



---

## 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.**

---

## Department Update

### Operations

August was a busy month for our Parks Department, with the successful hosting of two major events: Lake Tye Triathlon and National Night Out Against Crime. In addition, our team organized the Movies Under the Moon series every Friday evening, bringing the community together for some outdoor entertainment.

We're excited to announce that the playground installation at Blueberry Park has been completed. Our crew worked diligently to restore the landscaping to our department's high standards and has begun installing fixtures around the new playground. This project will continue into the fall as we finalize the finishing touches.



In preparation for the upcoming school year and fall sports, our team also swept and aerated the synthetic turf field. We're finalizing contracts this week to address the vandalism of the bathrooms at Sky River Park, with repairs expected to begin in the coming weeks.

Lastly, we're pleased to welcome Chris Lankhaar to our team, filling the vacant position from May. We're thrilled to have Chris on board!

---

### August Events

Our Movies Under the Moon series kicked off our August events on August 2nd. We were fortunate to have beautiful weather for 4 out of the 5 movies. We were able to track roughly 300-

600 attendees per movie showing. The movies shown in order were: Super Mario Bros movie, Trolls Band Together, The Marvels, and The Little Mermaid. We'd like to thank the following sponsors for making this event happen:

Concessionaire: Ken Fulcher with Parkside Bites

Monroe Arts Council for Posters design, production & distribution.

Monroe Concert Band for providing the pre-show musical entertainment. Bands who performed this year included: Tarnished Brass, Hot Air, and the Rustic Reeds Saxophone Ensemble

Republic Services for financial support for Movie Rights

Craft Sponsors for providing hands-on activity for our pre-show entertainment throughout the month: Galaxy Theatres, Monroe Arts Council, Monroe Lacrosse Club, Monroe/Sky Valley Family YMCA, and WildStyle Gym.

The first Saturday the Lake Tye Tri returned. This was the event's largest number of participants to-date. 575 participants registered, 525 came on race day of which 80 were participants in the kid's race. Through Placer.ai we are estimating about 900-1,000 total attendees at this event.

National Night Out Against Crime was up next and once again we saw the largest crowd to-date. Each year the event continues to grow. Through Placer.ai we estimated roughly 2,000 attendees in 2021, 3,100 in 2022, 3,300 in 2023 and this year brought in 4,000.



On August 17, Monroe welcomed Storybook Theater to Sky River Park for the first year. This was a free, live musical for ages 3-10. Based on familiar fairy tales, each show has catchy songs, a life lesson, and a happy ending. This performance was on A Little Mermaid and presented 2 shows that ran approximately 55 minutes each.

The beloved Fair Days Parade returned on a very wet and rainy Saturday, on August 24. We thank our Public Works Department and Police Department for the road closures and traffic control that this event requires.

The Parks Department also hosted a booth at the Farmers Market on August 21 in which we had a steady flow of visitors. One in which recently traveled to Scotland, met a local Swift Organization that was intrigued by Monroe's Swifts and offered to



advertise the event in their newsletter. We've since shared the connection with that organization and the Pilchuck Audubon Society.

### **Blueberry Children's Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

We celebrated the opening of the new Blueberry Children's Park on Wednesday, August 28. We had roughly 20 adults and 20 kids at the location at the time of the ceremony including Mayor Thomas, Councilmember Scarboro, Councilmember Hanford, Councilmember Fulcher, Councilmember Walker, and County Councilmember Sam Low. We also had Park Board Members Ron Petrick, Brady Welever, and Lisa Brown and Planning Commission Board Members Carla Lowe, and Melanie Lockhart. Thank you to Monroe City Council



for the approved capital improvement funds and thank you to Snohomish County for awarding the City a \$100,000 capital funding grant award. The playground which is 50% larger than the old one is already seeing a large number of users and has received great feedback.

---

### **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.

---

### **Park Board**

At the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board reviewed and approved edits to the Trails Master Plan. Additionally, staff reviewed the Proposition 1 Parks and Police Levy and discussed the legal limitations of the Board members when discussing the proposed Levy.

---

## 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
8/14	16.5	12	Sky River Park – Inspections, Garbage Removal Al Borlin – Inspections, Garbage Removal
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2019- 2023

## Kudos from Lake Tye Tri Organizers

“Hi City of Monroe Team! We wanted to send you something to let you know how much we appreciate you. This race is impossible without people like you, and we are just so thankful that you were able to help us create such a successful event. We are well aware that one positive email doesn’t scratch the surface of just compensation for your support. Again, thank you for your help with this event, and for being the kind of people who do above and beyond work for their city. It puts our minds at ease knowing that we have such a capable team of partners, always making our event run smoothly, and providing every possible recourse to keep our athletes safe and happy.



Specifically, Mike and his crew were wonderful this year, just like every year, in planning, organizing, and problem solving on race day. We have mentioned a few times since how amazing it was that you stepped in on the fly and lent us those speakers.”



# MONROE PARK BOARD

Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 15, 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"/>	Vacant	Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Brown	Board Member

Board Members Salama, Welever and Brown were absent.

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1. Proposition 1: Parks & Public Safety Services Levy  
[Proposition 1](#)

Ben Swanson reviewed Proposition 1.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.1. Approval of April Meeting Minutes moved to the next month, September 19, 2024 (No Quorum)
- 4.2. Approval of June Meeting Minutes moved to the next month, September 19, 2024 (No Quorum)

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*(This time is set aside for members of the public to speak to the Park Board on any issue related to the City of Monroe; except any quasi-judicial matter subject to a public hearing. Three minutes will be allowed per speaker.)*

If you are attending the meeting virtually (using the link or number provided above) please indicate that you would like to speak by clicking “raise hand” and staff will call on attendees to speak at the appropriate time. If you are joining by phone, dial \*9 to “raise hand.”

*Written comments can be emailed to [MOhlsen@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:MOhlsen@MonroeWA.gov), and must be received by 4:00 p.m. the day before the meeting. Pursuant to Monroe City Council Rules of Procedure, written comments will not be read into the record and will be forwarded to Boardmembers.*

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- 6.1. Master Trails Plan Update - Ben Swanson

Ben Swanson reviewed draft Trails Master Plan.

- 6.2. Parks and Rec 2025-2030 CIP Ben Swanson

No Quorum, moved to next meeting, September 19, 2024.

**7. STAFF/BOARD DISCUSSION**

- 7.1. Parks Department Report - *Ben Swanson*

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

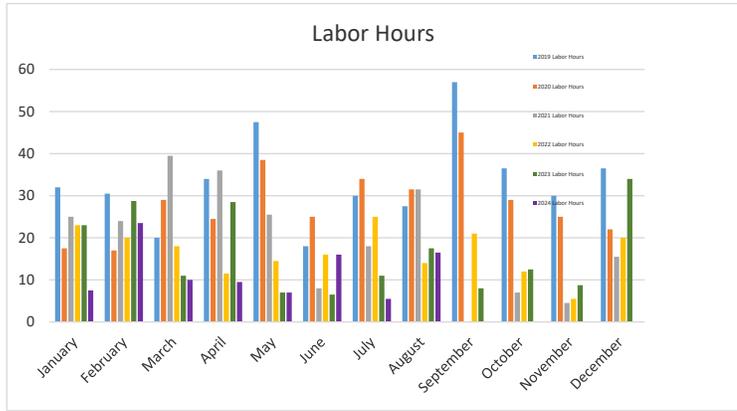
**8. ADJOURNMENT**

- 8.1. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 19, 2024.**
- 8.2. Board Member Martin motioned to adjourn and Board Member Petrick seconded. Motion passed 2-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

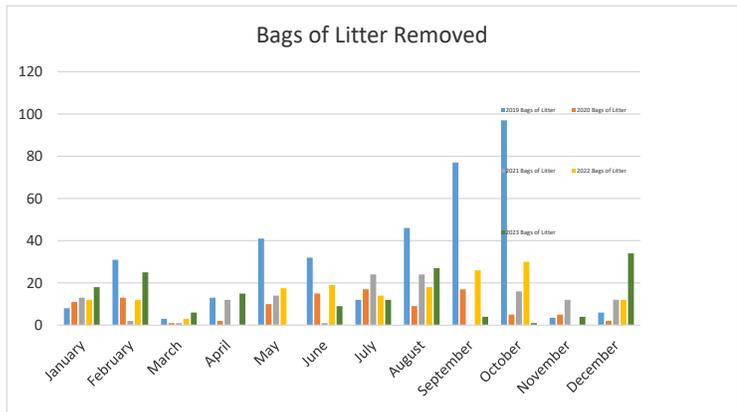
---

Chairperson

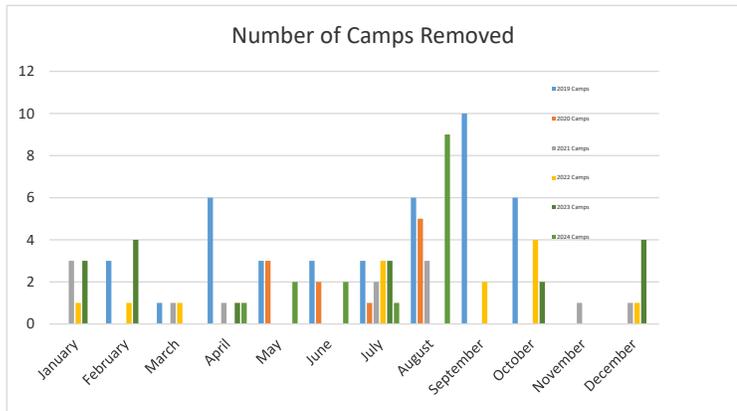
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-24	7.5	0	0
Feb-24	23.5	22.5	0
Mar-24	10	15	0
Apr-24	9.5	14	1
May-24	7	8	2
Jun-24	16	8	2
Jul-24	5.5	2	1
Aug-24	16.5	12	9
Sep-24			
Oct-24			
Nov-24			
Dec-24			
<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>15</b>



	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	8	4	0
Oct-23	12.5	1	2
Nov-23	8.75	4	4
Dec-23	34	34	4
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>196.5</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>17</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	4
Oct-22	12	30	2
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>



2019-2021 data is shown only on the graphs. If you would like the full data breakdown, please reach out to Shelley Rowe [srowe@monroewa.gov](mailto:srowe@monroewa.gov)