



MONROE THIS WEEK

June 16, 2023



This week I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Juneteenth here in the City of Monroe. On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States. Word of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed in reaching authorities and African Americans in the South and Southwest by some two and a half years, to June 19, 1865. This date is now recognized nationally as the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States.



Juneteenth is a day to celebrate the innumerable contributions that Black and African Americans have made to enrich the lives of every American, to acknowledge and express thankfulness for these contributions, and to recognize how Black and African Americans continue to make America a better place and to make us better people. It's important for us to recognize and take authentic actions to reform policies, practices, and cultural norms that harm and discriminate against Black and African Americans, especially

within our cultural and our financial, legal, justice, and political systems. I encourage you to read the full text of the Proclamation, and to become more familiar with the significance of this celebration in African American history and in the heritage of our nation and city.

I also want to wish a Happy Father's Day to all the amazing dads out there!

I hope you all enjoy this week's edition of Monroe This Week which features details on:

- The Juneteenth celebration tomorrow
- A road closure taking place the rest of June
- The 2023 Annual Paving Project
- Celebrating the Fourth of July safely
- The completion of the US-2 Shared Path
- The Evergreen State Fair Food Drive

Please reach out to me with what may be on your mind about and for Monroe. I can be contacted at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours in Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION TOMORROW

Monroe Equity Community has proudly supported, sponsored, and promoted Monroe's Juneteenth public celebrations since June 2020. Join the celebration tomorrow, June 17 from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Sky River Park where you can enjoy music, performance art, food, vendors, and entertainment paired with education. Learn more about the history of Juneteenth [here](#).



FULL ROAD CLOSURE THROUGH THE END OF JUNE

The construction at Blueberry Park will require a full road closure until June 30. The hours of closure will be 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Blueberry Lane will be closed west of King St. to the westside of Killarney Circle. Access to the Terra Apartments and Killarney Circle will still be available to local residents only. No through traffic will be



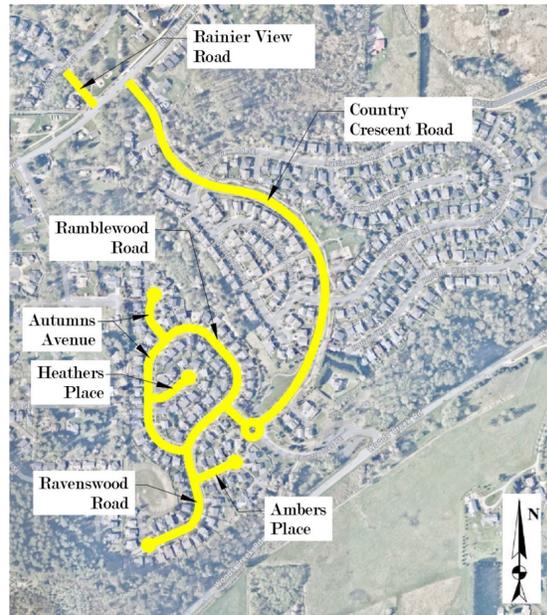
permitted. Detour routes will be provided with appropriate signing and traffic will be routed south along Columbia St. to avoid the construction. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Detour Traveling East: For residents traveling east on 154th, take a right turn onto 182nd Ave SE. Then take a left onto W Columbia St. At the T with Kelsey St., take a left and you are returned on your normal route.

Detour Traveling West: For residents traveling south on Kelsey and west on Hill St., head south along Kelsey until you reach W Columbia St. Take a right and follow until 182nd Ave SE. Take a right. At the stop with 154th St., take a left and you are back on your normal route.

2023 ANNUAL PAVING PROJECT

Beginning Tuesday June 20, the City of Monroe will be constructing our 2023 Annual Paving Project in the area depicted on the map (yellow lines). The streets affected include: Ramblewood Rd SE, Ravenwood Rd SE, Autumns Ave SE, Heathers Pl SE, Ambers Pl SE and Rainier View Rd. The community can expect sidewalk ramp upgrades to be accomplished first, then the grinding away of old pavement, followed by placing a new layer of asphalt. Construction is estimated to run into August. For more information, please visit the [project page](#).



CELEBRATE THE FOURTH SAFELY

We join our public safety partners in encouraging you to celebrate July 4 safely this year and every year. For Monroe residents, please keep the following in mind:

- The sale of consumer fireworks (e.g., Roman candles, rockets, sparklers, firecrackers) is allowed within city limits from July 1 through July 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- The discharge of consumer fireworks is allowed within city limits on July 4 from 9:00 a.m. to midnight.
- The discharge of fireworks on City property, including parks and parking lots is against the law. Discharging fireworks on school-owned property and county, state, and federal parkland is also illegal.
- Call 9-1-1 to report a fire caused by fireworks, injury from fireworks or the illegal making of fireworks.



- Call Snohomish 911's non-emergency line at **425-407-3999** to report the illegal discharge, discharge outside the allowed hours, and lighting fireworks in a banned area.

In the coming weeks, more information about fireworks rules and safety will be shared on the [City's Facebook](#) site and [webpage](#). Additionally, homes will receive a newsletter from [Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue](#) that contains fireworks safety information.

While it is legal to purchase and discharge consumer fireworks within Monroe city limits, the City, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, and the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office receive many calls associated with unsafe and illegal use of fireworks. Please consider alternatives to igniting fireworks (e.g. glow sticks) to "light up" your July 4 celebration this year.

US-2 SHARED PATH NOW OPEN

You may remember from recent editions of *Monroe This Week* that the City has been working on a paved path along the north side of US-2, from 179th Avenue SE to Cascade View Drive. I'm excited to announce that the path has been completed and is now open for use! This path allows pedestrians, bicyclists, and other users to easily travel along the highway. Supporting [Imagine Monroe](#), this project increases "community-centered infrastructure" and helps to create "a safe place for all".



EVERGREEN STATE FAIR FOOD DRIVE RETURNS

[The Evergreen State Fair](#) is excited to continue their partnership with [Lee Johnson Auto Family](#) for the annual Fair Food Drive! From June 15 - July 7 at various Lee Johnson Auto Family locations, you can donate 5+ non-perishable/unexpired items and receive 1 Weekday Gate Admission Ticket to the 2023 Evergreen State Fair! You can also join them on July 8 at the Evergreen Fair Park for the drive-thru food drive. All items donated will benefit the [Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition](#).

There is a limit of 5 tickets per car at their drive-thru event. Ticket quantities are limited and will be first come, first serve. You can find out more about the food drives [here](#).

EVERGREEN STATE FAIR FOOD DRIVE

JUNE 15 - JULY 7, 2023

BRING

5 Nonperishable Items



Items donated benefit the Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition

TO



RECEIVE



Ticket Quantities Limited

OR

JULY 8 - Noon - 5pm
Evergreen State Fair Park (West Parking Lot)
Monroe, WA

Sponsored by



★ THE ★
Evergreen
STATE FAIR

MONROE WA
AUG 24-29 & AUG 31- SEPT 4, 2023
EVERGREENFAIR.ORG

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, June 20. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings either in-person at City Hall or remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the June 20 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



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