



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: May 31, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

Tuesday's City Council meeting starts with proclamations for Juneteenth, Pride Month, and Inclusivity. After proclamations, the new owner of 169 S. Mulberry Street will present a conceptual plan for the property. There are a few legislative hearings followed by the administrative where staff will present on the 2021 community survey results, communications, engagement, tourism marketing, and the sewer fund. See you on Tuesday!

Mike the Headless Chicken Festival This Weekend!

The 24th annual Mike the Headless Chicken Festival is today and tomorrow in downtown Fruita! Come celebrate miracle Mike with live music, vendors, food trucks, a 5K, car show, and so much more. The festival opens today at 4 p.m. at Civic Center Park. Check out Miketheheadlesschicken.org for the full schedule and more details.

Fruita Civic Center Closed Today, Friday, May 30

The Fruita Civic Center is closed to the public today, 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, June 3, 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

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

- Community Development, Phone: 970 - 858 – 0786
- Engineering, Phone: 970 - 858 – 8377
- Human Resources, Phone: 970 - 858 – 3663
- Email: communications@fruita.org

Thursday Night Concerts Start Next Week

The Thursday Night Concert series kicks off next Thursday at Fruita Civic Center Park! This summer tradition is free to attend, all concerts start at 7:30 p.m., and run every week until August 15. Grab your lawn chairs and enjoy live music every Thursday night! The season kicks off with the alternative rock/reggae with the Lip Band from Salt Lake City, Utah. Find the full schedule online at Fruita.org/calendar.

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:** Why doesn't Fruita have a fall/spring clean up program?
- **Answer:** Due to the small population size of Fruita, and to save costs for residents, the city's trash services are contracted out to a private company instead of being as a city run program. In the past, the City of Fruita has evaluated the costs of providing a spring and/or fall clean-up for residents like the program in Grand Junction (where residents can leave an unlimited amount of trash on the curbs to be collected, with the exception of certain items), but the cost from the contracted provider was too prohibitive at the time. Since the City's trash fund is fully funded through user fees, this additional cost would have to be passed on to residents in significantly increased monthly fees, and the City decided against that. To help with spring trash collection, however, the City hosts clean-up events at the City Public Works Shop building, which is advertised on the [city's website and social media](#). We will, however, continue to look into options to bring a fully operational spring and fall clean-up to Fruita and will share widely if this service becomes available.

General Updates

- **City Manager Engagement Event Recap.** We had a fantastic turnout at last night's City Manager Engagement event. Thank you to Mayor Breman and Mayor Pro-Tem Hancey for joining us! We answered a lot of great questions about the City of Fruita and look forward to hosting another event in the near future.
- **Paperless Utility Billing.** Staff has received and are reviewing an agreement for transitioning to Xpress Billpay for Utility Billing. Transitioning to Xpress Billpay will allow residents the ability to create an account online, see balances and make payments in the account, enroll in paperless billing, and more. Xpress Billpay works with our new accounting system to provide the information in real time. Assuming no issues with the agreement, and that it is acceptable to

Council, there will be a two – three-month lead time on making the transition. The lead time will allow staff to communicate the change and publish an update to all residents in the Fall City Link. Staff also estimates that the implementation costs for the change will be between \$4,000 - \$5,000 (one-time costs), and there will be a small ongoing costs per month (around \$300) that will most likely be offset in decreases in postage and staff associated with paperless billing. We will continue to provide updates as we they are received.

Engineering

- **16 Road Bid.** The bid for the 16 Road Improvement project opens today at 1:30 p.m. We will share the results of the bid in next week's update. This project consists of the paving of 16 Rd. south of Highway 6 & 50 at the Union Pacific Railroad at-grade crossing.

Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion concrete was delayed a week and was poured on Thursday. Crews will start the construction of the northern pavilion next week. The wheel park had flatwork poured last week and started working on the final bowl and ramp. The stormwater vault has been installed and sump pump was installed on Thursday. Sod was installed in the grass area and we will be watering throughout the day to keep the sod growing. These times will be 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, and 10:00 pm for a few minutes daily for the next three weeks. The contractor is also working on installing the electrical pedestals for vendors hoping to have all electrical complete for the first farmers market on June 8th.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The contractor hit a main waterline to the facility on Tuesday causing a temporary closure while they made the necessary repairs. The stormwater line has been moved, irrigation has been rerouted and foundations are prepped and ready for construction.

Planning & Development

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

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 (Approved) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Construction) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)
- Lake Weedunno Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (916 18 Road) (2 Lots)
- Sunset Pointe Minor Subdivision & Vacation of Right-of-Way (Under Review) (Squire Court) (2 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)

Police Department

- ***Phoenix Award.*** We want to congratulate Officer Pacheco and Officer Moody for receiving Phoenix Awards. The Phoenix Award is given to public safety professionals who provide care to a patient experiencing cardiac arrest, who then have been successfully revived. To say we are proud would be an understatement!

Public Works

- ***Certification.*** Dylan Baumgartner successfully completed his Collections I exam and has been promoted to Maintenance Worker II. Congratulations Dylan!
- ***Street Striping Bid.*** Public Works received one bid for street striping and has awarded the contract to Stripe-A-Lot.
- ***Streets Update.*** Streets crew completed four patches on Cleveland Avenue, finished crack sealing on Cedar St., set up traffic control for Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, repaired 3 inlet boxes, completed sidewalk repair and milled and placed thermal plastics on Aspen Ave. And Plum St.
- ***Utilities Update.*** Utilities Crew provided training to new staff on wastewater lift stations, completed CCTV inspections for the Engineering Department and continue with routine maintenance of the irrigation system.
- ***Public Works Admin.*** Continue working with engineering services and is currently reviewing Kings View Lift Station 90% drawings.
- ***Mountain Water.*** Mountain Water Dam inspections were completed by the Dam Safety Engineer. Fruita #1 Dam was determined to be conditionally satisfactory with a recommended safe storage level of full storage. Fruita #2 Dam was deemed unsatisfactory, with a recommended continuation of the zero-storage restriction. Some work is needed on Reservoir #1 to remove woody material from the dam. Staff will also order and install a new flow meter.

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):

- [Fruita hosting annual Splash Bash.](#)
- [Copper Creek Builders, LLC breaks ground on new subdivision.](#)
- [Check your lawn for Japanese Beetle grubs.](#)
- [Fruita's Famous Trail System is Doubling in Size – And Most of the New trails Are Already Open.](#)
- [Things to do in Denver and Colorado this June 1-2 weekend.](#)
- [Fruita Trooper selected Trooper of the Year by CSP.](#)
- [These roads will be closed for the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival this weekend.](#)

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

- **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.



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.