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# Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: MAY 20, 2016  
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

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## Tuesday's City Council Workshop

On the agenda Tuesday night is an update on feedback regarding the proposed Sign Code changes, a Grand Avenue zoning discussion, a discussion on ATV/OHVs on City roads and City Council training/prep for our goal-setting special meeting on May 31.

## CML Spring Outreach Meeting

At yesterday's outreach meeting, a few highlights were noted regarding the recent legislative session and severance tax:

- **Severance Tax:** With the recent Supreme Court ruling that the state owes large amounts in severance tax refunds to companies, the DOLA April and August grant cycles have been frozen. This means our current application for \$1.2 million for the Kokopelli section of trail is frozen. There will be a meeting in late June to determine next steps and the hope is finding a way to "un-freeze" and proceed with the cycle.
- A liquor sale in large retail is a big issue. A bill was passed to phase into this over many years that is awaiting a signature or veto from the Governor. This topic may also end up on a ballot initiative in November. It would not change the current licensing requirements as related to local governments.
- CML is encouraging the Governor to veto a bill that places an unfunded mandate on local governments to provide court appointed defenders at first appearance (currently kicks in later) for any defendant that could face jail time.
- ATVS—a bill passed allowing passage across state highways if the local jurisdiction allows ATVs on City/Town roadways.
- Universal healthcare will be on the ballot in November and the potential of many ballot initiatives added to the election statewide.

## TID BITS:

- Grand Valley Transit route changes will take effect May 21 (more info below).
- For more info on the Excellence Award the City and Olsson Associates received and was presented to City Council Tuesday night:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mBgHDvz2cY>
- Attached below is a news release from the Mesa County Clerk & Recorder's Office about a bill that Gov. Hickenlooper signed Monday. You can find the news on the County's blog [here](#).

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

- Staff is finalizing articles for the next City Link that will go out in early June.
- Conservation Colorado and partners held a celebration in Fruita at the Copper Club for the newly enacted Colorado Public Lands Day in the state. I and Tim Fry (MRP and ORC) spoke. It was a well attended event and fitting to be in Fruita.
- We had a great time riding in wheelchairs downtown (Mayor, Dave Karisny and staff) in partnership with Family Health West who did a great orientation and provided the wheelchairs. Businesses welcomed us in and out and our perspective was widened to an educated point as we progress in our sign discussions and design future phases.
- The sign open house at Cavalcade was attended by about 10 people representing downtown businesses—we got great feedback and will discuss Tuesday night.
- With the last day of school, our school resource officers will now be doing business outreach, traffic and other special projects.
- We received 45 Court Clerk applications for our part-time opening and staff is narrowing down interviews in conjunction with Judge Robinson.
- Out of the 4 proposals received for the Gateway and Downtown Phase 2 design, we selected Ciavonne Roberts and Associates.
- The drainage work on J 2/10 Road is complete with asphalt patching left to complete.
- The consultants, SGM, working on the second half of the Kokopelli trail design began NEPA work last week.
- The last shoulder concrete work was put in this week on the Little Salt Wash Trail—getting close.
- Dairy Queen and O'Reilly Auto construction is progressing.
- Staff has spent a lot of time at Reservoir 2 this week as it is showing signs of a new crack and scarp on the downstream slope. The Dam Safety Engineer has ordered that we hire a consultant to complete geotechnical evaluation and stability analysis by the end of the year, so we will be working on that ASAP. The water level staying where it is at and below the issue area keeps it safe for now.
- School swim has been successful with over 1200 students enjoying the pool.
- Speaking of the pool, the outdoor pool opens tomorrow!
- Don't forget the Fruita history Fair tomorrow and Mark will also be conducting an annual HOA meeting with all the HOAs Saturday (Details below).
- Staff looked into the cost of alternative microbes to help with occasional pond turnover smells, but it was \$26,000 so we will continue to fill the lagoon with irrigation and river water to keep circulation and less ability to turnover or be effected by the wind.
- Structural reinforcements were added this week to the Civic Center pavilion.
- Residents responded well to the sidewalk partnership program this year and the majority of funds budgeted have been spent.
- Unfortunately we had to send our new Vactor truck back to have something fixed and hope to have it soon.
- Community Development is staying busy with multiple applications.
- Check out the Colorado Tourism Office videos they use to market Colorado internationally and nationally, especially the following on the Colorado National Monument:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auOLL8N6Cj0> and the video on the campaign itself:  
<http://karshhagan.com/work/colorado-cometolife/>

## **FRUITA IN THE NEWS (or related news to the area):**

- Big wheel in town: Hickenlooper visits valley: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/big-wheel-in-town-hickenlooper-visits-valley>
- Kannah Creek brings its craft beer and food to a third location in Fruita: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/kannah-creek-brings-its-craft-beer-and-food-to-a-t>
- Public land frequently targeted by vandals: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/public-land-frequently-targeted-by-vandals>
- One life saving device can prevent fatalities on the rising rivers TV spot: <http://www.kjct8.com/content/news/379463271.html>
- Why Colorado asked a mountain climber to guide a \$13.2B industry: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/colorado/2016/05/13/why-colorado-asked-a-mountain-climber-to-guide-a-13-2b-industry/#30a62e324d93>
- Fruita votes to pay fees for drainage: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/fruita-votes-8232to-pay-fees-8232for-drainage>
- Fruita senior to class of 2016: 'Just go for it': <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/fruita-senior-to-class-of-2016-just-go-for-it>
- Fruita plans for Wheelchairs for Streetscape design TV spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/fruita-plans-for-wheelchairs-for-street-scape-design>
- Fruita Trail survey Nets Engineering Award TV spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/fruita-trail-survey-nets-engineering-award>
- Colorado public lands celebrated in Fruita TV spot: <http://www.kjct8.com/content/news/Colorado-public-lands-celebrated-in-Fruita--380064371.html>
- Colorado Escapist: Bikes, wine and a headless chicken on the Western Slope, heart of Colorado wine country: <http://www.summitdaily.com/news/22085486-113/colorado-escapist-bikes-chocolate-and-wine-in-grand>
- Fruita Monument high failed to announce soldier's name at graduation TV spot: <http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/380173081.html>
- End of the school year lessons shared through the Grand Valley TV spot: <http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/End-of-the-school-year-lessons-shared-through-the-Grand-Valley--380195611.html>
- Check out the life-size T-Rex exhibit in Fruita: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/entertainment/articles/check-out-lifesize-t-rex-exhibit-in-fruita>
- New Dinosaur Journey exhibit is making quite the roar TV spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/new-dinosaur-journey-exhibit-making-quite-the-roar>
- Former clerk gets probation for lottery crime TV Spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/former-clerk-gets-probation-for-lottery-crime>
- Entertainment Calendar: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/entertainment/articles/entertainment-calendar-may-20ndash26>

**UPCOMING EVENTS** *(When an RSVP is required I will include the information. I also ask that you 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.):*

- **Tonight, May 20**, the organizers of the proposed Montessori Charter School in Fruita will be hosting and presenting to the Colorado Charter School Institute Board Members at 6:30 pm at the proposed school's location at 2025 L Road.
- **Tomorrow, May 21** is the annual Fruita History Fair presented by the Fruita Historic Preservation Board. The fair will be at the Civic Center on the second floor from 10 am – 3 pm. Full invite below.
- **Also tomorrow, May 21**, from 9am – 12 pm at the FCC, Mark will be hosting a workshop open to HOA Boards and residents on code compliance issues (Invite below).
- **May 24** is a City Council Workshop at 6:30 pm at the civic Center.
- **May 25** is the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Member Appreciation Lunch from 11 am – 1 pm at the Chamber.
- **May 26** is the Chamber's Fruita Business After Hours event at Fruita Chiropractic & Massage (122 E. Aspen Ave., Unit A) from 5:30 -7:30 pm.
- **May 27** at 4 pm in front of Kim's Carquest is an unveiling of the sculpture 'Rural Memories' with the sculptor Gil Erbisch, who will be in town. Will be a short event.
- **May 31** is a Special Council Meeting at 5:30 pm at the Civic Center dedicated to goal-setting.
- **June 1** is the 2016 Economic Summit and GJEP Annual Awards Meeting at CMU. Registration is required and costs \$100 for the day and \$45 for lunch only. Please let Deb know if you are interested and she can register you. I plan to attend. For more info, click here: <http://gjep.org/wp-content/uploads/Economic-Summit-Agenda-4.20.2016-1.pdf>
- **June 3-5** is Mike the Headless Chicken Festival in downtown!
- **June 9** is our first summer concert at 7:30 pm but prior to that is a Broadband Community Outreach Meeting at the Civic Center from 6-7 pm.
- **June 10** is the Council Staff Leadership Retreat beginning at Rim Rock Adventures at 7:45 am and returning by 4:30 pm.
- The Fruita Community Calendar is available on the website at: <http://www.fruita.org/calendar>.
- The **2015** Events Information is also available online at: <http://www.fruita.org/parksrec/page/special-events>

CC: Department Directors











## NEWS RELEASE

Date: May 17, 2016

Contact: Todd Hollenbeck, 970-  
255-7168

### **Grand Valley Transit route changes take effect May 21**

Based on the results of the Grand Valley Transit (GVT) Operations, Route, and Schedule Analysis that concluded in March, route modifications have been suggested that will improve reliability and travel time, enhance customer satisfaction and increase ridership.

Those suggested route changes will be implemented starting Saturday, May 21.

Open houses were held in January and March, and final proposed changes were brought to the public for review on April 5. GVT has received comments from passengers regarding the changes. This feedback greatly helped GVT adjust the proposed changes to their present form.

GVT makes service changes to meet the diverse travel needs of the communities it serves. As GVT officials review and develop services, they make necessary changes to routes. Those changes reflect continued budgetary challenges faced by GVT, as well as changes in ridership and community feedback.

New GVT maps are available on all GVT buses and in the pass lobbies. Community members can call 256-RIDE (7433) to receive a new map in the mail. To assist with trip planning, customers may use the Google Transit Trip Planner online at [gvt.mesacounty.us](http://gvt.mesacounty.us) or call 256-RIDE from 5 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For more information, visit [gvt.mesacounty.us](http://gvt.mesacounty.us) or call Todd Hollenbeck at (970) 255-7168.

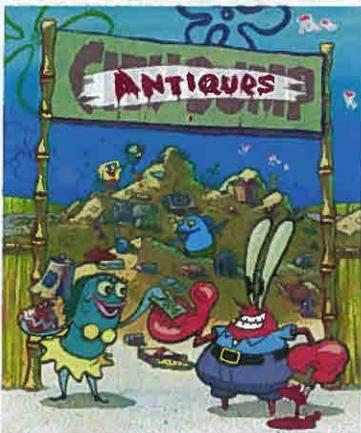


Fruita Residents and HOA Board Members:  
Your are invited to a FREE Workshop

"Help us Help you" solve problems before they occur.  
Join City Staff for coffee, a morning snack and lots of information.

Saturday, May 21, 2016  
9 am. - 12 (noon)  
@ The Fruita Community Center

***Topics to be discussed: Weeds; Marijuana; Abandoned Vehicles; Traffic issues; Home Occupation Businesses; When a permit is required; Animal Complaints; Tree issues; Trash and Junk; etc.***



Please RSVP by calling Mark Angelo @ 858-0763 or via email @ [mangelo@fruita.org](mailto:mangelo@fruita.org).