

Lawrence D. Hughes
City Manager
Manassas, Virginia

Larry Hughes has been City Manager of Manassas since 1999. His tenure has been focused on major community level projects, economic development and financial management. The completion of the City Square Project was an early success. City Square includes the Loy Harris Pavilion, a walkway along the railroad and the reuse of the Hopkins Candy Factory as a Center for the Arts. The City has developed an award winning Neighborhood Services Program that features partnerships between neighborhoods and the City to engage neighbors and volunteers in neighborhood improvement projects. The City's first combined Fire and Rescue Department was conceived, organized, budgeted and implemented with the full participation of the volunteer fire and rescue companies in less than 6 months. The City Council recently approved a major restructuring of the City organization which consolidated 12 departments into 7 departments which reduced overhead budgets in order to maintain citizen or street level services and close major revenue and expenditure gaps. The restructuring also consolidated all development related activities (site plan to occupancy permit) into a single Division of Development Services. Mr. Hughes initiated the first office dedicated to economic development which both created and retained businesses. The City will now focus on the next wave of economic growth and strategies to expand retail and restaurant businesses. The City Council has adopted an Arts and Entertainment District, a City-wide Technology Zone and a cafeteria approach to business development, retention and expansion incentives.

As Deputy County Executive in Prince William County, Mr. Hughes was Chief of Staff and responsible for the management and coordination of day-to-day governmental operations and for the coordination of corporate policy development. He served as Acting County Executive in 1996-97. During that period, the economic development program was completely restructured and energized; the 500 acre Innovation technology and biomed park was acquired adjacent to George Mason University; a regional legislative program was created and successfully carried through the Virginia General Assembly; an Office of Information Technology was created and funded; and the first five-year budget plan and revenue sharing agreement was adopted by the County and the Schools Division.

Mr. Hughes has more than 40 years of local government experience including tenures as budget director of Richmond, Virginia; assistant to the budget director in Metropolitan Dade County, Florida; and assistant to the development director in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Hughes received a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Graceland University and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Missouri. He is a member of the International City Management Association and the Virginia Local Government Management Association. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in India and local government reporter for Kansas City Star.

He is married to Ms. Christina A. Frank. He has two sons, Todd and Alex and two daughters, Tanya and Lauren. The Hughes family lives in Manassas.