



# FRUITA

## COLORADO



## Weekly Info Update

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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: JANUARY 26, 2024  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

### **Live at the Plaza | Winter Concert**

You won't want to miss this new special event in downtown Fruita! On Friday, February 23, head to the Mulberry Plaza for a night of live music, local restaurants, hot chocolate, and fun activities. The Lost Junction Band (Country Rock) will take the stage starting at 6 pm. Enjoy a fun night on the Mulberry Plaza! Be on the lookout for more information on our communication channels.

### **2024 Regular Municipal Election Information**

The City of Fruita regular municipal election will be held on April 2, 2024, and will be conducted by mail ballot and ballots will be sent out to registered voters in mid-March 2024. The ballot will include the election of one Mayor for a two-year term and three City Council members for four-year terms each. Learn about the [City Council Candidates online at Fruita.org](#). On February 28, 2024, the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce will host a candidate forum open to the public at Fruita Monument High School starting at 6:00 p.m.

### **Waste Management Automated Trash Mailer (Continued)**

Fruita residents should have received a mailer from Waste Management explaining the transition to the automated collection system. The mailer can be found online at [fruita.org/trashcollection](https://fruita.org/trashcollection). During the weeks of January 8-26, 2024, a 96-gallon cart will be delivered to Fruita homes if the household doesn't already have one. If a household participates in recycling services, Waste Management will drop off a new 96-gallon recycling container on the household's normal recycling schedule. Learn more about this transition at [fruita.org/trashcollection](https://fruita.org/trashcollection).

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



## 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 can I sign up for emergency alerts?
- **Answer:** The 911 dispatch center has the ability to send out community notifications to alert the public when there's something going on that might affect their safety. Residents need to sign up for emergency notifications to receive the messages. [Please sign up for alerts with the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center.](#)

## General Updates

- **Commission on Property Tax Community Conversation.** Colorado's Commission on Property Tax is hosting a community conversation event tomorrow, Saturday, January 27 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Colorado Mesa University. They want to hear from residents about priorities, concerns, and ideas related to the state's current property tax structure. You can [register for the event online](#) or if you can't attend in person, you can [participate virtually](#).
- **2024 Adopted Budget Available Online.** The final version of the 2024 Adopted Budget is now available on our website and can be found here: [Fruita Municipal Budgets](#). If any from the City Council would like a printed copy, please let me know as we will be printing those next week. Also, if anyone from the public is interested, we have a printed copy with the City Clerk that can be reviewed.
- **Fifth Tuesday Next Week.** As a reminder, next Tuesday is the fifth Tuesday so we don't have a City Council meeting. Hope that everyone enjoys the night off!
- **City Council Candidate Orientation.** The orientation for City Council candidates is next Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. We will go over a variety of topics that include discussing the framework of the form of government, issues facing the city, overview the roles, and more.
- **Post-Holiday Dumpster.** Waste Management placed the post-holiday dumpster at Little Salt Wash Park on Monday and will be there over the weekend. The dumpster is also getting full, and we anticipate that Waste Management will pick it up early next week.

- ***Civic Center Charging Stations Update.*** ChargePoint was on site last Friday and repaired the charging station (CPE #2) that was down and unavailable. While inspecting the station, the contractor found a small issue that will require a replacement part to be installed. That part was ordered and received and the contractor is scheduled to make the repairs to the station next Monday morning, around 10:00 a.m. During the repair, station #2 and possibly station #1 will be unavailable for use. We had a special guest use the charging stations this week! The first electric Snowcat (Prinoth Huskey-E Motion) in North America came through Fruita to charge up before heading to its destination. We just had to snag a photo!



## Marketing & Promotion

- ***GoFruita Newsletter.*** The latest edition of the GoFruita newsletter is now available and can be found here: [Ways to Play in the Winter.](#)
- ***Mike the Headless Chicken Art Contest.*** We are inviting the talented artists of the Grand Valley Community to showcase their creativity in a unique way by participating in the first-ever 2024 Mike the Headless Chicken Festival Poster Contest. Help create the official poster for this year's festival that captures the spirit of quirky Fruita, our beloved Headless Chicken, Mike, and this year's festival theme of "Space Cowboy". The winner will receive a \$250 cash prize, a copy of the official poster, and other festival merchandise. [Learn more about the contest.](#)

## Engineering

- ***19 Road Project Communication (Continued).*** As we prepare for the 19 Road Project, you can expect to see communication from the City of Fruita with project updates, schedules, frequently asked questions, and more. We will be updating the project page online to share as much information as possible with the community. Residents can find the project page at [fruita.org/19road](http://fruita.org/19road). Communication will also be shared through social media, our quarterly mailer to all residents, a mailer to those who live near the project area, community meetings, the

weekly update, and more. Please reach out to us at [communications@fruita.org](mailto:communications@fruita.org) if you have any questions along the way.

## **Parks and Recreation**

- **Reed Park Update.** The restroom building foundation was poured on Tuesday and forms were removed on Thursday. The concrete break test is scheduled for six days and will have test results Monday morning January 29th. 970 Excavation has cleared and grubbed all areas that are receiving new flatwork, skatepark and horseshoe pits. Installation of the stormwater system starting from Elm near the stormwater pump location and going towards the restrooms. 970 Excavation will work to subgrade at the skate park but will not do a rough grade until Spring. Masonry is set to start Monday pending concrete break test results.
- **Parks and Open Space update.** Parks crews are working on erosion control on the Little Salt Wash and replacement of the bench at Snooks Bottom.
- **Reverent Rhythms Dance.** PreK ballet is completely full for the January through April Session. The program continues to grow, and we had 42 participants in January.
- **Fruita Youth Action Council (FYAC).** FYAC wrapped up two service projects that took place over the winter. They held a winter coat drive and hosted a Salvation Army Angel Tree, receiving over 30 gifts for the community. Planning for spring events and service projects has begun. They are planning a 55+ Active Adult game day event and youth basketball tournament.
- **Night at the FCC is Tonight!** All youth in 5th-7th grade can take part in swimming, dancing, bounce obstacle course, concessions, and more. The event kicks off at 7:00 pm through 10:00 pm. Cost is \$15.00. New this season is online registration. All prepaid students will move to the front of the line for entry!
- **Athletics.** Youth Boys (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Basketball games start this weekend with inter-league play with Grand Junction Parks and Recreation. Fruita Parks and Recreation has over 100 kids playing Youth Basketball this season. Youth Volleyball (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Volleyball also starts this season with games at the Fruita Community Center. Youth Volleyball has 120 participants playing volleyball this season. Fruita Parks and Recreation loves our volunteers! Athletics has over 25 youth volunteer coaches this season for basketball and volleyball. Thank you to our volunteer coaches for your time and effort and giving back to Fruita! Thank you.

## **Planning & Development**

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit [fruita.org/projects](http://fruita.org/projects).

### **Major/ Minor Subdivisions:**

- Copper Creek West Final Plan, Filing 1 (Under Construction) (954 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- Iron Wheel Filing 2 Final Plat (Approved) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Approved) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- Kismet Minor Subdivision (Under Construction) (460 N. Mesa St) (3 Lots)
- PSE Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1558 River Road) (2 Lots)

- LaPointe Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1050 E. Ottley Avenue) (4 Lots)
- Sunset Pointe Preliminary PUD Plan (Approved) (Parcel # 2697-091-80-001) (122 Lots)
- North Mesa Minor Subdivision (Approved) (155 N. Mesa Street) (2 Lots)
- Weston Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1877 J 2/10 Road; Parcel # 26997-164-00-050 & 2697-164-00-074) (109 Lots)
- Berg Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (1806 J 3/10 Rd) (2 Lots)
- West Canyon Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Review) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)

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

- The Fruita Mews (Under Construction) (1138 18.5 Road)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Site Design Review (Under Construction) (417 E Ottley Ave)
- A Storage Place Site Design Review and Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1960 & 1966 Hwy 6 & 50)
- My Storage Fruita (Approved) (1930 Highway 6 & 50)
- 535 W. Aspen Apartments (Under Construction) (535 W. Aspen Avenue)
- Wildcat Residences (Approved) (1807 Wildcat Avenue)
- City Market Fueling Station Appeal Hearing (February 20, 2024) (437 W Aspen Avenue)
- 1873 K Road Annexation (Approved) (1873 K Road)
- 1873 K Road Rezone (Under Review) (1873 K Road)
- Geode Flats Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road)

### **Public Works**

- **FOG Program Training.** Utility staff and Wastewater Reclamation Facility staff completed the four-part webinar series on Fats-Oils-Grease (FOG) Abatement sponsored by USDA. This series walks through the various components of a FOG program including costs, creating the business case, determining FOG loading and implementation.
- **Utility Staff.** Utility staff continues to clean sewer lines when weather allows, and staff is being trained on camera van operations.
- **Street Training.** Streets Division completed training on recently purchased backhoe from the sales representative. Staff continue with training on lift stations and street sweeper equipment.
- **Director Meetings.** The Public Works Director participated in a virtual meeting with FEMA and the Colorado Division of Emergency Management to discuss preliminary Benefit-Cost Analysis Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities Requirements regarding the City of Fruita Reservoir Dam Breach Project. Public Works Director also participated in OpenGov webinar regarding goal setting and how to set targets and report on progress.

### **RESOURCE LINKS**

- [Community Resources](#)
- [City Project Updates](#)
- [Fiber Internet Construction Updates](#)
- [Trash and Recycling Services](#)

- [Stay Informed](#)
- [Fruita City Council](#)

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

- [County landfill fees to rise again.](#)
- [Fruita boys notch statement win over GJ.](#)
- [Fruita girls hitting opponents with a 1-2.](#)
- [Unemployment rates increase again.](#)
- [Fruita's Chelewski, Mease win titles in Northglenn.](#)
- [Fruita home invasion stopped by homeowner defending themselves, suspect fled the scene on foot.](#)
- [Fruita LDS officials focus on the future after arson conviction tossed.](#)
- [Respiratory illnesses continue to rise in Mesa County.](#)
- [BLM seeks comment on proposed rule for Colorado Western Slope areas.](#)
- [Man arrested following Fruita SWAT standoff.](#)
- [Doorbell camera images show burglar who ran off after confrontation inside western Colorado home.](#)
- [Suspect in Fruita arrested after SWAT Team deployed.](#)

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

- **January 26, 2024** – Night at the FCC, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- **February 10, 2024** – Fruita Sweetheart Run at the Fruita Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- **February 14, 2024** – Coffee & Chat with the City Manager, Aspen Street Coffee, 8:00 a.m.
- **February 28, 2024** – City of Fruita Candidate Forum, Fruita Monument High School at 6:00 p.m.
- **March 28, 2024** – Easter Egg Scramble, 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Fruita Community Center backyard.
- **April 12, 2024** - Desert Rats Race, Open Venue, Trails around Fruita
- **April 12, 2024** – Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament, 9:00 a.m., Adobe Golf Creek Course
- **April 12, 2024** - Lower Valley Professional Firefighters Tournament, 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Civic Center Park
- **April 13, 2024** – Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- **April 27, 2024** – Fishing is Fun at Snooks Bottom, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **May 4, 2024** – 18 Hours of Fruita, Open Venue, Highline Lake State Park
- **May 4, 2024** – Co2uT, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 3 – 5, 2024** – Fat Tire Festival, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita
- **May 11, 2024** – Adventure Fest, Open Venue, 18 Road Trailhead
- **May 31 – June 1, 2024** – Mike the Headless Chicken, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita.

- **June 25, 2024** – State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 8:30 a.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).



*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.