A New Way to Report a Concern

Have you driven by a pothole or noticed a streetlight out when walking around the City of Manassas? Do you ever think to yourself, "I really should tell someone about that?"

There is a new way to report concerns right from your phone. Get the SeeClickFix app on your phone, tablet or mobile device. It is available for Android and Apple and easy to use.

The City is using SeeClickFix because the platform is efficient and easy to use for both citizens and staff. Those reporting a concern can go on the website at www.manassascity.org and click on Report a Concern. This will take the citizen to a list of concerns. Select the concern you wish to report.

The GPS on your phone will let City staff know exactly where the problem exists and where to fix the concern. Users can follow their requests and other concerns through the app or on their computer.



Please remember, if you are using this app, it is for non-emergency issues only. This app is not monitored 24/7, but will be answered during business hours Monday - Friday. For emergencies, please dial 9-1-1. For non-emergency police issues, please dial 703-257-8000.

City staff look forward to collaborating with the residents and visitors to the City of Manassas to make the City, as Mayor Marvin Gillum would say, "A Community for a Lifetime."

Election Information

There is an election coming up in November. Do you know where and how to register and vote?

Tuesday, November 6, is the General Election where citizens will decide midterm elections to include: U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives 10th District, City Council and City School Board seats. There will also be Constitutional Amendments that you can read at www.elections.virginia.gov.

The following are important dates to remember for the November election:

The Voter Registration office at 9025
 Center Street will be open for "In-

Person" Absentee Voting Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning Friday, Sept. 21 and two Saturdays before the Election, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Extended hours for "In-Person"
 Absentee Voting are Wednesday-Friday, 10/24 10/26 & Thursday-Friday 11/1 & 2, 8:30 a.m. 9 p.m. at the Voter Registration office.
- Last day to request an Absentee Ballot by mail is Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018 by 5 p.m.
- Final "In-Person" Absentee Voting is Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018.
- The last day to register to vote in the Nov. 6, 2018 General Election

will be Monday, Oct. 15, 2018 at 5 p.m., or online 11:59 p.m.

To learn more about voting in the City of Manassas, including how to vote absentee or where your poll is, visit www.manassascity.org/vote.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager W. Patrick Pate

Fall has arrived bringing with it the many fairs, festivals, school activities and cooler evening strolls that we enjoy in our community. Remember you can go to www.visitmanassas.org to see a listing of many of the things that are happening around Manassas.

As we move into the fall the City is spending a considerable amount of time and effort gathering feedback from the community to understand the different perspectives you have on City services. Ongoing Community Conversations have provided direct opportunities for citizens to give input on topics of interest that will guide discussions on short- and longrange City plans. You can also go to www.letstalkmanassas.org to provide comments on your ideas, priorities and vision for the future of the community.

A City Leadership Academy (CLA) started this fall where interested citizens are spending one evening a week over five weeks learning about City services and programs. They have heard about City administration, public safety, public infrastructure, planning and economic development and will complete an exercise on prioritizing City finances and budgeting. This also gives us an opportunity to hear their questions about these services.

Over the next month we will be receiving the results of the 2018 Citizen Satisfaction Survey that was sent to a randomly selected scientific sample of residents. This will be the third

scientifically valid survey completed by City residents and will give us tremendous insight into changes in perceptions over the past several years and how we compare with other jurisdictions around the country. This is very valuable information.

As an example, in the last survey one question asked about factors impacting your decision to live in Manassas. The top responses were affordability of housing, proximity to family, safety and security of the City and employment opportunities. Three of these issues, Housing and Redevelopment, Public Safety and Economic Development are Council priorities that have received significant emphasis over the past two years. You can see this in the new housing that is being completed downtown and at The Landing at Cannon Branch.

Public safety emphasis can be seen in the new fire and rescue station and public safety building that are both in design. Several economic development announcements that will result in significant job opportunities in the community over the next several years have also been made over the past several months.

I encourage you to go to our website when you have questions about City services. If you are wondering about the fall leaf collection schedule, what is on the November ballot, where to vote, the status of a particular project such as the Prince William Street improvements, when is the next Council meeting or how do I sign up to get City press releases – all

of this information is on the website at www.manassascity.org.

In order to better allow you to communicate things that you see in the community, this month we released a new app, SeeClickFix, to allow citizens to report a concern that they see in the community. Residents are often the first to see an issue, and by quickly reporting that concern, it can be quickly addressed. The application has a list of frequently reported issues such as a streetlight outage, pothole, missed garbage collection or a code enforcement issue. Your direct reporting of these issues helps us to maintain a high quality of life in the City.

Finally, as many of you know having spent most of my life in the Carolinas, I have family and many friends in the area. We are fortunate that emergency forecasting has tremendously improved and folks were given plenty of time to prepare and evacuate as necessary. The loss and damage to property was immense and the rebuilding of lives and property will take significant time. The people who are suffering through this disaster need our thoughts and prayers. We are fortunate that we did not suffer a direct hit in our area this time, but do not forget the lessons brought by this hurricane when you see future warnings that could impact our area.

On a brighter note, remember that Mother-in-Law's Day is October 28 followed closely by Halloween on October 31!



Preparedness Moment

Did you know... the Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30th and can affect areas more than 100 miles inland. You should have emergency food, water and supplies to support yourself for 3 days. Now is the time to prepare!

Did you know...most deaths associated with hurricanes are from storm surge and flooding. Widespread torrential rains associated with these storms often cause flooding that can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated. Turn around, don't drown!

City of Manassas Wins Governor's Technology Award

City of Manassas GIS and Airport staff received the Governor's Technology Award for their new app - the Regional Airport Inspection Application. This new application allows the Manassas Regional Airport to perform FAA required runway and airport property inspections electronically on their mobile devices.

The application created by staff members Margaret Montgomery, GIS Coordinator, and Richard Allabaugh, Airport Operations, reduces the need for paper reports and maps, decreases the time to transmit findings to maintenance staff, eliminates the confusion of handwritten notes and increases the ease in locating archived records and generating maps. This app allows for easy archiving and greater ease of access for staff.

"This is no small achievement because the competition was even fiercer than usual," said Jack Mortimer, Vice President of Events for Government Technology Magazine. "The panel of



Richard Allabaugh, Airport Operations and Margaret Montgomery, IT/GIS stand next to the award at City Hall.

12 judges from state, county, city and education faced a difficult challenge but your entry stood out as being clearly praiseworthy. Congratulations!"

The winners were recognized at the Commonwealth of Virginia Innovative Technology Symposium (COVITS) in Richmond, Virginia.

Communicating with the City of Manassas

Did you know that there are multiple ways to communicate with your City?

Hearing from our residents is how we improve our services to you. People can walk into City Hall to let us know what concern they may have, or

- Visit www.manasssascity.org and click on Report a Concern.
- Visit www.letstalkmanassas.org and comment on one of the projects listed. This website is helping to shape the future of the City for years to come.
- Participate in one of the multiple Community Conversations being hosted all over the community
- Call our customer service department to let us know about electric, water, sewer and trash/ recycling concerns at 703-257-8245.
- Call our 24-hour operations line if you are experiencing a power outage at 703-257-8353.

 Visit our Facebook page or Twitter page and direct message the City. www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas or www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

But, we also want to provide you with the information you may need. The City website is full of great information on government resources and services. Did you know that you can find records all the way back to 1873 when Manassas became a town? These can be found under City Clerk, Public Records.

The website also has a really helpful tool called Notify Me. It's a place where residents and visitors can sign up to be notified when new information is available on given subjects. You can find this newsletter there along with Council agendas, press releases, tax reminders and more. Visit www.manassascity.org/notifyme.

The City of Manassas also has multiple social media platforms to keep our residents informed about the subjects of interest. Rather than talk about each platform, below are the addresses to the City's social media:

- www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas
- www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas
- www.facebook.com/ManassasPD
- www.twitter.com/Manassascitypd
- www.facebook.com/ cityofmanassasFRD
- www.facebook.com/ cityofmanassasleisure
- www. Flickr.com/photos/ cityofmanassas
- https://www.youtube.com/user/ ManassasCityVA
- And our newest www.facebook.com/ choosemanassas

Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas:

Through October 20 - Free **Historic Downtown** Walking Tours, Saturdays at 3 p.m. www.visitmanassas.org

Farmer's Market - Thursdays & Saturdays - 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thursdays under the Harris Pavilion, Saturdays on Prince William Street.

ww.visitmanassas.org

Through October 27 - Museum at the Market -Saturdays during the Farmer's Market www.manassasmuseum.org

Oct. 5, 6-9 p.m. - First Friday in Historic **Downtown Manassas**

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m. - Manassas Chorale Silver **Serenade Concert**

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 5 - 2018 Personal Property Tax is due www.manassascity.org/tax

Oct. 6, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - 36th Annual Fall Jubilee - over 100 vendors, crafts and great gift items. www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Operation Staying Alive Hands-only CPR Training

www.manassascity.org/fire

Oct. 6, 8 a.m. - noon - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste Drop Off @Manassas **Transfer Station**

www.manassascity.org/trash

Oct. 10, 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation & **Progress Speakers series**

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 18 - 21 - B17 Aluminum Overcast Aircraft at the Manassas Regional Airport for rides and tours

www.B17.org

Oct. 19, 8 p.m. - Cemetery Tour www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 19 - 21 - **Dracula** performed by the Manassas Ballet Theatre.

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. - 6th Annual Hangar Dance and Dinner at the Manassas Regional Airport www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 20, 8:30 a.m. - Alzheimer's Awareness 5K

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 21, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 25, 7 p.m. - Community Conversation with Point of Woods East HOA @Public Works www.manassascity.org/planmanassas

Oct. 25, 7 p.m. - Community Conversation with Wildwood HOA in City Hall

www.manassascity.org/planmanassas

Oct. 27, 10:00 a.m. to noon - Haunted **Happenings**

www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 27, 6, 7, and 8 p.m. - Spirits of Liberia Tours www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 29, 7 p.m. - Community Conversation with Point of Woods 1 & 2 HOA @Public Works www.manassascitv.org/planmanassas ***

Oct. 31 - Halloween!

Nov. 2, 6 to 9 p.m. - Fall Gallery Walk www.visitmanassas.org ***

Nov. 2 & 3 - The Holiday Bazaar - Novant Health Auxiliary - 8700 Sudley Rd.

Nov. 3, 11 a.m. - 10th Annual Veterans Day www.visitmanassas.org

Parade

Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to noon - RecycleFest - Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off. Shredding and more

www.manassascity.org/trash

Nov. 3, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Fall Bazaar & Rummage Sale at the Manassas Senior Center Nov. 4 - Daylight Savings Time - Set your clocks back one hour and don't forget to check the batteries in your smoke alarms!

Nov. 6 - Election Day - Vote

www.visitmanassas.org/vote

Nov. 14, 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation and Progress

www.visitmanassas.org

Nov. 24 - Shop Small Saturday

www.visitmanassas.org

Nov. 30 - Dec. 31 - Deck the Museum

www.visitmanassas.org

Nov. 30, 5-8 p.m. - Holiday Open House at the **Manassas Museum**

www.visitmanassas.org

Nov. 30, 5:15 p.m. - Santa Lights Manassas -Meet Santa as he comes to town by VRE then lights the tree on the Museum Lawn.

www.visitmanassas.org ***

Dec. 1, 10 a.m. - 73rd Annual Greater Manassas **Christmas Parade**

gmchristmasparade.org

Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - We Once Met By Chance: Four Life Stories of American Civil War

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 5 - Feb. 24 - New Exhibit: True Sons of

Freedom - at the Manassas Museum www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 8 - Holidays of the Past at Liberia House (tickets required)

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation and **Progress**

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 12 - 16 - Winter Wonderland Model Train **Show** @Candy Factory

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 13-23 - The Nutcracker by the Manassas **Ballet Theatre**

www.visitmanassas.org

Get Social!

Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.



www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas



www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

Put your own photos up at www.flickr.com/groups/ mycityofmanassas.

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email pprince@manassasva.gov

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools **City of Manassas Council City of Manassas School Board**

703-257-8213 Chairman Sanford S. Williams 571-535-6364 Mayor Harry J. Parrish II Vice Mayor Sheryl L. Bass 703-314-4278 **Vice Chair Kristen Kiefer** 571-606-0285 Marc T. Aveni 703-795-9651 Scott M. Albrecht 571-606-1129 Ken D. Elston 571-377-8817 Tim Demeria 703-895-4856 lan T. Lovejoy 703-828-7592 Peter O'Hanlon 571-535-0652 Pamela J. Sebesky 571-330-5514 Suzanne W. Seaberg 703-869-1171 Mark D. Wolfe 703-257-1702 Robyn Williams 571-535-7510