



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JULY 31, 2020
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting

The City Council meeting on Tuesday night will be held virtually. We will begin our meeting with a Proclamation declaring the week of August 3 – August 9, 2020 as "Interfaith Awareness Week". We will then move on to the five items on the consent agenda. There are two legislative hearing items on the agenda, the first on a supplemental budget amendment for the Coronavirus Relief Funding and the second on amending the Fruita Municipal Code. We will then move to two quasi-judicial hearings on short-term rentals. Our meeting will conclude with continuing our discussion on a Boards and Commissions policy.

Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow www.fruita.org/covid19 for all updates we are posting. This also links to important Mesa County Public Health sources, as well as many others.

- **FHW Testing Update.** A few weeks ago, the Colorado National Guard conducted 640 COVID-19 tests of staff members and residents at Family Health West. Out of all of the tests, only three of the tests were positive (none in residents) and these staff members were asymptomatic. The full press release can be found below.
- **Resources for Local Businesses.** Today, the Grand Junction Small Business Development Center launched the Businesses Recovery Initiative for local businesses that have been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. This initiative provides no-cost business training, workshops, and individualized consulting. To learn more, you can visit their website [here](#).

General Updates

- **School District #51 Update.** On Tuesday night, School District #51 made the decision that schools will be returning to in-person learning this fall and on schedule. The first day of school for grades 1-12 will be on Monday, August 17, and Kindergarten will begin on August 19, 2020. Currently, it has been decided that in person learning will take place five days a week, and there are several changes being implemented due to COVID-19. All information on the first phase of the district's

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reopening plan can be found at their website [here](#). News stories on the board meeting can be found below.

- **Mesa County Open Houses.** Mesa County Community Development is hosting a series of open houses throughout the county to give residents an opportunity to learn about the Resource Management Plan process and how residents can provide input on the document. This plan is prepared and adopted by a local government that federal agencies are required to review when making decisions that may affect the local area. The full press release and dates for the open houses can be found [here](#).
- **2045 Transportation Plan.** The Grand Valley 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Update is now complete. The Regional Transportation Office Director (RTPO) states that the plan “develops a framework for a balanced multimodal transportation network that builds off the Grand Valley’s existing transportation system and address the region’s transportation needs through identifying new opportunities. You can view the updated plan [here](#), and although it is finalized, the RTPO is still accepting questions and comments any time.
- Continue to participate in the economic development first responders, Colorado local government coordination and Chamber-City regular meetings.
- The CMU masks for local businesses in Fruita and the Grand Valley that we pitched in on should be available and distributed mid-August.
- Staff is preparing a wayfinding signage grant with CDOT to help residents navigate the internal walking/biking paths, bike lanes and sidewalk network in the City.
- We are narrowing down the plans to implement the outdoor seating/shade spaces and discussing with businesses hoping to get materials ordered next week.

Engineering

- Active Circulation Plan Request for Qualifications has been sent out this week with a deadline for submission on August 19, 2020 at 5:00 pm. For information about the request, you can visit this [link](#).

Parks and Recreation

- The Fall Activity Guide for the Fruita Community Center is now available! To view the activity guide, you can visit this [link](#).
- Our planning team and PHROST consultants visited the mountain properties this week and discussed preliminary concept plans for a few of our parks and trails. The team also discussed updating the trails master plan from 2009.
- Peggy Vertiz, who has been working at the Fruita Community Centers Front Desk since the FCC opened its doors in 2011, is retiring. She has been one of our most consistent, friendly and welcoming employees at the FCC over the past 10 years. Her ability to create relationships with our community and patrons has set a tone for the FCC Front Desk that makes the FCC welcoming and a community hub. She will be sorely missed and we wish her the best in her retirement.

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit: <https://www.fruita.org/cd/page/current-development-projects>

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Concept Plan (Approved)
- Bradyville Minor Subdivision (Approved)
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan (Approved)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Coloramo Site Design Review (333 W Aspen) (Under Construction)
- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Approved)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Approved)
- Sycamore St ROW Vacation (Approved)
- Lithic Arts Building Site Design Review (Approved)

Public Works

- The electrical service and controls were updated this week for the Highway 340 sewer lift station (2nd largest in city). The equipment had been purchased in late 2019 and we were finally able to coordinate installation with electrician, power company, programmer, equipment representatives and staff. The operation of the lift station is anticipated to improve efficiency, allow for more automation, and allow for some remote monitoring of the station.
- Since School District #51 approved the school calendar with a delayed start, our crews are working on programming the flashing school zone lights at our Fruita schools. The lights will actually start flashing some time the week before to test the lights.

FRUITA IN THE NEWS (and regional news of impact to Fruita):

- [Task force talks mission, vision.](#)
- [Mesa County in the Running to Help State Process COVID-19 Tests.](#)
- [Clerk's office to allow appointments again.](#)
- [D51 unveils plan for students to return.](#)
- [Bear activity in the Grand Valley.](#)
- [Several St. Mary's staff members reportedly test positive for COVID-19.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Schools Will Let Parents Choose Between In-Person or Remote Learning.](#)
- [Mesa County holds off on new variance for now.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Please 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 when needed.):*

- **June 20 – Sept. 19**, the Fruita Farmer's Market will be every Saturday from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm at Reed Park during these dates.
- **August 13, 2020** – Fruita Chamber Business After Hours at Imondi Wake Zone, 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- *Due to Public Health Orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, most events remain cancelled for the time being.*

CC. Department Directors

Do you have questions about anything in the Weekly Information Update? Please feel free to email us at communications@fruita.org.



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Stacey Mascarenas smascarenas@fhw.org
Date: July 30, 2020 970-858-2170o 970-250-7525c

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD COMES TO FAMILY HEALTH WEST TO ADMINISTER COVID TESTS TO LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

****UPDATE****

Fruita, CO – In an effort to test and offer baseline screenings for COVID-19 to all long term care facilities in the State, the Colorado National Guard staged testing sites at Family Health West on July 8 – 10th. A total of 640 tests were conducted on the residents of The Oaks (a 70 unit assisted living facility) and The Willows (a 25 unit secured living facility with residents who suffer from dementia and/or Alzheimer's) along with Family Health West staff, volunteers, security personnel and onsite vendors.

Only three (3) of the 640 tests were positive. ALL of the residents tested at The Oaks and The Willows came back negative. The three positive cases were Family Health West staff members working on 3 separate campuses that did not include the living facilities. The staff members were asymptomatic and were immediately quarantined for 14 days.

Family Health West has gone over and above CDC and Mesa County Health Department guidelines and protocols to not only protect and safeguard our residents from the virus but our staff as well. Family Health West is very proud of the results and will continue to work diligently to keep the virus out of all of their campuses.

The living facilities remain on lock down, however, family members are able to visit their loved ones outside and from a distance.

This effort has been made possible not only by the Colorado National Guard but the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Mesa County Health Department.

For more information, please contact Stacey Mascarenas, Communications Director, at 970-858-2170 office, 970-250-7525 cell, or smascarenas@fhw.org.

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**MESA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**

HOTLINE
(970)683-2300



WHY FRUITA? The City of Fruita focuses on three strategic outcomes built upon a base of providing quality core services.

Quality of Place (QP) The City of Fruita is a community where residents and visitors love where they are. The City strives to be a bike and pedestrian friendly community by providing a system of sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes that connect our parks, schools, neighborhoods, civic facilities, and commercial areas. We value safe neighborhoods, our geographic natural resources and landscapes, top tier education and healthcare, and we collaborate to provide quality essential infrastructure and services. We are an inclusive community of doers who enjoy active and healthy lifestyles.

Economic Health (EH) The City of Fruita strives to be financially sustainable by enabling a stable economy and supporting a diversity of businesses that offer well-paying jobs that attract educated employees. The City works to be fiscally responsible and continuously seeks ways to allocate resources to services and projects that have the highest impact on the City's priorities. We are the innovative leader for economic development in the Grand Valley.

Lifestyle (L) The City of Fruita fosters a fun and funky ambiance by celebrating the local arts, farm and ranching history, unique leisure opportunities, and family-friendly events and activities. As a city, we encourage a diversity of cultural opportunities, businesses, and recreational activities. We continue to improve and enhance recreational offerings from traditional to outdoor adventure sports and youth to adult activities. We are a family-friendly community with diverse cultural opportunities, businesses and recreational amenities where visitors feel like locals and locals play like visitors.



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.