



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: JUNE 28, 2024  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

*City offices will be closed next Thursday, July 4, 2024, in observance of Independence Day.*

*We hope that everyone has a great holiday and weekend!*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> of July Fireworks presented by Canvas Credit Union Next Week (Continued)**

Mark your calendars for the Fruita 3rd of July Fireworks presented by Canvas Credit Union!

The show will begin at sunset on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, and can be seen from almost anywhere in Fruita. Fireworks are launched at the James M. Robb State Park. Snooks Bottom Open Space will be closed to the public for the entire day of July 3. Please refrain from using personal fireworks as they are a fire hazard and can be disruptive.

#### **Take note of traffic impacts from the show:**

- Expect traffic delays around Fruita and please plan accordingly.
- When the traffic closure goes into effect, Highway 340 will be closed going southbound towards the Colorado National Monument. All traffic will be directed Northbound.
- Traffic will be guided towards the I-70 Frontage Road, I-70 Highway, and Aspen Avenue.
- People can expect high traffic volume coming from the James M. Robb State Park entrance, Jurassic Avenue, and Raptor Road.

#### **Irrigation Shutdown Next Week**

Starting Monday, July 1, the irrigation line which supplies water to residents south of Ottley Avenue and just east of about Ash Street (following the ditch) to along J.6 Road will be shutdown for about three days for a contractor to connect a new sewer line and realign the irrigation pipe. We are working on getting as much

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communication as possible to residents and HOAs. Thanks for understanding, Fruita!

## 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 criteria does the Fruita Community Center use to determine closing the outdoor pool during inclement weather?
- **Answer:** The Fruita Community Center will close the outdoor pool during a storm if lightning is occurring within 8 miles of the pool. Pool personnel will monitor the situation for thirty minutes and then reevaluate if the storm has passed and it is safe to reopen or if closure is still necessary.

## General Updates

- **Next Week's City Council Meeting.** As a reminder, the City Council meeting scheduled for July 2, 2024 has been canceled due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The next regular City Council meeting will be on July 16, 2024.
- **Colorado Municipal League Conference.** Last week, the Mayor, most of the City Council, and staff attended the annual Colorado Municipal League conference in Loveland. Our group attended sessions on workforce housing developments in other communities, economic development, the legislative session recap, new grant opportunities at the state and federal level, and more. Our group also had the opportunity to visit Downtown Loveland and see unique developments there, along with touring parks, and more. This conference is a great opportunity to meet with other organizations and our partners throughout the state, and learn from others.
- **DOLA Grant Presentation.** On Wednesday morning, Mayor Breman, Public Works Director Kimberly Bullen, and I went to Montrose to provide a presentation on our grant application to the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy Impact Committee for the Greenway Drive Sewer Improvements. We should hear back on the grant application by next month.
- **Fruita Fourth Fridays Tonight!** The Fruita Fourth Friday is tonight at the Mulberry Plaza from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.! Head downtown to enjoy community, art, live music, food, and drink. More information can be found here: [Fruita Fourth Friday's Facebook](#)
- **Fruita State of the Community Breakfast.** On Tuesday morning, most of the City Council, staff and I attended the annual State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce. We heard from our local, regional, state, and federal representatives. The speakers discussed Fruita and Mesa County updates, a recap of the legislative session, and what

is going on at the federal level. Mayor Breman did a great job providing the Fruita update, and discussing our current accomplishments, but also our goals and priorities for the next several years. Great job, Mayor! A more detailed overview of the event can be found at the GJ Sentinel's website here: [Lawmakers talk business with Fruita entrepreneurs.](#)



### Administration

- **Welcome Joe!** This week, Joe Zaher started as the new Finance Director for the City of Fruita. Joe brings 14 years of government accounting experience to the position, and before coming to Fruita, served as the Finance Director for the Idaho Area Agency on Aging. Prior to that role, Joe worked for the City of Boise, Idaho, and the Idaho Department of Corrections. We will formally introduce Joe at the July 16, 2024, City Council meeting. Welcome Joe to the team!

### Engineering

- **Civic Center ADA Ramp.** The civic center is getting a second ADA ramp. Bids have been received on Friday and are being evaluated. The new ramp will be at the north end of the building and will serve as ADA access during festivals that close the ADA ramp at the south end of the building.
- **19 Road Construction Communication Mailer.** Another mailer will be sent out early next week to communicate to residents about the upcoming 19 Road Construction Project. The mailer has information about the project and the best ways to stay updated on the project, including information on the two upcoming informational meetings.

## **NOTICE – Road Construction Coming Soon**

19 Road from Highway 6&50 north to J 2/10 Road

**Beginning November 1, 2024 – Expect full road closures and traffic control until Summer 2025**

You are receiving this mailer because your address is near the project area (between Highway 6&50, from Peach St. to 19 ½ Road, and north to Ottley Ave).

### **STAY INFORMED**

**Upcoming Informational Meetings** – Learn about the project in person

- Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m. | Fruita Civic Center (325 E Aspen Ave)
- Thursday, October 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m. | Fruita Civic Center (325 E Aspen Ave)

**Project Webpage** – Find project updates online at [fruita.org/19road](https://fruita.org/19road)

**Sign up for Traffic Impact Notifications** – Receive weekly traffic impact notifications in your email. Sign up online at [fruita.org/trafficimpacts](https://fruita.org/trafficimpacts)

**PROJECT OVERVIEW** - This project will include sanitary sewer and storm drain installation from the canal north to J.2 Rd., Irrigation line and structure improvements at J Rd. and J.2 Rd., including the replacement of the line along the west edge of 19 Rd. from J Rd. south to Iron Drive, Road widening, Pedestrian path installation.

The recommended detour route is from J Road and using 20 Road. Please visit [fruita.org/19road](https://fruita.org/19road) for more project information, frequently asked questions, District 51 school traffic routes, and project updates. We appreciate your patience while we make improvements.

## **Parks and Recreation**

- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion landscaping is in process and irrigation work has begun around the shelter. The electrical pedestals have been installed in the park, and the electrician is waiting for the transformer before the electrical is operational for the Farmer's Market. We will continue to provide a generator and spider boxes until the site electrical is completed. The wheel park continues to progress, the deep bowl has finishing touches being completed this week with tile and pool coping being installed. The last concrete pour is scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>. They will then focus on final cleanup, installation of rails, and walkthrough with the wheel park designer scheduled on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The remaining flatwork in the park and asphalt is scheduled to be completed the week of July 8<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>.
- **Wheel Park Notice.** We want to remind everyone that construction is still in PROGRESS! The wheel park is not open to the public, and the contractor is still working on the finishing touches.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The contractor has started forming the spread foundations for the support of the waterslide. They will complete the forms this week and schedule inspections next week with concrete scheduled after inspections. We are still on schedule for a September installation.
- **Parks Update.** The parks crew is working on tree protection at Snooks Bottom. There has been a beaver causing damage and falling young trees, we are trying to preserve the current tree canopy by installing and ensuring there is tree protection around the trunk. Crews have been

aerating and fertilizing parks. They are also preparing Little Salt Wash for overseeding and topdressing.

## Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit [fruita.org/projects](http://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 (Under Construction) (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 (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) (1176 18 ½ Road)
- Karp Annexation & Rezone (Under Review) (958 17 ½ Road)
- 1582 Cipolla Outdoor Storage Site Design Review (Under Review) (1582 Cipolla Road)

## Public Works

- ***Congratulations Troy and Jim!*** Troy Melroy completed the Pipeline Assessment Certification Program. He also successfully completed Lateral Assessment Certification Program and Manhole Assessment Certification Program. These are certifications that follow national standards for infrastructure inspection. Congratulations to Jim Batchelor for successfully completing their Traffic Control Technician certification.
- ***Road Maintenance Update.*** Streets crew completed asphalt patching on Carolina St., completed inlay thermal plastics crosswalk at Plum St. And Aspen Ave. Intersection, replaced stop sign at Vista Valley Dr. & Ottley Ave., filled sink hole in the parking lot at S. Peach St. & E. Aspen Ave. Staff completed 171 locates to date for the month of June and overlay paving has begun.
- ***Utilities Update.*** Utilities staff built and installed a new irrigation headgate cleaner on Carolina Ave. Public Works staff met with SGM Engineering and USFS at Fruita Reservoir #2 to identify pipeline and structure locations as part of the design to breach Reservoir #2.

- **Wastewater Reclamation Facility Update.** Wastewater Reclamation Facility staff is completing accelerated WET and ERA QA/QC testing at the plant. Staff completed UV semi-annual maintenance on the UV system and other regular maintenance items.

## 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):

- [Wakeboarding state championships to be held in Fruita.](#)
- [Grand Valley Transit is making some changes for the summer.](#)
- [Heat stroke vs. Heat exhaustion.](#)
- [No major law enforcement issues at Country Jam.](#)
- [State of the Community Breakfast.](#)
- [Win Gardens Greenhouse this weekend.](#)
- [Lawmakers talk business with Fruita entrepreneurs.](#)
- [BLM welcomes new Grand Junction Field Office manager.](#)

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

- **June 28, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **July 2, 2024** – Rim Rock Rodeo, 927 Highway 340, 7:00 p.m.
- **July 3, 2024** – 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Fireworks Show Presented by Canvas Credit Union, Fruita
- **July 17, 2024** – 19 Road Project Informational Open House, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- **July 18, 2024** – City Engagement Event, Imondi Wakezone, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 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.
- **October 3, 2024** - 19 Road Project Informational Open House, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 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.