



FRUITA

COLORADO

CITY COUNCIL COVERSHEET

TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: SAM ATKINS, CITY ENGINEER

DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 2022

RE: RESOLUTION 2022-08 - ADOPTING THE JANUARY 2022 FRUITA CIRCULATION PLAN

BACKGROUND

With the adoption of the *Fruita in Motion: Plan Like a Local Comprehensive Plan* in early 2020 and with a substantial grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation to update the Fruita Area Street Classification and Traffic Control Plan, staff hired Fehr and Peers to update the plan and add an active transportation component

The Fruita Circulation Plan was informed by a comprehensive outreach process that gathered input from many residents, employees, and stakeholders from across the City. The goals of the engagement process are to empower the broader community, create public awareness and interest, provide decision-makers with guidance and continued involvement, and maintain communication through multiple channels. The project took a multi-pronged approach to seeking feedback to ensure there was a method and available time for all community members to provide meaningful input. Public outreach occurred through online surveys, an interactive mapping tool, an in-person community meeting, an intercept event, print and media relations, and detailed information provided on the Plan website. Outreach related to transportation from the recent Comprehensive Plan was also used to inform the Circulation Plan. Outreach was collected in two phases, as described further in this section.

The first phase of outreach was completed in February-March 2021 in order to supplement the existing conditions analysis and better understand the current challenges and barriers to travel within and through Fruita. This included an online survey and webmap, which received almost 300 responses. This information was critical in informing the plan's recommendations and priorities.

The second phase of outreach was completed in July-August 2021. This phase of outreach presented draft recommendations to community members, seeking input on tweaks or additions to this set of multimodal recommendations. Summer outreach also sought feedback on priorities, to inform the short, medium and long-term project lists presented in this Plan. Outreach in Phase II included a virtual component (online survey) and in-person component (open house and tabling at the Farmers Market).

The key themes that emerged from the outreach process are as follows:

- Improved connection across the railroad on the east side of the City
- Appreciation for the current trail network but desire to have improved access and signage to navigate to trails
- More wayfinding and information signage
- Awareness and education for all users on sharing the road between people driving and people biking and increase compliance of traffic laws
- Confusion at the roundabouts on SH 340
- Confusion of the roundabout around Circle Park
- Accommodating growth in travel demand as Fruita expands and densifies
- Unsafe and inefficient conditions for all modes near the schools
- Unsafe and inefficient conditions for all modes near the City Market
- Completion of missing sidewalk gaps
- Improved sidewalk maintenance

Staff presented the Draft Circulation Plan to City Council in a workshop on October 26, 2021 where members of City Council to make the minor final edits to the plan and bring back to City Council for adoption with no further presentation.

FISCAL IMPACT

Adoption of the January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan will not have a direct fiscal impact to the City of Fruita. The Master Plan is a recommending document and does not have the force of law. It does, however, provide direction to the City decision makers regarding the components of the transportation system and how to prioritize projects.

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan will become part of the City of Fruita's overall Comprehensive Plan and will provide further detail to the *Fruita in Motion: Plan Like a Local Comprehensive Plan*. By implementing the many items identified in the January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan, the intended outcomes are to improve the community's Quality of Place, Economic Health and overall Lifestyle. The January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan provides recommendations to continually improve upon the transportation network.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL:

1. Adopt Resolution 2022-08 the January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan.
2. Adopt Resolution 2022-08 the January 2022 Fruita Circulation Plan with conditions.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of staff that the Council by motion:

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2022-08 THE JANUARY 2022 FRUITA CIRCULATION PLAN