



# MONROE THIS WEEK

December 9, 2016 Edition No. 46

## 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

*Civil Service Commissioner*

## Job Openings

*Design & Construction Supervisor*  
*Finance Director*  
*Lateral Police Officer*  
*Senior Planner*  
[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

## Events this Week

**12/10** *East County Senior  
Center Holiday Bazaar &  
Craft Fair, 9AM*

*Cascade Christmas  
Bazaar, Cascade  
Community Church,  
10AM*

**12/13** *Boards/Commission  
Recognition Event, City  
Hall, 6:30PM*

*City Council Regular  
Business Meeting,  
City Hall, Council  
Chambers, 7PM*

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!

### SR-522 Update - City Council Meeting, December 13, 2016.

Last year the State Legislature added funding for high level design work for the needed improvements to SR-522. In October and November 2016, Washington's Department of Transportation (WSDOT) convened an agency stakeholder group to discuss short and long term solutions to SR-522. The stakeholder group included staff from the City of Monroe, WSDOT, Snohomish County Council, Community Transit, Economic Alliance of Snohomish County, and other agencies and organizations. WSDOT will be presenting an update at the Monroe City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. The meeting begins at 7PM and the presentation will occur near the beginning of the meeting. I encourage anyone interested in SR-522's improvements to attend this meeting.

**What's next?** We anticipate having a community open house with WSDOT in late January/early February 2017. In the meantime, the City continues discussing the importance of improvements to SR-522 with State-level representatives from different legislative districts and with County-level representatives. I will continue to provide updates on these meetings; and am looking forward to more progress in addressing this regional transportation problem in this next legislative session.

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

*The following are year-to-date comparisons*

**Sales Tax Revenues**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$3,740,803

'16 to 11/30/16: \$4,130,648

**UP \$389,846 or 10.42%**

**Real Estate Excise Tax**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$644,078

'16 to 11/30/16: \$859,553

**UP \$215,476 or 33.45%**

**Lodging Tax Revenues**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$64,134

'16 to 11/30/16: \$76,979

**UP \$12,845 or 20.03%**

**Business License Fees**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$42,586

'16 to 11/30/16: \$42,794

**UP \$208 or 0.49%**

**Building Permit Revenues**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$298,243

'16 to 11/30/16: \$602,615

**UP \$304,372 or 102.06%**

**Planning Fee Revenues**

'15 to 11/30/15: \$61,415

'16 to 11/30/16: \$109,180

**UP \$47,765 or 77.77%**

**New House Permits**

'15 to 11/30/15: 59

'16 to 11/30/16: 120

**UP 61 units or 103.9%**

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

'15 to 11/30/15: 13

'16 to 11/30/16: 4

**DOWN 9 units or -69.2%**

**Building Division Inspections**

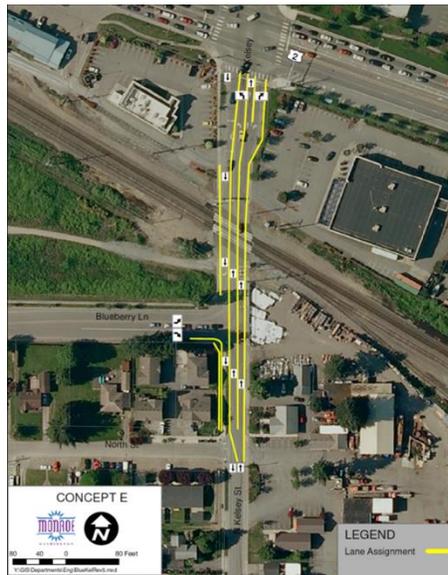
'15 to 11/30/15: 1,574

'16 to 11/30/16: 2,251

**UP 677 or 43.0%**

**Blueberry and North Kelsey Improvements**

At the Council meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, staff presented four alternatives to improve traffic safety and traffic flow at Blueberry and North Kelsey. The staff briefing with all alternatives is available [here](#). It seemed there was a general consensus that, "Alternative E" has some merits; and would improve traffic safety, traffic flow, and could accommodate a stoplight in the future. "Alternative E's" estimated cost is \$457,000. A stoplight, which is "Alternative F," is estimated to cost \$1,211,000.



Our next step will be to present these designs at a community open house on January 12, 2017. This community open house will be an opportunity to talk with staff one-on-one about each alternative, to ask questions, and to share your thoughts. We will then consolidate these comments, including respond to questions, and present that material to Council. Following that, we will talk with Council about selecting an alternative and options to fund the

improvements. Stay tuned.

**Thank you Senator Pearson!!!**

On Thursday, December 1, 2016, I had the pleasure of meeting with Monroe's own, Senator Kirk Pearson. We discussed some of the issues coming up in this legislative session and some of the issues our community is most concerned about including SR522, homelessness, and illegal drug use. We also talked about the need for more tools to enforce drug related laws and for more tools to provide more treatment opportunities for people who are addicted to drugs or have mental or behavioral health issues. We spoke about "capital requests" for our community including State matching funds to develop synthetic turf fields by Fryelands Elementary at Lake Tye. I truly appreciate Senator Pearson's service to our community - Thank you!!

### **Meeting with Representative-Elect John Koster**

I will be meeting with Representative-Elect John Koster next week. Representative-Elect Koster was elected to represent the 39th Legislative District, which includes Monroe. He has served as a State Representative in the past and most recently served for three terms as a Snohomish County Councilmember for County Council District 1. I look forward to talking with him about the City's legislative agenda, particularly: SR-522, a capital request for matching funds for synthetic turf fields next to Fryelands Elementary at Lake Tye, and more tools for counties and cities to address issues related to drugs and homelessness. I also look forward to hearing from Representative-Elect Koster about his goals at the State Legislature.

### **Coffee with the Mayor**

Join me Saturday, December 17, 2016, for coffee. I will be at Paesano's, at 14655 Fryelands Blvd, in Monroe from 8-9:30 a.m. Bring your questions, comments, or just stop by to say "Hi." I look forward to seeing you!

### **Light Up Monroe!!**

Thank you very much to Monroe's Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Monroe Association, the sponsors, and all the volunteers for making Light Up Monroe so successful this year!!

### **2017 Jayme Biendl Memorial 5K Fun Run**

Join us for the 6th Annual Jayme Biendl Memorial Run in Monroe, Washington, that supports families of police and correctional officers killed in the line of duty. This 5K Fun Run/Walk is a family and pet friendly event. The course starts/ends at Sky River Park and winds thru the grounds of the Washington State Reformatory. At the request of the family, proceeds are donated directly to the Behind the Badge Foundation. \$30 entry fee includes t-shirt. Pre-registrants may pick up shirts on run day. Register early to guarantee a shirt. If you register on the day of the race, t-shirt sizes will be limited. You may also register at Monroe Police Department or mail in your registration.