



# FRUITA

## COLORADO



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

## Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: May 3, 2024  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

### **Tuesday's City Council Meeting**

We have a busy City Council meeting next week! Our meeting will begin with eight proclamations and presentations. These include: (1) Recognizing the students and teachers of the month at Monument Ridge Elementary; (2) a proclamation recognizing the Fruita Monument Boys Basketball Team on a very successful season; (3) a proclamation for Teacher Appreciation Week; (4) a proclamation for Police Week; (5) a proclamation for National Public Works Week; (6) a proclamation for the Days of Remembrance; (7) recognizing the Fruita Academy Graduates; and we will conclude with an update on the Total Daily Maximum Load with Mesa County. After moving on to the consent agenda, we have no public hearings on the agenda. Our administrative agenda includes an update on the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Code, Strategic Plan, and Circulation Plan, before moving into Council reports and actions. This is the first of several presentations that we will provide on recent Master Plans before as we prepare for strategic plan updates in the future. Finally, for Council reports, the City Council will make appointments to Boards and Commissions, consider cancelling the first meeting in July, and then will conduct the informal review of the Municipal Judge. See you on Tuesday night!

### **Fruita Civic Center Closed Today, Friday, May 3**

The Fruita Civic Center will be closed to the public next Friday May 3, 2024, due to the festival events in the surrounding area. Access to the Fruita Civic Center and parking will be limited and we can provide a better customer experience via phone or email during this event. Our offices will still be available by phone or email, so please reach out if you need anything! Regular in-person hours will resume on Monday, May

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

6, 2024. This closure does not impact the Fruita Community Center, the Fruita Police Department, or Fruita City Shops. Thank you, Fruita!

- Administration, Phone: 970 - 858 - 3663
- Community Development, Phone: 970 - 858 - 0786
- Engineering, Phone: 970 - 858 - 8377
- Human Resources, Phone: 970 - 858 - 3663
- Email: [communications@fruita.org](mailto:communications@fruita.org)

### **Fruita Fat Tire Festival, Girls on the Run, and Co2UT This Weekend**

It is going to be a busy weekend in Fruita! The Fruita Fat Tire Festival starts tonight in downtown Fruita and at 18 Road, and the Girls on the Run 5K is tomorrow at Shelledy Elementary School. In addition to those, Fishing is Fun is tomorrow and the gravel bike race Colorado 2 Utah (Co2UT) is tomorrow starting at the Fruita Civic Center. Here is more information on the events and potential traffic impacts:

- **Fat Tire Festival and Co2UT** – Will be using Fruita Civic Center Park, the parking lot, and surrounding streets. The races for Co2UT begin early on Saturday, and racers will be heading north on Peach and then Maple Street to access the North Fruita Desert from 18 Road.
- **Girls on the Run** - Will be running the same routes as last year, starting at Shelledy Elementary, then heading east on Ottley before heading north on Maple, and then Applewood Drive to Celestine Drive to taking the Big Salt Wash Trail (for behind Comstock) back to Ottley Avenue. We expect there will be traffic delays due to this event around 10:00 a.m.
- **Fishing is Fun - Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am at Snooks Bottom.** Registration is required; however, the event is free!
- **To learn more, you can visit each event's website below. Good luck to all the racers!**
  - [Fruita Fat Tire Festival Website](#)
  - [Co2UT Race](#)
  - [Girls on the Run](#)
  - [Fishing is Fun](#)

### **Fruita 2024 State of the City Premiers Next Wednesday Night**

For the second year in a row, we are teaming up with Rocky Mountain PBS to host the Fruita Film Night premier of the 2024 Fruita State of the City Video! Be the first to watch the Fruita State of the City followed by local Fruita stories presented by Rocky Mountain PVS. The event is free to attend but an RSVP is required. Please RSVP online at [bit.ly/fruitafilms](https://bit.ly/fruitafilms) or by calling 970-858-3663.



## 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:** What are some of the best routes to take to bike around Fruita?
- **Answer:** With May being National Bike Month, this is a great time to try out one of Fruita's wayfinding routes. There are four routes around Fruita. Each route will take you by major stops in the city like the Fruita schools, the Fruita Community Center, downtown, City Market and more. Around the city, you will see maps and pavement markings to help navigate you on the route. Learn more about the routes on our website here: [Fruita Wayfinding Routes](#).

## General Updates

- **Fruita Academy Week #4.** Thursday was our last night of this year's Fruita Academy, and we look forward to celebrating our graduates next week! Mayor Breman and I discussed the role of elected officials, boards and commissions, the form of government, key parts of our strategic plan, long term goals, and more. Ciara then covered the City's communication efforts and how residents can stay up to date with Fruita news. Shannon wrapped up the Fruita Academy with

providing participants with an overview of the Administration Department and the City's budget. This was a great group of residents, and we want to thank them for their participation this year. Thank you!

- **FEMA PIO Training.** This week, Communications and Engagement Manager Ciara Amann and Communications and Marketing Coordinator Ammon Pierce attended Public Information Officer training provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Grand Junction. This in-depth training is designed to provide communications staff with the essential knowledge, skills, and abilities to support proper decision-making by delivering the right message to the right people, at the right time at all levels of government.
- **Spring Colorado Municipal League Meeting.** The spring district 11 meeting for the Colorado Municipal League is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in Palisade. If you would like to attend, please let Jennifer and I know, and we will get you registered. These meetings are an update to hear from each community, hear a recap from CML on the recent legislative session, and to get together with other staff and elected from Mesa County.
- **Congressional Directed Spending.** This week, we applied for Congressional Directed Spending for the downtown Sewer Line replacements through Representative Boebert. This is the same request that we submitted to both Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper in March. We received notice late last week that the Congresswoman would be accepting requests, and we were able to meet the Thursday deadline for submission.
- **Mesa County Libraries Survey.** The Mesa County Library is looking for community feedback and we want to invite the Fruita community to participate in their 2024 Community Survey, which will be crucial in shaping their future direction. After completing the survey, you will be entered to win one of 10, \$100 gift cards to City Market! [Take the survey online.](#)
- **GoFruita Newsletter.** The latest edition of the GoFruita newsletter is now available and can be found here: [Mike the Headless Chicken Festival is Almost Here!](#)
- **Fruita Bike to Work Day Recap.** Fruita bike to work day was a great kick off for Grand Valley Bike Month. The smell of coffee, fresh bagels and muffins filled the crisp morning air as the sun rose. We had some early risers who teach in Loma show up first who fueled up on bagels and coffee for their long bike in to work. Shortly after the Loma crew left, we had our Fruita Middle school students, teachers and family members who swiftly dug into the muffins, bagels, coffee and juices. After everyone ate, they pedaled their way to work and school. Thanks to everyone who came out and joined us for the kickoff to bike week. A special thanks to Einstein Bagels and Best Slope coffee for their donations!



## Engineering

- **16 Road Update.** The railroad crossing at 16 Road is paved and is back open to the public. Staff are working on getting a bid package out for the next phase of the project with a tentative bid date of June 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a long delay between the bid date and the project's completion (widening and stripping improvements near the railroad crossing) due to the railroad's permitting process.
- **19 Road Update.** We hosted a pre-bid meeting this week for the 19 Road project that was very well attended. The bid date is scheduled for May 10.

## Parks and Recreation

- **Downtown Restroom Construction Update.** Temporary power was installed on Wednesday to prepare for the restroom's delivery. The building is being prepared for transit and will be arriving on May 13<sup>th</sup>. It will take two days to complete the installation with training on the last day. Once the building is installed concrete will be poured to complete the project.
- **Parks Irrigation Update.** The parks crews have been working to get all irrigation turned on in parks. Little Salt Wash and Civic Center have underground electrical issues preventing the systems from running from the irrigation clock. Crews are also troubleshooting issues at Olga

Anson and Comstock and hope to get these issues fixed to get water on the turf as soon as possible.

- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The waterslide plumbing is almost complete and currently working on foundation support. There is a stormwater pipe that must be relocated outside of the building, and we are working on plans to relocate.
- **Community Center Video Service in workout areas.** The FCC has installed new DirectTV equipment in the fitness area and on cardio cinema equipment. This will provide more viewing options while working out.
- **Aquatics Staff Update.** Our newest full-time member of staff started on Monday, April 29. Riley Ceglowski is now the Aquatics Coordinator for the FCC and is looking forward to jumping into the summer with the other staff members and community here in Fruita!
- **Community Center Visitation Numbers.** Continuing to follow an upward trend of increased visitation, the FCC hosted over 16,000 guests and patrons in April. This is 1,500 more visitors than this time last year and almost 7,000 more total visitors for the year. This includes 378 City of Fruita Employee visits in April. The FCC strives to be a place that our the community and our co-workers find recreation and leisure opportunities.
- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion footers will be poured Tuesday next week and then prepping for the slab, flatwork, and ADA ramp will take place after that is completed. Mays Concrete will pour the slab Friday May 10th and the following Monday pour the flatwork. Currently working on pricing for the changes at the North Pavilion. The wheelpark is progressing with forms, fine grading, and rebar for the mini bowl, brick stamp area, and staircase (pictured below). The tongue and groove started this week, all wood has been stained, roof was completed, doors painted, and drywall started. The landscaping contractor is still fixing all damaged irrigation and splicing damaged irrigation wires. They are working to get all repairs made so they can start irrigating the park.



## **Planning & Development**

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit [fruita.org/projects](https://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 (Under Construction) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Approved) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- LaPointe Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1050 E. Ottley Avenue) (4 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)
- 535 W. Aspen Apartments (Under Construction) (535 W. Aspen Avenue)

## **Public Works**

- **Utilities Update.** The city irrigation system is on with only maintenance/user valve repairs continuing. Staff completed about 9,500 ft. of sewer line cleaning and an estimated 3,800 ft. of CCTV inspections of sewer lines in April.
- **Road Maintenance Update.** Streets Division completed an asphalt patch on N. Apple St., continued painting parking stalls downtown and continues with crack sealing. Staff completed 189 locates for April and 86 miles of street striping.
- **Mesa County Storm Drain Art Project.** The City of Fruita is participating in the Mesa County Storm Drain Art Project that is a public-private art initiative meant to raise awareness at storm drain inlets. Local artists are invited to submit designs that will include stormwater pollution prevention concepts; aquatics, wildlife, riparian habitat concepts; or quality of life concepts. For more information please contact: Joshua Martinez at [joshua.martinez@mesacounty.us](mailto:joshua.martinez@mesacounty.us) The location chosen for the City of Fruita is at the corner of Aspen and N. Park Square. Art submissions are accepted Monday - Friday, 8am-4pm until June 15, 2024. If emailing, please send it to [Joshua.martinez@mesacounty.us](mailto:Joshua.martinez@mesacounty.us) If mailing or dropping off in person: Mesa County, C/O Joshua Martinez, 200 S Spruce St. Dept. 5013, Grand Junction, CO 81502. Applicants are asked to submit 1-2 images of the proposed artwork and a brief statement of interest (300 words max). Proposed images may be sketches or digital renderings. They should properly demonstrate the type and style of artwork in relation to the designated inlet.



#### RESOURCE LINKS

- [Traffic Impacts](#)
- [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):**

- [Colorado City named among best places to live in the U.S.](#)
- [CMU to Visit Tigers, Bulldogs, Warriors, and Wildcats to Award Over \\$11 Million in Scholarships.](#)
- [9 Things to do in Colorado this weekend: May 3-5.](#)
- [CMU awards over \\$11m in scholarships to District 51 seniors.](#)
- [Colorado isn't planning financial bailout of Western Slope psychiatric hospital.](#)

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

- **May 3 – 5, 2024** – Fat Tire Festival, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 4, 2024** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Open Venue, Highline Lake State Park
- **May 4, 2024** – Co2uT, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 4, 2024** – Fishing is Fun at Snooks Bottom, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **May 8, 2024** – Fruita Films, Rocky Mountain PBS, 6 p.m.
- **May 11, 2024** – Adventure Fest, Open Venue, 18 Road Trailhead
- **May 22, 2024** - Colorado Municipal League District 11 Spring Meeting, 5:00 p.m. in Palisade.
- **May 24, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **May 31 – June 1, 2024** – Mike the Headless Chicken, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita.
- **June 15, 2024** – Tab Benoit with special guest Larry McCray, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 p.m.
- **June 25, 2024** – State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 8:30 a.m.
- **June 28, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **July 26, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **August 23, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Civic Center Park, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **September 7, 2024** – Firefall with special guests The Dubious Brothers, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 p.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](mailto: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.