



FRUITA

COLORADO



Weekly Info Update

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To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: APRIL 19, 2024
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Workshop

We have three discussion items on the agenda for our workshop meeting on Tuesday. The bulk of the meeting will be spent on a training that Mayor Breman, our City Attorney, and I will provide. This training is provided after each election and will cover various topics for the City Council. Apart from that, we will have a discussion on which Boards and Commissions you are interested in participating in, and then briefly discuss the summer meeting schedule as we will need to adjust it due to holidays and the annual Colorado Municipal League conference. Look forward to the discussions on Tuesday!

Spring Clean Up Event TOMORROW

The 3rd Annual Fruita Spring Clean-Up is tomorrow, Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Public Works Facility located at 900 Kiefer Ave.

Please note the items we CANNOT accept: Aerosol cans, air conditioners, air/gas cylinders, ammunition, antifreeze, asbestos materials, asphalt rubble, batteries, auto batteries, concrete rubble, electronics, engines/motors, fluorescent lights, freezers, freon, fuel tanks, gasoline/grease/oil, hazardous waste, insecticides, items longer than 6', large drums, liquids of any kind, major appliances, medical waste, microwaves, paint/stain, pesticides, refrigerators, road flares, shingles, spa/pool chemicals, tires. Mattresses and box springs can be dropped off for \$18.00 each. Cash or check will be accepted.

Mike Bennett Named CCCMA City Manager of the Year

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

Congratulations to City Manager Mike Bennett for receiving the 2023 Manager of the Year award for medium-sized communities at the Colorado City and County Management Association Annual Conference.



City Irrigation Update

Irrigation start-up began on Monday, April 15th. Due to the number of irrigation lines hit during the installation of fiber conduit, start-up has been slow. Crews are working diligently to find leaks and call in for repairs to be completed.

Ride the Rockies Cancelled for 2024

Ride the Rockies announced yesterday, the 2024 ride has been cancelled due to low registration. You can see their full statement on the [Ride the Rockies website](#). We are sad to see this and appreciate all our partners' time and support over the last several months to help plan for this event in 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.

- **Question:** Should residents on City irrigation not water on Monday because of regular maintenance?
- **Answer:** We recommend that residents do not water on Mondays since City crews use this day of the week to conduct maintenance on the system.

General Updates

- **Draft February Financial Reports.** The Financial Reports for February sales tax collections will be included in the packet for the next regular City Council meeting, but here is an overview of the reports:
 - **City Sales Taxes** – In February, City sales tax collections increased 2% compared to the prior year and is trending an increase of 6% overall.
 - **Use Taxes on Motor Vehicles** – Were up 22% in February, at an increase of 7% overall through the first two months of the year.
 - **Use Taxes on Building Materials** – Were down 70% in February, trending at a decrease of 18%.
 - **City Lodging Taxes** – Were down 33% in February, are down 13% overall from the prior year.
 - **County Sales Taxes** – Continued at an increase of 5% through February and is at 5% year-to-date.
- **Western Colorado Economic Summit.** On Tuesday, Mayor Breman and Councilmembers Miller, Purser, and Kreie and I attended the summit. Mayor Breman represented Fruita well with other elected officials across the valley on economic development in Fruita and regional collaborations.



- **CCCMA Annual Conference.** This week, Shannon and I attended the annual Colorado City/County Management Association Conference. We went to a variety of sessions and heard from speakers on how to better engage communities, how to access housing funding from Proposition 123 and from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), how other organizations are developing internal leadership training for employees on a budget, an economic development report for the state and the country as a whole, and more. This conference is also a great opportunity to meet with our regional and statewide partners and discuss similar projects that we are all working on. I was also able to participate on a panel on supporting mental health in the workplace, highlighting the work of our Wellness Committee and other cultural, support, and educational efforts.

- **Fruita Academy Week #2.** Yesterday, we hosted the second week of the Fruita Academy. The night started with a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Facility followed by presentations from the Public Works Department and the Engineering Department.



- **Waste Management Monthly Report.** In March, Fruita residents recycled 41 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. Great job Fruita! The full report can be found below.
- **Senator Hickenlooper Listening Session.** Senator Hickenlooper will be hosting a listening session in Grand Junction on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to gather feedback regarding the proposed Dolores Canyons National Monument. The event is open to the public but an RSVP is required. [Register for the event.](#)

Engineering

- **16 Road Construction.** From April 20 - 23, 16 Road will be closed for railroad work. Please use 15 1/2 road to access the south side of 16 road.
- **19 Road Project.** On Monday, the bid for the 19 Road construction opened and we are accepting bids and proposals until May 10, 2024.

Marketing and Promotion

- **UTMB Desert Rats Trailing Running Festival Recap.** It was a beautiful weekend for the Desert Rats Trail Running Festival here in Fruita! Although we will receive official numbers soon, it is estimated that over 1,600 runners participated in the four events ranging that included 100k, 50k, 25k, and a 10k. The City of Fruita played an active role in permitting the event and assisting in set up and breakdown.

Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** The playground installation is complete, including all safety surfacing. This is an active construction site, and we ask you to please wait for the park to open before using the playground. Wheelpark rough grade has begun, and American Ramp Company is starting to prep for concrete. The north shelter foundation and concrete will begin early next week.
- **Bark Park Amenities.** The Bark Park will be receiving new benches, fire hydrants, leash posts, and dog park agility features. Crews have been working hard to install them and hope to have them completed today. There may be some closures over the weekend but the park will be fully open by next week.
- **Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament Recap.** Last Friday, we hosted the annual Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament. We had 62 players and raised \$9,700 for our youth scholarship program.
- **Downtown Restroom Construction started this week.** The contractor is completing the site prep for the building and should be ready for delivery mid to late next week. We will be working with the manufacturer to schedule a delivery date for the restroom facility. The bus stop concrete pad will be installed in front of the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce today.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The contractor will begin underground plumbing for the waterslide next week. There will be some core drilling taking place on Monday and it may be a little noisy in the pool area, but it won't require any closures.

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 (Under Construction) (19 Road) (46 Lots)
- Adele's Acres Subdivision (Approved) (1024 19 Road) (48 Lots)
- LaPointe Minor Subdivision (Approved) (1050 E. Ottley Avenue) (4 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)
- 535 W. Aspen Apartments (Under Construction) (535 W. Aspen Avenue)

Public Works

- **Utility Update.** Utilities cleaned approximately 4,597 feet of sewer lines and completed preliminary CCTV inspections for Iron Wheel Phase 2 and the Fruita Mews Projects.

- ***Kingsview Lift Station Design.*** The Public Works Team met with Tetra Tech and Hensel Phelps to review 60% design submittals for Kingsview Lift Station project.
- ***16 Road Work.*** Public Works Team will be setting Road Closure signs on 16 Road for railroad work and asphalt replacement beginning Friday, April 19, 2024.
- ***MS4 Program.*** Public Works Team and the Building Department met with Mesa County to discuss enforcement actions for water quality MS4 Program.

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):

- [The Old Fruita Bridge.](#)
- [New 'Lane Filtering Law' passes in Colorado: How it affects you.](#)
- [Where to dispose of sharps in western Colorado.](#)
- [Ride the Rockies 2024 to Go Through Northwestern Colorado, June 9-15.](#)
- [Outdoor rec comes of age in the valley.](#)
- [More than 1,500 Registered Runners Converged in Fruita for the 2024 Desert Rats trailing Running Festival by UTMB.](#)
- [West Springs Hospital could close, Mind Springs CEO says.](#)
- [Respiratory virus season analysis.](#)
- [Postal Services proceeding with Grand Junction change.](#)
- [U.S. House passes largest-ever package supporting outdoor recreation.](#)
- [Famed 'Ride the Rockies' bike event canceled due to low registration.](#)
- [Ride the Rockies Canceled for 2024.](#)

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

- **April 20, 2024** - Lower Valley Professional Firefighters Tournament, 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Civic Center Park
- **April 20, 2024** – Fruita Spring Clean Up, City Shops (900 Keifer Ave), 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **April 26, 2024** – Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 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 24, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **May 31 – June 1, 2024** – Mike the Headless Chicken, Open Venue, Downtown Fruita.
- **June 15, 2024** – Tab Benoit with special guest Larry McCray, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 p.m.
- **June 25, 2024** – State of the Community Breakfast hosted by the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, Absolute Prestige Ranch, 8:30 a.m.
- **June 28, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **July 26, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Mulberry Plaza, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **August 23, 2024** - Fruita Fourth Fridays, Civic Center Park, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **September 7, 2024** – Firefall with special guests The Dubious Brothers, James M. Robb State Park in Fruita, 6:00 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.

WM March 2024 Recycling Benefits City of Fruita

In March 2024, we recycled 41 tons of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.

This Month's recycling efforts saved the following resources:



656 Mature Trees

Enough avoided timber resource use to produce 11,157,500 sheets of printing and copy paper!



95 Cubic Yards of Landfill Airspace

Enough avoided airspace to fulfill the annual municipal waste disposal needs for 120 people!



95,032 kWh of Electricity

Enough avoided power use to fulfill the annual electricity needs of 8 homes!



Avoided 112 Metric Tons (MTCO₂E) of GHG Emissions

This GHG reduction is equivalent to removing annual emissions from 24 passenger vehicles!



199,872 Gallons of Water

Enough avoided water use to meet the daily fresh water needs of 2,664 people!

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Environmental Paper Network-Paper Calculator V4.0, Donter Paper, Gaylord Corporation, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, and Waste Management. © Waste Management 2023

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.