



FRUITA COLORADO

Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: FEBRUARY 25, 2022
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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Tuesday's City Council Meeting & Workshop

We have two meetings scheduled for Tuesday night, including our regular Council meeting followed by a workshop. We will begin our regular meeting by recognizing the students and teachers of the month at Fruita Monument High School. After that, the Council will consider five items on the consent agenda. There are no public hearings on the agenda, so we will move onto the Administrative Agenda, which includes a short presentation from Corey Bryndal from Region 10. Cory is the Broadband Director for Region 10 and will provide the Council with an update on current efforts, and Region 10's partnership with the City of Fruita. After that, the Council will be rescheduling our March workshop to the fifth Tuesday of this month and will conclude with Reports.

After the regular meeting, we will adjourn into the special workshop, which is to review a concept plan for the Raptor Cross RV Park. A new part of our Land Use Code allows developers to request a workshop with the City Council to get feedback on Concept Plans, and the developer is using this for the workshop. The second item is to discuss questionnaires received this week from the Colorado Housing and finance Authority. See you on Tuesday night!

Highway 6&50 Sewer Replacement Project Update

Work on the Highway 6&50 Sewer Replacement Project slowed this week due to the recent snow but should resume either later today or Monday. Motorists should expect a closure on Grand Avenue early next week, but all other city streets will be open while Grand is closed. Once the contractor is past Grand Avenue, the crew will begin connecting side-street sewers to the new main, which will result in westbound Highway 6&50 closures at street intersections. Staff anticipates that the underground work of this project will wrap up by the middle of March.

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

North Fruita Desert Master Plan – Final NEPA Public Comment Period Closes Monday

The public comment period for the North Fruita Desert Trails Master Plan Preliminary Environmental Assessment is open for a few more days! The public comment period is open until February 28, 2022, and can be found [here](#). Once the NEPA study is complete, we can move forward with the North Fruita Desert Master Plan.

General Updates

- **Welcome Ciara!** We are excited to announce that Ciara DePinto has accepted the position of Communications and Engagement Specialist! Ciara currently works for the Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department, and has extensive experience in communications, engagement, and master planning. We know she is going to be a great fit for our organization and look forward to her starting next month. Welcome Ciara!
- **Fruita FARM Project.** The Fruita Arts and Recreation Market Place (FARM) project is receiving some great media coverage this week. In case you missed it, here is a [link](#) to the KJCT story and interview on the project. Additionally, PinkBike, a national mountain biking publication, posted this story this week on Momentum Mountain Biking: [Introducing Momentum Mountain Biking](#), who will be one of the tenants of the Fruita FARM. This company provides private lessons for mountain biking, inclusive beginner programs, weekend skills camps, guided instructional tours, and more. We are excited to continue to work with the creators of this space, and look forward to it becoming an important part of our downtown.
- **Grants.** Staff is finalizing three grant applications to be submitted next week. The first is requesting funding from the Department of Local Affairs (“DOLA”) to address the City’s H2S (Hydrogen Sulfide) levels in portions of the City’s sewer infrastructure system. The second is also requesting funding from DOLA to help build the middle-mile fiber lateral connection to eventually give internet service providers the ability to provide high-speed service to residents and businesses in Fruita. Finally, staff is also wrapping up a small grant application to the Colorado Department of Economic Development and International Trade to help fund a Western Colorado Conservation Corps Crew to build three-four miles of new trail at the North Fruita Desert on behalf of the Fruita Trail Initiative partnership. This is the second grant that we are applying for to implement the goals identified in the North Fruita Desert Master Plan. We should hear results on all three applications in either March or April.

Engineering

- **Grand Valley Drainage District.** On February 1, 2022, GVDD passed Resolution 2022-102 (a resolution eliminating discharge license policy and requirement and clarifying Grand Valley Drainage District’s role in communicating the status and capacity of its system to local land use authorities). Recently there have been projects in the valley that were held up because the District would not grant a discharge license due to the receiving drainage facility was already at capacity or was undersized for even the existing conditions. These projects were not in the City of Fruita, but GVDD has undersized facilities throughout Fruita for handling urban runoff. The District, by passing this resolution, has placed the authority for approving drainage connections in the District’s facilities in the local jurisdictions’ hands. In response, staff from the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County, Town of Palisade, and City of Fruita met last week to work on

developing regulations on how all jurisdictions will approve projects consistently throughout the valley. A likely solution is to over-detain the drainage and release at a less than historic rate. Once we have the policy drafted, it will be sent out to the public and development community for comment.

Human Resources

- **Blood Drive at the Civic Center.** The St. Mary's Bloodmobile was on site at the Civic Center on February 22, 2022. We had a great turnout – 17 total units were collected, and the schedule was full. The next blood drive will be at the Civic Center on May 3, 2022. Thank you for helping save lives!

Parks and Recreation

- **Night at the FCC.** Have you ever wanted to have the entire Community Center to yourself? Well if you are in 5th-7th grade, you can! Night at the FCC is offered 4 times per year, in January, March, September and November. \$10 gets you in the door for this 7pm-10pm event. There will be live music and dancing with DJ Ryan Griz, games in the gymnasium, swimming and a fun free attraction such as a photo booth or bungee run at each event. Pizza and a drink will be served. Come out for a night of fun! Parents must sign their children in and out.

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:

- Title 17 & 2 Land Use Code Update (Complete and Approved by City Council 10/19/2021)

Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1892 K Road, Fruita CO 81521) (37 Lots)
- VACC North Final Plat (Approved) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521) (12 Lots)
- Cider Mills Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521) (47 Lots)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Complete) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521) (18 Lots)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Complete) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521) (24 Lots)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Approved) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521) (9 Lots)
- Kimston Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50) (2 Lots)
- Orchard Ridge 4 (Under Review) (17 Road & K3/4 Road) (21 Lots)
- Shannon Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (377 N. Pine Street) (2 Lots)

Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- Monument Powder Coating (Complete) (1596 Cipolla)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (Under Review) (853 Raptor Rd)
- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)
- 241 S Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction)
- Monumental Provisions (Under Review) (155 N Mulberry St.)

- Mobile Vending Land Use Code Amendments - (Under Review)
- Grand Skye Site Design Review (Under Review) (715 E. Grand Ave.)
- Grand Valley Storage (Under Review) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50)
- Fruita Apartments (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road)

Public Works

- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance staff is gearing up for crack sealing season by performing maintenance on their machine. Crew members have been participating in equipment training. Staff also plowed snow and applied de-icing products to help keep the streets clean and our community safe while traveling!
- **Fleet Maintenance Update.** Fleet staff performed a DOT inspection on the WWRF dump truck and continues to perform regular maintenance.
- **Collections Update.** Collections staff performed participated in training over their sewer push camera and utility locating. They submitted storm drain inspections for the Iron Wheel Subdivision. 31 utility locates were completed.
- **Wastewater Treatment Update.** Wastewater Treatment staff installed 3 temperature data loggers to their respective river points and will begin with tracking. The fourth temperature data logger was installed into the effluent discharge. Reg. 85, an annual nutrient report, was submitted to the State. Also, the WW superintendent attended the quarterly State Road Map meeting.
- **Administration Update.** All Public Works staff attended CPR training taught by Lower Valley Fire Protection District. Public Works Director met with Mesa County to discuss the MS4 Audit. Public Works submitted an Energy Impact Assistance Grant to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

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

- [Home prices still going up in the county.](#)
- [Local bars, breweries have fun with trivia nights.](#)
- [County opens public comment on poll locations for Nov. Election.](#)
- [Tips on winter weather preparation to stay safe, save money.](#)
- [Introducing Momentum Mountain Biking.](#)
- [Food bank distribution event to help those on fixed income.](#)
- [When + How to Attend Colorado's Best Rodeos.](#)
- [Free at-home rapid tests available from Mesa County Public Health.](#)
- [The 30 highest rated museums in Colorado.](#)
- [New commercial building coming to Fruita.](#)

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.):*

- **March 4, 2022** – Night at the Fruita Community Center, 7:00 p.m.
- **March 9, 2022** – Fruita City Council Candidate Forum at the Fruita Community Center, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- **March 10, 2022** – Chamber Business After Hours, at the Lady of Perpetual Motion in downtown Fruita, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- **April 2, 2022** – Fishing is Fun Day at Snooks Bottom Open Space, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- **April 13, 2022** – Easter Egg Scramble, Fruita Community Center, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **April 23, 2022** – Co2UT Gravel Bike Race, Downtown Fruita and the North Fruita Desert.
- **May 6-8, 2022** – Fruita Fat Tire Festival, North Fruita Desert and Downtown Fruita.
- **May 6-7, 2022** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Highline State Park.
- **June 3-4, 2022** – Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, downtown Fruita.

CC. Department Directors

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



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.