



## SUSTAINING EXCELLENCE

- We support efforts to strengthen and maintain the principles of sovereign and qualified immunity for local governments and their officials.
- We support expansion of local revenue sources and increased local authority over revenues like the Machinery and Tools Tax and the Business and Professional Occupational License Fee.
- We support local control over municipal utilities as local regulation of municipal utilities should be provided by local officials who are accountable to the utility customer.
- We support holding public safety officials accountable to the 21st Century Policing strategies and not the creation of unfunded criminal justice and police reform legislation.



## VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

- We support the 2023 VML Legislative Program.



*Mayor*

**Michelle Davis-Younger**

[mdavis-younger@manassasva.gov](mailto:mdavis-younger@manassasva.gov)

571-206-8433

*Vice Mayor*

**Pam Sebesky**

[psebesky@manassasva.gov](mailto:psebesky@manassasva.gov)

571-330-5514

*Council Members*

**Theresa Coates Ellis**

[tellis@manassasva.gov](mailto:tellis@manassasva.gov)

571-247-6729

**Lynn Forkell Greene**

[lgreene@manassasva.gov](mailto:lgreene@manassasva.gov)

(571) 364-2184

**Tom Osina**

[tosina@manassasva.gov](mailto:tosina@manassasva.gov)

(571) 621-4069

**Ralph Smith**

[rsmith@manassasva.gov](mailto:rsmith@manassasva.gov)

703-303-8530

**Mark D. Wolfe**

[mwolfe@manassasva.gov](mailto:mwolfe@manassasva.gov)

703-257-1702

*City Manager*

**W. Patrick Pate**

[ppate@manassasva.gov](mailto:ppate@manassasva.gov)

703-257-8212

# 2023

## CITY OF MANASSAS, VIRGINIA

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES





## COMMUNITY VITALITY

- We support local control over land use decisions, including planning, zoning, and mitigating the impacts of new development on our residents, schools and other infrastructure.
- We support elimination of the annexation moratorium as the Commonwealth continues to de-emphasize funding obligations to cities like funding for local police departments (HB 599).
- We support more resources from the Commonwealth to increase home ownership such as down payment assistance and low-interest loans.
- We support more funding from the Commonwealth to support implementation of the Marcus Alert Crisis Response mandate adopted by the General Assembly.
- We support increased funding to build community crisis service capacity within Region 2, to include the expansion of crisis bed space, to buffer and supplement bed space needed for Temporary Detention Orders (TDO) while waiting for state bed space to become available. This would eliminate significant stress and resource allocation for our public safety personnel and local hospitals.
- We support increased state general funding for community-based public health programs, to include programs such as Healthy Families, Comprehensive Health Investment Project (CHIP) of Virginia, Smart Beginnings, and Resource Mothers. These are critical investments in programs that ensure a strong start for children, and can help reduce the need for costlier interventions later in life.

- We support increased efforts to address substance dependency, and these programs must be comprehensive and coordinated with localities. The state should develop and support evidence-based prevention initiatives and should continue to improve access to treatment.
- We support General Assembly recognition of the City of Manassas 150th Anniversary of its original incorporation in 1873.



## ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

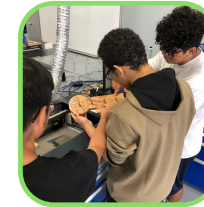
- We support funding for education and workforce development particularly for Career and Technical Education and the strengthening of economic development incentives that spur job creation and retention.
- We support additional funding for Fast Forward, internships, career placement, and other workforce development programs managed by the Virginia Community College System.
- We support local flexibility in the promotion of economic development.



## TRANSFORMATIVE MOBILITY

- We support improvements to VA-28 corridor in the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program including construction of the VA-28 Manassas Bypass and roundabouts along with 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.

- We support increased funding for public transit, multi-modal, and alternative mass transit solutions.
- We support amending Virginia Code Section 15.2-1901 to authorize the use of eminent domain for transportation improvements on property contiguous to, but outside the city boundaries. This authority would be analogous to eminent domain use outside the city boundaries for public utilities.



## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- The City of Manassas provides more than two times the required local funding for Manassas City Public Schools. We support actions by the General Assembly to recognize and fund the true costs of public education and significantly increase funding for K-12 education, pre-kindergarten (Pre-K), and for career and technical education.
- The current Standards of Quality do not recognize the necessary number of instructional and support staff to provide a 21st century education. Required raises for SOQ-funded positions not only mandate a local match, but also necessitate the City to fund 100% of raises for non-SOQ-funded positions in order to prevent pay disparities among teachers. This amounts to an unfunded mandate on the City and the School system.