



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JUNE 7, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Mike the Headless Chicken Festival Recap

It was an amazing year for the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival! Thanks to our staff, volunteers, sponsors, and everyone who came to the festival! The festival saw a few record-breaking numbers with over 400 runners participating in the 5K (an increase of 100 more than in 2023), 220 cars in the cars show, and the merch tent sold over \$25,000 in merchandise. Thank you to everyone who made this festival so successful! We are looking forward to another year of celebrating miracle Mike, as next will be the 25th anniversary of the event!





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:** Do I need to bag grass clippings before placing them in my trash container?
- **Answer:** Yes, we do recommend bagging yard waste. This helps to ensure all trash is removed from the bin when Waste Management lifts the bin to empty into the trash truck. Bagging yard waste can also help with odor.

General Updates

- **Rural Philanthropy Days Conference and Tours.** This week, Fruita hosted the Western Slope Rural Philanthropy Days Conference with attendees from across the state. The conference brings people together from non-profits, local agencies, and more to learn about skill-building, community organizations, funding opportunities, and more. On Wednesday, our City Planner Henry Hemphill provided attendees with a tour of housing development throughout Fruita. And on Thursday, I gave a tour of our Mulberry Street Plaza, downtown Fruita, and some of our local businesses partnerships, such as the FARM, Imondi Wake Zone, and Over the Edge. We had a great group of attendees that participated in the tour and got to learn more about our

community. The City of Fruita sponsored this event, and the organization shared that 375 attendees participated in the conference.



- **Thursday Night Concert Series.** We had a great turnout for our first Thursday Night Concert of the summer and The Lip Band! Next's concert is the Powell Brothers, a Country/Rock band from Houston, Texas. To find the full schedule, you can visit our website here: [2024 Thursday Night Concert Series Line Up.](#)
- **City of Montrose Peer Sharing.** On Tuesday, the leadership team took a trip to Montrose to meet with fellow peers at the City of Montrose. We spent the day sharing ideas and learning about new opportunities. We also all had the opportunity to receive a tour of the Montrose Urban Renewal Authority (URA), which is a significant economic development project for the City of Montrose over the last several years. Specifically, we got to see the headquarters for Mayfly Outdoors, the new location of the Colorado Yurt Company (now Secret Creek), Shelter Distilling and Restaurant, and other developments throughout the URA. Thank you to the City of Montrose team for hosting us! We are excited to host their team here in Fruita later this summer or fall.



Parks and Recreation

- **Monthly Newsletter.** Get excited for summer with the Parks and Recreation newsletter. Read about upcoming events and programming here: [Parks and Recreation Newsletter](#).
- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion concrete is completed, and Ford will start with the construction of the north pavilion early next week. The wheel park continues to progress with the a-frame with rail and bump to bump gap poured, 5-stair with ledge, step up gap, and love seat hip with quarter pipe all being completed. The deep bowl is being formed and pool coping framed around it. 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 two weeks. The spine area concrete is being formed and the west parking area/sidewalk will also be formed and ready for concrete.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The stormwater line has been moved, irrigation has been rerouted and foundations are prepped and ready for construction. We are waiting for the engineer to provide foundation plans so we can pour the outdoor foundations.
- **Downtown Restroom.** As we continue to dial in the operations of the Downtown Restrooms there are a few things that we want to share about the restrooms. **Make sure you touch the button to lock the door behind you when you get inside; when locked it will turn red.** When you exit the restroom, the toilet will flush. If you do not lock the restroom, you have the potential for someone to walk in on you and the toilet will not flush. The restroom will wash the floors after every 20 uses. The floors are heated, and the blowers will dry the floor but may remain a little damp. At Mike the Headless Chicken Festival the downtown restroom averaged 450 flushes per unit in two days resulting in it being flushed on average every 4.3 minutes.
- **HeART of Fruita Planters.** Heritage Masonry will begin construction on the two new HeART of Fruita flowerbeds in front of Visit Fruita and Kim's Auto. The work will take about a week and will require three parking spaces during construction. The new flowerbeds will be the home to two new pedestals for the HeART of Fruita rotating art exhibit.

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)
- 1176 18 ½ Road Rezone (Under Review)

Public Works

- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance crew completed 153 locates and 280 miles of street sweeping in May, completed preconstruction meeting with United for overlay project.
- **Utilities Update.** Utilities staff completed pump repairs at Hwy 340 lift station and are continuing with CCTV (closed circuit television) inspections and reporting and maintenance of irrigation system.
- **Biosolids Available for Fruita Residents.** 70 yards of biosolids are available for application to yards for Fruita citizens at no cost. Plant staff will help load material in pick-ups for those wanting to pick up biosolids.
- **SCADA Upgrade.** Public Works Administrative staff attended the kick-off meeting with Browns Hill Engineering for the SCADA project at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility. Staff also participated in the Kingsview Lift Station 90% Workshop and GMP (Good Management Practice) Review.

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):

- [7 Budget-Friendly Towns in the Colorado Plateau for Retirees.](#)
- [D51's Lunch Lizard program returns, add Fruita route.](#)
- [Entertainment calendar: June 5-11.](#)
- [Mike the Headless Chicken Festival makes its yearly debut in Fruita.](#)
- [A major psychiatric hospital in Grand Junction will stay open – at least for now.](#)

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

- **June 13, 2024** - Thursday Night Concert Featuring The Powell Brothers at Civic Center Park, 7:30 p.m.
- **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.



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.