City of Manassas
2019
Legislative Priorities

9027 Center Street
Manassas, VA 20110
Economic Development
• We strongly support passage of legislation adopting the proposed MEI custom performance grant of $70 million for site preparation and facility costs at the Micron facility in Manassas.
• We support funding for workforce development particularly for Career and Technical Education.
• We support changes to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act to allow local government flexibility in establishing commercial downtown or central business district areas as exemptions in addition to “commercial lifestyle centers” as noted in Sec. 4.1-308E.

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 $3.3 million respectively (9% of City general tax revenue of which 60% is budgeted to support MCPS and would require a 17 cent property tax rate increase to replace).

Transportation
• 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
• 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.

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.

Virginia Municipal League
• We support the 2019 VML Legislative Program.