



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
 From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
 Date: JUNE 9, 2023
 Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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2023 State of the City Video Now Available

On Wednesday night, the City of Fruita hosted a Fruita Films night at the Rocky Mountain PBS location at the Fruita Arts and Recreation Marketplace (FARM). We premiered the 2023 State of the City Video, and also watched other PBS Fruita related videos. The 2023 State of the City Video highlights current projects throughout the City, local events, and a recap of 2022, and used a unique production technique of using first-person point of view. If you are interested in watching, [you can watch the 2023 State of the City Video online](#). Thank you Fruita, for making 2022 a great year!



City of Fruita Awarded Distinguished Budget Award by GFOA

For the first time, the City of Fruita has received the Distinguished Budget Award by the Government Finance officers Association ("GFOA"). The recognition highlights the City of Fruita's commitment to financial excellence, transparency, and meeting the highest principles of government budgeting. To receive the award, an organization must meet nationally recognized program criteria guidelines and excel as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and as a communications device. The award recognizes entities that have achieved the highest standards of clarity, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

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

We are very excited to receive this award. As part of the award, the City of Fruita will receive a Medallion for the award, and the award will be included in future budget books.

Mike the Headless Chicken Festival Recap

We had a great turnout for our annual celebration of Mike's will to live! The festival hosted a brand new history tent that busted myths and gave background about our famous fowl. We also hosted the first annual "Chicken Dance in honor of Ellen Roberts" to honor one of the festival's biggest fans. Our winners of the peep and wing eating contests had fierce competition this year with more than 20 participants in just the 6-12 category for peep eating. Saturday night, Augie Meyers and Los Texmaniacs had the crowd dancing and enjoying the Grammy nominated band's music. We can't wait to get out and celebrate Mike again next year!



Thursday Night Concert Series Started This Week

The Drunken Hearts kicked off the summer concert series last night. Here is the lineup for the rest of the series:

THURSDAY NIGHT CONCERT SERIES

PRESENTED BY
FRUITA
COLORADO

FCI
Construction, Inc.

Thursdays June 8 - August 10
7:30pm | FREE entertainment
Civic Center Park | 325 E. Aspen
Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating
*schedule subject to change



6/8	The Drunken Hearts (Americana)
6/15	Wave 11 (R&B/Reggae/Funk)
6/22	Goodman Band (Blues/Rock)
6/29	Centennial Band (American Classics)
7/6	Nik Parr & The Selfless Lovers (Rock n' Roll)
7/13	Hooks & The Huddleberries (Country Rock/Soul)
7/20	Alastair Greene Band (Blues/Rock)
7/27	Dave Jordan & The NIA (Swampy Funk/Rock)
8/3	Gunny Grand String Band (Bluegrass)
8/10	Frank Bregar Orchestra (Big Band)

Farmers Market Starts This Weekend

The annual Farmers Market hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce begins tomorrow at Reed Park! The market is from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm every Saturday until October 28th. This weekend, enjoy live music from The Widowmakers and local produce and products for various vendors!

Fiber Construction Update (Continued)

Next Week (Week of June 12, 2023), Clearnetworx/Deeply Digital, an internet service provider, will be constructing along Pine Street, Cotton Woods, Grace Park, Canterbury Park, and Aspen Village. For questions and comments on fiber internet, please call Clearnetworx/Deeply Digital at 970-240-6600. Learn more about fiber internet in Fruita at fruita.org/fiberinternet.

FIBER INTERNET IS HERE | clearnetworx

FIBER INTERNET

CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY

Pine Street • Cotton Woods
Grace Park • Canterbury Park
Aspen Village

LEARN MORE • SIGN UP AT
clearnetworx.com/fruita

Avoid River Recreation. High Water Dangers. (Continued)

Extremely high river levels are expected over the next few weeks. Please avoid recreation on the river and stay away from high moving water. [Learn more about safety tips in Mesa County Sheriff's Office recent news statement.](#)

Weekly FAQ

In every weekly update, we will be answering one question we get asked often from the community. These questions will cover a variety of topics from all city departments. If you have any questions, you think would be valuable for us to share, let us know by emailing communications@fruita.org.

- **Question:** When can City Council make decisions?
- **Answer:** Fruita City Council can make decisions only during regular City Council meetings. Regular City Council meetings are open to the public, and there are public participation sections. When City Council has a workshop or an executive session, no decisions are made but this is a time for the council to discuss various city topics and give staff direction to bring information and items to future, formal council meetings for decisions to be made. All Fruita City Council meetings and agendas can be found online at fruita.org/citycouncil.

General Updates

- **Mesa County JIC.** Communications and Engagement Specialist, Ciara DePinto, attended the monthly Mesa County JIC meeting to connect with other communication professionals in the Grand Valley. Mesa County Public Health hosted this month's meeting and provided the group with a tour of their water quality testing facility, where they store COVID-19 vaccines, and provided an overview of retail food and foodborne illness investigations and tuberculosis case management. The goal of the group is to connect and train together in preparation for an emergency response that would require a Joint Information Center (JIC) for crisis communications.



- **State of the Community Breakfast.** The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce has announced that the 2023 State of the Community Breakfast will be held on June 28th, 2023 at Absolute Prestige Ranch in Loma. Speakers include Mayor Kincaid, Mesa County Commissioner Cody Davis, our state representatives, and Congresswoman Lauren Boebert. If you are interested in attending, please let Jennifer or I know. [More information can be found on the chamber's website.](#)
- **Statewide Crisis Tracking with DOLA.** To help state and local governments with disaster recovery decision-making, DOLA teamed up with DHSEM and contracted with Crisis Track to conduct a statewide damage assessment from recent wildfires, floods, the pandemic, and other emergency situations. The program will allow governments to identify impacted areas and address immediate needs. Crisis Track and DHSEM are starting to work with agencies to collect information and train staff on the program.

Engineering

- **Middle-Mile Broadband Build.** The contract for the City of Fruita Middle-Mile Lateral and Carrier Neutral Location (CNL) project has been awarded to Deeply Digital in the amount of \$540,387.00. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for next Monday. We anticipate that construction for this project will begin this summer and be mostly completed by the end of the year.
- **Pine Street Bridge Update.** This was another milestone week for the Pine Street Bridge project. Black Eagle, the contractor responsible for the Xcel high-pressure gas main installation, completed the connections for the high-pressure gas main across the bridge. The high-pressure gas is now flowing across the new bridge structure. The temporary bypass line has been taken out of service and removed from the site. Site Wise, the contractor doing the permanent distribution gas main installation across the bridge, will mobilize to the site and begin work next week while Black Eagle continues to clean up the bypass pipeline area. The Engineering Department would like to remind the public that the bridge remains closed to all modes of transportation including vehicular, bicycles and pedestrians. Public safety is a primary concern and hazardous conditions remain and will continue to change in location and severity in the construction zone.



- **2023 Street Overlays.** Milling began this Friday. Paving will begin next Monday and will continue through the week. All paving should be completed prior to the end of next week. Minor items like pavement markings may be installed in subsequent weeks.

Marketing and Promotion

- **Gravel Adventure Field Guide.** Production and printing of the Fruita + Palisade Gravel Adventure Field Guide is complete, and books will be available at local businesses across Mesa County soon. Our consultants for the project have also started distribution of the guide in Salt Lake City, on the Front Range, and in other Colorado communities. Staff and the FTAC will be planning a small launch party for local businesses and sponsors to pick up their guides this month. If you are interested in learning more and a teaser video of the guide, you can hear from Ben Burgandy at this [link](#).
- **Desert Rats Trail Running Festival Data.** The Desert Rats Trail Running Festival provided us with an overview of the event that took place in Fruita on April 14 – 16, 2023. The event had 1,151 total runners. 208 of those runners traveled from the Denver/Aurora/Lakewood area, 110 were local, and there were participants who traveled from out of state/country including areas from Utah, Texas, California, Canada, and even France, Argentina, and Chile. The event is part of the UTMB World Series.

Parks and Recreation

- **Dinomites Summer Camp started this week!** Week one of camp was themed “Superhero Stories” and included a visit from real life superheroes, Fruita Police Department. Camp will run throughout the summer and is completely full of 50 kids per week during peak summer season.
- **Track and Field Camp, Tennis Camp, and PeeWee Soccer Kicked Off.** Summer athletics camps had their first sessions this week. Keep an eye out for youth athletic programs at the Fruita 8/9 school, Fruita tennis courts, and in the backyard of the FCC.
- **Summer Swim lessons and Gators Swim Team Begin Sessions.** Our summer aquatics programs kicked off this week. The outdoor pool is also open and ready for the summer crowds to enjoy the sun while swimming. [Full pool schedules](#) available on our website.
- **Kokopelli Trail Update.** Parks crews cleared silt from the trail this week under I-70 near Loma. Crews reported almost 18 inches of silt on the trail. Once cleared the trail flooded again on Thursday morning. Crews will monitor the trail and open it once the potential for flooding is gone.

Planning & Development

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

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- East Grand Townhomes Minor Subdivision (Approved) (600 Grand Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Copper Creek West Preliminary Plan (Approved) (954 19 Road) (138 Lots)
- Iron Wheel 2 Final Plat (Under Review) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele’s Acres Subdivision (Under Review) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)

- Kismet Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (460 N. Mesa St) (3 Lots)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Ottley Suites Site Design Review (Under Review) (722 Ottley Avenue)
- Pediatric Dental Specialists Site Design Review (Under Review) (101 Jurassic Avenue)
- 18 & K Road Rezone (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001)
- The Fruita Mews (Under Review) (1138 18.5 Road)
- Berg Annexation & Rezone (Under Review) (1806 J 3/10 Road)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Site Design Review (Under Review) (417 E Ottley Ave)
- 616 E. Grand Avenue Conditional Use Permit (Under Review) (616 E. Grand Avenue)
- 1824 J 2/10 Road Annexation and Rezone (Under Review) (1824 J 2/10 Road)
- A Storage Place Site Design Review and Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1960 & 1966 Hwy 6 & 50)

Public Works

- **Reservoir #2 Update.** Public Works crews began monitoring Reservoir #2 which is under a no-fill order by the State Dam Engineers. Due to heavy snowpack, Reservoir #2 inadvertently filled requiring the city to activate a siphon that was placed at the reservoir in 2019 under similar conditions. Staff will monitor the conditions of the reservoir daily. Recreationalists are advised to adhere to signage and stay off of the dam. [A news release was sent out at the beginning of the week about the dangerous conditions at the reservoir.](#)
- **Pavement Assessment Project.** The pavement assessment project is moving forward. The contractor completed driving all the streets in Fruita to collect the data and will be working over the next several weeks to export and analyze the data. This will help inform us of the needs we have going into the budget season as it pertains to the conditions of our city streets.
- **Eligibility Survey.** The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Eligibility Survey is due this month. This survey provides information to the state on the needs of our sewer system and is required if the city decides they want to pursue State Revolving Loan Fund dollars to help with capital projects.
- **H2S Project Update.** The H2S and Aeration projects are moving forward with guaranteed maximum pricing set for both projects. We anticipate starting these projects in August.
- **Water Quality Meeting.** Public Works Director participated in the CDPHE Water Quality Roadmap Quarterly Meeting.
- **Supervisor Training.** Public Works currently has five employees going through the American Public Works Association (APWA) Supervisor Training curriculum.
- **Utility Locates.** Utility staff received 217 utility locates this week. On average per week staff responds to 38 locates. As of this week the department is currently at 228 locates for the month of June. Public Works staff also participated in a meeting with other utility stakeholders to discuss challenges around 8-1-1 utility locates.

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

- [Fruita's state of the city film premieres - KKCO.](#)

- [An annual Colorado festival celebrates Mike, a headless chicken.](#)
- [32 Miles of new trail to be built in 18 Rd desert.](#)
- [Mike the Headless Chicken Festival.](#)
- [Fruita warns people to stay off hazardous dam.](#)
- [Government officials assess state of the valley.](#)
- [Urgent care clinic opens in Fruita.](#)
- [Fruita's state of the city film premiere tonight.](#)
- [The Weekly Dirt: New GAFG, qualify for UCI gravel worlds, and win a cool bike from Revel.](#)
- [A guide to camping in Colorado's national parks and monuments.](#)
- [Canfield Bikes Introduces New Bomber Blue Color for 2023 Balance – Pinkbike.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please let Jennifer Cupp know if you plan to attend so we can RSVP for you)*

- **June 15, 2023** – Thursday Night Concert Series – Wave 11 (R&B/Reggae/Funk), Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.
- **June 22, 2023** – Thursday Night Concert Series – Goodman Band (Blues/Rock), Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.
- **June 23, 2023** – Fruita Fourth Fridays, FARM (160 S. Park Square), 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- **June 25 – 28, 2023** - CML Annual Conference
- **June 28, 2023** – FACC State of the Community, Absolute Prestige Venue, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- **June 29, 2023** – Thursday Night Concert Series – Centennial Band, Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.
- **June 29, 2023** – City Council Ice Cream Social, Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.
- **August 12, 2023** – One Riverfront Concert Series, James M. Robb State Park, 6:00 p.m.
- **August 12, 2023** – Cops and Cars Show, Little Salt Walsh Park, 7 a.m. - 2 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



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.