



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: APRIL 29, 2022  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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### **Tuesday's City Council Meeting**

Our meeting on Tuesday will begin with three proclamations – the first declaring the first week of May as Teacher Appreciation Week in the City of Fruita, the second on Public Works Week, and the third proclaiming May 4, 2022, as to Bike to Work Day in the City of Fruita, and May as Bike Month. After that, the Council will consider five items on the consent agenda, and will then move on to three quasi-judicial hearings (all three on special event liquor permits). After those hearing items, the Council will hear one legislative hearing, regarding a right-of-way vacation on West Pabor Avenue. To conclude, Planning and Development Director Dan Caris and I will share a presentation on growth in Fruita and highlights from the Comprehensive plan and master plans, and then the Council will go into Executive Session for the informal review of the Municipal Judge. See you on Tuesday night!

### **Bike to Workday Next Wednesday**

Next Wednesday at 7:30 a.m., Mayor Kincaid and I will be hosting a group bike ride starting at the Fruita Civic Center for Bike to Work Day in Mesa County. We will be riding a few routes around Fruita, and Family Health West will be providing free breakfast to participants. We will also leave time after the ride to hear from residents and to answer any questions. We hope to see you there! Information on additional Mesa County Bike Month activities can be found [here](#).

### **North Mulberry Street Survey Open Until May 15, 2022**

After an extended period of the temporary closure of North Mulberry Street, the City is considering whether to make the closure permanent with new and permanent improvements. The purpose of this survey is to understand preferences as they relate to the temporary closure, potential permanent closure, design elements, and overall opportunities and concerns related to this space. The survey is being conducted by Design Workshop, a contracted firm funded with a grant to help the City through this engagement and design process. They are receiving a high response so far to the survey and we want to make sure that all have a chance to take it. Multiple emails to all downtown businesses (based on the contact info we have for each business) and in-person visits from staff to businesses have been made and we

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

appreciate so many sharing information for people to participate. The flyer we have provided to businesses and in the spaces is found below. The survey does consider whether people are local or visitors so that information may be considered. The survey may be found [here](#), and the flyer is below.

### **Social Media Expansion**

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the City of Fruita will be launching Instagram and Nextdoor accounts. The decision to expand into these social media platforms was based on feedback from the 2021 Community Survey. Expanding into these social media platforms will provide the city with more ways to reach residents who may not follow the City's Facebook page. Make sure to follow along!

#### **About the Platforms**

- [Instagram @cityoffruita](#) – Is a free social platform for sharing photos and videos. Unlike Facebook, to post to Instagram, you must share a photo or video – you cannot post only text. The majority of Instagram users are between the ages of 18-34 years old compared to Facebook with most users being between the ages of 35-44 years old. Information shared on Instagram will be similar to Facebook but tailored to how users interact on the platform such as story highlights and reels.
- [Nextdoor](#) – Is a social platform tailored to connecting neighborhoods based on location. Users can communicate information with people in their geographical region. Local businesses can also post on Nextdoor in the news feed section. Nextdoor has a public agencies program that allows government entities like cities and counties to create neighborhoods within the city. Information shared to Nextdoor will differ from Facebook and Instagram. Nextdoor will be used to share updates like road closures, irrigation breaks, events, and emergency situations.

### **Awareness of New State Law re. Controlled Intersections: C.R.S. 42-4-1412.5 Signed by Governor Polis on April 13, 2022**

There have been questions whether Fruita as a Home Rule Municipality can do something different than this state act now signed into law. The act was adopted as a matter of statewide concern so it supersedes home rule, meaning cities are not able to enact other legislation that conflicts with it. Among other things, in summary, this act sets forth how pedestrians and those “operating a low-speed conveyance” (for example a bike) who are 15 years of age or older, or younger if accompanied by an adult may proceed through intersections with a STOP sign or a traffic signalized intersection if the intersection is clear of other traffic after certain actions are first taken as detailed in the act. Rather than summarizing the actions required, the text of the act is found [here](#). Background and summary of the act can be found [here](#).

### **Fire Mitigation Resources**

With temperatures rising, dry conditions, and gusty winds, we want to provide resources to residents and visitors on ways to prevent wildfires. Small changes to a home and landscape can make a huge difference when it comes to fire mitigation. In addition, we can all recreate responsibly on public lands to help prevent wildfires. A list of helpful resources can be found on our website [here](#).

## Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) Opening for Two Weeks.

Mesa County plans for the Fruita Motor Vehicles Office located at the Civic Center (325 E. Aspen) to open for two weeks, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., starting on Monday, May 2. The Fruita and Clifton locations have been closed due to staffing shortages. After these two weeks, the DMV will evaluate how many days a week they will be open moving forward.

## Weekly FAQ

In every weekly update, we will be answering one question we get asked often from the community. These questions will cover a variety of topics from all city departments. If you have any questions you think would be valuable for us to share, let us know by emailing [communications@fruita.org](mailto:communications@fruita.org).

- **Question:** Can I pay my City of Fruita utility bill over the phone with my credit/debit card?
- **Answer:** No, we can't take payments over the phone. However, we do have the following options for payment:
  - Automatic Payments (no fee) - Sign up at [fruita.org](http://fruita.org) or call 970-858-3663
  - Pay Online (credit/debit cards/e-checks) - Visit [fruita.org](http://fruita.org)
  - Payment Drop Boxes at:
    - Fruita Civic Center (325 E. Aspen Avenue) - North parking lot drive-up
    - Fruita City Market (135 S. Plum) - Front of customer service desk inside
  - Pay by mail – Mail to Fruita Civic Center (325 E. Aspen Avenue)
  - Pay in person at the Fruita Civic Center (325 E. Aspen Avenue)

## General Updates

- **Western Colorado Economic Summit.** On Tuesday, I was a speaker on two panels at the annual Western Colorado Economic Summit hosted by the Grand Junction Economic Partnership. The first was titled A Look Ahead with Grand Valley Civic Leaders, and the second was Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Investments. I spoke about our efforts on broadband, housing, the investments we are making in our public lands, and other key priority areas from the Fruita in Motion comprehensive plan, master plans and Land Use Code updates. I enjoyed the other sessions during the summit and interreacting with so many partners throughout the valley.
- **Last Chance for County Residents to Participate in the Mesa County Master Plan Survey.** The survey closes this Sunday night, May 1. Mesa County is updating its Master Plan and needs input from County residents. The purpose of the plan is to identify present and future needs and the priorities of residents regarding growth and development, transportation, economic development, recreation, environment/natural resources, and other issues in the County. Once these priorities are defined, the plan will guide future County development, policies, projects, and other programs. The first stage of community input involved a mailed survey sent to a random sample of Mesa County residents for statistical purposes. The County is now asking all residents to participate in an open online survey to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to provide input. The online survey can be accessed either from the Mesa County Master Plan website: [mesatogether.com](http://mesatogether.com), or directly at [mesasurvey.com](http://mesasurvey.com). In addition, if you know of any individual or group that would be interested in filling out the survey, please forward this email. Additional information related to the Master Plan can be found at: [mesatogether.com](http://mesatogether.com) including a presentation of current conditions.

- **CML Outreach Events.** If any of the Council is interested in attending, the Colorado Municipal League will be hosting their Western Slope Outreach event in Grand Junction on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. These meetings are an opportunity to meet with neighboring communities and get an update on the end of recent legislative session, and how it impacts communities. The outreach events are free to attend, but registration is required. Please let me know if you would like to be registered for the event.
- **Livability Commission Meeting.** Last week, the Livability Commission met to discuss current projects and goals for 2022. One of the projects that the Livability Commission has been working on is to create a formal “Adopt a Street or Trail” program here in the City of Fruita. Staff and the Livability Commission have researched many other examples of these types of programs throughout the state, and are excited for a potential program here in Fruita. At a future City Council meeting, members of the Livability Commission will provide a brief presentation to the City Council on the commission and will present the proposal for the Adopt a Street program.

### Engineering

- **Right of Way Acquisition RFP.** The request for proposals for providing right of way and easement acquisition services for the Maple Street Bridge at Little Salt Wash and Fremont St. From Highway 6 to Wildcat Ave. closed last Friday, April 22. The City of Fruita received two proposals from A Project Resources and Western States Land Services LLC.
- **Peach Way Drainage Improvements.** Paving was completed on Wednesday this week. Minor cleanup remains but otherwise the project is complete.
- **Highway 6 Sanitary Sewer.** Most of the pavement markings are complete. A few striping areas remain and some revegetation of landscaped areas will be restored once irrigation is fully operational.

### Parks and Recreation

- **Saturday, May 7th Basketball Court Closure.** On Saturday, May 7, the Basketball Courts will be closed from 4:30pm-6:00pm for the Dance and Art Showcase.
- **Registration Now Open for Summer Activities.** Registration for summer athletics, activities, and more is open! Check out our [summer activity guide](#) to learn more. Sign up for everything from tennis to ceramics at the Fruita Community Center or on our website.
- **May 9<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Water Aerobics Class update.** All Water Aerobics Classes will be Cancelled for end of year school swim sessions. Please expect increased attendance of school aged children in the pool from 10:00am-3:00pm during this time.
- **Bike to work day.** Starting at 7 am, on May 4, join city staff for free breakfast at the Civic Center, provided by Family Health West, followed by a ride on city trails to celebrate Grand Valley Bike Month.
- **New Adult Cornhole League!** Games will be on Wednesdays from 5:30pm-6:30pm at the Fruita Community Center Backyard with two divisions (16-59 and 50+). Registration closes on May 15 and the fee is \$40.
- **FCC 1<sup>st</sup> quarter attendance numbers.** The Fruita Community Center has had 46,365 paid visits so far this year through March. The month of March recorded the second most visitors for the month of March since opening with 16,895 paid visits, our busiest March on record was 18,249 paid visits in 2019.

## Planning & Development

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

### Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- 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)
- Rose Creek Preliminary Plan (Intersection of 19 & K Road, Fruita CO 81521)
- Cider Mill Estates Final Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mountain Drive. Fruita, CO 81521) (47 Lots)

### Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (111 S. Mesa St, Fruita CO 81521)
- 204 S. Mulberry Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (204 S. Mulberry St, Fruita, CO 81521)

### **Mulberry Apartments**

Bedrooms	Parking Required/Unit (DMU zone)	# of Units	Parking
1	0.95	1	1
2	1.25	14	13
3 or more	2	4	5
			19

Total provided after construction = 28

### **Mesa Apartments**

Bedrooms	Parking Required/Unit (DMU zone)	# of Units	Parking
1	0.95	13	13
2	1.25	4	5
3 or more	2	0	0
			18

Total provided after  
construction = 7

### **Standard Parking Reductions Per Code**

#### **Bike Share**

Application approved for 8 bike share spaces -1 required vehicle parking space reduced for every 4 bike share spaces provided (DMU zone only)

### **Off-Site Parking**

Off-site parking is provided within 1,000-foot ADA-accessible walking distance from the entrance to the proposed development. Parking agreement required.

- Monumental Provisions (Issued) (155 N Mulberry St.)
- 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)
- West Pabor Right-of-Way Vacation (north of 535 W. Pabor Avenue)
- North Mulberry Street Conceptual Street Design

### **Public Works**

- **Spring Clean Up Success.** Last Saturday we hosted a Spring Clean Up event at the City Shops. We had 94 cars come through, we disposed of 5.82 tons of disposable material, and filled all metal and cardboard recycling bins.
- **Fleet Maintenance Update.** This is the first week for our new Fleet Maintenance supervisor, Tony Fuoco! We are all working to get him up to speed in the world of Public Works. Welcome Tony!
- **Road Maintenance Update.** Road Maintenance staff have been busy with crack sealing on Coulson St., Roberson Dr. and Gewont Ln. As our crews are crack sealing, please take caution while driving over freshly applied crack seal product. This product can get on your tires and body of your vehicle; however, it does come off. Try to avoid the streets that crack seal crews are working on. Staff have also been painting our downtown parking stalls. If you see cones in front of parking stall lines, the paint may still be wet, please be careful not to track the paint while walking/driving and biking! We also must block off full stalls until painted, we apologize for any inconvenience when parking downtown. The good thing is the paint we use dries rather quickly! Our seasonal employee is back and has been busy mowing our right of ways and spraying those pesky weeds.
- **Utilities Update.** Utilities staff responded to 7+ irrigation calls and a flood. 41 utility locates were completed.
- **Admin Update.** The Public Works Director attended the Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee meeting. Public Works staff, City Attorney, and members of the Glade Park Pipeline Water Users board met to discuss the renewal of the current water users agreement. This agreement will go to City Council for approval once updates are completed. The Public Works

Director participated in a field tour with the Colorado Department of Public Health and other Grand Valley agencies to discuss Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) throughout the Grand Valley.

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

- [New subdivision near Fruita brings large lots to the market.](#)
- [Bus brings music to Fruita.](#)
- [Shelledy Elementary takes action for Student Water Awareness Week.](#)
- [Highly Contagious Avian Influenza Spreading in Colorado.](#)
- [Glenwood Canyon restoration continues, summer closures weather dependent.](#)
- [CMU's Perry details Mesa County's economic growth at summit.](#)
- [Grand Valley Bike to Work Day on May 4.](#)
- [Lower Valley Fire Protection holds badge-pinning ceremony.](#)
- [Copper Club hosts volunteer event.](#)
- [D51 recognizes high school students earning GPA of 4.0 or higher.](#)
- [Glenwood Canyon I-70 outlook following 2021 closure.](#)
- [Meet the Colorado dads who've fostered more than 60 children.](#)
- [Fruita, Palisade swear in new board members.](#)

**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.):*

- **May 4, 2022** – Grand Valley Bike to Workday, Downtown Fruita. Join Fruita elected officials and staff for a ride around Fruita and breakfast provided by Family Health West.
- **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.
- **May 7, 2022** – Girls on the Run 5K at the Fruita Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- **May 14, 2022** – Adventurefest presented by Gemini Adventures, 18 Road at 8:00 a.m.
- **May 24, 2022** – Coffee with the City Manager at Bestslope Coffee, 9:00 a.m.
- **June 3-4, 2022** – Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, downtown Fruita.
- **June 9 – August 11, 2022** – Thursday Night Concert Series, Civic Center Pavillion, 7:30 p.m.
- **June 10, 2022** – Food Truck Fridays, Reed Park, 5:30 p.m.
- **June 11, 2022** – October 29, 2022 – Farmers Market, Reed Park, Saturdays 8:30 a.m.
- **June 23-25, 2022** – Country Jam, Open Venue, Country Jam Ranch
- **June 30, 2022** – Fruita City Council Ice Cream Social, Civic Center Lawn, 7:30 p.m.

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)



**Hey Fruita!**

## **What's the future of North Mulberry Street?**

### **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**

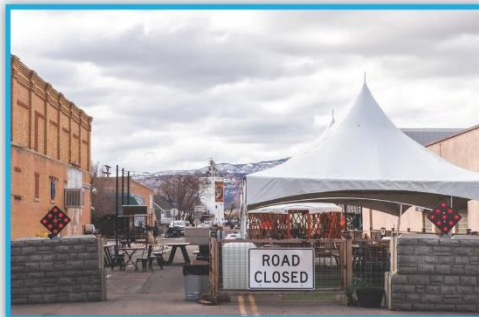


After high utilization of the temporary seating space during the pandemic, the City of Fruita is pursuing options for making North Mulberry Street a permanent outdoor space, but first we want to hear from you!

- ? What do you want to see North Mulberry Street become?
- ? What amenities do you think would enhance the space?

Let us know!

From now until May 15, 2022, you, family, and friends can fill out a survey to provide your feedback. Learn more about the project at [fruita.org](http://fruita.org).



**Scan the QR**



[bit.ly/nmulberrysurvey](https://bit.ly/nmulberrysurvey)

**TAKE THE SURVEY  
BY MAY 15, 2022**



**FRUITA**  
COLORADO





# 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.