



# MONROE THIS WEEK

July 12, 2024



*I hope you all have found time to enjoy the sunny weather this week with friends, family and neighbors. This edition of Monroe This Week will include details on:*

- *City Council's Consideration of a Parks & Public Safety Maintenance Ballot Measure*
- *Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Applications*
- *Annual Lake Tye Triathlon*
- *Monthly Business Newsletter*
- *Free Dental Fair and Transportation Service*
- *Lake Tye Science Day*
- *Choose Monroe Magazine Survey*



Thank you for keeping up to date with city news and happenings. 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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## COUNCIL EXPLORES FUNDING OPTIONS FOR PARKS MAINTENANCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

In April, the City Council discussed strategic priorities for the next five years. During the meeting, the Council considered the deficit parks maintenance and public safety operations have endured since the “Great Recession.” The city currently has six parks maintenance workers and one permanent community service officer. Park maintenance staff levels have not increased since 2008 despite increasing demands for city services – including a 400% increase in city permitted events and 29% increase in city managed parkland.



The City Council has met three times since April to discuss different funding alternatives to maintain current levels of service. At its July 9 meeting, the City Council directed staff to prepare a resolution that, if approved, would formally place a one-year permanent levy lid lift measure on the November general election ballot for voters to support or reject. If approved by voters, the levy would fund parks maintenance and public safety programs including animal control. Monroe’s tax levy rate has declined from \$1.46 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2013 to the current rate of \$0.8685 per \$1,000 of assessed value. If the levy lid lift were to be approved by voters, the levy tax rate would be restored to its pre-recession level. A copy of the July 9, City Council agenda item is available online by following [clicking this embedded link](#).

The resolution to proceed with the levy lid lift ballot measure will be presented by staff at the July 23 City Council meeting. If the resolution passes, the Council, city staff, and I will remain committed to developing communications that explain the “who, what, where, when, and how” of this levy lid lift ballot measure. Updates will be shared here, on our website, through public presentations, and printed materials. Should you have specific questions, please email them to [lmckorkle@monroewa.gov](mailto:lmckorkle@monroewa.gov).

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## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR MONROE LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE



The City of Monroe is now accepting applications for the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC).

The purpose of the LTAC is to review grant applications and make recommendations to City Council regarding allocation of local lodging tax funds. Additionally, LTAC may review and comment on any proposed imposition of lodging tax, increase

in the rate of lodging tax, repeal of an exemption from lodging tax, or change in the use of revenue received from lodging tax.

Membership is limited to two members from organizations representing businesses collecting the lodging tax (hoteliers), and two members representing organizations involved in activities authorized to be funded by the lodging tax, and local agencies involved in tourism promotion. The term of membership shall be through June 30 each year.

If you are interested in serving on the LTAC, please **submit an application** to Jodi Wycoff, City Clerk at [cityclerk@monroewa.gov](mailto:cityclerk@monroewa.gov). First review of applications begins on July 26, 2024.

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## LAKE TYE TRIATHLON AUG. 3

The Lake Tye Tri is coming back to Lake Tye Park Saturday, August 3. This USAT Sanctioned race is great for the beginner to the elite and may be the flattest and fastest course in the Pacific Northwest. Distances include Sprint, Olympic and Youth and event also includes a Duathlon and Aquabike. Participants receive finisher medals, giveaways, a free post-race pancake breakfast, and awards for top finishers. There's still time to **register for the triathlon**.



This event will include a road closure of Frylands Blvd. - North Bound: Currie Road SE to Tye Street and South Bound: Tye Street to Main Street from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A detour will be provided.

*Photo Credit: Alyssa Sandoval*

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## BUSINESS" NEWS

Each month our Economic Development Office publishes the Monroe Business Newsletter about our efforts and regional and state initiatives to recruit, retain and expand businesses in the City of Monroe. Each edition is shared more than 3,300+ subscribers. To receive "Monroe Business," via email, sign up [here](#).

The July edition of "Monroe Business" was just published and features:

- Contracting opportunities with the State of Washington
- Loan programs offered by Washington State Department of Commerce and US Small Business Administration
- Northwest Access Fund's Small Business Support Program for Disabled Business Owners
- Online resources for Black-owned business and retail crime prevention
- Economic Alliance of Snohomish County online survey: *Childcare impacts*
- Free electronics recycling program sponsored by Washington State Department of Ecology
- And more....

Read more at <https://conta.cc/4cNlrx>



## FREE DENTAL FAIR AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICE



**# WeAreMonroeWA**

Monroe is fortunate to have community services providers that offer programs to help those in need. Two programs to share with you are about a free dental fair and a free transportation service. Please seek out more information by calling the phone numbers or visiting the websites listed.

A free Community Dental Fair is scheduled for July 20, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cascade Church, 14377 Fryelands Blvd (Monroe). To make an appointment for a serious need, exam, or x-ray, please call 425-220-8777.

A free transportation service provided by Ideal Option for eligible riders is available from Index to Monroe. Persons over the age of 18 in need of a ride to important appointments on Mondays and Thursdays can schedule a ride to

medical visits, pharmacy pickups, detox/treatment appointments, and other scheduled essential services. To schedule a ride, call 425-217-7567 at least 24 hours in advance, and arrive at the pickup location one hour before the scheduled pick-up time. For more information visit [ctcrecovery.org](http://ctcrecovery.org).

If you or someone you know is need of housing, mental health, family services or similar assistance, please visit the [City's Human Services Program](#) webpage and reach out to our staff.

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## LAKE TYE SCIENCE DAY - JULY 20

Save the Date! Join us on Saturday, July 20 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for science demonstrations, hands-on activities, and games about the many wonderful ways we can protect our streams, lakes, and salmon! Light snacks will be provided so you can refuel between activities. People of all ages are invited to attend, but the event will be most exciting to families with children in kindergarten through 5th grade. Bathrooms will be available! Park near the playground and tennis courts. We hope to see you there!



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## HELP US IMPROVE OUR CHOOSE MONROE MAGAZINE - TAKE ONLINE SURVEY



Help the city enhance its local magazine by taking the Choose Monroe Magazine survey. In 2025, Choose Monroe will be transitioning to a once yearly publication which will be published in April. We value your opinion and want your feedback regarding accessibility to the magazine and topics to cover in future publications. Please take the time to share your thoughts [here](#) so we may improve our City's publication for future years.

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## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Business Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2024. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the [City's YouTube Channel \(@MonroeWA\)](#).

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Jacob Walker



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

Have a question for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov)



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