Street, in the Central Commercial (C-C) Zone and the Historic District.
- ◆ A land use review for a ±304 square foot residential addition was approved at 935 Walnut Street, located in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.





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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of March 11th through March 18th the Fire Department responded to a total of **47** emergency alarms. The breakdown for the responses are as follows:

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	31
Rural Calls	11
Patient Transported	30
No Patient Trip	12

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES **42**

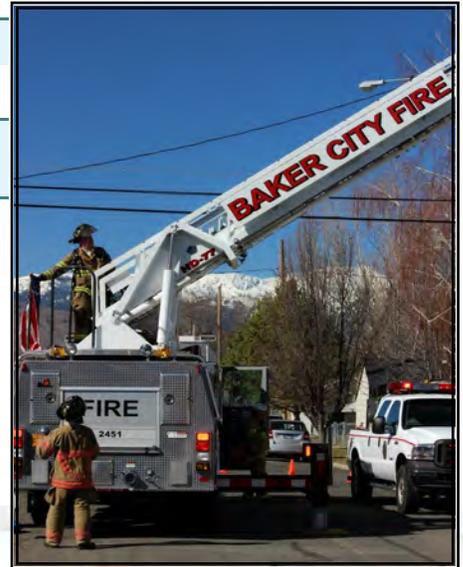


Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	4
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3
Doubles (2 calls at once)	8
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	2

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	4

## TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES **5**



## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	0
Persons Arrived for Cover	0

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

- **42** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **9** Burn Permits Issued
- **13** hrs Fire Prevention Inspections
- **60.5** hrs of EMS Training
- **5 30.5** hrs of Fire Training
- **3** hrs of Community Events



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center. **Don't miss the next check on Tuesday, March 26th at 11 a.m.**



*"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 the past week, BCPD handled over 173 incidents and opened 40 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. Over the weekend, BCPD staff responded to reports of malicious vandalism occurring along the Leo Adler Parkway and in and around Central Park. Following this report, additional reports were taken on Monday for vandalism at Baker Garage and St. Frances De Sales Catholic Cathedral. The following press release was issued regarding this incident and the subsequent arrests made in this case:

*On March 16th, 2019 between 8:00 PM and the morning of March 17th, 2019, two suspects defaced public and private property causing more than \$1000 dollars in damage. The suspects damaged various areas of the Leo Adler Pathway, Central Park, Baker Garage and St. Frances De Sales Catholic Cathedral.*

*BCPD Officers aggressively investigated the incident and were able to identify the two suspects responsible. Mr. Dylan Richmond, Baker City, was arrested and lodged at the Baker County Jail along with a 16-year-old juvenile female, from Baker City, who was taken into custody and was lodged at NORCOR (Northern Oregon Regional Corrections Facility), a Juvenile Detention Center. The case has been referred to the Baker County District Attorney and additional charges are likely. Arrested: Richmond, Dylan Michael David (11/19/1997), 880 Elm Street, #1, Baker City, OR 97814; Conspiracy and Criminal Mischief I; 16-year-old juvenile female, Baker City, OR; Criminal Mischief I.*

- ★ In addition, BCPD staff investigated a motor vehicle accident involving an intoxicated driver. The Baker City Herald posted the following statement to their Facebook page:

*A Baker City woman is charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants after crashing her van into a pickup truck in a driveway just as the owner was getting into the vehicle about 1:20 PM on Wednesday afternoon.*

*Virginia Joan Soderholm, 46, was taken to the Baker County Jail. Soderholm was also charged with fourth-degree assault, reckless driving, failure to maintain lane of travel, criminal mischief and driving without insurance. The assault charge is based on the injuries to Jay Wilson, who was stepping into his pickup truck when Soderholm's Ford Aerostar van crashed into it. Wilson was taken to Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City, where he was treated and released. The crash happened at Campbell and Fifth Streets.*

- ★ Gun locks are available upon request from the Baker City Police Department, located at 1768 Auburn Avenue. These locks, donated courtesy of Project ChildSafe, are available during regular business hours. Please note, the lobby is closed during the lunch hour. More information about Project ChildSafe can be found at <https://www.projectchildsafe.org/>.
- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.



## Public Works: Water Department



On Tuesday Scott and Justin traveled to Little Mill and Mill Creek to check snow conditions and adjust water flows. There was approximately 6 feet of snow on the walkway at Little Mill Creek as shown in the photo.



Water adjustments were also made at the Goodrich diversion. Plenty of snow had to be shoveled to access the control valves. →



← Here are two photos taken yesterday showing the snow accumulation at the water inlet control structure at Marble Creek.

The roof extension installed 8-10 years ago has been doing a good job of keeping snow from blocking access into the building.

Plans are being drawn for the replacement of an old 4" cast iron waterline on Clifford Street.

The new line will be cast iron 8" in diameter. This hydrant, circa 1933, will be replaced as part of that project.



# Public Works: Wastewater Department



A manhole located on the north side of Hughes Lane was found to be 27" below the asphalt surface of a paved driveway.

Several precise concrete lift rings will need to be used to raise it to the surface.



Once it is raised flush with the asphalt a concrete diamond will be poured around the ring and lid to secure it in place.



Not all manholes in the system will be raised to the surface of the ground at this time. This view is looking due south from Hughes Lane across a plowed agricultural field. If the four manholes in this field were raised to the surface of the ground they would be susceptible to damage from farming equipment and would be difficult to plow around. →



← This photo from last week showed the approximate location of a manhole near the freeway.

The manhole cover was raised to the surface of the ground using precast concrete lift rings. A manhole sign was attached to a steel fencepost showing the designated manhole number. →





# Public Works: Street Department



Several blocks of gravel streets in town were graded this week. This section of 13th Street was graded Wednesday.



Safety improvements were made at the intersection of 9th and "H" Streets this week. New 30" stop signs with reflective viz-i-shields were installed along with two black and yellow object markers to better warn drivers of the wooden power poles. 9th Street narrows considerably as you travel north past "H" Street.



Springtime is "pothole time". Public Works filled dozens of potholes this week on city streets. This particular pothole is located at the intersection of 2nd and Broadway and was patched by O.D.O.T.



A complaint was lodged from a business owner on the west side of Birch Street this week. Mud has been accumulating on Birch Street for most of the winter. Semi-trucks park in a large parking lot on the east side of Birch Street and then drive onto the street depositing a considerable amount of dirt.



← Trucks have also made a habit of driving right over the concrete curb causing damage.



## Public Works: Community



A Saint Patrick's Day Run was organized for this past weekend. The route traveled down the pathway and through residential neighborhoods.

A traffic plan was created by Public Works and cones and signs set up by volunteers.



## Baker City wins all-abilities playground in Moda Assist program!

**Portland, Ore. (March 21, 2019)** – Moda Health and the Portland Trail Blazers teamed up to promote active, healthy lifestyles for children through their Moda Assist program, now in its sixth year. Three Oregon cities competed to win an all-abilities playground by engaging their communities to vote for their city. Baker City won with a final tally of 63,748 votes.

**“Playgrounds are great places for kids to be active,”** said Dr. William Johnson, president of Moda Health. **“Playgrounds are where kids learn how to build relationships, and how to have fun. And a key component of a healthy community is that its playground be accessible to all kids.”**

As passionate about helping kids play as he is about helping teammates score, Damian Lillard continues as the ambassador for the Moda Assist program, which donates \$20 to the Trail Blazers Foundation for every assist made by the Blazers during the first 48 games of the season. Those funds go to help build all-abilities playgrounds in communities all across Oregon. Each year, three cities are selected and then fans can go online and vote. Voting this year began February 20 and ended March 20 for Baker City, Prineville and Independence.

**“Baker City is overwhelmed by the amount of support we received during the competitive voting process,”** said Joyce Bornstedt, Baker City parks and cemetery manager. **“We received an incredible number of votes, not only local community members, but from people across Oregon and the U.S. as well. This award will be the catalyst for funding an all-inclusive playground for our physically and developmentally disadvantaged children. Thank you so much to Moda Health and the Portland Trail Blazers for the opportunity to compete. We are excited to put this award to great use!”**

**All three cities found creative ways to engage their communities. The key to Baker City’s success was putting a face to the effort and getting the entire community involved. They published photos of their exceptional children and shared their stories, including the hardships they endure, and what an all-inclusive playground would mean to them. Additionally, local schools encouraged students to vote every day and sent flyers home with them. Local businesses put out table tents and handed out flyers. Trail Blazer game viewing parties were held with voting available on-site and presentations were made at local basketball games and voting information was distributed at the 1A State Basketball tournament held in Baker City. Most of the reader boards throughout the community contained the message to vote for Baker City daily and the clock tower lights were changed to Moda Purple and Blazers red. Even the local Albertson’s store held a Vote Baker City day, distributing voting information, cookies and balloons.**

The Moda Assist program has built all-abilities playgrounds in La Grande, Portland, Medford, and Hermiston. Last year’s winner, Redmond, is still in the planning stages for their new park. For more information, photos and video go to [modahealth.com/assist](http://modahealth.com/assist).