



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: FEBRUARY 24, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Workshop

We have three items on the agenda for our workshop next Tuesday. The meeting will begin with a presentation from the Executive Director of United Way on 211 and an overview of non-profit services that are available to residents of Mesa County. We will then move on to a discussion on the Mountain Water Properties. Finally, our meeting will conclude with starting our discussion on Boards and Commissions for Fruita, and any other items.

ArborWorks Schedule for Next Week

Xcel Energy, working with ArborWorks, a utility line clearance company, began trimming trees in Fruita. They will be trimming all trees, both private and public, if the tree is a hazard for powerlines. They will not be working in Fruita next week. We will provide more information in future updates on where and when ArborWorks will continue to work in Fruita.

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 holidays impact trash and recycling services?
- **Answer:** Waste Management recognizes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. When one of these holidays lands within a weekday, trash collections will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. To learn more about trash and recycling services visit fruita.org/administration/page/trash-collection-and-recycle-services.

General Updates

- **Monthly Waste Management Report.** In January this year, Fruita residents recycled 59 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. The full monthly report from Waste Management can be found below.
- **Coffee with the City Manager this Morning.** Thank you to everyone who joined us this morning at Aspen Street Coffee! The Fruita Police Chief, Assistant City Manager, and I were able to answer questions from community members regarding affordable housing and homelessness. We also discussed current city projects, water usage, and more.



- **Career Day at Central High School.** Thursday morning, staff participated in the Career Fair at Central High School to share career opportunities in the Public Works and Parks and Recreation industries. It was great to connect with students and share with them the various job paths local government provides.

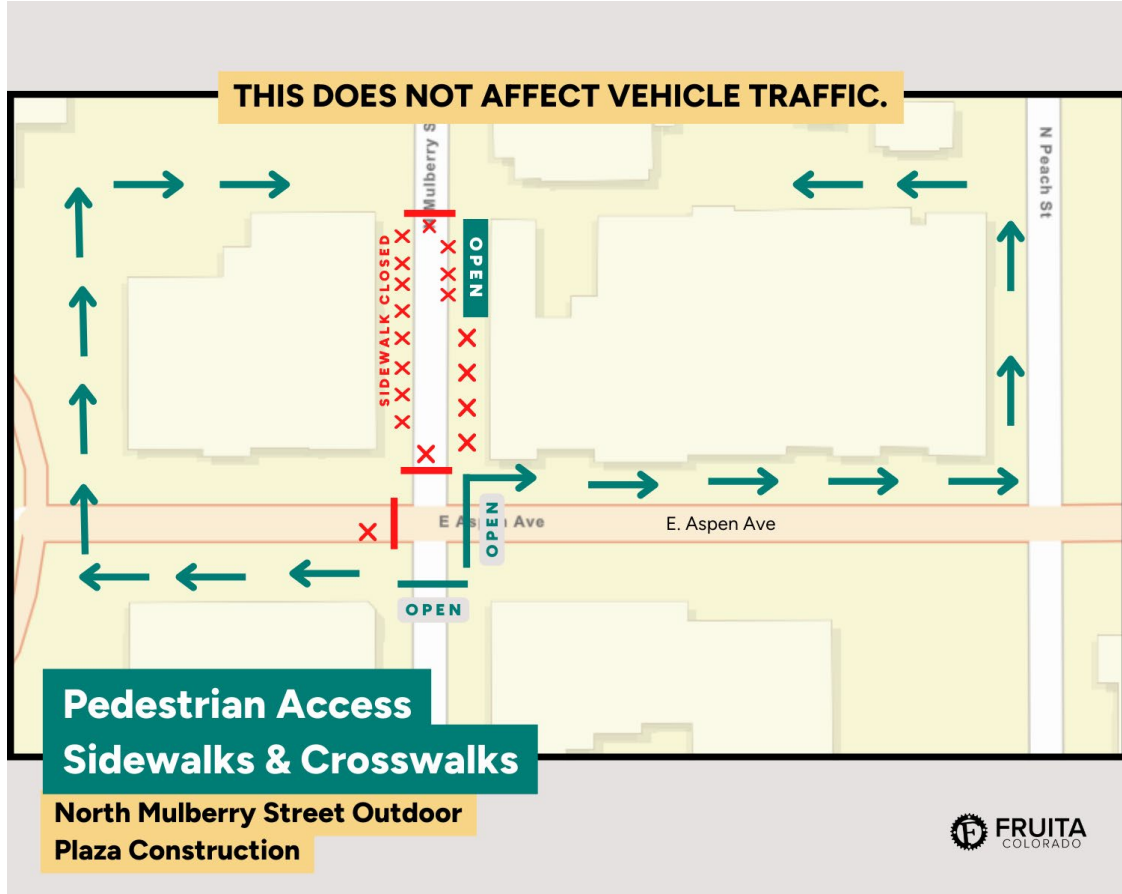


Administration

- **Increased Utility Costs.** City departments are seeing substantial increases in utility costs due to price adjustments from utility providers. January bills for natural gas for the Fruita Community Center and the Wastewater Reclamation Facility saw significant increases compared to prior years.
- **Blood Drive Recap.** On Tuesday, the Civic Center hosted a Blood Drive with Vitalant. The Blood Drive received 17 donations, which will help an estimated 42 people. Thank you for helping save lives!

Engineering

- **N. Mulberry Street Outdoor Plaza Update.** The southern two parking spots were installed this week, as were more decorative lighting foundations and underground electrical improvements. More concrete work is expected to occur later this week and next week, depending on the weather. Please note, due to the demolition work that has begun on the east side of Mulberry, the pedestrian route from Aspen Ave. to businesses north of the project has changed. Pedestrians are asked to please use an alternate route such as the sidewalk on the south side of Aspen Ave. to get from Aspen St. to the north side of the project. Crosswalks across Aspen Ave. are available at Peach St. (east of the project) or at the east side of the circle (west of the project). Pedestrians can access businesses on Mulberry St. north of the project (the Hot Tomato, Base Camp, the Copper Club, and the Vintage Common) from the east via the alley between Peach St. and Mulberry St. or from the north via Pabor Ave. Access to the Cavalcade and Suds Brothers is still available from Aspen Ave. We thank you for your patience as we complete these improvements.



- **Pine Street Bridge Update.** Work began on the bridge deck and top portion of the abutments by setting forms and reinforcing steel for both the north and south abutments. Work also began on the permanent steel deck forms that span the area between the concrete girders. GA Western anticipates placing the concrete for the bridge deck on March 9 depending on weather and work conditions.
- **Broadband RFP.** The Requests for Proposals (“RFP”) for the City’s Middle-Mile Broadband and Carrier Neutral Location project went out this week. The City will be accepting proposals until Friday, March 17, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. The RFP can be found at this [link](#).

Parks and Recreation

- **Update on the recent FCC aquatic closures.** The Fruita Community Center has just installed new chemical feeders for the pools and hot tub. This system will be safer, cleaner and more efficient for our staff moving forward. However, it has been difficult to find the perfect point at which chemicals will balance providing a safe body of water. At this time, our staff is working hard to adjust to the new system. In the old system, a pump with a small motor helped balance chemicals and pushed the right amount of chemicals into the pool and hot tub. The new system uses an erosion method to melt chemicals and a big motor to push the right amount of chemicals into the pools. The system can become airlocked which imbalances the chemicals, but staff are working hard to find the right balance of air to prevent this from happening.

- **1st Biggest Change Challenge completed.** Our fitness department offered a new program this year for participants to meet fitness goals. This program had 14 participants with an average change of 1". Participants had nutrition and fitness coaching from Tracy, Krista, and Lindsey each week and had great feedback. We hope to have future Biggest Change challenges in the fall season.
- **Gym Floor Installation at the Fruita Community Center.** The flooring has been nailed down in place and sanding has begun. Once sanding is complete, the floor will be prepared for sealer coats. During the application of sealer coats, the track will be closed to patron use. The expected days of this track closure are February 23 and 24. The timeline for completion and opening of our basketball court is early March.
- **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 5th-7th 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.
- **Spring Break Lifeguard Training Open for registration.** Lifeguard Training Blended Learning course will be offered March 23-25, 8am-5pm at the Fruita Community Center. Participants must be 15 years old on the first day of class and be able to pass a prerequisite skills test as well as complete the online module of class. Registration available until March 16 for aspiring lifeguards!

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

- **Welcome Elijah!** Welcome to our newest officer, Elijah Swank. Elijah comes to us after a short time with Grand Junction Police Department. With his hiring, we have one remaining police officer vacancy.

Public Works

- **ROW Permitting Process.** Public Works, Engineering, and Finance staff completed a review of the city's Right of Way Permit ("ROW") process to streamline the process, eliminating any inefficiencies in the process.
- **Snow Removal.** Crews have been busy clearing roads after the multiple snowstorms we've received in the past few weeks.

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

- [Hours expanding for Motor Vehicle offices.](#)
- [Snowpack topping seasonal peaks in local mountains.](#)
- [The ancient flute player called Kokopelli has become an icon on the modern world.](#)
- [Grand Junction Economic Partnership Announces the 7th Annual Western Colorado Economic Summit.](#)
- [Positive momentum: 2022 wins buoy 2023 hopes for economic development director.](#)
- [The Roam Collective Launched by Community Behind Roam Fest.](#)
- [Food Bank of the Rockies celebrates 25 years serving the Western Slope.](#)

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, 1:00 p.m.
- **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.
- **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



CITY OF FRUITA

2023 JANUARY RECYCLING BENEFITS

59 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard were recycled by the community this month.

This month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:

950 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 16,149,100 sheets of printing and copy paper!

137 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 175 people!

136,812 kWh of Electricity

Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 12 homes!

Avoided 162 Metric Tons (MTCO₂E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 34 passenger vehicles!

289,290 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 3,857 people!

To learn more about recycling, visit [WM.com/RecycleRight](https://www.wm.com/RecycleRight).

Always remember to Recycle Right



Recycle clean bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard.



Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.



No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

PREPARED BY WM

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Environmental Paper Network-Paper Calculator V4.0, Domtar Paper, Gaylor Corporation, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, and Waste Management.

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Notes: GHG – Greenhouse Gas; MTCO₂E – Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



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.