



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: AUGUST 27, 2021
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

325 E Aspen
Suite 155
Fruita CO 81521

Phone:
970-858-3663

Fax:
970-858-0210

E Mail
fruita@fruita.org

Web Site
fruita.org

City Manager's Office
970-858-3663

City Clerk/Finance
970-858-3663

Community
Development
970-858-0786

Engineering
970-858-8377

Human Resources
970-858-8373

Public Works
970-858-9558

Recreation Dept.
970-858-0360

Tuesday's City Council Workshop

There are three items on the agenda for our workshop on Tuesday, and those are a training from the Fruita Police Department, a review of the Land Use Code update chapter on subdivisions, and we will continue our discussion on housing. Our workshop will be held in person at the Fruita Civic Center at 6:30 p.m. - see you on Tuesday night!

Mike the Headless Chicken Festival This Weekend!



It's back! This weekend is the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival in downtown Fruita. We hope that you have fun! The full schedule of events can be found [here](#) or below, and here are a few highlights on the festival.

- **Schedule**
 - **Friday, August 27, 2021 -**
 - **4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** - Mike Games, Store, and Food Vendors Open
 - **4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** - Free Poultry Show in the Civic Center
 - **5:00 p.m.** - Fruita Roundabout Ceremony

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

- **6:00 p.m.** - Music - Williams Brothers Band
- **7:30 p.m.** - Music - The Samples
- **Saturday, August 28, 2021 -**
 - **8:00 a.m.** - Mike 5k Run/Walk
 - **8:30 a.m.** - Disc Golf Tournament at Snooks Bottom
 - **9:00 a.m.** - Vendors, games, and poultry show open
 - **9:00 am. To 3:00 p.m.** - Wheels West Colorado Exhibition Car Show
 - **12:30 p.m.** - Suds Brothers Brewery Wing and Peep Eating Contests
 - **5:00 p.m.** - Poultry Show Awards on Civic Center State
 - **5:30 p.m.** - Music – Float Like a Buffalo
 - **7:30 p.m.** - Music – Freddy Jones Band
- **Attending the Festival?** Let's all do our part to protect each other during the weekend.
 - **Space** – Keep a small chicken coop length away from others when possible
 - **Mask** – Considering covering up, if you are not vaccinated
 - **Clean** – Keep it clean and wash those hands frequently
 - **Stay** - Remain at home if you are sick
 - **Prevent** – If interested, consider getting vaccinating or taking a COVID-19 test before joining the party
 - **Delta** – The Delta variant is present in Mesa County and Colorado, and we want to do our part to protect ourselves and others

Ribbon Cutting for the Hwy 340 Roundabouts Project Tonight

Tonight at 5:00 p.m., the Fruita Arts and Culture Board is hosting a ribbon cutting for the completion of the Hwy 340 Roundabouts Project. The final four sculptures were installed last Friday, and we want to congratulate the Arts and Culture Board, artist Jeff Bates, and everyone that donated to the project on its completion. The ribbon cutting is at Civic Center Park, right before the music starts! Here a few photos of the new sculptures.





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 (MCPH) sources, as well as many others.

- **Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Gets Full FDA Approval.** From MCPH: The Food and Drug Administration has given full approval of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine. The approval is for individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization, including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose of certain immunocompromised individuals. To view the full update from MCPH, you can visit this [link](#).

Housing Strategies

At the July 27th Council workshop staff presented various models communities utilize for creating affordable/workforce housing in their communities. City Council was interested in creating a model that avoids inclusionary zoning, clustering of housing and creative ways the City can address affordable housing as we experience dramatic increases in housing values. Recent changes to the Fruita Land Use Code have resulted in more variety of housing options being submitted into the development review process for units at market rates, but staff were given direction to also seek out experts in the lending, realty, development, appraisal, engineering, etc. fields of housing development to pursue creative solutions. On August 16, staff met with such stakeholders including: Lori Chesnick, Realtor; JP Nisley, Appraiser and member of the Fruita Planning Commission; Robert Jones, Vortex Engineering; James Pulsipher, Fidelity Mortgage a division of Bay Equity; Ron Abeloe, Chaparral West Inc. & Associated Members for Growth and Development; Rebekah Skarrow, Realtor & Grand Junction Area Realtor Association; and Jesse Mease, Monument Powder Coating in Fruita (developers Kevin Bray and Silas Colman were unable to attend this meeting). All have agreed to participate in a more formal capacity. We will discuss the committee formation, additional people/expertise/viewpoints to include in the process of identifying strategies and next steps at the workshop Tuesday night.

BLM Seeking Public Comment on North Fruita Desert Environmental Assessment

The Grand Junction Field of Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking public comment on the North Fruita Desert Master Trails Plan Environmental Assessment. The North Fruita Desert is home to a vast network of world class single-track mountain biking trails. The City of Fruita and the BLM worked closely with a number of partners to develop the North Fruita Desert Mater Plan to promote and enhance mountain biking opportunities and drafted an Environmental Assessment looking at the potential impacts of the draft plan. A public scoping period for the EA is now open through September 20, 2021. To learn more about the project, and to submit comments, please visit this [link](#).

General Updates

- **Parks & Recreation Director Hiring Process.** We have received many applications for our opening of Parks & Recreation Director. First review began this week and the position is open until filled. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Partnership Coordination.** This week, I attended several meetings with our local partners on the Colorado Resiliency and Recovery Roadmap program. We held our kick-off meeting with the regional team and state representatives and the program is well underway, and we are excited to work on the project.
- **City Link.** The summer City Link is being finalized and will go to the printing company early next week.
- **D51 Seeking Strategic Plan Input.** Mesa County Valley School District 51 is building a Strategic Plan this fall and is seeking input through a series of listening sessions. The creation of the strategic plan involves gathering public input about the community's vision for the district, funding trends in that feedback and using it to outline a set of priorities. The district will be hosting the listening sessions virtually, and they will all take place from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the month of September. To find more information, and specific dates, you can visit the districts website [here](#).

- **Mesa County Workforce Center's 2021 Fall Job Fest Fair.** The Mesa County Workforce Center is hosting the 2021 Fall Job Fest Fair on Wednesday, September 1st. The annual event has always been a huge success for Mesa County employers and job seekers alike. There will be over 50 employers at the Job Fair, and there is no cost to participate. The flyer for the event can be found below.
- **Mobile Mesa County August Newsletter.** The latest edition of the Mobile Mesa County monthly newsletter can be found at this [link](#). It includes information on Grand Valley Bike Month, Grand Valley Transit Ride Promotions, and information on the 21-year celebration for Grand Valley Transit.
- **Landfill Delays.** From Mesa County – Maintenance on the in-ground, inbound truck scale at the Mesa County Landfill, will begin next week on August 30, 2021, and is expected to be complete by Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Crews will be rerouting all inbound traffic onto the landfill's prepass scale. Inbound traffic should expect delays.

Engineering

- **CDOT's Region 3 Wrong Way Detection Project.** Work is anticipated to be occurring in the valley including the exits at Fruita, Loma, and Mack. For more information, please go [here](#).
- **Active Circulation Plan.** The web survey has closed and a draft plan is anticipated in the next week or two.
- **Fremont St. Design.** Anticipate a late September final office review (90% plan set) review meeting with CDOT.
- **Iron Wheel Subdivision.** Concrete is being placed for the curb gutter and sidewalk.
- **Grand Valley Estates.** Sewer construction is complete, and the main waterline has been installed for the new filing of Grand Valley Estates.
- **Orchard Ridge.** Sewer construction is complete. Waterline installation continues.

Marketing and Promotion

- **2022 Special Event Funding.** The Fruita Tourism Advisory Council is now accepting applications for special event funding for next year. If interested in learning more, the application and additional information can be found [here](#).

Parks and Recreation

- **Festival Mode.** Staff have been in full blown festival mode working tirelessly to throw a fun event for the community this weekend—thanks for all their hard work!
- **P&R Newsletter.** The latest bimonthly Parks and Recreation Newsletter is now available, and can be found here: [Mike Festival is taking flight this weekend!](#) This newsletter includes information on the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, upcoming closures at the Fruita Community Center, fall programming, and more.
- **Maintenance Week at the FCC.** The Fruita Community Center will be closed for maintenance week from Monday, September 20, 2021 to September 26, 2021. The library will remain open during this time. Staff and contractors will be performing a deep cleaning while also refinishing wood floors and painting the walls. More information will be post on the Fruita Parks and Recreation Facebook page [here](#).

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 (Approved) (1136 17 ½ Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 (Approved) (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)
- VACC Final Plat (Under Review) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- Epic Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1092 Wallace St, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mills Rezone (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521)
- Red Cliffs 3 Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (280 Clements Way, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- 1930 Highway 6 & 50 Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50 Fruita CO 81521)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Copper Creek Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (954 19 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Mews PUD Amendment (WITHDRAWN) (1138 18 ½ Rd, Fruita CO 81521)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)
- Lake Fruita Site Conditional Use Permit and Design Review (Under Review) (1571 Cipolla Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Review) 111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)

Police Department

- **Safety Panel.** Chief Krouse joined other area law enforcement representatives on a discussion panel concerning safety in houses of worship at the annual Mesa County Church Safety Network summit.

Public Works

- **Irrigation Water Update.** Tentatively, crews will begin turning off irrigation water on October 18, 2021.
- **Stormwater Management.** Staff conducted a walk-around for storm water management inspection
- **Busy Week for Collections Crews.** Collections Crew are redoing the Closed-circuit television inspection (CCTV) of the sanitary sewer in Iron Wheel Subdivision, attended Vector Truck training, cleaned 325 feet of sanitary sewer, tested phone lines and alarms at all lift stations, conducted lift station training with staff
- **Help with MTHC Festival.** Building Maintenance staff preparing Civic Center for Mike the Headless Chicken Festival
- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance Crew completed multiple patches, swept downtown, Recreation Center and City streets, continued to mow and spray weeds and patched alligator cracking on Ottley by Arches Drive
- **WWRF Update.** Wastewater Treatment staff completed Air Ionization maintenance, validated the effluent flow meter and installed rebuilt Non-potable water pump and motor.

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

- [Final Sculptures installed in Fruita roundabouts.](#)
- [New Sculptures added to Fruita.](#)
- [Palisade Peach Festival makes triumphant, delicious return.](#)
- [CDOT's Bustang to serve routes to Grand Junction Regional Airport.](#)
- [GJEP's economic summit set for Sept. 30.](#)
- [Colorado Parks and Wildlife says drones can pose a threat to wildlife.](#)
- [Fire at CORRecycling in Grand Junction.](#)
- [Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine receives full FDA approval.](#)
- [Centenarian competing in Western Colorado Senior Games.](#)
- [Colo., Mesa County, receiving opioid-related settlement dollars.](#)
- [Family Health West to host meet and greet events with the CEO.](#)

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.*):

- **August 27-August 28, 2021** – Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita. Full schedule [here](#).
- **August 28, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **September 3, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **September 4, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **September 7, 2021** - Dog Daze at Fruita Community Center, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **September 9-11, 2021** – Colorado Riverfront Concert Series a James M Robb State Park Fruita – more information [here](#).
- **September 11, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- **September 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 a variety of vendors. Fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival.
- **September 26, 2021** – Chrome and Brews Car Show at Reed Park, 19:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **October 2, 2021** – Fishing is Fun Day at Snooks Bottom, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- **October 2, 2021** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, Adobe Creek Golf Course, 1:00 p.m.
- **October 23, 2021** – Truck N'Treat, Downtown Fruita, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **October 29, 2021** – Trick or Treat Street in Downtown Fruita, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **November 6, 2021** – Rimrock Marathon, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Colorado National Monument and Fruita Community Center.
- **December 11, 2021** – Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair at the Fruita Community Center, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- **December 11, 2021** – Hometown Christmas and Parade of Lights, Parade is at Dusk, in Downtown Fruita.
- **December 15, 2021** – Cookies N Claus at the Fruita Community Center – 6:30 p.m.

CC. Department Directors

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

Mike the Headless Chickens



FRUITA, COLO

AUG. 27 & 28
2021

FIESTAVAL
MIKETHEHEADLESSCHICKEN.ORG



Mike the Headless Chicken Festival

August 27 & 28 • Fruita, CO

PRESENTED BY:



FRUITA
COLORADO
PARKS & RECREATION



FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 4:00pm - 10:00pm | Mike Games (free), Store, Artisan & Food Vendors Open |
| 4:00pm - 8:00pm | FREE Poultry Show in the Civic Center |
| 5:00pm | Fruita Roundabout Ceremony |
| 6:00pm | Entertainment: The Williams Brothers Band |
| 7:30pm | Entertainment: The Samples |



SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 7:00am - 10:00am | Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast <i>100F Hall on the Circle</i> |
| 8:00am | Mike 5k Run/Walk <i>Sponsored by Chesnick Realty</i> |
| 8:30am - 10am | Tee-Off / Pay-N-Play for Disc Golf Tournament |
| 9:00am - 10pm | Mike Games (free), Store, Artisan & Food Vendors Open |
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Poultry Show in the Civic Center |
| 9:00am - 3:00pm | Wheels West Colorado Exhibition (Car Show) |
| 11:00am | Entertainment: Tim & Richard |
| 12:30pm | Suds Brothers Brewery Wing and Peep Eating Contests |
| 2:00pm | Entertainment: Lincoln Pants Band |
| 4:00pm | Entertainment: Union of None |
| 5:00pm | Poultry Show Awards on Civic Center Stage |
| 5:30pm | Entertainment: Float Like a Buffalo |
| 7:30pm | Entertainment: Freddy Jones Band |





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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.