



MONROE THIS WEEK

November 8, 2024



**THANK YOU
VETERANS**
11TH NOVEMBER 2024



Recently, I issued a [proclamation](#) recognizing Monday, November 11, 2024, as Veterans Day. On Veterans Day, we recognize the contribution and sacrifice of generations of Armed Service members who have served our country to win independence and secure freedom. I appreciate the city staff and local veterans who have worn the uniform of service as well as the families who have stood beside them. It is in part the commitment of our veterans that enables us to 'Imagine Monroe' and form our community of beauty and goodwill. Please join me in thanking those who have served, both through our words and our actions.



In observation of Veterans Day, City administrative offices will be closed on Monday, November 11.

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

- *Monroe 2044 Public Hearing*
- *Mayor's Recommended Budget*
- *Election Results Resources*
- *Flood Insurance*
- *Court and Police Service Impacts*
- *November 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**](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWA.gov).

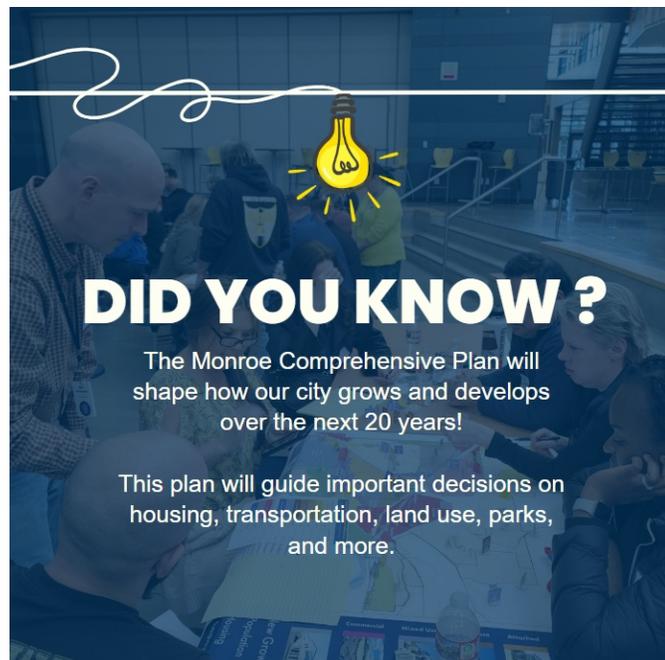
Yours in Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

MONROE 2044 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC HEARING, NOV. 12

After two years of planning and community outreach, the City of Monroe is preparing to adopt the 2044 Comprehensive Plan. The Monroe City Council and I are holding a public hearing to take public comment on the draft Plan on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 7 p.m., in the Community Rooms at the Monroe School District Administration Office, located at 14692 179th Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272. The plan outlines how the city will accommodate 5,010 more people and 2,400 more jobs between 2024 and 2044. Topics covered in the plan include where single-family and multi-family housing will be built; where new jobs and employment centers will be located; how the city will support businesses and tourists; and the cost to build parks, streets, utilities, and trail systems needed to serve new residents.



Please visit the project webpage, <https://www.monroe2044.com/>, to learn more and review the draft plan and environmental documents. If you are interested in providing comments, written comments will be accepted until 4 p.m. on 11/12/2024 attention to the [**City Clerk**](#), and oral testimony must be provided in-person.

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING NOV. 12: RECOMMENDED BIENNIAL BUDGET

City of Monroe

2025-2026 Biennial Budget Public Hearing



Nov. 12, 2024 7 p.m. MonroeWA.gov

The City Council and I will hold our final public hearing on my [2025-2026 Recommended Biennial Budget](#) on Tues. Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. In-person public comment on the draft Budget is encouraged during this final public hearing. Additionally, the City Council will have first readings of the ordinances to adopt the Biennial Budget and the 2025 Property Tax levy. Second reading of these

ordinances is scheduled for Nov. 19. Packet materials will be available online by the end of today on the [Meeting & Agendas webpage](#).

The Budget serves as a financial plan for city operations for the next two years and allocates funding to deliver programs and services Monroe residents and businesses rely on every day including police protection, parks, road improvements, water and sewer utilities, and other essential services. The Budget is built on low risk estimates, fully funds contingency reserves, includes the debt service payments for the Municipal Campus Improvement Project, appropriately uses banked capacity and includes the one percent property tax levy increase allowed by state law.

Washington state law places a 1% limit on the amount the City can increase property taxes each year. Without a voter approved property tax “lid lift,” the City will collect approximately \$40,000 in additional property taxes in 2025 (1% of the current assessed value) and an additional \$60,000 for the value of new construction. The [2025-2026 Recommended Biennial Budget](#) assumes the 1% property tax increase and will be used to fund one parks maintenance worker.

As part of the Budget adoption process, the [Capital Improvement Plan](#) (C.I.P.) is also considered and adopted as a funding plan for capital projects for city parks, streets, city-owned and operated property, technology, and utilities. My recommended budget advances a biosolids treatment plant to be funded through \$12.5 million in bonds, the development of Trombley Park and the downtown Festival Lot, Rail Crossing Safety, and a new signal at 147th Avenue Signal.

ELECTION RESULT RESOURCES

Thank you to everyone who voted in

Tuesday's General Election. According to early and unofficial voting results published by the [Snohomish County Auditor's Office](#), a little more than 45% of Monroe's registered voters casted their votes. As of 8 p.m. on election day, the [City's Proposition 1: Levy Lid Lift for Community Services](#) received 2150 "yes" votes and 2437 "no" votes. If approved, Proposition 1 would provide dedicated funding to support parks maintenance and public safety staff and equipment. As shared in previous articles in this publication, my [2025-2026 Recommended Biennial Budget](#) does not assume revenue from Proposition 1.



The [Snohomish County Canvassing Board](#) won't certify the results until Nov. 26.; the [Washington Secretary of State](#) certifies them by Dec. 5, 2024. The [Secretary of State's Office](#) dashboard of results can be found at <https://results.vote.wa.gov/results/20241105/>.

FLOOD INSURANCE FOR MONROE PROPERTY OWNERS



The [City of Monroe](#) actively [participates in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program](#) (NFIP) which enables Monroe property owners, renters and businesses to voluntarily purchase insurance against flood losses at a discount. The Program requires flood insurance on a property if the owner gets federally-backed financing to buy, build, or improve a structure in a 100-year flood plain. Lending institutions that are federally regulated or federally insured must determine the structure is in 100-year floodplain

(also commonly referred to as a Special Floodplain Hazard Area or SFHA).

Monroe is one of over 1,500 communities in the U.S. that participates in FEMA's Community Rating System as part of the NFIP. The City is audited by FEMA each year and reapplies to participate every 5 years. We completed our re-certification in Oct. 2024.

Visit our GIS Map Portal at <https://gis.monroewa.gov/cityportal/home/> to look up your property. For more about the federal program, go to [FloodSmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov/).

COURT AND POLICE SERVICE IMPACTS

Due to a statewide data system outage at the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), [Monroe Municipal Court](#) is currently operating with limited services until further notice. Additionally, the [Police Department](#) is unable to process [Concealed Pistol Licenses](#) applications. The AOC is working to restore services. There is no estimated time for when the systems will be restored. Please visit the [Monroe Municipal Court webpage](#) for specific information regarding fine payments, traffic ticket hearings, criminal cases and probation appointments. Updates will be posted to the City's ([@MonroeWAGov](#)) and Police Department's ([@MonroeWAPolice](#)) Facebook pages and [on our website](#).



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NOVEMBER BUSINESS NEWSLETTER INCLUDES RESOURCES TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS GROW

Be sure to read this month's [Monroe Business Newsletter](#) about opportunities to help your business grow, thrive, and get ready for the holiday season.

In addition to featuring two area Monroe businesses within the North Kelsey Business District – Bricks & Minifigs and Wyatt's Diamond Jewelers- there is information from the Washington Secretary of State about your business Beneficial Ownership Information Report (BOIR), about Evergreen BizLink Resource Navigator program and Verizon Small Business Digital Ready program.

Mark your calendars and invite your team to these upcoming learning opportunities:

- Nov. 12-14: Operation Entrepreneur 2024
- Nov. 14: How to Master Soft Skills for Small Business Success
- Nov. 19: Funding Your Business Needs with SBA Programs
- Nov. 20: Veteran-Owned Small Business Certification Program

If you have business in Monroe or are thinking of relocating here, please reach out to our Economic Development Coordinator, Patrick Doherty, at pdoherty@monroewa.gov



Monroe BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

City of Monroe, Washington

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 7 p.m. 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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