

To whom it may concern:

Our City Council is interested in forming a partnership with a city in Mexico. The City has yet to complete an application form and paid membership dues as we are in the beginning stages of putting together an advocate group, selecting a governing board and establishing a budget. We would like to be fully prepared prior to submitting our official application.

I met with our city council last night, May 8, 2007, and they are very supportive of a city in Mexico. We have a large population here in Monroe from Ixtapa, so that town was brought up as a possible sister city. However, I would like to find out what other cities would be a good match for our city and, possibly, send a packet of info from our city to them to see if they might be interested in forming a partnership.

I found your form, online, asking for information about our city and have completed the following to assist in finding a compatible city:

City of Monroe, population 16,276 (as of April 30, 2007)

The largest City in East Snohomish County, Monroe offers the best of the NorthWest; while giving you the feel of a much smaller, close-knit home town. Located on US Highway 2 with easy access to Steven's Pass, the Seattle, Bellevue, and Everett Metro areas, and the beautiful Skykomish valley.

Geography:

Monroe is located at [47°51'28"N, 121°59'18"W](#) (47.857722, -121.988364) [GR1](#). According to the [United States Census Bureau](#), the city has a total area of 15.0 [km²](#) (5.8 [mi²](#)). 15.0 km² (5.8 mi²) of it is land and 0.1 km² (0.04 mi²) of it (0.52%) is water.

Demographics:

As of the [censusGR2](#) of 2000, there were 13,795 people, 4,173 households, and 3,058 families residing in the city. The [population density](#) was 921.5/km² (2,388.4/mi²). There were 4,427 housing units at an average density of 295.7/km² (766.5/mi²). The racial makeup of the city was 86.13% [White](#), 3.15% [African American](#), 1.32% [Native American](#), 2.38% [Asian](#), 0.31% [Pacific Islander](#), 4.01% from [other races](#), and 2.70% from two or more races. [Hispanic](#) or [Latino](#) of any race were 9.66% of the population.

There were 4,173 households out of which 45.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 57.8% were [married couples](#) living together, 10.5% had a female householder with no husband present, and 26.7% were non-families. 20.6% of all households were made up of individuals and 8.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.83 and the average family size was 3.26.

In the city the population was spread out with 27.4% under the age of 18, 8.9% from 18 to 24, 41.4% from 25 to 44, 14.2% from 45 to 64, and 8.0% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 31 years. For every 100 females there were 126.7 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 137.3 males.

The median income for a household in the city was \$50,390, and the median income for a family was \$55,793. Males had a median income of \$39,847 versus \$31,633 for females. The [per capita income](#) for the city was \$18,912. About 5.6% of families and 8.9% of the population were below the [poverty line](#), including 9.2% of those under age 18 and 14.7% of those age 65 or over.

Type of City: Combination Suburban/Rural

Industry:

Valley General Hospital is located in Monroe, at the junction of US 2 and SR 522 on 179th Street. The Hospital provides comprehensive health and emergency services, as well as senior and adult behavioral health. Valley General is Public Hospital District No. 1 of Snohomish County, which encompasses 525 Square miles in east Snohomish County and services 90,000 residents. The hospital is licensed for a total of 72 beds, 32 for acute care.

Emergency, Ambulatory (Same-Day) Surgery, and Imaging (xray, mammography, ultrasound, CT, MRI, etc.) are among the fastest growing services. Services also include a Birth Center, CCU, and a full range of PT/Rehabilitation services. The medical staff includes a wide range of physicians and specialists. The hospital offers community education classes and is involved in community outreach projects. For more details, go to the hospital web page, www.valleygeneral.org
Physician directories are also available in the Chamber office.

Monroe's Industrial Park contains about 300 commercial, and manufacturing businesses. It is still expanding with an additional 21-acre parcel recently platted for industrial use. Small industry plays a major role in the local economy. Manufacturing interests range from boat, golf clubs, clock, cabinet and furniture manufacturing, an international logo company, paper forms, food processing, contractors, automobile rebuilding, rock and gravel extraction, woodworking, plastics and weatherization products.

Residential construction activity in the Monroe area in recent years has exceeded the growth expectations of the early 1990's. Growth has been primarily attributable to the overall increasing population in the adjacent areas of Lynnwood, Everett, Bothell, Woodinville and the increasing employment

opportunities in the Everett urban area and the "technology corridor" of North King County and South Snohomish County, including the Boeing plant in Everett, as well as the growth of local industry that provide jobs in Monroe. Monroe's location provides an easy commute to Everett and surrounding areas.

Tourism and recreation also contribute to the local economy. Monroe is the home of the Evergreen State Fair, the largest county fair in the State of Washington. It also consistently rates in the top 20 in the nation for size. It attracts over 880,000 people each year, and runs for twelve days in late August, ending on Labor Day. The fairgrounds are open year-round and provide a variety of events. The Evergreen Speedway, which is located at the fairgrounds, has weekend racing on 3/8 and 5/8 mile banked ovals and figure-8 tracks from the end of March through September. The Speedway hosts events such as the NASCAR Winston racing series and the NASCAR Craftsman Truck series, as well as super stocks and bombers, demolition derbies, trains, and of course fireworks on special occasions, such as Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day. Monroe is often called the "Fair City", but "Horse Country" could certainly be its second name, with scores of stables, training arenas, and horse farms dotting the area. Snohomish County is said to have the largest horse population per capita of any county in the country. Evergreen Equestrian Park, also located on the grounds of the Evergreen State Fair, is one of the finest facilities in the West, with horse-related events scheduled all year, including the Champagne Classic, a rodeo and the Washington State Draft Horse and Mule Extravaganza held in the fall.

Climate/Weather:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Nov	Dec									
Avg. High	44°	48°	54°	58°	65°	70°	75°	76°	70°	60°
50°	44°									
Avg. Low	32°	34°	35°	38°	44°	48°	51°	51°	47°	42°
36°	34°									
Mean	38°	42°	45°	48°	55°	60°	64°	64°	58°	51°
38°										
Avg. Precip.	6.4 in	4.5 in	4.9 in	3.6 in	2.9 in	2.4 in	1.4 in	1.9 in	3.0 in	4.3 in
	6.6 in	6.9 in								

Transportation

Monroe lies within one of the two primary agricultural regions in Snohomish County. The hub of three highways, State Highways #2, #522 and #203, connect Monroe with Seattle, Everett, and the Bothell Hi-tech corridor. Monroe functions as an agricultural supply and service center as well as the trade, business and professional service center for the surrounding area. The extended service area is considered to have in excess of 115,000 persons.

Accommodations:

Best Western Baron Inn
19233 Hwy 2

Monroe, WA 98272
(360) 794-3111

Holiday Inn Express
19103 SR 2
Monroe, WA 98272
(360) 863-1900

Fairgrounds Inn
18950 Hwy 2
Monroe, WA 98272
(360) 794-5401

Segment of Community Interested in getting involved with a Sister City relationship:

Y-Diversity group, Diversity Council, and City Council members.

Reason for wanting a sister city:

- To promote relationships between the people of the City of Monroe and the people of her Sister Cities
- To continue to increase international understanding and opportunities for wider reaching relationships through the promotion of our Sister Cities in the City of Monroe.
- To involve a range of community groups including (but not limited to) organizations and other interest groups and local business under the auspices of the City of Monroe Sister Cities as facilitators.
- To promote the City of Monroe as a city welcoming tourism and international economic development.

Contact Information (for now, until formally established with interested community groups)

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