



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JULY 23, 2021
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Workshop

The workshop will begin with a quick overview of the 2022 annual budget preparation schedule, a discussion on affordable housing and a short review of a requested proclamation. The workshop is in person at the Fruita Civic Center at 6:30 pm July 27.

Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow www.fruita.org/covid19 for all updates we are posting. This also links to important Mesa County Public Health sources, as well as many others.

- **Weekly COVID-19 Update from MCPH.** As always, below are a few highlights from the weekly COVID-19 update from Mesa County Public Health (MCPH). The full report can be found [here](#).
- **School Guidance -**
 - MCPH worked in coordination with Mesa County Valley School District 51 (D51) on their [Keeping Schools Open plan](#) for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - MCPH continues to work in collaboration with D51 to identify illness swiftly and take appropriate measures to slow the spread of illness, as well as monitor illness community-wide and make adjustments if needed. The plan remains flexible.
- **Delta Variant Spread -**
 - There are 836 cases of Delta variant in Mesa County
 - There were 634 reported last week, an increase of 202.
 - MCPH estimates that the total number of Delta variant cases to be much higher, because not all positive tests are tested again for variants.
 - Available vaccines reduce severe illness, including hospitalization and death, associated with all COVID-19 strains, including emerging variants.
- **Vaccination Efforts**
 - **Vaccines are Free.**
 - The Community Vaccination Site, located at 510 29 ½ Road, accepts walk-ins for COVID-19 vaccine.

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

- Hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is quick and easy.

Job Opening – Parks and Recreation Director

The City of Fruita is now accepting applications for the position of Parks and Recreation Director. If interested in learning more information, you can find the recruitment brochure, job description, and salary and benefit information, at our website [here](#). Parks and Recreation Director Ture Nycum will surely be missed and has accomplished so much in his 15 years with the City, which will continue to benefit the community for many years to come. We congratulate him on his new opportunity and wish him nothing but the best.

Transportation Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design – Open Houses (Continued)

Another reminder, next Friday and Saturday (July 30-31) we will be hosting two open houses to receive public feedback on the Transportation Active Circulation Plan and the Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50. Friday night (between 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.) we will be at Civic Center Park and then at the Fruita Farmers Market Saturday morning (8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.). As always, residents are welcome to drop in/put any time and share their feedback on the proposed plan and design. More information about each project and the open houses can be found at this [link](#).

General Updates

- **Meeting with Governor Polis.** Mayor Pro Tem Buck represented the City at a roundtable discussion with Mesa County communities and Governor Polis today. The topic was on vaccination rates in Mesa County and efforts Mesa County Public Health Department is doing regarding awareness and availability.
- **Meeting with Secretary Haaland, Governor Polis, Senator Bennet, Senator Hickenlooper, Congressman Neguse and Congresswoman Boebert.** I was able to represent the City at a roundtable discussion with area colleagues to express our support and reasonings for the BLM headquarters and decision makers to continue being located in Grand Junction. I was able to share about our strong, long-term partnerships and alignment of goals with our public lands agencies.
- **Meeting with Senator Hickenlooper's State Director.** I was able to join my colleagues with GJ and Palisade to share big picture needs in our area of a federal nature, and our priorities as a community with Senator Hickenlooper's staff.
- **RFP for Marketing Services.** We released a request for proposals for tourism and promotion services this week and will be accepting them through August 20th at 5pm. More info can be found [here](#).
- **OPIOID Settlement Governance Board.** The Attorney General's office is settling with one of the four pharmaceutical companies they sued re: opioids, and he plans to share some of those funds with counties, cities and also in regional areas. 60% of the funds will be distributed through the

regions. Mesa County is its own region, and it is estimated that Mesa's Region should receive about \$450K a year for 18 years from the first company. A governance board of required governmental members and healthcare partners has been created and I will be representing Fruita on this board and participating in monthly meetings.

- ***Team Imondi Wake Zone Going to WWA Park National Championships.*** Congratulations to the Imondi Wake Zone team heading to the National Championships! 14 Imondi Wake Zone wakeboarders have qualified and will be traveling to Florida in early August. Good luck!
- ***Town of Palisade Invites Community to Celebrate the Completion of the Palisade Plunge.*** This afternoon, the Town of Palisade, COBMOBA, Mesa County, and other partners hosted a ribbon cutting event for the full Palisade Plunge. Congratulations to Palisade and all partners on the opening of the trail! It is going to be a tremendous asset to our community. If you are interested in attending, the Town of Palisade has invited the community to a celebration in Palisade tonight from 5:00-9:00 p.m. in downtown Palisade.
- ***Update form CDOT on I-70 Closures.*** Today, CDOT released the following: CDOT maintenance crews continue to work diligently to reopen Interstate 70 in Glenwood Canyon after several debris flows occurred Thursday evening. I-70 continues to be closed in both directions between Exit 116 (Glenwood Springs) and Exit 133 (Dotsero), with an additional closure point at Exit 87 (West Rifle). The safety closure is necessary to protect the traveling public. **Crews are working on two major impacts today in order to reopen I-70.** The first is to create a safety barrier to protect the interstate wall along eastbound lanes at Mile Point 124. The Colorado River is flowing along the wall and recreation path due to a debris field blocking the river nearby. Crews are also clearing a box culvert further east on I-70, at MP 129. The box culvert is full of material, preventing floodwaters from draining from east and westbound lanes. The box culvert must be cleared and drained before floodwaters can be cleared and before crews can clean east and westbound lanes. If there is more rain this afternoon, it could significantly overwhelm the box culvert and further delay reopening the interstate. On Wednesday, CDOT released this press release on closures on I-70: [Travelers should prepare for weather-related disruptions and road closures through at least next week](#). These closures are due to ongoing flash flood watches and warnings due to monsoon rains that are likely. If you are traveling on I-70 soon, you can find the latest closures on [CDOT's website](#).
- ***Update from Mesa County on Property Taxes.*** This week, the Mesa County Treasurer released an update on past due taxes for mobile homeowners. The Treasurer is encouraging anyone with past due notices to reach out to them to avoid costly fees. The full release can be found at this [link](#).
- ***Mesa County Honors Late Human Services Executive Director.*** Next Monday, Mesa County is proclaiming July 26, 2021, as Tracey Garchar Day. Mesa County will be hosting an event at the Department of Human Services honoring Tracey Garchar and dedicating the lobby of the building to him. If you are interested in attending, more information can be found here, and events will take place on Monday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Tracey Garchar was the Director of Human Services and spent 23 years working in the field. From Mesa County: "Tracey Garchar was a one-of-a-kind leader, visionary, mentor and friend. He leaves behind a legacy of values he

lived by every day, which he instilled in his team to carry on: humanity, balance, honesty, inclusion and teamwork.”

- **Coffee with Dr. Klein.** On August 4, 2021, Dr. Korrey Klein (CEO of Family Health West) is hosting a Coffee with the CEO at Bestslope Coffee from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The flyer for the event can be found below.
- **2020 Suicide Report Shows Continued Need for Intervention and Education.** From MCPH: MCPH, along with several community partners, routinely collects and analyzes data to understand suicide trends in Mesa County and shares key findings in its 2020 Annual Report. Click [here](#) to read the report.
- **Mesa county Workforce Center Mid-Summer Job Fair.** The Workforce Center is excited to announce a second Summer Job Fair on Thursday, July 29th. 25 employers will be on site eager to hire their next potential employees. The Job Fair held in June was highly successful and we look forward to connecting even more employers and job seekers. The event will be held at the Mesa County Workforce Center 512 29 ½ Rd. From 9am – 12 pm (9am – 9:30 am is reserved exclusively for Veterans).

Engineering

- **Mesa County Chip Seal Project Update.** For July 26 – July 30, the Mesa County Chip Seal project will take place at the following four locations: US Highway 6 from Mile Point 11 to MP 20, CO Highway 139 from MP 0 to MP 6, US 50 Frontage Road from MP 33.8 to MP 36.2 and CO 141 from MP 120 to MP 154. For next week, motorists should plan for north and southbound closures on US 50 Frontage Road, Tuesday through Thursday lane closures on US 6, and north and southbound mobile lane closures on Friday for CO 139. The full update on this project can be found on CDOT’s website at this [link](#).
- Aspen Ave. And Maple St. have been striped with pavement markings this week and are open.
- Wildcat Ave. is closed along the east side of the Fruita 8/9 school for construction related to Grand Valley Estates Subdivision. The plan is to have the road open prior to the beginning of school.
- CDOT’s Wrong Way Detection Project will be coming through Fruita in the coming weeks. For more information, visit CDOT’s website at this [link](#).

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit: <https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/current-development-projects>

Land Use Code Amendments:

- Vested Right Code Amendment (Approved)
- Development Agreements Code Amendment (Approved)
- [Zoning and Density Bonus Code Amendments](#). (Approved)
- Short Term Rental Code Amendments can be found as this [page](#).(Approved)
- [Parking Standards](#) (Approved)
- Design Standards: The links to the Code Amendments can be found at this [page](#). (Approved)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Preliminary Plan (Approved) (1136 17 ½ Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 (Approved) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1892 K Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Patron Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1123 19 Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- VACC Final Plat (Under Review) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- Epic Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1092 Wallace St, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mills Rezone (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521)
- Red Cliffs 3 Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (280 Clements Way, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- 1930 Highway 6 & 50 Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50 Fruita CO 81521)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Copper Creek Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (954 19 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Finished)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)
- Lake Fruita Site Conditional Use Permit and Design Review (Under Review) (1571 Cipolla Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Review) 111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)

Public Works

- Administration is working to update the HOA Contact List to ensure we have current contact information for irrigation issues.
- Crews moved safe route sign on N. Mesa and have coordinated the new school schedules to safe route lights in preparation for school starting.
- Crews completed 4,750 feet of sewer cleaning in Zone 12 (Holly Park)
- Crews attended a Jetter Truck demo on 7/21/21
- Crews completed cleaning and flushing of storm drain inlet boxes in the downtown area.
- Crews will be attending CIRSA confined space training on Tuesday, July 27th at Persigo.
- Crews completed several maintenance items at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility and continue to work with vendors for switches and fiber cables.

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

- [Ruby-Horsethief seeing few adverse effects from increased usage, BLM says.](#)
- [No masks required for upcoming D51 school year.](#)
- [D51's 'Keeping Schools Open Plan' released.](#)
- [Mesa County's top employers: Which company is on top.](#)

- [Attainable housing series: Entry-level teetering on out-of-reach for some.](#)
- [Haaland to visit Grand Junction Friday.](#)
- [Colorado State Patrol ups seatbelt awareness with 'State2State' campaign.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can make sure to post if multiple council members plan to attend. Deb would also be happy to RSVP for you when needed.):*

- **July 24, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 29, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Michael Morrow & the Culprits (Rock-N-Roll), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 30, 2021** – Open House for Fruita Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50 – Civic Center Park, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** - Open House for Fruita Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50 – at the Fruita Farmers Market, Reed Park, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** – Fruita Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, “Welcome to Wonderland” at the Fruita Community Center, 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Additional information [here](#).
- **August 5, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Louie & the Lizards (Funky Jam Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **August 6, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **August 12, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Great Western Heritage Show (Country & Western Bluegrass), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 3, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **Sept. 22-24, 2021** – The Colorado Municipal League will be holding the 2021 CML Annual conference in Westminster. More information is available at www.cml.org/conference. Please let Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods know if you are interested in attending. CML will also hold a virtual conference on Sept. 29-30.
- **September 24-25, 2021** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita. The festival will include live music, food trucks, and variety of vendors. [Fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival](http://fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival).

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 Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50

Public Engagement Opportunities

The City of Fruita is currently updating its Circulation Master Plan. The goal is to recommend priority projects, programs, and policies to improve comfort and connectivity for all modes of travel. The Fremont Street design is a project in progress that is prioritized in the Circulation Master Plan. The City of Fruita wants to hear your input on the challenges and opportunities of traveling in Fruita.

Opportunity #1: Open House at Civic Center Park

When: July 30, 2021 - 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Civic Center Park

325 E. Aspen Avenue, Fruita Co 81521

Opportunity #2: Fruita Farmers Market

When: July 31, 2021 - 08:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where: Reed Park

250 S. Elm Street, Fruita Co 81521

What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is a long-range planning document that provides policies and strategies for the City. The Circulation Plan will recommend projects to improve transportation accessibility and amenities. Public input is essential for any Master Plan.

For more information, please visit fruita.org/Circulationplan



Enjoy casual
conversations with
Dr. Klein, President
& CEO of Family
Health West.

Wednesday, August 4th
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Bestslope Coffee
129 N Peach St, Fruita





Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Fact Sheet



Allowed



Fires in permanent fire pits, fire rings at private residences or within developed recreational sites such as a campground, or picnic area.



Fire features, chimineas and tiki torches at private residences supervised by a responsible adult.



Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices.



Agricultural burns with SHERIFF'S OFFICE ISSUED PERMIT ONLY! Mesa County Fire Marshal will do a safety inspection prior to issuing permit.

Only PERMITTED PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS displays are allowed.



NOT Allowed



The personal use of all fireworks are prohibited during fire restrictions.



Any fire or campfire, not within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area.



Smoking, EXCEPT within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.

Operating or using any internal combustion engine, such as chainsaws, without a spark-arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame EXCEPT in cleared areas of at least 10 ft in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Target shooting with explosive targets is not permitted.



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.