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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 age's 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

During the month of July, the crew worked on many irrigation repairs throughout the city. The week before the wake board event the crew went out and line trimmed roughly .4 miles of lake edge along with line trimming and edging the entire length of Fryelands Blvd's west curb line which is 1.46 miles and all medians. The crew put on Music in the Park events each Friday as well in July. Maintenance items included pruning of the 522 and tester roundabout, general mowing of all parks, repairs on vandalized water spigots, PIP playground surfacing repairs at Sky River and Lake Tye, Ball field preps and bed work at Lake Tye in preparation for the triathlon. The department is also still working on acquiring contracts to fix vandalism at Sky River and Rotary restrooms.



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### July Packed Full of Event Fun

July brought events every weekend to Monroe. Monroe Chamber's Music in the Park returned for Friday's through July. New this year - additional food trucks were added to accommodate the growing crowds. This event continues to expand and grow as a community favorite.

Helping Hands Freedom 5k took place around Lake Tye. This event began at Cascade Church and worked its way around the lake and back. Proceeds from the event went to raise funds for the Helping Hands Ministries Help Project.

The City of Monroe's Public Works environmental stewards partnered with Snohomish Conservation District to bring back the Lake Tye Science Day which is an education event for kids' pre-k through 5th grade. This free event included science demonstrations, hands-on activities, games and more.

July 25-28 brought back the WWA National Wakeboard and Wake surf competition. A Monroe favorite, this event returned after 3 years away, and we were thrilled to have them back. The competition brought in riders from all over the Country to compete. Lake Tye offered perfect viewing with the grassy banks overlooking the lake and bordering restaurants. Many residents and visitors came out to watch the show over the 4-day competition.

Shakespeare in the Park returned to Sky River Park for their 25th season with William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. This is a free, family-friendly touring theater that we are thrilled to welcome to Monroe each summer.

Walk to Remember also returned to Sky River Park. The Compassionate Friends of Snohomish County, #2547 hosts the event in honor and remembrance of children, siblings, and grandchildren that have been lost.



Above: WWA National Wakeboard Competition

## 2024 Parks and Recreation Month

Each July, we celebrate National Parks and Recreation month. Each year has its own theme, 2024 was named 'Where You Belong' by National Recreation and Parks Association. To celebrate this year, we highlighted fun facts each Friday (#FunFactFriday) and showcased images, videos and information that aligned with the theme. Our intent was to inform residents of what our parks offer, what it takes to keep our parks safe and clean, and a little insight into those employees that make our parks where we belong. Over the duration of the month, our Facebook posts saw 841 likes, 80 comments, and 12 shares. Our videos collectively were viewed 16,300 times. On Instagram we received an additional 308 likes and 13 comments.



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## Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering for the City of Monroe, please contact our Parks and Recreation Admin Assistant at (360) 863-4559 or sign up for notifications at <https://bit.ly/3uLsNjW>. Visit the City website [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) for information.

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## Park Board

The Monroe Park Board held a special meeting in July that consisted of a parks tour including Sky River Park to view the new pickleball courts and Blueberry Children's Park to view the progress of the new playground facility.

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## 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   |
|------|-------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 7/26 | 5.5               | 2                          | Sky River Park – Inspections, Garbage Removal<br>Al Borlin – Inspections, Garbage Removal |
|      |                   |                            | See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023                                      |

**New Pickleball Courts/Resurfacing**

The Parks Department completed the resurfacing of all the existing sports courts at Lake Tye Park, including the basketball courts and the two-combo tennis/pickleball courts. The re-lining of the courts includes a reconfigured layout of the pickleball courts to increase the total number of pickleball courts from two to five. Four are on the west court, and one is located on the east court. Parks also purchased portable pickleball nets/stands for the 4 courts on the west court, with the expectation that park users store them against the fence when not in use.



At Sky River Park, two dedicated pickleball courts with a permanent net have been built between the playground and the exercise stations. The ribbon cutting ceremony took place on Tuesday, July 23. We received input from two local pickleball enthusiast groups, in which we received great ideas for our final layout design. All these courts are open to the public on a first come, first serve basis.

Above: Lake Tye Pickleball Courts (left) & Skykomish River Park Pickleball Courts (right)

## Kudos

A citizen recently reached out praising Park Maintenance worker, Bryan Olson, for his hard work, great attitude and she just wanted to make sure the city knew what an amazing employee we have! Great job Bryan!





# MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, June 20, 2024, 7:00 PM  
Hybrid: Zoom Online Meeting Platform & In-Person at the Parks & Public Works Building at  
769 Village Way

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

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Participation Information: The Park Board meeting will be held virtually via Zoom Meeting and in person at City of Monroe Parks & Public Works Building located at 769 Village Way. If you wish to join via zoom, please see the online access details below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7240999919?pwd=enJpb3AxVkhHWVRkVzBnb0ZaeFpZdz09>

Meeting ID: 724 099 9919

Password: 2022

One tap mobile

+12532158782 (Tacoma)

### 2. ROLL CALL

|                                     |                 |              |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Jessie Robinson | Chairperson  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Amy Martin      | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Abdul Salama    | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Brady Welever   | Board Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ron Petrick     | Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Mariana Medina  | Board Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Lisa Brown      | Board Member |

Board Members Salama, Welever and Medina were absent.

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1. Trails Plan Update - *Ben Swanson*

Ben Swanson reviewed the Trails Plan and updated the timeline.

#### 3.2. Project Review and Budgeting - *Ben Swanson*

Ben Swanson reviewed upcoming projects and budgeting needs.

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

- 4.1. Approval of April Meeting Minutes moved to next month, July 18, 2024.

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

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

- 6.1. Scheduling Process - *Shelley Rowe*

Shelley Rowe reviewed the scheduling processes for field reservations.

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

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

Mike Farrell highlighted the Communication Board and the Life Jacket Installation at Lake Tye Park.

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

#### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

- 8.1. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 18, 2024.
- 8.2. Chair Robinson motioned to adjourn and Board Member Martin seconded. Motioned passed 3-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

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Chairperson