



**FRUITA**  
COLORADO

**AGENDA ITEM COVER  
SHEET**

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**TO:** Fruita City Council and Mayor

**FROM:** Ciara DePinto, Communications and Engagement Specialist

**DATE:** August 15, 2023

**AGENDA TEXT:** PRESENTATION – Recognition of Fruita Academy Graduates

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**PURPOSE**

Over the past four weeks, 24 community members participated in the first-ever Fruita Academy. The program gave participants the opportunity to learn more about their local government. Each week, during two-hour sessions, participants learned about different departments within the City of Fruita. Topics included Police, Parks and Recreation, City Council, Administration, Planning and Development, Engineering, and Public Works. The group also went through a behind-the-scenes tour of both the Fruita Community Center and the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The City of Fruita values and appreciates these community members for taking the time to learn about local government and develop a deeper understanding of how the City of Fruita operates. For their commitment, the Fruita City Council and staff will recognize the first graduating class of the Fruita Academy at the Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

**BACKGROUND**

Implementing an in-person class setting program has been a goal for the City of Fruita for many years. Not only does it give community members the opportunity to learn about their local government, but it also allows for transparency and helps to achieve the City's communications goals which are to strengthen the relationship between the City of Fruita and the community by creating effective strategies to keep internal and external stakeholders informed and involved in City projects and services.