



# MONROE THIS WEEK

October 07, 2016 Edition No. 38

### Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas  
[gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)

### Councilmembers

Patsy Cudaback  
Kevin Hanford  
Ed Davis  
Jason Gamble  
Jim Kamp  
Jeff Rasmussen  
Kirk Scarboro  
[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

### City Hall

806 West Main Street  
Monroe, WA 98272  
Phone: 360.794.7400  
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

### Appointment Openings

Civil Service Commissioner

### Job Openings

Senior Engineer- Development Review  
[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

### Events this Week

- 10/08 Harvest Festival, Lake Tye Park, 10AM-3PM
- 10/11 ~~City Council Legislative Affairs Committee Meeting, City Hall, Permit Center, 6PM~~  
**CANCELLED**  
Monroe City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM
- 10/13 East County Job Fair, Monroe Boys & Girls Club, 10AM-2PM
- 10/15 Snohomish County Fire Department Open House, 163 Village Ct. 10AM-2PM
- 10/15 Kids Night Out, Monroe Family YMCA, 4-9PM

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, "Monroe This Week." If you have any suggestions or questions regarding "Monroe This Week" or the stories below, please contact me at GThomas@MonroeWa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## Be In The Know!

### SR-522 Update

On Wednesday, representatives and engineering staff from Washington's Department of Transportation, Snohomish County, Monroe School District, Economic Alliance of Snohomish County, and the City of Monroe, met to discuss engineering and design concepts to improve traffic conditions on SR522, particularly between the Snohomish River Bridge and Paradise Lake Road. I thank everyone for meeting to discuss potential short, intermediate, and long term solutions to resolve the issue of having only one lane in each direction from the bridge to nearly Paradise Lake Road. Some of the issues discussed include:

- Getting emergency services to and from accidents and how this creates additional congestion resulting in travelers being late to work and students being late for school. The Monroe School district added that there were 158 late arrivals last year to the Maltby schools due to the congestion on 522.
- Delays in commute times with people driving to and from work.

Our next steps will be to look at short-term alternatives. These short-term alternatives include:

- Installing ramp meters on the eastbound ramp from Echo Lake;
- Using the shoulders during peak commute times;
- Expanding Community Transit services; and
- Creating reversible lanes.

**City of Monroe  
Year-to-Date Comparisons**

*The following are year-to-date comparisons*

**Sales Tax Revenues**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$2,997,528

'16 to 9/30/16: \$3,304,016

**UP \$306,488 or 10.22%**

**Real Estate Excise Tax**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$492,811

'16 to 9/30/16: \$653,731

**UP \$160,920 or 32.65%**

**Lodging Tax Revenues**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$47,799

'16 to 9/30/16: \$56,852

**UP \$9,053 or 18.94%**

**Business License Fees**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$35,936

'16 to 9/30/16: \$35,174

**DOWN \$762 or -2.12%**

**Building Permit Revenues**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$225,697

'16 to 9/30/16: \$498,272

**UP \$272,575 or 120.77%**

**Planning Fee Revenues**

'15 to 9/30/15: \$56,990

'16 to 9/30/16: \$92,900

**UP \$35,910 or 63.01%**

**New House Permits**

'15 to 9/30/15: 41

'16 to 9/30/16: 93

**UP 52 units or 126.8%**

**Multi-Family Permits (# units)**

'15 to 9/30/15: 13

'16 to 9/30/16: 4

**DOWN 9 units or -69.2%**

**Building Division Inspections**

'15 to 9/30/15: 1,316

'16 to 9/30/16: 1,801

**UP 485 or 36.9%**

**(522 Continued)**

Short-term alternatives included items like installing ramp meters on the eastbound on-ramp from Echo Lake Rd, using SR522's shoulders during peak commute times, expanding of community transit services, and creating reversible lanes. Short-term alternatives included items like installing ramp meters on the eastbound on-ramp from Echo Lake Rd, using SR522's shoulders during peak commute times, expanding of community transit services, and creating reversible lanes.

WSDOT will provide an evaluation of some of these alternatives that were discussed later this month.

The City of Monroe will host a community open house and meeting with City, County, and State representatives. The goal is to schedule this before the end of this year in Monroe. In the meantime, please continue to share your concerns and ideas with your City, County, and State representatives. If you live in Monroe, appropriate contacts are:

City of Monroe

- Mayor Geoffrey Thomas – [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)
- City Council – [councilmembers@monrowa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monrowa.gov)

Snohomish County

- County Executive – [dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us)
- County Council – [contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:contact.council@snoco.org)

State of Washington

- Governor Inslee
- Senator Kirk Pearson, LD 39
- Representative Dan Kristiansen, LD 39
- Representative Elizabeth Scott, LD 39
- Senator Rosemary McAuliffe, LD 1
- Representative Derek Stanford, LD1
- Representative Luis Moscoso, LD1

**2017 Preliminary Budget**

Last week, I forwarded the 2017 Preliminary Budget to Council. City Staff and I, have worked hard to ensure a balanced budget for 2017. There are many exciting projects that have been completed over 2016, and many to look forward to in 2017. Some significant projects for 2016 include:

- The Tjerne Place Connector Road;
- The multi-purpose trail on Woods Creek Road; and
- The renovation of the Monroe Board & Blade Park.

***(Budget continued)***

The 2017 Preliminary Budget also looks to fully fund the Contingency Fund, while meeting the service needs of the City, without increasing property taxes. It also includes adding three additional FTE's to further increase serving the City of Monroe.

I am happy to say the 2017 Preliminary Budget incorporates being balanced over the next five years. I thank the residents of Monroe for enhancing our community and continuing to be a place where families want to live, work, and recreate. If you would like a copy of the 2017 Preliminary Budget, it is available online or at the front desk of City Hall.

**Roundabout at West Main and SR522**

WSDOT partially landscaped the new roundabout at West Main and SR522 earlier this year. Unfortunately, the landscaping was not established nor maintained by WSDOT throughout the summer and this gateway to our City became unsightly with weeds.

I reached out to Senator Pearson and Representatives Kristiansen and Scott in September to follow up on the issue. Late last week, WSDOT performed maintenance on the roundabout and then met with City staff. Moving forward, WSDOT will continue work this fall and spring to re-establish the turf, tree and shrub areas. The City will become responsible for maintenance of the turf areas once established and accepted, and for the shrub and tree areas after WSDOT maintains it for four years.

I thank our State representatives and WSDOT for working with us on this issue.

**Heroin Forum**

Following increased attention on Snohomish County's heroin and opioid issues, a series of community forums have been scheduled to provide information and encourage dialogue. The last date for the forum is listed below:

- Thursday, October 13, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Woodway Hall, Edmonds Community College (20000 68th Ave. W, Lynnwood, Wash.)

Sponsored by the Snohomish Health District and Snohomish County Human Services, in partnership with the host communities, each forum will include a panel of subject matter experts and time for audience questions.

### **Civil Service Commission Vacancy**

The City of Monroe is currently seeking applicants to fill the following City Board and Commission open position:

1 – Civil Service Commissioner (6-Year term ending 9/2022)

Civil Services Commission – assures that police officers are recruited through open competition, are hired and promoted on the basis of merit, and are demoted, suspended, or discharged for cause; it oversees civil service examinations and certifies eligibility lists.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until Filled

***\*\*PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT– Per MMC 2.70.010 “No person shall be appointed a member of such commission who is not a citizen of the United States, a resident of such city for at least three years immediately preceding such appointment, and an elector of the county wherein he resides.”***

For additional information regarding board/commission qualifications, duties, and meeting times, please contact the City Clerk’s Office: [esmoot@monroewa.gov](mailto:esmoot@monroewa.gov); 360-863-4538.

### **Fire Department Open House**

Fire Prevention week is fast approaching. Fire District No. 7 is hosting two Open Houses to promote fire and life safety! The week will begin with an Open House at Station No. 71 (8010 180th St SE, Snohomish) on Sunday, October 9, 2016, from 12-4 p.m., and end the week with an Open House at Station No. 31 (163 Village Court, Monroe) on Saturday, October 15, 2016, from 10 a.m.–2:00 p.m. These events will have car extrication demonstrations, live fire extinguisher training, firefighter challenge courses for the kids and more! Bring the whole family for a fun interactive event! For more information visit [www.Snofire7.org](http://www.Snofire7.org).