



MONROE THIS WEEK

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Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition includes details on local mayors supporting #Finish522, the City recruiting for seasonal positions, the latest from the Imagine Monroe Visioning Project, temporary signage guidelines, limited in-building services now available at the Monroe Library, a fire safety reminder from Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, and the Monroe Community Senior Center's Drive-Thru Easter Dinner fundraiser.



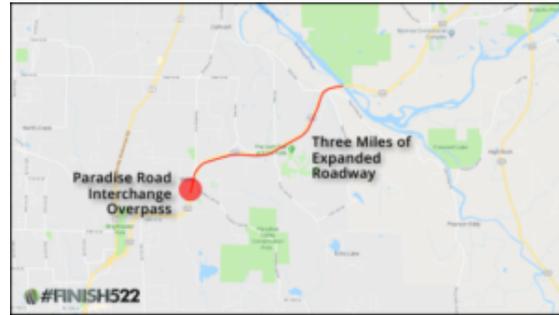
Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

CITIES OF THE SKYKOMISH AND SNOQUALMIE VALLEYS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR #FINISH522

Over the course of the past few weeks, I have held meetings with fellow mayors in neighboring cities to discuss the #Finish522 campaign. As our state House of Representatives and Senate are currently considering transportation funding packages, we agreed to send a letter to our area elected leaders expressing support



for funding of State Route 522 improvements. Last week, I joined with County Councilmember Sam Low and mayors Amy Ockerlander (Duvall), Russell Wiita (Sultan), Bill Clem (Gold Bar), and Norm Johnson (Index) to send [a letter](#) to the chairs and ranking members of the Senate and House Transportation Committees, and to the Representatives and Senators of the 39th and 45th districts. While preparing the first letter, the City of Monroe learned of a federal funding request forthcoming from Snohomish County. These same regional elected officials joined together in [a letter](#) to Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and Representatives Suzan DelBene and Rick Larsen, to support the County's request. The specific improvements that we continue to advocate for, and address in the letters, are:

- Completing the widening of SR-522 from 2 lanes to 4 lanes for 3 miles west of the Snohomish River Bridge (shown in the picture above right)
- Developing the SR-522 interchange with US-2 in Monroe
- Replacing a stoplight at Paradise Lake Road with an interchange

Both letters emphasized that SR-522 improvements are critical to our communities for the mobility of people and freight to and from the I-405 and I-5 corridors and Eastern Washington, as well as for emergency response and for transporting students to and from school.

CITY RECRUITING FOR SEASONAL POSITIONS / LA CIUDAD DE MONROE DESEA CONTRATAR PERSONAL PARA POSICIONES ESTACIONALES

The City is recruiting for seasonal positions in the Public Works and Parks Departments. These positions may last for up to 5 months, and the pay rate is \$18-\$20 per hour,

depending on experience. Typical duties for Parks positions include maintaining grounds and facilities to include mowing, raking, weeding, and janitorial duties. For Public Works positions, typical duties include mowing, painting, traffic control, and providing support for utility maintenance activities. Minimum qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Positions require the use of City vehicles. Individuals must possess a valid Washington State driver's license and have an acceptable driving record. For more information and to apply, please visit the City's [website](#).



La Ciudad de Monroe desea contratar personal para varios puestos de trabajo de temporada en el Departamento de Obras Públicas (Public Works) y en el Departamento de Parques (Parks). La duración de los contratos de los puestos de trabajo podría ser de hasta cinco 5 meses. El pago por hora es de US\$18-20 dependiendo del nivel de experiencia. Las funciones típicas para los puestos de trabajo en el Departamento de Parques incluyen: el mantenimiento de los terrenos e instalaciones, incluyendo cortar el pasto, rastrillar, desherbar y realizar servicios de limpieza. Para los puestos de trabajo en el Departamento de Obras Públicas, las funciones típicas incluyen: cortar el pasto, pintar, controlar el tráfico y proporcionar apoyo para las actividades del mantenimiento de los servicios públicos. Requisitos mínimos: Debe tener por lo menos 18 años de edad. Estos puestos de trabajo requieren el uso de vehículos del municipio. Los candidatos deberán poseer una licencia válida de conducir del Estado de Washington y tener un expediente de conducción aceptable. Para obtener más información y para presentar una solicitud de trabajo, por favor visite [el sitio web](#) de la Ciudad.

IMAGINE MONROE VISIONING PROJECT GUIDES CITY'S LONG-RANGE PLANNING

As I shared a previous edition of [Monroe This Week](#), in December 2020, the City formed a Sounding Board of diverse community members to assist the City with updating its vision, mission, and core values statements. Seeking a name that would inspire all people in Monroe to participate, the Sounding Board recommended calling the project "Imagine Monroe". The Imagine Monroe Visioning Project is a citywide, collaborative, community driven project to guide the City's long-range strategic plans.



The City's current vision statement was adopted in 2015 during the last comprehensive planning process and states the City's desire to: welcome people of all demographics, improve downtown, improve highway commercial districts, leverage connection to Skykomish River, keep neighborhoods vital, safe, and attractive, improve traffic circulation, and keep Monroe

compact. Over the past several years, Monroe has experienced increasing growth with new local businesses opening and more people moving into the area. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented Monroe with new challenges that are not yet fully understood.

Over the next several weeks the City will be working with the Sounding Board to develop a communications and outreach strategy to get feedback on developing a new vision statement for Monroe. Through this public engagement process, the City seeks to better understand: what the City’s new vision statement should include; core values that are important to the community; and why people choose to live, work and play in Monroe.

Feedback collected from the community will be used to create the updated vision, mission and core values statements that will be presented to City Council, finalized, and adopted in September. During the comprehensive planning process, expected to begin in late 2021, the City will use these statements to develop a framework for policy and decision making over the next thirty years. For more information about the Imagine Monroe project, and to sign up to get notices about opportunities to help shape the City’s future statements, visit the [Imagine Monroe project page](#), or type “Imagine Monroe” in the search bar on the City’s [website](#).

CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION EDUCATING ON TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

Temporary signs are a great way for businesses to advertise and attract motorists traveling on Highway 2 and throughout the City. Temporary commercial signs include A-Frames, banners, windows/posters, directional, inflatable, stake signs, and freestanding; these types of signs are regulated by the City and are enforced to keep Monroe beautiful and clutter free. Feather banners, such as those pictured at right, are not permitted in the City.



As spring approaches, the Code Enforcement Division will be focusing on educating businesses about signage and checking that temporary signs are permitted. Temporary commercial sign permits are a no-fee permit and includes a label with an expiration date. Contact the Permit Division for more information at (360) 863-4501, or by email at landuse@monroewa.gov; you can download an application on the City's [website](#).

MONROE LIBRARY RESUMES LIMITED IN-BUILDING SERVICES



The [Monroe Library](#) is now offering limited in-building services to better serve the community. Called "[Grab 'n' Go](#)", the library is adding services while also meeting state public safety guidelines. With a limited number in the building at a time, customers can again browse materials in the library. Customers will be asked to wear face-coverings (including children over the age of 2), and limit their time in the building to 30 minutes. Building capacity is also reduced to make social distancing easier to maintain, and high-touch surfaces are regularly wiped down. The library district currently quarantines returned materials for at least 24 hours. This is the first step in a larger plan by Sno-Isle Libraries to welcome customers back to buildings under Governor Jay Inslee's [Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery](#).

To enter the library, customers must:

- Wear a face covering that covers both the nose and mouth (ages 2+)
- Maintain social distancing
- Limit their visit to 30 minutes
- Maintain customer occupancy limits

The library is continuing to offer contact-free options and 24/7 online services. If you would just like to pick up your holds, please continue to use contact free pick up by calling (360) 651-7192.

THIS WEEKEND IS DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME, BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

Daylight Savings Time starts this weekend, and Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue wants to remind our residents, when changing your clocks make sure you test your smoke alarms. Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old. The National Fire Protection Association reports that three of every five home fire deaths occurred in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. In fires that had smoke alarms present but did not operate, almost half of the alarms had missing or disconnected batteries. Partner with Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue in protecting you and your family by making sure you have properly working smoke alarms in your home. For more information on smoke alarms visit the National Fire Protection Association [website](#).



For more local information visit www.SRFR.org, or contact Public Information & Education Officer Heather Chadwick at hchadwick@snofire7.org or (360)

282-3962.

SENIOR CENTER HOSTING DRIVE-THRU EASTER DINNER

The Monroe Community Senior Center invites you to join them for a Drive-Thru Easter Dinner fundraiser on Friday, April 2 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Proceeds of the dinner, which is sponsored by Adkinson Estates Adult Family Home, will benefit the Senior Center. Meals will include ham, veggies, potatoes, a roll, and dessert. All ages are welcome, and meals are \$10 per dinner. Raffle baskets will also be available. Reserve your dinners by calling (360) 794-6359.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the March 16 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember
Heather Rousey

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at councilmembers@monroewa.gov



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