



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: SEPTEMBER 20, 2019
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Monday and Tuesday's City Council Workshops

Monday night, we will be hosting a joint workshop with the School District 51 Board of Education. The agenda for this meeting is to discuss the new elementary school, infrastructure around the school, the process for determining the boundary of the school, and we will provide updates on the education projects that we are working on. The focus of Tuesday's workshop will be an overview of the draft 2020 budget, and we will end with a brief update on the Highway 6 Sewer Extension Project.

Groundbreaking of New Fruita Elementary School

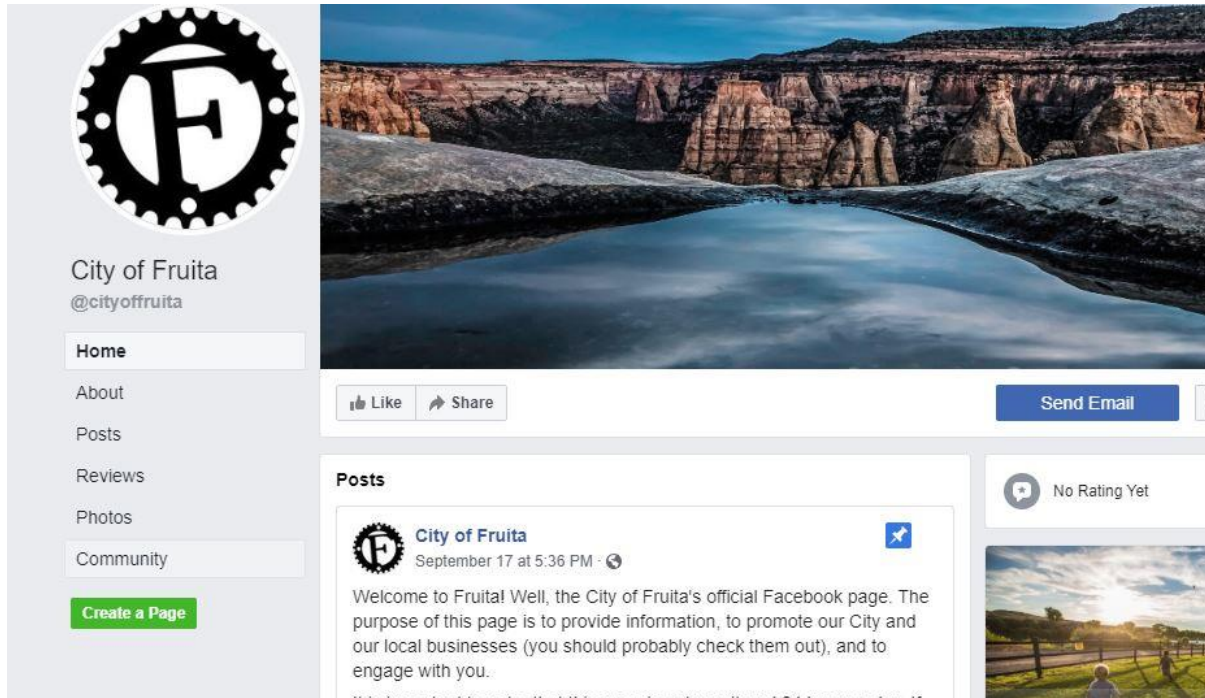
On Wednesday afternoon, the School District 51 Board of Education and leadership invited Mayor Kincaid, City Councilors Ewing, Kreie, and Leonhart, and me to participate in the groundbreaking of the new school in Fruita, Monument Ridge Elementary. Construction is well underway, and the new school will be a 62,000 square foot, two-story building serving pre-school through fifth grade. Monument Ridge is going to be a great addition to our community, and we are excited to be working with the School District on this project. Below is a picture from the event, and more news on the school can be found below.



Honor the Past – Envision the Future **FRUITA**

Find the City of Fruita on Social Media

The City of Fruita is now on Facebook! If you're interested in following, please like and share the page at facebook.com/cityoffruita



Boards and Commissions Vacancies (continued)

The City of Fruita is accepting applications to fill vacancies on the Livability Commission, the Historic Preservation Board, and the Downtown Advisory Board. The mission of the **Livability Commission** (click each board name for more information) is to gather community input and make recommendations to the City Council regarding the eight domains of livability that support healthy aging and improve the quality of life, economic health, and lifestyle of the Fruita community members. The purpose of the **Historic Preservation Board** is to protect and preserve the City's architectural, historic, and cultural heritage and provides educational opportunities to increase appreciation of Fruita's unique heritage. The **Downtown Advisory Board** advises the City Council and serves as a coordinating body for the advancement of downtown Fruita. If you are interested in applying for any of these three boards, you can find an application at this [link](#).

General Updates

- This week, the City of Fruita was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Department of Local Affairs for the Land Use Code and Design Standards update. We will be releasing for a Request for Proposals for the consultant today for the project and will keep you updated as we move forward.
- Walk and Roll to School Day will be held on Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019. The Mesa County Health Department and Urban Trails Committee members will meet up with participating schools to ensure that students are safe will traveling to school. Both Shelledy and Rimrock are

participating in this event. For more information, visit this [link](#) or see the flyer below. Also, volunteers are needed! If you can, contact [Sarah Brooks](#) at the Grand Valley MPO to participate.

- The Chamber has scheduled the 2019 Economic Development Forum for Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. Discussions will focus on economic development in Fruita and providing feedback on the Comprehensive Plan. The event is free to attend, and you can find more information on it and RSVP [here](#).
- The Museums of Western Colorado has announced that Kaia Michaelis has joined the organization as the new Executive Director. The full press release can be found below.
- Colorado Mesa University has released the Mesa County Economic Update for the third quarter of 2019. Employment continues to expand throughout the County, and our population has been growing steadily. For more information, view the full report here: [Mesa County Economic Update](#).
- Don't forget! The survey for the Grand Valley 2045 Regional Transportation Plan is open until Sunday. If you want to participate and share your thoughts about the future of transportation in the Grand Valley, here is a [link](#).
- The GoFruita fall newsletter is out, are you subscribed to it? If not, see it [here](#)!
- Hike with the City Manager is next Tuesday, the 24th, at 4:00 p.m. Come along for an easy hike up Dino Hill and discussions about Fruita.
- Last week, we posted a story on the Pollock Fire in the Black Ridge Canyon Wilderness. This week, the Bureau of Land Management issued a press release stating that lightning caused the fire. There are no closures or evacuations at this time, but there may be some smoke visible from the interstate, the McClinnis National Conservation Area, and the Kokopelli Trail System. The full press release can be found below.
- Tomorrow is the final Fruita Farmers Market! Head downtown between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for fresh produce, handmade crafts, and live music.

Administration/Finance

- In preparation of Tuesday's workshop, Finance staff has been working all week on the budget and finalizing the draft. I am not quite sure if Margaret has even left her office.

Engineering

- The Sidewalk Replacement Project was awarded to Adcock Concrete, Inc. In the amount of \$18,315.
- Trip Hazard Mitigation Project which involves grinding concrete sidewalk in areas that have shifted creating a tripping hazard was awarded to Precision Concrete in the amount of \$9,890.

Human Resources

- The City of Fruita is accepting applications for a Wastewater Operator at our Wastewater Treatment Facility. Applications are due by September 30, 2019, and the job announcement/description can be found [here](#).
- The City is also accepting applications for a Building Maintenance Worker I. More information can be found [here](#), and applications are due Friday, September 27, 2019.

- Tourism and Special Event Funding Applications are due this afternoon by close of business! If you need an application, you can visit this [link](#). The Fruita Tourism Advisory Council will review these applications next week and recommend which events to fund to the Council in October.

Parks and Recreation

- The Fruita Community Center has been closed this week for its annual maintenance week. Much has been accomplished and project updates and photos have been posted on the [Fruita Parks and Recreation Facebook Page](#).
- As part of maintenance week this year, staff had hoped to have the indoor pool re-plastered. However, due to the contractor schedule and an unfortunate death in their management, the plaster project is being moved to August 2020. In the meantime, staff patched 37 new areas in the pool, making 111 patches since the issue was first discovered in 2018. Staff believes the patches will last until the project can be completed next August.
- Recreation Staff is excited to welcome Brittany Kline, who will start on Monday as our new Youth Activities Coordinator
- Youth Athletics is in full swing. Soccer and Flag Football games have started at Little Salt Wash Park this month. Due to the increasing participation in programs, Reed Park has set of goals so that soccer teams can get a quality practice at that site. The Flag Football field has been moved and they are now playing games in baseball field #1 at LSW. In addition, Fruita Little League Fall Ball has been utilizing LSW.
- Last push with Special Events in 2019:
 - Anna Banana High School Invitational is today. Parks staff have been preparing and cleaning up Snooks Bottom in anticipation of 17 high school teams racing there. Due to the heavy rains and hail two ago, Parks received assistance from Public Works and filled in some areas that had eroded and were safety concerns. The road and parking lot were also graded, fencing was mended and weeds / trail edges where mowed.
 - Fruita Fall Festival is the following week and preparation has already started. Namely Parks staff have been working in earnest to get the Disc Golf Course ready for a Fall Festival tournament. A 4-person crew has been at the disc golf course this week and labor alone has been over \$3,000 to prepare the course. The entire site for the most part has been mowed and weeds have been removed. The Grand Valley Disc Golf Club will host a volunteer day tomorrow, and fine tune and get to the smaller stuff that Parks crew may have missed or couldn't get to.
 - Other special event coordination has been focused on the last Food Truck Friday in October, the Tour of the Moon, and the Rim Rock Marathon in early November.

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit: <https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/current-development-projects>

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Iron Wheel Major Subdivision final plat/plan application will be before City Council 8/20/19. (Located at the Intersection on 19 Rd & Iron Drive)
- KCP Minor Subdivision (536 Kokopelli Blvd)

Site Design Review:

- Einstein's Bagels/Qdoba: (401 Jurassic Ave #B) has completed with construction. Qdoba popens next Wednesday!
- Quench Drinks Site Design Review is complete and getting ready for construction.
- Coloramo Site Design Review (333 W Aspen)

Other Land Use Applications:

- Griffin VRBO
- Richwood Avenue VRBO
- 259 N. Elm Street VRBO
- Little Imaginations Conditional Use Permit to operate a childcare facility at 433 E Aspen Avenue.

Police Department

- Lt. Peck participated in a Leadership/Law Enforcement Ethics panel at the Western Colorado Peace Officers Academy.

FRUITA IN THE NEWS (and regional news of impact to Fruita):

- [Fruita, Colorado: An Escape to the Desert.](#)
- [Colorado Canyons opens \\$8 million medical center.](#)
- [Pollock Fire burning in the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness.](#)
- [State officials host energy legislation panel.](#)
- [Center raising funds to buy Moon Farm.](#)
- [Grand Junction Regional Airport terminal work nears completion.](#)
- [Bear sighting in local man's backyard.](#)
- [Run, walk and roll against bullying.](#)
- [Winter is coming! Do not miss Color Weekend on the Grand Mesa.](#)
- [Colorado hospital moves procedure center –4 insights.](#)
- [Grand Valley tax collections on the rise.](#)
- [New Fruita school named "Monument Ridge Elementary".](#)
- [School Reveal: Monument Ridge.](#)
- [D51's newest elementary school.](#)
- [Fruita Monument reaches midpoint of construction.](#)
- [Moon Farms prepares to open pumpkin patch for the fall season.](#)
- [School Reveal: Monument Ridge.](#)
- [Colorado River District hosts water seminar.](#)
- [Grand Valley Yoga Fest proceeds go to suicide awareness.](#)
- [Start the Conversation: new youth initiative hosted by MCPH.](#)
- [Ultimate Colorado Fall Bucket List.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can make sure to post if multiple council members plan to attend. Deb would also be happy to RSVP for you when needed.):*

- **September 21, 2019** – Last Fruita Farmers Market in 2019 at Civic Center Park, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **September 23, 2019** – Meet and Greet with the new Director of the Mesa County Libraries at the Fruita Branch, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- **September 24, 2019** – Hike Dino Hill with the City Manager at 4:00 p.m.
- **September 25, 2019** – How to Start a Business in Western Colorado at FWorks in the Fruita Civic Center, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **September 27-29, 2019** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita
- **October 3, 2019** – Comprehensive Plan Draft Plan Party at the Fruita Civic Center, 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **October 15, 2019** – Beer or Rootbeer with the City Manager at Suds Brothers Brewery, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **October 17, 2019** – Fruita Chamber of Commerce 2019 Economic Development Forum, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Fruita Civic Center.
- **October 19, 2019** – Hope of the Grand Valley 5k/10k, 10:00 a.m. at the Riverfront Trail.
- **October 26, 2019** – Truck and Treat at Civic Center Park, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **October 29, 2019** – Coffee with the City Manager at Judy's Restaurant at 7:00 a.m.
- **October 31, 2019** – Trick or Treat Street, Downtown Fruita, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **November 2, 2019** – Rim Rock Marathon, Colorado National Monument, Fruita Co at 8:00 a.m.
- **November 4, 2019** – Walk Snooks Bottom with the City Manager at 9:00 a.m.
- **December 11, 2019** – Coffee with the City Manager at Camilla's Kaffe at 8:00 a.m.
- **December 14, 2019** – Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Fruita Community Center.
- **December 14, 2019** – Holiday Christmas and Parade of Lights – Downtown Fruita at Dusk.
- **December 18, 2019** – Cookies N' Claus at the Fruita Community Center at 6:00 p.m.
- The Fruita Community Calendar is available on the website or at this [link](#).
- The **2019** Events Information is also available online [here](#).

CC. Department Directors

Do you have questions about anything in the Weekly Information Update? Please feel free to email us at communications@fruita.org.



Walk & Roll to School

Wednesday, Oct 2

School District 51 students and their families are invited to participate in National Walk to School Day by Walking, Biking, or Rolling to school on October 2nd.

Contact your school for more information on group walking and biking locations.

Walking, rolling and bicycling to school helps students...

- Reach the recommended goal of 60 minutes of daily physical activity
 - Get energized and ready to learn
 - Gain a sense of independence
- Learn & practice bike and pedestrian safety
- Improve the air quality by leaving the car behind
 - Take an active role in their well-being



Press Release

Kaia Michaelis Joins Museums of Western Colorado as Executive Director

The Museums of Western Colorado is pleased to announce that Kaia Michaelis has joined our organization as our new Executive Director.

Kaia has been the Director of both the Utah Museum of Art and History and the Box Elder Museum of Natural History for the past eight years in Brigham City, Utah. She has been very successful in building community connections, improving programs and expanding the financial and organizational capacity of these two institutions. Kaia has also been very active in the Utah Museum Association and has served as their president for the past two years. Her background in museum science will be a tremendous asset in moving the Museums of Western Colorado forward as we expand our mission to inspire our community to preserve its heritage and tell its story.

"We are excited to see the direction Kaia will lead the Museums in the coming years with her contagious enthusiasm for history," said Mark Francis, President of the Board of Directors.



UPPER COLORADO RIVER
FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT UNIT
BLM - NORTHWEST DISTRICT
BLM - SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
USFS - WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



NEWS RELEASE

September 13, 2019

Contact: Eric Coulter, BLM Public Affairs Specialist, 970 244-3061

Lightning caused Pollock Fire in the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness

Grand Junction, Colo. – Fire officials with the Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire and Aviation Management Unit are assessing the current Pollock Fire located in McInnis Canyon National Conservation Area in Mesa County.

The Pollock Fire was started by lightning on September 12, 2019. It is about a ¼ acre in size burning in the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness Area south of I-70 near Loma and Fruita, CO. The fire personnel are on the ground assessing possible suppression tactics. Firefighter and public safety is the primary objective.

There are no evacuations or closures at this time. No structures or resources are currently threatened. Smoke may be visible from the I-70 corridor, Kokopelli Trail loops, Devils Canyon Trails, Pollock Canyon Trails and the Rattlesnake Arches Trail. Recreational users of the trail systems in Rattlesnake Canyon, Pollock Canyon and Devils Canyon are urged to use caution in the area. Smoke could affect the air quality in the area. Please do not call 911 to report Pollock Fire behavior. Please call 911 for emergencies only.

The State of Colorado Air Quality and Smoke Outlook:

https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colo_advisory.aspx

The State of Colorado maintains a website with the latest fire restrictions statewide:

<http://www.coemergency.com/p/fire-bans-danger.html>

The Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire and Aviation Management Unit includes Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service firefighting resources that cover 5.8 million acres along the Interstate 70, Colorado River and Roaring Fork River corridors from the Continental Divide to the Utah state line. The UCR includes the White River National Forest and the BLM's Colorado River Valley and Grand Junction field offices. The UCR cooperates with other federal and state agencies, local communities, and fire departments on a wide range of activities including fuels treatments, fire prevention, and suppression.



Alpine Bank



FRUITA FALL FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2019

PRESENTED BY



HOSTED BY



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GAMES, SPECIAL EVENTS,
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FRUITA
IN
MOTION

DRAFT PLAN PARTY

Draft Plan Party - October 3rd

The City of Fruita is holding a draft plan party at Civic Center Park to share a draft of the Comprehensive Plan. This community gathering is your opportunity to see neighbors and learn about the plan in a fun, interactive environment. The main ideas of the plan will be presented and there will be engaging activities for you to offer comments and feedback. Food and drink will be provided. Please come by to learn about the plan and share your ideas!

Location: Civic Center Park

Time: 4 pm to 7:30 pm

Date: October 3rd



What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A comprehensive plan is a long-range planning document that provides policies and strategies for the city. The comprehensive plan was last updated in 2008 and Fruita is ready for a new plan based on where the city is today. Public input is essential to a comprehensive plan, ensuring it reflects the values of the community. Ultimately, the plan update will help the city guide development going forward and incorporate the community's vision and goals into future policies and actions.

For more information about the draft plan party and this planning process, visit:

www.fruitalnmotion.org

Explore Fruita with the City Manager

Upcoming Dates:

7.2.19 at 8:00 a.m.

Coffee with Mike at
Enstroms Candies Fruita

7.31.19 at 7:00 p.m.

Paddleboard with Mike
at Imondi Wake Zone

8.13.19 at 10:00 a.m.

Walk Downtown Fruita
with Mike

8.21.19 at 5:30 p.m.

Beer or Rootbeer with
Mike at Copper Club

9.5.19 at 7:30 a.m.

Coffee with Mike at
Fruita Starbucks

9.24.19 at 4:00 p.m.

Hike Dino Hill with
Mike



Is there anything that you would like to discuss personally with the City Manager? Join City Manager Mike Bennett and guests for informal discussions about Fruita while exploring what our community has to offer. Join us at any of the following dates. For more information and the most current schedule, please visit fruita.org.



FRUITA
COLORADO



WHY FRUITA? The City of Fruita focuses on three strategic outcomes built upon a base of providing quality core services.

Quality of Place (QP) The City of Fruita is a community where residents and visitors love where they are. The City strives to be a bike and pedestrian friendly community by providing a system of sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes that connect our parks, schools, neighborhoods, civic facilities, and commercial areas. We value safe neighborhoods, our geographic natural resources and landscapes, top tier education and healthcare, and we collaborate to provide quality essential infrastructure and services. We are an inclusive community of doers who enjoy active and healthy lifestyles.

Economic Health (EH) The City of Fruita strives to be financially sustainable by enabling a stable economy and supporting a diversity of businesses that offer well-paying jobs that attract educated employees. The City works to be fiscally responsible and continuously seeks ways to allocate resources to services and projects that have the highest impact on the City's priorities. We are the innovative leader for economic development in the Grand Valley.

Lifestyle (L) The City of Fruita fosters a fun and funky ambiance by celebrating the local arts, farm and ranching history, unique leisure opportunities, and family-friendly events and activities. As a city, we encourage a diversity of cultural opportunities, businesses, and recreational activities. We continue to improve and enhance recreational offerings from traditional to outdoor adventure sports and youth to adult activities. We are a family-friendly community with diverse cultural opportunities, businesses and recreational amenities where visitors feel like locals and locals play like visitors.



FRUITA COLORADO



City of Fruita staff strive to emulate these core behaviors in everything we do in order to show gratitude for public trust, build trust and maintain trust with the public, our partner agencies and with one another.

We are Fruita. We are...

Fun—This is such a critical behavior that impacts everything we do. If we are not having fun, we must ask why and recalculate and adjust. We must love what we do and where we work, live and play. We are positive and put forth focused effort to have a positive attitude. We are smiling. We are friendly. We enjoy serving the public and working together. We care about the experience those who interact with us internally and externally have.

Respectful—We are empathetic. We take an active interest in each other, residents, businesses and visitors. We listen. We talk one at a time. We compliment and build up others. We are tough on issues and easy on people. We recognize the role of City Council, Board and Commission Members, residents, supervisors, coworkers and customers. We are kind. We treat people with dignity. We embrace diversity and make every effort to think collectively.

United—We are a team. We focus on purpose and work together to achieve our goals. We communicate effectively with each other. We seek consensus, agree to disagree and move forward for the greater good. We support each other. We value partnerships that help us achieve our goals. We remember we are public stewards and serve. We are inclusive. We create synergy by recognizing our strengths and weaknesses and succeeding as a team.

Innovative—Simplicity is our key to innovation. We consider and explore alternatives to the way we've always done it. We are open to new ideas. We welcome calculated risk-taking and learning from our mistakes. We seek continuous improvement and welcome constructive feedback. We ask why and why not. We work to continually improve.

Transparent—We operate as an open book. We create, over communicate and reinforce clarity in our work. We are trustworthy. We assume a positive intent from others. We work with integrity. We seek ways to increase transparency internally and externally.

Authentic—We are unique. We are real. We are different. We are special. We are optimistic. We are exceptional and proud of it. We are comfortable being different. We are open-minded. We are honest. We embrace and value family. We live what we speak. We create clear expectations and work hard to manage those expectations.