



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

325 E Aspen
Suite 155
Fruita CO 81521

Phone:
970-858-3663

Fax:
970-858-0210

E Mail
fruita@fruita.org

Web Site
fruita.org

City Manager's Office
970-858-3663

City Clerk/Finance
970-858-3663

Community
Development
970-858-0786

Engineering
970-858-8377

Human Resources
970-858-8373

Public Works
970-858-9558

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: JANUARY 12, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

City offices will be closed Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Trash and recycling will not be impacted.

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

Our meeting on Tuesday is the first of the year and we have a full agenda. We will begin with three proclamations and presentations. The first item is to declare January 2024 as Crime Stoppers Month in the City of Fruita, followed by a presentation from the Fruita Arts and Culture Board on a recommendation on the merry-go-round art for Reed Park, and then we will recognize four employees who saved the life of a patron at the Fruita Community Center. After that, there are several items on the consent agenda, followed by five public hearings. The first three public hearings are on planning and development items, and the fourth is on a municipal code amendment regarding council pay. The last public hearing is to consider a long-term lease for copier services for the Fruita Police Department. See you all on Tuesday night!

Election Packets Now Available – DEADLINE JANUARY 22, 2024 5pm (Continued)

The City of Fruita's regular election will be held on April 2, 2024, and petitions for candidate nominations are now available at the City Clerk's office. There are four open positions in the next election, including the position of Mayor and three City Council seats. Completed petitions must be filed with the City Clerk by January 22, 2024. If you are interested in learning more, you can visit our website for the [2024 Regular Municipal Election Information for City Council Candidates](#).

Fruita Community Center Rate Increase Begins January 15 (Continued)

Starting January 15, 2024, the Fruita Community Center will be implementing adjustments to the admission fees and membership rates. This is the first time since

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

2017 that the fee to the Fruita Community Center has been adjusted. Our number one goal is to serve the community to the highest standard, and this necessary change is essential to sustain our facility with rising operational costs and the effects of inflation over recent years. **Daily rates will increase by \$1, and monthly/yearly passes will increase based on the \$1 daily admission increase.** On our website, you can find a helpful table showing how this change impacts each membership option. We appreciate your continued support and understanding during this transition period. If you have any questions about this change, please contact the Fruita Community Center at 970.858.0360 or at recreation@fruita.org.

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. 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.

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.

- **Question:** How often does the City of Fruita conduct a community survey?
- **Answer:** Every four years, we conduct a community survey which is designed to assess citizen satisfaction with the quality of life in Fruita, City services, City policies and future growth, as well as to get the pulse of the City. The last survey was conducted in 2021. [You can review past surveys online.](#)

General Updates

- **Business After Hours Recap.** We had such a fun time hosting the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours event! The event took place at the Fruita Community Center. These events are an opportunity for Chamber members to network with other professionals in the community. We tested the crowds knowledge with Fruita trivia,
- **CPR Trainings.** This week, staff from the Fruita Civic Center and Public Works participated in CPR training. A total of 20 employees participated. Thank you to Molly in our Aquatics division for taking the time to train staff on this important skill! Additionally, we have ordered and received AEDs to be placed throughout each City facility. We will have two AEDs placed at the Civic Center, two at the City Shops Building, one at the Police Department, and one at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. These are in addition to the AEDs available at the Community Center.
- **Community Hospital Cancer Center Tour.** Mayor Pro Tem Breman and I had the opportunity to tour the new Cancer Center at Community Hospital earlier this week with many community leaders. Beautiful facility with wonderful services for the public.

- **Charging Stations Statistics & One Downtown Charging Station Currently Unavailable.** One of our Charging Stations at the Civic Center has been down for the past week and is showing an unavailable status. A help-desk ticket has been submitted to ChargePoint and a technician will be on site soon to make a repair to the station and have it operational again. In 2023, after opening the Charging Stations in September, users received 10,100 kWh of power for electric vehicles, there were 389 total sessions, and 179 unique users. ChargePoint estimates that 7,800kg (about 17,196.04 lb) of greenhouse gas emissions have been avoided through the use of the stations and electric vehicles.
- **Managers Meeting in Montrose.** On Wednesday, Shannon and I had the chance to participate in full-day training with other Western Colorado Managers and Deputy City Managers in Montrose. We discussed several important issues facing our organizations, including housing and transportation challenges, how other organizations are working on succession planning and employee recruitment and retention, and economic development opportunities. It was great to share and learn from the other organizations, and we look forward to participating in more of these types of trainings with our regional partners.
- **December Waste Management Report.** In December, Fruita residents recycled 36 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. Great job, Fruita! Overall in 2023, Fruita residents recycled 574 tons of materials. The full report from Waste Management is provided below.

Parks and Recreation

- **Waterslide Update.** You may have noticed signage in the Fruita Community Center announcing the new waterslide coming this year! Construction on the waterslide is expected to begin in the next month or so with a completion date of fall 2024. Construction will have minimal impact on the indoor pool. The contractor will begin with installing a temporary wall to separate the construction area from the indoor pool.
- **Retile Project Starts Monday.** Starting Monday, January 15, the Men's Locker Room will be closed for a retile renovation. The closure will last about 12-14 days. During this time, patrons of the Men's Locker Room can use the family changing rooms. Once the Men's Locker Room is complete, the Women's Locker Room will close for the same duration, about 12-14 days. During this time, patrons of the Women's Locker Room can use the family changing rooms. Once both locker rooms are complete, renovations will begin on the Family Changing areas.
- **Reed Park Update.** The shelter is starting to take shape. The foundation for the shelter has been formed and underground plumbing is taking shape. Next week the final grade for the shelter and rebar installation will take place.
- **Dinomites** Winter Break camp for 10 days with an average of 18 kids per day.
- **Junior Jammers Basketball.** Continuing through the month of January at the FCC with 37 participants.
- **Future Cats Basketball Camp.** The first week of January at the FCC the Future Cats Basketball camp was held with 29 basketball participants. Coaches and players from FMHS helped with the camp.

Planning & Development

To see active reviews of current projects, you may visit 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 (Under Review) (1807 Wildcat Avenue)
- City Market Fueling Station Conditional Use Permit (Under Review) (437 W Aspen Avenue)
- 1873 K Road Annexation & Rezone (Under Review) (1873 K Road)
- Geode Flats Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road)

Public Works

- **CDL Certification.** Wyatt Bramwell in the Fleet Division completed his CDL Certification. Congratulations Wyatt!!
- **Aeration Project.** Notice of Final Settlement for the city's Aeration System Improvement Project has been issued.
- **Utility Locates.** Utilities Crew continuing to assist Engineering Department with utility locates and potholing on South Mesa in preparation for capital project. Utility staff is training on camera van operations and will continue jetting operations as weather and temperatures permit.
- **Snow Removal.** Streets Crew brought out the snow removal equipment Thursday morning to plow and apply mag chloride to city streets after a brief winter storm.
- **Reporting and Training.** Public Works Superintendent completed inflow and infiltration reporting for the sewer collection system per state requirements and completed Traffic Control Supervisor re-certification testing.

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

- [Black Citizens and Friends holds 'MLK Week' celebration.](#)
- [The Grand Junction Rotary Club will host Cards for a Cause: a fundraiser for local youth mental health services.](#)
- [Mesa County compiles report on population trends.](#)
- [Family physician joins Fruita practice.](#)
- [Mesa County missing endangered adult in the Redlands.](#)
- [Registration open for City of Fruita's Sweetheart Run.](#)

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.
- **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 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

CC. Department Directors

Do you have questions about anything in the Weekly Information Update? Please feel free to email us at communications@fruita.org.



CITY OF FRUITA

2023 RECYCLING BENEFITS

574 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard were recycled by the community this Year.

This year's recycling efforts saved the following resources:

9,248 Mature Trees

Represents enough saved timber resources to produce 157,219,900 sheets of printing and copy paper!

1,333 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 1,704 people!

1,331,927 kWh of Electricity

Enough power to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 125 homes!

Avoided 1,574 Metric Tons (MTCO₂E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 340 passenger vehicles!

2,816,378 Gallons of Water

Represents enough saved water to meet the daily fresh water needs of 37,551 people!

To learn more about recycling, visit [WM.com/RecycleRight](https://www.wm.com/RecycleRight).

Always remember to Recycle Right



Recycle clean bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard.



Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.



No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

PREPARED BY WM

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Environmental Paper Network-Paper Calculator V4.0, Domtar Paper, Gaylord Corporation, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, and WM.

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Notes: GHG = Greenhouse Gas; MTCO₂E = Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



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.