



# MONROE THIS WEEK

April 30, 2021 • Volume 7/Edition 17



*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes details on the City's request for an alternative Healthy Washington Phasing Plan; the City accepting citizen-initiated Comprehensive Plan Amendment applications; our local recognitions of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Building Safety Month, and National Correctional Officers and Employees Week; a fire safety reminder from Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue; a recap of the Litter Walk event at Lake Tye Park; and a reminder of the ShakeAlert Early Earthquake Warning system.*



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,



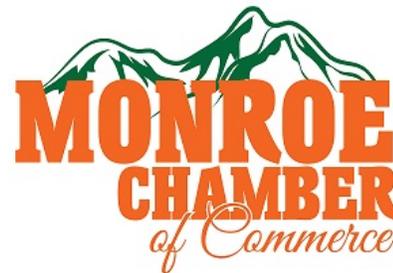
Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## CITY REQUESTS ALTERNATIVE HEALTHY WASHINGTON PHASING PLAN

At the [April 27 Regular Business Meeting](#), I presented to the [Monroe City Council](#) a draft letter for delivery to Governor Jay Inslee, requesting the implementation of an alternative Healthy Washington phasing plan. Our seven City Councilmembers, as well as the President and Executive Director of the [Monroe Chamber of Commerce](#), joined in signing the letter, which was mailed to Governor Inslee's office on Wednesday, April 28.



In this letter, the City and Chamber of Commerce recognize the recent increase in COVID-19 case counts and the need to ensure adequate hospital capacity to treat those cases. While acknowledging both of those important factors, the City and Chamber of Commerce also recognize, and shared with the governor, the need for a pathway forward as vaccines become increasingly available. Collectively, the City and Chamber of Commerce requested the governor develop and implement an alternative phasing plan.



Our City Councilmembers, the Chamber of Commerce, and I are hopeful that an alternative plan can be implemented and our economy further reopened by mid- to late-June. I thank the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce in joining in support of this request. The full text of the letter can be found [here](#).

## CITY ACCEPTING CITIZEN-INITIATED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT APPLICATIONS

As provided for in Resolution No. 2012/020, the City of Monroe is now accepting

“Citizen-Initiated” requests to amend the City of Monroe 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan. The amendments will

## 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan City of Monroe

be considered as part of the City’s 2021-2022 Plan amendment cycle. The deadline for submitting Comprehensive Plan amendment requests for this amendment cycle is **5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 30, 2021.**

Except in limited circumstances provided for in the [Washington State Growth Management Act](#), this will be the only opportunity for amendment requests to be considered during the 2021-2022 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle. The 2021-2022 plan amendment cycle is anticipated to conclude with final City Council action before or during July 2022.

The [2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan](#) is the 20-year development plan for the City and its adopted Urban Growth Area. The Land Use Element includes designations that establish the City’s land use patterns and provides direction for the adoption of zoning and other development regulations. The plan also includes Development Plan Introduction, Vision & Policy Framework, Housing, Capital Facilities & Utilities, Transportation, Economic Development, Parks, Recreation & Open Space, Shoreline & Natural Environment, and Plan Implementation elements. Goals, policies, and action statements in the Plan provide direction for current and future decision making to implement the Plan.

For more information about the process, please contact Amy Bright, Associate Planner, at (360) 863-4533 or [ABright@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:ABright@MonroeWA.gov).

## CITY RECOGNIZES ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

At the April 27 Regular Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council, I issued a Proclamation recognizing the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month has been observed in the United States since 1978. Approximately 50 ethnic groups, speaking over 100 languages with over 1,000



dialects, make up the Asian and Pacific Islander community. It is crucial that *We The People* remember that Americans’ history and America’s experience would not have been realized but for the contributions of people from all different races, cultures, genders, religions, economic classes, and lived experiences, and we are a better people and a better community as a result of the lived experiences that residents and fellow Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry share with our diverse nation.

I invite you to read the text of the [Proclamation](#), and I call upon everyone to:

- Listen to voices of Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry;
- Honor the legacy and memory of their ancestors;

- Acknowledge the injustices that have injured and continue to injure Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry both today and within our nation's history.
- #StopAsianHate by condemning and confronting prejudice, bigotry, and violence against residents and fellow Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry.
- Love our neighbors by working to and realizing liberty and justice for all people.

## MAY IS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH - CITY RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF SAFE BUILDINGS

This week I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of May as Building Safety Month. Here in Monroe, we recognize that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of our homes, buildings and infrastructure. These buildings serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the great work and devotion of diligent professionals. The City of Monroe is especially appreciative of our building and planning professionals, who have maintained a high level of customer service and commitment to public safety throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme of Building Safety Month 2021 is "Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save". I encourage you to read the full text of the Proclamation, which recognizes the essential service provided by our local members of the International Codes Council who ensure the safety of our residents and infrastructure.



## NEXT WEEK IS NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

This week I also issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the week of May 2-8, 2021

### **NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK**

as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. First proclaimed by President Ronald Reagan on May 5, 1984, the first week of May recognizes the men and women who work in jails, prisons, and community correction across the country. Here in Monroe, we recognize the employees of the Monroe Correctional Complex for their role in providing safe, secure, and humane incarceration of offenders within their custody. This year, we are especially appreciative of the high level of service and commitment to public safety these employees have maintained throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. I encourage you to read the full text of the Proclamation, and to pay tribute to the Correctional Employees of the Monroe Correctional Complex for the vital public service they provide.

## FIRE SAFETY REMINDER FROM SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

It is spring and everyone is getting outside to work in the yard. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue wants to remind residents that there are specific regulations within the District when it comes to outdoor burning. To find out if you live within the outdoor burning area, and to learn more about the regulations of outdoor burning, visit SRFR's [website](#). Burn permits can also be purchased online at SRFR's website.



For more information, contact Public Information & Education Officer Heather Chadwick at [hchadwick@snofire7.org](mailto:hchadwick@snofire7.org) or (360) 282-3962.

## LAKE TYE SPRUCED UP THANKS TO LITTER WALK

As I mentioned in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), [Republic Services](#) and [Sherwood Community Services](#) joined forces to host a Litter Walk on Monday, April 26 at Lake Tye Park. This event was part of April's Earth Day Celebrations, and participants received information on best practices for recycling items in the residential blue bins, and fun snacks to close out the event. We sincerely thank all the volunteers who helped beautify the Park.



## REMINDER: EARLY EARTHQUAKE WARNING SYSTEM GOES LIVE ON TUESDAY

Have you signed up for ShakeAlert notifications yet? As I shared in a recent edition of [Monroe This Week](#), the ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning system [will go live in Washington](#) on Tuesday, May 4. Rollout in Washington will complete the implementation of this new technology along the entire West Coast. It's important to note that ShakeAlert is not an earthquake prediction system; it detects earthquakes that have already begun, rapidly estimates the shaking they will create,



and sends an alert to areas which will receive shaking. Alerts will be sent over the commercial cellular systems. To check that your mobile device has emergency alerts activated, follow [these steps](#).

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The May 4, 2021 Monroe City Council Study Session Meeting has been CANCELLED.

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the May 11 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](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)



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