



MONROE THIS WEEK

July 28, 2023



Last Friday was Parks & Rec Professionals Day and I want to introduce you to our team! Our parks and recreation staff consists of a core maintenance and operations group of 8 that manages 17 parks with 288 acres, 23 trails comprised of 14 miles, 14 sports fields, 12 playgrounds, 7 sports courts, and 7 picnic shelters. They also help facilitate 30+ events a year. Our admin staff of 4 facilitates those 30+ events, manages over 1,600 facility reservations, plans upgrades to our 17 parks, and works to acquire new park, trail, and open space areas within the city. Thank you to our amazing staff for keeping Monroe so beautiful!



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

- *The City Hall temporary relocation*
- *National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday*
- *The completion of the Powell Street reconstruction*
- *The extension of our Community Court program*
- *Registration for the Monroe Fair Days Parade*

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

CITY DEPARTMENTS BEGIN TRANSITION TO TEMPORARY CITY HALL

City Hall staff are transitioning to the temporary location at 14841 179th Ave SE, Suite 320 this month in preparation of the remodel of the Administrative Wing of the **Municipal Campus**. Monroe Municipal Court will temporarily relocate to the Public Works/Parks & Recreation Building located at 769 Village Way. The relocation of personnel is occurring in phases.



Starting Monday, July 31, **the Community Development Department** will be open to the public at the temporary location. Core department services and functions include: land use, development, building, engineering and fire **permits**; long-range planning, including the **Comprehensive Plan Update**; development projects (e.g. subdivision, site plan review, conditional use permits) code enforcement; and permit inspections.

The Community Development Department offers online **inspection requests** and electronic **building permit submittals**. Counter service is available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Staff can be reached on Fridays by telephone only from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For an up-to-date schedule of departments moving to their temporary locations, go to the **Municipal Campus Improvement Project webpage**.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME TUESDAY

Join me and the community to kick off the annual National Night Out Against Crime this coming Tuesday, 5:30pm at Lake Tye Park. **Rotary Club of Monroe**, **Monroe Police Department**, **Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue**, and the City of Monroe all come

together to host this event. This free, family, fun evening will have food, Police & Fire obstacle courses, over 70+ vendor booths, a scavenger hunt for kids, bouncy houses, games, and more. Don't miss the opportunity to meet your first responders and local business owners while enjoying an evening at the lake.



CITY COMPLETES POWELL STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Powell Street between South Kelsey and South Sams Street is sporting a new “Complete Street” look. The street was reconstructed by removing existing roadway and the sidewalks on the south side and installing new ones. Additionally, sewer and water utilities were upgraded and new street curbs, planter strips along the north side, and accessibility curb ramps were installed.

City staff worked with neighbors and community members in identifying a preferred alternative that met City roadway standards while addressing concerns about speeding and pedestrian safety.

For new construction, retrofit, or reconstruction projects, the City’s “Complete Streets” code allows for the design and construction of a road so that it can be used by pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, motorists, emergency responders, freight, and users of all ages and abilities. The City appreciates the patience and support of surrounding neighbors throughout construction.

The [Powell Street Reconstruction project](#) is partly funded by the [Monroe Transportation Benefit District](#) (TBD). The TBD was approved by Monroe voters over 10 years ago as a separate taxing district that collects 0.2% sales tax from purchases made in Monroe city limits. Revenue from this sales tax strictly funds transportation improvement projects. The renewal of the TBD sales tax will be on the Nov. 7 general ballot.

Powell Street: Before and After Reconstruction



2021



2023

COMMUNITY COURT PROGRAM EXTENDED

Monroe is fortunate to have a unique program that works with [Community Court](#) participants to problem solve their personal challenges that lead them to break the law so that they do not repeat offending. Community Court was piloted in 2022 thanks to funding from the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Additional funding was awarded that extends the program through June 2024.

I could not agree more with Judge Ness statement that “Our program’s success is attributed to the diligent collaboration between the community court participant and their attorney, city prosecutor, probation counselor, court administrator, and social services providers.”

We are grateful for the work of Municipal Court staff, the willingness of participants and their attorney to participate, and the service providers who support participants even after completing the program. Please read more in a recent [news release](#).



REGISTER FOR THE FAIR DAYS PARADE TODAY

Gather up your friends, family, coworkers, or neighbors and head on down to the 86th Annual [Monroe Fair Days Parade & Market](#) on August 26!

If you are a business owner or part of a community group, this is the perfect opportunity to showcase what you do and get some great exposure. If you would like to participate in the parade, the Chamber of Commerce asks that you register before the deadline of August 1. Please register [here](#).



If you have any questions or need assistance, please email KWarren@ChooseMonroe.com. Don't miss out on this amazing family-friendly event. We can't wait to see you there!

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The August 1 City Council Study Session has been CANCELLED. The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, August 8. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings either in-person at our [temporary location](#) or remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the August 8 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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