

HISTORY OF MANASSAS PARK

The City of Manassas Park is an independent jurisdiction in Northern Virginia located approximately 30 miles southwest of Washington D.C. Manassas Park borders Prince William County and the City of Manassas. Manassas Park is primarily residential in nature within close proximity to interstate and railway transportation into the heart of the Greater Metropolitan DC area. Manassas Park is a beautiful city that can boast great historic significance.

EARLY HISTORY

Manassas Park began on the road to independent city status in 1955 when the first homes were built as a subdivision in Prince William County. Shortly thereafter, in 1956, a group of citizens founded a civic association. In 1957 the courts were petitioned and Manassas Park achieved Town status in Prince William County. “The Park”, as the city was called, became governed by a Mayor and a Town Council.

In 1975 Manassas Park incorporated as an independent city. It was the last town in the Commonwealth of Virginia to become a city before the Virginia Legislature placed a moratorium on such actions. Schools were built. Police, Fire and Rescue, and Public Works departments were upgraded and the Department of Social Services was created.

SUBURBAN GROWTH

Following the annexation of approximately 600 acres of land in 1974, the newly incorporated City of Manassas Park doubled its size. This action provided the city with vacant, undeveloped property, for residential and various commercial and light industrial uses such as the Conner Center Industrial and Business Park.

Development has continued in this area enabling the city to expand its commercial tax base, including the most recent project, Park Center. Park Center, which broke ground in 2007, will form the core of a new downtown. Located adjacent to the VRE station, the transit-oriented, mixed-use development will include, in its first phase, 45,000 sq. ft. of retail, 274 residential units and 25,000 sq. ft. of flexible commercial/residential space. The anticipated completion date for Phase I is fall 2008.

MANASSAS PARK TODAY

The City of Manassas Park offers its citizens an established community along with the prospects of significant future residential and commercial development. The desirable living features such as neighborliness and community pride in a small, progressive city environment, add to the city’s charm.

The city, which has a total area of 2.6 square miles and an estimated population of 13,910, is the second fastest growing jurisdiction in the state with a 13.1% change in population from 2000 to 2006. The median sales price of existing single family detached homes sold during calendar year 2007 was \$400,000; \$300,000 for existing townhomes; and, \$289,940 for existing residential condominiums.