



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 24, 2020
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 3rd. There will not be a Council Workshop on April 28.

Mayor and City Council Members Sworn into Office

At a remote City Council meeting on Tuesday night, Mayor Kincaid and Council members Kreie, O'Brien, and Breman were officially sworn into office.

Congratulations to our incoming Council! We are excited to have you on board and to be working with you. While it was a unique swearing (to say the least), we are glad that everyone was able to participate. Also, we wanted to thank former Councilmembers Amanda Ewing and Dave Karisny for their service and all that they have done for the City of Fruita. Councilwoman Ewing served for two years on the Fruita City Council, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Board of Adjustments. Councilman Karisny served for 12 years (nonconsecutive) on the Fruita City Council, 16 years (nonconsecutive) on the Planning Commission, and several years on the 521 Drainage Authority, and as Chair of the Grand Valley Regional Transportation Planning District. Thank you both for your hard work!



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

Fruita City Council Approves Small Business Emergency Assistance Fund

On Thursday night, the Fruita City Council approved \$60,000 in designated funds for economic development to create a loan fund for Fruita businesses that are facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This loan fund has been established as the “Fruita Small Business Emergency Assistance Fund”. As early as next week, Fruita small businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19 can begin applying for this funding. More information will be coming out soon from the Business Incubator Center, and the two releases (from City of Fruita and BIC) can be found at this [link](#).

Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow www.fruita.org/covid19 for all updates we are posting. This also links to important Mesa County Public Health sources, as well as many others.

- **Stay at Home Order Lifted Next Week** – At a press conference on Monday afternoon, Governor Polis announced that the Stay at Home Order will be lifted next week on April 27, 2020. Governor Polis is naming this phase of the COVID-19 response the “Safer at Home Model” in Colorado, and identified the following:
 - Beginning April 27, 2020, the general public is:
 - Encouraged to stay at home unless necessary
 - Strongly advised to wear face coverings when out in public
 - Encouraged to avoid unnecessary travel
 - No gatherings of more than 10 people
 - People who are sick may not go to work.
 - Maintain 60-65% social distancing (60-65% fewer social interactions than pre-quarantine normal)
 - Regarding reopening businesses and other activities (dates may vary, more guidance to follow)
 - Non-critical offices may open with strict precautions, telecommuting maximized
 - Restaurants can remain open for takeout/delivery only. Bars remain closed. the State is exploring phased-in reduced capacity openings for restaurants/bars/events venues
 - Personal Services (I.e. Salons, tattoo parlors, dog grooming, nail salons, etc) may open with strict precautions (staff wearing masks, six feet of social distancing, limited capacity, and no waiting areas)
 - Childcare facilities can open with strict precautions
 - Real Estate can continue showings with precautions, open houses are still not allowed
 - Elective medical procedures can continue with strict precautions including PPE
 - More guidance is to come, and these recommendations could change due to the number of cases of COVID-19 and/or the number of people hospitalized.
- **Mesa County Reopening Plan – General Guidelines for Businesses**
 - Mesa County expects to receive approval from the state to move forward with its own 3-phase plan to reopen early next week and Phase 1 on the plan is expected to roll out shortly thereafter. The Governor set forth criteria to be met related to health data tracking, which Mesa County has met. The County plan is similar to the State plan, with some exceptions. Here are the general guidelines for all business sectors in Phase 1:

- Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection (concentrate on high touch surfaces like tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.)
 - Employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth
 - Employees are encouraged to wear a non-medical cloth face covering over their nose and mouth while working, except where doing so would inhibit the individual's health
 - Maintain at least six feet distance from each other
 - Monitor workforce for compatible symptoms
 - Implement or maintain return to work policies
- Specific guidelines for each business sector, along with the full draft plan, can be found at this [link](#).
- **PPP Forgivable Loans and EIDL Applications Reopen**
 - Yesterday, the United States Congress approved a second round of funding for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) forgivable loans the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). The Small Business Administration is working on reopening the applications, and it is encouraged that interested businesses start preparing applications in anticipation of the reopening date. Applicants are encouraged to apply promptly, as the PPP Loans are awarded on a first-come, first served basis.
- **State Releases Public Health Order Requiring Critical Business Employees to Wear Masks**
 - On Thursday, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment released a new public health order ordering works in critical businesses and critical government functions to wear non-medical masks and gloves while at work to protect the health and welfare of the public. The critical businesses impacted by this order include banks, child care facilities, pharmacies, and grocery stores. The Public Health order can be found at this [link](#). This order will remain in place until May 17 unless it's extended, amended, or rescinded.
- **School District #51 Announces Extended Closures** - On Tuesday night, the School Board announced that all District 51 Schools will remain closed for in-person learning for the remainder of the year. Students will continue to participate in online and remote learning. The Board also announced that graduation ceremonies will take be postponed until later in the summer. More information can be found [here](#).
 - Additionally, the Colorado High School Athletic Association ("CHSAA") announced that all 2020 spring sports are cancelled. The press release from CHSAA can be found [here](#).
- **DOLA Announces Emergency Funding for Rent and Mortgage Assistance**
 - On Tuesday, the Department of Local Affairs ("DOLA") announced that emergency funding for rent and mortgage assistance is now available for low-income families facing financial hardship due to economic disruption associated with COVID-19. In Mesa County, the Salvation Army of Grand Junction and the Catholic Outreach will be providing assistance and administering the funds. In order to qualify for assistance, households must have earned below the 50% of the Area Median Income for their

county prior to March 11, 2020. Income guidelines can be found [here](#), and applicants are encouraged to call 211 for resources.

Curb Painting Not Required by the City of Fruita

We have been receiving a number of calls regarding a private businesses providing curb painting services to residents. This business has been posting flyers to local mailboxes throughout town. We want residents to know that the curb painting is **not** required by the City of Fruita and this service is being provided by a business that is not affiliated with the City and has not been asked to. Any questions can be sent to communications@fruita.org.

Boards and Commissions Vacancies (cont'd)

Although meetings are temporarily on hold, we are still accepting applications for several Boards and Commissions vacancies. Currently, there are openings on the Board of Adjustments, the Historic Preservation Board, the Livability Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. More information on each opening can be found at this [link](#), as well as an electronic application.

General Updates

- This week we received clarification on Farmers' Markets from the State. According to the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Farmers' Markets are considered essential businesses and will be open to serve Coloradans looking to purchase food and agricultural products. More information can be found [here](#).

Engineering

- The 2020 Chip Seal Project bid this last Monday with two (2) responsive bids. United Companies was the low bidder with a bid of \$128,701.75.
- The 2020 K.4 Road Improvements project conducted a pre-construction meeting on Wednesday. MA Concrete Construction, Inc. is the contractor and plans to begin work in the next week or two. work will take place on both K.4 Road and Fremont Street near the new Monument Ridge Elementary School.

Parks and Recreation

- The Parks Division continues to bring parks online – irrigation is running at a majority of our parks. A contractor will be starting weed spraying operations early next week on several of our trails and open space areas.
- Recreation and FCC staff have been spending time developing a re-opening plan for the Fruita Community Center based on social distancing and re-opening plans for the county. We are looking at several options of when and how to open in a cautious and safe manner.
- Staff have been working with Fruita Branch Library staff to talk about re-opening processes but also about conducting some virtual or community programs such as a community scavenger hunt.
- PHROST Community Surveys were mailed on Monday and have started arriving 400 randomly selected households. Many surveys have already been submitted online (people have the option to complete the survey online or by hand and mail it back).

- The PHROST Youth Activities and Nutrition Survey is also in process and we hope to conduct those surveys online and through our local schools (6th-9th grade students) next week.

Planning & Development

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

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Concept Plan
- Bradyville Minor Subdivision
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Coloramo Site Design Review (333 W Aspen)
- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic)
- Sycamore St ROW Vacation
- Lithic Arts Building Site Design Review

Public Works

- Crews crack sealed the Civic Center parking lot this week.

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

- [No headcount for Fruita's Mike the Headless Chicken Festival this year.](#)
- [Online store to help small businesses launches this week.](#)
- [Major road projects moving forward in the Grand Valley.](#)
- [Four Fruita excursions for active Front Range families.](#)
- [Polis is poised to end stay-at-home order.](#)
- [County to ask for relief from state stay-at-home order.](#)
- [Unemployment rates soar in March, but could be worse.](#)
- [CPW urges boaters to follow health guidelines.](#)
- [Mosquito season arrives, and district is fully staffed to respond, at least now.](#)
- [Mesa County looks forward to gradual reopening.](#)
- [D51 to suspend all in-person learning for the remainder of the year.](#)
- [Managing Facilities for potential COVID-19 surge.](#)
- [Grand Junction airport shares in federal funding.](#)
- [Mica Mine trail still open after massive rock fall.](#)
- [Grand Valley Food Truck Fridays back in 2020.](#)
- [New Fund Benefits Local Restaurants and Nonprofits.](#)

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.):*

- **May 6, 2020** - Bike to Work Day, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at Civic Center or Heritage Park.

CC. Department Directors

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



**MESA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

HOTLINE
(970)683-2300



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.