



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 30, 2021
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting

The regular City Council meeting scheduled for May 4, 2021, will be held in-person at the Fruita Civic Center and virtually. On the agenda, we will begin our meeting with five proclamations honoring Police Week, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, and Teacher Appreciation Week, and National Hospital Week in the City of Fruita. After those proclamations, the Council will consider five items on the consent agenda. There are two public hearing items scheduled, one for Grand Valley Estates Filing 3 and one for the Dwell PUD application. After that, we will conclude our meeting with our regular business and an executive session for the Municipal Judge.

This will be our first in-person regular meeting since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. For those that are interested in attending, we ask that you please practice social distancing (if attending in person), wear a mask if social distancing is not possible, and stay at home and attend virtually if you are not feeling well. Public comments can also be submitted ahead of time before the meeting or during the meeting (whether in-person or attending virtually). More information on how to submit a public comment and the link to participate can be found [here](#). See you on Tuesday night!

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.

- **Mobile Vaccine Clinic in Fruita and around Mesa County.** Mesa County Public Health (MCPH), in partnership with the Colorado Dept. Of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), has announced dates and locations across Mesa County where residents can get a vaccine free of charge and without an appointment at a Mobile [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic](#). The Mobile Vaccination clinic will be at the Fruita Civic Center on **May 8, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** In addition to being in Fruita, the mobile clinic all around the valley and will be administering the Pfizer Vaccine. The flyer is provided below with all dates and times, and more can be found [here](#).

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

- **Vaccine Update from MCPH.** In addition to the Mobile Vaccine Clinic, MCPH provided several updates regarding COVID-19 vaccinations in Mesa County. The full update can be found [here](#), and here are a few highlights:
 - Next-day appointments are available for COVID-19 vaccination, visit the Mesa County Public Health (MCPH) website for vaccine scheduling links available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
 - MCPH will resume J&J vaccine administration on Friday, May 7. From May 7 forward, the J&J vaccine will be available on Fridays and individuals will be able to choose whether they want the J&J vaccine or the Moderna/Pfizer vaccines on the MCPH [scheduling](#) website.
 - The Community Vaccination Site (CVS) at the Grand Junction Convention Center (159 Main St) will relocate to the MCPH building (510 29 1/2 Rd) on May 19.
 - Evening and weekend hours are available. MCPH is working to make getting an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine as convenient as possible.

We Need to Hear from You – Take the Community Survey! (Continued)

The 2021 Community Survey has arrived at households and we encourage all that are interested to participate in it! The survey allows residents to share feedback on City core services such as streets, sewer, public safety, parks, and more. The survey also includes questions on current issues in the community and where we would like to learn more. The final data from the survey will help identify priorities for the future, as well as aid in the budget cycle this year and next few. As a reminder, the survey results are completely anonymous and confidential, and it is voluntary. Thank you ahead of time for your participation!

General Updates

- **Bike to Work Day.** One last reminder, Mayor Kincaid and I will be hosting a ride around Fruita next Wednesday morning for Bike to Work Day! We will meet at the Fruita Civic Center at 7:00 a.m. and explore a few of the new routes that we are creating to help with wayfinding efforts throughout the City. Afterwards, breakfast burritos will be provided by Family Health West. We hope to see you there and look forward to visiting with residents!
- **Teacher Appreciation Week.** Next week, May 3, 2021 – May 8, 2021, is Teacher Appreciation Week! To honor the week, we will be doing a proclamation at Tuesday's City Council meeting. Also, the District #51 Foundation is providing the option of honoring teachers with purchasing a paper doll with individualized messages. If you are interested in purchasing one for a special teacher, you can view more information [here](#).
- **CPW Commission Meeting.** On May 5 & 6, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission will meet in person and virtually in Grand Junction (with limited in-person attendance). The Commission will hear an update on wolf reintroduction planning, discuss final consideration of big game regulations, discuss OHV trails grants funding approval, and more. The meeting will take place over both Wednesday and Thursday. For the complete agenda, including information on how to provide public comments and how to participate in the meeting, you can visit CPW's website at this [link](#).

- **Adventurefest at North Fruita Desert.** Gemini Adventures second event in Fruita this year, the Adventurefest races will be held at 18 Road this weekend. The races include a 50k bike race and a half marathon. More information can be found at their website [here](#) – good luck to all of the racers!
- **CMU Selects Next President.** On Thursday, Colorado Mesa University (CMU) announced that John Marshall will be selected as the next President of CMU. If interested, you can view the full announcement [here](#).

Engineering

- Engineering has conducted 7 interviews for the summer intern position. The position will run for 12 weeks.
- Conduit is being installed in Maple Street in the blocks where the sewer replacement occurred. The conduit is there for future fiber optic or other communications needs.
- The FIR meeting for The Fremont St. Design with CDOT was held this week which is a 30% review.
- Fehr and Peers visited Fruita to investigate the areas of concern identified from the Active Circulation Plan online survey and to develop ideas for mitigation.

Parks and Recreation

- Early next week BLM will be painting Old Spanish Trail (OST) routes symbols on the riverfront Trail going through Fruita. One of the 4 Old Spanish Trail routes followed the Gunnison River up to the Grand Valley and headed west through Fruita. Also in progress is the development of an OST interpretive sign that explains the historical significance of the route. The sign will be placed near the Reed Wash underpass along the Kokopelli Section of the Colorado Riverfront Trail.
- Arbor Day 2021 – we'd like to congratulate Shelledy Elementary School Student, Vada Cram who won the Fruita's Tree City USA Arbor Day Poster Contest. Because of her excellent artistic abilities, Shelledy Elementary got a new Honey Locust Tree Planted on Arbor Day. We'll done Vada and Shelledy Elementary. See picture - apparently if you win something in Fruita, you get put to work 😊.



Planning & Development

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

Land Use Code Amendments:

- Vested Right Code Amendment (Approved)
- Development Agreements Code Amendment (Approved)
- [Zoning and Density Bonus Code Amendments](#). (Approved)
- Short Term Rental Code Amendments can be found as this [page](#).(Approved)
- [Parking Standards](#) (Approved)
- Design Standards: The links to the Code Amendments can be found at this [page](#). (Approved)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1136 17 ½ Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 (Under Review) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1892 K Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Patron Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1123 19 Road, Fruita CO 81521)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Finished)

Police Department

- Police Department investigators are working with representatives from local fire departments as well as federal agencies regarding the LDS church fire that occurred Monday morning.
- The ATF and FBI are offering a reward for information on the arson at the LDS Church. A flyer can be found below.

Public Works

- Crews responded to the LDS church fire to assist with traffic control. They also assisted with setting up the perimeter fencing.
- Crews hauled and placed new blocks on the Mulberry Street closure.
- Assisting Parks & Rec with confined space to make repairs at Community Center.
- Crews completed crack sealing at Aspen Ave., Wildwood Acres Subdivision, and Beech St.
- Crews worked with the City of Grand Junction to complete a patch repair at Lincoln Park parking lot in Grand Junction. Here are a few photos from Thursday:





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

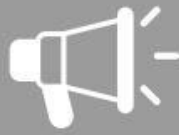
- [Shelledy Elementary School returns to online class following COVID-19 outbreak.](#)
- [Governor Polis Announces Launch of Western Slope Mobile COVID-19 Vaccination Route.](#)
- [Airport receives more grant funds.](#)
- [Safety, Storage & Planning Protocols at MCPH Community Vaccination Site.](#)
- [CPW eying land purchase to expand busy Highline park.](#)
- [Dozens gather to float down and clean the Colorado River.](#)
- [Garchar, MC human services head, dies.](#)
- [Fruita Church Fire: "It's sad to see something you love damaged and destroyed"](#)
- [Firefighters respond to LDS Church fire in Fruita.](#)
- [Shelledy Elementary Going Online This Week After COVID-19 Outbreak.](#)
- [Fruita LDS Church considered a total loss due to fire.](#)
- [Mobile vaccine clinics coming to Western Slope next week.](#)
- [US Census Bureau: Colorado to gain House of Representative seat.](#)
- [6 New Gravel Bike Races Are Coming to Colorado This Year.](#)
- [Grand Junction airport awarded \\$300,000 grant.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health resuming use of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.](#)
- [Colorado community sites now taking walk-ups, as vaccination rates lag and cases soar in parts of the state.](#)
- [Mobile clinic to bring COVID-19 vaccinations to West Slope.](#)
- [Mobile COVID-19 Vaccination Bus Visits Seven Locations Across Mesa County.](#)
- [Warming weather beings worry for fire danger.](#)
- [County to move vaccine site May 19.](#)
- [May is Grand Valley Bike Month: List of Grand Junction Events.](#)

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 1, 2021** - Adventurefest event at the 18 Road trails in North Fruita Desert, hosted by Gemini Adventures. This includes a 13.1 run and a 50K mountain bike race. <https://geminiadventures.com/>
- **May 5, 2021** – Grand Valley Bike to Work Day, Fruita Civic Center. [Bike Month 2021 Website.](#)
- **May 13, 2021** – Fruita Chamber Business After Hours at Circle Park – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **May 20, 2021** – Coffee with the City Manager at Bestslope Coffee, 8:00 a.m.
- **May 22, 2021** - The Co2uT Desert Gravel Race in the Bookcliffs. <https://www.desertgravel.com/>.
- **June 10, 2021** – Beer or Rootbeer with the City Manager, Copper Club Brewery at 5:00 p.m. Grab a drink and join us outside!
- **July 14, 2021** – Coffee with the City Manager and guests, Einstein Bros Bagels at 7:30 a.m.
- **July 31, 2021** – Fruita Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, “Welcome to Wonderland” at the Fruita Community Center, 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Additional information [here](#).
- **Sept. 22-24, 2021** – The Colorado Municipal League will be holding the 2021 CML Annual conference in Westminster. More information is available at www.cml.org/conference. Please let Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods know if you are interested in attending. CML will also hold a virtual conference on Sept. 29-30.
- **September 24-25, 2021** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita. The festival will include live music, food trucks, and variety of vendors. Fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival.

CC. Department Directors

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



NO ID REQUIRED

FREE MOBILE COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC



Tuesday, May 4: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mesa County Fairgrounds

2785 U.S. Highway 50, Grand Junction, CO

Wednesday, May 5: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Lincoln Park

Parking Lot Near Tennis Courts • 1340 Gunnison Ave., Grand Junction, CO

Friday, May 7: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Veterans' Memorial Park

120 W 8th St., Palisade, CO

Saturday, May 8: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fruita Civic Center Park

325 E Aspen Ave., Fruita, CO

Monday, May 10: 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. De Beque

Community Center/Town Hall • 381 Minter Ave., De Beque, CO

Monday, May 10: 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Collbran

Plateau Valley Medical Clinic • 58128 Hwy 330, Collbran CO

Tuesday, May 11: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Gateway

Gateway-Unaweep Fire Protection District • 42700 Highway 141, Gateway, CO





BIKE TO WORK DAY

WEDNESDAY MAY 5TH 7AM

Meet Mike Bennett and Joel Kincaid
at civic center park at
7 am for a trail ride around Fruita.
Breakfast Burritos will be supplied
from Family Health West after the
ride.



FRUITA
COLORADO
PARKS & RECREATION



Colorado Canyons
HOSPITAL
& MEDICAL CENTER

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Fruita Police
Department, Lower Valley Fire District



Reward Notice



Contact: Matthew Deasaro ATF (303)575-7647
Courtney Bernal FBI (303)629-7171

For Immediate Release
4/30/2021

www.atf.gov

ATF & FBI Offer \$10,000 Reward in Arson of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Fruita, Colorado

Fruita, Colorado — The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Fruita Police Department, and the Lower Valley Fire District have announced a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the individual(s) responsible for setting fire to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Fruita, Colorado.

In the early morning hours of April 26th, 2021, the Fruita Police Department and the Lower Valley Fire District responded to a fire at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located at 417 E. Ottley Ave, Fruita, CO. This investigation is being conducted jointly by the Fruita Police Department, the Lower Valley Fire District, FBI, and ATF.

Anyone with information about this crime should contact the ATF Hotline 1-888-ATF-FIRE / 1-888-283-3473, the FBI tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324), the Fruita Police Department at 970-242-6707, or Crime Stoppers of Mesa County at 970-241-STOP (970-241-7867).

Information can also be sent via email to ATFTips@atf.gov, through ATF's website at www.atf.gov/contact/atftips. Tips can also be submitted anonymously by using the Reportit® app, available from both Google Play and the Apple App store, or by visiting www.reportit.com. Information may also be submitted online to <https://tips.fbi.gov>.

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About ATF

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is a highly specialized agency within the Department of Justice whose main goal is preventing, interrupting and removing violent crime from American communities. ATF investigates and prosecutes crimes involving arson, explosives, alcohol and tobacco diversion and the illegal possession, use and trade of firearms. The Denver Field Division works with local, state and federal law enforcement and public safety organizations to combat violent crime in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Utah. For more information about ATF, visit www.atf.gov.

Protecting the Public ■ Serving Our Nation



**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.