



FRUITA

COLORADO

For Immediate Release
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Fruita Civic Center Closed Until Further Notice

Fruita, Colorado – In accordance with Governor Polis’s Executive Order to reduce in person staff by 50%, effective immediately, the Fruita Civic Center will be closed to the public until further notice. All Fruita facilities are now closed to the public, including the Civic Center, the Recreation Center, the Police Department, and the City Shops. If you have any City business that needs to be conducted at the Fruita Civic Center, most of this business can be completed online or by phone. To learn how to pay a utility bill online, submit a planning clearance online, submit a code compliance question/concern online, or to apply for a business license online, you can visit fruita.org/covid19. If you are unable to find the information that you need online, please call us at 970-858-3663 or email communications@fruita.org.

With the Civic Center now closed, meetings with specific departments (such as Planning and Development, Engineering, Administration) are now available by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, please call either 970-858-3663 or 970-858-0786 for Planning Development. If you would like to apply for a planning clearance or have already applied for one, please note that you can still receive a planning clearance electronically. Payments to Planning can also be made online or by check.

At the March 17, 2020 meeting, the Fruita City Council approved the ability to hold City Council meetings remotely as necessary. In the event that the City of Fruita needs to conduct a City Council meeting electronically, the City has purchased the program Zoom to facilitate the meeting. The link to the meeting, or to join the meeting, will be shared on the City Council page, and the public will be able to participate online, by calling in, or on a smart phone. Additionally, written comments for hearing items can be submitted before the meeting.

The 2020 Municipal Election is still on schedule. Mail-in ballots reached residents last week and can be dropped off at the election drop box in the Civic Center parking lot (325 East Aspen Ave.) until 7:00 p.m. April 7. Ballots may also be submitted via mail with the provided envelope by following the instructions listed with the ballot.

As of the afternoon of March 23, 2020, Mesa County Public Health has announced that there are five presumptive positive cases of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Mesa County. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has announced that there are 591 cases of COVID-19 in Colorado. Because of this, the City of Fruita will be moving to the fourth tier of

its COVID-19 Response Plan, and this includes the closure of the Fruita Civic Center. In addition, the City of Fruita will be implementing staggered shifts, teleworking where possible, and City facilities will be minimally staffed while maintaining essential services.

For the most current information, visit fruita.org/covid19. If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please feel free to contact us at 970-858-3663 or at communications@fruita.org.