



# FRUITA

## COLORADO



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## Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: May 17, 2024  
Re: WEEKLY INFORMATION UPDATE

### **Tuesday's City Council Meeting**

Tuesday's City Council meeting will start with a proclamation for Memorial Day followed by two public hearings on special event liquor permits. After public hearings, we have three items on the administrative agenda, including a report on the monthly financial statements, a presentation on the Parks, Recreation, Health, and Open Space Master Plan (PHROST), and a presentation on the Circulation Plan. See you on Tuesday!

### **Downtown Restroom Installed**

The downtown restrooms were installed on Tuesday morning on the corner of Aspen Avenue and Peach Street. Next Tuesday, concrete will be poured around the building and we anticipate opening the facility later next week.



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

## 2024 State of the City Video Premiere (Continued)

We had a wonderful evening Wednesday night at Rocky Mountain PBS showcasing this year's State of the City video! Thank you to everyone who joined us and to Rocky Mountain PBS for hosting! In this year's video, we highlight initiatives from the City of Fruita while also showcasing the people who bring these projects to life. You will hear from five speakers who will highlight different areas of the City of Fruita. Each of these stories reflects our cover values, community values, and our progress toward the Fruita Strategic Plan. [Watch the State of the City on our YouTube!](#) Learn more about these initiatives at [fruita.org/2024stateofthecity](https://fruita.org/2024stateofthecity).



## 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 do I reserve a park shelter for a celebration?
- **Answer:** Park shelters are available for rent at Reed Park, Little Salt Wash Park, Heritage Park, and the Fruita Bike Park. Reserving a shelter guarantees you access to the shelter during your reservation time. [Learn more about reservations online.](#)

## General Updates

- ***Congrats Graduates!*** Congratulations to the 2024 Fruita Monument High School graduating class!
- ***Monthly Financial Reports.*** On Tuesday night, Finance staff will share an overview of the monthly financial reports with the City Council and answer any questions. Monthly reports are posted on our website after they have been adopted by the City Council, and we provide a quick

summary of these reports once in a month in the update. Here is an overview of sales tax collections for the month of March 2024:

- **City Sales Taxes** – City sales tax collections were up 11% in March of 2024 compared to March of the prior year, and is trending at an increase of 8% year-to-date.
  - **Use Tax on Motor Vehicles** – Were down in March 28%, are trending at a decrease of 6% when compared to the prior year.
  - **Use Tax on Building Materials** – Increase 1% in March 2024 compared to March 2023, still trending at a decrease of 17% overall.
  - **County Sales Taxes** - Were up 2% in March and are at an increase of 4% year-to-date.
  - **Lodging Taxes** - Lodging taxes were up 12% in March and are trending at an increase of 1% overall when compared to the prior year.
- **Farewell to Kaydee.** We are excited for our Communications Intern, Kaydee Lucero, but we are sad to see her time here at the City of Fruita come to an end. Kaydee is graduating tomorrow from Colorado Mesa University and has accepted a position with Community Food Bank as a Development Coordinator. Kaydee has been a huge help, and we are excited to see her take this next step in her career. Congrats, Kaydee!
  - **Community Meeting on MindSprings.** The Mayor and I attended a community meeting hosted at CMU by Representative Taggart where the discussion lasted over two hours on possible solutions with the entity's financial issues.

## Engineering

- **19 Road Update.** Three bids were received for the 19 Road improvement project. MA Concrete Construction Inc. was the low bidder at \$5,815,687.86.
- **16 Road Update.** The crossing of Union Pacific Railroad at 16 Road was widened recently. UPRR will be in later this month to relocate the gates to make a wider entrance. Staff was able to receive an extension (grant) from Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District.

## Parks and Recreation

- **Reed Park Update.** The Northern Pavilion footers have been poured and prep for the slab, flatwork, and ADA ramp has begun. The wheel park is progressing with concrete being poured in the mini bowl, and brick stamp area. The stormwater vault and sump pump were installed and the remaining dirt work for the wheel park will be completed. The landscaping contractor has repaired most of the irrigation but is still having issues with a few zones. They will be working on those repairs to make sure the park is irrigated. The shelter is nearing completion as they are finishing the tongue and groove, metal work, painting inside the restrooms, and the installation of the plumbing fixtures. Final electrical and HVAC will take place next week.
- **Community Center Waterslide Update.** The waterslide plumbing has passed initial inspections and crews have started backfilling to prepare for concrete.
- **Parks Irrigation Update - Continued.** The parks crew has been working to get all irrigation turned on in parks. Crews have fixed the Little Salt Wash electrical issues, and the park is

running normally now. Crews have completed the Civic Center underground electrical issues. They have turned their focus on Heritage Park and Highway 6.

- **Little Salt Wash Turf.** The parks crew has 2,000 pounds of seed and are ready to overseed the soccer fields at LSW after the soccer season. We are waiting to overseed until the growing conditions are ideal and that we have consistent water on at the park (which was recently fixed as noted above). The crews will create different field shifts to help spread out the usage on the fields for the fall season.
- **Fruita Community Center upcoming indoor pool/hot tub closure.** On Friday, May 24th, the indoor pool and hot tub will be closed for a full staff lifeguard recertification course. This will help wrap up National Water Safety month and will ensure that our lifeguard staff is fully prepared to keep everyone safe, while having a great summer in the sun!

## Planning & Development

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

### 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 (Approved) (Parcel #2697-162-21-001) (50 Lots)
- Gear Estates Preliminary Plan (Under Construction) (1156 18 Road) (8 Lots)
- Lake Weedunno Minor Subdivision (Under Review) (916 18 Road) (2 Lots)
- Sunset Pointe Minor Subdivision & Vacation of Right-of-Way (Under Review) (Squire Court) (2 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

- **Public Works Week.** National Public Works Week is 5/19/2024 – 5/25/2024. This year's theme is, "Advancing Quality of Life For All". Recognizing that public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of the City of Fruita.

- **Sewer Capital Projects.** Public Works staff participated in a project meeting with Tetra Tech and Hensel Phelps to review 45% design work for the Kingsview Lift Station. Staff also reviewed the Greenway Drive sewer line replacement project to prepare for the railroad permit application.
- **Accepting Applications for Two Wastewater Positions.** Job postings for Wastewater Reclamation Facility Operator and Wastewater Reclamation Facility Superintendent have been posted. These positions are open until filled with first review of the Superintendent position on May 31, 2024.
- **Replacement of Capital Equipment.** Public Works received the new crack sealer equipment that was approved in the 2024 budget as part of the capital equipment replacement fund. Public Works also took delivery of the new concrete grinder that will allow staff to be proactive in areas throughout the city where tripping hazards on sidewalks and trails exist due to concrete heaving or settling.



## RESOURCE LINKS

- [Traffic Impacts](#)
- [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):**

- [Imondi Wake Zone to host WWA state championship events this summer.](#)
- [Red Cross urges being ready for wildfires.](#)
- [Entry period open for Eye Love Fruita Juried Art Show.](#)
- [Rim Rock Drive in Colorado National Monument to temporarily close.](#)
- [Managing mosquitoes in Mesa County.](#)
- [Park City School Mountain Bike Team riders take on 18 Hours of Fruita relay.](#)
- [CPW ramps up another robust boat inspection season for mussels.](#)

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

- **May 22, 2024** - Colorado Municipal League District 11 Spring Meeting, 5:00 p.m. in Palisade
- **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](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.