

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update August 14, 2020

Administration:

The City Council finalized the process for passing money to our community partners to help individuals, businesses and other entities who can use these resources to help those affected financially by the COVID-19 pandemic. Stayed tuned for additional details on the process. The Council also has worked with the School District to add some parking restrictions around Brooklyn and North Baker schools. These restrictions should help parents with drop off and pickup as well as enhance safety for our kids.

A big shout out to the Baker City Cribbage Association for their donation of \$1000 to our first responders, both Police and Fire. This has been a recurring occurrence and we thank them for their support over the years.

This week has felt a lot like fall. It appears that summer will return this weekend and extend the rest of the week. Stay hydrated, keep up the social distancing and wear your face masks in our local businesses.

Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	7	4	12
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	2
Electrical	8	8	9	11
Mechanical	7	6	0	8
Plumbing	6	8	1	2
Fence	7	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	30	29	14	35

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 32945 Plano Road, Durkee—New residence
- 14867 Pine Creek Lane, Baker City—New residence
- 38862 Deer Creek Lane, Baker City—Replacement roof truss system/roof
- 19768 Sumpter Stage Hwy, Sumpter—Replacement roof truss system/roof/windows
- Qty 2—Clark Street, Baker City—New duplex

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

None

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is

August 19, 2020 at 8am
in the Building Department offices



Finance Department:

Finance Director

The Finance and Building Department are happy to announce that Kevin Berryman has accepted the Cashier/Permit Technician position for the City and his first day is Monday, August 17th. Kevin previously worked for the Baker City/County Planning Department and is already knowledgeable about City codes and ordinances. Kevin will be the initial point of contact for the Finance and Building Departments. The goal is to modify the entry into the Finance/Building Department area over the next year in order to create one central point of contact for all customers and visitors entering City Hall. Please help us welcome Kevin to the City.

Utilities

- ◆ Thirteen customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and ten customers disconnected service from August 7th thru August 13th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 which includes 471 residential and 13 commercial accounts was billed August 10th. Of those accounts 102 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 21 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 6 which includes 486 residential and 64 commercial accounts was billed today. Of those accounts 122 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 46 (8%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Over the past three weeks fifty residential customers (Zones 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Of those fifty, nine were actually turned off and eight have now paid their past due and had their service reinstated.

Accounts Payable

The first of two accounts payable runs for August was generated August 12th.

Payroll

Payroll draws for August were issued today.

Accepting Applications for City Council

The Baker City Council will have six positions on the November ballot.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the City Recorder, Katie LaFavor at klafavor@bakercity.com, or at 541-524-2033.

Applications are being accepted now through August 25, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

You can find the application and other related information on our website:

<http://bakercity.com/2248/City-Council-Elections>

****Applicants now have the option of paying a \$25 filing fee in lieu of collecting signatures.**



Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The regularly scheduled Baker City Planning Commission meeting for August 19, 2020, has been cancelled.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council will hold their first public hearing on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 to discuss recommended revisions to the following items:

- the Baker City Comprehensive Plan - Goal 9 Economic Element, based on an Economic Opportunity Analysis Report completed for Baker City;
- the Baker City Development Code; and
- the Baker City zoning map for select properties in the City

The proposed revisions could affect all properties in Baker City. Copies of the staff report and all materials are available for inspection at the Baker County Courthouse at 1995 3rd Street. All materials can be viewed for no cost, or provided at a reasonable cost. Digital versions can be e-mailed for free or are available online at <http://bakercity.com/2157/Planning-Department>. Please contact the Baker City Planning Department at 541-523-8219 with any questions.

APPLICATIONS

- A Site Design Review application was approved at 910 Campbell Street to establish a ±2,043 square-foot building for a fast food restaurant (Taco Bell) that will include both drive-through and sit-down accommodations. The appeal period for this decision ends on August 27th, 2020.



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

For COVID-19 Updates:
[Www.bakercountycovid19.com](http://www.bakercountycovid19.com)



"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 another particularly busy week, BCPD opened 61 new cases and responded to 253 calls, making several arrests. The following press release was issued following the execution of a search warrant by the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team and BCPD officers:

On Friday, August 7, 2020, the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team and uniformed officers from Baker City Police Department, Baker County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Police executed a search warrant at 1783 and 1783 ½ Valley Street in Baker City, Oregon. As a result of the warrant, Methamphetamine was located along with additional items indicative of narcotics distribution. Items that detectives believe to have been stolen were also located. The investigation is on-going.

There were several individuals contacted at the residences who have been staying with the renters of the property. Rick and Vickie Fields were living at 1783 ½ Valley Avenue. Bobby Reed was staying at the 1783 Valley Avenue address. Both homes sit on the same property. The following individuals were cited and released on the following charges.

- *VICKIE FIELDS, age 58, was cited for Possession and Distribution of Methamphetamine.*
- *RICKY FIELDS, age 56, was cited for Possession and Distribution of Methamphetamine.*
- *BOBBY REED, age 51, was cited for Possession of Methamphetamine.*

★ BCPD is investigating the aggravated theft of electrical supplies and the following press release was issued in response to this case:

Sometime during the night of July 14, 2020, someone broke into a commercial grade electrical panel located behind Maurices at 1090 Campbell Street, Baker City, Oregon, and took five commercial-grade circuit breakers and damaged two others belonging to Mr. Gregory Sackos of Baker City, Oregon. The total loss and damages in this case exceeded \$22,000. Maurices was also closed for the business day as repairs were made to the breaker box.

In a second case, between 0430 and 0500 hours on August 9, 2020, someone broke into the power distribution area of the Tesla charging stations at 1 Sunridge Lane, Baker City, Oregon. In that theft, the suspect(s) took four commercial grade circuit breakers belonging to Tesla out of Washington State. The total damages and loss in this case are estimated to be around \$12,000.

The Baker City Police Department is seeking anyone with information into either or both thefts. We also urge local businesses to take extra precautions to protect their circuit breaker panels from potential theft.

Questions about this release can be referred to Sergeant Wayne Chastain at 541-524-2014.

★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public. This policy is in response to Governor Kate Brown's order requiring face coverings be worn in public indoor spaces by anyone 5 years of age and older.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of August 4th through August 10th the Fire Department responded to a total of **49** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	33	Request for Cover	10	General Alarms	1
Rural Calls	9	Arrived for Cover	3	Dispatched Alarms	6
Patient Transported	28			TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	7
No Patient Trip	14				

TOTAL MEDIC 42

Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Doubles (2 calls at once)	5
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	2



TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **21 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **26 hrs** of Fire Training
- **10 hrs** of Community Events
- **0** Burn Permits Issued—**BURN BAN IN EFFECT**

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.





Public Works: Mountain Line



Excellent progress continues to be made on the Mountain Line Project.

Left: Justin's view as he excavates for placement of the next piece of pipe.

Right: Brian's view as he crushes material, backfills and compacts around and over the 24" diameter PVC pipe.



Public Works: Water Department



The street curb on Carter Street was rebuilt after it had been removed to repair a water leak.



Another water leak near the intersection of Carter and 11th Streets was reported last week. Blain and Brady excavated down to the pipe and sealed the leak. Here, Brady is attaching a bell clamp to the joint.



Dennis and Craig drove the steep, rough road to Goodrich Reservoir this week to make water flow adjustments. The Reservoir was approximately 14 feet below full pond.

Public Works: Wastewater Department



Crews worked to clean several wastewater collection lines in town this week.

A resident on Cherry Street has been having wastewater problems recently. The lateral was inspected using the push-cam and main line camera. Roots were seen to be plugging the line.

The owner plans to have Public Works repair the line later this month.





Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



Another wastewater problem existed on 5th Street where a lateral from one house crossed onto the neighbor's property before entering the main line.

Karl and Rick used the push-cam to inspect and help trace the line. Afterwards the main line was cleaned using the jetter with 600 psi of water pressure.



Public Works: Street Department



Left: Blain and Brady work to place shoulder rock along the edge of the roadway at Kirkway and "H" Street.

Crack fill work continued this week throughout town.



Here Dylan and Zach fill cracks on Grove Street.



Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week were spent cleaning the pile of chip rock which will be used for this year's chip seal project which will start Monday, August 17th.



Left: This pile shows the amount of substandard material that was removed from the rock during the cleaning process.

Right: Some of the chip seal rock from a previous year was also cleaned. It will be inspected and possibly used for a portion of this year's chip seal project. See page 9 for more details on the project.





Public Works: Street Department continued



The concrete sidewalk at Madison Street was completed this week. Several new posts were set and a chain installed to create a barrier.



Special attention was taken to assure the posts would be plumb.



Left: The finished product.

Public Works: Shop



We checked over this sweeper and made sure it was ready for chip seal.



We installed the beaver tail so this truck is ready for chip seal.



We installed a base radio and antennas that will hook up to our headsets for better communication.



We finished making a rear hitch that hooks to the R219 chip sealer. We also replaced a high pressure a/c line and charged the system.



We installed a new starter in this police cruiser.



Public Works: Chip Seal

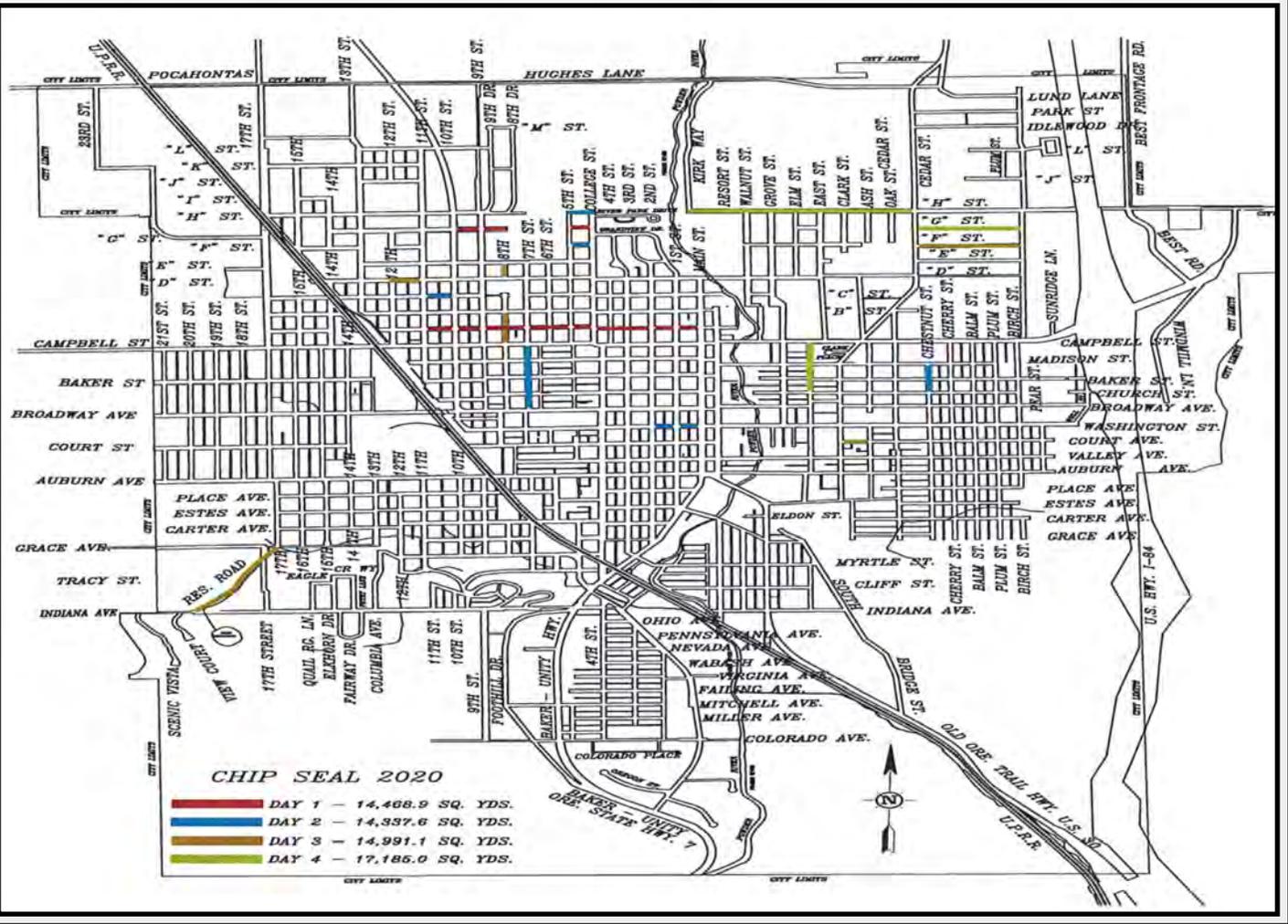
Beginning August 17, 2020, the Baker City Public Works Department will be chip sealing a number of city streets. It is expected that this work will last for 4 days.

A minimum 48-hours notice will be provided to residents affected by the street improvement project. Please expect traffic delays and possible re-routing of traffic during this project.

Your cooperation and patience during this project are appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Baker City Public Works at 541-524-2047 or 541-524-2046.

2020 BAKER CITY CHIP SEAL

STREET	DAY	ORDER
G - 5th to College	1	1
A - College to Main (-int 2nd, 1st)	1	2
A - 9th to College (-int 7th, 5th)	1	3
A - 10th to 9th	1	4
A - 11th to 10th	1	5
G - 9th to 8th	1	6
G - 10th to 9th	1	7
STREET		
C - 11th to 10th	2	1
F - 5th to College	2	2
H - W side 5th to E side College	2	3
Seventh - Broadway to Campbell	2	4
Washington - 2nd to 1st	2	5
Washington - 1st to Main	2	6
Chestnut - S side Baker to Madison	2	7
Chestnut - Church to Baker	2	8
STREET		
Court - Clark to Ash	3	1
F - Cedar to Birch	3	2
D - W of 12th to 11th	3	3
Eighth - D to E	3	4
Eighth - A to B	3	5
Eighth - Campbell to A	3	6
Reservoir Rd - Indiana to Grace	3	7
STREET		
East - Church W. to Campbell	4	1
G - Cedar to Birch	4	2
H - W side Kirk Way to Grove	4	3
H - W side Grove to Cedar	4	4





Public Works: Watershed Hunting Access Permits

Baker City Watershed Hunting Access Permits



Permits are available at the Baker City Public Works Department at City Hall front entrance

- Hours to request a permit are: **Monday through Friday, 11:30 AM—12:30 PM and 4:00 PM—5:00 PM.** A mask is required.
- Outside of the above hours permits can be requested through email at bakercitywatershedhunting@gmail.com. The required items listed below will need to be sent in along with the request. This process may take 1-2 business days to complete.

The following information will be required when applying for a permit (either in person or via email):

1. Hunter's name, address and phone number
2. Hunting ID #
3. Hunting tags (will need to see electronic tags)
4. Vehicle make/model and plate number you will be driving to the watershed
5. If you will have a non-hunting companion – that individual's name, address and driver's license #

Permits will not be issued until Forest Service fire classification is no longer at high or extreme. If you have questions please call (541) 524-2047. Permits will be issued no sooner than 3 business days prior to your hunt.