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## Mission

**Protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space, and trails. Providing residents of all ages positive opportunities for recreation and social gathering in clean, safe, accessible, and inclusive facilities and green spaces. Enhancing health, quality of living, and the natural environment for present and future generations.**

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## Department Update

### Operations

In August, the parks maintenance crew worked on setting up large events like National Night Out and Lake Tye Tri. Crew members often worked early mornings starting at 5am throughout the month to water flowers during the hot weather, and late nights on Fridays for the Movies Under the Moon series. Maintenance projects this month included replacing flags on the Main Street poles, replacing and adjusting boards on the Lewis Street pedestrian bridge, a Poured-in-Place patch at the Sky River playground, homeless garbage cleanup and Al Borlin Park, electrical fixes on the lighting systems in the parks, turf grooming and repair on the Lake Tye Synthetic Turf fields, weeding Main Street medians in preparation for the parade and fair traffic, two valve replacements for the Sky River Park irrigation system, and the replacement of two water hydrants at the JVM Garden. We also had a volunteer assist with painting the parking bollards in the south lot at Sky River Park. With the assistance of SRFR, a "Borrow a Lifejacket" program was installed at Lake Tye Park and will be available to all community members starting next summer season.



Installing the hangers for the lifejacket program.

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## Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact Makenna Ohlsen at (360) 863-4559. Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information on upcoming programs and events.

## August Events

August was jam-packed with events, including another outstanding **National Night Out** that took place at Lake Tye Park on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. There was great attendance from the community, as well as support from Police, Fire, and City staff. Special thanks to the contributing community partners, including Rotary Club of Monroe for organizing the event.



Following National Night Out, **Lake Tye Tri** occurred on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. 432 participants raced, which was the second highest turnout for the event. This USA Triathlon sanctioned race is hosted by Finish Strong Events and offers sprint, Olympic, and youth triathlons. The races are great for all levels of competition, from beginners to elite.

Special thanks to our partners: Monroe Community Band, Wild Style Gym, Monroe Arts Council, Sno-Isle Libraries, Republic Services, and the YMCA for their contributions to **Movies Under the Moon** every Friday night in August at Lake Tye Park. Our movie line-up included Minions: The Rise of Gru, The Croods: A New Age, Top Gun Maverick, and Black Panther: Wakanda Forever. Families gathered together for this free movie series and the weather held for each night!

**A Walk to Remember** was hosted by The Compassionate Friends of Snohomish County at Sky River Park on August 12<sup>th</sup>. This event supports those who have lost a child and supports grieving families. The event is on its second year, and we look forward to providing our parks facilities to keep this event continuing for the community.

**MOVIES UNDER THE MOON**

**FREE OUTDOOR MOVIES!**  
Fridays in August at dusk  
Showtime: 9pm  
Fun pre-show activities at 8pm  
Lake Tye Park, Monroe

Park-side bites serving concessions for purchase

August 4th	August 11th	August 18th	August 25th
PG • 90 minutes	PG • 95 minutes	PG-13 • 131 minutes	PG-13 • 134 minutes

MCB  
 MONROE ARTS Council  
 SNO-ISLE LIBRARIES  
 REPUBLIC SERVICES  
 the Y

**The Fair Days Parade & Market** rounded out the August event schedule on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Public works assisted the Chamber of Commerce with the road closure of West Main Street from 179<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to Blakeley Street for the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Fair Days Parade. This parade had over 70 floats, and our very own JVM Garden won 1<sup>st</sup> Place for their incredible float!



Photo from Friends of JVM Food Bank Garden Facebook Page

### Trails Master Plan Open House

Save the date for our Trails Master Plan Open House where we will be discussing how this new plan will establish a framework for improving, growing, and maintaining Monroe's network of trails over the next two decades. The Trails Master Plan will help guide City decision-making, set priorities, and direct the use of resources so that Monroe has a great trails system for all to enjoy. Join City staff, Snohomish County staff, and our consultants, MacLeod Reckord and Consor Engineering in this interactive Open House. Pizza and refreshments will be provided for this family-friendly event.

**When:** Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 6pm-8pm

**Where:** Park Place Middle School Commons, 1408 W Main Street Monroe

**MONROE**  
WASHINGTON

## Monroe Trails Master Plan

### Public Meeting

SAVE THE DATE!  
Thursday, September 21, 2023

Learn more about the process by attending the public meeting!  
Join in discussions about the future of Monroe trails.

Let us know if you need translation or interpretation services.  
Contact: Makenna Ohlsen | [mohlsen@monroewa.gov](mailto:mohlsen@monroewa.gov) or (360) 863-4559

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Park Place Middle School Commons  
1408 W Main Street in Monroe

Visit the project website to learn more about upcoming surveys and events.  
• <https://www.monroewa.gov/1164/Trails-Master-Plan-Project>

Family-friendly event, all are welcome! Pizza & refreshments are provided.

**City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections**

In 2017, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2019 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

**Locations: Al Borlin & Sky River Trails**

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
8/29	17	27	Al Borlin & Sky River Park – 0 Camps, 3 truckloads of litter
8/31	.5	0	Al Borlin – Re-Inspection only
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>8.75</b>	<b>13.5</b>	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

**Monroe Park Board**

The Monroe Park Board met on Thursday, August 17, 2023.

Staff gave updates on the Trails Master Plan Project and mentioned the Save the Date for the Open House on September 21.

The Park Board made a motion to recommend approval of the Parks and Recreation portion of the proposed 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan.

Attached to this report are the approved July 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes.



# MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, July 20, 2023, 7:00 PM  
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at Monroe Council Chambers

**Park Board Members:**  
Jessie Robinson, Chair  
Amy Martin, Vice Chair  
Keith Dahlenburg, Member  
Brady Welever, Member  
Ron Petrick, Member  
Mariana Medina, Member  
Scot Noel, Member

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robinson called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:00pm, hybrid via Zoom and in-person at Monroe Council Chambers.

### 2. ROLL CALL

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessie Robinson	Chairperson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Martin	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Keith Dahlenburg	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brady Welever	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Petrick	Board Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mariana Medina	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scot Noel	Board Member

Board Members Welever, Petrick, and Noel were absent.

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1. City Branding Project Update - *Becky Hasart*

Becky presented some of the data collection that our consultants, JayRay, have discovered. Phase 1 of the project is complete and work has begun on Phase 2.

#### 3.2. City Hall Remodel Update - *Ben Swanson*

Ben explained some of the timelines we are looking at for the project. The August Park Board meeting, and continuously until further notice, will be held in the Court Room in the Parks and Public Works Building located at 769 Village Way.

#### 3.3. Trails Master Plan Update - *Ben Swanson*

Ben reviewed the general project description for the Trails Plan, and let board members know that there will be community outreach beginning in August/September.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.1. Motion was made by Board Member Dahlenburg, seconded by Board Member Medina, to approve the June 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- 6.1. Fyre Sauna Co. LLC Vendor Request at Lake Tye - *Ben Swanson*

Davin Alsin of Fyre Sauna presented his business proposal to the Park Board. He explained the interest in setting up at Lake Tye Park to attract sauna users and perform the hot/cold therapy by using the lake as the cold plunge portion. After two initial reviews with WCIA, they highly suggest we do not allow this activity due to concerns about sanitation and cardiac issues. It was suggested to Davin Alsin to use private property to host his sauna trailer. Davin asked that Ben Swanson reach out to WCIA once more to get a definitive dollar amount in insurance coverage that could make this project a possibility on City of Monroe property. Motion was made by Board Member Dahlenburg, seconded by Board Member Martin to deny the current request for Fyre Sauna to use City of Monroe property to host the sauna. Motioned carried 4-0.

#### **7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION**

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben highlighted the partnership with the High School to grow the begonias for the center islands around town and noted the busy event month we had.

- 7.2. Community Development Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Ben called out the new businesses planning to come to town, and reviewed the number of Single-Family building permits.

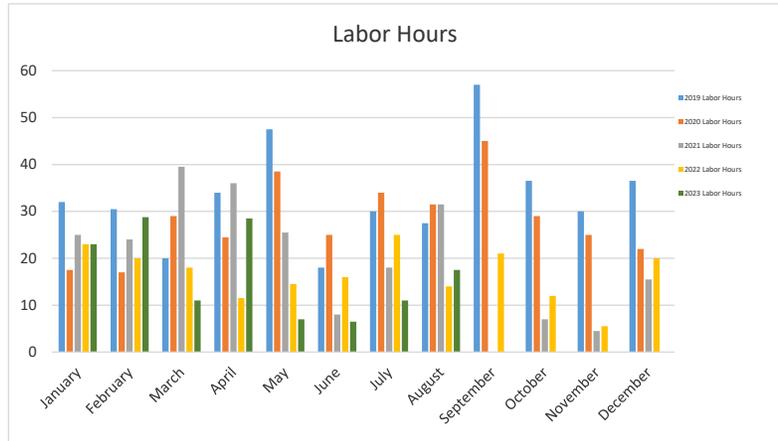
## 8. ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1. Staff made note of a **Save the Date** for National Night Out - Tuesday, August 1st: 5:30pm at Lake Tye Park.
- 8.2. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Dahlenburg seconded. Motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.

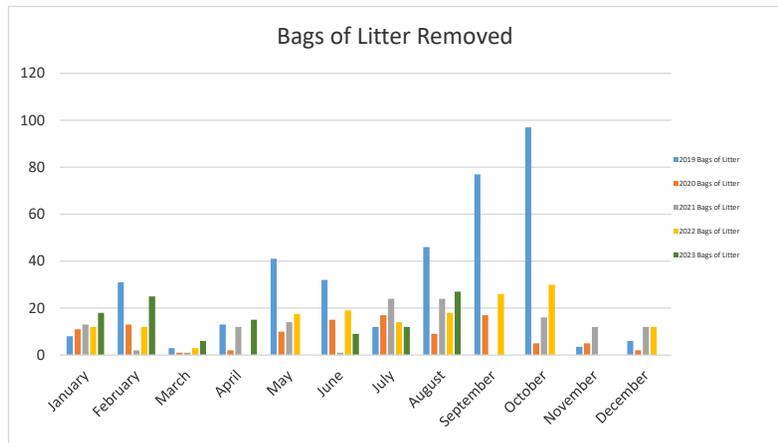
*Jessie R. Robinson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Parks Homeless Response Data 2023

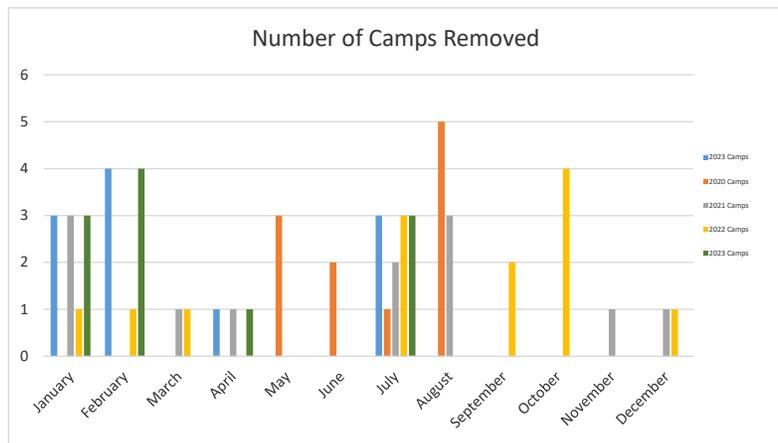
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-23	23	18	3
Feb-23	28.75	25	4
Mar-23	11	6	0
Apr-23	28.5	15	1
May-23	7	0	0
Jun-23	6.5	9	0
Jul-23	11	12	3
Aug-23	17.5	27	0
Sep-23			
Oct-23			
Nov-23			
Dec-23			
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>133.25</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>11</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-22	23	12	1
Feb-22	20	12	1
Mar-22	18	3	1
Apr-22	11.5	0	0
May-22	14.5	17.5	0
Jun-22	16	19	0
Jul-22	25	14	3
Aug-22	14	18	0
Sep-22	21	26	2
Oct-22	12	30	4
Nov-22	5.5	0	0
Dec-22	20	12	1
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>200.5</b>	<b>163.5</b>	<b>13</b>



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-21	25	13	3
Feb-21	24	2	0
Mar-21	39.5	1	1
Apr-21	36	12	1
May-21	25.5	14	0
Jun-21	8	1	0
Jul-21	18	24	2
Aug-21	31.5	24	3
Sep-21	0	0	0
Oct-21	7	16	0
Nov-21	4.5	12	1
Dec-21	15.5	12	1
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>234.5</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>12</b>



2019 & 2020 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Makenna Ohlsen, mohlsen@monroewa.gov