



# MONROE THIS WEEK

August 14, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 31



## Take the 1-minute survey

Statewide Broadband Mapping Initiative

*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition provides details on the 2020 Monroe Business Survey, rate stability resulting from the cancellation of the Spring Cleanup, the Statewide Broadband Mapping Initiative, the Community Relief Grant awards, the newly-confirmed members of the Community Human Services Advisory Board, the July 2020 Human Services Work Report, and an update on the City's major revenue streams.*



*Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov).*

*Yours in Service,*



help in efforts to get grants and other support to improve broadband. Take the 1-minute [access and speed survey](#).

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## CITY ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY RELIEF GRANT AWARDS

In June the City announced the Monroe CARES grant program to disburse financial assistance through CARES Act funds to businesses and nonprofit organizations affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The primary focus of the [Community Relief Grant](#) program is to provide support to nonprofit service providers which provide basic services and meet the increased needs of Monroe's most vulnerable residents. To review applications, a review committee was formed consisting of City staff and representatives from service providers which did not apply for a grant.



At its [August 11](#) meeting, the City Council reviewed and approved the Small Business Relief Grant [award recommendations](#), totaling \$50,000, as submitted by the review committee. I would like to extend my thanks to the committee, and to the recipient agencies for their continued support of our community.

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## COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (CHSAB) MEMBERSHIP CONFIRMED

At its [August 11](#) meeting, the City Council reviewed and approved my nominees for membership on the Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB). The Council previously established the CHSAB by resolution at its June 23 meeting. The CHSAB is the successor to the Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee, which delivered its recommendations to the City in February. This new advisory board will consist of 11 voting members who represent a mix of technical expertise and lived experience, and will provide the City with non-binding recommendations on implementing the HPAC recommendations. 16 applicants were interviewed by myself, City Administrator Deborah Knight, and two City staff members. All applicants expressed a desire to learn more about homelessness, poverty, and equity, as well as a willingness to keep an open mind about solutions to assist community members, to work collaboratively, and to act as the community perspective filter. Due to the unique backgrounds and skill sets of the applicants, selection of the 11 voting and 3 ex-officio members was very difficult. I would like to thank all applicants for their time and interest, and to congratulate the following individuals for their appointment and willingness to serve:



Terms ending December 31, 2021:

Terms ending December 31, 2022:

Terms ending December 31, 2023:

- Amber Mehta
- Bryan Lipsy
- Jim Bloss
- Sarah Lundstrum

- Jose Luis Nino de Guzman
- Lynsey Gagnon
- Tony Balk

- Aisha Sial
- Amy Plumb
- James Harrigan
- Roger Evans

Ex-officio:

- Brian Stoddard

Ex-officio:

- Todd Strickler

Ex-officio:

- Bridgette Tuttle

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## HUMAN SERVICES JULY WORK REPORT

As I mentioned in the article above, the Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) delivered its recommendations to the City earlier this year. The HPAC served as a forum for the coordination of information among local citizens and stakeholders to seek thoughtful, effective,



and lasting solutions to the City's homelessness crisis, and to facilitate assistance for unsheltered persons in the Monroe community; its nonbinding recommendations were formally adopted by the City Council in February. Following adoption of the recommendations, the City contracted the services of Rachel Adams as Project Implementation Consultant to coordinate implementation efforts, including the new Community Human Services Advisory Board. Rachel provides monthly work reports, and the [July 2020](#) report is now available. Reports for prior months can be found on the City's [HPAC website](#).

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## YEAR TO DATE REVENUE COMPARISONS

Curious about some of the City's major revenue streams? Don't have time to read through the entire budget? [Here](#) are a few of the City's revenue year-to-date numbers along with their prior year comparisons. If you would like further information, please contact the Finance Department at 360-794-7400 and reference *Monroe This Week*.



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## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the August 18 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)



Councilmember  
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Ed Davis



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Rousey

Have a question for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

