



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: DECEMBER 11, 2015
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

The agenda is fairly light, but we do have an important item for which we will have a presentation from GJEP Executive Director Kristi Pollard and Derek Wagner, CMU, regarding Jump Start Colorado. Staff will then recommend adopting a resolution to participate in Jump Start. More information is in your council packet.

Great News for Little Salt Wash Trail Construction

This week we have a low bidder, who met the DBE goal, had a reduced cost and we received an extension from GOCO on our grant!!! At our bid opening this week, Hudspeth (who was the low bidder the first round) was the low bidder again at a reduced rate and they exceeded the DBE goal of 5% achieving 6.46%. The GOCO Board also approved our grant extension request. We plan for construction to begin in early February and complete late May/early June.

Congrats to Fruita Middle School!

Fruita Middle School achieved a recognition only two other K-12 schools in the state can claim and only about 200 in the US and Canada. They are being recognized as a Model Professional Learning Community at Work (PLC) by Solution Tree for the concerted effort of all staff to focus on learning, build a collaborative culture and create results orientation. As a City, we know that education is a key factor that people and businesses focus on when considering and choosing our community to live in or locate their business, and it is a major factor in the quality of place for our residents alike. It is achievements like this that add to the quality Fruita offers.

TID BITS:

- We had another week with a request from a prospective company that came through our Fruita.tv video. As things progress, I'll keep you updated.
- This week we began training Genny, who will replace Cindy after her last day on Tuesday. Next time you are at the front desk at the Civic Center, please welcome her aboard.
- Thanks to Family Health West who agreed to sponsor the Parks & Recreation April 9 Golf Tournament at Adobe Creek to raise funds for youth scholarships at the FCC.
- Find your hand crafted arts and crafts at tomorrow's annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair at the FCC from 10 am – 3 pm. We maxed out with vendors this year and had to turn some away once space was full.

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

- Don't forget the Parade of Lights tomorrow night at 5:30 pm. Cavalcade will also have Pictures with Santa for kids throughout the day as well.
- We mailed out the Parks & Recreation Winter Activity Guide to about 8,500 households in and around Fruita this week.
- The Forfeiture Board approved funding to cover upgrade costs to the AEGIS system for the valley's law enforcement agencies.
- The Forfeiture Board also approved funds for the City to upgrade our surveillance system at the PD and the Municipal Court.
- The Planning Commission public hearing regarding the Fruita Liquor Mart's expansion into the old Thai Palace Restaurant was continued to January as they continue to evaluate details of the move.
- Planning Commission approved the new draft of the sign ordinance that we are working on bringing to Council in early 2016. This would essentially legalize the signs we are all used to downtown as long as the business' sign (limited to 2) are within 500 feet of the business and not impeding the walkway, etc.
- Dahna and I walked and talked with just about every business that has a sign to explain and gather feedback—it was well received and we will follow-up with only two that we were not able to catch.
- Planning staff continues to be a part of and monitor the Grand Junction-Mesa County Wireless Master Plan study, the Housing Needs Assessment for the valley and the Dinosaur Diamond assessment.
- O'Reilly Auto Parts store received their planning clearance to construct next to Family Dollar on Highway 6 & 50.
- You may have noticed the new sign on the east side of the Ruby Canyon Building for Gears Frozen Yogurt and Smoothies, a frozen yogurt/smoothies establishment that is currently under construction.
- Due to a sign permit issued to the Smoke Shop (located on Mesa), it looks as if they will be moving to the west side of the Ruby Canyon building.
- Public Works staged traffic control equipment Thursday in case of snow today (looks like it may be tomorrow now) to be ready for the parade Saturday. With the new City Shops, all snow removal vehicles/equipment is ready to go and all set up in the new bays.
- Doesn't the large horse artwork look great in its new location on the corner of Peach and Aspen? Check out those orange and blue lights at night on it too!
- We arrived at final statements for the City Shops first phase and there is grant funding left that we are working on using to complete a couple pieces of minor construction inside the bay area.
- Wastewater staff is working with Fruita Middle School to prep for hosting 100 students per day for three days in January to tour the plant.
- The Lions and Lionesses are vacating the Civic Center Lions Room as they will now host all their meetings at Judy's Restaurant.
- If you've missed the street lamp on the north corner of Aspen and Peach, it has now been replaced.

- They are within about only 500 feet left of completing the Mulberry sewer replacement. Again they will finish installing the line and fill with road base but pave in the spring.
- Staff is working with Grand Junction and Palisade to respond to requests from the state on our Riverfront Trail submission for the Governor's 16 Trails and 16.

FRUITA IN THE NEWS:

- Nice blog spot of a family's trip to Fruita: <http://www.adventurefamilyinmotion.com/mountain-biking-in-fruita-co-for-thanksgiving/>
- Fruita set to host Wildcat Classic TV spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/sports/local-sports/fruita-set-to-host-wildcat-classic>
- Fruita Middle School receives award TV spot: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/fruita-middle-school-receives-award>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tomorrow, Dec. 12th** from 10 am – 3 pm is the annual Fruita Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair at the FCC.
- **Tomorrow, Dec. 12th** will be Fruita's Hometown Christmas. The light parade begins at 5:30 pm and the theme is Musical Madness and requires each entry to have some sort of musical aspect (i.e. live music, lip-synching, etc.).
- **Dec. 17** from 5:30 – 7:30 pm is the Chamber's Business After Hours event hosted by Alpine Bank at the Fruita Branch.
- 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