



# MONROE THIS WEEK

September 9, 2022 • Volume 8/Edition 36

## BACK TO SCHOOL



*Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.*

*This week's edition includes a few reminders for the first week back to school, and details on: the high fire danger in our area this weekend, how City departments are getting local feedback, the Free Youth Transit Pass available now, the Snohomish County Transportation Coalition's survey to improve mobility, the return of VFW Post 7511's Flags for Our Fallen golf tournament, and the upcoming open house at Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue.*



*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 blue ink, appearing to read "G. Thomas".

## BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

I would like to remind everyone that school is back in session. Effective September 7, 2022, speed limit signs in school zones were posted to 20 mph between 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please watch out for children walking and crossing the street, and try to limit distractions in your vehicle while driving. Thank you for your cooperation in observing a slower speed during the school day.



The return of school also comes with the return of our School Resource Officer. Officer Craig Robertson will be serving the students and staff at Monroe High School, continuing another year of strong partnership between the [Monroe School District](#) and [Monroe Police Department](#). The police department and myself would like to wish everyone a safe and productive school year.



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## HIGH FIRE DANGER THIS WEEKEND

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources is expecting an east wind event over the weekend that, paired with already-critical fire weather conditions, could result in severe wildfire activity around the state.

The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for our area from now through Saturday. A Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either imminent or occurring now. Any fires that develop will likely spread quickly. Outdoor burning is not recommended. Here are some safety tips I suggest everyone keep in mind this weekend:

- Properly discard cigarettes
- Keep vehicles off of dry grass
- Avoid activities with open flames or sparks
- Avoid power equipment that creates sparks
- Obey burn bans
- Evacuate if fire/smoke is heading your way, or if ordered to do so by local officials

# HIGH FIRE DANGER



**Red Flag Warning**

-  **Friday through Sunday**
-  **Cascades, Olympics and most lowland areas of western WA**
-  **Hot, Dry, Windy and Unstable Conditions**
-  **Heed all fire restrictions  
Use caution with fire triggers  
(grills, cars, campfires, etc.)**

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
4:00 PM - Wednesday, September 7, 2022

## CITY DEPARTMENTS WELCOME LOCAL FEEDBACK

As I mentioned in a recent edition of *[Monroe This Week](#)*, Community Development Department staff have been hitting the streets and talking to folks at local events like the Monroe Farmer's Market and National Night Out. They brought forward three big questions and some of the most common answers were:



**What do you like most?**

The parks, the nature surrounding us, and the sense of community.

**What do you like least?**

The traffic, the US-2/SR-522 interchange, and not enough restaurants.

**What's the one change you would make?**

A larger variety of retailers, address homelessness, finish 522, and more housing options.

Having these conversations with our neighbors has been a great way to get real-time feedback, especially with large Comprehensive Plan updates underway. The best way to serve our community is by hearing what it wants! So, what about you? What do you love about our community, and what are your dreams for its future? Feel free to comment your answers below or send us a message through Monroe Listens on [our website](#).

## FREE YOUTH TRANSIT PASS BEGINS THIS MONTH

As of September 1, 2022, people 18 and younger can take transit for free thanks to Move Ahead Washington, a statewide transportation funding

package. Riders age 13 - 18 are encouraged to use an ORCA card or current school ID if they have one. **Community Transit** is partnering with many local school districts so that students will soon be able to get ORCA cards at school. Youth who do not have a card can still ride for free, and children age 12 and under do not need a card.



All you have to do is “tap” your card when you board the bus or at the Swift station before the bus arrives. On Sound Transit light rail, just “tap” when you exit! Across the Puget Sound region, youth can ride free on any of the following transit agencies:

- Community Transit
- Everett Transit
- King County Metro
- King County Water Taxi
- Kitsap Ferries
- Kitsap Transit
- Pierce Transit
- Sound Transit
- Washington State Ferries

For more information, please visit <http://freeyouthtransitpass.com>.

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## SNOTRAC SURVEY TO HELP IMPROVE MOBILITY

Do you walk, bus, or rideshare? Maybe you'd like to see more options for public transit? Snohomish County Transportation Coalition is looking for the public's input to better understand and identify the transportation needs of the US-2 Corridor, from Snohomish to Skykomish. Through September, you can follow [this link](#) to complete the survey and share your experience and thoughts.



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## FLAGS FOR OUR FALLEN GOLF SCRAMBLE RETURNS

[Ward Roney, Jr. VFW Post 7511](#) is hosting

their 2nd annual fundraiser golf scramble on Saturday, October 8 at Echo Falls Golf Club. There are plenty of slots still available in the tournament for both players and sponsors. The shotgun start is at 8:00 a.m., with fun side games, award presentations, and food to follow! I invite all to support the Post and their mission to offer help and to advocate for all veterans and their families, our military, and local community. You can learn more about the event and register [here](#).



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## UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE AT SRFR

[Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue](#) (SRFR) is excited to invite the public to their annual open house on October 15 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Station 31. There will be station tours, informational booths, badge pinning, an auto extrication demo, and fun activities for kids and adults. Come learn about your fire department and meet some of the men and women that serve our community with SRFR.



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## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 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 September 13 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)



City of Monroe | (360) 794-7400 | 806 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272

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