



Commendation

WHEREAS, the late Richard Peacock, former Secretary of the Virginia Association of Railway Patrons (VARP), was an ardent supporter and advocate who worked indefatigably to promote passenger rail service in the Northern Virginia area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peacock diligently worked to inaugurate the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) commuter rail system in our area and was instrumental in securing extended Amtrak train service to Lynchburg and Roanoke, Virginia, the latter which is due to begin late in 2017; and

WHEREAS, as a response to the deaths of several trespassers crossing the tracks in the Burke area, Mr. Peacock was able to secure construction of a safety fence at the Burke VRE/Amtrak station; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Mr. Peacock worked tirelessly, contacting local legislators and City officials to secure better signage at rail passenger stations, and regularly updated them on passenger rail issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peacock was a frequent contributor of letters and information to our local newspaper editors, always promoting rail passenger topics, and was instrumental in successfully securing the return of steam trains to the Manassas area at the Railroad Festival.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Harry J. Parrish II, Mayor of the City of Manassas on behalf of the Manassas City Council hereby publicly commend and recognize posthumously the late

RICHARD PEACOCK

for his dedication, devoted service, and passionate work on behalf of securing successful passenger rail service to Northern Virginia that has had such a positive impact on our area.

Harry J. Parrish II Mayor
On behalf of the City Council
of Manassas, Virginia

ATTEST:

Andrea P. Madden City Clerk



**Support from Manassas City Government for Passenger Rail
Compiled by Dan Peacock, November 16, 2016**

Past 25 Years

Description of Support	Year
Start of Virginia Rail Express (VRE) Commuter Rail to Washington DC	1992
Institution of Annual Heritage Railway Festival	1995
Restoration of Southern Rail Station into Historic Manassas Inc Visitor Center, Mini-Rail Museum, and Amtrak/VRE Waiting Room	1997
Erection of Structured Parking for Amtrak and VRE Riders	2008
Promotion of Lynchburg Train, Manassas' 1 st Regional Train	2009
Erection of Four Amtrak Directional Signs in Historic Manassas	2012
Renovation and Celebration of 100 Year Old Manassas Station	2014
Return of Steam Train Excursions to Manassas	2015

Next 5 Years

Description of Support	Year
Upgrade Manassas Station webcam with continuous video and audio. Currently, there is only one image per minute and no audio.	2016
Add Amtrak Digital Display Board in Waiting Room.	2016
Promote Day Trips from Roanoke after extension of 1 st Lynchburg Train.	2017
Promote Day Trips from NY – Philly - DC after 2 nd Lynchburg Train starts with daily southbound morning stop and northbound afternoon stop	2018
Support Daily Cardinal Service between NY – Manassas – Chicago, which currently is only Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday.	2016 - 2020
Support extension of VRE Commuter Rail to Gainesville, Virginia	2016 -2022