



# MONROE THIS WEEK

Edition 5 February 5, 2016



**Mayor**

Geoffrey Thomas  
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**Councilmembers**

Patsy Cudaback  
Kevin Hanford  
Ed Davis  
Jason Gamble  
Jim Kamp  
Jeff Rasmussen  
Kirk Scarboro  
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**City Hall**

806 West Main Street  
Monroe, WA 98272  
Phone: 360.794.7400  
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

**Appointment Openings**

No Openings At This Time

**Job Openings**

Construction Inspector

**Events this Week**

- 02/09** *City Council Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting, Permit Center, City Hall, 6PM*
- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM*
- 02/15** *President's Day CITY HALL CLOSED*

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, "Monroe This Week. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding "Monroe This Week" or the stories below, please contact me at GThomas@MonroeWa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## Be In The Know!

### SR522 Update

This week Councilmember Gamble and I traveled to Olympia to a legislative luncheon hosted by the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County. We had the opportunity to talk with representatives of other organizations about our support for widening SR-522. We also heard from Legislators about the need to widen SR-522. We continue to actively advocate for funding and finishing SR-522.

### Homelessness Meetings

This week I attended two meetings on homelessness. The meetings were held in Everett and included elected officials, agencies, and other interested parties from around Snohomish County. Governor Inslee was the primary speaker at the first meeting I attended. The focus of these meetings was on an approach called "Housing First," which is in use in Utah, Spokane, and Seattle among other places. The program seeks to work with non-profits and/or governmental agencies to develop and operate housing units for people who are homeless. There is a strong interest to begin a similar program in Snohomish County. I will continue to monitor how the program develops and how Monroe might be part of it.

## City of Monroe Year-to-Date Comparisons

*The following are year-to-date comparisons*

### Sales Tax Revenues

'15 to 1/31/15: \$278,286

'16 to 1/31/16: \$308,703

**UP \$30,417 or 10.93%**

### Real Estate Excise Tax

'15 to 1/31/15: \$23,286

'16 to 1/31/16: \$74,152

**UP \$50,865 or 218.44%**

### Lodging Tax Revenues

'15 to 1/31/15: \$3,945

'16 to 1/31/16: \$5,407

**UP \$1,462 or 37.05%**

### Business License Fees

'15 to 1/31/15: \$4,318

'16 to 1/31/16: \$5,229

**UP \$912 or 21.12%**

### Building Permit Revenues

'15 to 1/31/15: \$23,749

'16 to 1/31/16: \$16,374

**DOWN \$7,375 or -31.05%**

### Planning Fee Revenues

'15 to 1/31/15: \$1,950

'16 to 1/31/16: \$1,700

**DOWN \$250 or -12.82%**

### New House Permits

'15 to 1/31/15: 5

'16 to 1/31/16: 2\*

**DOWN 3 units or 60%**

*\*9 new single family permits were submitted in Jan. '16*

### Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'15 to 1/31/15: 0

'16 to 1/31/16: 2 units

**UP 2 units**

### Building Division Inspections

'15 to 1/31/15: 91

'16 to 1/31/16: 131

**UP 40 or 43.96%**

## Planning Commission Meeting

The Monday, February 8, 2016, Planning Commission Meeting will feature a presentation from Mr. Joe Tovar. Mr. Tovar is a former Community Development Director for the Cities of Shoreline, Covington, and Kirkland and also served for twelve years as a member of the Growth Management Hearings Board (a state appeals body which decides on city and county compliance with the Growth Management Act). The presentation will touch on topics such as Planning Commission, City Council and Staff roles in the planning process, the Growth Management Act, zoning, and public participation. Mr. Tovar has been involved in training various groups and organizations including citizens, planning commissions, elected officials and students throughout his forty year career. The public is welcome to attend and learn more about planning issues. The Planning Commission meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Monroe City Hall Council Chambers.

## Downtown Monroe Association

In the latter part of 2015, a group called the Downtown Monroe Association (DMA) formed with the objective of creating a sustainable non-profit "Main Street" organization. While participation in the DMA is growing, the group is actively seeking more members to work towards the creation of a sustainable Main Street Program. This week, the City of Monroe issued a Request for Proposal for a consultant to develop a short-term strategic plan intended to support a financially self-sufficient downtown Monroe Main Street Organization. The Downtown Monroe Association can be contacted at [downtownmonroeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downtownmonroeassociation@gmail.com).

## Park Place Middle School Modernization

This week the Monroe School District submitted its building plans for the modernization of the Park Place Middle School on West Main Street. The project will include renovation and demolition of existing structures as well as new facility space and athletic field upgrades. The work is proposed to be done in phases, to start this summer and to be completed in the summer of 2018.

## Propulsion Cablepark Monroe

H30 submitted the past due rent last week. Groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2016. We will provide updates on the groundbreaking and the project as it develops.

## **Safety Reminder**

With the winter months still upon us carbon monoxide (CO) is always a concern. The odorless and poisonous gas can make a person feel sick and can be deadly. CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Remember to test your CO alarms at least once a month along with your smoke detectors and if the alarm sounds, get out of the house and into fresh air. For more information on preventing CO poisoning visit <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/safety-tip-sheets>

## ***Project Updates!***

### **Tjerne Place SE Extension**

A lot of the underground work has been completed! The contractor is now working to finish the base layer of the new road section.

