



MONROE THIS WEEK

April 13, 2018 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272 Vol 4/Edition 15
Phone - 360-794-7400



GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

Thank you!

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



MAYOR HAPPENINGS

Rotary

On Wednesday, April 11, 2018, I was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Monroe. I spoke on topics such as SR 522, homelessness response in Monroe, N. Kelsey, the draft legislative agenda for 2019, the community outreach team, and more. Thank you, Rotary Club of Monroe, for allowing me to present at your weekly luncheon. I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you about what we are doing in Monroe and how you can be part of advocating for our community for issues like completing SR522. Thank you for all the work you do in our community - each of you truly lives your motto of "service above self."

Town Hall Meeting

Please come join me this Saturday, April 14, 2018, as I moderate a town hall meeting for Senator Wagoner and Rep. Eslick. The town hall will be held at the Snohomish County Fire District 7 training room in Monroe from 9-10:30 a.m. The address is 163 Village Court. Hope to see you there!

Senior Center Tour

On Friday, April 13, 2018, our City Administrator, Deborah Knight, and I toured the Monroe Community Senior Center. It was a great opportunity to speak with Executive Director Jacob McGee and Outreach Coordinator Candace Ranz about the opportunities and services they provide seniors in Monroe. Thank you for all you do to support our seniors and our community.

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Jason Gamble, Mayor Pro Tem

Patsy Cudaback

Kevin Hanford

Ed Davis

Jim Kamp

Jeff Rasmussen

Kirk Scarboro

councilmembers@monroewa.gov

EVENT HAPPENINGS

04/13 – 04/15	Evergreen RV Show, Evergreen Fairgrounds, 10AM – 5PM
04/13	Town Hall Meeting w/ Senator Wagoner & Rep. Eslick, Snohomish County Fire District 7, 163 Village Way, 9-10:30AM
04/07	Nelson Motorsports Night , Evergreen Speedway, 6PM, \$16
04/17	Transportation Benefit District Special Meeting, City Hall, 6:30PM City Council Regular Business Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7:00PM
04/18	Community Service Awards, Monroe High School, 5:30PM

City of Monroe
Year-to-Date Comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'17 to 03/31/17: \$1,271,570
'18 to 03/31/18: \$1,272,138
UP \$614 or .04%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'17 to 03/31/17: \$206,988
'18 to 03/31/18: \$427,304
UP \$220,316 or 106.43%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'17 to 03/31/17: \$12,878
'18 to 03/31/18: \$13,626
Up \$748 or 5.80%

Business License Fees

'17 to 03/31/17: \$13,071
'18 to 03/31/18: \$13,109
UP \$38 or .29%

Building Permit Revenues

'17 to 03/31/17: \$139,660
'18 to 03/31/18: \$121,081
DOWN \$18,579 or -13.30%

Planning Fee Revenues

'17 to 03/31/17: \$7726
'18 to 03/31/18: \$2650
DOWN \$5076 or -65.70%

SFR Permits YTD

'17 to 03/31/17: 30
'18 to 03/31/17: 30

Multi-Family Permits (#units)

'17 to 03/31/17: 0
'18 to 03/31/18: 0

Inspections YTD

'17 to 03/31/17: 313
'18 to 03/31/18: 146

DMA Presentation

Thank you Downtown Monroe Association for your presentation to the City Council on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. This was their first quarter report and they reported on their new logo, change in leadership, upcoming events, and more. Click [here](#) to read their report. Thank you DMA for all you do!

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

The Tuesday, April 17, 2018, Monroe City Council Regular Business Meeting includes a Proclamation: Earth/Arbor Day, Projects, Contracts, Resolutions, Ordinances, and Department Reports. The Monroe Transportation Benefit District Special Business Meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information.

CITY HAPPENINGS

Monroe Celebrates Earth Day and Arbor Day with Proclamation, Tree Planting Event and Announcements of Heritage Tree Recognition and Living Christmas Tree Programs

To celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day, Students of Mrs. Wood's 3rd Grade Class from Fryelands Elementary School will assist Mayor Geoffrey Thomas and other Monroe Officials in the ceremonial planting of an Arbor Day tree at Lake Tye Park, located at 14964 Fryelands Blvd., Monroe, Washington on Friday, April 27, 2018, at 1:15 p.m. The general location of the tree planting will be near the park concessions building and playground area. This Arbor Day tree planting event will become an annual event.

In the lead-up to the Arbor Day event, a Proclamation will be read at the start of the Monroe City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00pm at the Monroe City Hall, located at 806 W. Main Street.

In the spirit of this event, two new programs will also be announced. The Monroe Park Board is launching a Heritage Tree Program, encouraging residents of all ages to seek out significant trees within the City and nominate them for recognition. Nomination forms for the Heritage Tree contest will be available this fall with a deadline of Dec. 31 to allow the Park Board to review the nominations, select a winner or winners and make the award announcement the following April to commemorate Earth Day and Arbor Day.

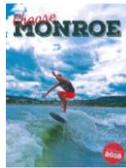
To kick off the Heritage Tree contest, the Park Board and City of Monroe selected the first tree for recognition. The approximately 55-foot high Coast Redwood, estimated to be over 45 years old, is located at Highway 2 and East Main in Traveler's Park will receive Heritage status for its size and rarity in the area. Adorned with lights, it served as the community Christmas Tree last year for Monroe's annual tree lighting and will be used again for the 2018 event.

The City is also launching a Living Christmas Tree replanting program. Starting this year, Monroe residents who use living Christmas trees may donate suitable trees to the city for planting in our parks and open spaces after the holidays.

For more information, contact Mike Farrell at the Monroe Parks Department at 360-863-4557, or visit www.monroewa.gov.

Appointment Openings
LTAC Member (Hotelier)
Ethics Boardmember (3)
Salary Commissioner
www.monroewa.gov/vacancies

Job Openings
Lateral Police Officer
www.monroewa.gov/jobs



Choose Monroe Visitor's Guide

The City of Monroe is excited to be working with Philips Publishing to create a *Choose Monroe* visitors guide! This guide will be mailed out to City residents, distributed around Monroe businesses, Leavenworth, Wenatchee, and the ferry terminals. It will help visitors and residents know the opportunities to Eat, Play, and Stay in Monroe. This will be a twice a year publication; Spring and Fall. If you are a business and want to advertise with us, please contact julie@philipspublishing.com. Have an idea for the editorial content? Contact pamb@monroewa.gov.

Arbor Day Celebration

On, Saturday, April 21, 2018, our Stormwater Coordinator will be attending the Earth and Arbor Day celebration in the City of Duvall. This will be a time to learn about sustainability, ecology, and more. There will be vendor booths, live music, free trees and saplings, and you will have a chance to win a rain barrel. Come out for this fun event held at Depot Park in Duvall (26219 NE Burhen Way) from 11am-2pm. Hope to see you there!



You Ask, We Answer!

Every week the City gets questions asked on Facebook. For those that are not on Facebook here are some questions that we received this last week:

Question/Comment

Please announce to the public the process in which particular roads are picked over others that are desperately in need. I've seen too many over improvements in places not needed. Driving into Monroe any route from the fryelands is bumpy and jolting...i don't get it, and I know of others who would like to know too.

Response

Hi Betsy! Here's what we found out..."In 2015 the City contracted with a company to analyze our streets and rate the pavement condition block-by-block. The results not only provided the scoring, but also recommended which streets should be worked on and what kind of preservation approach should be applied for the ensuing six years. Engineering staff utilize that list as a starting point, and then refine it based on current market cost trends, available budget and preferred treatment styles. Additional considerations include whether or not construction activity is nearby that would impact a resurfaced street, or if other infrastructure needs improving at the same location (e.g., utility upgrades). The final selection is determined by the beginning of the year, after which engineering staff prepare plans to get the work done during the upcoming summer."

Question/Comment

Does the city have any thoughts on why sales tax is basically flat? That seems contrary to everything else.

Response

Hi Matt, Here is a response from our Finance Director, Becky Hasart: While sales taxes for the first quarter seem to be somewhat flat, we are ahead of the weighted budgeted expectation for 2018 by over \$89K. It is still too early in the year to identify trending and consumer shopping trends are hard to predict. 2017's sales tax receipts were a 15.5% increase over the prior year, which is high compared to prior years but did follow the national trend that was expected as

(Response continued) consumer confidence had been growing. My expectation is that because 2017 was such a large jump relative to prior years (prior years' average was 9.4%), 2018 appears more flat relative to 2017. Even if 2018 remains flat relative to 2017, this will still be an increase when considered over a multi-year period.

Have a questions about something? Want an answer? Please contact Executive Assistant Pam Baker at pamb@monroewa.gov. Your question could be featured in our newsletter!