



City of Manassas Park 2012 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

PRIORITIES

The Manassas Park Governing Body has adopted five legislative priorities:

1. Improve traffic flow on Route 28 between Old Town Manassas and I-66
 - Short-range improvements (uses existing right-of-way)
 - Convert one lane on Route 28 between Old Town Manassas and Bull Run into a reversible lane that would shift directions to accommodate the morning and evening commutes.
 - Construct reversible lane within current median from Bull Run to I-66
 - Improve Route 28 bridge over Bull Run to handle 5 lanes
 - Encourage commuters to move out of individual cars to mass transit
 - Synchronize traffic signals between Old Town Manassas and I-66
 - Study the implementation of an adaptive traffic control system between Old Town Manassas and I-66
 - Medium-range improvements (uses existing right-of-way)
 - Reconfigure Route 28 from Manassas to Bull Run into a highway with 3 lanes dedicated for northbound traffic and 2 lanes dedicated for HOV/BRT
 - Reconfigure Old Centreville Road/Ordway Road into a highway with 3 lanes dedicated for southbound traffic; continue south to Church Street in Manassas via Mathis Avenue (connection between Old Centreville Road and Mathis Avenue would occur in Manassas Park)
 - Widen Route 28 from Bull Run to I-66 for 3 lanes in each direction; construct one additional lane in current median to allow for 2 dedicated HOV/BRT lanes
 - Improve Old Centreville Road bridge over Bull Run to handle 3 lanes
 - Limit access to Route 28 limited to signalized intersections between Liberia Avenue and I-66
 - Long-range improvements
 - Add capacity outside the existing right-of-way
 - Conduct a Route 28 Traffic Study
 - Return Route 28 to VDOT's six year plan
2. Restore \$60 million per year in aid to localities cut from state budget and provide full funding for Constitutional Officers and their staffs.
3. Oppose new mandates that are not fully funded.

4. Oppose restrictions on the ability of local elected officials to raise revenue to pay for local government services.
5. Oppose restrictions on local government land use authority including restrictions on conditional zoning, proffers and impact fees, and oppose to eminent domain procedures that would increase taxpayer cost to build roads and other infrastructure.

OTHER ITEMS

In addition the Manassas Park Governing Body:

1. Supports the Legislative Priorities recommended by the Manassas Park School Board.
2. Specifically opposes efforts to limit on City authority to levy Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) tax and Machinery & Tools (M&T) tax.
3. Supports receivership legislation to allow local governments to work with owners of blighted properties, private developers and other private groups to return those properties to a useable condition.
4. Supports legislation to prohibit predatory & usurious lending practices and recommends legislation that would:
 - Impose an interest rate cap of thirty-six percent (36%), calculated as an effective annual percentage rate including all fees or charges of any kind, for any consumer credit extended in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
 - Prohibit a creditor's use of a personal check or other device as a means, directly or indirectly, to gain access to a consumer's bank account; and
 - Incorporate into the Virginia Code the protections regarding consumer credit to military personnel as reflected in the Military Lending Act, 10 United States Code Section 987.
5. Supports a legislative study of authorizing elected school boards to exercise tax levying authority.
6. Opposes proposals to set a single local match rate for all Comprehensive Services Act services and supports current local match rate structure which provides incentives to serve children in the least restrictive, community & family-based settings.

7. If ABC is privatized, supports giving local governments authority to apply zoning laws to liquor stores, to participate in the licensing process, and to impose and collect taxes on alcohol sales.
8. Support state and federal funding for water quality improvements. Virginia's local governments face mounting costs for water quality improvements for sewage treatment plants, urban stormwater, combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). In response to federal and state legislation, regulation and policies, the City joins VML in urging the federal government and the Commonwealth to provide adequate funding for these water quality improvements. The City supports dedicated and adequate state appropriations to the Water Quality Improvement Fund to make full and timely payments under point source upgrade contracts with local governments. Additionally, the City requests the General Assembly to address costs associated with the permit requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and new EPA regulations.
9. Supports return responsibility for funding State Line of Duty insurance benefits to the State.
10. Supports PRTC proposal to transfer responsibility for motor fuels tax collection and enforcement from Taxation to DMV.