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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Manassas Tourism Climbs

Manassas, VA — September 5, 2018 —

The Virginia Tourism Corporation has released the 2017 state and local economic impact data for domestic travel. It is another record year for Virginia with expenditures reaching \$25 billion supporting 230,000 jobs, \$5.9 billion in salaries & wages and \$1.7 billion in state & local taxes. All Virginia localities saw an increase in travel expenditures in 2017 compared to previous year. The travel industry in the Commonwealth has continued to grow eight years in a row. Travel expenditures increased at a compound annual growth rate of 3.9% since 2010.

In Manassas tourism related expenditures rose 4.5% to \$71,114,795. Annual payroll rose 4.7% to \$12,124,407. Employment rose 1.5% to 589 and local tax receipts rose 2.7% to \$1,851,267.

Tourism is an important part of the local economy in many communities and especially in the City of Manassas. Few localities in the nation experienced such seminal events as Manassas did during the Civil War. The First and Second Battles of Manassas helped define our City's place in history and historical-based tourism is a key market for the City. The Manassas National Battlefield Park, Liberia Plantation and Manassas Museum serve as key attractions for visitors. However, the City's appeal to visitors now also includes the charm of its Historic Downtown (a Virginia Main Street community), its specialty shopping and dining, and special events. Special events and activities alone account for 300,000 annual visitors to Downtown. In addition to the jobs it creates and the revenue it generates, visitors may be prospective business owners or residents who become attracted to a community because of its tourism vibrancy. Tourism is economic development.

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About the City of Manassas Department of Economic Development

The City of Manassas fosters economic development through collaborative partnerships, sustainable fiscal management and supportive City services. The Department of Economic Development (DED) is directly responsible for business attraction, retention, expansion and tourism initiatives in the City. As a resourceful and collaborative organization, we work in partnership with our key stakeholders to ensure that we have what businesses need; including a highly educated and technical workforce with access to major universities and first-class training providers. We take an active leadership role in all that we do, serving as a community builder, collaborator and agent of economic growth. For help with your business needs please visit: <https://choosemanassas.org/> or call 703.257.8881.

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