



325 E Aspen
Suite 155
Fruita CO 81521

Phone:
970-858-3663

Fax:
970-858-0210

E Mail
fruita@fruita.org

Web Site
fruita.org

City Manager's Office
970-858-3663

City Clerk/Finance
970-858-3663

Community
Development
970-858-0786

Engineering
970-858-8377

Human Resources
970-858-8373

Public Works
970-858-9558

Recreation Dept.
970-858-0360

Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: MARCH 13, 2015
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

Tuesday's meeting will begin by recognizing our High School wrestling team and also citizens who assisted the Police Department. We will also hear from Ute Water Board Member Ken Henry. In addition, two brief presentations will be given regarding a possible DOLA grant request staff would like Council to consider approving and an update related to City goals.

TID BITS:

- Fruita was well represented and highlighted at the 2nd Annual Walking & Biking Summit today, with keynote speaker Mayor Ralph Becker of Salt Lake City. Jen Zeuner (The Hot Tomato) did an excellent job speaking as well on the benefits of catering to the bicycling community.
- Mountain and Desert (MAD) Racing is a local event organization that puts on races all season. The first one is next month out at 18 Road. It's a very large event that draws people from around the region, and is a National Qualifier for cross-country mountain biking. Staff is working with John Klish, the owner/director to tie the event to the City.
- Due to the County no longer covering fiber from the Police Department to the Grand Junction 911 Center, the 2015 budget includes funds for an increased cost for this fiber. ProVelocity was able to cut the cost down from the original quote from Charter of \$4,000 to about \$1,200. This contract will be on your consent agenda Tuesday. It works out that the Lower Valley Fire District, who is connected to the City via fiber, can also use this connection and will take the matter to their board Wednesday to pay the City 20 percent of the cost to City, also saving LVFD from creating their own connection.
- Unfortunately, we did not receive funding for the grant we submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board requesting \$15,000 for two weeks of Conservation Corps crews cleaning up Tamarisk and Russian Olive at Snooks Bottom; however, they have been at Snooks this week and made incredible progress on cleaning the area.
- Below is an update from Mesa County regarding I-70 resurfacing east of Loma resuming Monday.
- Kelly Flenniken, Executive Director of GJEP will be leaving GJEP April 6, 2015, to replace retiring Xcel Energy Area Manager of Community and Local Government Affairs for the Western Region, Fred Eggleston.

- Staff is working closely with the Chamber, Cobb & Associates, Family Health West and local businesses to organize a great event to highlight Fruita to the *Ride The Rockies* riders in June.
- Night at the FCC is tonight.
- Dugouts at Little Salt Wash Park are progressing well—the Little League is overseeing this project and LL tryouts began last week.
- Speaking of awesome recreation opportunities in our community, I survived my first practice as soccer coach to 5-6 year olds this week—it was a lot of fun!
- Rec staff are working with Mesa County Health Department on the first paid advertisement in our upcoming Activity Guide.
- We held our voluntary pre-bid meeting Monday for our pending request for proposals for our website redesign—proposals are due Monday by 5 pm and we seem to have a number of interested designers.
- We are beginning to recruit for a part-time records clerk at the Police Department and Public Works seasonal employees this weekend.
- Public Works crews began cleaning irrigation lines this week to prepare for irrigation in April.
- We live in the coolest, authentic, fun, happening, active City with spectacular natural surroundings, a stellar natural outdoor playground, and the weather is amazing, so have an awesome weekend!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The next City sponsored event is the annual Talent Show that will be at the Fruita Middle School **March 20th** at 7 pm.
- The 5-2-1 Drainage Authority Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, **March 18th** at 3 pm at the Mesa County Court House, Training room B. You are all invited (Invitation attached).
- PD will participate in the Battle of the Badges (Police versus Fire) **March 25th** from 4-7 pm—so please come to the Police Department and donate blood specifying you are on the Police Team so we can beat our friends the firefighters.
- The **March** 2015 City of Fruita Meeting Calendar is available on the website at: <http://www.fruita.org/documents/admin/mtgcal.pdf>.
- The **2015** Events Calendar is also available online at: http://www.fruita.org/documents/rec/EVENT_CALENDAR.pdf

CC: Department Directors

I-70 resurfacing project east of Loma to resume following winter shutdown

MESA COUNTY— A project to resurface 33 miles of I-70 east of Loma near the Colorado/Utah border will resume operations to complete final work beginning Monday, March 16. Since construction began in early June 2014, crews have made significant progress on safety improvements to I-70. The work has included repaving and sealing the roadway surface, upgrading several interchanges, and installing structures that increase drainage and protect the highway from erosion. The project currently is 90 percent complete.

From Monday, March 16 to Saturday, March 21, weather permitting, motorists can expect various daytime shoulder closures as crews begin work along eastbound and westbound I-70 from mile marker 16 to mile marker 32. Then, beginning Monday, March 23, and lasting for approximately six weeks, one lane of I-70 will be closed in each direction at the US 6/50 overpass for work on bridge expansion joints, curb and bridge rail. A 12-foot width restriction will be in place during working hours from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

In April, crews will begin paving a 3.5-mile stretch of westbound I-70 between Fruita and Loma, in addition to paving interchange ramps at Fruita, US 6/50, and at 24 Road. Other final work includes striping, shoulder work, rumble strips and installation of guardrail throughout the project.

For questions about the project, contact the project hotline at 970-639-7755 or email the public information team at l70loma@PublicInfoTeam.com. You will receive a response within 24 hours.

Stay Informed:

The best way to stay up to date on project progress and impacts is to sign up for email and wireless (text) alerts. Go to CDOT's website at www.coloradodot.info and click on the envelope in the talk bubble in the lower right corner of the page. Enter your information and choose the project location you are interested in receiving updates on. Information about weekly lane closures will be available at www.coloradodot.info/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html.