



# MONROE THIS WEEK

April 8, 2022 • Volume 8/Edition 14



*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes a reminder of the upcoming ARP application deadline, and details on next week's State of the City Address, an award nomination for a Monroe resident, the City's updated website design, our community's continued recognition as a Tree City USA, recruitment efforts of Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue, and a recap of the April 5 City Council meeting.*



*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

## ARP APPLICATION DEADLINE NEXT WEEK

The deadline to apply for American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds is next Friday, April 15 at 4:30 p.m. ARP provides federal relief funds to states, counties, cities, and towns. The City of Monroe is accepting applications from local businesses, not-for-profit service providers, individuals/households, and other agencies for projects that will benefit the Monroe community.



This is the second round of funding the City is making available through ARP funds, and \$1.3 million is available. Last year, the City Council approved a plan to distribute ARP funds in multiple rounds, with projects being categorized into one of three categories:

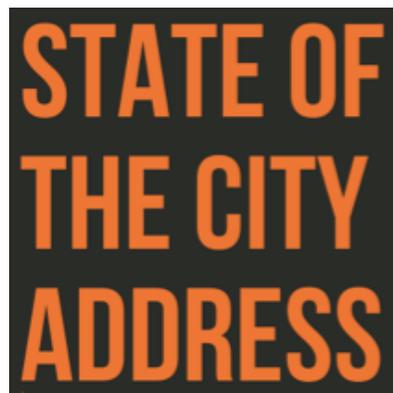
1. Supporting Community
2. Reconnecting Community
3. Building Resiliency

In addition to these Project Categories, applications must align with a federal [expenditure category](#).

Please see the City's [ARP Funds page](#) for additional details, eligibility criteria, and application process.

## STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS NEXT TUESDAY

Next Tuesday, April 12, I will deliver the annual State of the City Address at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon meeting. In the address, I will provide updates on the City's strategic plans and goals for 2022, and a recap of accomplishments from 2021. The meeting is open to all, and lunch will be provided. If you would like to attend, the Chamber asks that you [register online](#), so enough food for all can be ensured.



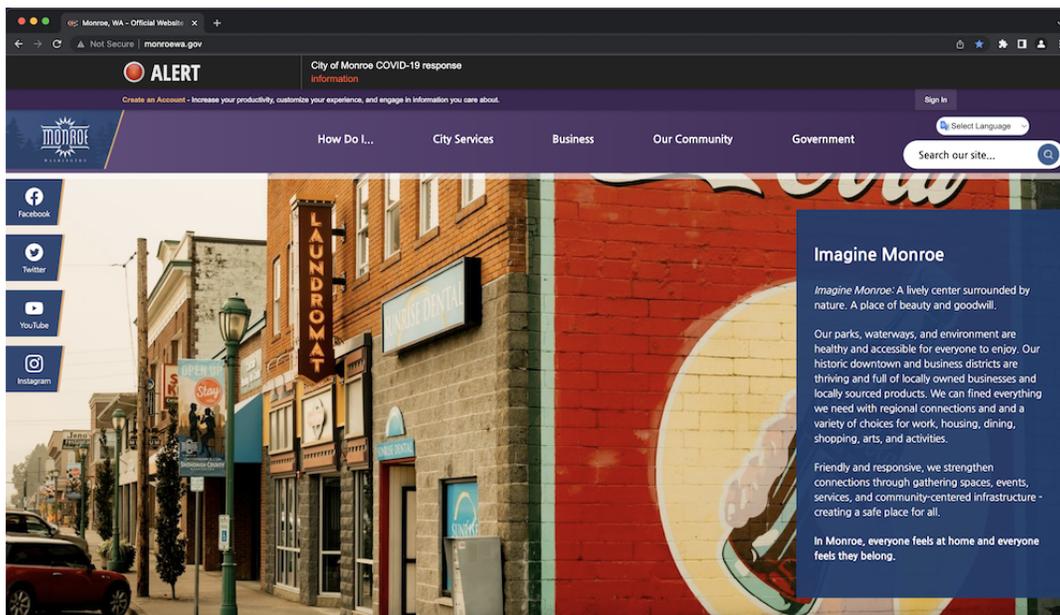
## MONROE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER NOMINATED FOR EMERGING LEADERS AWARD

Monroe resident and [Community Human Services Advisory Board](#) member Lynsey Gagnon has been nominated for the Everett Herald's 2021 Emerging Leaders award. The annual Emerging Leaders award seeks to highlight and celebrate people who are doing good work in Snohomish County. Lynsey is the Executive Director of the Volunteers of America Community Resource Centers, and was nominated for her management of the East Snohomish County Cold Weather Shelter. When the previous management was unable to continue operating the Shelter, Lynsey stepped in and developed a collaboration between the City of Monroe, the Snohomish County Human Services Division, and the Medical Reserve Corps to ensure the shelter was open, fully-staffed, and socially distanced to support volunteers and guests. I extend sincere thanks to Lynsey for her excellent management of the shelter and contributions to our community, and congratulations on her nomination. I encourage you to read the full Everett Herald article [here](#).



## CITY UNVEILS NEW WEBSITE DESIGN

The City of Monroe recently unveiled an updated website design. Available on our homepage at [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov), and consistent throughout all interior pages, the updated design incorporates the City logo in the upper left corner (replacing the textual "Monroe, WA") and a translation feature in the upper right corner; places our *Imagine Monroe* vision statement front-and-center; adds additional colors from the City's brand color palette; utilizes an easier to read and navigate calendar; and includes two swifits on the edges for a touch of what makes our community unique. Thank you to our dedicated City staff members who coordinated this project to update our website and make it more user friendly!



## MONROE RECEIVES TREE CITY USA STATUS AGAIN

The City of Monroe has been recognized as a 2021 **Tree City USA**. Cities can receive Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management:

- Maintaining a tree board or department
- Having a community tree ordinance
- Spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry
- Celebrating Arbor Day



Over the last few years, it has become increasingly clear of the value and importance that trees hold for our future. The City of Monroe is excited to maintain our Tree City USA status. We will hold our annual Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebration on Friday, April 29; details on the celebration will be included in next week's edition of *Monroe This Week*.

## INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Are you interested in a career in emergency services? **Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue** hopes to hire approximately 40 more firefighters over the course of this next year. SRFPR invites you to reach out to them at [CommunityRelations@SRFR.org](mailto:CommunityRelations@SRFR.org) to learn about opportunities and the path to becoming a firefighter, EMT, or paramedic. If you already work in fire and emergency services, SRFPR will open recruitment and will be accepting applications around August or September this year, through the National Testing Network. Check their website (linked above) and social media for updates and details when posted.



Adventurer. Dog lover. Instructor. Firefighter/EMT. [Learn more](#) about Jessica Hanna, one of SFRF's skilled firefighters that serves the residents of Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue's service area.

## APRIL 5 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

City Administrator Deborah Knight asked Councilmembers if they were interested in signing a letter of support for the Chamber of Commerce in support of an artistic wrap on the utility box at the intersection of Lewis & Main streets; all council members present expressed support for the project.



Ms. Knight also announced that:

- Council meeting recordings are now being uploaded to the City's [YouTube](#) channel.
- The new Skykomish and Snohomish River Valley regional tourism magazine launched this week.
- Matthew Campbell has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Sky Valley Food Bank, succeeding Cindy Chessie who is retiring.
- Staff members Dale Olson and Scott Hawkins will be retiring after careers with the City of 32 years and 21 years, respectively.

Discussion Items:

- Public Works Director Jakeh Roberts gave a presentation on the proposed ownership transfer and long-term ground lease of the Boys and Girls Club building.
- City Administrator Deborah Knight presented the draft 2023-2027 strategic priorities and plan.
- Finance Director Becky Hasart led a discussion about moving to a biennial City budget, and gave a presentation to review funding source options for Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects and municipal campus renovations.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings both in-person at City Hall and remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the April 12 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

# CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Ed Davis



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Kinney



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

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



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