



# FRUITA COLORADO

## Weekly Info Update



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: FEBRUARY 10, 2023  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

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### **Xcel Tree Trimming will Start on Monday**

Xcel Energy working with ArborWorks, a utility line clearance company, will begin trimming trees around Fruita to clear powerlines to prevent power outages and wildfires. They will be trimming all trees, both private and public, if the tree is a hazard for powerlines. As ArborWorks begins the tree trimming process, they will speak with Fruita residents to explain the exact specifications and details of the tree trimming. If the resident is not home, ArborWorks will leave a door hanger for the resident with the information. They will also provide the City of Fruita a map each week of the area they plan to work on. Next week, ArborWorks will be working along 21 Road and near Family Dollar and O'Reilly Auto Parts off of Highway 6&50. Learn more about ArborWorks process with the letter found below, with a map of the locations for next week.

### **Sweetheart Run Tomorrow Morning!**

The annual Sweetheart Run/Walk is tomorrow morning at the Fruita Community Center! The race is using the Kokopelli Section of the Colorado Riverfront Trail for both the 5k and 10k on an out and back course. If you are heading toward the Community Center tomorrow morning, there will be a road closure on Coulson Street (between Ottley Avenue and Pabor Avenue) and Gewont Lane, so if you are traveling to the area, please anticipate delays. Parking at the Fruita Community Center will be limited from 8:00am-1:00pm due to the race. The 10k Race starts at 10:00 a.m., and the 5k starts at 10:30 a.m. Good luck to all of the racers!

### **Fruita Building Inspection After Hours Mixer Recap**

On Thursday night, the Fruita Building Inspections Department hosted a After Hours Mixer/Meet and Greet at Basecamp Provisions. The Meet and Greet was very well attended, and we estimate that over 100 people participated in the event. It was great to see and hear from everyone! If you were unable to attend, you can reach the Building Department at 970-858-0786 during normal business hours, or you can

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

email [communications@fruita.org](mailto:communications@fruita.org). Thank you! Below are a few photos from the event.



### 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:** How many events does Fruita put on every year? Where can I find out when these events are?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita hosts a variety of events throughout the year out has a handful of larger, special events like the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival and Thursday Night Concert

Series. You can learn more about these events online at [fruita.org/parksrec/page/special-events](http://fruita.org/parksrec/page/special-events) or by checking the City of Fruita's calendar at [fruita.org/calendar](http://fruita.org/calendar).

## General Updates

- **FARM Grand Opening Starts Tonight!** The Fruita Arts and Recreation Marketplace grand opening is tonight (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.) and tomorrow! The Grand Opening includes Art workshops, retail specials, kids activities, a ribbon cutting with the Fruita Chamber, live music, food trucks, and more. I will be providing a few comments on the grand opening tonight at 5:30. For the full schedule of the opening activities, you can visit this [link](#).
- **GoFruita Newsletter.** The latest edition of the GoFruita Newsletter can be found [here](#)! It covers the updated GoFruita website, Family Fun in February, a highlight on Powderhorn, and more.
- **Polis State of the State Address.** Last Friday afternoon, staff attended an abbreviated State of the State Address with Governor Polis at West Star Aviation, hosted by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. The Governor discussed the state's priorities in the upcoming year, which include expanding education through universal Pre-K school in Colorado, making Colorado one of the top ten safest states in the Country, and attempting to address housing affordability. In addition, the Governor announced that the Grand Junction Airport received a \$4 million grant to expand runway operations.
- **Charging Stations Update.** Also, last Friday afternoon, the two fast Electric Vehicle Charging Stations that will be installed at the Fruita Civic Center were delivered. Xcel's contractor visited the site earlier this week and installed the new pole to accommodate the stations. Xcel can now place the transformers on the pole and will run that power to the designated parking spots for the stations. Once Xcel's work is complete, we can schedule installation and also work with Public Works on preparing the parking lot for the stations. Below is a picture of the stations as shipped.



## Engineering

- **19 Road Right of Way.** Proposals are due on Monday for right of way agents to submit for providing right of way acquisition services.
- **N. Mulberry Street Improvements.** More sidewalk and asphalt demolition occurred this week, along with the installation of portions of the new irrigation and electrical systems. Next week crews are expected to begin construction on curb and gutter along Aspen Ave. and shade sail/light post foundations, along with more concrete and asphalt demolition. Please use caution when traveling along the edges of the project. Also, this week it appears that some of the traffic control signs for the project were removed by unknown persons. The City asks that residents refrain from moving or removing traffic control devices, as they are there for the safety of pedestrians and removal of those signs can result in accidents that could otherwise be prevented and exposes the City and the contractor to liability for those accidents.
- **Pine Street Bridge Update.** Drain lines and backfilling around the wingwalls and abutments took place this week. The girders are scheduled to be placed at the end of next week so there will be some more congestion on the north side of the bridge with the girder delivery.

## Parks and Recreation

- **Girls and Boys Youth Basketball and 7/8 Basketball league had 176 participants.** Our youth basketball leagues have been very successful this year! Our youth boys league and boys 7/8 league are currently in season with interleague games with GJ Parks and Recreation.
- **Fruita Community Center Concessions Off to a Strong Start.** Our new concession stand at the front desk at the Fruita Community Center has sold \$909 worth of concessions in its first month. The most popular sellers are candy bars, drinks, and chips.
- **Starting on February 15<sup>th</sup>, all monthly billing for Fruita Community Center memberships will be automated.** Members will receive notifications from Sportsmans/Peak Software that their account has been charged for the monthly membership. Any cancellations need to happen by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to not be charged for that month. To update a credit card or account information, please visit [fruita.activityreg.com](http://fruita.activityreg.com) or call 970-858-0360.
- **Fruita Community Center Court Update.** The contractors have installed the sub-floor system and the flooring has been spread out for acclimation. The flooring will remain in this position until it has the appropriate moisture content. The next steps for the floor installation are to install/nail down the floor before standing and applying sealer coats. Thank you for your patience with this project!
- **Congratulations Tom!** Tom Casal, Recreation Superintendent, has accepted a Parks and Recreation Director position with the Town of Timnath. Tom has been with the City of Fruita over 8 years and has helped grow the recreation department to what it is today over his tenure. When asked what he was most proud of while being in Fruita, Tom said, The Roundabouts, Fruita Youth Initiative, the mural at Dinosaur Journey, the growth of Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, and the completion of the Parks, Health, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Master plan. Congratulations on meeting a career goal and thank you for your time in Fruita!

## Planning & Development

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

### Major/ Minor Subdivisions:

- Cider Mill Estates Final Plan (Under Review) (960 Stone Mountain Drive) (47 Lots)
- Dana Minor Subdivision (Approved) (317 Pine Street) (3 Lots)
- East Grand Townhomes Minor Subdivision (Approved) (600 Grand Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Copper Creek West Preliminary Plan (Approved) (954 19 Road) (138 Lots)
- Iron Wheel 2 Final Plat (Under Review) (19 Road) (46 Lots)

### Site Design Review/ Other Applications:

- 111 S. Mesa Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (111 S. Mesa St)
- 204 S. Mulberry Street Site Design Review (Under Construction) (204 S. Mulberry St)
- North Mulberry Street Conceptual Street Design (Approved/Under Construction)
- The FARM Fruita Arts Recreation Marketplace (Under Construction) (158 Park Square)
- Ottley Suites Site Design Review (Under Review) (722 Ottley Avenue)
- Pediatric Dental Specialists Site Design Review (Under Review) (101 Jurassic Avenue)
- 18 & K Road Rezone (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001)
- The Fruita Mews (Under Review) ( 1138 18.5 Road)

## Police Department

- ***Calls for Service Statistics.*** In January 2023 the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center logged 1,014 calls for service for the Fruita Police Department. This compares with 587 calls for service in January 2022, showing a 73% increase. It should be noted that the majority of that increase results from a change in the way we are tracking officer-initiated activities.

## Public Works

- ***H2S Project Update.*** Purchase agreements with the biofilter manufacturer and fiberglass manhole manufacturer have been executed. Material delivery is at 20 weeks after the completion of shop drawings.
- ***NRCS Preliminary Investigative Feasibility Study.*** A stakeholder meeting was held this week to gather additional information about the East Creek Watershed.
- ***New Signage on K.4 Road.*** “No Parking” signs were installed near Monument Ridge on Fremont Street north of k 4/10 Road on the east side of the road.
- ***Potential Funding Opportunities.*** Public Works Director Kimberly Bullen participated in a U.S. Department of Transportation Discretionary Grant Opportunity webinar.
- ***Annual Rocky Mountain Asphalt Conference.*** Public Works sent two Street Division employees to the Annual Rocky Mountain Asphalt Conference & Equipment Show. Mike Bramlett and Jesse McClaskey attended the conference to learn about new developments and quality advancements in asphalt pavement.
- ***New Traffic Safety Trailer.*** Ken Binam, Streets Division recently completed the design & fabrication of the new Traffic Safety trailer, approved in the 2023 budget. This trailer will allow

a quick response during emergencies and special events. The trailer is loaded with traffic safety equipment that otherwise would have to be loaded at the time of call out.



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

- [Fruita quilters find a common thread through featherweight sewing group.](#)
- [Cookie cravings: Girl Scouts ready to indulge your sweet tooth with cookies.](#)
- [New safety program aims to reduce death in Mesa County.](#)
- [Enjoy a River of New Developments in Grand Junction, Co.](#)
- [Governor Jared Polis visits Grand Junction.](#)
- [CDOT evaluating Glenwood Canyon accidents.](#)
- [Sip and Savor the Flavors of the Grand Valley.](#)
- [New apartment buildings highlight need for housing variety in Fruita.](#)
- [Down on the FARM: Fruita facility offers space to create.](#)
- [D51 surveys: most support replacing older schools, Fruita grade reconfiguration.](#)

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS** *(Please let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can RSVP for you)*

- **February 11, 2023** – Sweetheart 5K/10K Run, Fruita Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- **February 24, 2023** – City Engagement Series, Coffee with the City Manager, Aspen Street Coffee, 8:00 a.m.
- **April 14-16, 2023** – Desert RATS Trail Running Festival, Kokopelli Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 5-6, 2023** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Highline Lake State Park, Open Venue
- **May 5-6, 2023** – Adventure Fest, 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 12-14, 2023** – Fruita Fat Tire Festival, Downtown Fruita and 18 Road Trailhead, Open Venue
- **May 14, 2023** – Co2uT, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue
- **June 2-3, 2023** - Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Downtown Fruita, Open Venue

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)



February 2, 2023

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We are ArborWorks!

We are a nationwide utility tree care firm established in 2003, headquartered in California, with a focus on safety and the utilization of innovative equipment. We specialize in utility line clearance and service utility companies across this great nation.

Our goal is to ensure the safety of power lines and the communities they serve through the mitigation of hazardous trees and vegetation that might come in contact with utility lines. The maintenance of this clearance is paramount in preventing power outages and wildfires.

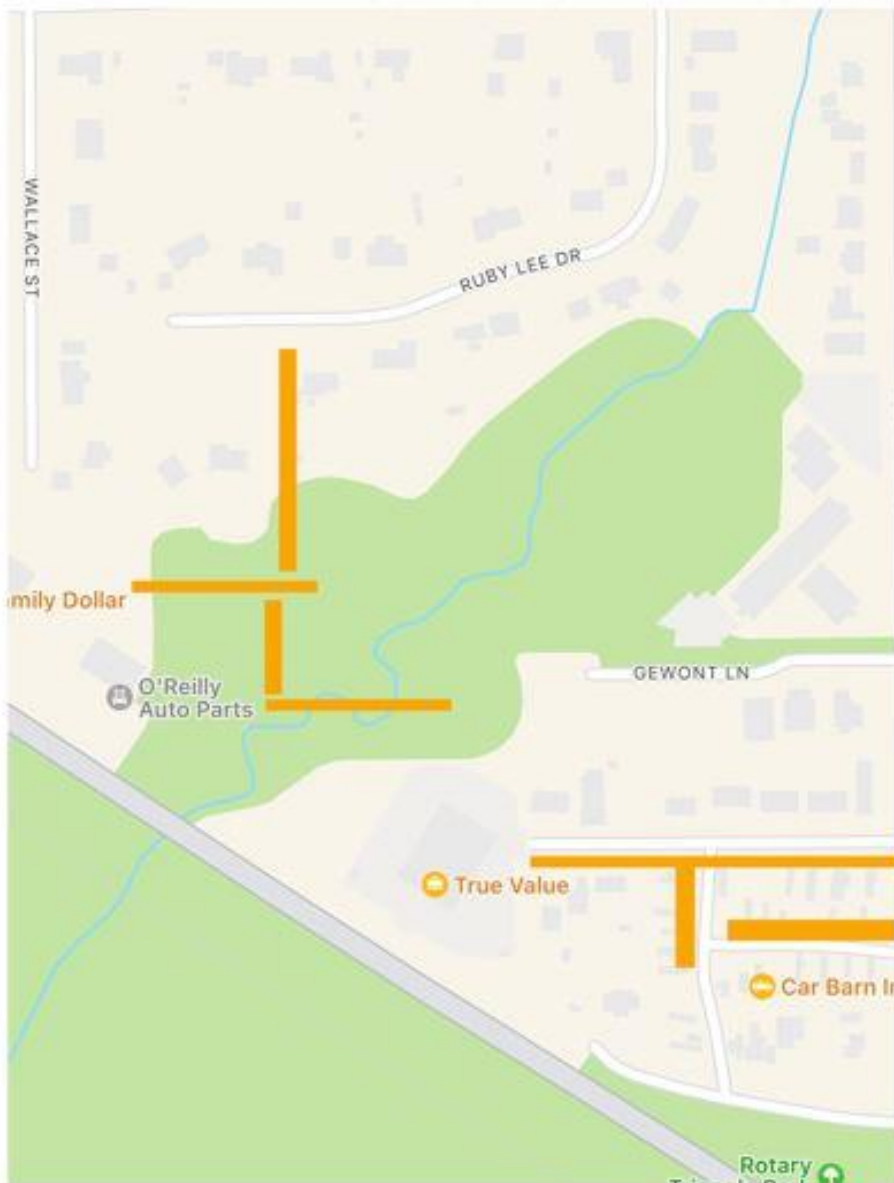
To determine vegetation that needs to be trimmed, our Pre-Inspectors survey power lines and inspect the foliage around them. Pre-Inspectors are trained to identify signs of potential hazards, such as dying, weak, or rotted trees. The Pre-Inspectors will then communicate with property owners and tree crews to schedule the vegetation for trimming and/or removal.

Once the trees are assessed, our crews' work is completed in strict accordance with ANSI A300 and ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) BMP Utility Pruning of Trees standards. The objective of these standards is to manage risk, protect wildlife and wildlife habitats, provide adequate line clearance, improve the aesthetics of the vegetation, and lastly, preserve the health of the vegetation to the maximum extent feasible.

We invite you to learn more about our team and methods at: [www.arborworksinc.com](http://www.arborworksinc.com) (<http://www.arborworksinc.com>). Our cutting-edge equipment can also be viewed in action via our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@arborworks](http://www.youtube.com/@arborworks) (<http://www.youtube.com/@arborworks>).



ArborWorks Expected Projects For Next Week:







# 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.