



City of Manassas, Virginia
9027 Center Street, Manassas, VA 20110

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Manassas Community Conversations begin June 19

City of Manassas, VA . . . The City of Manassas will kick off 2018 Comprehensive Plan update by inviting citizens to targeted Community Conversations beginning June 19, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Martin K. Alloy Boys and Girls club at 9501 Dean Park Lane. This first session will be a visioning session on land use.

People may wonder why they don't see commercial businesses in the middle of residential neighborhoods? Or why there is a shady walking trail to stroll through at Stonewall Park? Or why they can enjoy outdoor dining under the stars on Battle Street?

This didn't happen by chance. As the City of Manassas kicks off an update of the Comprehensive Plan with a series of Community Conversations this summer, the importance of planning those neighborhood amenities and commercial areas will come into focus. The goal of the 18-month update process is to take the pulse of the community and create a document that will guide future land use, development, recreation, preservation, and transportation policy decisions. With that in mind, Manassas citizens are invited to attend any or all of the Community Conversations on key topic areas like land use and transportation.

Additional meetings will cover parks and recreation; community appearance and the environment; economic development; infrastructure; culture and historic resources; and a Town Hall meeting hosted by City of Manassas boards, commissions, committees, and the City Council. If the term Community Conversations sounds familiar, it is because citizens and visitors had the chance to participate in Phase I of the Conversations last year. Sometimes participants simply wrote their ideas on post-it notes attached to poster boards at the Farmer's Market, while some participated in online forums, and others engaged in discussions at evening meetings. All the ideas that were gathered in person and online will find a place in the final Comprehensive Plan document.

This year's Comprehensive Plan update looks ahead to the year 2040 and will—with the help of extensive citizen input—sketch out both big-picture issues and neighborhood-specific plans like those that created outdoor dining on Battle Street. It will also include the City's first

Transportation Master Plan, a document that will guide future transportation investments and improve mobility in the City.

Planning Commission Chair Harry Clark notes the importance of citizen participation in the Plan's update. "The Comprehensive Plan is a key blueprint that the Commission and City staff use to guide Manassas development. It provides a vision toward the kind of city our citizens want," Clark explains. "As such, participation from all Manassas residents in crafting the plan is very important. The Planning Commission is making a strong effort to reach out to all of our citizens to create a plan worthy of our great city. We hope for and look forward to strong citizen participation in this important project."

In addition to the scheduled meetings, City staff are available to meet with neighborhood and community organizations by request. Contact 703-257-8223 for more information about hosting a meeting. Visit www.manassascity.org/planmanassas for more information on the Comprehensive Plan Update. Visit www.letstalkmanassas.org to join in the online conversation.

Upcoming Community Conversations Meetings Include:

- Comprehensive Plan Kickoff & Community Conversation on Land Use
hosted by the Planning Commission
Tuesday, June 19 at 7 p.m., at the Boys and Girls Club, 9501 Dean Park Lane
- Parks & Recreation Community Conversation
hosted by the Parks & Recreation Committee
Wednesday, July 11 at 7 p.m. at the Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street
- Community Appearance & Environment Community Conversation
hosted by the Manassas Beautification Committee
Thursday, July 19 at 7 p.m. at Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive
- Economic Development Community Conversation
hosted by the Manassas Business Council
Thursday, August 2 at Noon at CenterFuse, 9071 Center Street
- Infrastructure Community Conversations
hosted by the Utility Commission
Thursday, August 9 at 7 p.m. at Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive
- Culture & Historic Resources Community Conversation
hosted by the Historic Resources Board
Tuesday, September 4 at 7 p.m. at the Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street
- Community Conversation Town Hall on Land Use and Transportation
hosted by the Manassas City Council
Monday, September 17 at 7 p.m. - Location TBA

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