



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: MARCH 3, 2023  
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

### **Fruita Housing Authority Meeting – Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.**

The main reason for this meeting is to meet in executive session with the Housing Authority Attorney to receive legal advice on a proposal from a housing developer.

### **Tuesday's City Council Meeting - Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.**

Tuesday's meeting will begin with recognizing the students and teachers of the month at the Fruita Middle School. We will then hear an update on Family Health West from their CEO Korrey Klein. After presentations, we will move onto the consent agenda with several items for consideration, followed by a public hearing for the second reading on ordinance 2023-01. The night will end with an administrative presentation on a future engagement program called the Fruita Academy and an executive session for the informal review of the City Attorney. See you on Tuesday night!

### **Fruita Arts and Culture Coco Vino Fundraising Event**

The Arts and Culture Board will be hosting Coco Vino on Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Motion. The fundraiser will support the Heart of Fruita, a rotating sculpture program. The wine and chocolate tasting event will be accompanied by Live Jazz from PB & J. Tickets are \$35.00 and need to be purchased in advance of the event on <https://970tix.com/events/coco-vino-3-10-2023>

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



### Xcel Energy Foundation Grant

Earlier this week, the City of Fruita was awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation and Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) for the installation of six trees in the North Mulberry Outdoor Plaza space. These trees are a part of the larger design for the space and will be planted once construction is complete in late April/early May. Learn more about the North Mulberry Street Plaza project at [fruita.org/projects](https://fruita.org/projects).

### 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](mailto:communications@fruita.org).

- **Question:** Does the City of Fruita maintain a list of helpful community resources?
- **Answer:** Yes, a list of community resources including helpful information on where to find information on food, health, and financial assistance can be found online at [fruita.org/community/page/community-corner](https://fruita.org/community/page/community-corner).

### General Updates

- **2023 Ride Magazine.** The Daily Sentinel's recent Ride Magazine publication highlights the efforts of the biking community here in Fruita. The magazine shares upcoming biking events such as 18 Hours of Fruita, Adventure Fest, Co2uT, and the Fruita Fat Tire Festival. The publication also showcases the trail building efforts happening at 18 Road and the Kokopelli Trailhead as well as various maps of the 18 Road Trail system and wayfinding routes in Fruita. Staff members Shannon Vassen and Marc Mancuso contributed to Fruita stories included in the

Ride Magazine. We will include a link to 2023 Ride Magazine in the update when it becomes available.

### **Administration**

- **Job Openings.** The City of Fruita continues to recruit for a variety of positions. New this week is that the Fruita Community Center is accepting applications for a Facility Manager. In addition to that, we are also accepting applications for full-time positions in Public Works, and part-time positions in Parks and Recreation. All current job openings can be found at this [link](#).

### **Engineering**

- **Pine Street Bridge Update.** Work continued on the bridge deck and top portion of the abutments. The permanent steel deck forms that span the area between the concrete girders were completely installed with all gaps between the steel decking and temporary forms for the abutments being closed. Supply chain issues and materials availability have affected the project schedule and the anticipated date for the bridge deck concrete placement has been delayed to March 22, 2023. This delay affects the construction of the permanent irrigation main across the bridge, which will not be completed by the time irrigation water begins flowing in April. The contract provided contingencies for this situation and GA Western will place a temporary bridge to support a temporary irrigation main across the Little Salt Wash.
- **N. Mulberry Street Outdoor Plaza Project Update.** This week more shade sail and light post foundations were installed along with some decorative concrete along the new parking spots on the south end of the project. More decorative concrete installation is slated for early next week, depending on weather conditions.
- **Fruita Civic Center Construction Update.** The two-room remodel of the spaces north and south of the Administrative Office is progressing. Floor joists have been installed in both rooms to raise the existing floor to match the main floor level and openings have been cut into the masonry walls for access to these rooms from the current Administrative Office. The current schedule has completion slated for the end of May.



## Parks and Recreation

- ***Fruita Community Center Visit Numbers.*** During the month of February, we had 13,800 visits to the Fruita Community Center (FCC). The busiest day was President's Day with a total of 725 check ins.
- ***6,050 visits away from our 2 millionth Visitor!*** We anticipate giving away a 12 month pass to an individual in the middle of March to celebrate this achievement.
- ***Update on the Gym Floor Installation at the Fruita Community Center.*** The flooring has its first two coats of sealer complete. The basketball courts are now in the process of getting the court lines completed. This will include the City of Fruita's F Gear logo at center court and new line colors for better visibility. The timeline for completion and opening of our basketball court is early March.
- ***The Aquatics boiler has been repaired.*** The Heat relay motherboard on the boiler for the FCC pools has been replaced and our indoor pool is back up to 86 degrees.
- ***Night at the FCC March 3 cancelled.*** This date was cancelled to allow for the completion of the basketball court flooring. The next night at the FCC is May 12, 2023. This event is for 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders to enjoy the Fruita Community Center all to themselves. Entry is \$10 per student and parent sign in/out required.
- ***Mark your calendars for our fitness Speaker Series on March 9.*** Ashley Anderson, M.A., LPCC, will be offering a session on tolerating and reducing stress in our daily lives. Session available at the Fruita Community Center on March 9 at 2:00 pm. No pre-registration required.

## 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)

## Police Department

- ***Calls for Service Statistics.*** In February 2023, the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center logged 791 calls for service for the Fruita Police Department. This compares with 546 calls for service in February 2022, showing a 45% increase. Year to date, Fruita Police Department has logged 1,805 calls for service compared to this time last year, a 59% increase. It should be noted that the majority of that increase results from a change in the way we are tracking officer-initiated activities.
- ***POST Board.*** Chief Krouse received an appointment from the Governor to serve a two-year term on the Colorado Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) board.

## Public Works

- ***Congratulations Troy!*** Congratulations to Troy Melroy for passing his Wastewater Collections II exam!
- ***Sewer Funds Meeting.*** City Staff met with Waterworth the vendor for the city that provides software to do continuous analysis of our Sewer Fund. The program allows staff to build scenarios to take into account capital improvements, debt service, operations and maintenance and revenue forecasting to determine cash flow and evaluate sewer rates.
- ***Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee.*** Public Works Director, Kimberly Bullen, participated in the Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee meeting on behalf of Councilor Kreie.

- **Public Works Meetings.** Public Works Director, Kimberly Bullen, attended multiple meetings this week to better support Fruita Public Works. She attended the Mesa Conservation District meeting to discuss watershed planning, attended a webinar on trenchless designs and risk mitigation, met with City of Fruita's Attorney, Mesa County Attorney, and Mesa County Regulatory Programs Manager to discuss Wetlands Banking, and participated in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Water Quality Roadmap quarterly meeting.
- **Grand Valley Public Works.** Public Works staff attended a meeting with Grand Valley Public Works organizations to discuss a number of topics related to Public Works. Agenda items include snow response 2022-23, street maintenance including pavement assessments, overlay coordination, chip seal coordination, crackfill/pothole repairs, CIP Coordination.
- **City Shops.** Shoutout to all of our Public Works Staff for always keeping workspaces clean, organized, and taking care of equipment. Thank you!



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

- [Vote for our 2023 Volunteer of the Year.](#)
- [Open Burn Season Ready to Begin in Mesa County.](#)
- [Grand Junction food assistance organizations need volunteers.](#)
- [West Slope reps named to urban landscaping water conversation panel.](#)
- [Animal Services and Local Veterinarians Collaborate to Offer Subsidized Spay/Neuter Vouchers with Grant from Animal Assistance Foundation](#)
- [New online portal to serve as database for volunteer opportunities in Mesa County.](#)
- [We must take action on the Japanese Beetle.](#)
- [Fruita Chamber hosting third annual Women's Conference on March 9.](#)

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

- **March 10, 2023** – Fruita Arts & Culture Coco Vino, Our Lady of Perpetual Motion, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- **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](mailto: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.