



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 28, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting

The meeting will begin with a number of proclamations and presentations, including recognition of student and teachers of the month, teacher appreciation week, police week, receiving a United Way award, Bike To Work Day, and a presentation by the Fruita Tourism Advisory Council. The remainder of the meeting includes a consent agenda, public hearings for liquor licenses and a budget amendment, and following city manager and council updates, there are two executive sessions.

Spring Clean Up Event Tomorrow

The annual Fruita Spring Clean Up is NEXT Saturday, April 29 from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Fruita City Shops located at 900 Keifer Avenue. Drop off most items for Free! Mattresses and box springs can be dropped off for \$18. Cash or check will be accepted. These are items we CANNOT collect: Aerosol cans, air conditioners, air/gas cylinders, ammunition, antifreeze, asbestos materials, asphalt rubble, batteries, auto batteries, concrete rubble, electronics, engines/motors, fluorescent lights, freezers, freon, fuel tanks, gasoline/grease/oil, hazardous waste, insecticides, items longer than 6', large drums, liquids of any kind, major appliances, medical waste, microwaves, paint/stain, pesticides, refrigerators, road flares, shingles, spa/pool chemicals, tires.



Bike to Work Day Next Wednesday

May is Bike Month in the Grand Valley and we will be celebrating with a Bike to Work Day event on Wednesday, May 3 at the Fruita Civic Center Park. Enjoy free breakfast from Einstein Bagels and coffee from Bestslope Coffee starting at 7:15 am. See the flyer below for more information.

Western Colorado Economic Summit

Thanks to Mayor Pro Tem Matthew Breman for participating in a panel at the Western Colorado Economic Summit and Council members Amy Miller, Aaron Hancey, and Jeannine Purser for attending.



ArborWorks Schedule for Next Week

Xcel Energy, working with ArborWorks, a utility line clearance company, began trimming trees in Fruita in mid-February. They will be trimming all trees, both private and public, if the tree is a hazard for powerlines. The team will continue tree trimming services in Fruita next week. Below you can find area maps of where the team will be working.

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 are some of the best routes to take to bike around Fruita?
- **Answer:** With Bike Month starting next week, this is a great time to try out one of Fruita's wayfinding routes. There are four routes around Fruita. Each route will take you by major stops in the city like the Fruita schools, the Fruita Community Center, downtown, City Market and more. Around the city, you will see maps and pavement markings to help navigate you on the route. [Learn more about the routes on our website.](#)

General Updates

- **Welcome, Jennifer!** This week, Jennifer Cupp started as the Executive Assistant for the City Manager's Office. Welcome Jennifer!
- **ICMA Credentialed Manager.** I received notice that the International City Manager Association Credentialing Advisory Board approved my annual renewal application which details 30+ hours of professional development per year, areas of study and goals for new year. For more information on ICMA, go to www.icma.org.
- **CCCMA Annual Conference.** I enjoyed attending the annual Colorado City/County Manager Conference this week with a couple of staff. We were able to connect with many colleagues discussing common efforts as well as attend many sessions covering topics, like public safety liability, cyber security, US Census data, state economic outlook, dealing with blurring lines of truths and facts, communications, leadership, and more.
- **ESPIOC Conference.** Communications and Engagement Specialist Ciara DePinto attended the annual conference for Colorado Public Information Officers. She had the opportunity to connect with other western slope communicators from Grand Junction, Telluride, Montrose, Ouray, Parachute, and more. The conference was full of engaging sessions on emergency communications, telling your organization's story, being prepared for an emergency, language access, media interviews, and more.
- **Grand Junction Regional Airport Full-Scale Emergency Exercise.** A full-scale emergency exercise will take place on Tuesday, May 2nd, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the southern portion of airport property. Travelers on Interstate 70 and Horizon Drive may see a large first responder presence and/or simulated smoke from the exercise. Regularly scheduled flights and traffic corridors are excluded from this exercise and should not experience any impacts from the training. The purpose of the exercise is to give the airport, mutual aid partners and emergency responders the opportunity to train for a real aircraft emergency in a safe and controlled environment. This live exercise will be conducted in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements and in coordination with our local emergency partners including our local fire and police departments.
- **Civic Center Remodel.** The City received its Certificate of Occupancy for the 325. E Aspen Ave. office remodel. The contractor has moved the fenced area within the parking lot.



- **Bivalent Booster Available.** The Public Health Clinic is now taking appointments for the second bivalent COVID-19 booster. People who are 65 or older and have received a booster at least four months prior are eligible. Those with weakened immune systems can get a second bivalent booster as long as their last shot was at least two months ago. [Learn more on Mesa County's website.](#)
- **US 6 & 20 Road CDOT Project Update.** CDOT continues work to US 6 & 20 Road. In the most recent update, the paving of the northside of US Highway 6 and approaches is complete and crews are continuing work on the shoulders of US 6. [Read the full update in their newsletter.](#)
- **Electric Vehicles Charging Stations Update.** The two Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Civic Center were installed this week. There is still a little bit of work to do before the charging stations are open, which includes finishing up the electrical, activating the stations, and painting the parking spots.



Engineering

- ***Pine Street Bridge Update.*** GA Western completed the formwork, reinforcing steel and concrete placement for the south sleeper slab (independent support slab for the approach slab) and north approach slab. The south approach slab is formed with reinforcing steel in place, the concrete placement is scheduled for Friday afternoon.



- ***Engineering Intern.*** Staff conducted interviews for the summer intern position this week. Engineering has provided an intern position for about 6 years now with great success.
- ***N. Mulberry Plaza.*** The end of construction is in sight! This week our contractor finished the concrete work on the project, which is a big milestone. The remaining work, which is slated to be completed by the end of next week, consists of irrigation system and plant/tree installation. Some lighting fixtures are also slated to be installed, which will complete the lighting portion of the project. The City wants to express its gratitude and appreciation to the public for the positive response we have had to the project. In addition, we'd like to thank local businesses for their patience and good will during the construction. Though a good portion of the plaza is open to the public at this point, construction continues and there are still hazards on the job site. Please use caution when travelling through the construction area.

Parks and Recreation

- ***Fruita Bark Park update.*** We are working on adding additional signage to designate the different dog park sections as well as adding ADA parking near the park. We hope to complete the installation of the signage and parking lot updates next week. Parks crews are working hard to install some benches as soon as possible.
- ***Outdoor pool is being prepped for summer use.*** The pool needs pressure washing, backwashing to prepare the filter, preparation of fittings in the pump room, and rails and skimmer baskets installed. The outdoor pool will need 133,000 gallons of water to fill and then chemicals will need to be balanced. After all that work, the pool will be ready for public use!

- **Arbor Day tree planting at Monument Ridge Elementary Friday morning.** After our area wide poster contest, Ady Ono was chosen as the overall winner to receive a tree at their school. The tree will be planted at their campus along with a ceremony of recognition by our city departments. Thanks to Mayor Pro Tem Breman for presenting the proclamation at the event.



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

- **Spring Runoff.** The Upper Colorado River Basin shows 123% snowpack and is still accumulating snow with weather moving through the area. Public Works crews continue to fill sandbags to have on hand in the event public infrastructure is impacted by high water. As the temperatures increase and if it warms quickly there will be potential for flooding. Information on protective measures you can take before, during and after a flood may be found at www.mesacounty.us/news/public-works/know-your-flood-risk.
- **Flood Insurance.** People can ask for flood insurance through their insurance company or obtain it through the National Flood Insurance Program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It takes 30 days for flood insurance to go into effect.
- **Irrigation Update.** Public Works staff responded to approximately 25 calls regarding irrigation since turning on the system early last week. The city encourages residents to call Public Works and report issues with the irrigation system. Our crews can assess whether it is a city issue or an HOA issue to help resolve the matter.
- **Internet Fiber in Fruita.** The City has been working with several companies interested in installing fiber in the City of Fruita. Residents may begin to see work being done throughout the city in the next week or two. Information will be posted weekly on areas where fiber crews will be working.

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

- [What's in a Name: Reed Park.](#)
- [County advises residents of flood risks, protective measures.](#)
- [Highline lake re-fills after treating zebra mussels.](#)
- [Fruita Chamber awards businesses and individuals.](#)
- [Colorado's 2023 Wildlife Preparedness Plan.](#)
- [How School District 51 is adjusting to the rise of AI.](#)
- [CDOT addressing potholes on state highways as harsh winter conditions subside.](#)
- [D51 recognizes scholars and staff.](#)

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

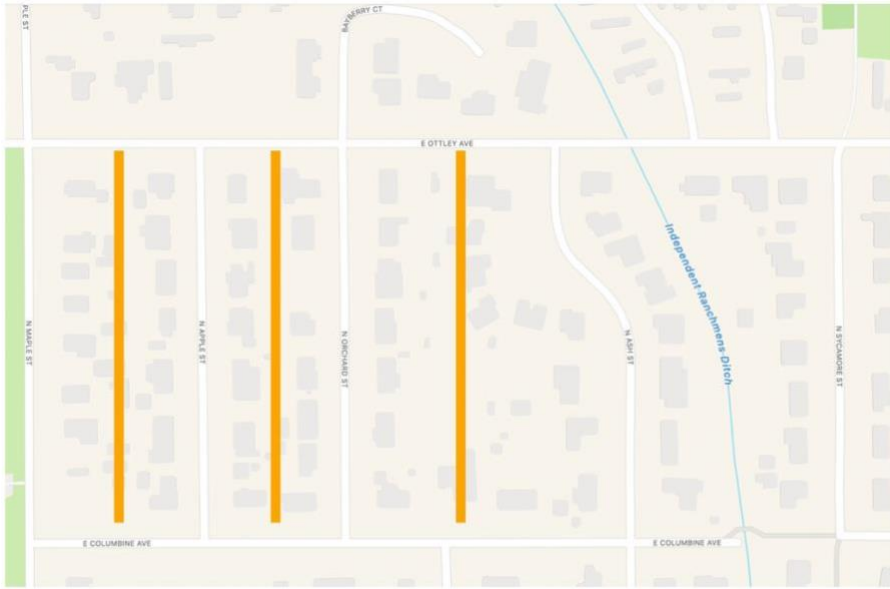
- **April 28, 2023** – Fruita Fourth Fridays, FARM 160 S. Park Square, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- **April 29, 2023** – Spring Clean Up, City Shops, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **April 29, 2023** – Military-Bound Graduate Recognition & Family Picnic, Western Slope Veterans Memorial, 11:00 a.m. [RSVP Online.](#)
- **April 29, 2023** – Mesa County Historical Fair, Historical Loma School, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **May 3, 2023** – Grand Valley Bike to Work Day, Civic Center Park, 7:15 a.m.
- **May 5-6, 2023** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Highline Lake State Park, Open Venue
- **May 5-6, 2023** – Adventure Fest, 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 12-14, 2023** – Fruita Fat Tire Festival, Downtown Fruita and 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue

- **May 14, 2023** – Co2uT, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue
- **May 31, 2023** – Colorado Municipal League Spring Outreach Meeting, Fruita Community Center at 3:00 p.m.
- **June 2-3, 2023** - Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue
- **June 8, 2023** - Thursday Night Concert Series - The Drunken Hearts (Americana), Civic Center Park, 7:30 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

ArborWorks Schedule for the week of May 2-5





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.