



MONROE THIS WEEK

September 20, 2024



Thank you for keeping up to date with city news, happenings, and events. This week's issue of Monroe This Week will feature:

- *Hispanic Heritage Month;*
- *Levy Lid Lift;*
- *Orca Recovery Day;*
- *Adopt-A-Planter on Main Street; and*
- *Monroe School District Facility Advisory Committee.*

*Please reach out to me with what may be on your mind about and for Monroe. I can be contacted at **GThomas@MonroeWA.gov**.*



Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Thank you to the students and faculty of Monroe High School's Latino Student Union for joining me and speaking last Tuesday, as I proclaimed September 15 to October 15, 2024 as Hispanic Heritage Month. I appreciate your words highlighting the impact the Hispanic community has made in every aspect of American life and recognizing the diverse background of the 21 countries where Spanish is the national language. I invite the Monroe community to read last Tuesday's Proclamation (**English**) (**Español**) and seek opportunities to learn more about Hispanic history, culture, and contributions.



LEVY LINGO: LEVY VS. LEVY LID LIFT



With all the information we've been producing about **Proposition 1: Parks & Public Safety Levy**, we thought explaining the terms levy and levy lid lift would be helpful.

Washington's levy-based property tax system allows a taxing jurisdiction, such as the City of Monroe, to collect a specified total dollar amount (the **levy**) per year. State law limits levy increases to 1% per year except for a voter-

approved increase (levy lid lift). A **levy lid lift**, if approved by a simple majority of voters within the taxing district, would raise the levy rate to an amount equal to or less than the maximum rate allowed by law. For Monroe, the maximum rate allowed by law is \$1.60/\$1,000 of assessed value.

The 1% limitation applies to the total amount collected, regardless of changes in property values. When property values increase, the levy rate decreases to keep the total amount collected the same. Monroe's property tax levy rate has decreased over the past years because property values have increased.

Proposition 1 addresses longstanding parks maintenance staff deficiencies and supports police community safety services. Proposition 1 proposes an increase of \$0.22 to bring the levy rate to \$1.08/\$1,000 AV, which is \$0.52 below the maximum rate allowed by law. A Monroe homeowner with a median home value of \$591,000 (as calculated by Snohomish County Assessor in 2023), would pay approximately \$10.84 more a month in property taxes to the City.

Proposition 1 provides for exemptions for eligible low-income seniors, disabled veterans, and other persons with disabilities. Contact the **County Assessor's Office** at 425-388-3540 or **assessor@co.snohomish.wa.us** to learn more about exemptions.

ORCA RECOVERY DAY; OCT. 19, 2024

Since 2018, Washington's twelve Conservation Districts have been hosting an annual Orca Recovery Day event in different cities throughout the state. Orca Recovery Day is a day of action to support the livelihoods of Washington State's Southern Resident Orcas living in Puget Sound. Upstream river communities, like Monroe can care for our Southern Resident Orcas every day through our actions.

On October 19, 2024, the City of Monroe and the Snohomish Conservation District are hosting Orca Recovery Day at Skykomish River Park from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Come learn about our local Orca pod and how you can support Orca habitat! Plan on a fun family day at the park, including educational activities hosted by local organization as well as a tree planting in the park.

To learn more about the history of Orca Recovery Day and to register for the event, visit: **<https://snohomishcd.org/orca-recovery-day>**.

7TH ANNUAL ORCA RECOVERY DAY
OCTOBER 19, 2024 - 10 AM - 1 PM
SKYKOMISH RIVER PARK • MONROE, WA

MONROE WASHINGTON | REPUBLIC SERVICES | SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JOIN US FOR...
 • TREE PLANTING
 • FAMILY FUN
 • FOOD TRUCKS

QR CODE | SNOCD.ORG/ORD2024

ADOPT-A-PLANTER ON MAIN STREET



Help keep Main Street lovely and colorful throughout the year by becoming an Adopt-A-Planter donor! For \$100/year you or your business can donate to create a fund to maintain seasonal plantings and color in the concrete planters located on Monroe's Main Street. Adopters will be formally recognized for contributing to our community.

Donations may be made by check to "City of Monroe" (mention "Adopt-a-Planter on the memo line). Send to: Monroe City Hall, ATTN: Shelley Rowe, Parks & Rec. Admin. Asst., 806 W. Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272.

For more information you may email Economic Development Coordinator Patrick Doherty at

pdoherty@monroewa.gov

APPLY TO THE MONROE SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Monroe School District is forming a Facility Advisory Committee (FAC) to help shape the future of the district's school facilities and ensure they meet community needs. The committee will consist of community members who will

evaluate current facilities and recommend future capital improvements.

The FAC will begin meeting in October 2024, with meetings every 4-6 weeks. Members must reside within the Monroe School District and commit to serving for at least one year. Applications are open until September 30, 2024.

Interested in joining? Apply now to be part of the conversation and help guide the Monroe School District's future!



Learn more and apply now: <https://tinyurl.com/yckxkcm3>

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, 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](#)



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



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