



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JANUARY 27, 2023
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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City of Fruita Receives Grant for Highway 340 Riverfront Trail Design

On Wednesday, it was announced that the City of Fruita will receive \$150,000 from the Multi-Modal and Mitigation Option Funds (MMOF) for the design of the Hwy 340 Riverfront Trail Connection Design. This project involves the design of the Hwy 340 Trail south to the Colorado River and under the bridge at the river to connect with the James M. Robb State Park. This project was originally included in the 2022 Budget, but after going out to bid, was reappropriated to 2023 due to receiving bids that were well above the funds budgeted. This funding will help the city complete the design either this year or next and get professional estimates on the costs for construction of the connection.

Fruita Community Center Court Update

The flooring for the gym at the Fruita Community Center arrived this week! Now that has arrived, the next steps for installation include:

- Install Sub-Floor System
- Rack (spread out for floor pieces for acclimation)
- Install floor/nail down
- Sanding
- Applying two sealer coats
- Painting the court lines and logos
- Applying two layers of top coats
- Final two layers of top coats
- Installing the base pieces and thresholds.

The Fruita Parks and Recreation Department will continue to update guests about the status of the gym floors through this weekly, [social media](#), the biweekly Parks and Rec newsletter, and by emailing members. Thank you for your patience with this project! Below is a picture of the flooring being delivered.

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



Reed Park Skate/Wheel Park Conceptual Design Meeting

In November 2022, the City of Fruita hosted a community meeting to gather input on the design elements of a skate/wheel park at Reed Park. After gathering feedback, the City of Fruita working with Design Workshop created a conceptual design for a future skate/wheel park at Reed Park that incorporates the input received. Now, it is time to share the design with the community and gather any other feedback you may have! Join us at the next community meeting on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fruita Civic Center or virtually. This skate/wheel park is proposed as an addition to the other amenities at Reed Park. Learn more about the event and for details to attend virtually at <https://bit.ly/3UUkMRK>

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:** How many Police Officers does the Fruita Police Department have?
- **Answer:** The Fruita Police Department is made up of 19 sworn Officers. They are currently recruiting for two Officers to join the team. If you are interested in learning more about the Fruita Police Department, make sure [to follow them on Facebook](#) and [review their weekly resume/reports online](#).

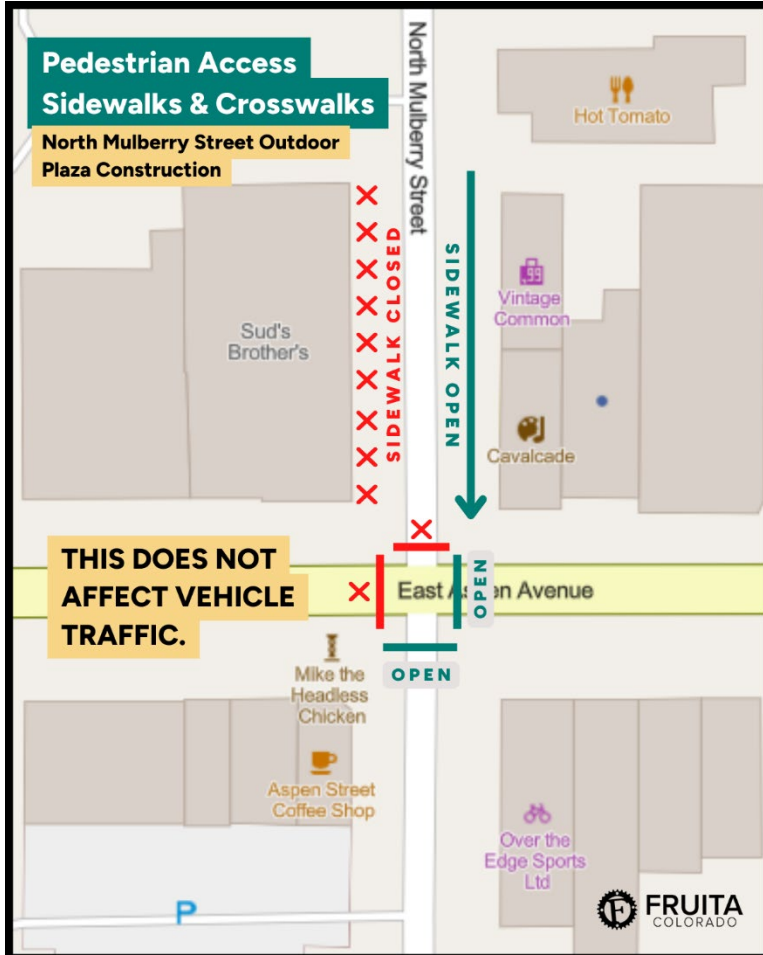
General Updates

- **Reported Gas Leak.** This morning, Mulberry Street was closed from Pabor Avenue to McCune Avenue and Aspen Avenue was closed from Peach Street to the Circle for a reported gas leak. The Lower Valley Fire Department and the Fruita Police Department responded quickly and conducted evacuations of the area businesses as a precaution while Xcel Energy responded to the gas line. Businesses are starting to reopen. The intersection at Aspen Ave. And Mulberry will remain closed while Xcel repairs the line. Thank you to Lower Valley and Xcel for the quick response! Updates can be found on the [Fruita Police Department's Facebook page](#).
- **Municipalities Dinner.** One last reminder, next Tuesday night is the Municipalities Dinner hosted by the School District #51 Board of Education. If you are not attending the dinner, since it is the fifth Tuesday, we do not have a City Council meeting scheduled.
- **New Employee Orientation.** I had a great time meeting with new employees early this week for employee orientation. We discussed strategic goals and core values, structure of city government, 2023 budget highlights, and more. I always enjoy hosting these employee orientations and welcoming everyone to the team!
- **Mobile Mesa County Newsletter.** Mobile Mesa County's [monthly newsletter is now available and can be found here](#). Read about local projects including the elimination of the DASH service effective February 1, 2023, Bike to Work Day on February 10, and more.
- **Engagement Event with Fruita Police.** Thank you to those who attended the City Engagement event on Thursday morning! It was great for our Police Officers to connect with Fruita residents. The next engagement event will be hosted on Friday, February 24 at 8:00 a.m. at Aspen Street Coffee.



Engineering

- **Update on N. Mulberry Street Plaza Project.** The contractor continued work on the underground storm drainpipe this week. A few sidewalks and crosswalks were closed this week for safety. These sidewalks and crosswalks will be closed for the remainder of the project. The sidewalk on the west side of North Mulberry Street is closed but the sidewalk on the east side is open. Pedestrians, please remember to be careful and make sure to stay outside of the construction zone during the project, as there will be excavations that may be hard to see and heavy equipment working.



- **Update on the Pine Street Bridge Project.** Work continued for the south abutment and wing walls with the reinforcing steel being completed. The foundation for the north abutment and adjoining wing walls was excavated to grade and compacted, the back face forms were set and reinforcing steel is being tied in preparation of concrete placement.

Human Resources

- **Blood Drive.** The City of Fruita will be hosting a blood drive in the Civic Center Parking lot on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. If you would like to make an appointment to donate, you can visit this [link](#). Thank you for helping save lives!

Parks and Recreation

- **Hot Tub Update.** Staff have been working hard to get the FCC hot tub back up and running. The filter for the hot tub was in need of new laterals. To replace this part, staff moved 2300 lbs of sand out of the filter, added new laterals, and will be adding a new batch of 2300 lbs of fresh sand. We will continue to work as quickly as possible to have the hot tub available to patrons.
- **Fitness survey closing on January 31!** You can win a 3-month membership to the FCC, a gym bag, a water bottle, and more when you take our 5-minute survey. Help us to learn more about

your preferences for Fitness & Wellness programs at the City of Fruita so we can offer programs that suit YOU! The survey can be found at this [link](#).

- **Costume Contest at the Sweetheart Race for a chance to win a Bluetooth speaker/ear buds package!** Grand Valley Bank has donated a prize pack worth over \$300 for the best costume in the race. The prize will include a JBL Bluetooth Speaker and earbuds. Costume contest will happen at the post race party at the Fruita Community Center. The post race party will have soup and cookies provided by Family Health West Flavors Grill as well as a prize giveaway.
 - The Sweetheart 5k/10k race will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2023, on the Riverfront Trail. The 10k will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the 5K will begin at 10:30 a.m. Both races will begin and end at the Fruita Community Center. Learn more and sign up today [here](#).

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

- **Screening Conference.** Admin attended the MCC Drug & Alcohol Screening conference to learn about drug and alcohol suspicion in the workplace and about the CDOT Clearinghouse program for all staff who obtain their CDL license.
- **WWRF Update.** The Wastewater Reclamation Facility (“WWRF”) team discussed the state of Colorado’s new 2023 Per- and Polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) regulations and begin the application process for the state’s PFAS grant. If awarded the grant the WWRF team will be able to test its influent, effluent, and biosolids for PFAS.

- **Webinar on Construction and Materials Costs.** Participated in webinar regarding construction cost trends. It was reported that costs are starting to stabilize but uncertainty and long lead times for materials remain.

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

- [Scientists studying water supply focus on weeks following peak snowpack.](#)
- [Making of a runway – Grand Junction Airport project is massive.](#)
- [Fruita basketball teams continue to roll.](#)
- [Mesa County jobless rate falls to three-year low.](#)
- [Mesa County Sherriff's Office looking for victim advocate volunteers.](#)
- [Traffic deaths in 2022 highest since 1981.](#)
- [Gas line break shuts down Fruita downtown.](#)

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

- **January 31, 2023** – City Council at Municipalities Dinner, 455 N. 22nd Street, Grand Junction, 6:00 p.m.
- **February 11, 2023** – Sweetheart 5K/10K Run, Fruita Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- **February 24, 2023** – City Engagement Series, Coffee with the City Manager, Aspen Street Coffee, 8:00 a.m.
- **April 14-16, 2023** – Desert RATS Trail Running Festival, Kokopelli Trailhead, Open Venue
- **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



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.