



MONROE THIS WEEK

October 11, 2024



Thank you for keeping up to date with city events, news, and happenings by reading Monroe This Week. This edition will feature:

- *2025-2026 Mayor's Recommended Budget*
- *City Board, Commission, and Committee Applications*
- *Oct. 17 Earthquake Drill*
- *Best in the Pacific Northwest*
- *Water Pollution Reduction Program*
- *October Business Newsletter*



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

2025-2026 MAYOR'S RECOMMENDED BIENNIAL BUDGET AVAILABLE ONLINE

Since January, the City Council and I, with support from city staff, input from the community and reliance on our **Strategic Priorities** and **Imagine Monroe Vision Statement**, have been developing the **2025-2026 Biennial Budget**. As part of the adoption process I, as Mayor, have prepared a recommended budget to the full City Council. The budget document is now available on the **City's website**. The Monroe City Council will hold its first public hearing on Tues. Oct. 15 and a second one on Tues. Oct 22. This is your opportunity to provide comments to me and the Council regarding what the current recommended budget proposes to fund and how.



The budget document is comprehensive and serves as our financial plan for the next biennial. State law requires that our budget be balanced, in that our spending equals our revenue. We are also required to adopt the budget by the end of the year.

You are encouraged to attend the public hearings and give input on the proposed budget. Council meetings are held at the Monroe School District Administration Building located at 14692 179th Ave SE, Monroe. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Meeting agendas are posted on the **Meeting & Agenda portal** on the Friday before the Tuesday meeting.

HOW WOULD YOU "IMAGINE MONROE AS A MEMBER OF A CITY BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE?"

The City of Monroe is fortunate to have community members serve on its boards, commissions, and committees. These



volunteers show they care about Monroe by working with others and sharing their insights about issues in the community. From our park and trail system to economic development policies and from long-range community planning strategies to supporting people who

are homeless and in crisis, these insights are ultimately shared with the **Mayor** and **City Council** for policy, priority, and budgetary consideration. Monroe's appointed representatives are compassionate and thoughtful in the work they do and committed to **Monroe's Vision Statement**.

There are current and pending vacancies on the following advisory boards.

- **Economic Development Advisory Board**
- **Ethics Board**
- **LEOFF-1 Disability Board**
- **Park Board**
- **Planning Commission**
- **Salary Commission**

I encourage you to learn about a board you may be interested in serving on and to submit an **application** soon as I will be interviewing candidates in November. If you have specific questions, reach out to Jodi Wycoff, our City Clerk, at 360-794-7400 or cityclerk@monroewa.gov.

CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN "SHAKEOUT" EARTHQUAKE DRILL OCT. 17; CUSTOMER SERVICE BRIEFLY UNAVAILABLE

On Thurs. Oct. 17, employees at four city buildings will participate in an earthquake exercise drill known as **The Great Shakeout**. At 10:17 a.m. in



response to an alert tone to signify the exercise, employees at the temporary City Hall, Public Works/Parks/Court building, Police Department and Wastewater Treatment Plant will practice the "Drop. Cover. Hold." technique. Customer services will be briefly unavailable so that employees can fully participate in this important drill. This exercise will not impact police, fire, or 9-1-1 dispatch services. Families, businesses, schools, etc. are encouraged to participate in this statewide disaster preparedness drill. Learn more at www.ShakeOut.org.

MONROE BUSINESSES NAMED BEST IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Seattle Times

BEST IN THE PNW

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Please join me in congratulating Monroe businesses and organizations named “Best in the PNW” for 2024. Hosted by the Seattle Times, [‘Best in the PNW’](#) highlights local businesses, programs, and places that make the Pacific Northwest unique. This year more than 10,000 businesses, organizations, and individuals competed with over 500,000 votes cast by the community. We’re excited for the Monroe businesses and organizations who have been honored with Gold, Silver and Bronze recognitions, including:

- Gold Best Farmer’s Market – Monroe Farmers Market
- Gold Best Garage Door Company – Heston Door Service
- Gold Best Bakery – Sky River Bakery
- Gold Best Barbershop – Kingsmen Barber Studio
- Gold Best Tavern/Bar and Silver Best Brewery – Crooked Label Brewing Company
- Gold Best Brewery – Bugu Brewing Co.
- Gold Best RV Dealership – Speedway RV Center
- Silver Best Wedding Venue – Terra Valley Farms
- Silver Best Charity Event – Dream Builders Car Show
- Silver Best Thai Food – Thai On Main Street
- Bronze Best Specialty Store – Heavenly Soap
- Bronze Best Consignment/Thrift Shop and Home Decor – Black Barrel Vintage Co.

Please continue to support these and other businesses and be sure to always “Choose Monroe!”

PROGRAM HELPS BUSINESSES REDUCE WATER POLLUTION



Our Source Control Business Inspection Program works with Monroe businesses to help prevent water pollution. Staff from our Public Works

Department/Environmental Services Division collaborate with businesses to identify potential and actual sources of pollution generated on site and develop ways to prevent, eliminate, and reduce the sources of pollution. Click [here](#) to watch a quick video on the inspection process.

The program is free and a requirement of a state-issued permit to the City for our **Stormwater Management Program**. There are over 1,800 businesses in Monroe and the more that practice the follow safety and sanitary steps, the cleaner our waterways will be.

- Sweep outside areas regularly.
- Put waste in the dumpster and close the lids.
- Immediately clean up spills and properly dispose of the waste.
- Keep liquids inside, under cover and/or lidded.
- Conduct all washing operations in an area that drains to the sanitary sewer system.
- Covering piles and materials that are stored outside.

To learn more about this program, visit MonroeWA.gov/stormwater or call 360-794-6100.

OCTOBER BUSINESS NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED

We've published our **October Business Newsletter** which features a shoutout to Monroe businesses honored with the Seattle Times' recognition as "Best in the Pacific Northwest" (see article above), a request for input on the public's vision for Downtown and a marketing opportunity through our Downtown Adopt-A-Planter program. As always, the newsletter includes great free learning and training opportunities for businesses. Our Economic Development Coordinator is available to assist you with business resources. Please contact Patrick Doherty at pdoherty@monroewa.gov.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the **City's YouTube Channel (@MonroeWA)**.



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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