



City of Monroe, Washington
Parks & Recreation Department

May, 2020

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 age's positive recreational opportunities in clean, safe and accessible recreation facilities. Enhance health, quality living and the natural environment for future generations.

Department Update

Parks & Recreation Department COVID-19 Response Actions

Please see attached report: Park Facilities Reopening Plan.

Operations

In May, Parks Department Crew members have been continuing to perform regular tasks such as trail inspections, garbage/camp clean-up, landscape fertilization and mowing.

Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan Update

The Park Department requested proposals to update and develop its PROS Plan as is required every 6 years to be eligible to apply for and receive State Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) grant funding. The department received seven proposals from well-qualified consultant teams. After completing negotiations with the recommended consultant, a contract will be presented to City Council for approval during their July meeting. We are looking forward to working with our community in developing this plan.

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and Snohomish Conservation Futures Grants

The City has submitted two RCO grant funding requests for acquisition this round: \$1,000,000 for the proposed 'North Hill Park Site' acquisition and the other \$500,000 for the East Monroe Heritage Site. Grant rankings will be published Fall of 2020 with funded grants awarded summer, 2021. The City also applied for acquisition funding with Snohomish Conservation Futures \$250,000 for the East Monroe Heritage Site and will learn of the grant's status fall 2020.

Monroe Park Board

Due to COVID-19 the May Park Board meeting was cancelled and activities put on hold.

City Parks Unmarked Trails Inspections

In 2017, 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. Attached is the comprehensive data from 2017 to the present. The following is a summary of data for the past month:

Locations: Al Borlin Park

DATE	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	# BAGS OF LITTER COLLECTED	NOTES
5/5	17	2	Removed old camp at Al Borlin Park
5/12	8.5	2	2 camps found at Al Borlin Park. Police contacted.
5/19	7	6	
5/26	6	0	
Avg.	9.625	2.5	
			See attached Parks Homeless Response Data 2017- 2020

Volunteer Opportunities

Due to COVID-19 the City of Monroe’s volunteering has been temporarily suspended. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Katie Darrow at (360) 863-4519.

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



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Geoffrey Thomas
Deborah Knight, City Administrator

From: Mike Farrell, Parks & Recreation Director

Date: May 21, 2020

Subject: Monroe Park Facilities Reopening Plan

BACKGROUND

Parks and recreation facilities, programs and services throughout Washington have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to our state's March 2020 "Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order" and public health agency guidelines, park facilities in Monroe with either high-touch surfaces or that promote public gathering including: park restrooms, parking lots, sports courts, athletic fields, play structures, picnic shelters, skate park and Wiggly Field dog park were temporarily closed. Park facility reservations and special events have been cancelled on a rolling basis.

Effective May 5, 2020, Governor Inslee implemented a 4-phase "Safe Start" reopening plan to the Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order and moved our county to Phase 1. That day park staff reopened limited parking for day use hiking and fishing access at Al Borlin, Lewis Street, Sky River, and Lake Tye Parks. Under Phase 1, only members of the same household may travel and recreate together. Physical distancing is still required, keeping six feet between individuals outside of immediate households.

Our level of park facility re-openings and facilities that remain closed is compliant with the current state Order and is consistent with most parks and recreation jurisdictions throughout our state including Snohomish County. As a member of the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), we are also meeting our Duty of Care standard of compliance from a risk management perspective.

I, along with Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA) directors throughout our state and from Oregon have been participating in twice-weekly calls to discuss the response and action plans as they pertain to facility closures and program offerings.

MOVING FORWARD

The most pressing question for parks and recreation is how and when to move forward. WRPA parks and recreation directors are currently working together with

representatives from the Governor’s Office to interpret the 4-phase Safe Start reopening plan and guidelines coming from federal, state and local public health agencies in order to plan and prepare for future park facility re-openings. Based upon this coordinated examination of the state’s reopening plan and public health agency guidelines, I propose the following reopening plan of Monroe park facilities, programs and events that were temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic as our county is moved through each Safe Start phase:

Phase 2 Re-Openings: tennis courts, basketball courts, skate park, dog park, restrooms, playgrounds, covered shelters (up to gathering limit)

Phase 3 Re-Openings: sports fields for organized use, covered shelters (up to gathering limit), special events (up to gathering limit)

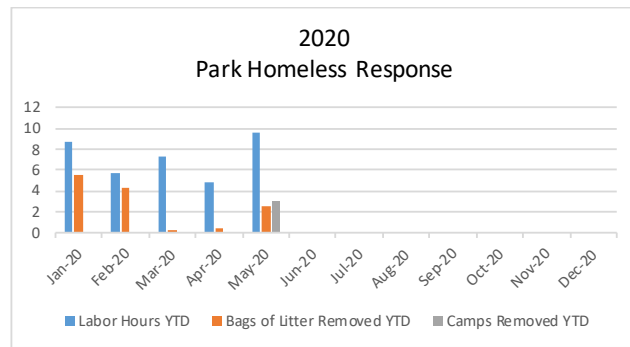
Phase 4 Re-Openings: special events

WASHINGTON’S PHASED APPROACH Reopening Business and Modifying Physical Distancing Measures				
	1 Phase 1	2 Phase 2	3 Phase 3	4 Phase 4
High-Risk Populations*	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Resume public interactions, with physical distancing
Recreation	Some outdoor recreation (hunting, fishing, golf, boating, hiking)	All outdoor recreation involving fewer than 5 people outside your household (camping, beaches, etc.)	- Outdoor group rec. sports activities (5-50 people) - Recreational facilities at <50% capacity (public pools, etc.)	Resume all recreational activity
Gatherings (social, spiritual)	- None - Drive in spiritual service with one household per vehicle	Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week	Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people	Allow gatherings with >50 people
Travel	Only essential travel	Limited non-essential travel within proximity of your home	Resume non-essential travel	Continue non-essential travel
Business/Employers	- Essential businesses open - Existing construction that meet agreed upon criteria - Landscaping - Automobile sales - Retail (curb-side pick-up orders only) - Car washes - Pet walkers	- Remaining manufacturing - New construction - In-home/domestic services (nannies, housecleaning, etc.) - Retail (in-store purchases allowed with restrictions) - Real estate - Professional services/office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Hair and nail salons/Barbers - Housecleaning - Restaurants <50% capacity table size no larger than 5	- Restaurants <75% capacity/ table size no larger than 10 - Bars at <25% capacity - Indoor gyms at <50% capacity - Movie theaters at <50% capacity - Government (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Libraries - Museums - All other business activities not yet listed except for nightclubs and events with greater than 50 people	- Nightclubs - Concert venues - Large sporting events - Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites, but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene

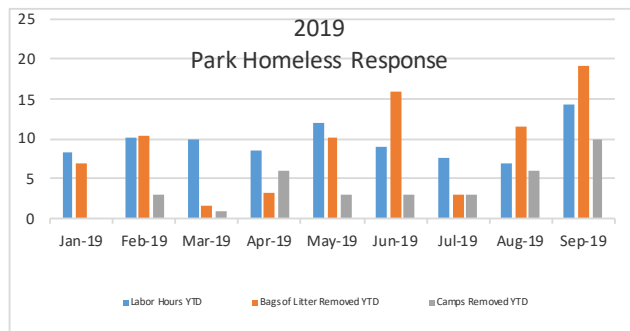
* High-risk populations are currently defined by CDC as: persons 65 years of age and older; people of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled) including people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, people who have serious heart conditions, people who are immunocompromised, people with severe obesity, people with diabetes, people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, and people with liver disease; people who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

2017-2020
Park Homelessness Response

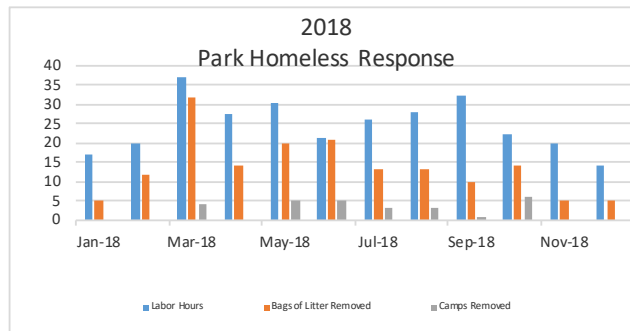
	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-20	8.75	5.5	0
Feb-20	5.67	4.33	0
Mar-20	7.25	0.25	0
Apr-20	4.9	0.4	0
May-20	9.625	2.5	3
Jun-20			
Jul-20			
Aug-20			
Sep-20			
Oct-20			
Nov-20			
Dec-20			
Total 2020	36.195	12.98	3



	Labor Hours YTD	Bags of Litter Removed YTD	Camps Removed YTD
Jan-19	8.3	7	
Feb-19	10.2	10.3	3
Mar-19	10	1.5	1
Apr-19	8.5	3.25	6
May-19	11.9	10.25	3
Jun-19	9	16	3
Jul-19	7.5	3	3
Aug-19	6.9	11.5	6
Sep-19	14.25	19.25	10
Oct-19	7.3	19.4	6
Nov-19	7.5	0.875	4
Dec-19	7.3	1.2	3
Total 2019	108.65	103.525	48



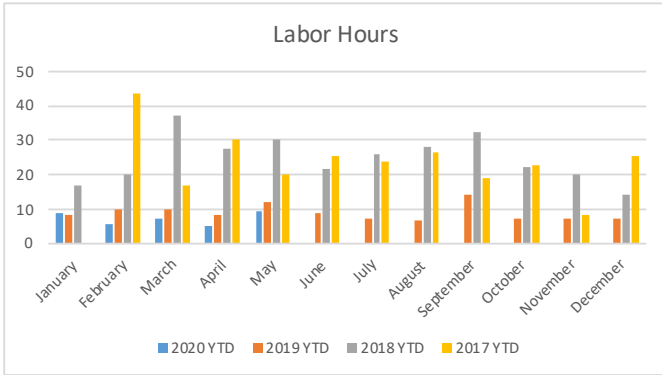
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Jan-18	17	5	0
Feb-18	20	12	0
Mar-18	37	32	4
Apr-18	27.5	14	0
May-18	30.5	20	5
Jun-18	21.5	21	5
Jul-18	26	13	3
Aug-18	28	13	3
Sep-18	32.5	10	1
Oct-18	22.5	14	6
Nov-18	20	5	0
Dec-18	14	5	0
Total 2018	296.5	164	27



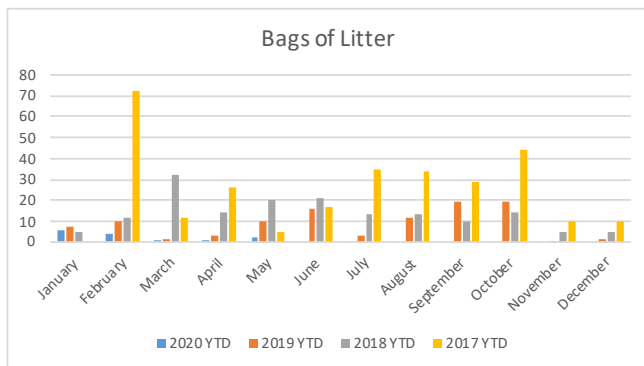
	Labor Hours	Bags of Litter Removed	Camps Removed
Feb-17	43.5	72.5	4
Mar-17	17	12	3
Apr-17	30	26	0
May-17	20	5	0
Jun-17	25.5	17	2
Jul-17	24	35	3
Aug-17	26.5	34	3
Sep-17	19	29	2
Oct-17	23	44	1
Nov-17	8.5	10	3
Dec-17	25.5	10	1
Total 2017	262.5	294.5	22



Labor Hours	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	8.75	8.3	17	0
February	5.67	10.2	20	43.5
March	7.25	10	37	17
April	4.9	8.5	27.5	30
May	9.625	11.9	30.5	20
June		9	21.5	25.5
July		7.5	26	24
August		6.9	28	26.5
September		14.25	32.5	19
October		7.3	22.5	23
November		7.5	20	8.5
December		7.3	14	25.5



Bags of Litter Removed	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	5.5	7	5	0
February	4.33	10.3	12	72.5
March	0.25	1.5	32	12
April	0.4	3.25	14	26
May	2.5	10.25	20	5
June		16	21	17
July		3	13	35
August		11.5	13	34
September		19.25	10	29
October		19.4	14	44
November		0.875	5	10
December		1.2	5	10



Camps Removed	2020 YTD	2019 YTD	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
January	0	0	0	0
February	0	3	0	4
March	0	1	4	3
April	0	6	0	0
May	3	3	5	0
June		3	5	2
July		3	3	3
August		6	3	3
September		10	1	2
October		6	6	1
November		4	0	3
December		3	0	1

