

'Real ID' could cause travel trouble

By Sam Stites
Oregon Capital Bureau

If you've flown from Portland International Airport within the past couple of weeks you've probably received a warning from Transportation Security Administration agents while waiting to get through security: Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, they'll no longer accept state-issued identification that doesn't comply with "Real ID" standards.

That news surprised one Oregonian catching an early morning flight to Chicago this month. She explained to the TSA agent that she knew about the change and had obtained a new Oregon driver's license the previous week. So, she told him, she's ready for the new law.

Except, the TSA agent told her, she's not.

That's because Oregon's Driver and Motor Vehicle Division offices won't issue licenses that comply with the Real ID standards until July 2020 (the new licenses will have a star in the upper right corner).

"So I have to get a new license in July?" the woman asked. The agent asked: Does she have a valid passport? She does. So, the agent told her that document will work.

The woman was relieved, but wondered aloud, "How did this happen? It makes no sense."

Incompatible computers

The saga began when Congress passed the Real ID Act of 2005. On the recommendation of the 9/11 Commission, federal lawmakers created a set of standards for the issuance of sources of identification like driver's licenses.

To understand why Oregon is in this predicament, you have to go back to 2009 when the Legislature passed Sen-



Pamplin Media Group file photo

TSA agents are warning Oregon travelers that they will have to have a Real ID-compliant driver's license by October 2020 or they won't be able to fly.

ate Bill 536, legislation that balked at the Real ID Act, calling it out as an unfunded mandate. Oregon lawmakers were unhappy that the federal government didn't outline how it would reimburse the state for updating driver information systems. Oregon lawmakers also felt a new system would provide few security protections, leaving identification systems open to insider fraud, counterfeit documentation and database failures.

The bill passed with little opposition, and the federal government pushed back the deadline as Oregon and nearly almost all other states refused to comply. During the next decade, the federal Department of Homeland Security began rolling out the law in phases, first at its own Washington, D.C., headquarters, then at nuclear facilities across the country. Air travel requirements were rolled out beginning Jan. 22, 2018.

Ahead of the deadline, most states began changing their systems, which included implementation of massive new data servers to keep identification information secure. The system was used to instantly verify documentation, such as birth certificates, passports,

Social Security numbers and residential addresses.

Driver and Motor Vehicles Services spokesman David House said Real ID compliance continued to come up in Oregon's legislative process each year. One obstacle to the state's participation was technology. ODOT's system was running on millions of lines of primitive code inside an old mainframe computer. House said it could have been updated to handle the new info required for Real ID compliance, but the half-century-old system "is simply incompatible with modern technology."

In 2015, ODOT began updating its information system. Two years later, the Legislature approved a bill to authorize Real ID compliance. Instead of starting a new information technology project to become compliant, the state signed a \$69.4 million contract with Colorado's Fast Enterprises, which also handled system changes for Massachusetts and Minnesota, to tack on creation of a new driver information system to ODOT's project already underway.

Only Oklahoma, New Jersey and Oregon have yet

to comply with Real ID standards. While ODOT awaits arrival of its new data system in July 2020, the agency is using the interim to warn travelers not to wait if they plan to fly after Oct. 1, 2020.

Two weeks ago, ODOT and TSA officials spoke to reporters at Portland International Airport, where they encouraged frequent flyers to acquire passports so they're not snagged in the anticipated long DMV lines, as people try to get new licenses to meet security requirements.

Do I really need to get a passport?

If you don't fly, work at a nuclear power plant or need access to secure federal facilities, you don't need identification that complies with the federal Real ID Act. But if you plan on flying — domestic or international — in the latter part of 2020, you should probably think about getting a passport.

At least that's what Transportation Security Administration and Oregon's Department of Transportation advise travelers to do ahead of what is expected to be a wave of Oregon drivers lining up to get new identification when it becomes available next July.

Outside of county offices, some cities have their own passport services within city hall. Lake Oswego, for example, has staff trained to accept applications for passports.

One tip offered by Lake Oswego Administrative Support Assistant Chloe Busch: U.S. passport cards (\$65 with fees), which offer entry into Mexico and Canada, comply with Real ID standards and are less expensive than a standard U.S. passport book (\$145 with fees).

School board to discuss new bond measure

By Chris Collins
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The Baker School Board has rescheduled its October meeting for Monday.

The group will first meet at the District bus barn at 2990 D Street at 5 p.m. to tour the building and to look at the upgrades made this summer.

The Board next will gather at City Hall to meet in executive (closed to the public) session beginning at 5:40 p.m.

The public meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Both meetings will convene in the Council chambers at Baker City Hall, 1655 First St.

The closed session has been scheduled, as allowed by Oregon law, to conduct deliberations with those designated by the Board to negotiate property transactions.

The Board is scheduled to act on the property transaction later during the open meeting.

Another matter the Board will take action on Monday night is a recommendation from members of a committee that has been reviewing a bond proposal to send to District voters in May 2020. Committee members will present their findings about how the District should proceed to fund necessary school improvements.

The Board also is expected to act on a proposal from Baker City resident Peter Fargo, who will speak about plans to create a Baker City Quiet Zone.

As it does during most meetings, the Board will recognize two students as the District's Promise Students of the Month. This month's honored students are Amira Herrera of Brooklyn Primary School and Kale Cassidy of Baker High School.

Kim Mosier, one of the founders of the Baker Valley Education Foundation, will update the Board on the organization's activities during the open session.

The Board also will review personnel changes:

- Shannon Streeter has been hired as a fiscal assistant in the District Office. Streeter resigned from her position as Brooklyn secretary to take the new job.
- Darcie Kirkwood has resigned as a paraprofessional at South Baker Intermediate School.
- Classified new hires — James Billings, Brooklyn paraprofessional; Kevin Lee, clinical paraprofessional in the Behavioral Education Social Skills Teaching (BESST) program at Brooklyn; Tala Yencopal, prekindergarten paraprofessional at Haines Elementary; Rebecca Hurley and Steve Palmer, bus drivers.
- Extra-duty new hires are Morgan Colvin and Ami Livingston, Friday Academy teachers; Silas Turner counseling coordinator; Chris Wittich, Esports coach; Karla Shute, Friday Academy cook at Brooklyn; and Gina Bennett, temporary Baker Early Learning Center (BELC) planning coordinator.

Baker County

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Baker United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship
Casual Service: 8:30 AM
Traditional Service: 10 AM

1919 2nd Street, Baker City
541-523-4201

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Service
10:30 AM

1995 4th Street, Baker City
541-523-5201
firstpresbaker.blogspot.com

Third & Broadway
541-523-3891

Calvary Baptist Church

Sundays
10 AM Service
& Children's Church
Thursdays
5:30-6:15 pm
Free Community Dinner
Celebrate Recovery Classes
start at 6:15 pm
www.bakercalvarybaptist.com

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Sunday Service
11:00 AM

www.ChristianScience.com

3rd & Washington, Baker City
541-523-5911

Baker City
Church of the Nazarene

Sunday Worship 9:45 AM

Pastor Troy Teeter
1250 Hughes Lane, Baker City
(Corner of Cedar & Hughes)
541-523-3533
www.bakernaz.com

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Baker City 1st Ward
Sacrament Meeting 9 AM

Baker City 2nd Ward
Sacrament Meeting 10:30 AM

Baker Valley Ward
Sacrament Meeting 12 PM
2625 Hughes Lane, Baker City
541-523-2397

Elkhorn Baptist Church

Sunday School 10 AM
Morning Worship 11 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Discovery Kids Worship 6:30 PM

3520 Birch St, Baker City
541-523-4332

Harvest Church & HARVEST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
(Preschool-12 Grade)

Harvest Cafe 9:15 am
Morning Worship 10:10 AM
3720 Birch St, Baker City
541-523-4233

The first Sunday of each month is Mission Breakfast. Donations and non-perishable donations for NEOCC are accepted.

New Beginnings Fellowship

Sunday Morning Worship
10:30 AM
Sunday Evening 6 PM
Weds Service 7 PM
Zan & Dawn Coen
1820 Estes, Baker City
541-524-1394

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Service 11 AM

1734 Third Street, Baker City
541-523-3922

firstlutheranbakercity@gmail.com

ST. BRIGID'S IN THE PINES COMMUNITY CHURCH

11:30 a.m. Services
1st & 3rd Sunday
Holy Eucharist

East Auburn Street, Sumpter
541-523-4812
A Mission of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Baker City

BAKER CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday Worship

First Service 8:30 AM
2nd Service & Sunday School 10 AM

Jr. High & High School Youth
Tues 6:30 PM
Youth Pastor Silas Moe

675 Hwy 7, Baker City • 541-523-5425

SAINT ALPHONSUS HOSPITAL CHAPEL

Open to all patients, family and friends for reflection and prayer.

St. Alphonsus Hospital in Baker City

AGAPE CHRISTIAN CENTER

Sunday Services
10:00 AM & 6:30 PM

South Highway 7,
Baker City
541-523-6586

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Saturday Worship
11:00 AM

www.bakercitysda.com
17th & Pocahontas, Baker City
541-523-4913

St. Francis De Sales Cathedral
Daily Masses:
M, T, Th, F 9 AM

Day Chapel in Cathedral
Wed Daily Mass 9 AM
at St. Alphonsus Chapel
Sat 8 AM at Day Chapel

Baker City Saturday Mass 6 pm
Baker City Sunday Mass 9:30 am
St. Therese in Halfway 2 pm Sat
St. Anthony's in North Powder
11:30 Sun
541-523-4521
Corner of First & Church, Baker City

St. Stephen's Episcopal

Services at 9 AM

1st & 3rd Sundays, Holy Eucharist
2nd & 4th Sundays, Morning Prayer
5th Sunday, Morning Prayer

2177 First Street • Baker City
Entrance on 1st Street
Corner Church & First Streets
541-523-4812

Faith Center Foursquare
A Four Square Gospel Church

Worship Service
10:45 AM

1839 3rd St, Baker City
541-523-7915

The church directory is published the third Friday of every month. Information for this directory is provided by participating churches, please call 541-523-3673 for more information.

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