



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: MAY 28, 2021
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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City offices will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2021, in observance of Memorial Day.

I hope that you have a great holiday weekend! Trash and recycling services will be delayed by one day.

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

Our meeting on Tuesday night will begin with two presentations – the first from the Fruita Arts and Culture Board updating the Council on the Wellspring Project, and the second, on the results of the 2021 Fruita Community Survey. After those presentations, the Council will consider four items on the consent agenda and move on to four public hearing items. The four quasi-judicial hearings involve two planning and developments items, and two liquor license related applications. We will conclude the meeting with rescheduling our August workshop due to a conflict with a Town Hall meeting with the Mesa County Commissioners.

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.

- **Mobile Vaccine Clinic Returning to Fruita Saturday.** The Mobile Vaccination Clinic will be returning to the Fruita Civic Center tomorrow from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. First and second doses of the Pfizer and single dose Johnson and Johnson vaccines will be available, and the vaccine is completely free, and no insurance or photo ID is required. More information is available [here](#).
- **Vaccine Update from MCPH.** Provided here are a few of the notes from the latest Mesa County Public Health weekly vaccine update. The full update is available [here](#).
 - As of week, ending May 22, 2021, 99,367 vaccines have been administered. A [vaccine dashboard](#) is updated weekly on the MCPH website.
 - Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. People who are fully vaccinated can resume activities that they did prior to the pandemic. Learn

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

more about what you and your child or teen can do [when you have been fully vaccinated](#).

- The Mesa County Community Vaccination Site (CVS) is located at the Mesa County Public Health (MCPH) building at 510 29 1/2 Rd.
 - Hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - Next-day appointments are available for COVID-19 vaccination, visit the MCPH website for vaccine scheduling links available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- Children 12 years and older are able to get the [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#).
 - MCPH administers Pfizer vaccine Wednesdays and Saturdays. The scheduling website will only allow appointments for this age group on scheduled Pfizer days, and a parent or guardian must be present at the vaccine appointment.
- **First Pediatric COVID-19 Related Death in Mesa County.** Unfortunately, this week, MCPH was notified of a pediatric death related to COVID-19. We want to share our deepest sympathy to the child's family and friends. The full release is available [here](#).

2021 State of the City Video

We are excited to share our 2021 State of the City Video! As we reflect on the past year and a half, we wanted to celebrate the accomplishments of our community and our organization. This video includes several stories on these accomplishments from our residents, while also highlighting our partnerships. You can watch the video at this [link](#). A landing page with more information and access to the video is also found at <http://www.fruita.org/2021stateofthecity>



General Updates

- **Leadership Retreat.** Earlier this week our staff leadership team took time to meet at the Community Center and focus on big-picture items in preparation for the Council retreat and budget process—a small in-house retreat. We incorporated leadership training and had fun

playing 5 on5 basketball with some of the youth at the center during a break, feeling slightly sore the next couple days 😊.

- **Airport Tour.** I was able to receive a tour of the Grand Junction Regional Airport and impressed with all the improvements, new airline service and current projects in the works there. We are fortunate to have this asset in our Valley.
- **Las Colonias Ribbon Cutting Celebration.** A group of us were able to attend the celebration yesterday to support our neighboring City.
- **Field Trip to Moon Farm.** Thanks to all of you who were able to attend the field trip to Moon Farm Tuesday evening and learn about the Grand Valley Equine Assisted Learning Center's services. We have begun to identify if there are possible funding sources in external grant sources.
- **Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Member Appreciation Lunch.** Thanks to the Fruita Chamber for hosting their annual lunch. Many staff were able to attend and enjoy catching up with local businesses.
- **Palisade Plunge.** Congratulations to the Town of Palisade, COBMOBA, and our federal land partners, on the opening of the first section of the Palisade Plunge! Beginning tomorrow, riders can now ride the final 18 miles of the trail, and the full trail is expected to open sometime during the summer. The Palisade Plunge is going to be an incredible asset for the Grand Valley, and we are excited for its opening.
- **Mobile Mesa County Newsletter.** The May Mobile Mesa County newsletter is now available and can be found at this [page](#). The newsletter includes information on upcoming GVT promotions, Grand Valley Bike Month, and JUCO.
- **Basin Roundtables.** On June 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m., the Colorado Water Conservation Board (of the Co. Dept. Of Natural Resources) will be hosting a roundtable discussion on water management issues and the Demand Management program. Staff is planning on participating in these roundtables, but if any members of the Council are interested, please let me know.

Engineering

- **Mesa County Chip Seal Project.** Traffic Update from May 31 to June 4 – the Mesa County chip seal project will take place at the following four locations: US Hwy 6 from Mile Point 11 to MP 20, CO Highway 139 from MP 0 to MP 6, US 50 Front Road from MP 33.8 to 36.2 and CO 141 from MP 120 to MP 154. Motorists should plan for minimal delays on US 6 with east and westbound one-lane alternating traffic. More information on the project can be found [here](#).
- **Iron Wheel Subdivision.** J Road should be open for this weekend, but 19 Road will continue to be close to through traffic until the waterline, sewer line work, and paving operations are complete.
- **Big Salt Wash Trail Connections.** Concrete work is complete for the trail connections to the Big Salt Wash Trail in Santa Fe Ranch, Evening Breeze, Comstock, and Orchard Ridge subdivisions.
- **Maple St./Aspen Ave. Sewer Replacement.** Sorter Construction has installed about 2/3 of the sewer main in Aspen Avenue through the end of the week.

Human Resources

- **Job Openings.** The City of Fruita is currently accepting applications for several positions, including Recreation Coordinator for Senior Services, Code Compliance Officer/Neighborhood Services Coordinator, and Adult Basketball Sports Officials. To view these current job openings and for more information, you can visit our website [here](#).
- **Blood Drive.** The St. Mary's Bloodmobile will be the Civic Center Parking lot on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments are required to give blood, and a link to sign up is available [here](#). Thank you for helping save lives!

Parks and Recreation

- **Thank you, Jacqui!** Since 2010, Jacqui Foster has run the Senior Services Division of Fruita Parks and Recreation and today is her last with us. In her time with us, she opened the Senior Center at the Fruita Community Center and has grown Senior Services into a robust program complete with educational classes, day and overnight trips, lunch programs and much, much more. And Jacqui during her tenure won the Colorado Parks and Recreation Associations, Senior Services Professional of the Year. She will be dearly missed, and the Fruita Parks and Recreation is losing a great team member. But she is off to new adventures and will still be in Fruita working and sharing her wonderful energy with the community. We wish Jacqui all the best and thank her for giving her all to our Senior Community.
- **Outdoor Pool May Intermittently Closed.** The outdoor pool at the Fruita Community Center is currently open but may be intermittently closed for repairs next week.
- **Bimonthly Newsletter.** The latest edition of the bimonthly Fruita Parks and Recreation Department newsletter is now available and can be found here: [Enjoy summer fun at the FCC!](#) It includes information on the new hours at the Rec Center, the Summer Activity Guide, upcoming programming for adults and children, and more.

Planning & Development

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

Land Use Code Amendments:

- Vested Right Code Amendment (Approved)
- Development Agreements Code Amendment (Approved)
- [Zoning and Density Bonus Code Amendments](#). (Approved)
- Short Term Rental Code Amendments can be found as this [page](#).(Approved)
- [Parking Standards](#) (Approved)
- Design Standards: The links to the Code Amendments can be found at this [page](#). (Approved)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Dwell PUD Preliminary Plan (Approved) (1136 17 ½ Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 (Approved) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1892 K Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Patron Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1123 19 Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- VACC Final Plat (Under Review) (1176 18 Rd)

- Epic Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (192 Wallace St)
- Cider Mills Rezone (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Under Construction)
- Pediatric Dental Specialist (197 & 101 Jurassic) (Finished)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)

Police Department

- **Summer School.** There will be summer school in session in all Fruita schools with the exception of Fruita Middle School, so drivers should continue to be on the lookout for active school zones.
- **Body Worn Cameras Update.** The police department has begun the roll-out of body worn cameras, with 4-5 officers participating in the initial phase.
- **Memorial Day DUI Enforcement.** From CDOT: To combat impaired driving, CDOT, CSP, and local law enforcement agencies will join forces for the Memorial Day DUI enforcement from May 28, 2021 to June 1, 2021. The enforcement period aims to remind Coloradans to celebrate responsibly over the holiday weekend and throughout the summer. We hope that you celebrate the holiday responsibly!

Public Works

- **Graffiti.** Crews removed graffiti on Wildcat Avenue
- **Grease Update.** Crews continue to complete grease inspections in the City's collection system
- **Irrigation Assessments.** Crews beginning irrigation valve inventory and condition assessment
- **H2S Mitigation.** Staff met to discuss H2S in collection system and identify next steps.
- **Storm Sewer Cleaning.** Crews are cleaning storm sewers due to elm seeds. Additional work will be scheduled next week for Aspen Avenue and Peach Street.
- **340 Lift Station Repairs.** Crews repaired damaged culvert at 340 Lift Station by extending the culvert and adding a guard rail.



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

- [Seasonal allergies or COVID-19?](#)

- [COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths tick up in Mesa County.](#)
- [Easing into e-bike access: Consideration of more trail use looks to be gradual process.](#)
- [Bustang Grand Junction adds new days to its schedule.](#)
- [Mesa County's first COVID-19 child death recorded.](#)
- [Mobile vaccine bus returns to Grand Junction.](#)
- [Palisade Plunge phase 1 opens to public for the first time.](#)
- [2021 Summer Festivals.](#)
- [Turning up gold in Western Colorado.](#)
- [Colorado launches Comeback Cash; COVID-19 drawing for vaccinated Coloradans.](#)
- [Phase 1 of Palisade Plunge opens to the public this weekend.](#)
- [First phase of the Palisade Plunge trail opens.](#)
- [COVID-19: Colorado Places That Are Still Having Outbreaks.](#)
- [State of the valley: Government officials talk issues.](#)
- [Plunge no 'niche' trail.](#)
- [Drought conditions continue to improve in eastern Colorado, remain dire on Western Slope.](#)

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 4, 2021** – Music & Mulligans Golf Tournament at Adobe Creek National Golf Course, 9:00 a.m. Co-hosted by the Fruita Chamber, more information [here](#).
- **June 10, 2021** – Beer or Rootbeer with the City Manager, Copper Club Brewery at 5:00 p.m. Grab a drink and join us outside!
- **June 10, 2021** – Fruita Chamber Business After Hours, hosted by Family Health West – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **June 10, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – James Williams & the Faith Peddlers (Outlaw Country/Blues Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **June 16, 2021** – Roundtable on Colorado River Demand Management program, 1:00 p.m., virtual.
- **June 17, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Stray Grass (Bluegrass/Americana), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **June 24, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert - Frank Begar Orchestra (Big Band), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 1, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Centennial Band (American Classic), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 8, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert - Whiskey Stomp (Country Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 14, 2021** – Coffee with the City Manager and guests, Einstein Bros Bagels at 7:30 a.m.
- **July 15, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Desert Flyer Band (Country), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 22, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Gerry Goodman Band (Blues/Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.

- **July 29, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Michael Morrow & the Culprits (Rock-N-Roll), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** – Fruita Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, “Welcome to Wonderland” at the Fruita Community Center, 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Additional information [here](#).
- **August 5, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Louie & the Lizards (Funky Jam Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **August 12, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Great Western Heritage Show (Country & Western Bluegrass), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 22-24, 2021** – The Colorado Municipal League will be holding the 2021 CML Annual conference in Westminster. More information is available at www.cml.org/conference. Please let Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods know if you are interested in attending. CML will also hold a virtual conference on Sept. 29-30.
- **September 24-25, 2021** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita. The festival will include live music, food trucks, and variety of vendors. Fruitachamber.org/fruita-fall-festival.

CC. Department Directors

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



City Manager Event Series

These events are an opportunity for residents to have an open conversation with the City Manager and guests and discuss topics on their mind while exploring Fruita or enjoying a local business. These are casual, informal events that you are all welcome to drop in or out of at any time.

To find current information, including guests, visit Fruita.org or facebook.com/cityoffruita

Upcoming Dates

May 5, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

Bike to Work Day with the City Manager and Mayor Kincaid - Fruita Civic Center.

May 20, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

Coffee with the City Manager at Bestslope Coffee

June 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Beer or Rootbeer with the City Manager at Copper Club

July 14, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

Coffee with the City Manager at Einstein Bros. Bagels



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.