



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

September, 2019

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

Sky River Park Ribbon Cutting

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new exercise equipment at Skykomish River Park. Thank you to County Councilmember Sam Low, Monroe Councilmembers Kevin Hanford and Jeff Rasmussen, and East County Parks and Recreation District Commissioner Jim Bloss for attending! The Monroe Boys & Girls Club, as part of the Healthy Lifestyles initiative, partnered with the City of Monroe to install eight basic trailside exercise stations along the walking trail at Sky River Park. The selected exercise stations include a starting/stretching post, a pull-up/chin-up bar, parallel bars with a balance disc, a triceps station, step station, sit-up station, push-up station, and an agility and jump-ntouch station. These stations will provide fun and exercise for users with varying abilities, improving the health and well-being of our Monroe community.



New exercise equipment for Skykomish River Park!

East County Parks & Recreation District Bond Measure – what is ECPRD?

The East County Park and Recreation District (ECPRD) is a separate parks district serving the City of Monroe and unincorporated areas of Snohomish County including the Echo Lake, Maltby, Roosevelt and Rivmont neighborhoods. The ECPRD boundaries are roughly the same as the Monroe School District boundaries. The East County Park and Recreation District fits a niche between City and County park systems, helping to fill the gaps.

The ECPRD has not run a bond measure since 1999 (over twenty years ago). The District's last bond measure was paid off in 2008. The money was used to build Maltby Park and toward development of Sky River Park in Monroe. The District is proposing a \$26.5 million capital bond measure on the November 5, 2019, ballot in order to enhance and expand recreation opportunities within the district, in Monroe and Snohomish County. Proposed projects in Monroe include constructing all weather sports fields at Lake Tye; replacing playground structures at eight City parks – Blueberry, Cedar Grove, Currie View, Hillcrest, Park Meadows, Stanton Meadows, Wales Street, and Rainier View; acquiring land and developing a new neighborhood park in the North Hill area to serve the Eaglemont, Sweetbrier, and Raspberry Hill neighborhoods; and extending the Chain Lake Road trail from Rainier View to Brown Road. If approved by sixty percent of voters in November, the first year cost estimates are \$0.16/\$1,000 assessed value. For a home worth \$500,000, this would be approximately \$6.66/month or \$80/year. In 2023, the tax rate would increase to \$0.26/\$1,000 assessed value. For a \$500,000 home the cost would be \$10.83/month or \$130.00 per year. Estimated monthly impacts to an individual home worth \$500,000 would be equivalent to a Galaxy Theater movie ticket (~\$10.00), one-month streaming services (~\$8.99), or two Big Mac meals (~\$11.98). For more information about the bond measure visit the City's website www.monroewa.gov/826/ECPRD-Bond-Measure.



ECPRD bond measure

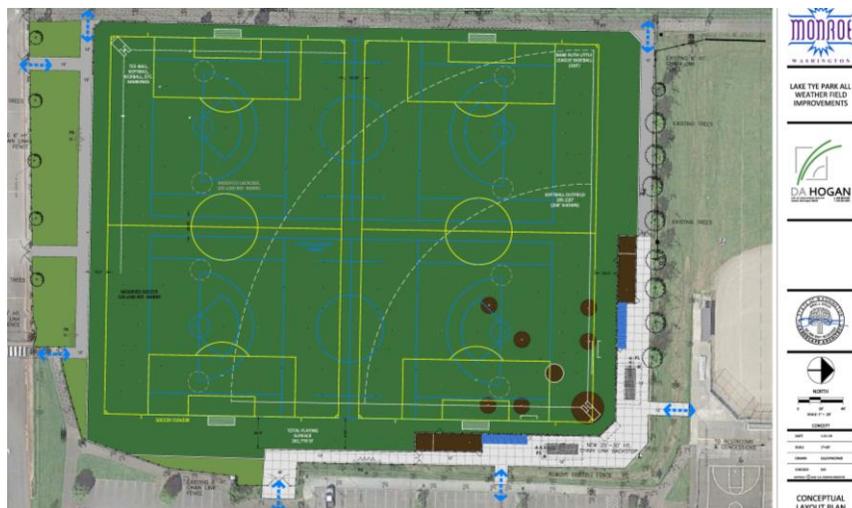
Operations

Parks and Recreation Department team members have been busy this summer with daily recreation use of our parks facilities and athletic fields, as well as scheduled maintenance, cleaning and repair work on facilities, equipment and landscaped areas. Daily athletic field preps and covered shelter use, as well as large special events are keeping our staff busy.

Monroe Park Board

Last month, the Monroe Park Board reviewed and passed a motion in support of staff's proposed Parks 6-year Capital Improvement Plan, updated annually, which will be presented to Council in the 2020 Preliminary Budget. The Board also discussed the Monroe parks and trails projects that are included in the East County Park & Recreation District's Proposition 1 bond measure for the November general election.

Please visit www.choosemonroe.com, pick up a copy of the latest issue of Choose Monroe magazine and Parks & Recreation Events & Programs Brochure for more community event happenings this month and throughout the year!



Lake Tye Synthetic Fields Project Update

The City of Monroe contracted with DA Hogan & Associates, Inc. for architecture and engineering design services for the Lake Tye Park Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to renovate two athletic fields to all-synthetic, lighted multipurpose fields. To date, the City has received grant funding and donations for over one-third of the total construction cost, estimated to be \$4,000,000. In addition, the East County Park & Recreation District's Proposition 1 bond measure in the November general election includes funding \$2,000,000 to this project.

To date, the preliminary and schematic design phase has been completed, incorporating input from staff, the public and area athletics user groups. The design/development of 95% construction documents and permit phase is underway and expected to be completed by November, with the bidding phase to follow. Construction is anticipated to commence in April, 2020, with completion by the end of August 2020.

This project, which will extend year-round playability for area youth and adults, has consistently ranked as a high priority in park master plan processes and we are excited to continue moving this project forward thanks to strong support from our community.

Project Cost:

Field development:	\$4,000,000 (Design documents estimate - 8/19)
A&E:	\$350,000
Total:	\$4,350,000

Funding Sources:

Appropriation grant (State)	\$800,000 (awarded)
Grant (RCO YAF)	\$350,000 (awarded 2019)
Grant (Snohomish County)	\$150,000 (executed ILA)
Donation	\$10,000 (Sky Valley Little League)
2019 Budget (City)	\$350,000 (in-hand-Fund 317-budgeted for A&E)
Subtotal:	\$1,660,000
Remaining need:	\$2,690,000

Project Timeline:

Preliminary Design/Schematic Design	July 2018 – January 2019
Design Development/Construction Docs 95%	January 2019 – October 2019
Permit Phase	May 2019 – November 2019
Bidding & Award Phase	November 2019 – February 2020
Construction Phase	March 2020 – August 2020
Completion/Punch List	August/September 2020

City awarded \$20,000 Forterra grant for interpretive signage along the Skykomish River

The City applied for and has been notified that it will receive grant funding for interpretive and wayfinding signage to initiate implementation of the [Skykomish-Snohomish Rivers Recreation Concept Plan](#) . The City of Monroe is a valued coalition member, actively participating in and developing the Plan, Wayfinding and Regulatory signage, and Access Point Development for the Concept Plan. This project is needed to promote the Concept Plan’s goals to promote river stewardship, safety and sustainable recreation.

The Project will provide information regarding best practices for accessing and recreating within a wild, salmon-bearing river; safe personal use; and rules regarding boater’s responsibilities at Lewis Street Park and the Department of Fish & Wildlife’s boat launch facility. The project supports the Concept Plan’s ‘Early Action Priorities’ by providing educational materials on river etiquette, regulatory and safety information, ecological stewardship, and the ‘Leave no Trace’ ethic. As a means to promote river access by diverse populations, the Project will provide information in multiple, gender-neutral languages. The grant project is expected to be completed by spring, 2020.

This project is vitally important to promote river safety, resources stewardship, and supports inclusion of diverse communities. Please visit [Skykomish Snohomish Rivers Recreation Coalition](#) to learn more about future implementation steps.



View of Skykomish River from Lewis Street Park

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

Last 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
8/5	8	14	2 camps found at Al Borlin Park. Police contacted
8/13	5	16	1 camp found at Al Borlin Park. Police contacted

8/19	22	24	4 camps found: 2 at Sky River Park, 2 at Al Borlin Park. Police contacted.
8/27	22	23	3 camps found; 2 at Al Borlin Park, 1 at Sky river Park. Police contacted
Avg.	14.25	19.25	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2019

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.