

## City of Fruita

Regular Municipal Election  
 April 7, 2020

### OFFICIAL RESULTS

#### Fruita Mayor (Vote for 1)

JOEL KINCAID	2,378
Total Votes	2,378

#### Fruita City Council Members (Vote for 3)

HEATHER O'BRIEN	2,050
KEN KREIE	1,917
MATT BREMAN	1,762
Total Votes	8,391

#### Referred Issue A (Vote for 1)

YES	1,682
NO	1,089
Total Votes	2,773
Ballots Issued	8,443
Ballots Cast	2,797


# 2020 Election Results

On April 7, 2020, the City of Fruita celebrated our democratic responsibilities and held our bi-annual municipal election. Residents were asked to elect a Mayor, fill three City Council seats, and consider a 3% lodging tax increase. Out of the 8,443 ballots that were issued to registered voters, 2,797 participated in the election by casting their ballots.

Joel Kincaid was re-elected Mayor of the City for a two-year term and Heather O'Brien, Ken Kreie, and Matthew Breman were elected to four-year terms on the City Council. These three join Lori Buck, Kyle Harvey, and Karen Leonhart on the City Council, each of whom have two years remaining on their respective terms. The Fruita City Council's biographies and photos can be found on the City's website at <http://www.fruita.org/citycouncil>.

Fruita voters also approved Referred Issue A, which will increase the Lodger's Tax in Fruita by an additional 3% be-

ginning in 2021. The proceeds from this increase will be used to fund parks, trails and open space and economic development within Fruita. More information on Referred Issue

A can be found at [fruita.org/citycouncil/page/2020-regular-municipal-election](http://fruita.org/citycouncil/page/2020-regular-municipal-election). 



*Fruita City Council If calling City Hall at 858-3663 does not answer your questions, please feel free to contact any of your City Council Members.*



MAYOR  
 JOEL KINCAID  
 250-9557



MAYOR PRO TEM  
 LORI BUCK  
 858-7767



KAREN LEONHART  
 250-4435



HEATHER O'BRIAN  
 HOBRIAN@FRUITA.ORG



KYLE HARVEY  
 435-724-7387



KEN KREIE  
 270-3305



MATT BREMAN  
 314-5991



# Thank You, Fruita Community



First, we would like to express appreciation to the entire community for your resiliency, patience, service to your neighbors, and creativity in adapting to this curve ball of COVID-19. This virus initiated many changes, restrictions, adjustments, and safety measures implemented by the federal, state, and county governments, all of which significantly impact the Fruita community. We are now three months into this pandemic and response at a local level. As Coloradans and Mesa County residents, we are now in Phase Two of the Safer at Home Reopening Plan. Considering how devastating this has been throughout the world, when it comes to positive cases in our area, we

are fortunate (at the time of this publication) to see very few current cases and nearly all positive cases have completely recovered with zero hospitalizations or deaths. Mesa County Public Health updates this information daily at <https://health.mesacounty.us/covid19/>.

When the Coronavirus spread to Colorado, the City of Fruita immediately launched an Emergency Operations Plan and began taking preventative measures to limit the spread of the virus. These preventive measures included, to name only a few, closing all City of Fruita facilities (including the Fruita Community Center before it was required), enacting a local disaster emergency declara-

tion, asking visitors not to travel to the area, and creating an emergency loan fund for businesses. Much of the City's work has been in coordination with multiple agencies and partners throughout the valley and the state. Another focus has been to regularly provide updates to the public via [www.fruita.org/covid19](http://www.fruita.org/covid19) (which we continue to urge residents to view regularly), the City of Fruita Facebook page, among other venues.

Second, we want to assure the community that as your municipal organization, while we anticipate shortfalls in revenues, we took early measures to initiate over \$800,000 in targeted 2020 cost reductions to continue being fiscally responsible and sustainable for our community. While these reductions will impact service delivery to a degree, we targeted areas that would have the least, if any long-term impact. In addition, the City maintains healthy reserves and both 2019 and the first quarter of 2020 resulted in higher than projected revenues. While no one could have anticipated this pandemic, the City continuously plans for unforeseen emergencies on a regular basis.

As federal and state guidelines begin to loosen and the

County continues to reopen, the City of Fruita still encourages following Mesa County Public Health guidelines. It is reassuring that anyone who has symptoms of the virus can now get tested through Mesa County Public Health due to increased testing supplies and capacity. The County is also offering an antibody test if you may have had symptoms before.

It's been a difficult few months to say the least and we feel for all who have struggled in many ways. We also applaud our community's response to the virus. We sincerely thank all our healthcare and front-line workers. We are. To stay up-to-date on COVID-19 related news or other City news, please visit [www.fruita.org/covid19](http://www.fruita.org/covid19), or follow the City of Fruita at [www.facebook.com/cityoffruita](http://www.facebook.com/cityoffruita). Also, the City Manager prepares a weekly update at <https://www.fruita.org/citymanager/page/weekly-information-updates>. The current week and prior years' updates can be found at this link where you can subscribe to have the Weekly Information Update emailed directly to you. The City of Fruita aspires to have its residents as informed as much as possible, especially during these uncertain times. 🍎

## Fruita's Farmers Market: An Update from the Fruita Chamber of Commerce

The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the 2020 Fruita Farmers Market season! This year's farmers market will take place Saturday mornings from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm from June 20 – September 19 at Reed Park. Located at 260 S. Elm Street.

Having the markets at Reed Park will help to promote social distancing and will encourage future market growth. The Fruita Farmers Market adheres to public health guidelines put forth by Mesa County Public Health and the Colorado Farmers Market Association. To view the health guidelines for the Fruita Farmers Market, please visit [www.fruitachamber.org/fruita-farmers-market](http://www.fruitachamber.org/fruita-farmers-market).

For the first time, the Fruita Farmers Market will be offering online ordering with curbside pickup for your convenience or you may visit Reed Park and stroll around the Fruita Farmers Market with social distancing encouraged. The Fruita Farmers Market accepts SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks.

The Fruita Farmers Market is still accepting vendor applications for the season for agriculture, food, handcrafted, and direct sales vendors. To learn more about becoming a vendor, please contact the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce by calling 970-858-3894 or emailing [events@fruitachamber.org](mailto:events@fruitachamber.org). 🍎



**2020 Fruita Farmers Market**  
June 20 – September 19

Saturday Mornings  
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Reed Park

The Fruita Farmers Market adheres to public health guidelines put forth by Mesa County Public Health and the Colorado Farmers Market Association.

SNAP & Double Up Food Bucks Accepted!  
LEARN MORE AT:  
[FRUITACHAMBER.ORG/FRUITA](http://FRUITACHAMBER.ORG/FRUITA)

**NOW AT A NEW LOCATION!**

Find the Farmers Market at  
Reed Park  
260 S. Elm St.  
Fruita, CO 81521

In an effort to promote social distancing and help future market growth, the Fruita Farmers Market will be moving to Reed Park.



# Annual Notice to all Fruita Residents: Properties are to be Maintained Free of Weeds and Sidewalks Free of Trees

Please help maintain our beautiful small-town atmosphere by removing weeds and keeping the City weed-free. Also, please keep our walkways and sidewalks free of trees and weeds. Here is what you need to know:

## Cut weeds 12 inches in height or higher to the ground and remove them:

- From the entire property where you live or conduct business
- Keep such growth down on each lot or tract of ground, on or along any street or avenue adjoining the same between the property line and the curb line thereof including sidewalk, and on or along any alley adjoining the same between the property line and the center of such alley.
- Along the street adjoining all sides of your property between the property line and

the curb line and/or sidewalk. If there is no curb line, then cut to within ten feet of the pavement. This includes the weeds outside of your fence to the curb line.

- Including all noxious weeds, like the puncture vine (goat heads), which should be sprayed with herbicide and removed when dead.

## Trees:

### Trees must be pruned along all street frontages so that:

- Branches do not obstruct light from street lights.
- Street signs are visible to motorists.
- Visibility at intersections is not obstructed.
- There is 9 feet of clearance above the sidewalks.
- There is 13 feet of clearance above the streets.

- Dead or dangerous branches do not cause a safety issue for the public.

## Keep in mind:

- If you spray any weeds with herbicide, all dead vegetation must be removed.
- Keep irrigation ditches and easements free of weeds and debris.
- Please keep sidewalks and roads clear of weeds and trees.
- All weeds and brush must be properly disposed of by bagging, bundling, placing in trashcans or hauling to the Mesa County Compost Facility.

For additional information, questions, or to report a big weed issue contact Code Enforcement at **858-0786** or via e-mail at [doliver@fruita.org](mailto:doliver@fruita.org). 📧

## Update on the Fruita Community Center

Following an extended closure, the Fruita Community Center (FCC) has reopened and is expanding operations. This month, the indoor and outdoor pools opened for both fitness and leisure swim, more people can now use the facility due to increased capacity and staff has resumed certain fitness classes and recreation programming. More information and a special Activity Guide can be found at [fruita.org/page/fccreopen](http://fruita.org/page/fccreopen). Here are a few highlights of the operational changes at the FCC since reopening:

- **Hours of Operation** – The FCC has expanded hours and is now open Monday – Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Pools** – Both the indoor and

outdoor pools are open for fitness and leisure swim. Ensure your spot by reserving a slot at [signupgenious.com/go/fcc2020](http://signupgenious.com/go/fcc2020).

- **Classes and Programs** – A limited number of fitness classes and programs began this month and will continue throughout July. These can be found in the June Activity Guide.
- **Reservations** – Guests are still encouraged to reserve a time slot to use specific areas/equipment, as only a limited number of walk-ins are allowed to ensure that capacity of 50% is not exceeded.
- **Masks** – Masks are required in the facility. While guests are no longer required to wear masks or face coverings while exercising, guests must wear one when entering/exiting the facility and when walking around.
- **Symptom Screening** – Guests



and employees will continue to be screened for any symptoms of COVID-19. Guests are required to provide contact information (name and phone number) in the event that contact tracing needs to be conducted.

- **Billing** - Billing for memberships was reinstated on June 15, 2020. If you would like to change your membership or have any questions, please

contact the FCC front desk at [mnelson@fruita.org](mailto:mnelson@fruita.org). Pre-paid memberships were also activated on June 15, 2020. If you have a pre-paid three or twelve-month membership, you may now make use of it again in furtherance of your fitness goals.

- **Questions** – Please feel free to email any questions to [recruitation@fruita.org](mailto:recruitation@fruita.org). 📧