



MONROE THIS WEEK

February 7, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 5



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week. Learn what is happening and has happened during the week. Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geoffrey Thomas".

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

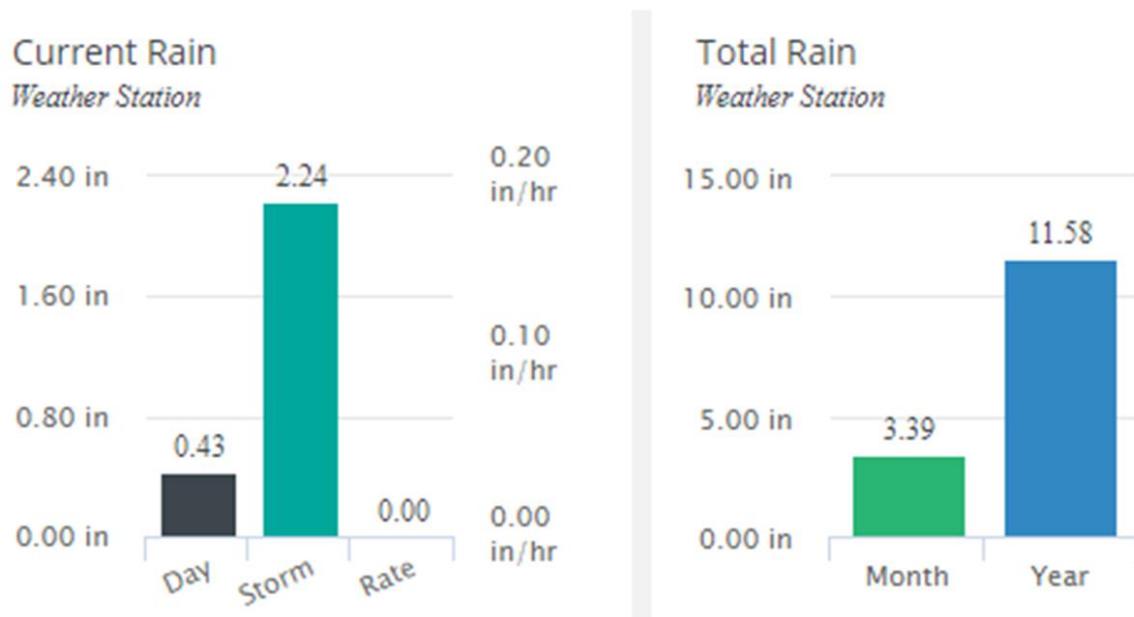


EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NOTICE

Heavy rainfall is expected to continue into the weekend with the possibility of additional flooding throughout Monroe. The City is asking for the community's help by checking storm drains on your street and making sure they are clear of debris. Some older storm drains outflow to rock holes or ditches that are at maximum capacity. If your street is experiencing flooding issue please call the Public Works Department at 360-794-6100 during business hours and 425-239-0189 after hours. For flooding issues outside of City limits, call Snohomish County Roads Maintenance at 360-388-7500.

There are several streets with water over the roadway. For your safety, please do not drive through standing water.

CITY HALL WEATHER STATION



REPRESENTING IN OLYMPIA – #FINISH 522

Due to significant precipitation, the last couple weeks have really demonstrated the need for improvements to our transportation system and our drainage systems, including culverts. Forward Washington, a bill being advanced in Olympia by Senator Steve Hobbs from the 44th Legislative District that includes Lake Stevens and Snohomish, would provide for funding that includes roads and culverts statewide.

More specific to Monroe, Forward Washington includes funding that would finish FOUR phases of SR-522 to include: (1) widening from 2 to 4 lanes westerly of the Snohomish River Bridge, (2) installing an interchange to replace the existing stoplight at Paradise Lake Road, (3) improvements at the interchange with US-2 in Monroe, and (4) improvements at the interchange with I-405 in Bothell. Additionally, Forward Washington includes funding for the US-2 bypass in Monroe. Forward Washington would have a significant and positive impact on Monroe's transportation system.

Senator Hobbs, who is the Senate's Transportation Committee Chair, introduced Forward Washington in last year's legislative session. In 2019, Monroe City Councilmembers passed a resolution in support of Forward Washington and some council members, Monroe residents and business owners, and I travelled to Olympia to testify in support of the bill. While Forward Washington did not pass in 2019, the bill remains alive in 2020.

This week, Monroe City Councilmembers again voted unanimously in support of Forward Washington. On February 5th this week, Councilmember Heather Rousey and I each provided testimony in support of Forward Washington in a packed room that included other stakeholders who also provided testimony on the bill. I thank our City Councilmembers for their support of this resolution, Councilmember Heather Rousey for taking time from work to join me in Olympia, Senator Hobbs for keeping Forward Washington alive, and the Senate Transportation Committee for receiving public testimony yesterday.

I encourage every resident and every business owner in and around Monroe to contact our legislators to express support to fund and finish SR-522 and to make the next phase of improvements to US-2. If you would like to share your thoughts about our transportation needs, please contact your legislators by clicking [here](#), our region depends on these roads.

REPRESENTING IN OLYMPIA – FIX US2 COALITION

On Feb. 5, Monroe City Councilmember Heather Rousey and I joined up with the FIX US2 coalition (pictured above) in Olympia. The coalition is comprised of residents and business owners and local governments along the US-2 corridor. In attendance were our District 5 County Councilmember Sam Low, Sultan Mayor Russell Wiita, Snohomish Mayor John Kartak, and other elected and appointed officials from along the corridor. We met with State Senator Keith Wagner and State House Representative Carolyn Eslick from the 39th Legislative District for a lunch meeting. Following the meeting, we broke into groups and visited with state legislators and their aides from a number of legislative districts. The coalition focused their advocacy efforts on funding for a study of both capacity and safety needs along the US-2 corridor.

HGTV PHOTO SHOOT

Thank you for everyone who braved the rain and came to our HGTV photo shoot this past Saturday. Also a big thank you to the following organizations for making this video happen: Downtown Monroe Association, Mile High Productions, Monroe Chamber of Commerce, and the Monroe Historical Society & Museum.



We love Monroe, and we hope they Choose Monroe! View our video submission [here](#).

MAIN STREET TREES TRANSPLANTED TO LAKE TYE

Eleven Japanese Birch trees that had outgrown the planters on Main Street are being replanted. Ten trees will be planted at the east end of Lake Tye and one will be planted at the 522 roundabout.



DONATED LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE PLANTED

Monroe residents' Amy Martin and Ian Fairweather donated their 7' Douglas Fir Living Christmas tree to Monroe's Parks Department to be planted in a City Park. I'm happy to announce that it has been planted at the north end of Lake Tye. Thank you for your donation and for helping to keep our parks green. We look forward to watching it grow.



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING

The next City Council Regular Business Meeting is Tuesday, February 11, 2020.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

UPCOMING EVENT

2/8

Coffee with Mayor Thomas; 8:00-10:00am; Pilot House Coffee

[View All Events](#)

YEAR-TO-DATE 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, contact the Finance Department at 360-794-7400 and reference Monroe This Week.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember
Heather Rousey



Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro

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

