



City of Manassas, Virginia

9027 Center Street, Manassas, VA 20110

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HOK Selected to Design Public Safety Facility

City of Manassas, VA . . . Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, PC, (HOK) an award-winning global design, architecture, engineering and planning firm, has been selected to design the new City of Manassas Public Safety Facility on Grant Avenue. The facility is slated to open in the summer of 2021.

The new Public Safety Facility will house the City's Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue Administration, Emergency Communications and Operations, and Information Technology personnel. Law Enforcement personnel will be fully relocated from their current headquarters on Fairview Avenue and that building will be repurposed for other government offices.

The facility will include offices, a roll call room, a training room, an exercise room, gear storage and locker facilities for law enforcement personnel, as well as a modern facility for evidence processing and storage consistent with accreditation standards established by the *Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)*.

The facility's construction on a site where a Safeway grocery store once stood will be part of a larger effort to improve the Grant Avenue corridor and create more recreational public spaces. The new building will face Grant Avenue and include a public plaza and a memorial to honor the City's first responders and public safety personnel.

Grant Avenue streetscape improvements from Lee Avenue to Wellington Road are expected to begin this year. This project aims to create a visually-appealing gateway to

the City's historic downtown and represents the third phase of streetscape enhancements envisioned in the Old Town Sector Plan. The final concept, completed in 2017, includes lane reductions between Prince William Street and Wellington Road to create a multi-modal boulevard, a wider sidewalk along the western side of Grant Avenue, a shared use path along the eastern side, and planted medians, street trees, and turn lanes.

The Public Safety Facility has been funded as an FY19 project in the adopted five-year City of Manassas Capital Improvement Program.

About HOK

HOK has 23 offices on three continents, and is known for designs that creatively blend human need, environmental stewardship, value creation, science and art. The firm's design solutions result from what it describes as "a collaborative process that encourages multidisciplinary professional teams to research alternatives, share knowledge and imagine new ways to solve the challenges of the built environment."

The firm has designed numerous public buildings around the country for federal agencies, embassies and consulates, and state and local governments, and has designed such landmarks as Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium. HOK's Justice Team, which will take the lead on the Manassas project, designs police facilities, crime labs and emergency operations centers, courthouses, detention and correctional centers, and reintegration facilities. Its design strategies seek to improve the operations, aesthetics, sustainability and social purpose of these buildings.

Recent HOK justice projects include the Fairfax County Public Safety Headquarters; the Fairfax County McConnell Public Safety Transportation & Operations Center; the City of Chesapeake Public Safety Operations Building in Virginia; the Catawba County Justice and Public Safety Center in Newton, North Carolina; and the Wake County Justice Center in Raleigh, North Carolina.

"As specialists in the design of civic and law enforcement facilities, we look forward to working with the City, Police, Fire & Rescue departments, neighbors and the community at large to design a new Public Safety Facility that will provide a safe and secure environment for the efficient operations of these vital public safety services," Hemlock says. "The new building will be designed to meet all project goals while presenting an image that is reflective of the City's motto - *Historic heart. Modern beat.*

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