



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

November, 2017

MISSION

Protect and enhance the natural beauty of Monroe through the development of a vibrant system of parks, open space and trails. Provide citizens of all ages positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.

Department Update

Master Plans for Cadman Site, Lake Tye Park

The City of Monroe is creating two long-range master plans for Lake Tye Park and the Cadman Site, which is adjacent to Skykomish River Park. Both plans will chart improvements, guide funding strategies, and help define the future of these parks.

To involve the public in shaping the future of these parks, the City hosted two pop-up planning studios and two open houses on September 15th and 16th at the Boys and Girls Club and at Lake Tye Park to gather input from our community. Both the pop-up studios and the open houses were well attended by the public.

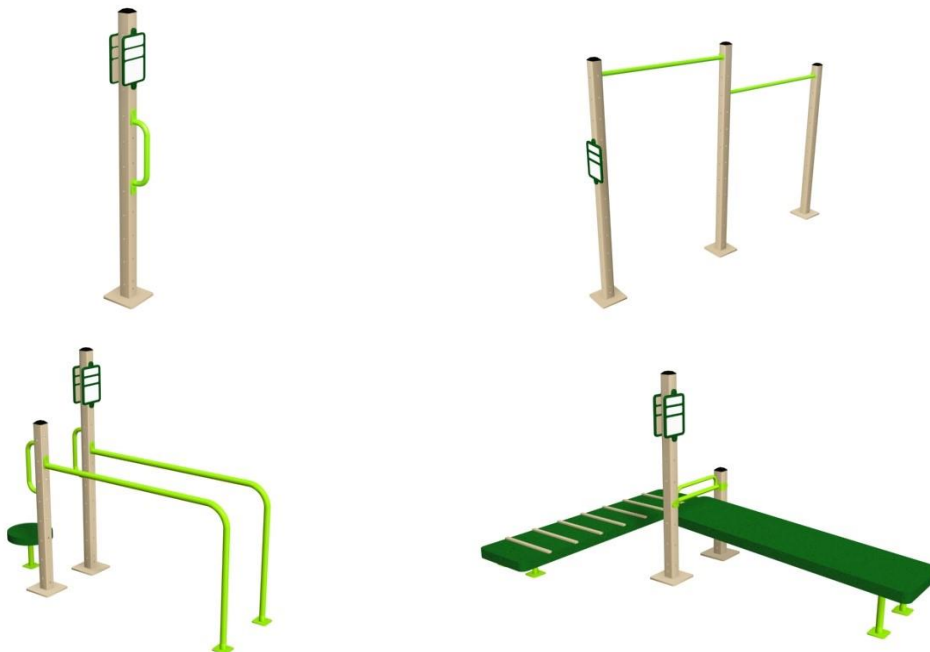
In addition to the pop-up studios and open houses, interested stakeholders had the option to take an online survey to answer questions and provide comments about their vision for the two parks. The online survey was very popular and the number of responses has exceeded everyone's expectations.

Our contracted consultant, HBB Landscape Architects, have condensed the data and ideas that the community brought forth and presented preliminary and refined concepts to both the Monroe City Council and Park Board in joint meetings on September 26 and October 24. A public Open House was held on November 1 at the Boys & Girls Club. A second public survey for feedback on the refined concepts is currently available at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/monroe-parks-2> Next steps will include refining the concepts, presentation and discussion of draft plans in a joint City Council/Park Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at City Hall, with City Council adoption of the master plans to occur in January 2018.



Exercise Stations @ Skykomish River Park

Parks staff are making preparations to install new exercise stations at Sky River Park! Earlier this year, in partnership with the Monroe Boys & Girls Club, a Snohomish County Small Capital Projects Partnership Grant application was submitted and awarded to purchase and install 4 basic trailside exercise stations along the walking trail at Skykomish River Park. The new exercise stations are being installed in the park this fall and will provide fun and exercise for users with varying abilities.



Centennial Trail connection to Monroe

The City of Monroe, along with other local governments and trail advocates have continued to express support to Snohomish County for the Centennial Trail connection between Snohomish and Monroe. We are excited about the steps the County, City of Monroe and other community partners have taken to extend the Centennial Trail east. This trail segment will be enjoyed by walkers, runners, bikers and equestrians while linking together Snohomish County communities. Extending the Centennial Trail up the Skykomish Valley will also enhance the region as a tourist destination and meet the county's long range tourism goals. To date the City of Monroe has extended its hard surface trail system to the western most point of the city awaiting the arrival of the Centennial Trail connection. We look forward to the design and construction of this connection between Monroe and Snohomish in the near future.

Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this fall with daily recreation use of our parks facilities, as well as scheduled maintenance, park improvements and repair work on equipment and landscaped areas. Actions include leaf collection and storm damage repairs, turf aeration and fertilization, irrigation shut-downs and drainage system maintenance. This month's events include:

- Oct 28 – YMCA Sky Valley Classic Running Event @ Downtown 8am
- Oct 31 – Halloween Trick-or-Treat Events @ Downtown pm
- Nov 26 – Light Up Monroe @ Travelers Park 4:30-5:30pm

Light Up Monroe

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to the Light Up Monroe celebration to be held Sunday, November 26, 2017 at Travelers Park at 4:30pm – 5:30pm. Travelers Park is located at the intersection of Main Street & US 2. For a full schedule of events contact the Monroe chamber of Commerce at 360-794-5488 or www.ChooseMonroe.com

We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to the following area businesses: **Windermere Real Estate/Monroe, Speedway Chevrolet, American Family Insurance – Sally Petty, The Church at Monroe, Jones Family Orthodontics, and Penrith Home Loans** for their generous donations for the purchase and installation of new LED holiday lights for the Monroe Community Christmas Tree! These lights will be installed on the prominent mature Sequoia tree at Travelers Park in time for the Light Up Monroe celebration.



City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

Earlier this year, a weekly maintenance monitoring emphasis by park staff was initiated on unmarked trails at Al Borlin and Sky River Parks to identify and resolve, in cooperation with our Police Department, any unlawful encampments that may occur in City parks.

The following is a summary of data for the past month:

Locations: Al Borlin Park; Sky River Park

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
10/12	6	14	
10/18-19	11	24	
11/1	6	6	
Avg.	7.6	14.6	Removed 1 abandoned camp @ Al Borlin Park
Prior month Avg.	6.3	9.6	

Volunteer Opportunities Join the City of Monroe team by volunteering your talent and time to support City programs, projects and events. Volunteering is an opportunity to learn about Monroe's diverse community, understand how local government works and connect with other community members. The City offers on-going and one-time event volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering, or seeking additional information, please contact Pamela Baker at (360) 863-4524.

Visit the City website www.monroewa.gov for information on upcoming programs and events.