



# MONROE THIS WEEK

November 10, 2023



This week, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Saturday, November 11 as Veterans Day. Originally established in May 1938 as Armistice Day to honor veterans of World War I, the holiday was expanded in 1947 to honor all veterans, and officially renamed as Veterans Day in 1954.



*With quiet courage and selflessness, with honor and distinction, generations of service men and women have defended our independence and freedom, and sought to preserve our Nation. We salute the men and women who have proudly worn the uniform of service and the families that stand beside them. Here in Monroe, we recognize our local veterans who have served and are currently serving, and when they return, we care for them and their families.*

*In 2016, the City unveiled the Veterans Memorial Monument at Lake Tye to express our community's recognition, appreciation, and commitment to our veterans and their families. I encourage the Monroe community to recognize the fortitude and sacrifice of our veterans through private thoughts and*

reflections. City administrative offices will be closed tomorrow in observance of the holiday.

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

- Preliminary election results
- WDFW monitoring Canada Geese at Lake Tye Park
- Temporary lobby hours for the Monroe PD on Monday
- An update on pet licensing in the city
- The local dedication of Police & Fire Appreciation Week
- Ten Monroe businesses named "Best in the PNW!"
- Applications for City board, commissions, and committees
- The return of the annual Light Up Monroe event
- Sidewalk repair and grinding

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

Yours in Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

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## PRELIMINARY ELECTION RESULTS: PROPOSITION 1, MONROE'S TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT

Thank you for voting in Tuesday's General Elections. Preliminary results are posted on Snohomish County Elections [webpage](#) and will be certified on Nov. 28. Early results indicate that Proposition 1, [Monroe Transportation Benefit District](#) is passing. If it does pass by a majority vote, the collection of 0.2 cent sales tax will continue to fund transportation improvements in Monroe for the next 10 year period beginning Jan. 1, 2025.



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## WDFW RESPONDS TO CANADA GEESE AT LAKE TYE PARK SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF BIRD FLU

Earlier this week, the City was notified by the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) that several Canada Geese from a flock that landed at Lake Tye Park were exhibiting symptoms of bird flu ([avian influenza](#)). Sick and deceased geese have been removed and WDFW will monitor the park for further removals. Signs have been

posted at the Park informing visitors of the situation.

The State Department of Health (DOH) offers extensive information on its [website](#) about bird flu and how to protect yourself. According to DOH, bird flu infections in people are rare and most commonly occur after prolonged contact with infected birds while not wearing appropriate personal protective equipment. Please take appropriate actions to prevent the spread of it.



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## MONROE PD TEMPORARY LOBBY HOURS ON MONDAY

The Monroe Police Department lobby will be closed on Monday, Nov. 13 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. The purpose of the closure is to allow time for the City's architectural consultant to meet with administrative personnel to gain a better understanding of current functionality issues. This is part of the consultant's scope of work for the Police Station Facility Assessment.



In October, the City Council approved a contract with Mackenzie, Inc. to conduct a facility assessment that evaluates the operational requirements of the department and recommends ways to address facility deficiencies. The assessment is Phase III of the Municipal Campus Improvement Project. For project updates, please visit our [website](#).

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## UPDATE ON PET LICENSING IN THE CITY

At its Nov. 14 meeting, the City Council will consider an ordinance (No. 022/2023) that if approved, would repeal the requirement that household dogs and cats be licensed. In October, the Public Safety Committee was presented with information about the City's current pet license program, budget impacts, and options for amending Monroe's Animal Control code (Monroe Municipal Code 8.04). It recommended that pet licensing be repealed (for pets whose owners live in Monroe city limits) and that animal control fees be adjusted.



A second reading of the ordinance to amend MMC 8.04 is scheduled for November 28. The meeting agendas being presented to Council are posted in the [agenda portal](#). City Council meetings are held in a hybrid format where you can attend in-person or virtually via Zoom. The meetings are being temporarily held at the Monroe School District Administration Building, 14692 179th Ave SE.

Whether you attend in-person or virtually, there is a “public comment” opportunity at the beginning of each City Council meeting. Written comments can be emailed to [jwycoff@monroewa.gov](mailto:jwycoff@monroewa.gov) but must be received by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Pursuant to Council Rules of Procedure, written comments will not be read into the record and will be forwarded to Councilmembers.

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## CITY DEDICATES POLICE & FIRE APPRECIATION WEEK

I will also be issuing a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Nov. 12 through Nov. 18 as Police and Fire Appreciation Week. The personnel of the [Monroe Police Department](#) and [Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue](#) keep our community safe by increasing public awareness of methods for crime and fire prevention. These devoted first responders risk their lives for the lives of others, and selflessly run towards danger as we run for safety. Through hard work and commitment, they do their jobs well and without fanfare, which sometimes makes us forget the dangers they face. As a symbol of our community's gratitude for their exceptional public service, we dedicate next week to our local police and fire safety professionals.



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## MONROE BUSINESSES NAMED "BEST IN THE PNW!"

This week, [The Seattle Times](#) announced the winners of its “Best in the PNW!” contest and nine Monroe businesses are among the top!

- Gold Best Thai Food: Thai On Main Street
- Gold Best Brewery: Crooked Label Brewing Company
- Gold Best Wedding Venue: Song River Monroe
- Gold Best Charity Event: Dream Builders Car Show
- Silver Best Painting Contractor: Amsberry's Painting
- Silver Best Oil Change: Smiley's Pro-Lube
- Bronze Best Margaritas: Ixtapa Restaurant
- Bronze Best Bakery: Sky River Bakery
- Bronze Best Veterinarian: Cascade Animal Clinic
- Bronze Best Farmer's Market: Monroe Farmer's Market



Our sincerest congratulations to these businesses and appreciation for calling Monroe home. Click [here](#) to view the entire list of winners.

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**APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Serving on a City board, commission, or committee is such a unique opportunity to give back to your community. We are **currently recruiting** for the following. One just may be the perfect fit for your interests and talents.



- **Planning Commission**
- **Park Board**
- **Economic Development Advisory Board**
- **Community Human Services Advisory Board**
- **Civil Service Commission**
- **Salary Commission**
- **LEOFF-1 Board**
- **Ethics Board**

Submit your **application**:

- Email to [cityclerk@monroewa.gov](mailto:cityclerk@monroewa.gov)
- Mail or deliver in-person to Monroe City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 14841 179<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Suite 320, Monroe WA 98272

I look forward to talking with interested applicants in the coming weeks.

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## ANNUAL LIGHT UP MONROE EVENT RETURNS

Save the date for the annual Light Up Monroe event starting at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 26 at Traveler's Park. Come visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus, enjoy a car parade, sip on cocoa and munch on cookies while listening to live carols. There's no better way to ring in the holiday season than with friends, family, and our community. I look forward to seeing you all there.



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## SIDEWALK GRINDING

Each year, the City of Monroe works to assess and eliminate raised

sidewalk panels throughout the city. One process involves selecting areas of sidewalks that need repairs, evaluating trip hazards in those areas, and then grinding the concrete to remove the hazards. However, not all raised sidewalks are eligible for this type of repair; some must be removed and replaced. Here you can see some before and after photos of the grinding process.



## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14. 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](#) (Monroe School District Administration Building, 14692 179th Ave SE) or remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the Nov. 14 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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