



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: FEBRUARY 4, 2022  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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### Highway 6&50 Sewer Replacement Project Update

Construction on the Highway 6&50 Sewer Project is proceeding in the center and west-bound lanes of highway 6. Currently, Mulberry St. is closed at the highway and will remain closed for approximately 1-2 weeks, depending on construction conditions. Access to the affected businesses between Mulberry St. and Peach St. will continue to be open from the north. The city thanks you for your patience while we work to complete these much-needed sewer improvements.

### North Fruita Desert Master Plan – Final NEPA Public Comment Period Open

The public comment period for the North Fruita Desert Trails Master Plan Preliminary Environmental Assessment is now open and online. The public comment period will be 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

- **Kick-Off Meeting for Mulberry Street Outdoor Dining Space.** This week, staff and I attended a kick-off meeting with Design Workshop, our consultant hired to plan for the Mulberry Street Outdoor Dining Space. We discussed goals, timelines, and community engagement opportunities for the project. Design Workshop was the consultant for our Land-Use Code update, and we are excited to be working with them on this project.
- **Grant Applications.** Staff turned in two grant applications this week to help offset the costs of potential City capital projects. The first grant application was to the Co. Department of Transportation for the second round of the Revitalizing Main Streets program, for safety improvements to S. Mesa Street (between Circle Park and Hwy 6&50). The second was to help with the costs of purchasing Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Fruita Civic Center through the Charge Ahead Colorado program. We hope that through installing two stations here in downtown Fruita, that will encourage electric vehicle owners to shop, eat, and work downtown, while their vehicles are charging. We should know more about the status of each of these grants by the end of next month.

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

- **Housing TAC Meeting.** The Housing Strategies Technical Advisory Committee you appointed met this week to receive a presentation from EPS (same as presented to Council Dec. 21 and I summarized in this update following the Dec 21 meeting a couple weeks) and discussed the housing strategies we discussed at the last Council workshop. They had great feedback and areas for EPS to research and vet. We will work with EPS to identify a schedule of milestones and updates in regards to their study and set dates for EPS to update the TAC prior to updates to City Council as the study progresses.
- **Housing Strategies Cont.** As the first EPS study finalizes we are working to summarize the data and efforts the City is researching to address the wage and housing prices gap in Fruita for Fruita workers into a newsletter to all residents. This will take a few weeks to make sure we have the final data.
- **City Link.** Staff is working on the next City Link that will highlight the bios of all candidates for the April 2022 election.
- **2022 Municipal Election.** Candidate bios and photos are posted on the website [here](#). Monday at 6pm is the Candidate Orientation.

### Engineering

- **North Mulberry Concept and Design Project.** Kickoff with the consultants for the project took place this week. Staff performed some survey work to collect existing conditions. More to come as a schedule for community engagement is developed.
- **2022 Chip Seal.** The annual chip seal project will bid next Friday, (2/11/22).
- **2022 Street Striping.** The annual street striping will bid next Friday, (2/11/22).

### Human Resource

- **Current Job Openings.** We are currently accepting applications for an Aquatics Coordinator at the Fruita Community Center and a part-time Custodian at the Fruita Community Center. If you are interested in learning more, you can visit our website [here](#).

### 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)
- Patron Annexation and Zoning (Under Review) (1123 19 Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- VACC Final Plat (Under Construction) (1176 18 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)
- Epic Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1092 Wallace St, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mills Final Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mt Drive, Fruita CO 81521)
- Red Cliffs 3 Final PUD Plan (Approved) (280 Clements Way, Fruita CO 81521)
- Grand Valley Estates 3 Final Plat (Complete) (1848 J Road, Fruita CO 81521)

- 1930 Highway 6 & 50 Annexation and Zoning (Approved) (1930 Hwy 6 & 50 Fruita CO 81521)
- Orchard Ridge 3 Final Plat (Complete) (Orchard Ridge Subdivision, Fruita CO 81521)
- Sycamore Estates Minor Subdivision (Approved) (945 E. Pabor Ave, Fruita CO 81521)
- Fruita Copper Creek Annexation and Zoning (Approved) (954 19 Rd, Fruita CO 81521)

#### **Site Design Review/ Other Applications:**

- Monument Powder Coating (1596 Cipolla) (Complete)
- Raptor Crossing Concept Plan (853 Raptor Rd) (Under Review)
- 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 155 N Mulberry St. (Under Review)
- Mobile Vending Land Use Code Amendments - (Under Review)
- Grand Skye Site Design Review (Under Review)

#### **Public Works**

- ***Building Maintenance Update.*** Building Maintenance staff is compiling a building assessment for the Civic Center. Grand Mesa Mechanical was called out to service the City Shops welding shop heater.
- ***Road Maintenance Update.*** Road Maintenance staff continues to fill various potholes throughout the City. Traffic Safety staff are working on evaluating and adjusting road signs. The crew is helping supply pipe and parts for the Hwy 6 sewer project. Two of our newest members of the team are attending a two-week CDL course and we wish them the best of luck on their driving test next Friday!
- ***Fleet Maintenance Update.*** Fleet staff are continuing multiple services on City vehicles and working on tuning up our summer equipment. They also completed their yearly state fuel inspection.
- ***Collections Update.*** Collections staff are currently updating standard operating procedures and operational and maintenance manuals for lift stations. Grease from the I-70 lift station was hauled and disposed of. The Collections crew is also helping with the Hwy 6 sewer project by maintaining the bypass pump. 46 utility locates were performed.
- ***Irrigation Update.*** Irrigation crew continues to prepare for the fast-approaching irrigation season by ordering parts for our canal trash cleaners.
- ***Wastewater Treatment Update.*** Wastewater Treatment crew is gearing up for their temperature study. The wastewater superintendent collaborated with Collections on the inflow and infiltration report submittal to the State of Colorado. The crew is currently developing a routine vibration test for motors and pumps and continues servicing equipment.
- ***PW Administration Update.*** City departments are working with Dude Solutions for the City's workorder system. PW Director participated in a Cybersecurity presentation for the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Met with Finance Department staff to review utility billing and usage. Participated in a meeting with CDOT to discuss federal grant opportunities for Western Slope – CDOT – Transit Agencies – Local Governments. Preparing a grant application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for the sewer system.

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

- [Grand Mesa is a winter funderland.](#)
- [BLM seeks public input on trail development in North Fruita Desert.](#)
- [Fruita city council votes to approve housing authority.](#)
- [Fruita Church turned into vacation rental.](#)
- [Grand Valley Power increasing rates.](#)
- [BLM seeks comments on new trails, including proposed Class 1 e-bike use.](#)

**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.):*

- **February 12, 2022** – Sweetheart Run, 5K/10K, Fruita Community Center at 10:00 a.m.
- **March 4, 2022** – Night at the Fruita Community Center, 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](mailto: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.