



MONROE THIS WEEK

April 5, 2019 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272
Phone - 360-794-7400

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GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

Hello! Thank you for reading Monroe This Week. Learn what is happening and has happened during the week. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov

Thank you!
Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



MAYOR HAPPENINGS

Coffee with the Mayor

Please join me Saturday, April 6, 2019, at the Visitor Information Center/Chamber Office (located at 125 S. Lewis Street) from 8 to 9:30 a.m. for Coffee with the Mayor. I look forward to meeting you and having a cup of coffee to talk about your questions and comments. See you then!

HPAC Meeting

Thursday, April 4, 2019, the Homeless Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) had its first meeting. The HPAC members introduced themselves and discussed the reasons for wanting to serve in the Monroe community and the committee itself. The committee members have unique talents and experiences to bring to our community and the committee. I thank all of them for their desire to work with such a complex and challenging issue that communities across our nation are facing today. The HPAC also went over their upcoming draft agenda to include future meeting. HPAC committee members enthusiastically expressed their willingness to complete homework assignments in advance the meeting. For more information about HPAC click [here](#). For more information about what the City of Monroe is doing and resources available click [here](#). Thank you to our City Council and staff for supporting this effort and this committee.

SR522 Update!

Thank you Senators Wagoner and Palumbo and Representatives Eslick and Kloba for your bipartisan support to #Finish522! These legislators have signed a joint letter asking the House Transportation Committee to move forward \$10 million in the Connecting Washington package for design and engineering for SR 522. Senators Wagoner and Palumbo and Representatives Eslick and Kloba asked the Committee to directly appropriate the funding or use unspent money from other Connecting Washington projects. Thank you for your support!

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Kevin Hanford, Mayor Pro Tem

Patsy Cudaback

Ed Davis

Jason Gamble

Jim Kamp

Jeff Rasmussen

Kirk Scarboro

councilmembers@monroewa.gov

EVENT HAPPENINGS

04/09 ~~City Council Finance/HR Committee Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers; 5:30PM~~
CANCELLED

City Council Regular Business Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers; 7PM



City of Monroe
Year-to-Date Comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'18 to 02/28/18: \$891,661
'19 to 02/28/19: \$926,218
UP \$34,557 or 3.87%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'18 to 02/28/18: \$348,141
'19 to 02/28/19: \$153,167
DOWN \$194,974 or -56.00%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'18 to 02/28/18: \$9,553
'19 to 02/28/19: \$9,553
No Change

Business License Fees

'18 to 02/28/18: \$8,575
'19 to 02/28/19: \$11,018
UP \$2,443 or 28.49%

Building Permit Revenues

'18 to 02/28/18: \$89,060
'19 to 02/28/19: \$92,399
UP \$3,339 or 3.74%

Planning Fee Revenues

'18 to 02/28/18: \$1,750
'19 to 02/28/19: \$10,690
UP \$8,940 or 510.85%

SFR Permits YTD

'18 to 02/28/18: 32
'19 to 02/28/19: 22

Multi-Family Permits (#units)

'18 to 02/28/18: 0
'19 to 02/28/19: 0

Inspections YTD

'18 to 02/28/18: 316
'19 to 02/28/19: 499

CITY HAPPENINGS

Monroe Celebrates Earth Day and Arbor Day with Proclamation, Arbor Day Tree Planting, Tree City USA Recognition and Announcement of 2019 Heritage Trees



Please join us to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day at Lake Tye Park on Friday, April 26, 2019, at 1 p.m. as Students of Mrs. Hehn's Third Grade Class from Fryelands Elementary School will join me in the ceremonial planting of an Arbor Day tree donated by the Monroe Garden Club. During the event, there will also be a Tree City USA award presentation by our State Forester; and announcement by our Monroe Park Board of our 2019 Heritage Trees.

In the lead-up to the Arbor Day event, a Proclamation will be read at the start of the Monroe City Council Study Session on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at 7 p.m. at Monroe City Hall, located at 806 W. Main Street.

For more information, contact Mike Farrell at the Monroe Parks Department at 360-863-4557, or visit www.monroewa.gov.

Lewis Street Park Playground Replacement

In 2018, the City Council authorized 2019 Parks Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for replacement of the twenty-year old play equipment at Lewis Street Park, which is a listed project in the Six-Year CIP of the Park Plan. The play equipment has outlived its service life, and features were dated and lacking the inclusive, challenge, and motion elements that the playground industry of today offers.



The Monroe Park Board reviewed the existing playground equipment at their July, August, and September 2018 meetings, including a site visit. A public open house was held on March 21, 2019. Monroe's oldest City Park is set within a stand of mature evergreen trees. This posed a challenge: to work within the existing play area boundaries so as not to disturb fragile tree root zones, yet ensure that new replacement equipment meet safety zone space requirements. An important design consideration was to ensure that any new equipment did not create hiding areas or block views through the park. Colorful information boards displayed four feature option concepts.

The new play equipment includes features that: encourage multi-generational play; are ADA inclusive and intentionally break down physical and social barriers to play; a playful theme that enhances the visual appeal of the park; and advanced climbing challenges and motion activities that appeal to older children who seek a more adventurous play experience. Surfacing improvements such as the use of rubberized surfacing are also part of the playground design.

A unique feature for this project includes a MusicBall, which will be the first of its kind in the Northwest. It is an inclusive, human-powered sensory-play music generator, with pre-recorded

**THE ADVENTURE
STARTS HERE!**

City of Monroe Boards & Commissions Openings

- Ethics Boardmember (4)
- LTAC Member (Hotelier)
- Salary Commissioner

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Job Openings

- Lateral Police Officer
- Construction Inspector
- Deputy Building Official
- Senior Planner (Parks)
 - Parks Seasonal
- Public Works Seasonal
- Intern: Finance/Public Works

www.monroewa.gov/jobs

(playground update continued) music or sounds through an SD card, which can be changed any time [Musicball Link](#). This exciting new project is anticipated to be completed this summer!

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

The Tuesday, April 9, 2019, City Council Regular Business Meeting includes a proclamation for National Drug Take Back Day, Presentation: Monroe School District, Contracts, Resolutions, Ordinances, and Department Reports. For more information click [here](#).

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at councilmembers@monroewa.gov!!



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