



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: MARCH 17, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting

The night will begin with consideration of multiple items on the consent agenda, followed by two public hearings. The first hearing is a request for a special event liquor permit for the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet, and the second is an amendment to the 2023 Annual Budget. After reports and actions, the Council will go into two Executive Sessions, to discuss a development request and the second to discuss issues related to the Mountain Properties.

City of Fruita Awarded Great Outdoors Colorado Grant for Reed Park

The City of Fruita has been awarded a \$600,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado ("GOCO") for the City's skate/wheel park project at Reed Park. This project includes the construction of a 9,000 square foot skate/wheel park in the south/west corner of Reed Park. This addition is part of a larger renovation the park will receive later this year. The grant is part of GOCO's Community Impact program, which develops and revitalizes parks, trails, school yards, fairgrounds, environmental education facilities, and other outdoor projects that enhance a community's quality of life and access to the outdoors. To learn more information, you can [visit our website here](#).

Employee Spotlight

Today, the City of Fruita celebrated Finance Director/City Clerk Margaret Sell's 40-year anniversary working for Fruita! Tomorrow is Margaret's official (well, at least approximate,) anniversary. Margaret started with the City as a part-time Clerk taking minutes for the City Council, Planning Commission, and other Boards and Commissions. She has been in her current role as Finance Director/Clerk for many years and has navigated the City through much change and many key projects throughout this time. We are very thankful for Margaret's dedication and commitment to Fruita, as we know that her time here has benefited the organization and the community greatly. Thank you, Margaret!

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



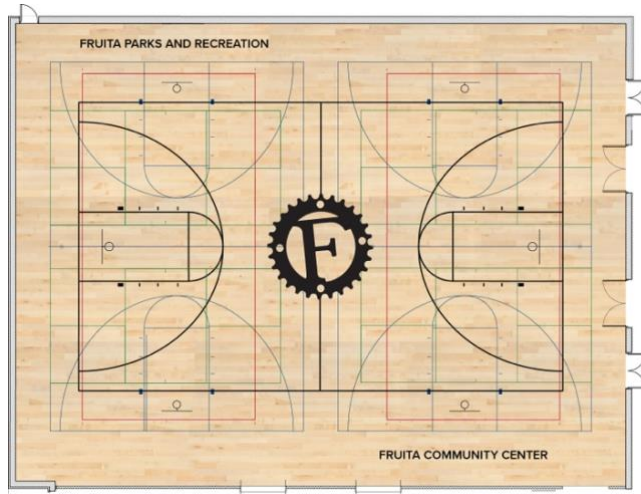
North Parking Lot Closure at Civic Center

Work on the electrical upgrades at the Fruita Civic Center continued this week for the Electric Vehicle Charging Stations project. Xcel's crews are working on trenching the newly installed power from the new pole to the location of the charging stations. Work started on Wednesday this week (originally scheduled for Monday but delayed due to weather conditions) and is scheduled to continue for the next two weeks. While this work is being completed, the North Parking Lot at the Fruita Civic Center is closed.



Fruita Community Center Basketball Court Open for Use!

We are excited to announce the court replacement at the Fruita Community Center is complete and open to the public for use and it is awesome—I even sunk a basket from the logo 😊 while testing it out with staff! We appreciate the detail and attention put into constructing it and thank the community for their patience throughout this process.



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 form of government structure is the City of Fruita?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita, along with 105 other Colorado municipalities, is a Home Rule Municipality. The City of Fruita is a six-member elected City Council, which makes policy decisions and enacts legislation while a professional City Manager carries out the council's policies and administers the city government. Home-Rule gives local governments the ability to create laws regarding local concerns instead of being directed by the state government on local issues. This form of government allows local policy to be set by the individuals who are in the community and are immediately impacted by decision making. A Home-Rule Municipality can enact a charter and ordinances, rather than state statutes. [Learn more about Fruita's City Charter.](#) Home rule form of government was adopted by Colorado in 1902 and is well adopted throughout the state as it provides flexibility and diversity in how to address local needs. There are three types of municipalities including statutory cities and towns, home rule municipalities and consolidated governments.

General Updates

- **January Financial Reports.** Tax collections for the month of January 2023 are now available and can be found in the packet for next Tuesday's City Council meeting [here](#) (when available). Quick overview of the financial reports, in January, City sales tax collections were up 22% from the prior year. Use taxes on Motor Vehicles were up 5%, and County sales tax collections were up 3%. Use tax on Building Materials (down 29% in January) and the lodging tax collections (down 7%) both decreased from the prior year.
- **Spring City Link.** The spring edition of the [Fruita City Link is now available online](#). Fruita residents will receive a copy of the newsletter in their mailboxes in the next week or so. The newsletter covers information on new amenities coming to Fruita's Parks system, highlights the new Fruita Building Inspections team, information on the City of Fruita's annual Spring Clean Up, important details about city irrigation water and maintaining your property.

Engineering

- **Broadband Middle-Mile/Lateral Build RFP.** The deadline for the RFP for the Middle-Mile/Lateral Build for Fruita has been extended to next Wednesday, March 22. Staff received a number of questions last week from contractors, and decided to push the deadline back to allow for all interested contractors to review the answers.
- **Pine Street Bridge Update.** GA Western received the parts they needed to move forward with the bridge deck, with work progressing on the cantilevered portion on the outside limits of the bridge. The formwork for the cantilevered portion was completed and guide rails for the deck paving machine were installed. The deck concrete placement has been delayed to April 3 because of the part delivery delays and concrete supply issues. The bridge deck will be a large concrete placement and the supplier must have multiple trucks available, which is set for April 3rd unless another large placement is canceled before then. Ben Dowd Construction, the pipeline subcontractor, completed installation of the storm drain on the southwest corner of the bridge. Work on the temporary irrigation main is on hold waiting for 10"x10"x10" wye fittings that will facilitate a rapid transition from the temporary to the permanent bridge mounted irrigation main. Riprap placement around the southwest storm drain outlet was completed.



- **North Mulberry Outdoor Plaza Update.** Work continued on the North Mulberry Outdoor Plaza this week. Starting today, pedestrian access will be available on the east side of the project from Aspen Street to the north side of Mulberry Street. Posts for the shade sails were installed this week, more decorative concrete was poured, and installation of the irrigation system has started. We appreciate everyone's patience during this construction!



Parks and Recreation

- ***Fruita Arts, Culture, and Nature Backpacks.*** The Fruita Arts and Culture Board, working with Mesa County Libraries, has created an interactive backpack available for checkout at the Fruita branch of the Mesa County Libraries. These backpacks are for all ages and include activities focused on arts and culture including games, self-guided tours, recipes, puzzles, and more! These [backpacks can be reserved online on the library's website](#). The flyer can be found below.
- ***Indoor Pool Use in February.*** Over the February and early March months we have averaged 3,152 patrons a week in the pool. We had 18,982 patrons enjoy our pool in the last month. Our busiest day was March 4th with a total of 900 people using the pool!
- ***FCC celebrated its 2 millionth visitor on Monday morning.*** One of our patrons, Sheryl, received a 12-month membership for being the 2 millionth visitor. Patrons celebrated with cupcakes throughout the day.
- ***Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament April 7.*** Join us for our annual fundraiser to offer youth activity scholarships and summer passes. Shotgun start at 9:00am at Adobe Creek Golf Course, and prizes, lunch, and contests included. Registration available at fruita.activityreg.com

Planning & Development

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

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Cider Mill Estates Final Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mountain Drive) (47 Lots)
- Dana Minor Subdivision (Approved) (317 Pine Street) (3 Lots)
- 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)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (111 S. Mesa St)
- 204 S. Mulberry Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (204 S. Mulberry St)
- North Mulberry Street Conceptual Street Design (Approved/Under Construction)
- The FARM Fruita Arts Recreation Marketplace (Under Construction) (158 Park Square)
- 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)

Public Works

- ***Supplemental Award for H2S Mitigation Project.*** Last Friday, we received notice that the CO Department of Local Affairs will be providing a supplemental award of \$300,000 for the H2S Sewer Mitigation Project. This supplemental award is to help offset the increased costs of the project.
- ***TMDL.*** Participated in the MS4 Technical Advisory Committee meeting to discuss TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and E-Coli field testing by USGS and financial obligations by participating entities.
- ***Training.*** Public Works staff completed 8-1-1 Excavator training. 37 utility locates completed.
- ***Mountain Water Properties.*** Met with Jones and DeMille Engineering and National Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) representatives regarding Mountain Water properties to receive an update on the NRCS Preliminary Investigative Feasibility Report. Next steps will be to refine alternatives and review economic information. The report should be completed in April and sent to NRCS for consideration.

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

- [Guide to identifying Japanese Beetle.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health discusses air quality.](#)
- [Fruita receives \\$600,000 grant for Reed Park improvements.](#)
- [Fruita gets \\$600K grant for Reed Park.](#)
- [Food bank opens mobile pantry location at fairgrounds.](#)

- [City of Fruita awarded grant money for Reed Park improvements.](#)
- [Respiratory Illness Activity Remains Low in Mesa County.](#)

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

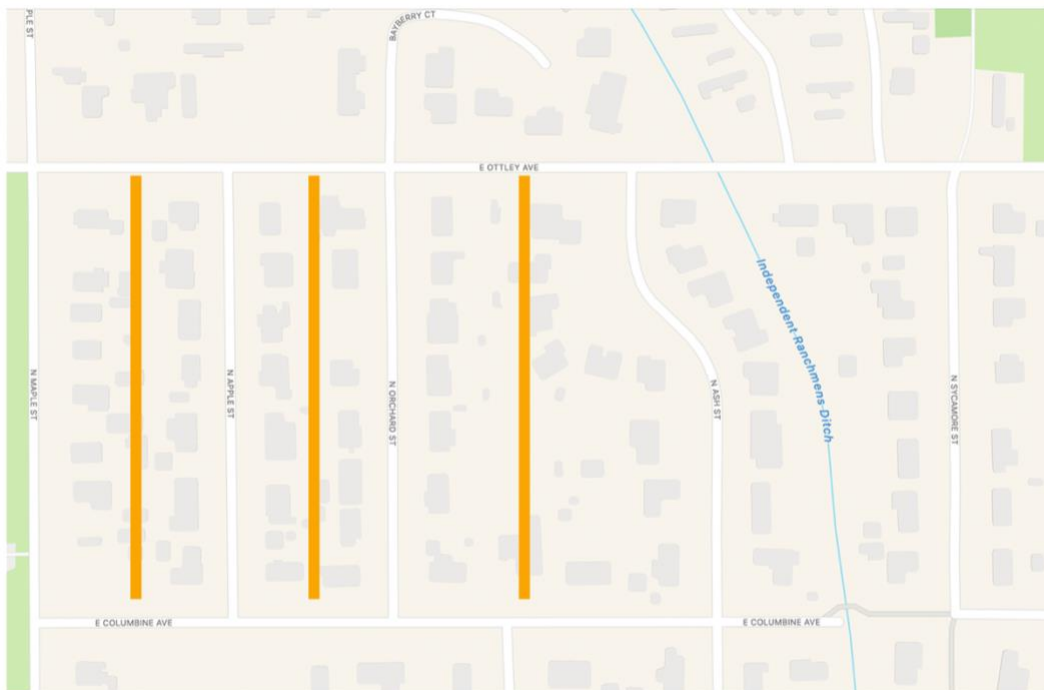
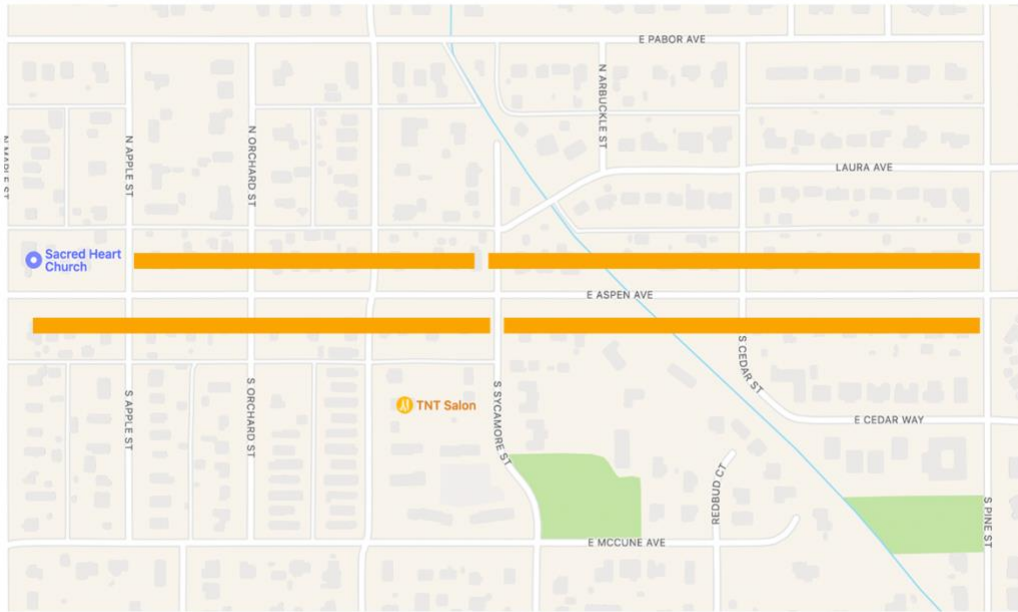
- **April 7, 2023** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, Adobe Creek Golf Course, 9:00 am.
- **April 15, 2023** – Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Fruita Community Center, 5:00pm – 10:00 pm
- **April 14-16, 2023** – Desert RATS Trail Running Festival, Kokopelli Trailhead, Open Venue
- **April 27, 2023** – Western Colorado Economic Summit, presented by Grand Junction Economic Partnership.
- **April 29, 2023** – Spring Clean Up, City Shops, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.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
- **June 2-3, 2023** - Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue

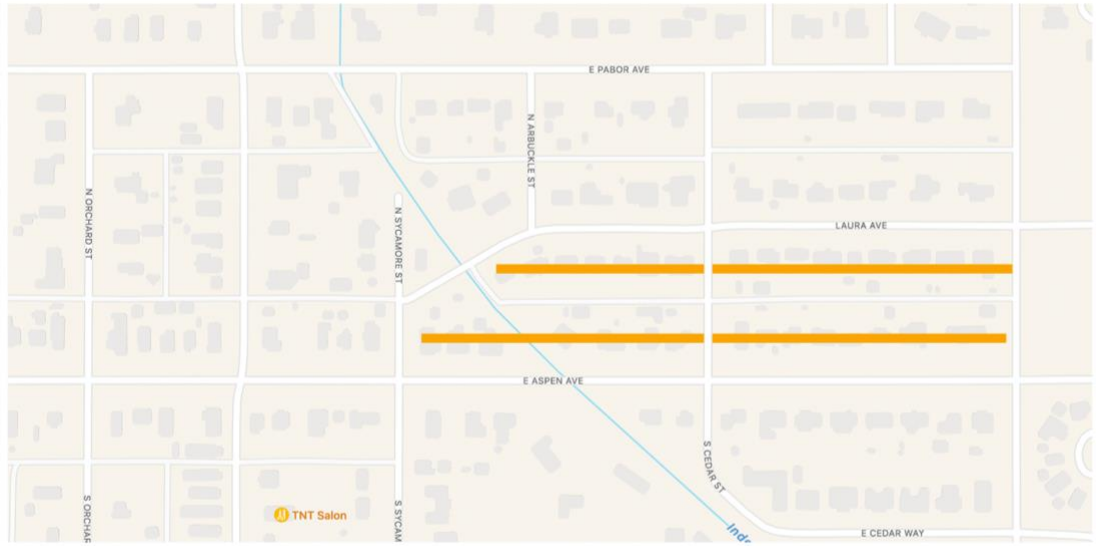
CC. Department Directors

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

ArborWorks Tree Trimming Schedule Week of March 20-24, 2023







CHECK OUT OUR INTERACTIVE

Art, Culture, and Nature BACKPACKS

at the Fruita Branch Library.






Three themed backpacks designed for all ages to enjoy that will enhance awareness of Art and Culture within the Fruita community.

Some of the content includes:

- Games
- Self guided tours
- Recipes
- Art Projects
- Puzzles
- Books
- ... and more!



Mesa County
LIBRARIES

     visit [mesacountylibraries.org](https://www.mesacountylibraries.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.