



Monroe BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

City of Monroe, Washington

June 2025



Grants for Small Businesses

Amber Grant for Women awards \$10,000 **monthly** to women entrepreneurs, with an additional \$25,000 annual grant to one of the monthly winners. [Application](#)

The Freed Fellowship awards \$500 **monthly** to small business owners, with the potential for more funding. [Application](#)

The Awesome Foundation awards \$1,000 grants **each month** to individuals and groups looking to fund various projects, including startups and small businesses. [Application](#)

Wish Local Empowerment Program offers **on-going** grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 to support Black-owned businesses in growing their operations. [Application](#)

Verizon's Small Business Digital Ready program offers \$10,000 grants to small businesses that complete at least two courses or events through their platform. Yearly application period ends **June**



Wealth of Small Business Resources Available

NEW

Revenue-Based Financing Fund (RBF). It's a Pay-As-You-Earn loan that works with the reality of running a small business. Instead of fixed monthly payments, businesses repay based on what they actually make. The Revenue-Based Financing Fund is an alternative to a traditional bank loan, with **repayments that are customized to a business's needs and tailored to the business's net income**. It's especially helpful for seasonal businesses, such as event venues, florists, caterers and tourism-focused enterprise. [Learn more](#).

Small Business Flex Fund 2.

Are you a small business owner with fewer than 50 employees and an annual revenue of less than \$5 million? Are you looking to take your business to the next level? We may have a great solution for you — The Small Business Flex Fund 2. [Learn more](#).

Food Biz Academy

Through the Food Biz Academy, **Washington's Small Business Training & Education Center** offers you a competitive advantage. It's FREE, and available **online and on-demand** 24/7! Food Biz Academy just might help you whip up a recipe for success. [Learn more](#).

Web Academy

Your 24/7 Storefront: Build Lasting Customer Connections Online! A website is like having a second storefront, one that is open 24/7. With a well-designed online presence, you can build deeper relationships with your customers. Check out the listing of **FREE online on-demand training**, including **Web Academy**.

Partners In Exporting 2025 Series

The Export Finance Assistance Center of Washington (EFACW) provides tailored export training programs developed through strategic partnerships, led by nationally recognized experts in export and international trade. [Learn more](#).



WA Small Business Development Center FREE Training Events for Small Business Owners

- **HR & Payroll Solutions**, June 5, 1pm to 2pm
 - **Accounting Basics and the Importance of Accounting to Your Business**, June 12, 1pm to 2pm
 - **Hands-On Cybersecurity Essentials for Small Businesses**, June 25, 9am to 11am
 - **Profit-Driven Pricing: Mastering the Essentials for Small Business Owners**, June 26, 1pm to 2pm
 - **The B2B Digital Advantage: How to Market Smarter, Sell More, and Scale Faster with IBT**, June 26, 2pm to 3pm
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Evergreen BizLink Resource Navigator

The Evergreen BizLink Resource Navigator will connect you and your business with nonprofit resources in your area to help you **grow and thrive**. Use the search tool on their website to search for **customized resources** by location, area of assistance, business stage, business type, industry, demographics, and key words.

For more information or to get started, check out: EvergreenBizLink.com



FREE training Sessions on Expanding Your Business through Exporting

- [Unlocking Global Markets](#), June 5, 10am to 11am
 - [Payment and Banking Issues in International Trade, Including Crypto](#), June 10, 1pm to 2pm
 - [Foreign Currency Risk Mitigation Strategies](#), June 11, 12pm to 1pm
 - [Making Waves in Global Exporting: Let's Talk Ports and Trade Lanes in the PNW](#), June 12, 12pm to 1pm
-



Adopt-a-Planter on Main Street

Join other adopters and sponsor a planter on Main Street to ensure flowers, greenery, and seasonal color in our Historic Downtown Monroe. Thanks go out to the following "early adopters":

- A Different Path
- Better Built Masonry
- SugarBelle Photography
- Garden In Situ
- Monroe Chevron
- Monroe Laundry
- Fairway Mortgage

- EC Gardens
- Dianne and Richard Forth
- Tualco Grange
- Indigo Law PLLC
- Cheri Hurst
- Adkinson Estates Adult Family Home
- Ink It Your Way
- In Memory of Barbara "Grandma B" Rose
- Consolidated Services, Inc.
- In Memory of Kathleen Sather
- EvergreenHealth Monroe
- Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

Sign up soon - **there are 10 planters left for "adoption"!** To sponsor, send a check for \$100 to: City of Monroe, Parks & Rec. Dept., ATTN: Shelley Rowe, 806 W. Main St, Monroe 98272. Questions? Email Economic Development Coordinator Patrick Doherty at pdoherty@monroewa.gov

City of
MONROE

CITY OF
MONROE

Monroe City Hall and Municipal Court

Reopening Summer 2025

We look forward to serving you from the newly remodeled Municipal Campus located at **806 W. Main Street**. Reopening date will be shared soon.

Monroe City Hall

Monroe Municipal Court

Project info: MonroeWA.gov/campus

Monroe City Hall and Municipal Court Reopen Summer 2025

Construction continues at a fast pace - inside and outside - to complete the remodel of City Hall and the new space for Monroe Municipal Court. Substantial completion is expected this summer.

The official reopening date will be announced on the City's Facebook page ([@MonroeWAGov](https://www.facebook.com/MonroeWAGov)) and [website](#).

The remodel improves safety with seismic upgrades, fire protection, back-up power, upgraded network and security operations,

enhanced air quality, sound buffering and energy and environmental efficiency. These types of improvements have not been made in over 30 years. City services have occupied the campus since 1977.

When complete, customers, visitors, and employees will be better served with easier access to the campus, increased parking, remodeled City Council chambers, designated space for court services, and a secured customer service window at City Hall and Municipal Court lobby areas.

For additional project information, visit MonroeWA.gov/campus. Click [here](#) to download an “At-A-Glance” City directory.

**DOWNTOWN
MONROE
FESTIVAL LOT**

*Share your vision
in our online
questionnaire.*



City of
MONROE
WASHINGTON

SurveyMonkey.com/r/MonroeFestivalLot

Downtown Monroe Festival Lot

The City purchased approximately one-half acres at the northwest corner of **W. Main and N. Blakeley Streets** to create a space to host community gatherings, festivals, and cultural events throughout the year.

What’s your vision for a downtown Festival Lot? Outdoor cafés, food trucks, music and live art performances? Water features, small playground, visitor information center?

The City is seeking public input in several ways:

- Attend a public open house at the site (201 W. Main St)

- June 12, 6pm
- June 18, Noon
- Visit our booth at the Farmers Market
 - June 4, 3 - 6pm
 - June 18, 3 - 6pm
- Starting **June 4**, share your thoughts via an online questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MonroeFestivalLot> or scan the **QR Code** above.

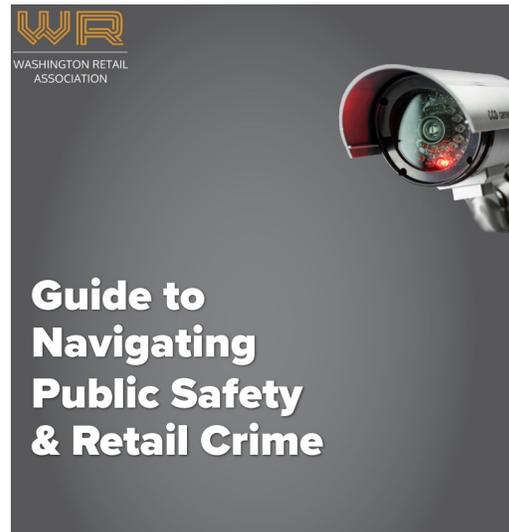
Questionnaire closes June 30

More information [here](#).

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!



DIGITAL STRATEGIES TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS



SMALL BUSINESS
DIGITAL COACHING ON MAIN STREET

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS WITH AI



Main Street America Offers Small Business Digital Strategies to Grow Your Business

Struggling to describe your business in a way that clicks with customers? Learn how to write clear, compelling business

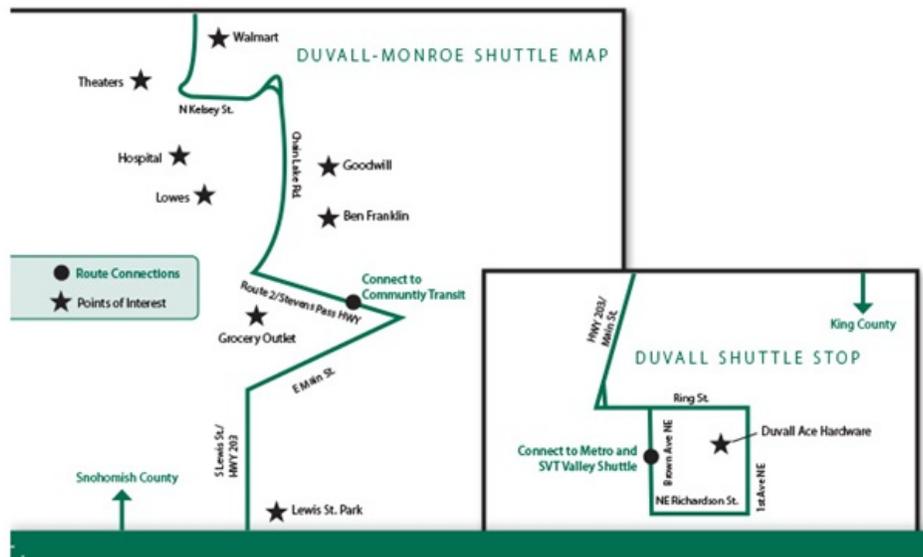
descriptions, choose the right keywords, and use AI tools to streamline the process and sharpen your message.

Key Topics Covered:

- Writing engaging long and short business descriptions
- Identifying strategic keywords that improve SEO
- Strengthening your Google Business Profile and website
- Enhancing your copy using simple AI tools

Watch this Seminar [now](#).

Duvall-Monroe Shuttle Map

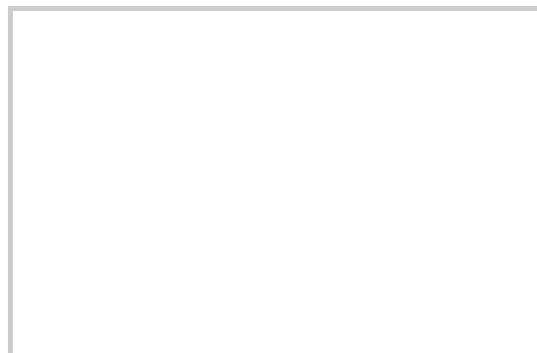
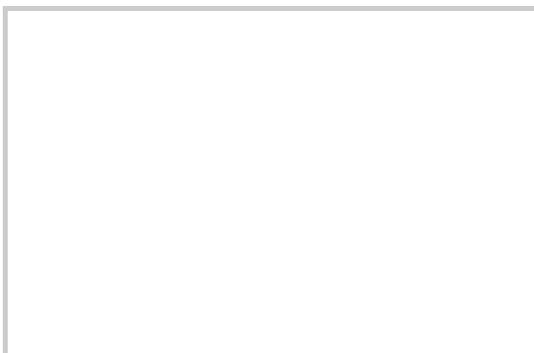


Duvall-Monroe Shuttle Restarted

The new schedule will be a peak route running in the mornings and afternoon/evenings and will enable riders to go the whole length of the Snoqualmie River Valley. It will be a “straight shot” between Walmart in Monroe and Duvall, connecting with Community Transit routes 270 and 271 that link Index and Everett.

Monthly Business Profiles

- West Main St. Corridor -





Sea Mar Community Clinic

Located at 17707 W. Main Street, this community clinic, managed by Austin Fowler, offers medical and dental services to greater Southeast Snohomish County.

Serving Monroe for over a decade, Sea Mar offers services to a diverse population: from long-time residents to immigrant communities. All are welcome!

No one is turned away due to their economic, immigration, ethnic/racial, or other status. Services are offered on a "sliding scale," based on household income. Staff speak various languages, which



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Just a few blocks further west, at 17150 W. Main Street, you'll find this huge thrift store, managed by Jamie Roberts, with a friendly and helpful crew on hand.

St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic, volunteer-based nonprofit offering services to low-income and homeless people in our region. They offer a diverse array of services, including:

- financial assistance
- homelessness prevention
- food/gas vouchers
- free beds for kids
- education
- disaster relief
- prescription medicine assistance

Assistance helpline: 425-355-3504.

In addition, they provide

helps reduce barriers to care and service.

In addition to a full array of family-practice medical and dental services, there is also a Behavioral Health clinic at 800 W. Main Street. And if a patient needs specialized services, the greater Sea Mar network of clinics is ready to accept referrals.

Come visit the many helpful and knowledgeable staff at Sea Mar or visit their [website](#).

assistance with energy bills through their "community energy fund." **Applications reopen June 2nd.**

Donations are received Tuesday - Sunday 10am to 4pm.

The store features a wide array of furniture, clothing, décor items, jewelry, and a huge vintage collection.

Look for white, yellow and blue tag specials, with prices as low as 99 cents!



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



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

resources and information.

Plus, **FREE workshops** are available, providing essential information and resources to help start and grow your business.

help your small business grow - SCORE



Membership in the Chamber brings many advantages for member business. It may include networking opportunities, member benefits and discounts, business support and advice, and the chance to have your views represented at county, state, and national levels through the Chamber's on-going lobbying activity. [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

Monday Morning Mingle - Last Monday of each month, 8:30am - 9:30am, June 30, Monroe Coffee Company, 408 W. Main St.

Monroe Farmers Market - Opening Day May 28, 3pm - 7pm and continuing Wednesday afternoons through September.

And more...

[More information and events 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



Geoffrey Thomas

Have a question or comment for Mayor Thomas?
Contact him at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov



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

Council
Agendas/Minutes



City of Monroe | (360) 794-7400 | 806 West Main Street | Monroe, WA 98272 US

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