



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: FEBRUARY 23, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Workshop

We only have a few items on the agenda for our workshop on Tuesday, but the bulk of the meeting will be spent on a discussion on "The Beach" riverfront development. 2Forks Ventures will present an overview of the due diligence work that has been completed as part of the City's Memorandum of Understanding with 2Forks, and discuss conceptual phasing of development and the draft guiding principles of the partnership. We will conclude with short updates on other development projects and opportunities. The packet contains the full due diligence report for "The Beach" and can be [found online at fruita.org/meetings](https://fruita.org/meetings).

Tonight! Live at the Plaza – Winter Concert

You won't want to miss this free special event in downtown Fruita! Friday, February 23, head to the Mulberry Plaza for a night of live music, local restaurants, and hot chocolate. The Lost Junction Band (Country Rock) will take the stage starting at 6 pm. Enjoy a fun night on the Mulberry Plaza!

2024 Regular Municipal Election Information (CONTINUED)

The City of Fruita regular municipal election will be held on April 2, 2024, and will be conducted by mail ballot and ballots will be sent out to registered voters in mid-March 2024. The ballot will include the election of one Mayor for a two-year term and three City Council members for four-year terms each. Learn about the [City Council Candidates online at Fruita.org](https://fruita.org). **On February 28, 2024, the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce will host a candidate forum open to the public at Fruita Monument High School starting at 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

departments. If you have any questions, you think would be valuable for us to share, let us know by emailing communications@fruita.org.

- **Question:** Where can I drop off my Fruita election ballot?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita has a 24- hour mail ballot drop box located in the Civic Center east parking lot where you can drive right up to drop off your ballot. Ballots can be dropped off up to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, which is Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

General Updates

- **Fruita City Link.** The newest edition of the [Fruita City Link is available online](#) and will be sent to all Fruita residents in the mail the first week of March. This edition covers important information on the 2024 Fruita Municipal Election, the spring clean-up, the upcoming 19 Road improvement project, upcoming events, and more.
- **Council Chambers.** The new furniture and chairs for the Council Chambers were delivered and installed this week! Staff is still waiting on quotes for the updated AV in the North Council Chambers, but should be receiving those soon.
- **DOLA Grant Award.** The City of Fruita received a grant award notice of \$200,000 from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for replacement of the King's View Lift Station.
- **Congressional Directed Spending Requests.** Administrative and Public Works staff have been working on an application for Congressional Directed Spending for next year, and is focusing on a request for the replacement of downtown sewer lines. This is the same project sewer project that is included in the budget this year, but has been phased due to the size of the project. Fruita staff met with staff from both Senator Hickenlooper's and Senator Bennet's office last Friday, and were encouraged to move forward with the Sewer project application. We also have been told that, since the Maple Street Bridge Replacement project was included as a recommendation last year, we do not need to submit an application for that project.
- **Colorado Housing & Finance Authority (CHFA) Visit.** We hosted CHFA representatives Thursday to discuss funding opportunities for the City, community members, and local non-profits, and also gave them a tour of all housing projects in various stages of development.
- **St. Mary's Community Partners Meeting.** I attended the partners meeting with St. Mary's discussing updates to their healthcare offerings to the community, pending state legislation, and the merger with Intermountain Health.

Administration

- **Blood Drive.** The first blood drive of the year will be on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the Civic Center Parking. If you are interested in donating, you can make an appointment here: [Click here to make an appointment](#). Anyone who donates blood between will receive a free pair of solar eclipse glasses, and an exclusive solar eclipse t shirt. Thank you for helping save lives!

Engineering

- **General Engineering Services.** We received eight submissions to the RFP for general/civil contract engineering services. We are currently reviewing the submissions.

Marketing and Promotion

- **FTAC Annual Strategic Planning Retreat.** On Thursday, the Fruita Tourism Advisory Council (“FTAC”) participated in their annual marketing planning retreat with staff and the City’s contracted marketing firm. The FTAC discussed Fruita’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, target audiences, the overall Play Like a Local Campaign, and more. All of the information and discussion from the retreat will be compiled in a report and integrated into the City’s future marketing campaigns and initiatives, and that report can also be shared with the Council. Thank you to the FTAC for the great discussion, and all of the guests that also participated in the planning session.

Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** American Ramp Company is tentatively scheduled to start the Wheel Park on April 1, with construction lasting 3-4 weeks. The mason has completed their portion of the project and trusses are being set. Sheathing for the building will begin early next week to dry in the building. The plumber will be onsite next week to start the plumbing rough in.
- **Little Salt Wash Park.** Crews completed the work at Little Salt Wash Park last week pruning 70 trees and removing two. Crews are working on cleaning downtown planters including Peach Street, Civic Center, and Public Works.
- **Parks New Hire.** Stephen Hoaglund started with the Parks Department as a Parks Maintenance II worker. Stephen most recently worked at Highline Lake State Park as a Maintenance worker. Stephen is excited to contribute to the maintenance and provide exceptional park opportunities for the Fruita Community.
- **Active Adults 55+.** Speedy Friend Find held on February 14 was a success! There were 10 folks who made new friends, lots of yummy treats, and great conversations! This is a new activity that was held this Winter at the Fruita Community Center. We had a Valentine's themed painting class “Brilliant Brushes” held on February 16 was a hit! Last week the Active Adults 55+ group headed up to Mesa Lakes Lodge for Snowshoeing! We had a wonderful lunch and a beautiful hike!
- **Athletics.** 7th and 8th grade boys basketball continues to be another successful program with 12 teams and continued inter-league games with Grand Junction Parks and Recreation. Don’t forget Spring is right around the corner, and Spring Soccer signup is still open and continues to be our largest athletic program.
- **Youth Programs.** Daddy/Daughter Dance is this Friday, February 23, with 120 participants signed up so far. The night will be filled with a DJ and dancing, Qdoba catering, and Horse Drawn Carriage Rides. FYAC is preparing for the City Council presentation on March 5. Dinomites Spring Break is coming up on March 14 - March 22. Dinomites Summer Camp registration is set for March 25 from 4 – 6 pm at the FCC.

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit fruita.org/projects.

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Copper Creek West Final Plan, Filing 1 (Under Construction) (954 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- Iron Wheel Filing 2 Final Plat (Approved) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Approved) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- PSE Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1558 River Road) (2 Lots)
- LaPointe Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1050 E. Ottley Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Sunset Pointe Preliminary PUD Plan (Approved) (Parcel # 2697-091-80-001) (122 Lots)
- North Mesa Minor Subdivision (Approved) (155 N. Mesa Street) (2 Lots)
- Weston Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1877 J 2/10 Road; Parcel # 26997-164-00-050 & 2697-164-00-074) (109 Lots)
- West Canyon Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- The Fruita Mews (Under Construction) (1138 18.5 Road)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Site Design Review (Under Construction) (417 E Ottley Ave)
- A Storage Place Site Design Review and Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1960 & 1966 Hwy 6 & 50)
- My Storage Fruita (Approved) (1930 Highway 6 & 50)
- 535 W. Aspen Apartments (Under Construction) (535 W. Aspen Avenue)
- Wildcat Residences (Approved) (1807 Wildcat Avenue)
- City Market Fueling Station Appeal Hearing (Project Approved) (437 W Aspen Avenue)
- Geode Flats Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road) (City Council 3/5/24)

Police Department

- **New Police Officer.** Welcome to our newest officer, Shane Long. Shane comes to us with previous policing experience with the Grand Junction Police Department, as well as experience in the private sector. With Shane's hiring we are currently fully staffed in the Police Department.

Public Works

- **Ongoing Training.** Maintenance Worker Torie Tucker and Automotive Fleet Technician Wyatt Bramwell completed Tymco Street Sweeper training in Waco, TX this week. All Public Works employees are working to complete their National Incident Management System and Incident Command System 100 training.
- **Street Maintenance.** Completed 35 locates and continued with utility potholing on S. Mesa St. Crews continue crack sealing as weather permits.
- **Utilities Update.** Crew completed 3,230 feet of sewer line cleaning and epoxy coated the south side suction tube at King's View Lift Station. The King's View Lift Station is scheduled for replacement later this year.

- ***New Bearing Assembly Units Installed.*** Wastewater Treatment staff completed installation of three new bearing assemblies in the plant's oxidation ditches. This project was a carryover from 2023 due to extremely long lead times for the equipment that is manufactured overseas.
- ***Mountain Properties Update.*** Public Works staff met with the Glade Park Pipeline Water Users Association members to discuss Mountain Water properties and the pipeline that is used to supply water to approximately 54 users.
- ***Administrative Update.*** Public Works Director participated in a "High Performance Capital Planning" webinar. Public Works staff met virtually with representatives from RAS regarding the budget optimization tool we are using for our pavement assessment program. PW Director also met with Grand Valley agencies to discuss Adobe Creek and Leach Creek 2023 Microbial Source Tracking results.

RESOURCE LINKS

- [Community Resources](#)
- [City Project Updates](#)
- [Fiber Internet Construction Updates](#)
- [Trash and Recycling Services](#)
- [Stay Informed](#)
- [Fruita City Council](#)

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

- [Fruita Monument is No. 1 seed in state basketball tournament.](#)
- [Fruita man turns scrap metal into scorpions, dinosaurs.](#)
- [2024 Fruita City Council candidate forum.](#)
- [Professor, Fruita grad competing on game show.](#)
- [Western US Bicycling Events, Swaps, and Festivals.](#)
- [Don't buy these fake license plates.](#)
- [County Adopts Resolution in Response to Immigration Influx.](#)
- [The unbelievable tale of the chicken that lived headless for over a year.](#)
- [No. 1 Fruita survives scare with dominant fourth quarter, plays Broomfield next.](#)

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

- **February 23, 2024** – Live at the Plaza | Winter Concert, Mulberry Plaza, 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **February 28, 2024** – City of Fruita Candidate Forum, Fruita Monument High School at 6:00 p.m.
- **March 28, 2024** – Easter Egg Scramble, 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Fruita Community Center backyard.
- **April 12, 2024** - Desert Rats Race, Open Venue, Trails around Fruita
- **April 12, 2024** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, 9:00 a.m., Adobe Golf Creek Course

- **April 12, 2024** - Lower Valley Professional Firefighters Tournament, 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Civic Center Park
- **April 13, 2024** – Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- **April 20, 2024** – Fruita Spring Clean Up, City Shops (900 Keifer Ave), 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **April 27, 2024** – Fishing is Fun at Snooks Bottom, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **May 4, 2024** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Open Venue, Highline Lake State Park
- **May 4, 2024** – Co2uT, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 3 – 5, 2024** – Fat Tire Festival, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 11, 2024** – Adventure Fest, Open Venue, 18 Road Trailhead
- **May 31 – June 1, 2024** – Mike the Headless Chicken, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita.
- **June 25, 2024** – State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 8:30 a.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.



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.