



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: FEBRUARY 11, 2022  
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 Meeting**

Our meeting on Tuesday will begin with the Kindness is Contagious Proclamation and recognizing the students and teachers the month at Monument Ridge Elementary School. After that, the Council will consider 12 items on the consent agenda, including the adoption of the Fruita Circulation Plan, before moving onto public hearings. Thank you to staff and Fehr and Peers for all the hard work on this plan, we are excited to get it adopted. We have one quasi-judicial hearing scheduled on a planning and development item, and four legislative hearings (two on budget amendments, the other two on planning items). We will conclude with reports and actions, and Council appointing two members to the Election Commission. See you on Tuesday!

### **Highway 6&50 Sewer Replacement Project Update**

Construction continues on the Highway 6&50 Sewer Line replacement project and good progress has been made on the mainline. Mulberry Street is now fully open (between McCune and the Highway), but Elm Street will be closed through the weekend. Next week, work will shift to the north side of Hwy 6 & 50 and into parking lots and for the duration of the project. Motorists should expect intermittent closures of Hwy. 6 & 50 as crews prepare to tie in the lateral lines with the mainline.

Access to businesses in this area remains open and the city appreciates the community's patience while we work to complete these repairs. Please continue to 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!

### **Sweetheart Run Tomorrow Morning!**

The Sweetheart Run/Walk is tomorrow morning at the Fruita Community Center! Unlike previous years, the race is using the Kokopelli Section of the Colorado Riverfront Trail (as opposed to racing through town) for both the 5K and 10K. If you are heading toward the Community Center tomorrow morning, there may be

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

significant traffic delays on Coulson Street (between Ottley Avenue and Pabor) and on Gewont Lane. The 10K starts at 10:00 a.m., and the 5k will start at 10:15. Good luck to all the racers!

### **North Fruita Desert Master Plan – Final NEPA Public Comment Period Open (Continued)**

The public comment period for the North Fruita Desert Trails Master Plan Preliminary Environmental Assessment is now open and online. The public comment period will be open until February 28, 2022 and can be found [here](#). Once the NEPA study is complete, we can move forward with the North Fruita Desert Master Plan.

### **General Updates**

- **Year-End Financial Reports.** December 2021 tax revenue collections are in, and available in the Council packet for our meeting next Tuesday. City sales tax was up 13% in Dec. 2021 when compared to the previous year and ended with an increase of 14.65% overall. Use tax on motor vehicles was up 4% in December and ended the year with a 20% increase over 2021. Use tax on building materials slightly decreased for the year as whole, and ended down 2% from 2020, but still ahead of budget. The lodging tax was up 39% in Dec. 2021 and ended at \$172,000, a 92% increase of 2021. Finally, County sales tax was up 20% in Dec. 2021 and increased 21% overall over 2021.
- **City Council Candidates Orientation.** This week I was able to complete candidate orientation with all 9 council candidates. It's exciting to see so much interest!
- **Fruita City Council Candidate Forum.** The Fruita Chamber will be hosting the Fruita City Council Candidate Forum on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at the Fruita Community Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you would like to submit a question, you can [here](#).
- **Waste Management Monthly Report.** In January 2022, Fruita residents recycled 51 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. Great job Fruita! The full report can be found below.
- **Monuments and Canyons Exhibition of Art.** If you are interested, save the date! The Colorado National Monument Association and the Art Center of Western Colorado, present an exhibition of 21 artists who participated in the 2021 Monuments and Canyons Plein Air Event. The exhibit will take place on March 4<sup>th</sup> – April 9, 2022 at the Art Center of Western Colorado – 1803 N. 7th Street, Grand Junction, Co 81501. The opening perception will be held on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. More information can be found on CNMA's website [here](#).

### **Engineering**

- **2022 Street Striping Project.** Two (2) bids were received for the 2022 Street Striping Project with an apparent low bid of \$46,150.00 submitted by Stripe A Lot, Inc. More information can be found [here](#).
- **2022 Chipseal Project.** Two (2) bids were received for the 2022 Chipseal Project with an apparent low bid of \$103,221.00 submitted by GMCO LLC of Colorado. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Circulation Plan.** The January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan is scheduled for adoption at Tuesday night's City Council meeting. See more information in the City Council meeting [packet](#).

## Human Resources

- **Blood Drive at the Fruita Civic Center.** The St. Mary's Bloodmobile will be in the Civic Center Parking lot on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., hosting a blood drive. If you are interested in donating blood, you can schedule an appointment at this [link](#). Thank you for helping save lives!
- **Open Positions.** The City of Fruita is currently recruiting for several positions, including Aquatics Coordinator at the Fruita Community Center, a part-time Custodian, an Administrative Specialist in the Finance Department, and Camp Aides and Leaders. To learn more information about these openings, you can visit our website [here](#).

## Parks and Recreation

- **Bimonthly Newsletter.** The latest edition of the bimonthly Fruita Parks and Recreation newsletter can be found here: [Sweetheart Race this Saturday and Youth Soccer Registration Open!](#) It includes facility updates at the Fruita Community Center for this week and next, youth programs, and other upcoming programming.
- **Welcome to our new team members!** The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy filling some open positions. Skylar Hirsch was promoted from Aquatics Coordinator to Aquatics Supervisor, Lori Snyder is now our Administrative Specialist and Jeff DeCrow was added to the Parks team as a Parks Maintenance Worker II.
- **Wellspring Storyboard.** A storyboard outlining the Wellspring Project has been put on permanent display at the Fruita Community Center. The thought behind the storyboard is to make sure the legacy of this project is preserved. The storyboard includes a description of the Wellspring project as well as photos of the project, logos of the community partners and a QR code leading to a video of the mural being painted. The storyboard is located next to the Front Desk at the Community Center, stop by and check it out!



## 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) (37 Lots)
- VACC North Final Plat (Approved) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521) (12 Lots)
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521) (47 Lots)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Complete) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521) (18 Lots)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Complete) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521) (24 Lots)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Approved) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521) (9 Lots)
- Kimston Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50) (2 Lots)
- Orchard Ridge 4 (Under Review) (17 Road & K3/4 Road) (21 Lots)
- Shannon Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (377 N. Pine Street) (2 Lots)

#### **Site Design Review/ Other Applications:**

- Monument Powder Coating (Complete) (1596 Cipolla)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (Under Review) (853 Raptor Rd)
- 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 (Under Review) (155 N Mulberry St.)
- Mobile Vending Land Use Code Amendments - (Under Review)
- Grand Skye Site Design Review (Under Review) (715 E. Grand Ave.)
- Grand Valley Storage (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50)
- Fruita Apartments (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road)

#### **Police Department**

- ***Welcome Jason!*** Welcome Jason Lemaster, our new Animal Control/Police Service Technician. Jason comes to us with some great animal control experience from his time with Mesa County Animal Services.
- ***New Signage at Recreation Areas.*** Officer Chadd Searcy, in conjunction with our Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments and the Bureau of Land Management, developed and arranged installation of new signage at Snook's Bottom and the Devil's Canyon Trailhead, reminding users to lock their cars and remove valuables to deter thefts from vehicles.



## Public Works

- **Building Maintenance Update.** Building Maintenance staff repaired two HVAC units at the Police Department and are beginning to deep clean around their building.
- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance staff assisted with the Hwy 6 sewer project by cold patching completed sections and are continuing to supply pipe for upcoming sections. Staff assisted the Police Department with their new signage installation at Snooks and Devil's Canyon. With temperatures increasing, our street sweeper is back in action cleaning up the streets of Fruita. Crews will assist with staging traffic control for this weekend's Sweetheart Race.
- **Fleet Maintenance Update.** Fleet staff continue to gear up for summer by servicing all summer equipment.
- **Collections Update.** Staff continue to assist with the Hwy 6 project by monitoring and performing maintenance on the bypass pump. Grease from I-70 was hauled and disposed of and 25 utility locates were completed.
- **Wastewater Treatment Update.** Wastewater staff have had some luck in finding issues with equipment with their vibration meter that tests motors and pumps. Already, they concluded their ATAD 1 motive pump had a bearing issue that needs replacement. They were also able to troubleshoot a blower operation, adjusted the settings and will continue to monitor. They



cleaned and checked calibration for various probes and continued maintenance on various pieces of equipment.

- **PW Administration Update.** PW has completed reviews of subdivision plans requested by Planning.

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

- [Local foundation launches fentanyl awareness initiative.](#)
- [Community comes together to support family after devastating fire.](#)
- [Peters blames commissioners for closed DMV offices.](#)
- [2022 off to fast start for Mesa County real estate sales.](#)
- [Xcel looks to replace, relocate Fruita-area transmission line.](#)
- [Meet Fruita's 2022 city council candidates.](#)
- [COVID-19 cases trending downward in Mesa County.](#)
- [Single-vehicle accident near K and 19 Road in Fruita.](#)
- [School District #51 now accepting preschool applications for 2022-23.](#)

**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.
- **March 9, 2022** – Fruita City Council Candidate Forum at the Fruita Community Center, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 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](mailto:communications@fruita.org)



CITY OF FRUITA

## JANUARY 2022 RECYCLING BENEFITS

51 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard were recycled by the community this month.

### This month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:

#### 822 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 13,976,000 sheets of printing and copy paper!

#### 118 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 151 people!

#### 118,401 Kw-Hrs of Electricity

Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 11 homes!

#### Avoided 140 Metric Tons (MTCO<sub>2</sub>E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 30 passenger vehicles!

#### 250,361 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 3,338 people!

To learn more about recycling, visit [WM.com/RecycleRight](https://www.wm.com/RecycleRight).

### Always remember to Recycle Right



Recycle clean bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard.



Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.



No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

#### PREPARED BY WM

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Environmental Paper Network-Paper Calculator V4.0, Domtar Paper, Gaylord Corporation, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, and Waste Management.  
© Waste Management 2021

Notes: GHG = Greenhouse Gas; MTCO<sub>2</sub>E = Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



# 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.