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# Press Release

For Immediate Release

## City of Monroe Adds RARE Participant to Serve as Community Development Coordinator

**Monroe, Oregon (September 10, 2018):** The City of Monroe has added Taylor Evans to serve as the Community Development Coordinator for the next 11 months.

Her position was created thanks to the City of Monroe's selection to participate in the Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) program and being awarded generous grants from The Ford Family Foundation, Willamette Valley Visitors Association, South Benton County Recreation Alliance and RAIN.

The RARE Program is an AmeriCorps service program that's mission is to "increase the capacity of rural communities to improve their economic, social, and environmental conditions, through the assistance of trained graduate-level participants, from across the US." The RARE Program is housed in the University of Oregon's Community Service Center. For the 2018-2019 year of service, RARE has placed about 32 participants all over the state of Oregon to assist communities with main street development, tourism development, economic development, and natural resource planning to name a few.

Taylor will be devoting her time in Monroe to assist the City with updating its Comprehensive Plan, strengthen its Main Street Program, develop a plan for the Long Tom River, and manage the Storm Water Program.

Taylor graduated from Hamline University in Saint Paul, Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in Public Health and Nonprofit Management. She has interned for the Minnesota Department of Health in community development and worked in affordable housing for over two years. She hopes to go on to pursue her Master's Degree in either Nonprofit Management and/or Community Planning.

Taylor is originally from Litchfield, Minnesota. She has made the journey to Monroe, Oregon through the RARE Program in hopes to explore a different part of the country, develop professionally, and help the Monroe community succeed and thrive.