



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: JULY 9, 2021  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

---

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

### Coronavirus Update

Below are a few updates, but I would strongly encourage all to continue to follow [www.fruita.org/covid19](http://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.

- **Media Advisory from MCPH: Develop Back-to-School Vaccination Plan Now for Full Protection.** Mesa County Public Health (MCPH) is recommending that, for children that want to be fully protected from vaccine-preventable illnesses by the time school starts, to develop a plan. The full report from MCPH can be found [here](#).
- **FAQs Regarding COVID-19 Vaccine.** This week, MCPH released a FAQ with Myths and Facts about the COVID-19 vaccines. It can be viewed online at this [link](#).

### Transportation Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design – Open Houses

At the end of this month, we will be hosting two open houses to receive public feedback on the Transportation Active Circulation Plan and the Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50. The first open house will be at Civic Center Park on July 30, 2021, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For the second open house, the planning team will be at the Fruita Farmers Market on July 31, 2021, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. These events are open to the public, and feel free to drop in/out at any time. If you are unable to participate in person, we are also finalizing an online survey that will feature the same questions from the open house. The flyer for both events can be found below, and below is additional information on each project. You can also visit our website [here](#) for more information.

- **Transportation Active Circulation Plan** – The City of Fruita is currently in the process of updating its Circulation Master Plan. The goal of this plan to recommend priority projects, programs, and policies to improve comfort and connectivity for all modes of travel through Fruita. Specifically, by building off the existing conditions assessment, previous work, and public input, this plan will recommend:
  - Updates to street functional classifications with street cross-sections based on traffic forecasts
  - Network maps for active transportation including walkways, bikeways (including on-street projects to connect trail gaps), and fixed-route transit. These

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

recommendations will improve access to key destinations on facilities that are comfortable for all ages and abilities.

- Intersection improvement recommendations.
- **Fremont Street Design** – The Fremont Street design is a project that is in progress that is prioritized in the Circulation Master Plan. This project will design an intersection at Fremont Street (18.50 Road) and Hwy 6&50, to be a constructed at a later date. Constructing the Fremont St. Corridor is an important step in relieving congestion along Pine St. and 19 Road.

### **Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in Place – Mesa County (Continued)**

The Mesa County Sheriff, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Fire Chiefs representing municipalities and fire protection districts of Mesa County are implemented Stage 1 Fire Restrictions last week. Stage 1 Fire Restrictions prohibits the personal use of fireworks, campfires outside of designated fire puts or fire rings, agricultural opening burning without a Sheriff's issued burn permit, use of explosive targets, and smoking outside near combustible materials. More information the restrictions can be found [here](#), and an infographic can be found below.

### **General Updates**

- **Coffee with the City Manager.** Next Wednesday morning, at 7:30 a.m., I am hosting a Coffee with the City Manager at Einstein Brothers. As always, these are informal events for residents to discuss what is on their minds and to answer any questions. We hope to see you there!
- **New DOLA Regional Manager.** This week, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs announced the new Regional Manager for the Northwest Region, Dana Hlavac. Mr. Hlavac has previously served as a District Attorney, a Deputy County Manager, City Manager, and more. We look forward to meeting and working with Dana and introducing him to the Council.
- **Food Safety Alert from MCPH.** Additionally, this week, MCPH released a public health notice about nationwide chicken and shrimp reclass. From the release: "The Food and Drug Administration, along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local partners, is investigating a multistate outbreak of Salmonella infections linked to the consumption of frozen cooked shrimp. The manufacturer, Avanti Frozen Foods, issued a recall because of the possible contamination." The full public health release can be found [here](#).

### **Engineering**

- **Mesa County Chip Seal Project.** Traffic Update for July 12-16. The Mesa County chip seal project will take place next week at the following four locations: US Highway 6 from Mile Point 11 to MP 20, CO Highway 139 from MP 0 to MP 6, US 50 Frontage Road from MP 33.8 to MP 36.2 and CO 141 from MP 120 to MP 154. Motorists may encounter delays along Co 141 and US 50 Frontage Road. More information can be found at the project website [here](#).
- **2021 Street Overlays.** Milling operations began Friday July 9th. Paving will occur next week.
- **Aspen Ave./Maple St.** Paving of Aspen Ave. & Maple St. will follow after the Overlays are complete next week.
- **19 Road Construction.** 19 Road will remain with continued utilities and paving work being performed along the west shoulder.

- ***I-70 Wrong Way Detection*** - Starting July 12, the Colorado Department of Transportation and Contractor Colorado Barricade will begin installing wrong-way detection systems in Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, and Summit counties. Work will take place at 87 off-ramp locations along I-70, starting at Exit 205 (Silverthorne) and moving west to complete at Exit 2 (Rabbit Valley). The work is anticipated to run in 2 sweeps where foundation bases will be installed throughout and then signage will follow so there will be 2 interruptions at the I-70-Highway 340 interchange. Tentatively, the foundation work will take place around the week of August 9th with the signage work the week of September 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please go [here](#).

## Human Resources

- ***Open Positions***. The City of Fruita continues to recruit for a number of positions. Specifically, we are accepting applications for Youth and Adult Sports Officials, Recreation Coordinator for Senior Services, and four other positions that close today: Procurement Specialist/Risk Coordinator, Recreation Coordinator for Special Events and Marketing, Part Time Administrative Specialist for Parks and Recreation, and a Seasonal Park. More information on each open position can be found [here](#).

## Parks and Recreation

- ***Irrigation Issues at Parks***. While Public Works has been working to keep headgates clear of moss, Parks has been working hard to keep water on parks. Moss has been clogging up irrigation systems in parks and staff has had to check on parks multiple times per day to ensure they are getting enough water.
- ***Fireworks Show***. Thank you to staff for willing the Fireworks Show to happen this last Saturday. As of Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the fireworks contractor had not received their state license but with pressure on the contractor and teamwork with Grand Junction Parks and Recreation, the contractor did get their license and the show was a success. There were many posts of appreciation for the show on social media pages.
- ***Thursday Night Concert Series***. Summer Concerts continue to hum along...this coming Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, the Desert Flyer Band (country music) will be performing in Civic center Park.

## 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, Fruita CO 81521)
- Epic Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1092 Wallace St, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mills Rezone (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521)
- Red Cliffs 3 Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (280 Clements Way, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- 1930 Highway 6 & 50 Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50 Fruita CO 81521)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Under Review) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Copper Creek Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (954 19 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)

#### **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)
- Lake Fruita Site Conditional Use Permit and Design Review (Under Review) (1571 Cipolla Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Review) 111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)

#### **Police Department**

- ***Thursday Night Incident.*** On July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at approximately 12:50 a.m., officers with the Fruita Police Department, assisted by deputies with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office, responded to 544 Pisces Lane for multiple reports of people hearing gun shots. After investigation, two adult males were arrested after it was determined the subjects each fired a shotgun at the other person. More information can be found [here](#).

#### **Public Works**

- ***Irrigation Update and Information.*** There are a variety of irrigation systems throughout the City that provide non-potable irrigation water to properties in the City's service area. These systems consist of a combination of open ditches, piped gravity systems, and pressurized irrigation systems. Most subdivisions within the city limits of Fruita have private irrigation systems and should contact their HOA if experiencing issues. For the publicly maintained irrigation system, if you are experiencing issues after hours, please contact the "On-Call" number at Public Works: (970)250-7835. The City continues to experience issues with moss in the irrigation system requiring crews to clean headgates twice a day and on weekends. For more information about the City's irrigation system please click on this [link](#).
- ***Xcel Energy Update.*** Xcel Energy contract crews will be performing inspections along their system throughout the summer months in Mesa County from July – September. The work involves flying a small, remote controlled, unmanned aerial system (or UAS) above Xcel Energy poles, lines and wires. The UAS will be taking photos to identify and help address potential hazards and keep customers safe. Prior to work beginning, Xcel Energy plans to notify customers

living near property where inspections will take place via an outbound phone call. Xcel Energy is committed to protecting your privacy. During this work, photos will only be taken of the poles, wires, lines and equipment necessary to meet the safety-focused objectives of the inspection. To find out more about Xcel Energy's public safety efforts and programs, go to: [xcelenergywildfireprotection.com](http://xcelenergywildfireprotection.com).

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

- [Nonprofit purchases historic Moon Farm.](#)
- [Changes to Grand Valley COVID-19 testing sites.](#)
- [Mack Mesa Reservoir has been refilled and restocked.](#)
- [COVID-19 Delta variant now 75% of all cases, spreading in unvaccinated people.](#)
- [State Epidemiologists on the ground in Mesa County as Delta Variant increases in Mesa County, State meeting with local leaders & CDC.](#)
- [El Pomar Foundation OKs grants to local nonprofits.](#)
- [Hunting licenses, parks visits way up during pandemic.](#)
- [Durango names new parks and recreation director.](#)
- [Moon Farm sold to Grand Valley Equine Assisted Learning System.](#)
- [Crews making progress containing western Colorado wildfires.](#)
- [CDOT begins installation of wrong-way detection systems along Interstate 70 mountain corridor.](#)
- [Colorado Rural Resiliency and Recovery Roadmaps Program.](#)
- [Colorado's Mesa County Emerges as Hot Spot for Delta Variant.](#)
- [Mesa County Search and Rescue hosting Kokopelli Classic Trail Runs in Late August.](#)
- [Record breaking heat returns to Grand Junction.](#)
- [Avelo to end Grand Junction airport service.](#)
- [Mesa County leading the state in Delta coronavirus variant numbers.](#)
- [First-half real estate sales top \\$1 billion in Mesa County.](#)
- [Water recreation safety tips.](#)
- [Colorado's pandemic state of emergency is over, governor says.](#)

**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.):*

- **July 10, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 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 16, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **July 17, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 22, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Gerry Goodman Band (Blues/Rock), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **July 24, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 29, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Michael Morrow & the Culprits (Rock-N-Roll), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.

- **July 30, 2021** – Open House for Fruita Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50 – Civic Center Park, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** - Open House for Fruita Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50 – at the Fruita Farmers Market, Reed Park, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **July 31, 2021** - Fruita Farmers Market – Reed Park from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 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 6, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **August 12, 2021** – Thursday Night Concert – Great Western Heritage Show (Country & Western Bluegrass), Civic Center Park at 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 3, 2021** – Food Truck Friday at Reed Park from 5:30 – 8:30 pm.
- **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](http://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](http://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](mailto:communications@fruita.org)



## Fruita Transportation Active Circulation Plan and Fremont Street Design at Hwy 6&50

### Public Engagement Opportunities

The City of Fruita is currently updating its Circulation Master Plan. The goal is to recommend priority projects, programs, and policies to improve comfort and connectivity for all modes of travel. The Fremont Street design is a project in progress that is prioritized in the Circulation Master Plan. The City of Fruita wants to hear your input on the challenges and opportunities of traveling in Fruita.

#### ***Opportunity #1: Open House at Civic Center Park***

When: July 30, 2021 - 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Civic Center Park

325 E. Aspen Avenue, Fruita Co 81521

#### ***Opportunity #2: Fruita Farmers Market***

When: July 31, 2021 - 08:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where: Reed Park

250 S. Elm Street, Fruita Co 81521

### What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is a long-range planning document that provides policies and strategies for the City. The Circulation Plan will recommend projects to improve transportation accessibility and amenities. Public input is essential for any Master Plan.

For more information, please visit [fruita.org/Circulationplan](http://fruita.org/Circulationplan)



# Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Fact Sheet



## Allowed



Fires in permanent fire pits, fire rings at private residences or within developed recreational sites such as a campground, or picnic area.



Fire features, chimineas and tiki torches at private residences supervised by a responsible adult.



Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices.



Agricultural burns with SHERIFF'S OFFICE ISSUED PERMIT ONLY! Mesa County Fire Marshal will do a safety inspection prior to issuing permit.

Only PERMITTED PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS displays are allowed.



## NOT Allowed



The personal use of all fireworks are prohibited during fire restrictions.



Any fire or campfire, not within a permanently constructed fire grate in a developed park, campground, private residence, or picnic area.



Smoking, EXCEPT within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.

Operating or using any internal combustion engine, such as chainsaws, without a spark-arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame EXCEPT in cleared areas of at least 10 ft in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Target shooting with explosive targets is not permitted.





## 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](http://Fruita.org) or [facebook.com/cityoffruita](https://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



# 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.