



MONROE THIS WEEK

July 24, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 28

CARRY THE ESSENTIALS



Washington State

Paddle Safe Week



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition provides details on the upcoming closure of a section of SR 203, modifications to the Safe Start Washington guidelines, a recognition of Paddle Safety Week and summer safety tips, an update on the Movies Under the Moon series, a reminder of the ADA Transition Plan public survey, and a recap of local food distribution event that occurred this week.



Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

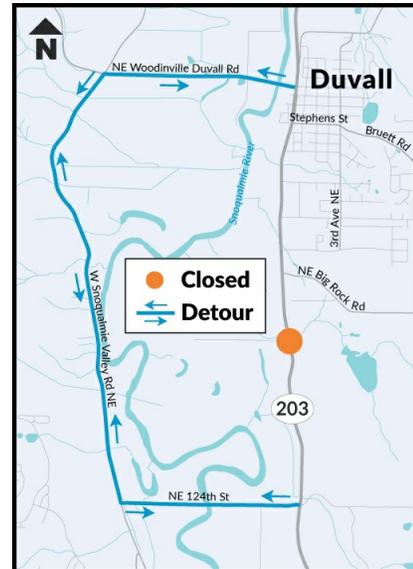
Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Thomas".

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

SR 203 CLOSURE, DETOUR TO START SUNDAY

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) **will close** both directions of State Route 203 from NE 124th Street to NE Woodinville-Duvall Road beginning this Sunday, July 26, through August 26. During the closure, WSDOT will be completing culvert replacement work. Travelers will follow a detour of approximately two miles onto West Snoqualmie Valley Road NE between the closure points. Local access will be allowed up to the work zone in both directions, but no one – including pedestrians and bicyclists – will be allowed to travel through the work zone. Residents will need to approach local streets from north or south of the work zone as indicated in the attached map.



GOVERNOR, HEALTH SECRETARY ANNOUNCE SOCIAL GATHERING MODIFICATIONS

In an effort to slow the rising transmission of the COVID-19 virus, Governor Jay Inslee and Health Secretary John Wiesman have **announced modifications** to the Safe Start Washington guidelines. Since the announcement of Safe Start Washington approximately four months ago, active cases in our state have risen from 2,000 to almost 50,000, and deaths have increased from 110 to almost 1,500.



Under the Governor's new guidance, wedding ceremonies and funerals may continue, with indoor attendance limited to 20% of capacity or 30 persons, whichever is less; receptions are prohibited at this time. For restaurants, dining parties must be members of the same household to dine indoors, alcohol service inside must end by 10:00 p.m., and gaming and social areas (such as pool tables, dart boards and video games) will be closed. Bars will be closed to indoor service, but may continue outdoor service. The number of individuals using indoor fitness centers in Phase 2 areas such as Snohomish County will be limited to five, not including staff. This limitation applies to gyms, fitness studios, indoor pools, ice rinks, volleyball courts, and tennis facilities (which are limited to small group instruction or private training). Indoor family entertainment and recreation centers, such as mini golf, bowling alleys, and arcades are prohibited from opening, as are as indoor card rooms. These new guidelines will go into effect Thursday, July 30.

Secretary Wiesman also announced an expansion of the face covering order that will go into effect

tomorrow, July 25. Face coverings are now required in all common spaces. This includes elevators, hallways, shared spaces in apartment/condo buildings, university housing and hotels, as well as congregate settings such as in nursing homes.



As I've shared in previous editions of [*Monroe This Week*](#), the City recently received an allotment of cloth face coverings from the state that are available to individuals at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Approximately 500 face coverings remain available from that allotment. Residents or nonprofit service providers in need of face coverings may contact Rachel Adams at RAdams@MonroeWA.gov to make distribution arrangements. For anyone unsure if they meet the eligibility requirement, a chart of the Federal Poverty Level can be found [here](#).

FIRE DISTRICT 7 RECOGNIZES PADDLE SAFETY WEEK

By [Proclamation](#) of Governor Jay Inslee, Washington recognized this week, July 19-25, as Paddle Safety Week. As the week comes to a close, Fire District 7 would like to remind citizens about some safety tips while cooling off during the hot summer!



Get educated: All paddlers are responsible for knowing laws and keeping themselves and others safe. At a minimum, people should take a course to increase their knowledge of paddlesport safety, emergency procedures, and navigational rules.

Always wear a life jacket: State law requires all vessels, including canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards, to have at least one properly fitted Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person onboard. All children (age 12 and younger) are always required to wear a life jacket.

File a float plan: Paddlers are encouraged to study their route in advance. Before going out on the water, even for a brief time, people should always tell someone their plan.

Carry essential gear: Paddlers should carry essentials for safety, emergency communications, and comfort. State law requires carrying a sound-producing device, such as a whistle – even on a stand-up paddleboard.

Avoid alcohol and drugs: Operating any vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including marijuana, is not only unsafe, it's illegal. Washington state's [Boating Under the Influence](#) (BUI) law applies to all boats including kayaks, canoes, stand-up paddleboards, rowboats, and inflatable fishing rafts.

Check and understand the weather: Paddlers should check the weather frequently before and during their trip, keeping an eye on current conditions

and forecasts. Check warnings, weather conditions, wind and wave forecasts, tides, or river flows.

Protect against cold-water shock: Falling into water under 60 degrees is dangerous, and many of Washington’s waters – including lakes and rivers– remain below 60 degrees all year, even during hot weather. The biggest risk is cold-water shock – not hypothermia– which occurs in the first stage of immersion.

Be visible to other boaters: People should paddle to be seen by wearing bright neon colors and colors that contrast, putting highly reflective tape on paddles, using a flagpole, and carrying a bright light.

EVENT UPDATE: MOVIES UNDER THE MOON

The City of Monroe [Parks Department](#) has unfortunately had to make the decision to cancel the 2020 Movies Under the Moon series due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Snohomish County would need to be in Phase 4 of Governor Inslee’s Safe Start Washington reopening plan in order for the City to host the series. As we must plan in advance for these events, we’ve had to make the hard decision to cancel.



We appreciate your understanding and look forward to hosting an amazing movie set in 2021.

REMINDER: CITY SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT FOR ADA TRANSITION PLAN

Time is running out to participate in a survey about Monroe’s sidewalks! As I shared in the June 12 edition of [Monroe This Week](#), the City is in the process of developing an ADA Transition Plan. This project started in 2019 with a self-assessment of our existing sidewalks along public streets, identifying locations where barriers exist that do not meet accessibility standards. This survey is part of our public outreach effort. We want to hear from you about any particular locations that you would like to see changed. Your input will help prioritize what gets fixed first. Please participate in the [public survey](#) by July 31!



FBC MONROE HOLDS 4-DAY FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT

FBC Monroe held a Neighbor 2 Neighbor food distribution event this past Monday thru Thursday, July 20-23, 2020. In those four

days, FBC Monroe distributed approximately 400 boxes of non-perishable food. Available to anyone in need, the event was open to the public each day from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This was a grab-and-go style event, with visitors welcome to take as many boxes as needed. Most boxes included pasta, canned and dried beans, canned vegetables, apple sauce, juice and more. Recipients were encouraged to pass along to their own neighbors any items they or their family members didn't like or were allergic to. Thank you, FBC Monroe, for this wonderful community service!



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2020. The City has also issued [formal notice](#) that a Public Hearing, declaring certain property as Surplus and authorizing its disposition, will take place during the July 28 meeting. Participation information for the Business Meeting and Public Hearing is included in the above link. The Business Meeting agenda will be 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

