



Mayor
 Harry J. Parrish II
wpmayor@manassasva.gov
 703-368-3123

Vice Mayor
 Marc T. Aveni
maveni@manassasva.gov
 703-795-9651

Council Members

Sheryl L. Bass
sbass@manassasva.gov
 703-314-4278

Ken D. Elston
kelston@manassasva.gov
 571-377-8817

Ian Lovejoy
ilovejoy@manassasva.gov
 703-828-7592

Pamela J. Sebesky
psebesky@manassasva.gov
 571-358-9454

Mark D. Wolfe
mwolfe@manassasva.gov
 703-257-1702

City Manager
 W. Patrick Pate
ppate@manassasva.gov
 703-257-8212



**City of Manassas
 2018
 Legislative Priorities**

9027 Center Street
 Manassas, VA 20110



Fiscal Relationship

- We strongly support maintenance of local revenue authority over local revenues sources such as the Machinery and Tools Tax and the Business and Professional Occupational License Fee.
- We oppose further state restrictions without a sustainable alternative revenue source and State budget cuts and mandates passed onto local governments. M&T and BPOL revenues represent \$4.85 million and \$3.14 million respectively (9% of City general tax revenue of which 60% is budgeted to support MCPS) which equates to a 17 cent property tax rate increase.

Transportation

- We strongly support the establishment of a protective price floor for the 2.1% regional gas tax as was done for the statewide fuels tax to support regional transportation like VRE and OmniLink bus services. Without a floor this revenue has fallen by 60% over the past several years.
- We strongly support improvements to VA-28 corridor in the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program including construction of the VA-28 Manassas Bypass.
- We strongly support the continued equitable funding of transportation projects by VDOT in the Northern Virginia district in the same manner as projects are funded in other regions of the Commonwealth.

Education

- We strongly support increased state funding for K-12 education including the restoration of full funding for the cost of competing adjustment, full-funding for state passed mandates and programs and funding for career and technical education.

Public Safety

- Due to a retirement (Judge Farris) from the Prince William Circuit Court of the 31st Judicial Circuit of Virginia a vacancy was created. That vacancy was frozen (not filled) and thus did not receive funding. We support the reinstatement of full funding for this position.
- Prevention of opioid addiction is vital to limiting the public safety and judicial resources that are being spent to fight this chronic disease. We support alternatives for treatment of addiction that will result in resources devoted to prevention instead of arrest, prosecution and incarceration.
- We support efforts to increase statewide mental health support (such as diversion centers) to avoid unnecessary incarceration and use of public safety and judicial resources to deal with individuals suffering from mental health disorders.
- We support full funding of State assistance to local police departments (HB 599) as stipulated in the Code of Virginia.

Land Use

- We support Chapter 22 of Virginia code 15.2, Planning, Subdivision of Land and Zoning, and oppose any legislation that further reduces local authority for planning, zoning, and mitigating the impacts of new development on our residents, schools and other infrastructure.
- We support the expanded use of development impact fees or other tools for mitigating the impact of development on local infrastructure (notably schools) and revitalizing our communities.

- We support the retention of local land use authority in implementation of Wireless Telecommunication.
- We support continued exemptions to the Proffers Legislation that will allow for local governments to work with developers to mitigate local development concerns. We support amending the existing proffer law (Sec. 15.2-2303) to remove restrictions requiring the calculation of impacts at the time of zoning approval and to repeal, in its entirety Sec 15.2-2303.4(d) that includes provisions related to the reversal of the localities land use decision by a court and the award of attorney's fees.

Utilities

- We oppose regulation of local municipal electric utilities by the Virginia State Corporation Commission. Local regulation of municipal electric utilities should be provided by local officials who are accountable to the utility customer.
- We support continued investment by the State in the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund for matching grants funding local stormwater capital projects in furtherance of the Virginia Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan.
- We support continued and increased funding by the Commonwealth, including grants to localities, to address aging public infrastructure and roads.

