



# Monroe BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

City of Monroe, Washington

## June 2024



### Are You Ready to Grow your Business through Federal Contracting?

Have you been in business for at least two years? Are you a small business ready to grow?

The federal government aims to award 13 percent of all federal contracting dollars (15% by 2025) to small and disadvantaged businesses. With certification as an **8(a) Small Business**, you may compete and receive set-aside and sole-source federal contracts, receive one-on-one business development assistance, connect with procurement and compliance experts who understand regulations, and much more!

The Small Business Administration (SBA) invites you to discover the "nuts & bolts" of its **8(a) Business Development Program** through the three-series *8(a) Business Development Program Readiness Training Series*.

Sign up for **Series 1 – "What is the 8(a) Business Development Program and am I an Eligible Applicant?"** webinar on Thursday, June 13 from 9am - 11am.

**[Register.](#)**

Series 2 and 3 are scheduled for later in June.

## Unpermitted Temporary Sign Clean-Up -- June 5th



Temporary signs, such as banners, A-frames, stake signs, etc., are allowed by City code for **limited time periods**. As in past years, City staff will conduct a large-scale pick-up of unpermitted temporary signs on **Wednesday, June 5th**. If you have a temporary sign that is past its permitted display time or was never permitted, please remove it or contact us to properly permit it.

Temporary signs require a permit from the City. **There is no fee**. For information, contact the Community Development Department at 360-863-4501 or email [landuse@monroewa.gov](mailto:landuse@monroewa.gov). Download the **permit application**.

We appreciate your cooperation in getting the right permit for your signs and displaying them appropriately.

## Energy System Grants for Manufacturers

The federal Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESCC), through its Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC), helps small- and medium-sized manufacturers **save energy, improve productivity, and reduce waste** by providing FREE technical assessments conducted by university-based teams of engineering students and faculty. This program can provide up to **\$300,000 grants** to implement energy-saving recommendations resulting from the assessment. Grants require a **50% cost-share**.

Eligibility:

- Gross annual sales less than \$100,000,000 (based on the manufacturing firm/entity);
- Under 500 employees at the facility site; and
- Annual energy bills of more than \$100,000 but less than \$3,500,000 (based on the manufacturing firm/entity)

**For more information or to apply for an assessment.**

1   
Receive a Free  
Qualified  
Assessment  
(IAC, CHP TAP,  
other *qualified*)

2   
Apply for  
Grant Funding:  
Up to \$300k  
per project,  
50% cost share

3   
Get Selected  
and Receive  
Grant Funding  
via invoices for  
incurred costs

# SCALEUP

## TRAINING SERIES

### ARE YOU READY TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

This 9-Week Course will help you:

- Clarify your vision
- Streamline your operations
- Strengthen your Product/Service
- Eliminate Chaos and Frustration
- Increase profitability
- Refine your marketing strategy
- Increase your effectiveness as a leader
- Find the right growth opportunity for you

#### Instructor-led webinars

Nine weekly 1.5-hour webinars taught by experienced business trainers that want to help your business grow.

#### Online learning

Access to online learning modules that take you through a strategic pathway to grow your business.

#### Business networking opportunities

Network with other growing small businesses like yours in class and through a cohort specific social media platform.

**Next Cohort Start:** June 4th, 2024, 9am-10:30am

[For more information or to register.](#)

List Your Business with  
*Intentionalist* - Showcasing  
Minority-Owned Businesses in  
Our Community



Intentionalist.com makes it easy to find and

support local small businesses and the diverse people behind them through everyday decisions about where we eat, drink, and shop.

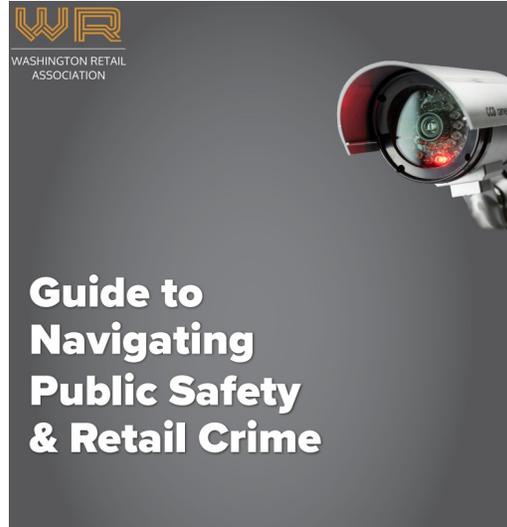
**[Learn More and List Your Business!](#)**

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## **Useful Guide for Dealing with Retail Crime and Safety**

The Washington Retail Association has compiled a useful *Guide to Navigating Public Safety & Retail Crime*.

**[Peruse the Guide!](#)**



## **FREE Training Sessions from the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)**

**[Do Your Lease Right - Avoid Expensive Mistakes](#)**

June 4

**[Start Simple Course - June 2024](#)**

Starts June 5

**[Washington State Business Tax Basics](#)**

June 6

[Taller sobre Contratistas con L&I \(Bilingual\)](#)

June 11

[Contractor In-person workshop with L&I](#)

June 12

Monroe 2044 Comprehensive Plan

## Community Priorities Workshop

*Plan Integral de Monroe 2044*

## Taller de Prioridades de la Comunidad

Join us for an interactive “game night” as we start to build Monroe’s Future Land Use Map for the Monroe 2044 Comprehensive Plan. Feedback from the workshop will inform future decisions about growth and change.

*Participa en una “noche de juegos” interactiva mientras comenzamos a construir el Mapa de Uso del Suelo Futuro de Monroe para el Plan Integral Monroe 2044. Los comentarios del taller ayudarán a tomar decisiones futuras sobre viviendas y empleos en la ciudad.*

**Wednesday, June 5th**  
Miercoles, 5 de junio  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**MSD Admin Office &  
Community Rooms**  
**14692 179th Ave SE**



SAVE THE DATE! ¡RESERVA LA FECHA!

Interested but can't make it? Visit the [project website](#) for more information and to learn about upcoming surveys and events.

# Need funding for your small business?

[Learn about SBA loans](#)

## Funding Your Small Business with SBA Loan Programs

Whether it is \$500 or \$5 million, the SBA has programs to help your business secure the funding it needs to start, grow, and expand. The SBA helps small businesses get funding through a number of loan programs, setting guidelines for lenders and reducing lender risk. These SBA-backed loans make it easier for small businesses to get the funding they need.

Join SBA Seattle District staff on **June 18th** for an overview of SBA loan programs, how to find a local SBA lender, and the technical assistance to help prepare you for your funding request.

[Tuesday June 18 | More Info](#)



U.S. Small Business  
Administration

## Main Street America Offers Series of Insightful Podcasts for Small Businesses



Latest podcast:

***The Power of Investing in Community  
(and Yourself)***

[Listen in and follow the series.](#)

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## Renewable Energy Incentives

**Federal tax rebates** and **State sales tax exemptions** are available for purchase and installation of electricity-generating solar energy systems for your business.



## *On-Going Resources for Small Businesses*



No matter what phase your business is in -- from starting up or growing, to down-sizing -- the **Small Business Guide**, created by the State Commerce Department, is an invaluable resource for your business.

The **Guide** covers:

- Planning -- Start-Up
- Payroll -- Opening
- Management -- Growth
- Closure -- Loan Programs
- And more

The State also offers an array of knowledgeable **Small Business Liaisons** who can help you with specialized resources and information.

Plus, **FREE workshops** are available, providing essential information and resources to help start and grow your business. **Next workshop: May 7, 9am-10am.**



**Owning a business is both exciting and intimidating.**

If you're looking for local resources, free business templates, e-guides, check-lists, and other helpful resources for **starting or growing** your enterprise, SCORE Greater Seattle is your destination. SCORE's mentors can assist in putting your ideas into action.

**Tools and resources to help your small business grow - SCORE**



## Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events

Monroe Farmers Market - Wednesdays 3PM - 7PM through Sept 25.

Kala Vaibhavam Indian Dance Benefit Event - June 8, 3PM - 6PM

Summer Block Party - June 22, 3PM - 7PM

Fair "Opening Day" Food Drive - July 13, 12PM - 5PM

[More information here.](#)

## Monroe Listens Report Your Issue!

The City offers a direct and easy way to send your questions, concerns, requests, and compliments directly to the City staff person who can help you. Potholes, graffiti, fallen tree limbs, drainage problems, etc. Please let us know at [Monroe Listens](#).



## MAYOR



Have a question or comment for Mayor Thomas?  
Contact him at [GThomas@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWA.gov)

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Jacob Walker



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

Have a question or comment for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov)

[Council  
Agendas/Minutes](#)





Try email marketing for free today!