



# MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Regular Business Meeting  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 7:00 PM  
Zoom Online Meeting Platform

**Mayor**  
Geoffrey Thomas

**Councilmembers**  
Heather Rousey, Mayor Pro Tem;  
Patsy Cudaback; Kevin Hanford;  
Ed Davis; Jason Gamble;  
Jeff Rasmussen; & Kirk Scarborough

Page

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

### 1.1. Virtual Participation Information:

The City Council meeting will be held virtually via Zoom Meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and [Proclamation 20-28.14](#) issued by Governor Jay Inslee, in-person attendance is not permitted at this time.

Join Zoom Meeting:

- Click link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89536855135>
- Dial in: (253) 215-8782
- Meeting ID: 895 3685 5135

## 2. ROLL CALL

## 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3.1. Councilmember Cudaback

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

*(This time is set aside for members of the public to speak to the City Council on any issue related to the City of Monroe; except any quasi-judicial matter subject to a public hearing. Three minutes will be allowed per speaker.)*

If you are attending the meeting virtually (using the link or number provided above) please indicate that you would like to speak by clicking “raise hand” and the Mayor will call on attendees to speak at the appropriate time. If you are joining by phone, dial \*9 to “raise hand.”

## 5. STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### 5.1. Emergency Management Report - Brad Feilberg [Healthy Washington Phase 2](#)

3 - 7

**6. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

**7. MAYOR/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 7.1. City Administrator Update - Deborah Knight 8 - 9  
[Extended Agenda](#)
- 7.2. Mayor's Update 10 - 15  
[Monroe This Week Volume 7 Edition 4](#)

**8. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 8.1. 2020 Human Services Annual Report Rachel Adams 16 - 41  
[2020 Human Services Annual Report](#)
- 8.2. 2021 Legislative Priorities - Public Safety - Deborah Knight / Jeff Jolley 42 - 63  
[Agenda Bill - 2021 Legislative Priorities - Pdf](#)

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 9.1. If needed.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

- 10.1. Majority vote to extend past 10:00 p.m.

# PATH TO PHASE

2

# Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know

**#1: We need to meet three of these metrics.**

Trend in 14-day rate of new COVID-19 cases per 100K population:



Trend in 14-day rate of new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100K population:



Average 7-day percent occupancy of ICU staffed beds:



7-day percent positive of COVID-19 tests:



Our region will be evaluated for progress every other week.



**SNOHOMISH**  
HEALTH DISTRICT  
[WWW.SNOHD.ORG](http://WWW.SNOHD.ORG)



**Snohomish County**

# PATH TO PHASE

2

## Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know



### #2: Phase 2 means more options for indoor dining and activities.



Restaurants open at 25% indoor capacity.



Theaters may open at 25% indoor capacity.



Indoor sports and fitness will move to new guidelines based on activity and risk.

# PATH TO PHASE

2

## Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know

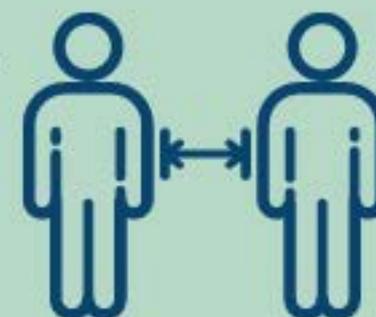


**#3: Phase 2 does NOT mean we stop following good sense guidelines.**



Wear a mask.

Keep socially distant.



Wash your hands.



Get vaccinated when it is your phase.



Avoid crowds.



**SNOHOMISH**  
HEALTH DISTRICT  
[WWW.SNOHD.ORG](http://WWW.SNOHD.ORG)



**Snohomish County**

# COVID Recovery

## Framework for Action

Building on response success by balancing near-term needs and long-range sustainability/resilience

### Overarching Goals:

1. Vaccinate Every Resident
2. Maximize People Working and Businesses Open
3. Provide Food Support and Child Care
4. Meet Housing Needs

1. **Vaccinate Every Resident** (Disease Prevention)

- First mass vaccine sites in the state
- Multiple vaccine sites, surge capacity to 50,000-100,000 weekly doses administered
- Close coordination with Snohomish Health District and state continues

2. **Maximize People Working and Businesses Open** (Economic Support)

- The Response, Recovery & Resiliency (R3) grants provided \$22 million in funding to nearly 1,200 local businesses and their 4,800 workers to support small business recovery and resiliency building.
- Aerospace grants (First in Flight Fund and Aerospace Employment Recovery & Training Program) supported over 40 aerospace companies and their 3,600 aerospace workers with \$11.7 million in funding to support the recovery and resiliency building of the Snohomish County's aerospace sector.
- Economic & Workforce Recovery Task Force projects:
  - Provided approximately 800 businesses with Personal Protection Equipment kits for safe re-opening.
  - Supported resiliency-building strategies for aerospace companies to train and re-tool for new market opportunities.
  - Featured over 300 small businesses through a county-wide "buy-local" campaign (Support SnoCo) for the holiday season and through 2021.
  - Provided support to local communities, chambers and libraries for small-business marketing campaigns, advanced manufacturing recovery and resiliency building, and online training for BIPOC in tech careers.
  - Strengthened food and agricultural resiliency through the implementation of a 5G technology "test-bed."

- Supported dislocated workers by engagement with startup companies (Project ReInvent), a job website (SnoCo Works) to find new careers, and training programs (Tech Academy) to transition into high-demand technology careers.
- Strengthened programs to support BIPOC owned businesses to foster equitable recovery and resiliency building.

### 3. **Provide Food Support and Child Care** (Human and Social Services)

- Enhance food security in Snohomish County through Nourishing Neighborhoods, school district feeding programs, and support for the Food Banks. Increased home delivered meals by 39% between April and December, 2020, amounting to approximately 288,000 additional meals delivered.
- Provide child care support to families in need through partnerships with local providers using state and federal funding (essential workers and vulnerable families will be prioritized).
- Support education through coordination with school districts and private schools in vaccine deployment, technology, and partnerships with private industry (Amazon, Microsoft, etc).

### 4. **Meet Housing Needs** (Housing)

- Stabilized people who are precariously housed in housing through rental and utility assistance and supportive services. Provided 5,606 households with rental assistance to keep them stably housed. Helped 28 older adults obtain housing through Hope Options.
- Sustained housing stability through programs that provide income to households that are precariously housed. Provided more than 1,000 vouchers totaling approximately \$450,000 to help households meet immediate, emergency needs.
- Keeps people who are currently sheltered in shelter and transition those individuals to appropriate housing as available. Provided street outreach and temporary sheltering as a gateway to behavioral health services, employment, and housing to 113 individuals between September and December 2020.
- Maintains and enhances sheltering options. Assisted 1,029 individuals with emergency shelter in congregate and individual settings.



# MONROE CITY COUNCIL EXTENDED AGENDA

Current as of 01/28/2021  
TENTATIVE LISTING, SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Mayor**  
Geoffrey Thomas

**Councilmembers**  
Heather Rousey, Mayor Pro Tem;  
Patsy Cudaback; Kevin Hanford;  
Ed Davis; Jason Gamble;  
Jeff Rasmussen; & Kirk Scarborough

### TUESDAY 02/02/21 PofA Cudaback

**6 p.m. Public Safety Committee Meeting**

- Select Chair; Confirm Meeting Dates/Times; 2021 Work Plan

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Study Session**

- CHSAB annual report (R. Adams)
- Public Safety Legislative Bills (Knight/Jolley)
- Staff Report – Emergency Mngt

### TUESDAY 02/09/21 PofA Hanford

**6 p.m. Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting**

- Select Chair; Confirm Meeting Dates/Times; 2021 Work Plan

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Business Meeting**

- Consent Agenda: TBD
- Public Hearing – 6 year TIP
- Reports: Parks; Public Works, Emerg Mgt; Court

### TUESDAY 02/16/2021 PofA Rasmussen

**5:30 p.m. City Council Finance/HR Committee Meeting**

- 2021 Work Plan; ACH/Electronic Payment policy (tentative)

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Study Session**

- Economic Development Update
- Fireworks Regulations
- Staff Report – Emergency Mngt

### TUESDAY 02/23/21 PofA Rousey

**6 p.m. City Council P3 Committee Meeting**

- WRIA; Sewer Code review/Proposed Code revisions

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Business Meeting**

- Presentation – Snohomish Health District
- Consent Agenda: WWTP CIP1 Engineering Services Amendment
- NB: Committee work plans; ILA with Sunnyside – inmate housing
- Reports: Finance, Police, Comm Dev, Econ Dev, HR/IT; ILA WSDOT (Roberts)
- Executive Session

### TUESDAY 03/02/21 PofA Davis

**6 p.m. Public Safety Committee Meeting**

- TBD

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Study Session**

- Staff Report – Emergency Mngt

### TUESDAY 03/09/21 PofA Scarboro

**6 p.m. Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting**

- TBD

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Business Meeting**

- Consent Agenda: TBD
- Reports: Parks; Public Works, Emerg Mgt; Court

### TUESDAY 03/16/2021 PofA Gamble

**5:30 p.m. City Council Finance/HR Committee Meeting**

- TBD

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Study Session**

- Legislative Session Update
- Council meeting Zoom/In person hybrid format
- Staff Report – Emergency Mngt

### TUESDAY 03/23/21 PofA Cudaback

**6 p.m. City Council P3 Committee Meeting**

- TBD

**7 p.m. City Council Regular Business Meeting**

- Consent Agenda: TBD
- NB:
- Reports: Finance, Police, Comm Dev, Econ Dev, HR/IT; Emergency Mngt
- Executive Session

### TUESDAY 03/30/21 PofA Hanford

**7 p.m. City Council Meeting - Retreat**

- Image Monroe update (tentative)
- Strategic position/FTE discussion (tentative)
- Update on 2020 year end budget v actual

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING LOCATION

(unless otherwise noted):

City Hall, Council Chambers: 806 W Main Street, Monroe



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*Current as of 01/28/2021  
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**Mayor**  
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Ed Davis; Jason Gamble;  
Jeff Rasmussen; & Kirk Scarboro*

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## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING LOCATION**

**(unless otherwise noted):**

City Hall, Permit Assistance Center: 806 W. Main Street,  
Monroe

## **UPCOMING ITEMS:**

- Financial Reserves Policy
- Retirement Recognition
- Wireless Regulations
- Criminal Justice System Priorities
- Solid Waste Contract Renewal
- TAC Recommendations
- Econ dev – demographics demonstration by consultants
- Legislative Session Update **March 16<sup>th</sup> SS**



# MONROE THIS WEEK

January 29, 2021 • Volume 7/Edition 4

## Healthy Washington Phases by Region



*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes details on our local recognition of National Black History Month, the Puget Sound Region's advancement to Phase 2 of Healthy Washington, support for the proposed Forward Washington transportation funding package, a Motorcycle Police Officer struck by a vehicle, two new police officers sworn in, and a resource for up-to-date Coronavirus information.*



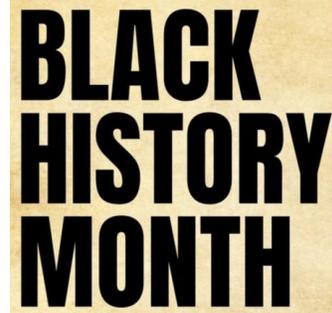
*Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at [GThomas@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWA.gov).*

*Yours in Service,*

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## CITY RECOGNIZES NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

At the January 26, 2021 Regular Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council, I formally issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of February as National Black History Month. Work toward an official recognition of Black and African American history began in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson. Using the foundation laid by Woodson, Black United Students and Black educators at Kent State University founded Black History Month in 1970; beginning in 1976, every president has declared the month of February as "Black History Month". Black and African Americans have made innumerable contributions that have enriched America and indeed the lives of every American, while experiencing and enduring the inhumanity of injustices and inequities, not just from societal and institutional biases and racism rooted in white supremacy, but also from other Americans. As Mayor, I call upon each of us, with humility and love for one another, to take action for true reforms in ourselves, our community, our culture, and our institutions.



Monroe resident Junelle Lewis and her family joined us virtually in the meeting to sing "Lift Every Voice". Thank you, Junelle and Lewis family, for your moving performance!

I invite you to read the full text of the Proclamation, and to actively support the abolishment of injustice and inequities that Black and African Americans still experience and endure today.

## PUGET SOUND REGION MOVING MONDAY TO PHASE 2

Yesterday, Governor Jay Inslee announced that the Puget Sound Region, consisting of Snohomish, King, and Pierce counties, including the City of Monroe, will move on Monday into Phase 2 in the Healthy Washington -- Roadmap to Recovery. In Phase 2, indoor dining is available at 25% capacity, and low and moderate risk sports competitions are permitted.

In announcing this move, Governor Inslee also [announced](#) that regions will now be eligible to advance phases by meeting three of the four, rather than all four, of the metrics I shared in a recent edition of [Monroe This Week](#). The first graphic below shows which three metrics the Puget Sound Region is currently meeting.

Graphics below provide further details on Phase 2 guidelines. More information will be shared leading into Monday. Please watch for updates on the City's [Facebook page](#) and [website](#).

**PATH TO PHASE 2** Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know

**#1: We need to meet three of these metrics.**

Trend in 14-day rate of new COVID-19 cases per 100K population:	↑
Trend in 14-day rate of new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100K population:	↓
Average 7-day percent occupancy of ICU staffed beds:	↓
7-day percent positive of COVID-19 tests:	↓

Our region will be evaluated for progress every other week.

**PATH TO PHASE 2** Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know

**#2: Phase 2 means more options for indoor dining and activities.**

- ✓ Restaurants open at 25% indoor capacity.
- ✓ Theaters may open at 25% indoor capacity.
- ✓ Indoor sports and fitness will move to new guidelines based on activity and risk.

**PATH TO PHASE 2** Roadmap to Recovery 3 Things You Should Know

**#3: Phase 2 does NOT mean we stop following good sense guidelines.**

- Wear a mask.
- Wash your hands.
- Get vaccinated when it is your phase.
- Keep socially distant.
- Avoid crowds.

## CITY SUPPORTS PROPOSED FORWARD WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Yesterday, January 28, I provided testimony at a state Senate Transportation Committee virtual hearing on the proposed [Forward Washington](#) transportation funding package. Within *Forward Washington* are numerous projects and initiatives that are important to our environment and to communities across our state. For the City of Monroe, and the Skykomish and Snoqualmie Valley communities, the transportation improvements to SR-522 and US-2 are critical. They are critical for the mobility of people and freight between our communities and the I-405 and I-5 corridors; they are critical for emergency response within our fire district and for getting students to and from school within the Monroe School District; and they are critical to connect the communities in the I-405 and I-5 corridors to Eastern



Washington. In my testimony, I shared the support of the Monroe community, City Council, and myself for *Forward Washington*.

## POLICE MOTORCYCLE OFFICER STRUCK BY DUI DRIVER

This week, a Monroe motorcycle police officer was rear-ended by a vehicle while traveling on US-2 near Lewis Street. Officer Javier Patton was taken to EvergreenHealth Monroe, treated for his injuries, and released to recuperate at home. The causing driver was arrested by the Washington State Patrol for driving under the influence. This is a sobering reminder of the consequences of drinking and driving. Officer Patton has received an outpouring of well wishes, cards, and support from our residents. The Monroe City Council and I are thankful for the response from the police and fire departments, public works, and surrounding agencies.



## MONROE WELCOMES TWO NEW POLICE OFFICERS

The City of Monroe welcomed two new officers in a swearing in ceremony on Wednesday, January 27. Our Municipal Court Judge, the Honorable Jessica Ness, administered the Oaths of Police Officer to Officer Kaitlin Fisher and Officer Travis Munguia.

Officer Fisher joined the department on January 11, 2021. She graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy on October 23, 2017 and began her law enforcement career with the Duvall Police Department before her lateral transfer to the Monroe Police Department.

Officer Travis Munguia started his career with the Monroe Police Department in March of 2020 as an entry level recruit. He graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy on January 26, 2021. Prior to coming to the department, Travis served in the United States Air Force and Air National Guard.

Unable to attend the swearing-in ceremony, colleagues of Officer Javier Patton shared this message to his new colleagues: "I was intending to go to the swearing in of our new officers because that is a very important thing. Please apologize to Officer Fisher and Officer Munguia for me not being there, and, pass on a message I wanted to tell them personally: Remember the Oath they swore in front of their families, coworkers and the People. In times of doubt, fear, or weakness, remember their oath, and it will get them through with honor."

I welcome Officer Fisher and Officer Munguia to the City of Monroe, and thank them for their service.



Officer Kaitlin Fisher



Officer Travis Munguia

## SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT PROVIDES UP-TO-DATE CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

Are you looking for the latest information and status of COVID-19? The Snohomish Health District is tracking COVID-19 carefully and working with all communities in the County to reduce its impacts.



The Health District maintains a dedicated website with information and resources to help you stay informed and prepared. This webpage includes details on case counts and data, drive-thru testing locations, and vaccine distribution, as well as links to resources for businesses and residents alike. Click the graphic below to visit the COVID-19 information page.

**COVID-19 INFORMATION**  
**425-339-5278**  
 Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**CLICK HERE FOR**

- Health information
- News and announcements
- Case counts and data
- Guidance and more

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2021. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the February 2 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



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)



City of Monroe | (360) 794-7400 | 806 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272

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# **HUMAN SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT**

# Acknowledgments

## **Mayor**

Geoffrey Thomas

## **Monroe City Council**

Kevin Hanford

Patsy Cudaback

Jeff Rasmussen

Heather Rousey

Ed Davis

Jason Gamble

Kirk Scarboro

## **City Staff**

City Administrator Deborah Knight

Management Analyst Rich Huebner

Management Analyst Tyler Christian

Communications Consultant Willow Russell

Public Works Director Brad Feilberg

Community Development Director Ben Swanson

Principal Planner Shanna Restall

Finance Director Becky Hasart

Senior Planner Anita Marrero

## **Monroe Police Department**

Chief Jeff Jolley

Administrative Director Debbie Willis

Sergeant Paul Ryan

Officer Justin Springer

Embedded Social Worker Elisa Delgado

## **Office of Public Defense**

Embedded Social Worker Nicole Nagle

## **Homelessness Policy Advisory Board (HPAC)**

Rachel Adams

Jim Bloss

Jennifer Chavez

Sean Cramer

Kyle Fisher

Jason Gamble (non voting member)

Geoffrey Godfrey

Phil Spirito (non voting member)

Todd Strickler

Bridgette Tuttle

Heidie Waxham

Mary Wysocki

## **Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB)**

Amber Mehta

Bryan Lipsy

Jim Bloss

Sarah Lunstrum

Jose Luis Nino De Guzman

Lynsey Gagnon

Tony Balk

Aisha Sial

Bridgette Tuttle

James Harrigan

Roger Evans

Amy Plumb (non voting member)

Todd Strickler (non voting member)

## **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Jody Beisner

Kimberly Clem

Mary Wahl

Joe Neigel

Angelique Leone

Nicole Nagel

Desiree Hobson

Chris Gray

Sergeant Paul Ryan

Jamie Williams

Phil Spirito

Alessandra Durham

Amy Chestnie

Inga Paige

Laron Olson

Sarah Lunstrum

Dawnelle Carroll

Lynsey Gagnon

## **Monroe Homelessness Response Group**

Laron Olson

Pastor Michael Hanford

## **Report Submitted By:**

Rachel Adams

City of Monroe

Project Management Consultant

RAdams@monroewa.gov

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# Hindsight is



**This year's major themes have been relationship and capacity building.**

**January of 2020** Rachel Adams came on board with the City of Monroe as an unpaid intern to begin work on the action plan for the implementation of the HPAC recommendations. Ms. Adams worked with City Administrator Deborah Knight to identify and meet with Stakeholders and assemble a team of subject matter experts referred to as the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Ms. Adams signed a contract with the City of Monroe to continue her services as a Project Management Consultant in June of 2020.

**February 25, 2020** The Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) recommendations were approved by resolution of the Mayor and Monroe City Council.

**March-August of 2020** As the City and the TAC went through the 2020 Covid19 pandemic together, the work that had been done by the HPAC and TAC became part of the glue that held the City's response to the human services crisis together. The TAC meetings were put on hold and communication and collaboration of service providers was consistently happening in the form of service provider check ins that addressed the emerging immediate community needs.

**August of 2020** The capacity of the original ad hoc HPAC was expanded to include not only those experiencing homelessness, but those who are at risk of becoming homeless, who are experiencing poverty, or are adversely impacted by a crisis. The expanded capacity is also reflected in the new name of the standing City board now referred to as the Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB).

**September-October of 2020** Another example of capacity and relationship building is the needs assessment and gap analysis that the TAC and CHSAB have recommended and was included in the 2021 budget. This exercise will help to show the areas of strength and opportunities for growth in the current local systems.

**November-December of 2020** Most recently cohesive efforts resulted in a collaborative application response to Snohomish County's RFP for a Coordinated Entry contract. This would give a County Navigator actual presence in East County through coordinated efforts of our service providers.

**The following report is organized by the major categories of the HPAC Recommendations. The implementation work and efforts of the TAC, CHSAB and City Staff are outlined in each category.**

# 01

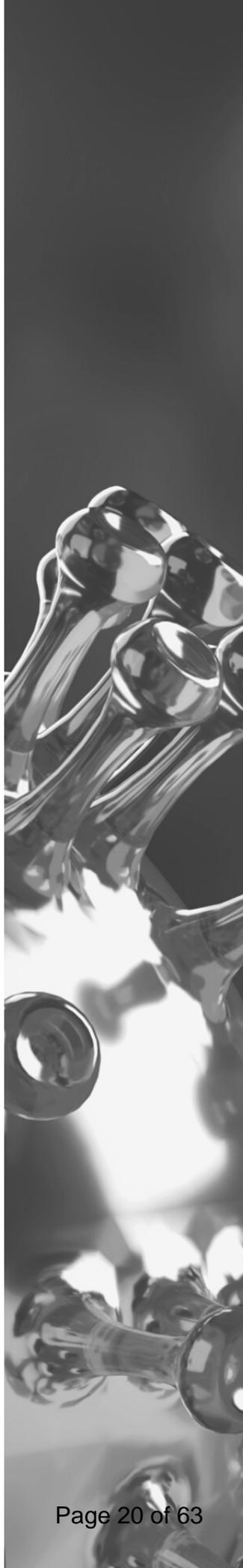
# Covid19 Human Services Response

### Current Services

Through the collaborative efforts of City Staff and the local service providers who had served on the TAC and others who were also brought to the table a list of current services being offered in Monroe has been maintained and is available on the City website (R1).

This group met for weekly check ins on zoom meetings to aid in coordinating and sharing resources. Local service providers have been focusing on prevention in food and rental assistance. During this response effort local partnerships have accelerated in becoming formed.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		Sky Valley Foodbank 2pm-5pm	MPD Outreach Team		Showers 12:30pm-2:30pm at the YMCA	
TTNS Outreach Team		TTNS Outreach Team		TTNS Outreach Team		
	Hot Food Event 12pm-2pm at the Library	Hot Food Event 12pm-2pm at the Library	Hot Food Event 12pm-2pm at the Library		Hot Food at Foursquare Church 10am	
	Food Share 9:30am at The Library	Food Gleanings 2pm-4pm at The Rock Church	Grocery Distribution at French Creek Manor 2pm-4pm	Food Gleanings 4pm-6pm at The Rock Church		
		VOA Showers 12pm-5pm		VOA Showers 12pm-5pm		



**SAFE Teams**

Through partnerships at the County level, the City was able to join forces with the Department of Emergency Management and the SAFE Teams.

City staff joined MPD and the embedded social worker team going out into the encampments to help screen the local homeless population for covid19 symptoms and exposure. The teams offered resources and handed out hygiene and PPE kits.

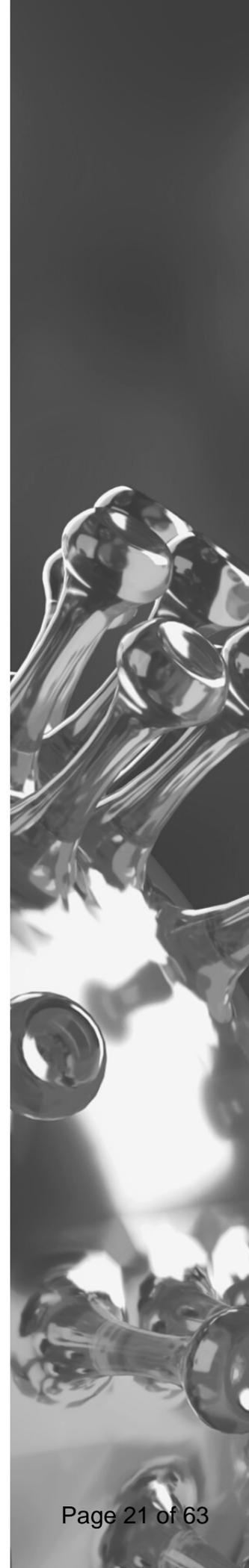
The City gathered feedback about what services the homeless populations were struggling to access under the new covid19 regulations. A service that was frequently identified on the survey was laundry.

The City applied for and received a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Snohomish County. With these funds the City was able to:

- Provide three different housing assistance grants to three separate agencies.
- Reopen the showers after hours and increase the frequency of offering this service.
- Provide 100 PPE kits to go out with the SAFE Teams.
- Provide non-perishable food for food outreach.
- Create a laundry certificate program that also supported a local business.

**New City Services and Efforts**

The City also provided a new level of service by placing a porta potty and hand washing station in front of City Hall for use while public facilities were closed.



## NEED HELP?

**Take The Next Step:** providing assistance with immediate needs, food, utilities, housing and more. Connection to other resources throughout the community and county, and ongoing support and care for families and individuals.  
9am - 5pm Monday - Friday.  
(360) 794-1022

**Sky Valley Food Bank:** volunteers are delivering food every Thursday. Drive-thru market the 2nd and 4th Wednesday 9am-11am. (360) 794-7959

**St. Vincent de Paul:** offering rental and utility payment assistance. (425) 355-3504

**Cascade Community Church:** providing emergency assistance and aid including utilities assistance. (206) 486-2681

**Salvation Army:** (425) 259-8129

**Volunteers of America:** (360) 793-2400

**City of Monroe:** utility payment arrangements - please leave a message. (360) 794-7400

More information about Monroe Service Providers and Social Services can be found online at: [monroewa.gov/937/additional-resources](http://monroewa.gov/937/additional-resources)

## WANT TO HELP?

**Take The Next Step:** to donate money, procure items or to volunteer please contact Sarah Lunstrum  
9am - 5pm Monday - Friday.  
(360) 794-1022

**Sky Valley Food Bank:** to volunteer for delivery teams contact Phil Spirito at [PSpirito@sno-isle.org](mailto:PSpirito@sno-isle.org)  
To donate money, procure items or host a food drive contact Cindy. (360) 794-7959

**St. Vincent de Paul:** to donate money toward helping neighbors in need. (425) 355-3504

**YMCA:** to volunteer contact Jamie Williams [jwilliams@ymca-sno.co](mailto:jwilliams@ymca-sno.co)  
(206) 486-2681

**#WeAreMonroeWA campaign:**  
[www.facebook.com/WeAreMonroeWA](http://www.facebook.com/WeAreMonroeWA)  
submit your stories with pictures of Acts of Kindness happening in Monroe to [wearomonroe@monroewa.gov](mailto:wearomonroe@monroewa.gov)

The City sent out a new resources flyer in the June utility bill to share where to get help and ways to volunteer in the community.

City staff and partners translated the eviction moratorium into several languages including Spanish.

The City of Monroe was invited to participate in the meeting of the Homelessness Policy Task Force along with partners in Snohomish County, the City of Everett, the City Edmonds, and other representatives from the community. The Task Force discussed how Federal, State, County, City Government, and social services resources are responding to covid19.

County Council Member Megan Dunn has also been hosting a weekly human services zoom call.

A survey was sent out to all the cities to do a deep dive into their Covid19 response programs. Ms. Adams gave an update on behalf of the City of Monroe.

**CARES Act**

Through the CARES Act \$50,000 was made available in the form of a Community Relief Fund grant for service providers and non-profits to apply for.

The City received nine grant applications.

The awarded funds were approved by the Mayor and Monroe City Council on August 11th.

The City also provided a utility forgiveness program for residents who were behind in utilities between the months of March – October whose delinquency can be shown to be incurred due to the public health emergency.

A second allotment of CARES Act funding was distributed to the City for Community Relief. The TAC team recommended to City Staff that specific grants be made available to the Monroe Schools Foundation for continued family outreach and support, establishing a rental assistance program.

**\$50,000 COMMUNITY RELIEF GRANT AWARDS**

Boys and Girls Club	\$6,000
Housing Hope	\$5,000
Matthew House	\$2,000
Miracles and Memories	\$8,000
Monroe Community Senior Center	\$5,000
Monroe Public Schools Foundation	\$5,000
Sky Valley YMCA	\$6,000
St Vincent De Paul	\$5,000
Take The Next Step	\$8,000

**Approved By The Mayor and Monroe City Council**

**August 11, 2020**

Take the Next Step administered the rental assistance program and \$72,409.52 was disbursed, which represents aid received by 35 families, or 116 individuals who are safely in their homes.

The Community Relief Grant made available a second round of grant funding, in the amount of \$50,000,

for local non-profit service providers. The City received applications from nine local non-profit service providers.

At the November 10, 2020 City Council meeting the Mayor and Monroe City Council approved funding for all applicants.

**\$50,000 COMMUNITY RELIEF GRANT AWARDS**

Boys and Girls Club	\$7,500
Food Rescue of Sky Valley	\$2,500
Sea Mar	\$5,000
Miracles and Memories	\$7,500
Monroe Community Senior Center	\$5,000
Monroe Public Schools Foundation	\$7,500
Sky Valley YMCA	\$7,500
St Vincent De Paul	\$5,000
Beck's Place	\$2,500

**Approved by the Mayor & Monroe City Council**

November 10, 2020

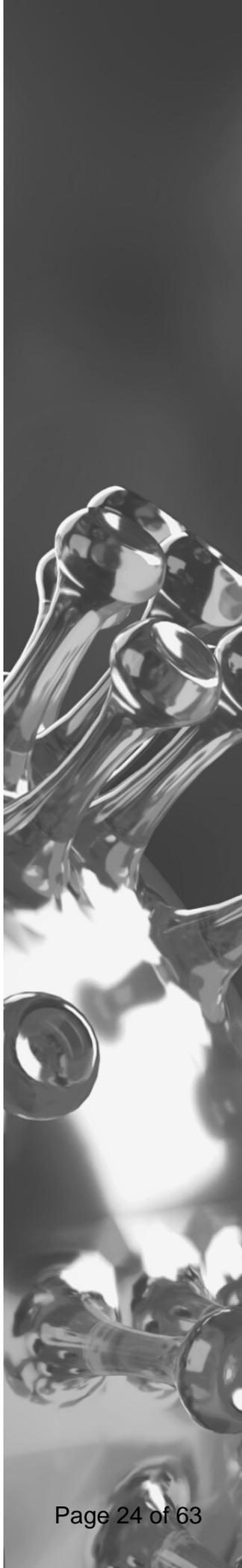
**State Face Covering Program**

The State in coordination with the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management sent all cities a large allotment of face coverings to be distributed to community members in the 200% of the federal poverty line and below. (<\$43,440 for a family of 3).

City Staff received a second allotment of 12,000 face coverings to Monroe residents. This allotment were made available to all residents without income restrictions.



Through the help of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the downtown local businesses, the library, the farmers market, the public-schools foundation and faith community this supply has also been distributed.



# 02

# Housing

### Shelter

Several different shelter locations have been explored over the past year, but none were found viable.

A day center was suggested, but the location proposed was not a good fit.

City Staff along with the Faith Community leaders began exploring seriously the Congregations for the Homeless Model. (R3)

City of Monroe Staff also began reaching out to the cities of Snohomish and Sultan to work on joint efforts across interlocal faith communities to build the Sky Valley Consortium.

City Staff participated in a County Sheltering Forum hosted by County Executive David Somers to discuss the County's need to expand sheltering and transitional housing options.

### Affordable Housing

The City researched the availability of affordable housing and options for providing shelter.

After connecting with all the affordable housing units in Monroe it was found that all are full and maintain waiting lists of 2-3 years.

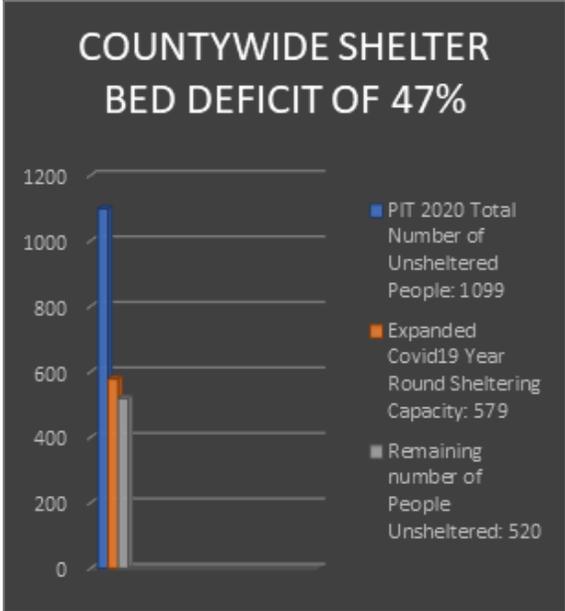
City Staff began efforts to establish the Sky Valley Consortium by reaching out to Sultan Volunteers of America (VOA).

City Staff met with the Snohomish Affordable Housing Group and hope to form a similar group.

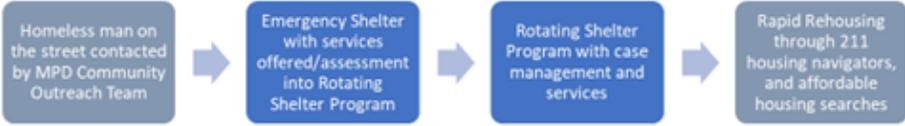
There is a potential opportunity to create landlord engagement by finding out which local landlords would be willing to take housing vouchers.

### Monroe Housing Action Plan

Collaboration between City Staff supporting the Community Human Services Advisory Board and the stakeholder's group for the Monroe Housing Action Plan will parallel track addressing housing needs and coordinate efforts. (R2)



# Path to Housing



### Cold Weather Shelter

Collaborative efforts between Snohomish County Human Services, the Medical Reserve Corp, the Department of Emergency Management, the Snohomish County Health District, the City of Monroe and local service provider partners in East County ensued to plan a pandemic specific cold weather sheltering solution for the cities of Snohomish, Monroe and Sultan following the announcement that the historical hosts were unable to safely proceed with their annual operations

VOA assumed this season's the role of lead agency and with the support of the County the cold weather shelter is being hosted at the Evergreen State Fairground to serve the entire Sky Valley. The cold weather shelter opened ahead of schedule due to earlier than normal cold weather.



**Sky Valley Cold Weather Shelter**  
**2020/2021**  
 Evergreen State Fairground  
 4H Building  
 14405 179th Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272

Doors open at 8:30pm.  
 Doors are locked for the night at 9:30pm until 7am.  
 For more information on the CWS and the nights it is operating.  
 Please Visit: [www.snohd.org/cold](http://www.snohd.org/cold)

..... Serving Monroe, Sultan & Snohomish .....  
 October 23rd-March 15th



# 03

# Partners

## Stakeholders

City Staff began to identify stakeholders and set up meetings to go over the HPAC recommendations and get feedback on implementation.

Alessandra Durham – HART Report	EnviroIssues	MSD Superintendent Justin Blasko
Beck's Place	Everett Gospel Mission	Oxford House
Boys & Girls Club	Evergreen Health Recovery	Partnership to End Homelessness Continuum of Care
Cahoots – White Bird clinic	Food Share	Pastor Michael Hanford and the Faith Community Leadership
Representative Carolyn Eslick	Homeless Policy Task Force	Provide Hope Food Rescue
City of Auburn	Homeless Response Group	Red Cedar Mutual Aid
City of Sequim	Interfaith	County Councilmember Sam Low
City of Snohomish	Kevin St. Jacques Consulting	Sea Mar Behavioral Health
Cocoon House	Matthew House	Sno-Isle Library
Community Coalition	McKinney Vento Liaison	Snohomish County 211
Community Foundation of Snohomish County	Medical Reserve Corps	Snohomish Affordable Housing Group
Community Transit	Miracles and Memories Academy	Snohomish County Health District
Congregations for the Homeless	Monroe Community Senior Center	Snohomish County Human Services
County Councilmember Megan Dunn	Monroe Equity Council	Snohomish County Tomorrow
County Executive Dave Somers	Sky Valley Food Bank	Stars Unlimited
Department of Emergency Management	Monroe Laundry Company	YWCA Housing Navigator
	Monroe Public Schools Foundation	

## Subject Matter Experts

A group of subject matter experts called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was assembled to advise the City on the implementation of the HPAC recommendations.

Cascade Community Church – Kimberly Clem
Catholic Community Services – Mary Wahl
Community Coalition – Joe Neigel
Community Foundation of Snohomish County – Angelique Leone
Embedded Social Worker with the Public Defense – Nicole Nagel
Evergreen Health – Desiree Hobson
Housing Hope – Chris Gray
Monroe Police Department Community Outreach Team – Sgt. Paul Ryan
Sky Valley YMCA – Jamie Williams
Sno-Isle Libraries – Phil Spirito
Snohomish County Executive's Office – Alessandra Durham
St. Vincent de Paul – Amy Chestnie
St. Vincent de Paul – Inga Paige
Take the Next Step – Laron Olson
Take the Next Step – Sarah Lunstrum
Volunteers of America – Dawnelle Carroll
Volunteers of America – Lynsey Gagnon

**TAC**

In March, TAC meetings were put on hold and changed to service provider check ins as many of the TAC members needed to be able to shift focus and respond to the immediate Covid19 crisis. A list was created of local resources for the City website. (R3)

When TAC meetings resumed it was recommended that the City preform a Needs Assessment to best understand the formation needs of a one stop shop or community resource center.

The TAC recommendation was shared with the CHSAB and the CHSAB came to a recommendation that a 2021 budget request be made for \$50,000 for the asset mapping and needs assessment, and that if the one stop shop/community resource center is an identified need, there also be a \$40,000 project place holder and a commitment from the Mayor and Monroe City Council to long term funding.

**County Partnerships**

At the County level, City Staff is building stronger relationships by participating in the Snohomish County Human Services conference calls and by joining the Partnership to End Homelessness – Continuum of Care Communications Committee, and Snohomish County Tomorrow Community Advisory Board.



# 04

## Support Services

### City Collaborative Efforts

City Staff continues to assess the needs of local homeless people and those living in poverty while also gathering information about our local systems that are in place to assist them.

City Staff evaluated transportation with our current partners and set up a meeting with the senior center to discuss their capacity and the use of their fleet. It may not be in alignment with their mission. And may not be in their current capacity.

City Staff also met with two local successfully operating safe parking site programs to explore the model.

The City facilitated conversations with the Community Coalition and Monroe Police Department Outreach Team around an increase in youth vaping. The group reviewed City policies and ordinances that establish community norms for smoking and vaping in city parks.

### Service Providers

The service providers continue to meet weekly on a zoom call to share information and resources. A google drive was created to house and store all the shared service provider resources. This is a cloud-based, virtual version of binders, flyers, and handouts.

The TAC team and City Staff have done some initial research on connecting the local service providers by using release of information (ROI) & implementing a shared data system.

Sultan VOA has been collaboratively working with TTNS in case management and created a transportation plan by each agency providing bus vouchers. The transportation plan is to facilitate Monroe unsheltered residents having access to the VOA showers on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

In efforts to keep mental health services in Monroe, The City reached out some of the former Compass Health clinicians and connected them with our local service providers for collaboration.

### Hub and Spoke Model

There is exploration on how to create a potential hub and spoke model that branches off the Carnegie Center into Monroe and other cities.

Sultan VOA is leading collaborative efforts to bring back access to County services to East County. Sultan VOA has submitted a collaborative application of key service providers who maintain a local presence to host a mobile Coordinated Entry and 211 Navigator contract.



# 05

# Policy & Budget

## HPAC Recommendations

In February of 2020, the HPAC final report to City Council. It included the final recommendations, 2020 action plan and Gantt map along with the EnviroIssues communication plan. The Mayor and the City Council approved the recommendations and asked for performance measures to be added into the action plan.

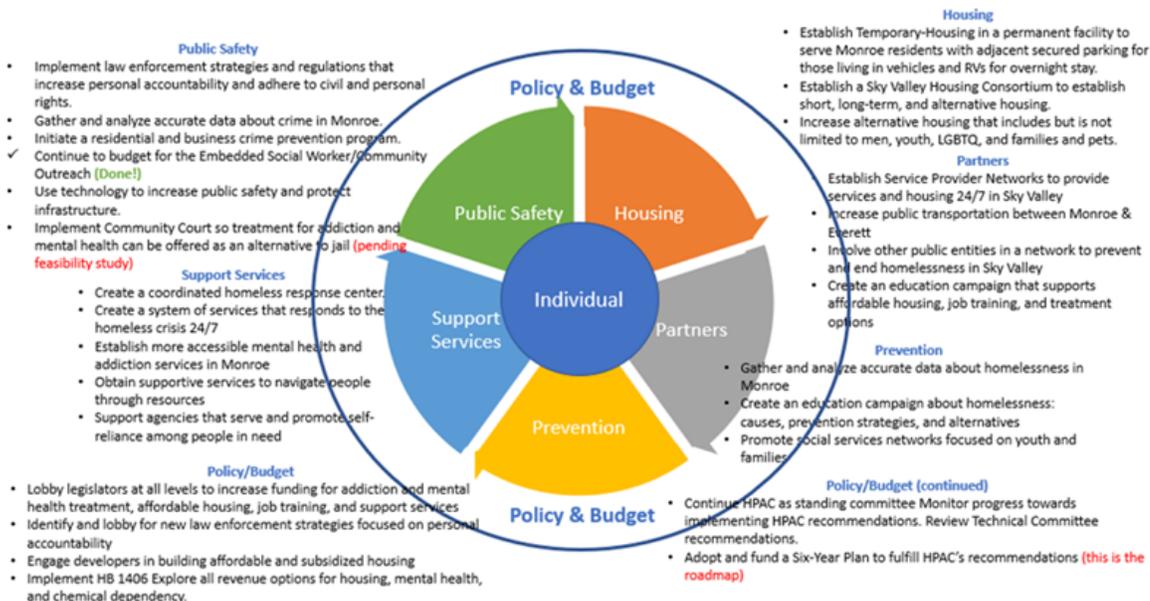
The City Council signed the resolution to adopt the HPAC recommendations. HPAC will continue as a standing committee as a result. (R5)

## Lobbying

The Mayor went to Olympia for the lobbying sessions. Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day also happened in Olympia.

HB1406 is being implemented and we are discussing how to best work with our service providers and partners to best use these resources for prevention and overcoming the barrier of first last and deposit

## HPAC Recommendations



**Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB)**

The City staff presented a resolution for council consideration to establish the HPAC as a standing committee and rename it the Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB). The new name broadens the committee's mission to consider policies that affect community members who are experiencing homelessness, who are at risk of becoming homeless, who are experiencing poverty, or are adversely impacted by a crisis. (R6)

The City received fourteen applications for the Community Human Services Advisory Board (CHSAB). (R7)

The board's agenda materials are formatted to include a connection to the Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee (HPAC) recommendation categories and to the responsibilities of the CHSAB. (R4)

- Increase funding options to support affordable housing and homelessness programs at the state and local level.
- Pass legislation to address mental health to support local communities to improve mental health and especially to lend critical support to families and youth.
- Provide funding to respond to the national opioid epidemic and expand access to treatment.
- Work with the Snohomish County Boys and Girls Club to request \$350,000 from the State Capital Budget to complete the Monroe Boys and Girls Club, Early Childhood Education Program (EACAP) expansion.

**Municipal Court**

The City of Monroe, together with the cities of Lake Stevens and Sultan, hired a consultant to evaluate strategies to improve municipal court functions. The study looked at workload and staffing; customer service; performance; program and operating improvements; and facility and technology capacity.

City staff are working to implement some of the recommendations. Mayor Thomas will consider recommending other initiatives in the Mayor's 2021 Recommended Budget.

**Temporary Encampment Code**

The temporary encampment code was reviewed and discussed with the Community Development Department, the Planning Commission, the Faith Community and the CHSAB. (R11)

**Legislative Priorities**

The CHSAB reviewed the 2021 legislative priorities that relate to Homelessness, Housing and Human Services. (R10)

DO YOU WANT TO HELP DEVELOP PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED?



WASHINGTON

SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (CHSAB)



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOARD, WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE, AND TO DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION.

VISIT [WWW.MONROEWA.GOV/949/COMMUNITY-HUMAN-SERVICES-ADVISORY-BOARD](http://WWW.MONROEWA.GOV/949/COMMUNITY-HUMAN-SERVICES-ADVISORY-BOARD)

# 06

## Public Safety

### Existing Programs

Existing programs in law enforcement have continued.

### New Level of Services

A new level of service has begun by the public defender now also having an embedded social worker.

Law enforcement has been responding to increased domestic violence and is partnering with a counselor as a resource.

The Monroe Outreach team and City Staff were present at the Farmers Market as part of an outreach booth.

### Action Plan

Several items on the HPAC 2020 action plan now reflect being put on hold due to Coronavirus. The key in the Gantt map has a "CV" to reflect items on hold due to the Coronavirus.

# 07

# Prevention

### Communications Plan

City Staff began brainstorming survey questions to collect data and eventually have programs that are data driven.

### Identification of Needs

City Staff reassessed the timing of needing to identify the needs of homeless families and moved it forward in the action plan. Meetings were scheduled with homeless individuals to hear their stories and attempt to gain insight into their situation, what services they need, and where some of the current system breakdowns they have encountered are.

City Staff has been meeting with our Communications Consultant EnviroIssues to work toward developing content and branding for the launch or the #WeAreMonroeWA campaign. The response to covid19 required adjusting the communication plan and timeline. The team decided to begin by seeking stories of acts of kindness and highlighting how our community is staying strong and positive during the pandemic. (R10)

With the content from EnviroIssues City Staff created a new human services website page on the City website. (R11)



We are bakers.





# 08

# References

1. Additional Resources | Monroe, WA - Official Website
2. The Housing Action Plan Website can be viewed here:  
<https://www.monroewahap.konveio.com/>
3. CFH <https://www.cfhomeless.org/year-round-shelter/>
4. <https://www.monroewa.gov/937/Additional-Resources>
5. To view the agenda materials please visit the City website:  
<https://www.monroewa.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99>
6. To view the full agenda bill & resolution: 9457 (monroewa.gov)
7. To view the agenda bill & resolution:  
<https://monroewa.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/9895?fileID=12281>
8. To view the full agenda bill & resolution:  
<https://monroewa.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/9895?fileID=12281>
9. To view the agenda materials please visit the City website:  
<https://www.monroewa.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99>
10. <https://monroe.municipal.codes/MMC/22.90>
11. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/We-Are-Monroe-WA-105780997847486> Instagram:  
<https://www.instagram.com/wearemonroewa/>
12. <https://www.monroewa.gov/655/Human-Services>

# Appendix A



	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020
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**2020 HPAC Action Plan - Gantt Map Chart (X = Started O = Not Started) (CV – On hold due to Coronavirus)**

A. Housing												
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing (Crisis Housing, Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing)	O	O	CV	CV	X	X	X	X	CV	X	X	X
Evaluate Property Units			X	O	CV	CV	CV	O	O	O	O	O
Negotiate Lease – Master Leasing				O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Write RFP and Secure Program Manager through RFP				CV	O	O	X	O	O	O	O	O
Develop criteria with TAC	O	O	CV	CV	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O
Provide Rental Assistance through RFP	O	O	O	X	X	O	O	O	X	X	O	X
Establish Sky Valley Housing Consortium	X	O	CV	X	O	X	O	X	X	O	O	O
Inventory Surplus Property			X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	X	O
Identify Housing Needs	O	X	X	X	X	X						
Work with TAC to identify partners and available funding		X	X	X	X	X						
B. Partners												
Form a TAC	X	X	X	CV	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	X
Identify non-profit stakeholders and partners	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Determine shared mission and vision		O	O	O	X	X	X	X				
Evaluate needs and resources for one-stop shop			X	CV	O	X	X	X	X			
Write scope of work for RFP for one-stop shop				CV	O	X	X	X	O			
Establish Transportation service between Sky Valley and Everett	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	CV	O	O	O
Evaluate transportation needs with partners	X	O	O									
Evaluate existing transportation contracts with non-profits	X	O	O									
Apply for Transit Go (grant) program			X	X	O	O			X			
Provide information about services to remain housed, financial training, and incentives for businesses to hire employees with entry level skills, information about mental and behavioral health services.	O	O	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020
Work with partners to develop and promote annual "human services days" set up like a vendor show.	○	○	CV	CV	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
<b>C. Prevention</b>												
Educational Campaign (Enviroissues Contract)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Develop education and outreach communication plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Educate Property Owners about laws, enforcement, trespass – Chamber of Commerce & Downtown Monroe Association		○	○	CV	X	X	○	○	○	○	○	X
Educate public about aggressive panhandling, property crime, and personal safety		○	○	CV	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	X
Educate public about safety regarding vigilantism and bullying		○	○	CV	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	X
Develop and implement Block Watch Program – residential and business buy in/ education/ communication – training & certification program.					X	X	X			○	○	○
Develop working relationship with McKinney Vento liaison at Monroe High School				X	X	X	○	○	X	X	X	X
Identify needs of homeless families	○	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Work with McKinney-Vento Family Liaisons in the Monroe School District to distribute flyers of local and county services for homeless students and families and encourage MSD to post flyers on school premises			X	X	CV	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
<b>D. Public Safety</b>												
Implement law enforcement strategies	○	○	○	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Review Solicitation Regulations		○	○	CV								
Evaluate Bail Fees				CV	○	○	○	○	○			
Develop and implement Block Watch Program – residential and business buy in/ education/ communication – training & certification program					X	X				○	○	○
Continue Embedded Social Worker Program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

# Appendix A

	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020
Police Department (Existing Program)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Public Defender (New level of services)			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Install Cameras in Parks	○	○	○	○	○	○		X				
Collect data on court cases. Determine with Monroe Municipal Court the costs/benefits of community court model						X	X	X	○	○	○	○
Identify partners to develop community court model						X	X	X	X	○	X	X
Determine with Monroe Municipal Court and partners the cost/benefits of community court model						X	X	X	X			○
<b>E. Support Services</b>												
Coordinated Services – One Stop Shop				CV	○	X	X	X	X	○	○	X
Develop scope of work with TAC	X	X	CV	CV	○	X	X	X				
Issue RFP			CV	CV	○	○	○	○				
Award RFP						○	○	○				
Establish Homeless HMIS/by name lists						○	○	○	○	○	○	X
Work with TAC and Snohomish County to identify resources to provide housing and mental health navigators in the Sky Valley	X	X	CV	X	○	X	X	X	X	○	X	X
Provide facilities and funding for non-profits	○	○	CV	X	X	X	X	X	X	○	X	○
Work with Take the Next Step and Volunteers of America to designate a family resource center and/or services in Monroe			○	○	○	X	○	○	○	○	○	X
<b>F. Policy &amp; Budget</b>												
Define 2021 Work Plan, Priorities, and implementation Model						○	○	X	X	X	X	X
Identify performance measures, and a full HMIS utilized by service providers.						○	○	○	○	○	○	X
Lobby for changes to State and Federal law	X	○	○	○					X			
Collaborate with Affordable Housing Consortium (AHC) on writing new						○	○	X	X	X	○	○

# Appendix A

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housing chapter for the city's comprehensive plan update.												
Continue HPAC as a standing committee	X	O	CV	CV	CV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Implement HB1406 and explore all revenue options for housing, mental health and chemical dependency.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	O
Identify needs			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Develop criteria with TAC									X	O	O	O
Provide Rental Assistance through RFP	O	O	O	CV	CV	O	O	O	O	X	X	X
Evaluate Program						O	O	O	X	X	X	X





## Monroe Community Support Services

Businesses are an essential part of our community. Thank you for choosing Monroe! Times are over the top tough right now and we appreciate everything you do, whether that's providing jobs, donating to people in need, or keeping the lights on to serve your neighbors. You're there for us; we need to be there for you.

At the City, we strive to help people who are struggling, including those who are unhoused or living with addiction or mental health challenges. We know running a business is hard – particularly in a pandemic – and it can be upsetting when people shelter or ask for money near your business and you don't know what to do.

We believe every person in Monroe deserves to feel safe and supported, so here are some steps you can take.



Sky Valley Food Bank volunteers keep our community nourished.



### What Do I Do If...

**Q: I am struggling to pay my rent, mortgage, or utility bills?**

**A:** Call 211 or visit: [monroewa.gov/997](http://monroewa.gov/997) for available resources.

**Q: I need help finding shelter, food, or other services?**

**A:** Call 211 or visit: [monroewa.gov/997](http://monroewa.gov/997) for available resources.

**Q: I want to help someone who is unhoused or learn more about ending homelessness?**

**A:** Share the resources listed above and/or visit: [monroewa.gov/998](http://monroewa.gov/998) for ways to help and learn more.

**Q: I feel unsafe because someone is behaving erratically or aggressively panhandling?**

**A:** Call 911 if someone is blocking your path or indicating that they may hurt themselves or someone else. We will do everything we can to address the situation and help the person you called about.

Do remember, however, that experiencing homelessness is not a crime and people cannot be arrested for panhandling. It is considered free speech and is protected as a constitutional right.

**Q: Someone is trespassing at my business or home?**

**A:** Call 911 if someone is on your property uninvited and refuses to leave. We also encourage you to provide bright lighting outside and to lock dumpsters, sheds, and vehicles.

**Q: I see people camped on public or private land?**

**A:** Call the non-emergency dispatch line: 425-407-3999. They will alert our Community Outreach Team who will connect campers to resources, shelter, and services.

## Homelessness Response

Monroe is a community where people help each other, and together we can ensure we are all housed and have the resources we need to thrive. At the City, we are working with service providers, community members, and within the justice system to help people in need.

## Complex Roots

An important step in ending homelessness is understanding that the causes are varied and complex. Some people lose their home because housing and living costs are rising faster than wages. Some fled domestic violence. Some got sick or hurt and could not work. Some struggle with addiction or their mental health. Some lost their job at time when they were living paycheck to paycheck. Many are affected by systemic economic or racial disparities. Many are still working. Some are visibly experiencing homelessness. Many are not.

All are part of Monroe.



City Valley Food Bank and Take the Next Step volunteers hard at work.



## Current Efforts

The City's efforts aim to address the root causes of homelessness and meet the immediate needs of people experiencing homelessness.

- **Community Outreach Team:** Meets consistently with those experiencing chronic homelessness and connects them to resources, medical assistance, substance abuse treatment, and housing.
- **Community Relief Grants:** Provided to nonprofits serving Monroe's most vulnerable residents.
- **Central Coordination:** A dedicated consultant helps to ensure all local service providers – from food banks, to schools, to shelters, to rental assistance programs – are aligned in their efforts.
- **Community Human Services Advisory Board:** Represents a broad spectrum of lived experiences and advises the Mayor and City Council on solutions that support marginalized communities, unsheltered people, those experiencing poverty, or being adversely affected by crisis.
- **Social Worker within the Judicial Process:** Provides guidance for people who were arrested and offers alternatives to incarceration, such as addiction treatment or services that support long-term recovery.

You can learn more about the City's efforts and how to help here:  
[www.monroewa.gov/655/Human-Services](http://www.monroewa.gov/655/Human-Services)



# AGENDA BILL

**Meeting Date:** February 02, 2021

**Staff Contact:** Deborah Knight, City Administrator

**Department:** Executive

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**SUBJECT: Review proposed state legislation and provide direction to Mayor and staff**

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## PREVIOUS DISCUSSION:

12/08/2020; 11/10/2020; 07/14/2020

## REQUESTED ACTION:

Review information regarding HB1203 (Community Oversight Boards) and HB1054 (Police Tactics). Ask questions and provide direction to Mayor and city staff.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The City Council adopted its 2021 legislative priorities on December 8, 2020 for the upcoming 2021 State and Federal legislative sessions. The 2021 Legislative Agenda (Attachment 1), is organized around the City's strategic priorities: Safe and Secure, Economic Development, Manage Growth, Utilities and Transportation, Community Culture, and Good Government.

This year, the State Legislature is considering a number of public safety bills that may impact how the city provides public safety services to the community. This is an opportunity for the City Council to better understand the possible effects of the proposed legislation.

## DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

Chief Jeff Jolley and City Administrator Deborah Knight shared information at the January 26, 2021 council meeting on two proposed public safety bills introduced in the House during the 2021 State legislative session: HB1203 (Attachment 2) and HB1054 (Attachment 3).

The City Council requested Mayor and staff present additional information about these bills at the council study session on February 2, 2021. This agenda bill provides a summary of public safety legislation supported by the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) as well as background information on HB1203 and HB1054. The majority of the information about these bills has been provided by AWC.

## 2021 Legislative Session

As of Friday, January 22, 2021 more than 650 bills have been introduced at the State Legislature for the 2021 legislative session. Many of the legislative proposals offered so far align with the city's priorities.

Many of these bills are complex pieces of legislation that make significant changes to the way cities do business, particularly in law enforcement. The Association of Washington Cities is closely tracking public safety legislation for its members. The Association of Washington Cities supports the following statewide law enforcement reforms:

- Develop a statewide standard for use of force that preserves the right of local jurisdictions to enact more restrictive standards based on community input.
- Create a database to track officers who have been fired for misconduct.
- Expand grounds for decertification to include use of force violations.
- Require that officer misconduct investigations be completed, regardless of an officer's resignation.
- Establish a duty for all law enforcement officers to immediately intervene and report misconduct or illegal activity by a fellow police officer.
- Require that all officers receive regular support for vicarious trauma and mental well-being, including peer support, mental health counseling, and appropriate mental health screenings. Officers involved in any fatal use of force must undergo a mental health screening prior to returning to duty.

AWC also supports:

- Additional training requirements, including adequate state funding for any training mandates, and full funding of the Criminal Justice Training Commission and Basic Law Enforcement Academy.
- Reviewing and revising existing binding interest arbitration requirements to clarify and empower local agencies to discipline officers who violate agency policies, state and local laws.

State Legislators have introduced a number of bills that may duplicate existing legislation or remedies, create additional liability for cities, and seek to oversee responsibilities that belong to elected officials. This agenda bill provides additional information on HB1203 which would establish mandatory police community oversight boards and HB1054 which would create standards for a number of police tactics.

### HB1203 Community Oversight Boards

HB1203 sponsored by Rep. Jesse Johnson (D–Federal Way), requires that all cities employing ten or more law enforcement officers establish a community oversight board by January 1, 2025. AWC estimates over a third of all cities in the state would be required to create a board. Additionally, cities with existing community oversight boards would need to comply with new standards established in the bill by January 1, 2022.

The bill grants community oversight boards with several powers and responsibilities, including:

- Receiving and investigating complaints from the community regarding conduct of law enforcement officers or civilian police employees;
- Recommending discipline of law enforcement officers or civilian police employees in cases that involve serious breaches of professional conduct;

- Reviewing all internal investigations and issuing findings regarding the accuracy, completeness, and impartiality of the investigations;
- Accessing crime scenes and preliminary evidence as needed to make recommendations about the investigation; and
- Providing a list of qualified candidates for the mayor to choose from to fill a chief of police vacancy.

Cities would decide the size of the oversight board as well as establish the board's policies and procedures. However, law enforcement officers serving at the time, and members of their immediate family, would not be eligible to serve on the board.

Funds for the board would be allocated by the city equaling 5% of the city's budget for law enforcement purposes (~\$400,000 for Monroe). Additionally, the board could retain legal counsel in all cases, hearings, controversies, or other matters involving the interests of the board.

AWC does not support the bill as drafted. AWC continues to work with the sponsor, Rep. Johnson, regarding this legislation. AWC recognizes and appreciates the intent behind the bill but does not believe it to be feasible in its current form.

#### HB1054 Police Tactics

HB1054 is sponsored by 37 House Representatives. The bill seeks to limit certain law enforcement tactics and tools. Specifically, the bill limits or requires the following:

- using chokeholds and neck restraints
- using police dogs to arrest or apprehend persons
- acquiring or using tear gas and certain types of military equipment
- adopt policies and procedures to ensure that uniformed peace officers are reasonably identifiable
- restricts vehicular pursuits and firing upon moving vehicles
- seeking a search or arrest warrant granting an express exception to the "knock and announce" rule

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) supplied supplemental testimony to the members of the House Public Safety Committee (Attachment 4). The letter notes the language contained in HB1054 "places members of the public and law enforcement officers in unnecessary danger". Many of the concerns expressed by WASPC point to specific details in the legislation that require further refinement or clarification before adoption and implementation.

Legislators continue to work with the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to make changes to HB1054 to clarify its intent and resolve conflicts.

This is an opportunity for the City Council to understand the proposed legislation and how it may affect the city's ability to perform its public safety functions.

#### **FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Discussion of proposed legislation does not have a direct impact on the City's budget. However, specific bills, such as HB1203, could have direct impacts on the City's budget if implemented.

**TIME CONSTRAINTS:**

Specific bills are being heard in their "house of origin". The cut-off date for moving bills out of committee is February 15, 2021, except for House fiscal committee and Senate Ways & Means. March 9, 2021 is the last day to consider (pass) bills in the house of origin. March 26, 2021 is the last day to pass bills out of the committee from the opposite house.

The number of bills still active narrows at each step. Legislation may be amended as it moves through the legislative process. The City Council may want to monitor legislation and wait to comment on specific legislation until it has moved to the opposite house.

**ALTERNATIVES TO REQUESTED ACTION:**

Review the information presented. Ask questions about specific legislation and how it may affect the City's budget and the ability to fulfill its obligations to the public. Provide direction to Mayor and staff.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[2021 Legislative Agenda 12-08-2020](#)

[1203 HBA PS 21](#)

[1054 HBR PS 21](#)

[WASPC Supplemental Written Testimony - HB1054 \(1.12.21\)](#)



**City of Monroe**  
**2021 Legislative Priorities**

1. Fund completion of the SR522 Widening project in the transportation package.
2. Fund completion of the SR522 Paradise Lake Interchange.
3. Support efforts to streamline annexations of urban growth areas.
4. Provide local parks and recreation agencies with new funding options to address vital maintenance and operations, and preservation needs.
5. Funding to assist small businesses impacted by COVID-19.
6. Increase funding options to support housing affordability and homelessness programs at the state and local level.
7. Pass legislation to address mental health to support local communities to improve mental health and especially to lend critical support to families and youth.
8. Provide funding to respond to the national opioid epidemic and expand access to treatment.
9. Protect and fully fund the 2021-2023 Capital Budget including grant programs that support park and recreation. Support the Washington Park and Recreation Association recommendation to provide \$140 million for Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP), \$11.3 million for Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF), and \$9.1 million funding for Aquatic Lands (ALEA).
10. Work with the Snohomish County Boys and Girls Club to request \$350,000 from the State Capital Budget to complete the Monroe Boys and Girls Club, Early Childhood Education Program (EACAP) expansion.
11. Update the US 2 Route Development Plan. Evaluate necessary capacity improvements. Provide funds to alleviate congestion and improve safety on US 2.
12. Pursue federal funding to evaluate traffic safety and congestion improvements at five railroad crossings on US 2 between Frylands Blvd. and Main Street.

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## Public Safety Committee

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### HB 1203

**Brief Description:** Concerning community oversight boards.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Johnson, J., Harris-Talley, Bateman, Simmons, Gregerson, Valdez, Berry, Riccelli, Santos, Ryu, Ramel, Sells, Ortiz-Self, Goodman, Berg, Dolan, Tharinger, Macri, Fey, Davis, Ramos and Frame.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires any local jurisdiction with a law enforcement agency that has at least 10 officers to establish a community oversight board by January 1, 2025.
- Outlines powers and duties of community oversight boards, and provides guidelines for establishing board operations and membership.
- Requires any local jurisdiction with an existing oversight body to bring the existing body into alignment with the requirements for community oversight boards by January 1, 2022.
- Requires the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to report to the Legislature regarding local jurisdictions' compliance with oversight board requirements.

**Hearing Date:** 1/26/21

**Staff:** Omeara Harrington (786-7136).

#### Background:

In general, local governments have broad discretion as to how they deliver police services, and the size and structure of local law enforcement agencies varies. In counties, law enforcement

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

and public safety services fall to local county sheriff's offices. Many cities and towns have established their own municipal police departments. Other cities and towns contract with another local jurisdiction to provide police services.

Some local governments have additionally established oversight, advisory, or review bodies made up partially or entirely of civilian community members for the purpose of overseeing and advising on the activities of the local law enforcement agency. The structure of these bodies differs among jurisdictions, with some bodies operating within, or in collaboration with, the local law enforcement agency, and others operating wholly independently from the agency. Examples of the activities of these bodies include, but are not limited to: investigating allegations of police misconduct and making recommendations for responsive actions; reviewing the findings of agency internal investigations; investigating citizen complaints or reviewing the agency's resolution of citizen complaints; and making recommendations for changes to law enforcement policy and practice.

### **Summary of Bill:**

All local jurisdictions must establish a community oversight board by January 1, 2025. Local jurisdictions include all cities, towns, and counties with a law enforcement agency that has 10 or more officers and serves directly under the authority of the jurisdiction, rather than by contract or agreement with another jurisdiction.

All community oversight boards must have certain powers and duties with respect to the law enforcement agency serving under the authority of the local jurisdiction, including:

- receiving complaints from community members regarding the conduct of law enforcement officers and civilian employees of the law enforcement agency;
- investigating and issuing findings on incidents that occur between the public and law enforcement officers or civilian employees, including incidents involving: use of force by an officer; death of or serious injury to person in custody; serious abuse of authority or misconduct by an officer; allegedly discriminatory stops or other profiling activity; adversarial interactions occurring at public assemblies; and other adverse incidents related to the conduct of officers or civilian employees. Community-reported complaints must be investigated whenever possible, and findings must be issued within 120 days. If an investigation is not possible, the board must provide notice and reasoning to the complainant;
- making recommendations for officer or civilian employee discipline in cases involving serious breaches of departmental or professional standards. Any recommendation must be accompanied by a report of supporting information and submitted to the employing agency and, if pertaining to an officer, to the Criminal Justice Training Commission;
- holding hearings and issuing subpoenas, if necessary, to compel any person to appear, give sworn testimony, or produce evidence relevant to a matter under inquiry;
- reviewing and making recommendations for changes to agency policies, practices, and procedures. If the agency declines to implement any of the board's recommendations, it must produce a written public record detailing its rationale;

- reviewing internal investigations for accuracy, completeness, impartiality, and sufficiency of any resulting discipline;
- making budgetary recommendations to the local legislative body concerning future appropriations to the law enforcement agency;
- accessing crime scenes and related administrative investigations, including preliminary evidence and other information, as needed, provided that such access is in a manner that protects the integrity of the crime scene or investigation. The board's access must not be more limited than the access granted to the press;
- making public reports on the activities of the board;
- selecting qualified candidates for any vacancy in the position of chief of police. In the event of a vacancy, the board must compile a list of four qualified candidates within 60 days, and the new chief must be selected from this list; and
- undertaking other duties, as identified by the local jurisdiction, that are reasonably necessary for the board to effectuate its purposes.

Each local jurisdiction must establish the policies and procedures for its community oversight board including, at a minimum, policies and procedures for: the number of board members; composition and appointment of membership; meetings and hearings; communication with the public and receipt of complaints; access to files, records, and other information, and requirements for maintaining any confidentiality of those documents; and the performance of the board's duties and other functions. Boards must maintain multiple methods for submitting and reviewing the status of complaints, including both online and in-person methods. The board may retain legal counsel, paid by the local jurisdiction, to represent it in all cases, hearings, controversies, or matters involving its interests. The board's annual budget must be equal to or greater than 5 percent of the total funds allocated in the local jurisdiction for law enforcement purposes.

A portion of a community oversight board's positions must be filled by members of the public through a public posting and application process. A community oversight board must, whenever possible, reflect the diversity of the community in which it is located and include members of families affected by law enforcement violence, justice-involved individuals, and representatives of civil rights advocacy organizations. Certain persons are ineligible to serve on a community oversight board, including: law enforcement officers and employees; immediate family members of law enforcement officers; and persons who receive payment pursuant to contract with, or work for an entity that receives payment pursuant to contract with, the law enforcement agency that the community oversight board oversees.

The requirements for the powers, duties, and structure of community oversight boards apply to any newly created board. Local jurisdictions with a similar oversight body in place at the time the bill takes effect must bring the body into compliance with the community oversight board framework by January 1, 2022, except to the extent that full compliance would violate a federal consent decree or other mandate. "Similar oversight bodies" include any law enforcement oversight or advisory bodies that are external to the law enforcement agency being overseen, and may include, but are not limited to, police ombudsman offices and citizen advisory, review, and

oversight boards.

Local jurisdictions must report their compliance with the community oversight board requirements to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) by the full compliance date of January 1, 2025. The WASPC must compile the information into a report to the Legislature by March 1, 2025.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 21, 2021.

**Effective Date:** This bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed, except for section 5, relating to the requirements for selection of candidates for Chief of Police following the bill's implementation period, which takes effect January 1, 2025.

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1054

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
Public Safety

**Title:** An act relating to establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers.

**Brief Description:** Establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Johnson, J., Entenman, Dolan, Ryu, Berry, Simmons, Bateman, Kloba, Lekanoff, Duerr, Fitzgibbon, Slatter, Wylie, Ramos, Berg, Tharinger, Ramel, Ortiz-Self, Senn, Peterson, Gregerson, Valdez, Callan, Hackney, Morgan, Chopp, Cody, Ormsby, Taylor, Frame, Santos, Macri, Davis, Pollet, Bergquist and Harris-Talley.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Public Safety: 1/12/21, 1/22/21 [DPS].

**Brief Summary of Substitute Bill**

- Prohibits peace officers from using chokeholds and neck restraints.
- Prohibits peace officers from using police dogs to arrest or apprehend persons.
- Prohibits law enforcement agencies from acquiring or using tear gas and certain types of military equipment.
- Requires law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and procedures to ensure that uniformed peace officers are reasonably identifiable.
- Establishes restrictions on vehicular pursuits and firing upon moving vehicles.
- Prohibits a peace officer from seeking, and a court from issuing, a search or arrest warrant granting an express exception to the "knock and announce" rule.

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## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 8 members: Representatives Goodman, Chair; Johnson, J., Vice Chair; Davis, Hackney, Lovick, Orwall, Ramos and Simmons.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass. Signed by 4 members: Representatives Mosbrucker, Ranking Minority Member; Klippert, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Graham and Griffey.

**Minority Report:** Without recommendation. Signed by 1 member: Representative Young.

**Staff:** Kelly Leonard (786-7147).

### **Background:**

A peace officer's use of any particular weapon or other tactic or tool is limited by the constitutional protections afforded to the public. Any use of force must be reasonable under the circumstances. Officers use various tools and equipment issued to them by individual agencies, and most agencies have policies governing the use of those tools and equipment. In addition, the basic training provided by the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to all general authority law enforcement officers includes training on patrol procedures, firearms, and defensive tactics.

*Tear Gas.* The term "tear gas" refers to a group of substances that irritate mucous membranes, causing a stinging sensation in the eyes and irritating the upper respiratory tract. Tear gas is dispersed in the air through the use of sprays, fog generators, or grenades and shells. Tear gas has been used by peace officers to control or disperse crowds as well as to control or influence the movements of armed suspects in certain settings. Tear gas typically includes chloroacetophenone (CN), O-chlorobenzylidene malononitrile (CS), but other chemical irritants have also been used, including, for example, oleoresin capsicum (OC), commonly referred to as pepper spray.

*Military Surplus Program.* The United States Department of Defense operates a military surplus transfer program where excess property is transferred to law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement agencies may apply to participate in the program. While participating agencies do not pay for the equipment, they are responsible for shipping, storage, and maintenance costs. The types of equipment available and requested through the program varies, including, for example, armored vehicles, helicopters, rifles, respirators, digital cameras, night vision goggles, and office equipment.

*Vehicular Pursuits.* An officer who has authority to make an arrest may proceed in fresh pursuit of a person who is reasonably believed to have committed a violation of traffic or

criminal laws or for whom the officer has an arrest warrant. When proceeding in pursuit of a suspect, the officer may violate certain rules of the road, including, for example, stop signals, speed limits, and parking restrictions. State law requires the CJTC to maintain a model policy on vehicular pursuits. The policy must include procedures for:

- supervisory control of the pursuit, if available;
- designating the primary pursuit vehicle and determining the total number of vehicles allowed to participate in the pursuit at one time;
- coordinating operations with other jurisdictions; and
- determining when the interests of public safety and effective law enforcement justify a vehicular pursuit and when a vehicular pursuit should not be initiated or should be terminated.

All state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies are required to adopt and implement vehicular pursuit policies. Though they are not required to adopt the model policy maintained by the CJTC, any adopted policy must include the same elements outlined above. All officers must receive training on how to conduct vehicular pursuits.

*Knock and Announce Rule and No-Knock Warrants.* An officer may make a nonconsensual entry into a dwelling or building in order to execute a search or arrest warrant. Prior to doing so, an officer must announce his or her identity, demand admittance, announce the purpose of their demand, and be explicitly or implicitly denied admittance. This is commonly referred to as the "knock and announce" rule.

An officer must comply with all of the elements of the "knock and announce" rule, unless there are exigent circumstances or it would otherwise be considered a useless gesture. The courts look to certain factors to determine if there were exigent circumstances, including: (1) the gravity or violent nature of the offense with which the suspect is to be charged; (2) whether the suspect is reasonably believed to be armed; (3) whether there is reasonably trustworthy information that the suspect is guilty; (4) whether there is strong reason to believe that the suspect is on the premises; (5) the likelihood that the suspect will escape if not swiftly apprehended; and (6) whether the entry is made peaceably.

A "no-knock warrant" is a legal term referring to a warrant where the court has provided advance authorization to enter without complying with the "knock and announce" rule. State statute neither authorizes nor prohibits "no-knock warrants."

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### **Summary of Substitute Bill:**

Restrictions are established on the use of certain tactics and equipment used by peace officers and law enforcement agencies. "Peace officer" includes any general authority, limited authority, and specially commissioned Washington peace officer, and any employee, whether part-time or full-time, of a jail, correctional, or detention facility who is responsible for the custody, safety, and security of adult or juvenile persons confined in the

facility. "Law enforcement agency" includes any general authority and limited authority law enforcement agency, and any state or local agency providing or otherwise responsible for the custody, safety, and security of adults or juveniles incarcerated in correctional, jail, or detention facilities.

*Neck Restraints and Chokeholds.* A peace officer may not use a chokehold or neck restraint on another person in the course of his or her duties as a peace officer. "Chokehold" refers to any tactic in which direct pressure is applied to a person's trachea or windpipe, or any other tactic intended to restrict another person's airway. "Neck restraint" refers to any vascular neck restraint or similar restraint, hold, or other tactic in which pressure is applied to the neck for the purpose of constricting blood flow.

*Police Dogs.* A peace officer may not use a police dog for the purpose of arresting or apprehending another person.

*Tear Gas.* A law enforcement agency may not purchase, acquire, use, or authorize its peace officers or other employees to use tear gas for any purpose. "Tear gas" includes chloroacetophenone (CN), O-chlorobenzylidene malononitrile (CS), and any similar chemical irritant dispersed in the air for the purpose of producing temporary physical discomfort or permanent injury. "Tear gas" does not include oleoresin capsicum (OC).

*Military Equipment and the Military Surplus Program.* A law enforcement agency may not acquire or use any military equipment, including firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater, machine guns, silencers, armed helicopters, armed or armored drones, armed vessels, armed vehicles, armed aircraft, tanks, mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles, long range acoustic hailing devices, rockets, rocket launchers, bayonets, grenades, grenade launchers, missiles, directed energy systems, and electromagnetic spectrum weapons.

Any law enforcement agency in possession of military equipment must return the equipment to the federal agency from which it was acquired, if applicable, or destroy the equipment by December 31, 2022. However, the restrictions on military equipment do not prohibit a law enforcement agency from participating in a federal military equipment surplus program, provided that any equipment acquired through the program does not constitute military equipment.

*Identification.* Law enforcement agencies must adopt policies and procedures to ensure that uniformed peace officers while on duty and in the performance of their official duties are reasonably identifiable. "Reasonably identifiable" means that the peace officer's uniform clearly displays the officer's name or other information that members of the public can see and the agency can use to identify the peace officer.

*Vehicular Pursuits and Firing upon Vehicles.* The requirements for the CJTC to adopt a model policy and for individual agencies to adopt policies consistent with the model policy are repealed.

A peace officer may not engage in a vehicular pursuit, unless:

- there is probable cause to believe that a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a violent offense or sex offense;
- the pursuit is necessary for the purpose of identifying or apprehending the person;
- under the circumstances, the safety risks of failing to apprehend or identify the person are considered to be greater than the safety risks associated with the vehicular pursuit;
- the officer has received authorization to engage in the pursuit from a supervising officer; and
- there is supervisory control of the pursuit, and the supervisor considers relevant factors affecting public safety, such as whether there are minors present in the vehicle.

*Firing upon Vehicles.* A peace officer may not fire a weapon upon a moving vehicle unless necessary to protect against an imminent threat of serious physical harm resulting from the operator's or a passenger's use of a deadly weapon. A vehicle is not considered a deadly weapon unless extraordinary circumstances apply where it appears the operator is using the vehicle for the purpose of causing serious physical harm to another person and the officer has no other reasonably accessible means to stop the harm.

*No-Knock Warrants.* An officer may not seek, and a court may not issue, a search or arrest warrant granting an express exception to the "knock and announce" rule.

### **Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:**

The definition of "law enforcement agency" is expanded to include all limited authority Washington law agencies (in addition to agencies included in the underlying bill).

Language is added specifying that "law enforcement agency" does not include the National Guard, State Guard, or other division of the United States Armed Forces. The definition of "peace officer" is modified by providing that it includes any general authority Washington peace officer, limited authority Washington peace officer, and specially commissioned Washington peace officer, and any employee, whether part-time or full-time, of a jail, correctional, or detention facility who is responsible for the custody, safety, and security of adults or juveniles confined in the facility.

Armored vehicles and armored helicopters are removed from the definition of "military equipment," thereby allowing law enforcement agencies to acquire and use those items.

Conducted energy weapons and public address systems are added to the list of examples for items that law enforcement agencies are permitted to obtain through the federal military surplus equipment program, as those items do not constitute military equipment.

The restriction on the use of police dogs is expanded by providing that police dogs may not be used to arrest or apprehend persons, rather than prohibiting the use of unleashed police dogs for that purpose.

The restriction against concealing badges is removed. Instead, the substitute bill requires all law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and procedures to ensure that uniformed peace officers while on duty and in the performance of their official duties are reasonably identifiable.

The provisions pertaining to training and data collection on vehicular pursuits are removed. The amendatory provisions pertaining to a model policy on vehicular pursuits are also removed. Instead, the substitute bill repeals the current requirements for the CJTC to adopt a model policy and establishes a generally applicable restriction on vehicular pursuits by providing that such pursuits are prohibited unless the certain requirements are met.

The restriction on firing upon moving vehicles is modified. The substitute bill provides that a vehicle is not considered a deadly weapon unless extraordinary circumstances apply where it appears the operator is using the vehicle for the purpose of causing serious physical harm to another person and the officer has no other reasonably accessible means to stop the harm, rather than excluding vehicles from being considered deadly weapons generally.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date of Substitute Bill:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) The vast majority of law enforcement officers do their jobs with honor and respect to the profession; however, systemic racism exists across all institutions, including law enforcement. In many cases, bad policing is the result of policies, and there continues to be evidence of unnecessary violence producing negative outcomes, especially for communities of color. Having inconsistent standards across the state has led to confusion and distrust. Some tactics being used by law enforcement do not uphold the fundamental value of preserving and protecting human life first. These tactics are disproportionately used against black and brown communities.

House Bill 1054 (HB 1054) reduces violence by establishing statewide standards for certain tactics and equipment. The bill will ban chokeholds and neck restraints, no-knock warrants, tear gas, unleashed dogs and covering badges, and it will place restrictions on vehicular pursuits, shooting at moving vehicles, and military equipment. These are the most aggressive and violent tactics used by law enforcement. Their use constitutes a form of intentional terror and intimidation, disproportionately used against black and brown people.

The state needs to do away with these harmful tactics in order to begin to rebuild trust

between law enforcement and communities of color. The state can deliver true public safety that is equitable and just. This bill will reduce violence by eliminating brutal and dehumanizing tactics.

Chokeholds and vascular neck restraints should be banned. Many agencies have already banned them because improper use of these techniques is extremely dangerous. Proper use requires consistent and regular training, which most officers do not receive. This tactic is unnecessary even in the most extreme conditions.

Police dogs for apprehending persons should also be banned. This practice is barbaric and brutal; there is a history of using dogs on peaceful persons. These techniques are antiquated, and law enforcement is better than this.

Warfare is not the same as policing, and military equipment is therefore inappropriate for use by peace officers. Peace officers do not need .50 caliber weapons, grenade launchers, bayonets, or missiles. The purpose of this equipment is to use overwhelming force against an enemy, for which there will always be collateral damage. This is the nature of war. Cities and towns are not battlefields. Military veterans are outraged and heartbroken by the sight of combat weapons being deployed upon civilians. Notably, when a small jurisdiction in Washington started militarizing, it cited the increase of people of color in the area as the justification. This is racist.

There are cities in Washington in support of the approach taken in the bill. There has been great leadership in local governments on these issues, but this bill is important because it takes on state standards. There are very few bad apples, but there are a lot of poor policies and training. The average city does not have the resources to do a sophisticated deep dive on all of these issues. Therefore, statewide standards and training are critical.

Numerous people have been unjustifiably killed by law enforcement officers in Washington. These killings involved unarmed people who merely fled or who had devices mistaken for weapons. Officers escalated situations, used excessive force and unnecessarily used deadly force, and used forceful and inappropriate language. Officers have acted recklessly and above the law. Even in an instance where officers were held civilly liable, they still got promoted within their own agency. The state needs to take steps to reduce violence and improve accountability. This a deeply personal issue. Parents, siblings, and friends have lost family members to police violence. This oppresses and demoralizes entire communities.

Law enforcement reflects our culture and our values. It is up to the people to decide the priorities of law enforcement. Law enforcement can be resistant to change, but it is time to move on. House Bill 1054 focuses on the right issues. The tactics addressed in the bill are those leading to the most injuries and deaths.

(Opposed) The topics addressed in HB 1054 are worthy of discussion, consideration, and

action by the Legislature. Police need to commit to making several changes to practices in order to rebuild trust with communities. The sanctity of human life should be at the cornerstone of law enforcement practices. The concerns regarding many of the tactics addressed in the bill are understandable; however, the approach taken in the bill creates unacceptable consequences and unreasonably places members of the public and law enforcement at risk of greater harm. The bill removes opportunities for de-escalation and increases the likelihood that deadly force will be used against the public. The bill does not account for the effectiveness of certain tactics in fluid situations. The state should increase the requirements and time for basic training for all law enforcement officers to address many of the concerns underpinning the bill.

Chokeholds and neck restraints are very dangerous techniques requiring consideration and training; however, the state should consider if they should be allowed in rare situations to avoid the use of deadly force. Also, this bill makes it possible for an officer to be criminally charged or lose his or her job for using a neck restraint in defense of his or her own life.

Perhaps chokeholds should be banned, but a vascular neck restraint used by a properly trained officer is an effective technique to resolve a violent altercation. Banning vascular neck restraints will require an officer to actually use more dangerous and violent techniques. Instead of the approach taken in the bill, the state should increase training requirements to increase officer competency in commanding and de-escalating situations.

While the use of canines should also be limited and deployed only according to certain procedures, the bill merely requires a leash and does not appropriately account for safe procedures. A canine can run faster than an officer, making it possible to apprehend a fleeing murder suspect.

The CN and CS gases are primarily used for barricaded subjects, not crowd control. The courts have recently ruled that the use of these gases has been highly regulated with sufficient oversight. These gases are appropriate in limited circumstances and their use can avoid more dangerous tactics.

Prohibiting the use of armored vehicles regardless of former function is objectionable because it places officers in unnecessary danger. These vehicles are used to protect officers and citizens in active-shooter incidents and rescue situations. Further, the Legislature should be thoughtful about the scope of this bill and how it will affect law enforcement officers in various contexts. There are unique considerations for officers protecting airports, for example. Some types of equipment restricted in the bill may be crucial for protecting ports and critical infrastructure.

No-knock warrants create heightened danger to the public, but outright prohibition of no-knock warrants is not appropriate. These warrants may be necessary in rare instances involving kidnapping and trafficking, for example.

Vehicular pursuits should be restricted to a degree and the provision in the bill is similar to many department policies. However, law enforcement agencies should be able to pursue drunk drivers and other dangerous persons. The bill is unclear as to the role a supervisor is required to play in pursuits, which is concerning for small jurisdictions. Also, the data collection requirements appear to violate the Keep Washington Working Act. The provision restricting firing upon moving vehicles is overly broad. Sometimes a vehicle can be used as a deadly weapon.

There are several state law enforcement agencies left out of the bill by the limited scope of the definitions in the bill. The bill should be amended to uniformly apply to all agencies.

(Other) Certain elements of the bill align with the recommendations of experts in law enforcement. The goals underpinning the bill are important for communities, and law enforcement officers are committed to working on these issues with the Legislature.

**Persons Testifying:** (In support) Representative Johnson, prime sponsor; Breean Beggs, City of Spokane; Sonia Joseph, Carlos Bratcher, Michael McPhearson, Trishandra Pickup, and Fred Thomas, Washington Coalition for Police Accountability; Enoka Herat, American Civil Liberties Union and Washington Coalition for Police Accountability; and Devon Connor-Green and Sakara Remmu, Washington Black Lives Matter Alliance.

(Opposed) James McMahan, Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs; Spike Unruh, Washington State Patrol Troopers Association; and Aliyyah Slade and Arman Barros, Teamsters 117.

(Other) James Schrimpsheer, Washington State Fraternal Order of Police.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** Paula Sardinas, FMS Global Strategies and Washington Build Back Black Alliance; Sharon Swanson, Association of Washington Cities; Keith Blocker, City of Tacoma; Cathleen deSmet; Calico Goodrich; Ramona Brandes, Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and Washington Defender Association; Peter Shellito; Kelsey Hamlin; Patrick McCormick; Dawn Land; Ryan Portmann, Puyallup Police Department; Jeff DeVere, Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs; Rob Huss, Washington State Patrol; Nathan Spiering, Spokane Police Department K9 Unit; Dave Brown, Skamania County Sheriff's Office; and Bruce Surplus, Benton County Sheriff's Office.



Washington Association of  
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Gambling Commission

Steven D. Strachan  
Executive Director

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

House Public Safety Committee  
John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

RE: Supplemental Testimony in Opposition to HB 1054

Chair Goodman, Ranking Member Mosbrucker, and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

Please accept this letter as a supplement to my verbal testimony to the committee this morning.

On behalf of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), I want to thank Representative Johnson for sharing an early draft of this legislation and taking the time to hear our feedback prior to introducing the bill. He was not obligated to reach out to us, nor was he obligated to hear from us – that he chose to do so is worthy of acknowledgement.

We also want to acknowledge that the topics addressed in HB 1054 are worthy of discussion, consideration, and topics where Washington's law enforcement should strive to continually improve. We want all persons to be able to go home safely at the end of each day. The language contained in HB 1054, however, creates unacceptable consequences and unreasonably places members of the public and law enforcement officer in unnecessary danger. Simply put, HB 1054 removes many opportunities for de-escalation.

It is our desire to work with Representative Johnson and the other members of the Public Safety Committee to address these legitimate issues in a more appropriate and productive manner.

Specific to the language contained in HB 1054, we wanted to call your attention to the following:

**Section 1 (1):** The definition of law enforcement agency fails to include most limited authority Washington law enforcement agencies, including, but not limited to, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Gambling Commission, the State Lottery, the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the State Utilities and Transportation Commission, and the Office of the Insurance Commissioner. More than one of these agencies regularly utilizes uniformed law enforcement officers to conduct patrol activities within their jurisdictional boundaries.

**Section 2 (1):** We believe that special attention and consideration should be given to the use of chokeholds and neck restraints. We do not, however, believe that they should be prohibited. Our officers are empowered to use force capable of taking a human life. If a chokehold or neck restraint could be employed to avoid the use of deadly force, the interests of public safety demand that these techniques be available to them. We recommend that the Criminal Justice Training Commission, in consultation with WASPC and others, should utilize credible science to determine the appropriate use of chokeholds and, separately, neck restraints.

**Section 2 (3):** The definitions of chokehold fails to incorporate an intent to restrict a person's airway or blood flow. Instances where an officer needs to pull an aggressor off of another person typically include a leveraging of the neck as a point in the body to effect the 'pull.' Officers don't generally wrap their arms around the chest or stomach of an aggressor to separate them from their victim. In such instances, direct pressure may inadvertently be applied to a person's trachea or windpipe, which would be prohibited under the bill. Inappropriate definitions could result in an officer utilizing a higher level of force than otherwise necessary.

**Section 3:** We agree that the use of a police dog (K9) should be limited to those circumstances where necessary in the interests of public safety; that when a K9 is deployed, it is deployed on the identified public safety threat; that it uses a bite and hold technique; and that it disengages upon the command of its human partner. Certification standards for K9 teams exist in the Criminal Justice Training Commission, and through the Washington State Police Canine Association. WASPC supports partnering with these entities to review and strengthen existing certification standards to accomplish these goals. The language in Section 3 achieves none of these goals – it simply requires a leash. This requirement, if enacted, would create tangible barriers on the use of K9 officers to preserve the sanctity of the life of our human law enforcement officers. Simply put, we deploy a K9 officer in circumstances where a human cannot perform as well (eg - using speed to catch up to a subject fleeing on foot, using their smaller size to access a small space, etc.), and as a substitute to placing a human officer's life in danger (eg – entering a barricaded space, a crawlspace, blind space, etc). The provisions of Section 3 would require our officers to either allow a public safety threat to escape, or to utilize a higher level of force than otherwise necessary.

**Section 4:** The use of chloracetophenone (CN), O-chlorobenzylidene malontrile (CS), oleoresin capsicum (OC), and other similar chemical irritants should be reserved to those circumstances necessary in the interests of public safety. WASPC supports a review and establishment of a model policy/best practices relating to the use of CN/CS. There are two general circumstances where CN and/or CS gas are used: riots/unlawful gatherings, and barricaded subjects. We understand the motivation behind Section 4 is the Seattle Police Department's use of CN/CS during the riots/unlawful gatherings during the summer of 2020. We find it compelling that in the State Supreme Court's December 10, 2020 written ruling in the matter of the recall of Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, the Court went to great length to describe the policy and procedures in place for such tactics, and the oversight and control of its use. The primary use of CN/CS is barricaded subjects. Again, the provisions of this section remove tools and techniques used to de-escalate an already dangerous situation and force our officers to insufficiently address a threat to public safety or utilize more force than otherwise necessary. It is also notable that Section 4 appears to allow only one specific chemical to be used – OC. Because this section governs the specific chemicals and ignores how they are deployed, it would prohibit agencies from using another chemical irritant, regardless of whether that irritant were deemed more safe, or effective than OC.

**Section 5:** We agree that certain equipment and weapons are not appropriate for law enforcement use. Firearms and ammunition .50 caliber or greater, armed helicopters, tanks, rockets, rocket launchers, bayonets, grenades, grenade launchers, and missiles are all clearly not appropriate for law enforcement use. To this end, we would suggest adding biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons to the list. Prohibiting the use of armed vehicles, regardless of their form or function, however, is something we will always object to. Such prohibitions create a public policy that allows a law enforcement officer to use a vehicle so long as they are capable of being shot or blown up in it. We find such a policy abhorrent. Other prohibited equipment listed in Section 5 (2) require either further definition or removal. For example, a long range acoustic hailing device (more commonly known as a bullhorn or public address system) is a de-escalation technique used to provide notice to an illegal gathering, to establish communication with a barricaded subject, to warn bystanders of the need to evacuate, among other uses – this should not be prohibited. Directed energy systems and electromagnetic spectrum weapons are two examples of equipment that require further definition – we interpret those to prohibit the use of less-lethal equipment such as a Taser.

**Section 6:** We agree that members of the public should have a reasonable method of identifying an on-duty and uniformed officer. The language in this section, however, fails to appreciate that badge numbers are not universally (or even commonly) used to identify officers in Washington. Additionally, this language fails to acknowledge circumstances where an officer may be equipped with protective equipment such as a riot shield, diving equipment or other circumstances.

**Section 7 (2):** We acknowledge that no-knock warrants present a heightened risk of danger to the public, and to the officers executing them. The practice among Washington’s law enforcement agencies over the past 30 years has reflected this acknowledgement. No-knock warrants are a very rare occurrence in this state for exactly this reason. We would support requiring officers seeking no-knock warrants to justify the heightened risk associated with such warrants against the threat to public safety of using a traditional warrant. Prohibiting them in all circumstances, however, creates an unacceptable public safety risk in our opinion. It is easy to question the use of a no-knock warrant in a simple drug possession case. It’s not so simple to do so in cases of kidnapping, human trafficking, child sexual exploitation, and other serious criminal acts that our officers fight against.

**Section 8:** It would appear that the language in Section 8 removes the requirement that newly hired law enforcement officers receive training on vehicular pursuits between the effective date of the bill and January 1, 2023. This could result in as many as 1,200 officers who would not be required to receive training on vehicle pursuits.

**Section 9:** We acknowledge that vehicle pursuits can present significant risks to the pursuing officers and to the public, and we should exercise due diligence to ensure that these risks are necessary. Section 9, however, ignores the due diligence exercised by nearly all of Washington’s law enforcement agencies and places the public at greater risk by prohibiting vehicle pursuits in all but the rarest of circumstances. Section 9 (2)(a)(i) prohibits, for example, an officer from pursuing a drunk or drugged driver, a domestic violence offender, a person in violation of a domestic violence court order, a car thief in a stolen car, a drug trafficker, a wrong way driver, a reckless driver, a hit and run driver, a person committing a hate crime offense, and a person escaping from a jail or prison, among other examples. Section 9 (2)(a)(ii) fails to allow vehicle pursuits for the purpose of arresting those who break the law. Section 9 (2)(a)(iv) requires an officer to allow a fleeing vehicle

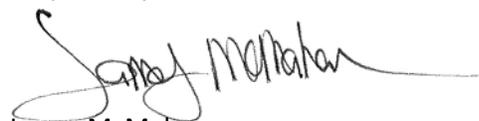
to go unpursued while the requisite factors are considered and approved by a supervisor, therefore increasing the risks associated with a pursuit if/when pursuit is authorized as the officer will need to use speed and risky maneuvers to catch up to the fleeing vehicle. Finally, many Washington law enforcement agencies do not have sufficient staffing to keep a supervisor on duty 24 hours a day.

**Section 9 (2) (b):** We agree that, except in very rare and limited circumstances, officers should be prohibited from firing a weapon at a moving vehicle. The language in Section 9 (2)(b) fails to acknowledge that vehicles are sometimes used as weapons. We do not advocate that our officers choose to stand in front of a vehicle and discharge their weapons when it moves. We also do not advocate to require our officers to surrender themselves to be run over by a vehicle if there are no reasonable means of escape. Whether it be an alley, a parking lot, or other circumstance, our officers should always have the right to defend themselves and should never be required to be run over by a vehicle.

**Section 10:** We see the value in having statewide data related to vehicular pursuits, but we insist that such reporting be fully funded by the state. We would strongly suggest requiring law enforcement agencies to provide the Criminal Justice Training Commission with copies of the incident reports from vehicular pursuits. Such an approach would eliminate nearly all fiscal impacts to the law enforcement agency and enable the Criminal Justice Training Commission to employ uniform and objective standards and criteria for coding and reporting. It is also important to note that the demographic characteristics of the operators and passengers in vehicle pursuits can only be known in those cases where a pursuit is successful in apprehending the operator and/or passenger(s) of the vehicle. It is also important to note that the requirement to collect the national origin of operators and passengers in a vehicle pursuit appears to require Washington's law enforcement officers to violate Washington law (See RCW 10.93.160 (4)(a)).

In summary, we agree that chokeholds, neck restraints, K9 deployments, chemical irritants, military equipment, officer identification, no-knock warrants, and vehicular pursuits are all topics worthy of examination and improvement, and we desire to work with the Legislature to address these important issues. We also believe, however, that these issues are important enough for the Legislature to get them right the first time, and that it is the Legislature's responsibility to ensure that well-intentioned language does not endanger the public or public servants. We look forward to assisting you in that process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James McMahan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James McMahan  
Policy Director