



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JANUARY 28, 2022
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting

To begin our meeting on Tuesday, the City Council will recognize the student and teacher of the month from the Fruita 8/9 School. After that, the Fruita Youth Action Council will provide a presentation on goals for the upcoming year. The Council will then move on to five items on the consent agenda, and two quasi-judicial hearings (the first on a liquor license application, and the second on a development application). After those items, we will conclude with reports and actions. See you on Tuesday!

Highway 6&50 Sewer Replacement Project Update

The Highway 6&50 sewer line replacement project continues, and we anticipate that S. Mesa Street will be reopened this evening. Residents can continue to access the businesses at that location via Plum Street, and we have added signage to show that businesses are open in the construction zone.

Construction has moved into the westbound lane of Hwy. 6&50. During daytime working hours, motorists should expect Hwy. 6&50 westbound and center lane closures. For evening travel, eastbound and westbound lanes of Hwy. 6 should remain open overnight with the center lane closed.

We encourage motorists to use detour routes. Please slow down and use caution when traveling through this area and please support those businesses who have been impacted by this construction project. Thank you Fruita!

General Updates

- **Infrastructure Bill Funding.** Staff continues to learn more about and research the recent federal Infrastructure Bill, to see if any of the City's high-priority capital projects could be eligible for this funding. Staff spoke with representatives from Senator Hickenlooper's office this week on the bill, and they encouraged the City to work with the Mesa County Transportation Planning Office on potential projects that will benefit the region. Moreover, the Dept. Of Local Affairs asked the Mesa County Economic Development First Responders to compile a short list of projects that may

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

be of interest to the state. We compiled a list of six projects that would greatly benefit Fruita and will work with the rest of the First Responders to identify key regional projects.

- **Discussion with BLM RAC.** On Wednesday, Parks and Recreation Director Marc Mancuso and I joined the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) to at Devils Canyon Trailhead and the North Fruita Desert to discuss current issues for our public lands. I was also invited and was a speaker to highlight the City of Fruita's partnership with the BLM and all our accomplishments. We look forward to this continued partnership and were glad to join the RAC and other federal representatives to discuss these important topics.
- **Food Bank of the Rockies Building Facility Groundbreaking.** On Thursday, I was able to attend the groundbreaking for the Food Bank of the Rockies new facility. Congratulations to the Food Bank! It is going to be a beautiful facility.
- **Communications and Engagement Specialist.** This week, we held multiple interviews for the Communications and Engagement Specialist position. We are very excited about the pool and applicants that we received and know that whoever gets the position is going to be a great fit for Fruita.
- **Mesa County Master Plan.** Mesa County this week introduced [MesaTogether.com](https://www.mesatogether.com) - a website to display and involve the community in the new Master Plan for Mesa County. The full release from Mesa County can be found [here](#).
- **D51 Foundation White Iced Celebration.** Save the date! The District #51 Foundation has announced a new date for the White Iced Celebration – it will be on Friday, April 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the CMU Outdoor Plaza Tent. More information is available [here](#).
- **CPW Seeks Public Comment on Herd Management Plans Near Grand Junction and Rifle.** Colorado Parks and Wildlife has completed draft herd management plans (HMP) for deer and elk north of Grand Junction as well as for deer north of Rifle. The draft plans are now open to public review and comment through February 21, 2022. If you are interested in viewing the plan and giving feedback, you can view it [here](#). Public comments can be emailed [here](#).
- **Students Becoming Citizen Scientists with the National Park Service.** From the Colorado National Monument this week: Students in the Grand Valley are playing a role in the U.S. Dept. Of Education's ongoing effort to solve a national problem – the critical shortage of U.S. students with mastery of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills. Through an exciting out-school- collaboration implemented by the Department, the National Park Service (NPS), and the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), local students will be conducting scientific observations of the natural environment at Colorado National Monument and learning the relevance of STEM skills in daily life. For those interested, you can call Arlene Jackson at the Colorado National Monument at 970-858-2800.

Engineering

- **2022 Street Striping Project.** Street striping for 2022 will also go out for bids on February 18th. The city historically refreshes all the striping in the city annually. In 2021, with the shortages of paint, the city opted to skip a year and plan for a refresh in 2022. More information is available [here](#).
- **2022 Chipseal Project.** The 2022 Chipseal Project will go out to bid on February 11th. More information is available [here](#).

Parks and Recreation

- **FCC Closing Early Next Saturday.** The Fruita Community Center will be closing early next Saturday, February 5, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. for the Fruita Chamber Annual Banquet. The basketball courts will be closed all day.

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:

- Title 17 & 2 Land Use Code Update (Complete and Approved by City Council 10/19/2021)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

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

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Complete)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) 111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)
- 241 S Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction)
- Monumental Provisions 155 N Mulberry St. (Under Review)
- Mobile Vending Land Use Code Amendments - (Under Review)
- Grand Skye Site Design Review (Under Review)

Public Works

- **Building Maintenance Update.** Building Maintenance staff is working on correcting any building violations at the Civic Center from a recent fire inspection. EC Electric installed new wireless switches at the PW shop for the Collections area.
- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance staff has been working on an inlet storm drain box repair at Aspen & Apple. Staff is troubleshooting a flashing crosswalk sign for the Peach & Pabor intersection. They also delivered gravel and bladed the CDOT right of way.
- **CDOT Update.** CDOT is working on correcting the traffic signal on top of HWY 340, it has a faulty sensor that is causing the light to cycle without traffic.

- **Fleet Maintenance Update.** Fleet staff continued to perform various services on City vehicles. The aerial lift has been listed on gov deals, the auction ends on 2/18.
- **Collections Update.** The collections crew performed 60 utility locates. They are installing a trench box and confined space equipment into their safety trailer.
- **Irrigation.** With approximately 60 days until irrigation water is back on, staff is rebuilding the canal trash cleaners.
- **Mountain Water.** Staff took a trip to Enoch Lake to turn water on for residents on Glade Park.
- **Wastewater Treatment Update.** Our Wastewater Superintendent and Collections supervisor are teaming up to work on the State permit inflow progress report. Staff also worked on various projects such as pump repairs, cleaning weirs, cleaning/calibrating pH/temperature probes, and worked on a SOP for DMR reporting.

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

- [Co-op Country Stores offer scholarship opportunities.](#)
- [Bray Report shows rise in building permits, property sales and home prices in 2021.](#)
- [Mesa County jobless rate retreats.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health recommends more protective mask types as the COVID-19 omicron variant spreads.](#)
- [Fruita grows and officials aim to keep small town feel.](#)
- [Mesa County introduces an updated Master Plan regarding land use in unincorporated areas.](#)
- [COVID-19 update in Mesa County.](#)
- [Boebert joins tour of BLM lands to discuss issues plaguing open spaces.](#)
- [Health department launches text notification service to notify residents of COVID-19 test results and determine potential exposure.](#)
- [New Food Bank of the Rockies Western Slope Etkin Family Distribution Center to be built in Grand Junction.](#)
- [Developer withdraws application for controversial Fruita project.](#)
- [Fruita, Palisade, release candidates list for April elections.](#)

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.):*

- **February 12, 2022** – Sweetheart Run, 5K/10K, Fruita Community Center at 10:00 a.m.
- **March 4, 2022** – Night at the Fruita Community Center, 7:00 p.m.
- **April 2, 2022** – Fishing is Fun Day at Snooks Bottom Open Space, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- **April 13, 2022** – Easter Egg Scramble, Fruita Community Center, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **April 23, 2022** – Co2UT Gravel Bike Race, Downtown Fruita and the North Fruita Desert.
- **May 6-8, 2022** – Fruita Fat Tire Festival, North Fruita Desert and Downtown Fruita.
- **May 6-7, 2022** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Highline State Park.
- **June 3-4, 2022** – Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, downtown Fruita.

CC. Department Directors

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



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.