



MONROE THIS WEEK

November 1, 2024



Election Day is less than a week away and will take place next Tuesday, Nov. 5. A ballot drop box can be found outside the Monroe Library on Village Way or at other locations throughout [Snohomish County](#). For more information on voting in Snohomish County, please follow the link found [here](#).

This week's issue of Monroe This Week contains information on:

- Board, Commission, and Committee Vacancies
- Proposition 1: Levy Lid Lift for Community Services
- Cold Weather Shelter Program
- Adopt-a-Planter Program
- Street Tree Replanting



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

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR VOLUNTEER BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Serving on a city board commission or committee may be the furthest thing from your mind, but it's such a unique opportunity to support your community. We are **currently recruiting** for the following vacancies:



- [Planning Commission](#)
- [Park Board](#)
- [Economic Development Advisory Board](#)
- [Salary Commission](#)
- [Ethics Board](#)
- [LEOFF-1 Disability Board](#)

Submit your [application](#):

- Email to cityclerk@monroewa.gov; OR
- Mail or deliver in-person to Monroe City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 14841 179th Ave SE, Suite 320, Monroe WA 98272

One just may be the perfect fit for your interests and talents. I look forward to talking with interested applicants in the coming weeks.

CITY'S PROPOSITION 1 INVESTS IN COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Monroe's Proposition 1: Levy Lid Lift for Community Services](#)

proposes an investment in our community's priorities for quality parks and recreation and public safety. [Proposition 1](#) addresses longstanding parks maintenance staff level deficiency and supports police community safety

Proposition 1



MONROE COMMUNITY SERVICES LEVY for parks & public safety



services.

Proposition 1 proposes an increase of \$0.22 per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV) to the City's property tax levy, which if approved, would bring the levy rate to \$1.08/\$1,000 AV. The proposed rate 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.

The Monroe community has consistently expressed that quality parks and recreation activities and community safety are high priorities. The population and job growth in Monroe has created demand for more park amenities, recreation opportunities, crime prevention, nuisance abatement, and animal control. Essential city services, including parks maintenance and public safety, are funded primarily through property and sales tax revenue. The City's property tax rate has declined between 2013 and 2023. Sales tax revenues are not keeping pace with inflation and are expected to be below 2022 levels. Additionally, City operating costs have increased due to inflation.

The cost of operating the City continues to increase faster than revenue. By state law, the property taxes collected by the City cannot increase more than 1% per year without a vote of residents. That's regardless of how much property values increase.

For more background on why the City is seeking Proposition 1, including [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs), please visit MonroeWA.gov/Proposition1.

**CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON
PROPOSITION NO. 1
LEVY LID LIFT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES**

The Monroe City Council adopted Resolution 2024-015, concerning funding for community services, including public safety and parks. This proposition would provide funds for increased community services, including adding employees and equipment to operate/maintain parks and public safety. It authorizes a maximum regular property tax levy for collection in 2025 of \$1.08/\$1,000 of assessed valuation (an increase from 2024 of approximately \$0.22/\$1,000). The 2025 levy amount will be used to compute the limitations for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55. Qualifying seniors, veterans and others would be exempt under RCW 84.36.381.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

COLD WEATHER SHELTER PROGRAM BEGINS NOV. 1

The East County Cold Weather Shelter Program

provides overnight accommodation at host sites, typically churches, when the nighttime temperature is forecast to be below 34 degrees. The program runs Nov. 1 through March 15 and is a partnership with the City of Monroe, Volunteers of America -Western Washington, Snohomish County and the City of Snohomish. Two shelters will open when the temperature threshold is forecasted, and adequate shelter staff are available:

- Monroe Methodist Church located at 342 S. Lewis Street
- Snohomish Evangelical Free Church located at 210 Avenue B

The shelters open at 8 p.m. and an intake process is required. Free bus passes for one-way transportation to the Monroe shelter only will be distributed at the Gold Bar Community Transit Park & Ride, 429 Croft Ave W, at 6:30 p.m., and at Sultan Library, 319 Main Street, Suite 100, at 6:45 p.m.

Information about the shelters being opened will be posted to the City of Monroe's Facebook page ([@MonroeWAGov](#)) and on [Snohomish County's Public Safety Hub](#).

This is an important partnership program that relies on volunteers. Please

EAST COUNTY COLD WEATHER SHELTER PROGRAM



Nov. 1 - March 15

Overnight shelters open in Monroe &



Snohomish when temperature
is forecast below 34 degrees.



**Info at: MonroeWA.gov
Search: Human Services**

BECOME AN ADOPT-A-PLANTER DONOR 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 pdoherly@monroewa.gov

CITY'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CONTINUES STREET TREE REPLANTING PROGRAM

Throughout the year, the Public Work's Operations and Maintenance Division removes trees located in right-of-way planter strips when they are causing damage to sidewalks, the surrounding utilities, or because the tree is dying and it is ready to be replaced. The process is completed in stages, beginning with the removal of the tree, grinding of the stump, and finally replanting a new tree if the location meets specific criteria. The locations each year are chosen by the O&M Streets Supervisor with the planting being performed by a landscaping contractor. Tree planting locations in 2024 are indicated by the green pins in the map above.



Each year in the fall, approximately forty new trees are planted. Recently, new standards were created to provide a list of specific species that may be installed (see image below) and establish a requirement to add root guards

so that the new trees do not further damage sidewalks or utilities.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Please be aware the Nov. 5 City Council meeting is cancelled. The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 7 p.m. The final public hearing on the [Mayor's 2025-2026 Recommended Budget](#) is scheduled. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the [City's YouTube Channel \(@MonroeWA\)](#). To learn how to provide public comment to the Mayor and City Council, click [here](#).

[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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