



Mission

Protect and enhance the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space and trails. Provide citizens of all age's positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.

Department Update

Governor's Office COVID-19 Update:

On January 5, 2021, Governor Inslee announced the [Healthy Washington - Roadmap to Recovery plan](#), which lays out the process to safely reopen Washington state. The plan includes guidance for certain businesses and industries including outdoor recreation activities to help protect Washingtonians and minimize the spread of COVID-19. This plan replaces the Governor's previous Safe Start Reopening Plan

The full Healthy Washington phased chart is available [here](#).

Updated Guidance for Sports, Recreation and Fitness:

- [Fitness and Training](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Water Recreation](#)
- [Sporting Activities: recreational, K-12, higher education and professional](#)
- [Racing: non-motorized and motorized](#)
- [Golf](#)

To find more information about City Operations during the COVID 19 pandemic visit go [here](#).

Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members were busy in March preparing for the increased, spring field use. Regular duties included scheduled maintenance, park improvements and repair work on facilities, equipment and landscaped areas. Specific projects included:

Controller Upgrades: The irrigation controllers on Tjerne Pl. have been damaged by vandalism and rodents over the last several years. The crew consolidated two controllers into one single controller and rewired it.



A concerned citizen reached out to the department to inform us that the spacing of a set of bollards on one of our trail access points in a local development was too narrow to allow for strollers to pass through. Crew members removed one bollard to allow for pedestrian access but still restrict vehicle access.



Left: bollards before, Right: Crew members Tyler Reeves and Bryan Olson work to remove 1 bollard.

A worn shaft on one of our most popular play components at Lake Tye required repair which consisted of the old shaft was cut off and a new section was welded on.



Right: Crew members Matt Donovan and Mike Thomas work to repair the part.

Lastly, the crew aiding the contractor at Lake Tye with field locates. The irrigation mainline point of connection was found at five feet below grade. The new irrigation mainline will be brought up to two feet below grade and will supply irrigation for natural grass areas around the synthetic field as well as continuing to supply irrigation to Field #2.



Lake Tye All-Weather Lighted Fields Project Update

Construction work to date by A-1 Landscaping, Inc contractor includes excavation to subgrade installation of storm drainage, irrigation point of connection and electrical trenching/piping. Current activities include installing concrete base aggregate, light pole foundations and concrete curbs. The project is on schedule, with anticipated completion by September.

This community high-priority parks capital project will renovate two natural grass, single sport-use, unlighted fields, originally built in 1996, to all-synthetic, LED-lighted multipurpose fields, permitting year-round extended competitive play and practice for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, football and rugby. It will improve the capacity, diversity of use and accessibility of two fields at our signature community park.

When the project is completed by this fall, we intend to make access available to the public as much as is practical and that protects our community's \$4 million investment. We intend to allow appropriate incidental uses, as long as such use does not interfere with any scheduled uses, field maintenance, field closures, or negatively affects the integrity of the new facility. Incidental use would be defined as, but not limited to, walking along pathways adjacent to the fields, non-organized, non-league use such as playing catch with balls or frisbee's, kite flying, or informal pick-up games of soccer, football, and softball among friends. As with other athletic fields, pets will not be allowed on the fields, as well as specific restrictions unique to protecting the function of the synthetic turf surface such as no food or drink, spiked shoes, bicycles, etc. We will post rules at the site.



Left: Week 2 progress, Right: Week 6 progress

Arbor Day and Earth Day Tree Planting and Tree City USA Growth Award

On Friday, April 30 a tree planting ceremony will occur at Lake Tye Park in compliance with Governor Inslee's Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery Plan gathering requirements. The event will be recorded live through the City Facebook page, time TBD and announced. During the event, the City will be recognized as a 3-Year [Tree City USA](#), and also receive a [Growth Award](#) for this year. The Tree City USA Growth Award is presented by the Arbor Day Foundation to participating Tree City USA communities that demonstrate higher

levels of tree care and community engagement during the calendar year. The Growth Award recognizes major milestones and annual activities in five categories that combine to build sustainable community forestry programs over the long term. The City of Monroe is receiving the Growth Award for creating and implementing a community [Heritage Tree Program and Living Christmas Tree Donation Program](#). Thank you to Mayor Geoffrey Thomas, our Monroe City Council, Park Board and community members who have supported our efforts in care of and sustaining our public trees.



Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Update

As this project moves from the inventory phase to the strategy phase, a second Joint Park Board/Planning Commission Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 26 from 5pm-6:30pm. Public input opportunities in shaping the goals and strategies of the plan will continue in the form of website and social media posts announcing virtual focus groups/town hall prioritization activities to be scheduled later this spring. Please visit the [PROS Plan Update project web page](#) to view information about the project, planning process, meeting & document library and to join our mailing list or contact us.



City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

In 2017, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2017 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

Locations: Al Borlin Park

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
3/2	8.5	0	
3/9	5	0	

3/16	6	1	1 Camp found at Al Borlin Park. Police Contacted.
3/23	11.5	0	
3/30	8.5	0	
Avg.	7.9	.2	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2020

Volunteer Opportunities

Due to COVID-19 the City of Monroe’s volunteering has been temporarily suspended. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Katie Darrow at (360) 863-4519.

Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information on upcoming programs and events.

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

January 21, 2021

7:00 p.m.

via Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:04 pm, via Zoom online meeting platform.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Tami Kinney, Daniel Enrico, Ron Petrick, Jessie Robinson, Kyle Fisher, Keith Dahlenburg

Board Members Absent: Devlin Piplic

AGENDA REVISIONS – None.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Board Member Robinson, seconded by Board Member Petrick, to approve the January 21, 2021. Motion carried 6-0.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation – City of Monroe Economic Development Analysis Discussion Draft, Spencer Cohen of High Peak Strategies and James Palmer, City of Monroe Economic Development specialist presented High Peak Strategies' City of Monroe Economic and Regional Demand Analysis Discussion Draft to the Park Board. Focus of the presentation centered around findings that tie to parks, recreation and tourism initiatives including development of a riverfront greenbelt and wayfinding connections to the Downtown and their economic benefits. Presentation topics included population growth, opportunities to attract more visitors to stop in Monroe as a 'basecamp' to regional outdoor destinations. Best practices examples were cited including redeveloping real estate for tourism such as regional McMenamins examples in Bothell, etc.

Comments from Board members included the idea of repurposing the old Monroe School District administration building, challenges for travelers to Monroe navigating through traffic corridors and giving up on turning around to explore missed points of interest. Ideas for tourism draws included ropes course, kayak/rafting rentals, yurts, outdoor children's theater event and draws for older people such as golf putting/driving range. The presenters are compiling feedback from their presentations including to other boards and commissions, which will aide in refining a final report.

STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES

1. Monthly Staff Report was provided by the Director of Parks and Recreation, Mike Farrell who presented an update of Governor Inslee's January 5, 2021 Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery Plan; with updated guidance for Sports, Recreation & Fitness. He shared crew work on dog waste station installations, park repairs, Christmas tree donations, the completion of the PROS Plan Update community survey, which received strong participation of 996 responses.

2.

BOARD DISCUSSION - None

AGENCY REPORTS

**Accommodations for people with disabilities will be provided upon request.
Please allow advance notice, call Mike Farrell (360) 863-4557.**

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

Planning Commission – Commissioner Fisher stated that the Planning Commission heard the same Economic Development Analysis Discussion presentation at their last meeting.

Monroe School District- No report.

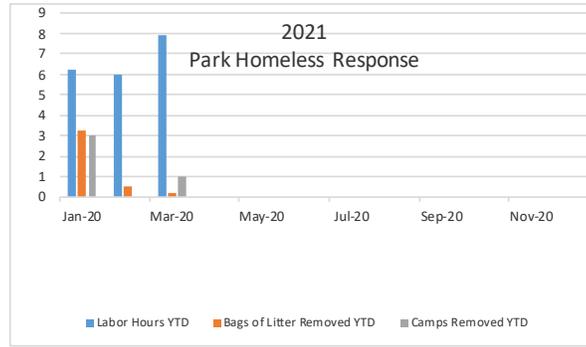
ADJOURNMENT – Board Member Enrico motioned to adjourn and Board Member Robinson seconded, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Tami Kinney, Chairperson

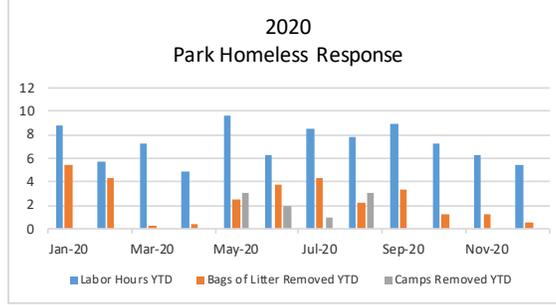
Daniel Enrico, Secretary

**2017-2020
Park Homelessness Response**

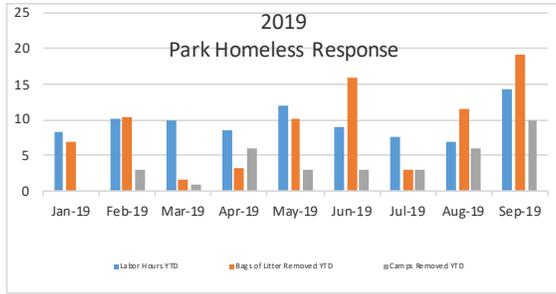
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	6.25	3.25	3
Feb-20	6	0.5	0
Mar-20	7.9	0.2	1
Apr-20			
May-20			
Jun-20			
Jul-20			
Aug-20			
Sep-20			
Oct-20			
Nov-20			
Dec-20			
Total 2021	20.15	3.95	4



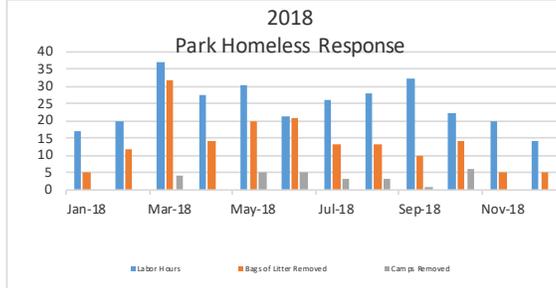
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	8.75	5.5	0
Feb-20	5.67	4.33	0
Mar-20	7.25	0.25	0
Apr-20	4.9	0.4	0
May-20	9.625	2.5	3
Jun-20	6.25	3.75	2
Jul-20	8.5	4.25	1
Aug-20	7.875	2.25	3
Sep-20	9	3.4	0
Oct-20	7.25	1.25	0
Nov-20	6.25	1.25	0
Dec-20	5.5	0.5	0
Total 2020	86.82	29.63	9



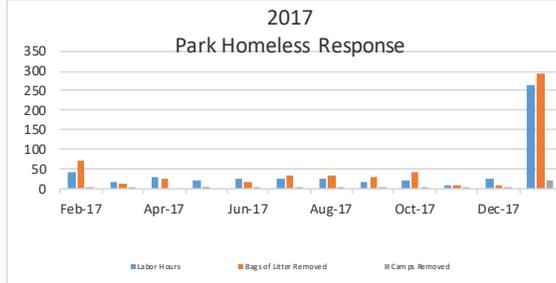
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-19	8.3	7	
Feb-19	10.2	10.3	3
Mar-19	10	1.5	1
Apr-19	8.5	3.25	6
May-19	11.9	10.25	3
Jun-19	9	16	3
Jul-19	7.5	3	3
Aug-19	6.9	11.5	6
Sep-19	14.25	19.25	10
Oct-19	7.3	19.4	6
Nov-19	7.5	0.875	4
Dec-19	7.3	1.2	3
Total 2019	108.65	103.525	48



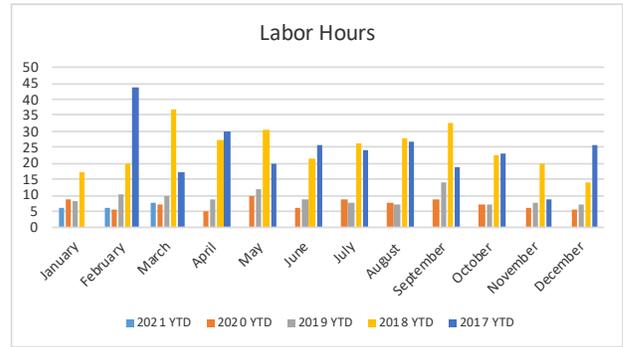
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Jan-18	17	5	0
Feb-18	20	12	0
Mar-18	37	32	4
Apr-18	27.5	14	0
May-18	30.5	20	5
Jun-18	21.5	21	5
Jul-18	26	13	3
Aug-18	28	13	3
Sep-18	32.5	10	1
Oct-18	22.5	14	6
Nov-18	20	5	0
Dec-18	14	5	0
Total 2018	296.5	164	27



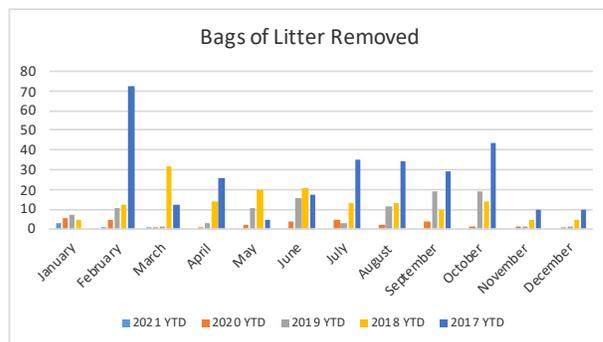
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Feb-17	43.5	72.5	4
Mar-17	17	12	3
Apr-17	30	26	0
May-17	20	5	0
Jun-17	25.5	17	2
Jul-17	24	35	3
Aug-17	26.5	34	3
Sep-17	19	29	2
Oct-17	23	44	1
Nov-17	8.5	10	3
Dec-17	25.5	10	1
Total 2017	262.5	294.5	22



Labor Hours	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	6.25	8.75	8.3	17	0
February	6	5.67	10.2	20	43.5
March	7.9	7.25	10	37	17
April		4.9	8.5	27.5	30
May		9.625	11.9	30.5	20
June		6.25	9	21.5	25.5
July		8.5	7.5	26	24
August		7.875	6.9	28	26.5
September		9	14.25	32.5	19
October		7.25	7.3	22.5	23
November		6.25	7.5	20	8.5
December		5.5	7.3	14	25.5



Bags of Litter Removed	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	3.25	5.5	7	5	0
February	0.5	4.33	10.3	12	72.5
March	0.2	0.25	1.5	32	12
April		0.4	3.25	14	26
May		2.5	10.25	20	5
June		3.75	16	21	17
July		4.25	3	13	35
August		2.25	11.5	13	34
September		3.4	19.25	10	29
October		1.25	19.4	14	44
November		1.25	0.875	5	10
December		0.5	1.2	5	10



Camps Removed	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	3	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	3	0	4
March	1	0	1	4	3
April	0	0	6	0	0
May	3	3	3	5	0
June	2	2	3	5	2
July	1	3	3	3	3
August	3	6	3	3	3
September	0	10	1	2	2
October	0	6	6	1	1
November	0	4	0	3	3
December	0	3	0	1	1

