



# MONROE THIS WEEK

March 20, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 10



## TAKE OUT & DELIVERY OPTIONS

MONROE, WA  
RESTAURANTS &  
CURBSIDE PICKUPS AMID  
COVID-19

*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week. Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov).*

*Yours in Service,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "G. Thomas".

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



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## DELIVERY & TAKEOUT OPTIONS AMID COVID-19

Now, more than ever, let's support our local restaurants by utilizing their delivery and carry-out services. Let's support Monroe business! Visit [this Facebook page](#) hosted by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce to learn more.

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## COVID-19 AND FIRE DISTRICT 7

I want everyone to know that through all of the information of the COVID-19 virus spread, Snohomish Fire District No. 7 is working very closely with the City and local agencies to plan.

Currently, they are operating at normal levels and have not seen a spike in emergency calls; and are making plans in case that increases. The crews are being very diligent in cleaning rigs and wearing appropriate protective clothing when seeing patients. They are also planning on how we will continue to serve our communities if the situation changes.

Please continue to listen to the guidelines outlined by the **Snohomish Health District** (see attached flyer); and join us in helping prevent the spread. Most of all, we want you to know we are here for you when you need us.

For additional questions and guidelines [go here](#).



## WATER UTILITY COVID-19 RESPONSE

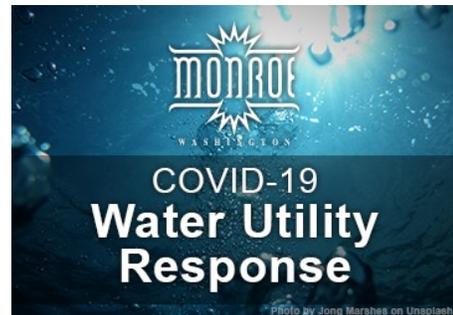
The City of Monroe highly values the safety and health of our residents, businesses, customers, and staff. As a provider of essential utility services, the City is working to assist our customers as coronavirus impacts the region.

The City of Monroe is taking the following steps to help our residential and business customers who might be worried about paying their bills:

- The City will not shut off water services for the month of March.
- The City is encouraging everyone to either pay their bills on-line or use the drop box located just outside the City Hall's front door. Over the phone credit card fees are currently being waived for utility payments.
- The City will work with customers who may fall behind on their utility bills to set up a payment plan. (Payment plans during March will not count toward the aggregate allowed per account). For further information, please call 360-794-7400. Please leave a message with your name, contact information, and account number if available.

The following organizations are available to assist our most vulnerable utility customers:

- Salvation Army 425-259-8129
- Sky Valley Food Bank 360-794-7959
- Take the Next Step 360-794-1022



- St. Vincent DePaul 425-355-3505
  - Volunteers of America 425-259-3192
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## BUSINESS RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

We're here, We're open for business, and We want you to #ChooseMonroe. In February the City sent out letters to fifty wineries throughout Washington State describing the benefits of opening a tasting room or production facility in Monroe: more than 10,000 unique visitors in 2019 who stay in Monroe for more than 10.5 hours on average; located at the cross-roads of three major highways with access to I-5, I-405 and I-90; and permit fee waivers within the City's historic business district.

Monroe continues to develop its position as a commercial hub for the Skykomish Valley with new development and new residents fueling an unprecedented period of growth and seeking more options for entertainment and food choices.

Thanks to the Everett Herald, and reporter Joseph Thompson, for the recent article on the City's efforts to attract wineries, breweries, and distilleries to Monroe. For more information on moving, expanding, or keeping your business in Monroe, contact the City's Economic Development Specialist, James Palmer, at [JPalmer@monroewa.gov](mailto:JPalmer@monroewa.gov). You can find the Everett Herald article [here](#).

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## CITY OF MONROE BUSINESS SURVEY

The 2019 Monroe Business Survey is concluded and results are in; Monroe's unprecedented period of growth continues. The survey polls businesses in Monroe on issues that City officials deal with on a daily basis; public safety, homelessness and other efforts that impact the City's budget. The survey ensures the voice of business gets into the decision making process. The information gathered provides insight into the profile of Monroe's businesses and informs Mayor Thomas and the City Council on the issues most important to our community's employers.

Responses to the survey reveal that the typical Monroe business is a small businesses, providing a service (retail, personal or professional) run by the owner and selling to a local market. The overall consensus is businesses are doing well; Employers are hiring and or stable in their employment and a majority are planning expansions in the next three years. All bodes well for the City in the coming year.

Key issues identified in the survey were – traffic congestion on US 2 and State Route 522; lack of a cohesive identity or brand; a need to focus on branding, marketing and drawing foot traffic to businesses; the need for more diverse businesses including restaurants and entertainment; and a visible homeless population. Mayor Thomas, the City Council, and Economic Development Advisory Board, are working together to address these issues to ensure business continue to choose Monroe.

In 2019 966 businesses were sent the survey, an increase of 33 percent over 2018. In spite of a larger polling, the response rate was down nearly 50 percent. The Economic Development Advisory Board has requested that the 2020 survey include a more robust roll-out and campaign to increase participation in the survey. Thank you to all that participated. To learn more about the survey and to view the results click [here](#).

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## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Monroe City Council Regular Business Meeting will be held March 24, 2020, at 7 p.m. This is scheduled as an on-site/ZOOM meeting and will include a limited agenda. We strongly encourage remote participation. Please view the upcoming Agenda for instructions on how to join.

The March 24, 2020, Council P3 Committee meeting has been cancelled as well as the March 31, 2020, City Council Retreat and the April 7, 2020, Study Session.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

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## YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS

Curious about some of the City's major revenue streams? Don't have time to read through the entire budget? [Here](#) are a few of the City's revenue year-to-date numbers along with their prior year comparisons. If you would like further information, contact the Finance Department at 360-794-7400 and reference Monroe This Week.

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember  
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember  
Heather Rousey



Councilmember  
Ed Davis



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro

Have a question for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

