



# MONROE THIS WEEK

July 29, 2016 Edition No. 30

**Mayor**

*Geoffrey Thomas*  
[gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)

**Councilmembers**

*Patsy Cudaback*  
*Kevin Hanford*  
*Ed Davis*  
*Jason Gamble*  
*Jim Kamp*  
*Jeff Rasmussen*  
*Kirk Scarboro*  
[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

**City Hall**

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

**Appointment Openings**

No Vacancies

**Job Openings**

Senior Engineer – Development  
Review  
[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

**Events this Week**

- 07/29 *Music in the Park, Dana Osborn Band, Lake Tye Park, 7-9PM*  
*Northwest Wake Surf Open, Lake Tye Park, 8AM-6PM*
- 07/30 *Northwest Wake Surf Open, Lake Tye Park, 8AM-6PM*  
*BBQ Dinner & Dance feat. Moonlight Swing Orchestra, East County Senior Center, 5PM*  
*Central Welding Supply Nascar 125, Evergreen Speedway, 6PM*
- 08/02 *City Council Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM*  
**CANCELLED**  
*National Night Out, Lake Tye Park, 5:30-8:30PM*
- 08/03 *Farm To Table Farmer's Market, Lake Tye Park, 3-8PM*

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](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWa.gov).

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## Be In The Know!

### Blueberry "Pork Chop" on Hold

Thank you to everyone who submitted comments about improvements at the intersection of Blueberry Lane and North Kelsey Street. At the July 26, 2016, City Council meeting, Council moved to hold off on the installation of a "pork chop" at Blueberry and North Kelsey. Council provided direction to staff to have alternatives brought back to improve safety and traffic flow of this intersection. Council also expressed support for more community involvement on how to improve this intersection – both in the near and long term.

Over the next few weeks, staff will be collecting additional information about this intersection and will be going through the comments that we received. Staff and I will then present alternatives to Council for discussion. These alternatives will be available to the public and, before Council makes a decision, there will be opportunity for more public comment on the alternatives.

### SCCIT Meeting regarding SR 522 and US2

Our City Administrator, Gene Brazel, and I attended the Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation (also known as "SCCIT") on July 26, 2016. SCCIT is affiliated with the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County and advocates for transportation projects across all levels of government. SCCIT members are from cities, Snohomish County, the State of Washington, and the private sector. The City of Monroe, the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, and the US2 Safety Coalition are regular attendees.

**City of Monroe  
Year-to-Date Comparisons**

*The following are year-to-date comparisons*

**Sales Tax Revenues**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$1,913,161

'16 to 6/30/16: \$2,128,692

**UP \$215,530 or 11.27%**

**Real Estate Excise Tax**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$265,398

'16 to 6/30/16: \$439,327

**UP \$173,929 or 65.54%**

**Lodging Tax Revenues**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$23,482

'16 to 6/30/16: \$30,044

**UP \$6,562 or 27.95%**

**Business License Fees**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$26,265

'16 to 6/30/16: \$23,984

**DOWN \$2,281 or -8.68%**

**Building Permit Revenues**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$180,616

'16 to 6/30/16: \$366,658

**UP \$186,042 or 103%**

**Planning Fee Revenues**

'15 to 6/30/15: \$52,340

'16 to 6/30/16: \$49,390

**DOWN \$2,950 or -5.64%**

**New House Permits**

'15 to 6/30/15: 37

'16 to 6/30/16: 59

**UP 22 units or 59.5%**

*\*19 permits issued in May 2016 alone*

**Multi-Family Permits (# units)**

'15 to 6/30/15: 13

'16 to 6/30/16: 4

**DOWN 9 units or -69.2%**

**Building Division Inspections**

'15 to 6/30/15: 874

'16 to 6/30/16: 979

**UP 102 or 12.0%**

**(SCCIT continued)**

At the meeting, SCCIT finalized its legislative agenda for the Washington Legislature's 2017 session. SCCIT called out SR522, the US2 Monroe Bypass, and the US2 Trestle as projects SCCIT supports and which require funding. I truly appreciate our partners keeping these projects "front and center."

In addition to the SCCIT meeting, there was more information brought forward from Washington State's Department of Transportation (WSDOT) about "next steps" for SR522. WSDOT is scheduling a meeting to include stakeholders in mid to late September. I am hopeful to have more information to share on this meeting then.

Lastly, please continue to reach out to your representatives at the county, state, and federal level about the importance of widening SR522 and other projects that connect Monroe to I-405 and I-5.

**Downtown Monroe Strategic Plan Survey**

The City wants to hear your thoughts and perceptions about Downtown Monroe. The City is working with a consultant to develop a short term strategic plan for the future of Downtown Monroe. Your thoughts and opinions are essential to this effort. The survey may be accessed through the City of Monroe's website Home Page at [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) and will be on-line until, Friday, August 19, 2016.

**National Night Out Against Crime**

National Night Out Against Crime is next Tuesday, August 2, 2016, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lake Tye Park. Come join the Monroe Police Department, Fire District No. 3, the Department of Corrections, and many businesses and organizations from our Community as we focus on ways to work together to prevent crime. This is a free event with informational booths, games for the kids, fire rescue, police K-9 demonstrations, and free food. See you there!

**August 2, 2016, City Council Meeting Cancelled for National Night Out Against Crime**

The August 2, 2016, City Council meeting is cancelled. Please join me and the City Councilmembers at the National Night Out Against Crime event at Monroe's Lake Tye Park.

## Music In The Park

The Dana Osborn Band is the last group of the series. They put on a fun, high energy show! Come out tonight, Friday, July 29, 2016, at Lake Tye Park for this fun event. This event is FREE! Thank you to the Monroe Chamber of Commerce and Monroe Parks and Recreation for organizing this great event.

Thank you to all the sponsors for the series!

- Windermere
- Community Transit
- Ben Franklin
- Evergreen Speedway
- Mr. Dizzy
- Classic Country 1520 KXA
- Adam's Northwest Bistro and Brewery
- The Dashing Dutchman Deli
- Genesis Refrigeration, Heating and Cooling
- Bill Warburton Insurance Agency

For more information for Music in the Park, [click here!](#)

## Movies Under the Moon

Mark your calendars for the 2016 line-up of Movies Under The Moon! The fun begins Friday, August 5, 2016, at Lake Tye Park. Premiering that night will be *Inside Out*. Come early for activities for the whole family. The movie is set to begin at dusk. This year's line-up includes:

- August 5, 2016 – Inside Out
- August 12, 2016 – Pixels
- August 19, 2016 – Jurassic World
- August 26, 2016 – Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Thank you to our sponsors for the great line-up:

- Monroe Parks and Recreation
- Monroe Arts Council
- Monroe Concert Band
- Monroe Boys & Girls Club
- Monroe YMCA
- Republic Services

## Coffee with Me

My next "Coffee with the Mayor" is Saturday, July 30, 2016, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Main Street Café in Downtown Monroe. Please feel free to drop by to say "hi," share your concerns with me, or share your raves.

## Downtown Swift Sculpture!!

I am excited to report that the City Council approved and authorized me to sign a contract with our artist Kevin Pettelle for the "Wagner Swifts" sculpture that will be installed in downtown around Thanksgiving. Thank you so much to our City Council for their support in bringing artwork to Downtown Monroe.