



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: FEBRUARY 9, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

Sweetheart Run TOMORROW

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 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 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!

Notifications on Traffic Impacts from Projects | Email Subscription

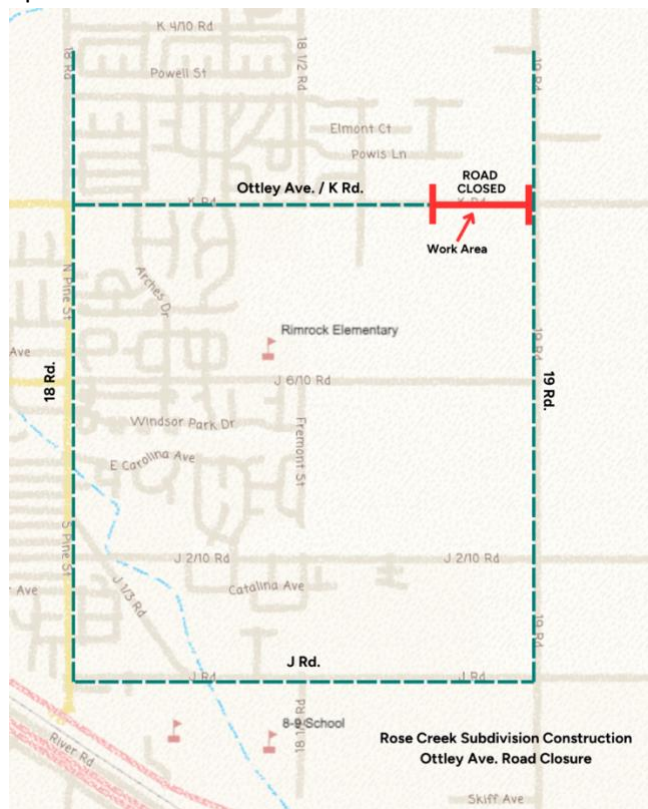
The City of Fruita will now offer an email subscription for notifications on traffic impacts from projects. Interested residents can [sign up to receive email notifications online](#). As necessary, the City of Fruita will send out email notifications for upcoming traffic impacts and updates on current ones.

Ottley Road closure for Rose Creek Subdivision construction (Continued)

Ottley Avenue will be closed starting Thursday, February 8. The road closure is expected to last for 30 days. The contractor for the Rose Creek Subdivision will begin by milling (removing the asphalt surface) the existing road to facilitate installation of utilities. Work will also include installation of storm sewer facilities and curb, gutter and sidewalk along Ottley Avenue. The recommended detour route is south on Pine Street to J Road (Wildcat Ave.), east to 19 Road, then north on 19 Road to Ottley Avenue (K Road). Ottley Avenue will reopen to traffic once utility work is completed, however; there will be a future road closure once the asphalt plants open in the

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

spring and the road can be repaved. Please check fruitsa.org/projects under the Rose Creek Final Plat for updates on this road closure.



19 Road Communications (Continued)

We are working on communication efforts for the upcoming 19 Road construction later this year. The project schedule can be found online, and residents can expect more reminder notices and other updates from the city as we get closer to the project start date (November 2024). The first big communication push happened this week with a notification mailer sent to property owners near the project area (along Highway 6&50, from Peach Street to 19 1/2 Road, and north to Ottley Avenue). A second mailer will be sent closer to the project start date. 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 fruitsa.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@fruitsa.org if you have any questions along the way.

Waste Management Trash and Recycling Calendar

This week, Waste Management sent a mailer to all Fruita residents with information on the 2024 waste and recycling schedule. The mailer also has information about the changes in services that rolled out earlier this year (96-gallon cart trash collection and voluntary single-

stream recycling). This mailer along with all other communications regarding the changes in trash and recycling can be found with the links below.

- [WM Trash and Recycling Schedule Notice](#)
- [WM Postcard Notification](#)
- [Fall City Link Mailer](#)
- [Winter City Link Mailer](#)
- [Trash Collection and Recycle Services Webpage](#)
- [Check the City of Fruita's Facebook for notifications.](#)

2024 Regular Municipal Election Information (CONTINUED)

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.

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:** What is the biosolid program the city's Wastewater Reclamation Facility offers?
- **Answer:** The City of Fruita Wastewater Treatment Facility is a state-of-the-art Biological Nutrient Removal Wastewater Reclamation Facility. The biosolid process removes 550 pounds of trash a day and produces EPA class A biosolid fertilizer for unrestricted use for lawns and flower beds. Interested Fruita residents can pick up biosolids for free at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility. Please call 970-858-4081 for more information.

General Updates

- **Coffee with the City Manager.** Next Thursday, February 15, head to Aspen Street Coffee at 8 am to enjoy casual conversations and a cup of coffee with the City Manager! These events are open to the community, free to attend, and are a great way to learn about what's happening at the City of Fruita and ask questions. We hope to see you there!
- **Circular Economy Roundtable & State of the State Address.** On Tuesday, Mayor Pro-Tem Breman and I attended a roundtable discussion with the Governor on Colorado's efforts for a circular economy. I was asked to present information on our Wastewater Treatment Facility's biosolids program. The circular economy initiatives is focused on how products can be reused or repurposed at the end of their lifecycle. Our biosolids are a perfect example of this, as it can be used as fertilizer for garden beds and turf. Additionally, it saves the City a lot of money each year from not having to bring the biosolids to the landfill. After the roundtable, Councilor Miller,

Shannon and I attended the Governor's State of the State Address. The focus of the address was on potential legislation addressing housing, water, and transportation initiatives this year. Staff monitors legislation throughout each session and will update on any bills of interest to the City Council.

- **February Mobile Mesa County Newsletter.** The latest edition of the Mobile Mesa County newsletter is now available and can be found here: [Read the newsletter](#). It includes the Grand Valley Transit promotional calendar, information on Winter Bike to Work Day, Safe Routes to School challenges, and more.
- **Ride the Rockies Meeting.** Ride the Rockies will be ending in Fruita this year on June 14-15, 2023. The Ride Director and team were in Fruita on Friday, and we had the opportunity to meet with the team and local partners to discuss event logistics. We are excited to have Ride the Rockies in Fruita this year!



Administration

- **Job Openings.** The City of Fruita is accepting applications for several part-time and full-time positions. We currently have openings for a Procurement and Contracts Specialist, Maintenance Worker I in Streets, an Automotive and Equipment Technician in Fleet, and a Finance Officer, in addition to the part-time positions. If you are interested in learning more about these, you can visit our website here: [City of Fruita Job Openings](#).
- **New Finance and Accounting Software.** This week, we went live with the updated cloud-based version of our Finance and Accounting Software. The transition went well, and moving to the Cloud-based system will provide greater security and prevent any crashes that could impact our operations in the future. Also, it has several new features that will help with administrative functions and streamline some of our internal processes.

- **2024 Budget Books.** The 2024 Budget Books have been printed and a public copy is available to inspect at the City Clerk's office. If anyone on Council is interested in receiving a printed copy (that already hasn't), please let me know and we will make you a copy.

Engineering

- **19 Road Right-of-Way Surveying.** During the weeks of February 12 and February 19, residents can expect to see surveyors (trucks and survey signs) working along 19 Road as part of the right-of-way acquisition for the 19 Road construction project. The surveyors will work from Highway 6&50 to J 2/10 Road. There should be limited to no traffic impacts for this work.

Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** Ute water has installed the new 1 ½' water tap and has removed the 5/8" tap earlier in the week. Site electrical work started in the grass area with temporary fences going up on Wednesday. 970 Excavation started the trenching, and the electrician is installing conduit today. The temporary fencing will be up through mid-week next week and removed once the trenches are filled. Masonry is currently working on the next 4' lift on interior walls and should be finishing up with all walls early next week. Framing is scheduled to start as soon as the mason has completed and demobilized.
- **Parks Tree Removal.** Parks staff helped with the removal of two trees at Reed Park on Wednesday and Thursday. It was decided that two trees that were removed would be compromised by the project, and it would be better to replace them with new trees now instead of in a year. The entire Parks team moved quickly and had the two trees removed. Public Works will help with the removal of stumps early next week.
- **Recreation Department All-Staff Meeting.** The yearly all-staff meeting was held on Sunday, February 4 at the FCC. Getting the entirety of the Parks and Recreation team together for one evening is no easy feat. The 84 seasonal, part-time, and full-time staff in attendance were engaged with a recap of wins from 2023 and presented the future projects and purchases in 2024. Attendees honored 20 coworkers who celebrated their 3, 5, or 10-year work-iversary. It was not all fun and games. The second part of this all-staff gathering was designed to cover CIRSA mandated information, including the building's evacuation and emergency plan. The underlying message to all those in attendance was that we all are a unique piece of the Parks and Recreation puzzle individually contributing to the bigger, and successful picture of the Parks and Recreation Department. And using the FRUITA Core Values is the vehicle for each to reach that end goal.



- **Aquatics.** The first ever indoor Movie in the Pool is tonight at the FCC. Reaching max registration at 75 participants, the Aquatics Team promised wait listers that they would look ahead for another date to offer this sought-after family activity. The movie featured was The Little Mermaid. Before the lights go down, members from the Colorado West Performing Arts will greet patrons dressed as characters from the show.
- **Guest Services Updates.** Guest Services and Recreation Admin staff were joined by members of the Finance and Communications team to participate in two days of retraining for the Sportsman Recreation Software. While this software was recently implemented in October of 2022, there have been many new staff who do not have the history or training to properly navigate or train others on general point of sale processes, activity and program management, reporting, memberships, financial features, and the like.
- **Monthly Newsletter.** The latest Fruita Parks and Recreation Monthly Newsletter can be found here: [Read the February newsletter.](#)

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)
- 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)
- 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)
- Geode Flats Preliminary PUD Plan (Under Review) (614 Raptor Road) (City Council 3/5/24)

Police

- **Coffee with a Cop event.** We had a great turnout at our Coffee with a Cop event on Thursday! Thank you to everyone who came out! Join us for our next event on March 15 at Bestslope Coffee.

Public Works

- **Digital Accessibility Training.** Public Works Supervisors have completed Digital Accessibility Training.
- **Building Maintenance Updates.** Building Maintenance staff has completed a variety of repairs at the Civic Center and Police Department as well as completing monthly inspections.
- **Streets and Road Maintenance Report.** The Streets Division completed 307 locates for the month of January and 84 locates to date in February. Streets Crew completed 63 miles of street sweeping and crack-sealed Black Ridge, Vista Valley Dr., and Bookcliff Ct., assisted Engineering Department with potholing on South Mesa.
- **Potholing.** Utilities Division assisted Engineering Department with potholing for utilities on South Mesa, coordinated sewer ball installation for new development, CCTV inspection for new development, coordination of 16 Road Railway Crossing and Cottonwoods drain project.
- **Streets Training.** Streets Crew Leader Mike Bramlett and Maintenance Worker Dylan Baumgartner attended the Rocky Mountain Asphalt Conference in Denver this week. Mike Bramlett received the most points for engagement at the conference and brought home this American Flag. Way to go Mike! Dylan was a close second, way to represent FRUITA!!



- **Utilities Update.** Utilities staff completed lift station inspections and meter readings, continued with CCTV operation and training and attended wastewater collections math and hydraulic training.
- **Wastewater Reclamation Facility Update.** WWRF staff submitted monthly, quarterly and semi-annual DMR reports to the State as required by the city's Discharge Permit and completed regular maintenance items at the plant.
- **Mountain Water.** Public Works Director participated in the second planning framework workshop for the River Corridor Initiative, met with SGM Engineering and USFS to discuss requirements for Fruita Reservoir Dam Breach #2.

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):

- [4 candidates vying for 3 Fruita City Council seats.](#)
- [2024 Mike the Headless Chicken Art Contest.](#)
- [Highline Lake being drained.](#)
- [Mesa County commercial market declined in 2023.](#)
- [2024 off to slow start for Mesa County real estate market.](#)
- [Governor Jared Polis ventures to the western slope to talk about sustainable business.](#)
- [First flight was a Breeze.](#)
- [Colorado leaders aim for sustainability through new economic model.](#)
- [Governor Polis Discussed Housing Affordability and Reducing Costs in Visit to Grand Junction.](#)

- [Fruita Parks and Rec holds Movie Night in the Pool.](#)
- [D51 Superintendent Brian Hill given five-year extension.](#)
- [Senior Life Solutions wins Community Impact Award.](#)
- [Two dead in Utah plane crash that took off from Grand Junction.](#)

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

- **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 23, 2024** – Live at the Plaza | Winter Concert, Mulberry Plaza, 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.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 20, 2024** – Fruita Spring Clean Up, City Shops (900 Keifer Ave), 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 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.



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.