



MONROE MONTHLY

FEBRUARY 2018 EDITION



What's happened, happening, and will happen in the wonderful City of Monroe.

664 Commercial St
PO Box 486
Monroe, OR 97456
Phone (541) 847-5175
www.ci.monroe.or.us

City Council Meetings:

4th Monday of every month at 6:00pm

See calendar on page 2 for upcoming meetings/workshops and city events.

Mayor: Paul Canter

City Council Members:

- Harry Myers—council president
- Jeanni Cuthbertson
- Cindy Canter
- Floyd Billings
- Frank Thayer
- Chad Howard
- Rebekah Ballard (Student Councilor)

Planning Commission Members:

- Kathy Smith— chair
- Tim Eastridge
- Dan Sheets—vice chair
- David Mills
- Fred Cuthbertson
- Linda Fredricks
- Vacant

City Administrator:

Rick Hohnbaum

Public Works Superintendent:

David Claborn

Stay Informed:

Facebook - @MonroeOregonUSA
Instagram - @cityofmonroeoregon
Webpage - <http://ci.monroe.or.us>



ONLINE PAYMENTS **xpress** BILL PAY

Now You Can Pay Your Utility Bills Online!

As a way to offer you more choices in how you pay your bills, the City of Monroe now lets you make payments online. We have partnered with Xpress Bill Pay, the premier provider for online payment systems. **All you need is an internet connection** through a web browser and an email address.

Every month we'll send you a reminder email to let you know when your bill is online. Then, you just log into your account at xpressbillpay.com and view your bill. When you're ready to pay your bill, select a payment type. **You can pay with credit card, debit card, or electronic funds transfer.** Enter the information and you're done! It's that easy, and only takes you a few minutes each month. Or you can set up your bill on **Auto Pay** and have it automatically paid for you each month! We offered this service at the request of our customers — you asked and we delivered!

To sign up, go to <http://ci.monroe.or.us> and follow the instructions there or sign up at www.xpressbillpay.com.

Comprehensive Plan Update

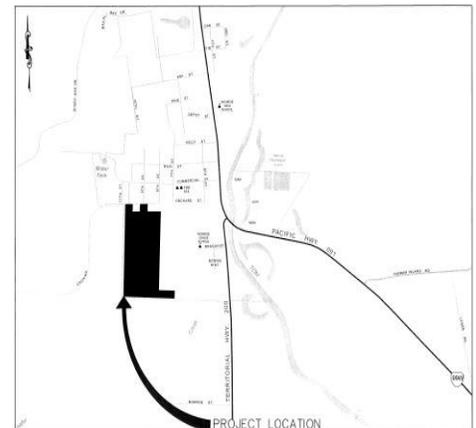
A public feedback survey was provided on the city's website for the Comprehensive Plan vision document "Monroe Tomorrow" from Jan. 11th to Jan 22nd. During that time, the city received 46 responses. All were welcome to participate in the survey. Respondents varied from city residents, Monroe community residents, and non-city residents. The survey results were originally planned to be discussed at the Jan. Council meeting but due to limited time, will be discussed at the February 26th Council meeting.

Red Hills Subdivision Application Being Reviewed by City Council

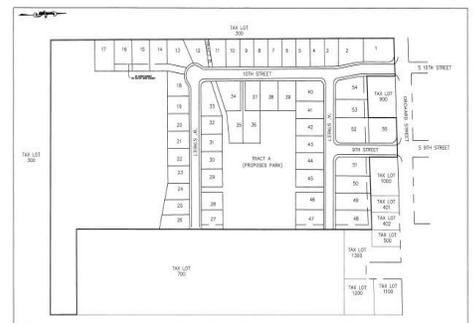
On January 8th, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to listen to the testimony and comments of the public regarding the Red Hill Subdivision. The Commission approved unanimously to approve and recommend approval by the City Council. The Red Hills Subdivision project submitted would create 55 residential lots

On January 22, the City Council held a public hearing regarding the Red Hills Subdivision. The Council voted to continue the meeting and make a decision on the application at their next meeting—February 26th.

For more information on the Red Hills Subdivision, visit ci.monroe.or.us/red-hills-subdivision-2018.



VICINITY MAP
NTS



PROJECT LOCATION

Red Hills Subdivision Map & Layout

February 2018

Su Mo Tu We Th Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

Closed
 Event

Scheduled Events	
February 2018	
Feb 1	4:30 pm Parks Committee
Feb 2	4 pm Public Works & Safety Committee
Feb 5	6pm Planning Commission
Feb 13	5:30 pm Ordinance Committee
Feb 19	City Hall Closed
Feb 20	6pm S. Benton Recreation Alliance
Feb 21	4pm Beautification Committee
Feb 26	6pm City Council at Legion Hall

Volunteer Position Openings

Planning Commission Volunteer

Description: Typically, there is one regular meeting a month on the first Monday at 6 pm. Currently the planning commission is working on a long-term development plan for the community and are meeting about once a month in a work session format. The Planning Commission is made of seven members some who are residents of the City and some who reside outside of the City.

Budget Committee Volunteer

Description: The city is seeking a volunteer to serve on the budget committee. Typically, there are 3-4 meetings a year with most of them in May. This is for a 3-year term. You must be a registered voter within the City of Monroe.

Letters of interest addressed to the Monroe City Council are currently being accepted at City Hall. For both positions questions may be addressed to the City Administrator at rick.hohnbaum@ci.monroe.or.us

LTWC Works Upstream to Improve Monroe's Drinking Water Quality

The Long Tom Watershed Council (LTWC) is a unique local organization and a recognized leader in science and community-based watershed enhancement. LTWC was founded in 1998 by a diverse group of stakeholders who responded to the opportunity to address land and water issues under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Since that time, the council has worked with landowners to complete many habitat enhancement and water quality improvement projects that benefit the people and wildlife who call the Long Tom Watershed home.

In 2016, the LTWC was awarded a grant from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to map drinking water impact areas in the watershed and provide outreach and technical assistance to small communities, including Monroe, to explore storm water improvement opportunities. This funding was leveraged to create an incentive program for voluntary storm water improvement projects in the Amazon Creek sub-basin, now called the "Trout Friendly Landscape" (TFL) program. The TFL program provides technical assistance, design and installation cost offsets and maintenance guidance for storm water management facilities like rain gardens and bio-swales to slow and clean water leaving roofs and parking lots before entering Amazon Creek and onward to the Long Tom and Monroe's drinking water intake.

For Full Story See Page 3 & 4

Transportation System Plan for Benton County and Monroe

The City of Monroe is a participating partner with the Benton County Transportation System Planning Process. During this two-year process there will be public meetings in Monroe to gain input as to transportation relations issues and concerns for the County as well as for the Monroe Element of the Transportation System Plan (TSP).

The first meeting will introduce the TSP project and obtain input regarding project goals and objectives, existing and future transportation needs and potential solutions, and project evaluation criteria. Community events represent an opportunity to disseminate project information and solicit general public input on transportation needs and solutions. The first TSP event for Monroe is expected to occur in early March. Check the City website for updates and events.





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Long Term In The Long Tom:

Long Tom Watershed Council Continues Work to Improve Monroe's Drinking Water

FULL STORY: The Long Tom Watershed Council is a unique local organization and a recognized leader in science and community-based watershed enhancement. LTWC was founded in 1998 by a diverse group of stakeholders including farmers, foresters, anglers, businesses, scientists, and conservationists who responded to the opportunity to act locally and cooperatively to address land and water issues under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Since that time, the LTWC has worked with local landowners to complete many habitat enhancement and water quality improvement projects that benefit the people and wildlife who call the Long Tom Watershed home.

Early on, the LTWC recognized the need to employ an “upstream approach” to improving water quality in the Long Tom River. With the development of the Long Tom as Monroe’s drinking water source in 2009, the LTWC recognized the increased need and opportunity to focus efforts on projects that directly impact water quality in the Long Tom and tributaries upstream of Monroe. In 2011 the LTWC began work to collect data on pesticides in Amazon Creek through the Amazon Pesticide Stewardship Partnership in collaboration with SureCrop Farm Service, The City of Eugene, and Meyer Memorial Trust. Over eight years of data collection on pesticides in the Long Tom has demonstrated that urban stormwater is the most significant contributor to pesticides found in the river. Pesticides and total organic solids are two of the most difficult challenges facing water utilities drawing from the Long Tom.

While the Long Tom Watershed Council has worked for over 20 years to help local ranchers develop win-win solutions to limit organic solids inputs to the river, the LTWC’s Urban Waters & Wildlife program formed in 2014 to directly address the urban stormwater impacts to the river’s water quality on a voluntary basis with urban commercial and industrial landowners.

In 2016, the LTWC was awarded a grant from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to map drinking water impact areas in the watershed and provide outreach and technical assistance to small communities, including Monroe, to explore stormwater improvement opportunities. This funding was leveraged by previously awarded grants from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to conduct outreach to the industrial sector, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to provide outreach and education to commercial businesses, and strong partnership with the City of Eugene to create an incentive program for voluntary stormwater improvement projects in the Amazon Creek sub-basin, now called the “Trout Friendly Landscape” (TFL) program. The TFL program provides technical assistance, design and installation cost offsets and maintenance guidance for stormwater management facilities like rain gardens and bio-swales to slow and clean water leaving roofs and parking lots before entering Amazon Creek and onward to the Long Tom and Monroe’s drinking water intake.

The subsequent high interest in the TFL program by area businesses created an opportunity for the LTWC to prioritize future projects according to their potential for positive habitat and water quality impacts downstream. In 2017 the LTWC was awarded a grant from OWEB (funded by Oregon Lottery funds) for a project titled “Designing for



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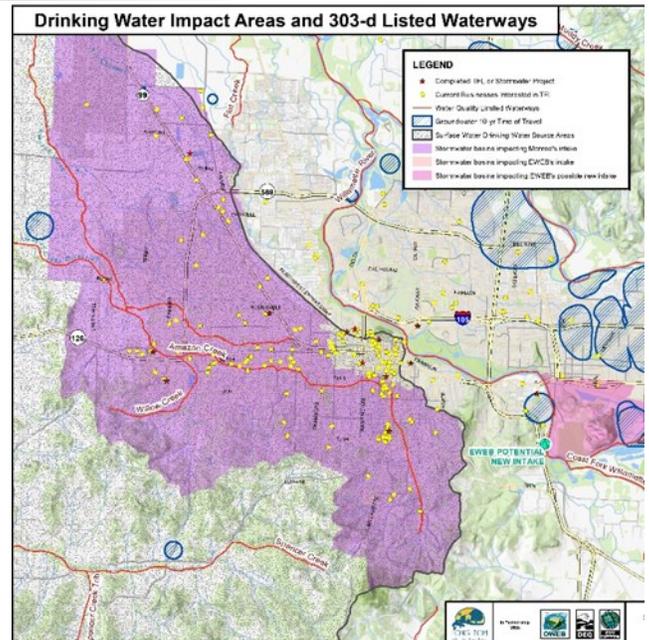
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Downstream” to develop a prioritization tool that will help the council make decisions on where project investments in the Amazon will yield the greatest benefits to downstream water quality. That process is currently under way and includes potential impacts to Monroe’s drinking water quality as a significant prioritization criteria (see map). Other factors including the kinds of pollutants present, the scale of project potential, and social factors leading to a successful project are also criteria being considered.

While the majority of this work is happening many river miles above Monroe, and out of sight of most Monroe residents, the LTWC is excited for the opportunities that exist for improving water quality in the Long Tom through these voluntary urban habitat improvements upstream. This work is an example of the LTWC’s ongoing commitment to improving habitat conditions and water quality in the lower river, and is supported by over 20 years of work throughout the watershed working toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed for people and wildlife alike.

There will be an Urban Waters & Wildlife Focused public meeting held by the Long Tom Watershed Council in Eugene in March. You can contact staff at the council, find out about meeting dates and learn more about the council’s urban work by visiting their website at: <http://www.longtom.org>.



Stormwater Basins Impacting Monroe’s Water Intake & Trout Friendly Landscape Program Projects

Timeline: LTWC’s Work to Improve Monroe’s Drinking Water Quality

- 1998 – Long Tom Watershed Council formed to work with local landowners on collaborative watershed solutions. Focused primarily on rural projects with agricultural and forestry partners.
- 2009 - Monroe drinking water source switches to Long Tom river
- 2011 - LTWC begins Pesticide Stewardship Monitoring Program – Identifies urban stormwater as largest factor affecting Long Tom water quality
- 2014 – LTWC launches Urban Waters & Wildlife Program to address urban impacts to the river
- 2016 – LTWC launches project to map drinking water impact areas & focus upon projects to improve drinking water quality
- 2017 – LTWC begins large scale prioritization effort to help select projects based on positive impact to Monroe’s drinking water