



# MONROE MONTHLY

FEBRUARY 2019 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](http://www.ci.monroe.or.us)

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

**Mayor:** Paul Canter  
**City Council Members:**

- Floyd Billings — Council President
- Cindy Canter
- Jeanni Cuthbertson
- Frank Thayer
- Lonnie Koroush
- Brian Greene
- Alan Cuevas (Student Councilor)

**Planning Commission Members:**

- Kathy Smith – Chair
- Tim Eastridge
- Dan Sheets — Vice Chair
- David Mills
- Fred Cuthbertson
- Linda Fredricks
- Cary Thayer

**City Administrator:**  
Rick Hohnbaum

**City Planning Associate:**  
Patrick Depa

**Public Works Team:**  
Terry Koroush  
Steve Wyman

**Finance Officer:**  
Tracy Jensen

**Community Development Coordinator:**  
Taylor Evans

**Stay Informed:**

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

The City offers free Notary Services to residents of Monroe.



**Senator Wyden Held a Town Hall Meeting in Monroe**

On Friday, January 18, 2019 Senator Ron Wyden held a townhall meeting at the Monroe High School. This is part of his mission to hold a townhall meeting in every county in Oregon every year.

The townhall meeting was set up so anyone who wished to ask a question was given a ticket when they entered the gymnasium. High schoolers were given a red ticket and the general public was given a blue ticket. County Commissioner Annabelle Jaramillo drew tickets alternating between the student tickets and the general public tickets.

Senator Wyden answered many questions from the government shutdown, healthcare, gun rights, the 2020 high school graduation outlook, to water sustainability and access to water in rural areas.

Overall the town hall meeting was a good opportunity for Monroe and surrounding community members to meet the Senator and talk to him about what is important to our area. We want to thank the Senator and his staff for choosing Monroe to hold this meeting.



**The City is Seeking Volunteers to Serve on the Budget Committee**

Would you like to play a leading role in the financial future plans for the City of Monroe?

The budget committee may be the right fit for you.

Serving on the budget committee allows citizens to actively determine the finance priorities and projects for the next year.

Typically, there are 3-4 meetings a year with most of them in May. You must be a registered voter within the City of Monroe. The budget committee is made up of the 7-member council and 7 electors within the city. The budget officer (typically the city administrator) will create and present a draft budget to the committee. The budget committee will conduct a public hearing and review, edit, change and approve with recommendations a budget to the City Council. Then the City Council will conduct a second public hearing, review the budget and adopt a budget prior to June 30, 2019.

If you are interested please submit a letter of interest to the Monroe City Council. If you would like more information please stop by City Hall.

The City of Monroe and Monroe's Vision & Revitalization Committee (MVRC) invite you to attend the inaugural **Vino, Vintage & Victory! Festival** on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 in beautiful Monroe.

Monroe's **Vino, Vintage & Victory! Festival** is the premier event for visitors seeking to see, taste, and experience the bounty of the Southern Willamette Valley. Visitors come together for a day of sipping wines and brews, perusing unique and vintage goods, as well as celebrating Monroe's heritage, environment, and culture. The 2019 **Vino, Vintage & Victory! Festival** will be the first iteration of what will become an annual event in Monroe.

# February 2019



Su Mo Tu We Th Fri Sat

## January 28, 2019 City Council Meeting Recap

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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		

The council sworn in the newly elected officials and discussed the vacancy position on the council and appointed Brian Greene to fill that vacancy.

The council also elected Councilor Floyd Billings to serve as Council President.

Councilor Koroush was elected to represent Monroe on the Oregon Cascade West Council of Governments Board of Directors and on the Cascade West Area Commission on Transportation.

The Mayor appointed Councilors Billings, Thayer and Canter and community member Harry Myers to the Personnel and Finance Committee. The Mayor also appointed Councilors Greene, Cuthbertson, and Koroush as well as Planning Commissioner Tim Eastridge to the Public Works and Safety Committee.

The City Council selected Rick Hohnbaum, to serve as the budget officer and the Council adopted a budget calendar for the 2019-2020 City Budget.

The Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the Benton-Corvallis Library was discussed and approved.

The council also talked about a plan to replace the outdated and worn out City Holiday lights as well as replacing the heat pump for the Legion Hall.

The Public Works and Safety Committee recommended the purchase of a new arm extension for the Kubota Tractor. The council approved this purchase.

The Personnel and Finance Committee recommended a 2.2% COLA increase for the city staff which was approved by the council.

The agreement between the City and the South Benton Nutrition program was discussed and approved

Gas Station Property options were also discussed between the council and staff was directed to have a public hearing in this regard on the next council meeting agenda.

The Main Street Project was updated and quotes were reviewed. Council referred this project to the Public Works and Safety Committee.

### Scheduled Events

All meetings are **open to the public** and are held in the City Hall Council Chambers unless otherwise noted on the website.

#### February 2019

Feb 4	6:00 pm	Planning Commission
Feb 5	5:45 pm	Personnel & Finance
Feb 6	4:00pm	Farmers Market Startup
Feb 8	4:00 pm	Public Works & Safety Committee Meeting
Feb 11	6:00 pm	Council Work Session
Feb 12	4:30 pm	Ordinance Committee
Feb 13	5:00 pm	Promotion Advisory Grp.
Feb 18	City Hall Closed	
Feb 19	6:00pm	S. Benton Recreation Alliance
Feb 20	4:30 pm	Promotion & Design Group
Feb 20	5:30 pm	Vision & Revitalization Committee Board
Feb 25	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting
Feb 27	3:00 pm	Municipal Court

For the most up-to-date event information, visit the city's website: [ci.monroe.or.us](http://ci.monroe.or.us)



Copies of the meeting agenda and council packet can be viewed at City Hall during normal business hours or on our website [ci.monroe.or.us](http://ci.monroe.or.us).



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## Current Projects Happening in Monroe

### Community Visioning Project

Local Partners: Architecture Foundation of Oregon/Oregon by Design, University of Oregon/RARE AmeriCorps Program

#### Oregon By Design Visioning Workshop

April 2018, Oregon By Design held a visioning workshop which resulted in the Monroe Tomorrow Document. Another result was the Monroe Playbook & Action Plan which highlights the community's vision for a Connection to Region, Connection to Community and increase economic opportunities. The Connection to Region highlights Monroe's natural features such as the Long Tom River and Alsea Falls as sites for outdoor recreation that will attract outside visitors and current community members to the region. Connections to Community highlights the wonderful attractions in town to enhance the living within City Limits such as the parks, community library and other features. Increase in economic opportunities examines how the City and community can support local businesses and attract new entrepreneurs to the area.

#### Strategic Doing Workshop

November 2018, we took the results from the Oregon by Design Workshop and created three meaningful projects to address the City's vision. The Connections to Community work group are working to create two maps. One map highlights attraction within City Limits such as the local parts, restaurants, historic areas, etc. The other map is a regional map that includes local wineries with the Monroe zip code, Alsea Falls and other regional attractions within a 20-mile radius of Monroe. The connections to Region work group is creating a visitor's information kiosk that highlights local history, attractions and the maps. The Businesses work group created the Business Association of Monroe (BAM) to provide local support to current entrepreneurs and host monthly network meetings.

### Monroe's Comprehensive Plan

Local Partner: Portland State University, Department of Land Conservation & Development

The Monroe Comprehensive Plan was written in December of 1979 and amended in 1986. 2016, the City's Planning Commission and City Council voted to rewrite Monroe's entire Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission hosts bi-weekly work sessions to work on chapters of the comp plan. Our RFP for the Planning Masters Program for Technical Assistance on the comp plan came through. We have projected to have the comp plan fully drafted by June 2019. It should be approved and adopted by September of 2019.

### Transportation Growth Management

Local Partner: Oregon Department of Transportation

Through the visioning processes that were established a year ago, the community expressed a desire to change the focus of the City's downtown off the highway and onto the Long Tom River. The Long Tom River has played a very significant role in our history since Monroe's incorporation in 1914. It was a source of commerce and recreation. Our hope is to accentuate this major feature once again.

The City of Monroe Riverside District Master Plan project will establish a plan for improvement of the Riverside District in the City of Monroe. Project will identify policies, plan designations, development regulations, and public improvement projects needed to improve conditions for businesses, residents, visitors, and the environment in the Riverside District.



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## Monroe Vision & Revitalization Committee

Local Partner: Oregon Main Street Association

Mission: "To honor the history and enrich the future of the community of Monroe. The goal of the Committee is to create civic pride and to motivate the diverse population, both within and outside of the city limits, to participate in designing the future of Monroe. We will identify areas in need of improvement, with a focus on developing a healthy and prosperous downtown reflecting the rich history of an authentic, rural, charming small and will create programs and strategies to make improvements, will recruit volunteers, and, with the City, will secure the funding resources necessary to achieve its goals."

Vino, Vintage & Victory! Festival - is the premier event for visitors seeking to see, taste, and experience the bounty of the Southern Willamette Valley. Visitors will come together for a day of sipping wines and brews, perusing unique and vintage goods, and celebrating Monroe's heritage, environment, and culture. The 2019 *Vino, Vintage & Victory! Festival* will be the first iteration of what will become an annual event in Monroe.

## Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Local Partner: Department of Environmental Quality

This year the City has to write their 5 Year Action Plan in which this plan identifies the water quality improvements needed within the City of Monroe and Long Tom River to be compliant with the TMDL, provides an overview of known barriers to achieving TMDL targets, establishes overarching objectives for improving water quality and provides an explanation of the annual strategy development and implementation process.