



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: AUGUST 19, 2022  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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### **Tuesday's City Council Workshop**

Our meeting on Tuesday will begin with a brief Executive Session (6:30 – 6:45 p.m.) to follow up on one of our discussion items from the retreat. After that, we have two items on the Workshop agenda, and those are discussions on building inspections and an overview of recent legislation passed regarding plastic bags. See you on Tuesday!

### **Irrigation and Rain**

After this week's rainfall, residents may have noticed an excessive amount of mud in their irrigation systems. This can happen when it rains in the high country where there are burn scars caused by wildfires. Without trees and shrubs in these burn areas, there is no vegetation to catch the silt, therefore, running into the Colorado River which supplies Fruita's irrigation canals. When this happens, irrigation water will be muddy until the silt settles. Unfortunately, with the amount of mud traveling into irrigation systems, you will find that your filters clog easily. We highly recommend waiting until the mud settles or you will find yourself constantly cleaning out your filters.

### **Road Patching Near Mica Drive and Jasper Drive Monday Morning**

On Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., the intersection between Mica Drive and Jasper Drive will have narrow lanes as crews will perform patch work in this area.

### **Heritage Park Restrooms Closed**

The restrooms at Heritage Park are currently closed for repair. Crews hope to have the restrooms open in the afternoon on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Food Truck Friday Tonight at Reed Park**

Enjoy the second to last Food Truck Friday of the season tonight at Reed Park from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. There will be a variety of food trucks to choose from as well as live music! Mark your calendars for the last event of the season on September 9<sup>th</sup>!

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

## Waste Management Update (Continued)

Earlier this month, Waste Management announced the roll out of a new program for automated trash collection in certain areas of the city. This change improves safety for Waste Management personnel, helps improve cleanliness in Fruita, and reduces litter in the environment. Residents who are a part of the program received a 96-gallon cart this week (week of August 15, 2022) during their regular trash pickup day. Included with the cart, residents received a flyer answering frequently asked questions from Waste Management ([Click here](#) to read about the frequently asked questions). Originally, residents impacted by the change could only use the 96-gallon carts provided by Waste Management. We realize this change is significant for our community and have been working with Waste Management to resolve the issues we've heard from residents. **Now, as part of the program, if a household has more trash than can fit in the 96-gallon cart, additional trash containers may be placed on the curb (loose trash bags or plastic bags are not a container).** We apologize for the confusion and the frustration this has caused and we hope these changes will help ease this transition.

## 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:** Why doesn't Fruita have a Fall/Spring Clean-Up Program?
- **Answer:** Due to the small population size of Fruita, and to save costs for residents, the city's trash services are contracted out to a private company instead of being as a municipal program. In the past, the City of Fruita has evaluated the costs of providing a spring and/or fall clean-up for residents like the program in Grand Junction (where residents can leave an unlimited amount of trash on the curbs to be collected, with exception of certain items), but the cost from the contracted provider was too prohibitive at the time. Since the City's trash fund is fully funded through user fees, this additional cost would have to be passed on to residents in significantly increased monthly fees, and the City decided against that. To help with spring trash collection, however, the City last year started hosting clean-up events at the City Shop building, which is advertised on the city's website, social media, and here in the Weekly Update. This year, Fruita residents filled up two 30-yard dumpsters as part of the program, and it is scheduled to continue next year. We will, however, continue to look into options to bring a fully operational spring and fall clean-up to Fruita and will share widely if this service becomes available.

## General Updates

- **Engagement Event at Wave.** This Tuesday, City Councilor Jeannine Purser and I engaged with community members at Wave Drinks. We discussed current and future development projects, plans for the expansion of Fruita roads, and growth in Downtown Fruita. We always start the event with questions from the community which guides the conversation for the event. These events are a fantastic way to answer questions from the community in a casual setting.
- **Partner Engagements.** This week I was able to meet individually with the new directors of the Grand Junction Economic Partnership, the Mesa County Enterprise Zone and the GJ Small Business Development Center to discuss shared values and priorities.

- **Reed Park Project Not Selected to Move Forward in GOCO Grant Process.** Last month, we applied for the second time this year for the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Resilient Communities Grant for the improvements to Reed Park. We learned this week that we were not invited to move forward in the process. Because of that, staff and I are evaluating alternative funding options for the improvements.
- **Discover Fruita Radio Show.** This week, Livability Commission members Michael Handley and Dave Karisny, and Assistant to the City Manager Shannon Vassen, joined the Discover Fruita Radio Show to discuss the City's recent wayfinding project, the Adopt a Street/Trail program, and the Livability Commission. In case you missed it, you can listen to it as a podcast at our website [here](#).
- **Brief Closure of Highway 340.** On Wednesday, there was a brief closure of Highway 340 at Redcliffs Drive due to a reported gas leak. Crews from Xcel Energy and the City responded to the issue quickly, and Highway 340 was reopened in the afternoon.

### Engineering

- **Sidewalk Replacement Bid Delayed.** The bid for the Fall Sidewalk Replacement Project will be delayed by one week due to a change in the scope of the project. The new bid date is Friday, August 26, 2022.

### Parks and Recreation

- **We have had a great turnout for our FREE Dance Open Houses this week!** On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, community members were able to try a variety of dance classes and learn if they would be interested in signing up for our fall dance sessions.
- **We are still looking for more volunteer coaches for Fall Soccer and Flag Football.** Coaching experience is not required, and support and equipment will be provided. We will also be looking for basketball and volleyball coaches for our winter season. Reach out to [ttalkington@fruita.org](mailto:ttalkington@fruita.org) to learn more about how you can become a coach!
- **We are hiring Adult Basketball Sports Officials!** If you love basketball and have experience officiating recreation adult basketball, this is the job for you. Positions are for work on Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. - 10 p.m. Learn more and apply at [fruita.org/jobs](https://fruita.org/jobs).
- **Vendor applications are open for the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair!** Calling all craft and art vendors interested in selling their goods at our fair on December 10. Applications are available on our webpage and will be due on October 14. Apply to be a vendor [here](#).
- **Take our survey for a chance to win a City of Fruita Swag Pack!** Help us to learn more about how best to get you our activity guide information. This 3-minute survey will help us better communicate program information to you. Surveys completed by August 31 will be entered in a chance to win a City of Fruita Swag Pack. Take the survey [here](#).

### 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)
- Dana Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (317 Pine Street) (3 Lots)
- East Grand Townhomes Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (600 Grand Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Copper Creek West Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (954 19 Road) (138 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)
- 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
- Dogleg 1 Annexation (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-213-00-078)
- Dogleg1 Rezone (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-213-00-078)
- Dogleg 2 Annexation (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-213-00-094)
- Dogleg 2 Rezone (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-213-00-094)
- Latigo Annexation (Under Review) (1834 J Road)
- Latigo Rezone (Under Review) (1834 J Road)
- Adele's Acres Annexation (Under Review) (1024 19 Road)
- Adele's Rezone (Under Review) (1024 19 Road)
- The FARM Fruita Arts Recreation Marketplace (Under Construction) (158 Park Square)

#### **Public Works**

- ***Building Maintenance Update.*** The Building Maintenance Division repaired a gutter for the Chamber of Commerce, completed a door repair for the Parks Division, and a plumbing repair for the Civic Center. The crew also called Grand Mesa Mechanical to repair an HVAC unit at the Police Department.
- ***Fleet Maintenance Update.*** The Fleet Maintenance Division serviced vehicles for the Police Department this week. They also replaced idler and tensioner pulleys on a dump truck and made modifications to two dump truck tailgates for the Public Works Department. The crew also replaced a mower belt for the Parks Division.
- ***Road Maintenance Update.*** We want to thank Treyvon Mclean, our seasonal employee, for all of his hard work and dedication this summer. He will be missed but we are happy for him and

his new adventure in joining the Navy! This week, the Road Maintenance Division completed three patches on McCune Ave., one on W. Meadow Ave, and one on David Ct.

- **Utilities Update.** Dam inspections for Reservoirs #1, #2, #3 were completed in coordination with Colorado Dam Safety Engineers. On Monday, the crew performed an emergency repair to the Encanto irrigation system that affected a large section of the city. Multiple lift stations and irrigation calls were responded to, and the division jetted over 2,000 feet of sewer line.
- **Wastewater Treatment Update.** Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) and Tetra Tech will do a site walkthrough on Monday, August 22nd. This past Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, the Wastewater Reclamation Facility Director met with Browns Hill about their SCADA instrumentation proposal. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is shifting from summer sewage flows to a school schedule type flow which is reaching about one million gallons per day. One ditch is designed for 1.165 millions of gallons per day (MGD) which means we are hitting 85% of the design and nearing the use of our second ditch. This week, SoilTek picked up 12 yards of biosolids from the plant, clearing the plant's pad of all biosolid inventory. In addition, the semi-annual metal samples have been shipped out for testing, a new Rotork valve arrived at the plant, and the division performed a minor repair on the grit pump belt guard. After housekeeping, the division made a trip to the Hazardous Waste Facility for recycling.

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

- [Local artist on 25 years of work in the Grand Valley.](#)
- [Experts welcome new rules helping govern fossil-collecting on public lands.](#)
- [CDC Streamlines Recommendations to Help People Better Understand Risks Associated with COVID-19 Exposure and Illness.](#)
- [D51 leaders connect students with Back to School Bus Tour.](#)
- [Mike the Headless Chicken Still Celebrated with Annual Festival.](#)
- [Mesa County Public Health: Universal Pre-School in Mesa County.](#)
- [Fruita-based MX gear company growing success through ProZip tech.](#)

**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.):*

- **August 20, 2022 – October 29, 2022** – Farmers Market, Reed Park, Saturdays 8:30 a.m.
- **August 26, 2022** – Fruita Fourth Friday, Downtown Fruita, 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- **September 7, 2022** – Colorado Municipal League District Meeting at 4:00 p.m., Rio Blanco Fire Protection Building in Meeker (please let Deb or I know if you would like to attend, and we will register you for the meeting).
- **September 9, 2022** – One Riverfront Concert, James M Robb Colorado River State Park, 7:00 p.m.
- **September 23 – 24, 2022** – Fruita Fall Festival, Downtown Fruita
- **October 8, 2022**, E-Waste Recycling Event, Fruita Civic Center Parking Lot, 9:00 A.m. - 1:00 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)



# 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.