



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JUNE 16, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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City offices will be closed on Monday, June 19th, 2023 in observance of Juneteenth.

Trash and recycling services are not impacted by the holiday.

Tuesday's Housing Authority Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

We have two meetings scheduled for Tuesday night, the first is a meeting of the Fruita Housing Authority at 6:00 p.m. There are four items on the agenda for this meeting, and the first to approve the minutes from our previous meeting, and then there is a resolution to adopt a virtual meeting policy (in case at the Housing Authority needs to meet just virtually in the future). After that, the Housing Authority will convene in Executive Session to discuss the Special Limited Partnership for the Fruita Mews. The Housing Authority will then reconvene in the meeting for potential action on the partnership agreement.

Tuesday's Regular City Council Meeting

Our regular City Council meeting on Tuesday night will begin with a proclamation declaring the month of July as Parks and Recreation month in the City of Fruita. After the proclamation, there are several items on the consent agenda, including adopting the Parks, Health, Open Space, and Trails Impact Fee Study, the first reading of ordinances related to amendments to the land use code, setting public hearings dates for July, and other items. The Council will then move on to two public hearings, one on supplemental budget amendment for repairs at the Fruita Wastewater Reclamation Facility, and the second on a special event liquor permit application. On the administrative agenda, the Council will consider a request from IndiBuild LLC to waive impact fees on Parks, Open Space, and Trails for the Fruita Mews development. Following that, Finance will provide a presentation on the 2022 Financial Statements and Auditor's report. The third item on the administrative agenda will be to hear from the Planning and Development Department on proposed regulations on unmanned aircraft systems (drones). After reports, the Council will

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

convene in Executive Session to discuss three items and then reconvene into the regular meeting for any possible action.

It is going to be a full meeting, but this is our last City Council meeting until July 18th. Our June workshop was canceled because of the Colorado Municipal League conference, and then the first meeting in July was canceled because it falls on the Fourth of July. See you all on Tuesday night!

2023 State of the City Video Now Available (Continued)

The 2023 Fruita State of the City Video is now available and can be found online at the link below. The 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 (Continued)

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.

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.

Fiber Construction Update (Continued)

Next Week (Week of June 19, 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.

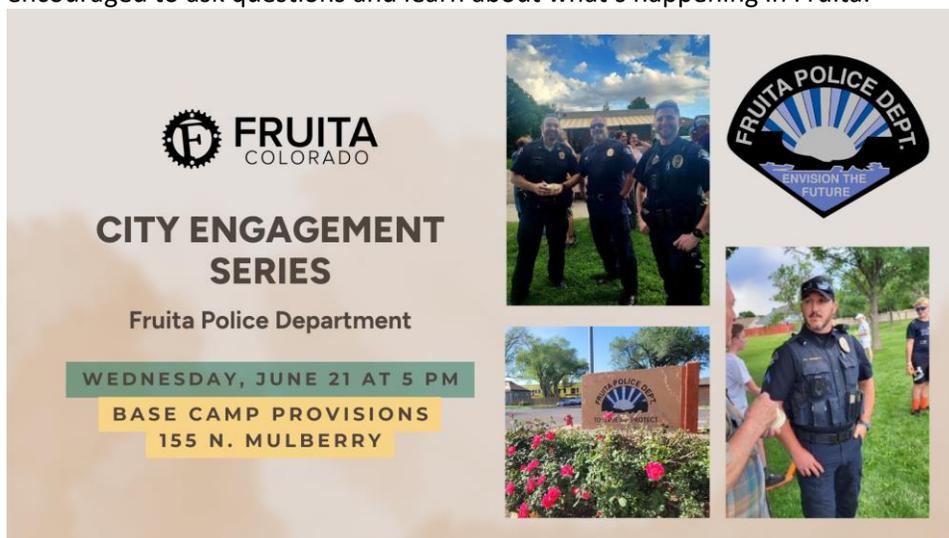
Weekly FAQ

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:** What is the biosolids program the city’s Wastewater Reclamation Facility offers?
- **Answer:** Biosolids can be used as a low-grade fertilizer or can be added to soil to improve the quality of soil on lawns and flower gardens. These biosolids are carefully treated and monitored to meet all requirements of the health department. Interested Fruita residents can pick up biosolids for free at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility. Please call 970-858-4081 for more information.

General Updates

- **Financial Reports.** The financial reports for April are included in the City Council packet this week and can be found at this link: [City Council Packet](#). (when available). Here is a quick overview of sales tax collections through April:
 - **City Sales Taxes** – City sales tax collections were 1% in April 2023 compared to the prior year and is trending at an increase of 10% overall.
 - **Use Tax on Motor Vehicles** – Were down 32% in April, trending at a decrease of 3% year-to-date.
 - **Use Tax on Motor Vehicles** – Down 5% in April 2023 when compared to April 2022, year-to-date of 24%.
 - **Lodging Tax** – Lodging tax collections were up 16% in April 2023, trending at an increase of 5% year-to-date.
 - **County Sales Tax** – County sales tax collections decreased less than 1% in April, year-to-date is an increase of 1%.
- **F Works Classes.** The FWorks Co-Working space in the Fruita Civic Center is having office hours open for Fruita businesses or residents looking to start a business. Folks can learn about the seven programs offered by the Grand Junction Business Incubator. These office hours are held the first full week of the month from 9 am – 11 am. Learn more at fworks.app.proximity.space/
- **Community Wildlife Protection Plan.** Mesa County is currently working to update the Mesa County Community Wildlife Protection Plan (CWPP). The plan will identify areas of wildfire risk and provide resources for homeowners to reduce fire risks. They are asking for public input on fire mitigation recommendations. The community can participate in a brief survey with the QR code found in the flyer below.
- **City Engagement Event Next Week.** Join Fruita Police Officers and me at Base Camp Provisions next Wednesday, June 21, at 5 p.m. for casual conversations. These engagement events are informal, and all are welcome to attend and drop in or out at any time. Residents are encouraged to ask questions and learn about what’s happening in Fruita.



The flyer features the Fruita Colorado logo on the left. The main text reads: "CITY ENGAGEMENT SERIES Fruita Police Department WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 AT 5 PM BASE CAMP PROVISIONS 155 N. MULBERRY". On the right side, there are three images: a group of police officers standing outdoors, the Fruita Police Department logo with the slogan "ENVISION THE FUTURE", and a police officer standing in front of a sign that says "FRUITA POLICE DEPT.".

Engineering

- ***Pine Street Bridge Update.*** Site Wise, the contractor doing the permanent Xcel distribution gas main installation across the bridge, mobilized to the site and hung the distribution gas main on the bridge. Steel pipe was installed on the bridge, then the pipeline transitions to HDPE plastic pipe underground. Black Eagle, the contractor responsible for the Xcel high pressure gas main, reclaimed the high-pressure gas temporary bypass route and demobilized from the site. 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.



Parks and Recreation

- ***Snooks Bottom Closure 6/23.*** Next Friday, June 23, the road to Snooks Bottom will be closed until 12 pm. Crews will be spraying the surface to help with dust and conducting minor repairs to the road.
- ***Fruita Community Center seeing high visitation.*** Day passes for the Fruita Community Center peaked at 320 patrons on June 10 for the month of June. Our recent day pass rates have varied from approximately 150-250 patrons visiting the center. With the outdoor pool open and summer in full swing, the facility is busy!
- ***Bi-Monthly Newsletter.*** The Fruita Parks and Recreation [bi-monthly newsletter is now available.](#) The newsletter shares information on current programming, upcoming facility closures, and information on the Third of July Fireworks.
- ***Summer Pool Hours Reminder.*** Our outdoor pool is open for use, and we want to remind patrons to [check our pool hours](#) to find the right time that fits your activity in the pools. Indoor

Open Swim opens every day at 12:00 pm and Outdoor Open Swim opens Monday - Friday at 12:30 pm and Sat-Sun at 12:00 pm.

- **3rd of July Fireworks in Fruita.** Enjoy the City of Fruita Fireworks on July 3rd, presented by Canvas Credit Union! The show can be seen from almost anywhere in Fruita and starts at dusk on July 3. Fireworks are launched at Snooks Bottom Open Space but there will be no viewing at that location. Snooks Bottom Open Space will be closed to the public for the entire day of July 3. The City of Fruita would like to remind residents to refrain from using personal fireworks as they are a fire hazard and can be disruptive.

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)

Police Department

- ***Calls for Service Statistics.*** In May 2023 the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center logged 993 calls for service for the Fruita Police Department. This compares with 788 calls for service in May 2022, showing a 26% increase. Year to date, we are at 4,582 calls for service in 2023 compared with 3,382 this time last year, showing a 35% increase. It should be noted that the majority of that increase results from a change in the way we are tracking officer-initiated activities.

Public Works

- **Water Quality Sampling.** The Grand Valley Water Users Association submitted a grant application on behalf of the Grand Valley Cooperators to the Colorado River District through their Community Funding Partnership Program and was awarded grant funding in the amount of \$31,600 to assist in the implementation of 2023 water quality sampling in the Grand Valley.
- **Pavement Assessment Project.** The data collection is complete for the pavement assessment project and the contractor is in the process of linking images to GIS and formatting the files from the van for evaluation. In the next few weeks, we should have initial pavement condition index calculations completed from the data and then start quality control with special reviews for patching, and other difficult distresses to measure from the sensors.
- **Biosolids – Fertilizer.** What might be exciting for Fruita residents is knowing that the Biosolids that are created at the wastewater plant can be used as a low-grade fertilizer or soil amendment on lawns and flower gardens, instead of being disposed of in the landfill. Nutrient-rich biosolids have been carefully treated and monitored to meet all heavy metal, pathogen reduction, and vector attraction requirements of the health department. As a rate payer in the City of Fruita, the Biosolids product is offered at no charge. Interested residents are encouraged to call or stop by the Wastewater Reclamation Facility during normal business hours to find out more.
Commercial Users: Biosolids/Fertilizer, from the Wastewater Reclamation Facility, is available at a rate of \$20.00 per yard. Please contact the Wastewater Reclamation Facility during normal business hours. [Wastewater Reclamation Facility](#) 970-858-4081.



- **Fruita Reservoir #2.** Fruita staff continues to monitor the draining of Reservoir #2 daily. The reservoir has dropped approximately 6 ft. since we started the siphon. Crews have made additional repairs to the siphon to allow the reservoir to continue to drain. The State has asked that we continue discussions regarding the long-term plan for the dam to address the “No-Fill” order it has been under since 2016.
- **FOG Program.** Public Works Staff met with the Building Department to discuss the development and implementation of a Fats, Oils, Grease Program. We discussed what changes may be necessary to the Fruita Municipal Code, a draft FOG Policy, and how we incorporate the Plumbing Code into this program.

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

- [Fruita see opportunity with former lagoon site.](#)
- [The Lunch Lizard kicks off its ninth summer.](#)
- [Bray Report: Mesa County home prices up, builders slowing down.](#)
- [Grand Valley area receives Best Wine Region nomination.](#)
- [Food Bank of the Rockies adds mobile pantry near GJHS.](#)
- [Mesa County develops new Community Wildlife Protection Plan.](#)

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

- **June 21, 2023** – City Engagement Event with Fruita Police, Base Camp Provisions, 5:00 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

MESA COUNTY

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN



THE PLAN

Mesa County has contracted SWCA Environmental Consultants to collaborate with municipal, state, and federal land management agencies to develop the 2023 Mesa County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update (CWPP).

You (the public) can play a part in crafting fire mitigation recommendations to protect your community. Read below to find out more about the collaborative Community Wildfire Protection Plan process and public involvement.



SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

WHAT DOES A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN DO?

- Identify areas at risk for wildland fire
- Make recommendations for hazardous fuels treatments (vegetation thinning)
- Prioritize areas for wildfire mitigation funding
- Make recommendations for homeowners to reduce fire risk
- Ask the public to share ideas about wildfire prevention and identify community values at risk

COMMUNITY FACT

The 2020 Mesa County Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies hazards in the County and provides guidance for mitigation actions and emergency response. A primary goal of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to support community wildfire protection planning.

WHY YOU SHOULD BE INVOLVED

A CWPP is designed to assist the County and landowners in mitigating wildfire risk. It is important that this process is collaborative. Please scan the QR code below to take a brief survey to give us your feedback on wildfire risk reduction in your community.



PROJECT CONTACT ARIANNA.PORTER@SWCA.COM



ORIGIN OF COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS

CWPPs developed from the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. This Act provides communities with the opportunity to influence how and where federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands and how additional funds may be distributed for projects on non-federal lands. A CWPP is a great way for the public to provide input and represent their communities. The 2023 CWPP will identify fire hazards and community values at risk in Mesa County and provide recommendations to reduce the risk of wildfire to life and property.

The main goals of a CWPP as described in HFRA (2003) are:

- Collaboration- must be developed by local & state government, consulting with federal agencies.
- Prioritized fuel reduction- must identify the most at risk areas for treatment of hazardous fuel and recommend actions to protect communities and infrastructure.
- Treatment of structural ignitability- must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.
- Definition of a WUI- gives each Core Team of agency stakeholders the ability to define their wildland urban interface (WUI) area, where homes and structures come into contact with wildland fuels.
- Community risk analysis- using field based or geographic information system methodology, the Core Team assesses all hazards and risks associated with wildfire spread throughout the planning area.
- Discussion of fire fighting preparedness- to identify ways to enhance fire response.
- Community involvement- to ensure that the planning effort incorporates public input and grassroots level planning.

PROJECT CONTACT ARIANNA.PORTER@SWCA.COM



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.