

Western Reserve Port Authority

2022-2025 REPORT

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To the community,

Since becoming Executive Director of the Western Reserve Port Authority in March 2022, I’ve had the privilege of being a part of transformative projects aimed at strengthening the future of the Mahoning Valley. These opportunities have allowed our port to contribute meaningfully to the region’s growth and revitalization.

The Port Authority holds a unique position to strengthen the Mahoning Valley’s economic development ecosystem, benefiting the people, neighborhoods, and communities we serve, while also driving growth through job creation, improved site and building readiness, and increased property values.

The Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport has long been a cornerstone of the Mahoning Valley, dating back nearly 100 years to its origins at Lansdowne Field in 1926, and later becoming one of the last remaining Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. Completed in 1940 on land generously donated by the Maag Family, the \$2.5 million WPA investment established the airport’s current home in Vienna Township, strategically positioned to connect Youngstown, Warren, and Western Pennsylvania. Today, the airport is home to one of the largest employers in Trumbull County and the Greater Mahoning Valley, the Youngstown Air Reserve Station, base of the 910th Airlift Wing. As we work to position the airport for the return of commercial air service, we remain committed to training the next generation of aviation and aeronautics professionals.

From the Economic Development division of the Port Authority, our team has prioritized partnerships with communities and developers—collaborations that would not have been possible without the Port’s unique capabilities. These efforts have led to meaningful commercial and industrial development across the Mahoning Valley. By working closely with local governments and private partners, we’ve helped bring new construction and the revitalization of key spaces that will provide both jobs and vital social services to area residents.

We’re proud to manage more than \$70 million in grant funding at no cost to local taxpayers, while leveraging those investments exponentially to drive a lasting, positive impact across the region. To the members of the Port Authority Board of Directors, community members, colleagues, and partner agencies who make this work possible: thank you.

I am honored to have the opportunity to present this report to the community and look forward to many exciting opportunities ahead as we continue working together to build a stronger, more vibrant Mahoning Valley.



Anthony Trevena
Executive Director
Western Reserve Port Authority

Mission

To promote financing and economic development activities in Mahoning and Trumbull Counties, with a primary focus on improving property values

Vision

Advance Aviation and Foster Community & Economic Development.

History

The Western Reserve Port Authority was created in 1992 to operate the Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport. Using the unique powers granted to port authorities by Ohio law, the WRPA has evolved into a dynamic, multi-faceted agency dedicated to promoting growth and economic development in the Mahoning Valley.



Anthony Trevena
Executive Director



Kevin Kern
Chief Financial Officer



Joe Maxin, Esq.
Director of Compliance



Sarah Lown
Director of Public Finance



Randy Partika, PE
Director of Engineering and Construction



Joe Kilgore, CPA
Accounting/Finance



Nick Chretien
Director of Planning and Regional Development



Sara Jackson
Grants Administrator



Gabrielle Jones
Marketing and Project Manager



Paula Vivoda-Klotz
Administrative Assistant

Board of Directors

Martin Loney
Chairman

Sam Covelli
Vice Chairman

Richard Edwards
Secretary/Treasurer

Heidi Brown
Board Member

David Detec
Board Member

Kathleen Kennedy
Board Member

Ed Muransky
Board Member

Sterling Williams
Board Member

Awards & Leadership



International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Excellence in Economic Development Awards “Gold Winner” and “Silver Winner”

Gold- Mahoning Valley Campus of Care
Silver- Mahoning River Corridor Mayor’s Association



Mahoning Valley Historical Society “Community Revitalization Award”

Eastern Gateway Community College Health Education and Workforce Building
Trek Coffee House



Leadership Mahoning Valley

Anthony Trevena, 2023-24
Krista Beniston, 2024-25
Nick Chretien, 2024-25



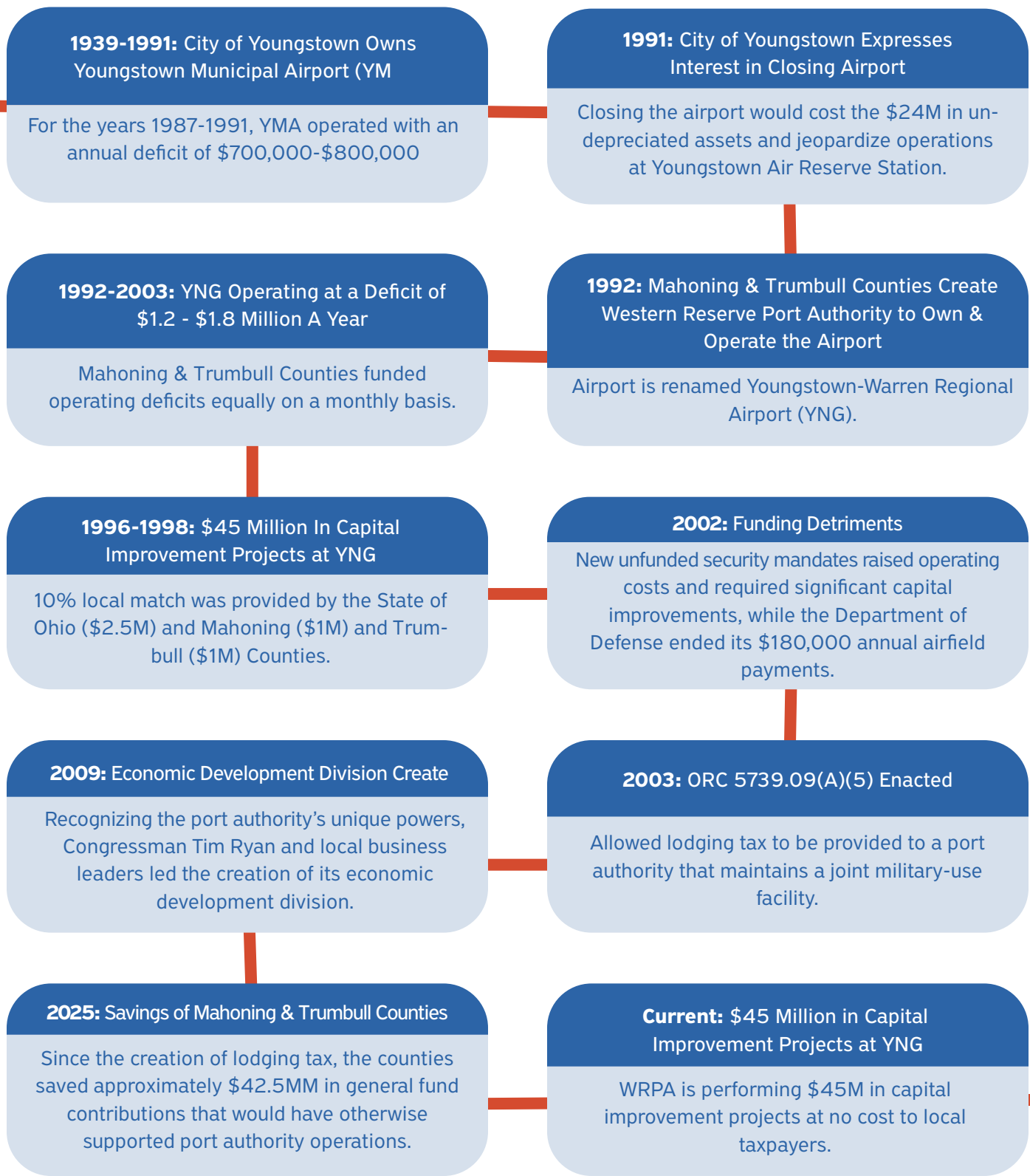
Business Advocate of the Year (2023)

Anthony Trevena



The Trumbull County Planning Commission “Something Good Initiative”

Financial Support Timeline



Total grants secured or managed by Port: \$73,245,649

Grants

Appalachian Regional Commission

\$50,000 - Broadband Implementation Planning Grant
\$244,100 - Flight Simulator Equipment for YNG Flight School

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

\$3,486,876 - YNG Capital Projects

Board of Mahoning County Commissioners

\$2,000,000 - Mahoning Valley Campus of Care
\$1,000,000 - Valley Vision 2050
\$1,745,000 - Mahoning Valley Campus of Care (ARPA)
\$1,750,000 (Mahoning County CIC) Campbell & Struthers (ARPA)

City of Youngstown

\$984,000 - City of Youngstown 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Ward Projects

Board of Trumbull County Commissioners

\$1,000,000 - Valley Vision 2050
\$350,000 - YNG Sewer Upgrades

Brownfield Remediation Grant

\$1,143,333 - BDM Blast Furnace Site (Warren)
\$500,000 - CASTLO - Area A (Struthers)
\$747,951 - McGuffey Clean-Up (Youngstown)
\$1,065,000 - Reeves Building (Warren)

Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP - Dept of Defense)

\$8,028,000 - YNG Taxiway H Rehabilitation

Economic Development Administration

\$335,000 - YNG Planning Grant
\$2,200,000 - YNG Aviation Education Center

Federal Capital Budget

\$13,000,000 - YNG Runway 14/32

\$5,000,000 - YNG Runway 5/23

JobsOhio

\$250,000 - Property Acquisition for YARS New Main Gate Project
\$1,900,000 - BDM Well Acquisition and Site Prep
\$1,000,000 - YNG Aviation Training Center

Ohio Department of Development

\$3,000,000 - YNG Infrastructure Improvements

Ohio Department of Development - All Ohio Future Fund

\$17,241,380 - SR 45 Access Road/Bridge Construction & Site Prep (Warren-Howland Township)

Ohio Department of Transportation

\$777,795 - General Aviation Grant Program

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

\$490,000 - Air Heritage Trail (Vienna Township)

Ohio Capital Budget

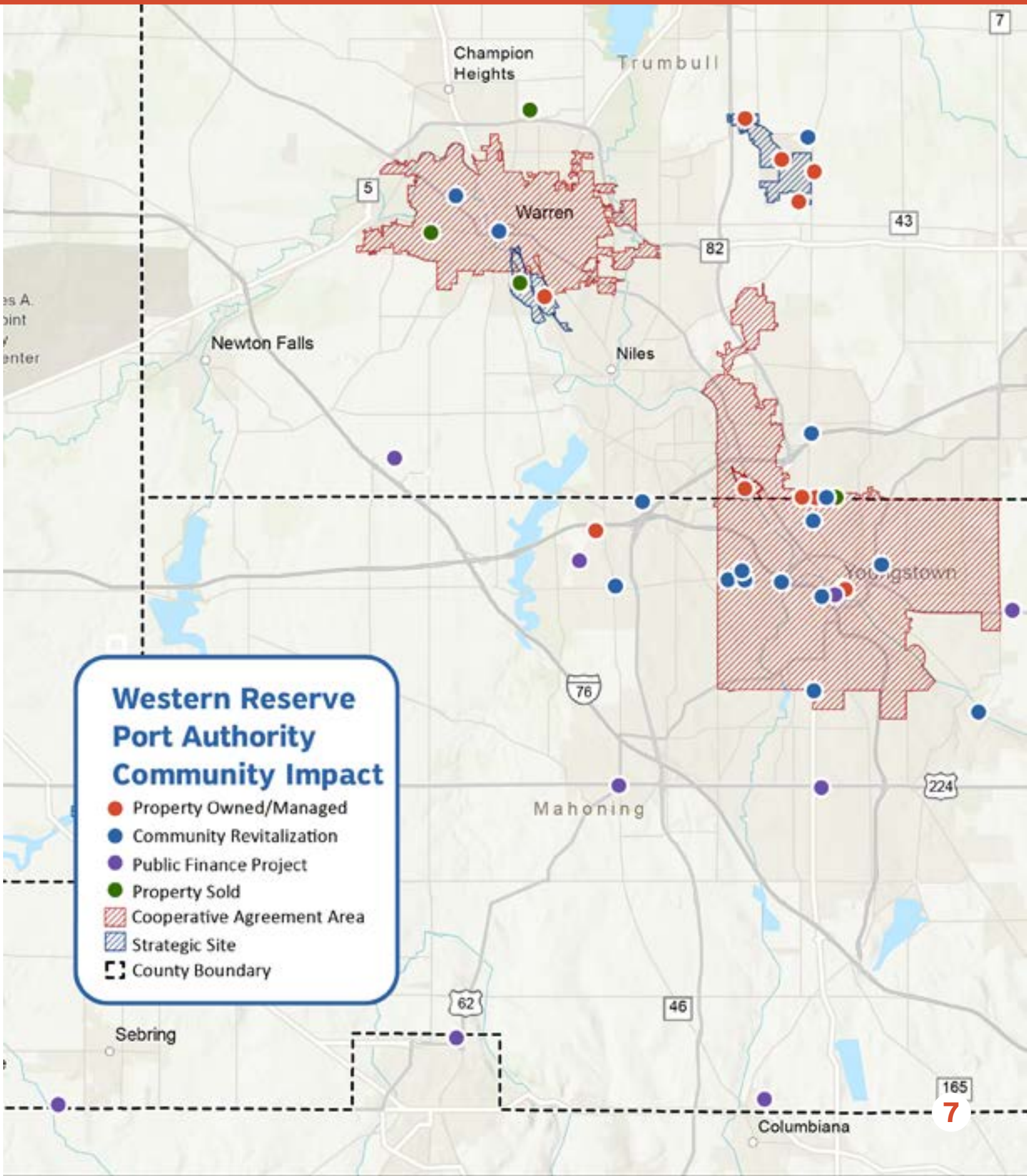
\$1,000,000 - Mahoning Valley Campus of Care (Austintown)
\$600,000 - YNG Aviation Training Center

US Department of Transportation

\$2,257,214 - Airport Improvement Programs

Youngstown Foundation

\$100,000 - Village of Lowellville Boat Launch Pavilion



Kimberly-Clark

Kimberly-Clark has begun construction on its new manufacturing plant in Trumbull County.

The million-plus-square-foot facility will be constructed on a former steel mill lot off of Pine Avenue in an area that spans Howland and Warren townships.

Located within the existing Warren BDM Redevelopment Area, the site was awarded Site Readiness support from the All Ohio Future Fund. A total of \$17.2 million from the fund was awarded to the Western Reserve Port Authority to assist in site readiness and road infrastructure.

BDM Revitalization

The Port acquired additional BDM acreage surrounding the Kimberly Clark site and was awarded \$1.1 million in brownfield funds to remediate to make 200 acres shovel-ready to serve supply chain industries to Kimberly Clark and other local manufacturers.

Access Roadway to SR 45

The State of Ohio is assisting the Port to finance the \$15 million cost to construct a 2.4 mile roadway connecting Kimberly Clark with State Route 45 to improve logistical access. The roadway serves the additional acreage at the BDM site, opening up significant developable properties to serve the industrial needs of the community.



“Bringing a global company like Kimberly-Clark is the result of sustained collaboration, bold site development and the reality that this region is positioned to meet global demand. This project demonstrates what is possible when public and private partners align around a common goal and when we invest in preparing sites that meet the moment. It sends a powerful signal to other companies that the Mahoning Valley is ready.”

-Anthony Trevena

West Warren Industrial Park

A major redevelopment is underway as a local partnership is set to build a 100,000-square-foot manufacturing and warehousing facility at the former Western Reserve High School site. This is the first phase of the West Warren Industrial Park – an 86-acre transformation project made possible through a property transfer facilitated by the Port Authority through cooperative agreements with the City of Warren and Warren City School District.



CASTLO Community Improvement Corporation

Since 2015, the Port Authority has led the management and redevelopment of the 125-acre CASTLO Industrial Park, completing extensive brownfield remediation and attracting private development. With every acre fully remediated and sold to private investors, proceeds creating a dedicated Community Fund supporting economic growth in Campbell, Struthers, Lowellville, Poland, and Coitsville Township.

Community Improvement Corporation of Mahoning County

Formed in 2018, the Mahoning County CIC, in partnership with the WRPA, has delivered nearly 25 façade grants, new park amenities, and infrastructure upgrades in Campbell and Struthers. The CIC also supported brownfield cleanups, demolitions, and key projects including renovations for the Youngstown Business Incubator and All Children Learn Differently (ACLD) expansion.

Project Highlights

Mahoning Valley Campus of Care

The Port, in collaboration with the Board of Mahoning County Commissioners, transformed a former state facility into a 43-acre human services campus, rehabilitating 10 buildings to better serve the region’s most vulnerable residents. More than \$5 million in improvements were completed, including roadway, parking, and greenhouse projects.



Mahoning County Veterans Service Commission

To better serve local veterans, the Port acquired a building next to the VA Clinic on Belmont Avenue and is currently renovating it to relocate the Mahoning County Veterans Service Commission. This \$5.1 million project is being supported by Mahoning County Comissions and in part by state funding secured with the Port’s assistance.



3900 Market St. (Dunkin’)

The Port Authority invested \$1.2 million to develop site improvements at the former Chemical Bank property in Boardman. The work included building a new Dunkin’, along with ingress/egress, landscaping, and stormwater management.



Lowellville Riverfront Development

In partnership with the Mahoning County CIC and the Village of Lowellville, the Port helped bring a long-planned Riverfront Park to life. The Port secured funding and oversaw the design and construction of a 30’ x 50’ pavilion with accessible parking along the Mahoning River.



Project Highlights

Reeves Building/Peninsula

Built in 1926, the Reeves Building at 295 W. Market St. in Warren was purchased by the Port Authority in March 2024. The Port could play a role in the redevelopment efforts through property transfer agreements, bond financing, and capital leases.



Harshman Building

The Port Authority’s first building acquisition was the Harshman Building at 101 E. Boardman St., Youngstown. Purchased in 2017 and renovated in 2018, it served as Eastern Gateway Community College’s Health and Workforce Building for several years.



Cooperative Agreements

Ohio counties and municipalities have extensive authority to enter into cooperative agreements with the Port Authority, under which they can engage in almost any kind of activity that they are authorized to engage in, including transportation projects or economic development initiatives. The Western Reserve Port Authority is proud to have cooperative agreements with the following:

- ☑ City of Youngstown
- ☑ City of Warren
- ☑ City of Girard
- ☑ Youngstown City School District
- ☑ Columbiana County Port Authority



City Centre One & Commerce Buildings

The Port Authority acquired two prominent downtown Youngstown office buildings—City Centre One and the Commerce Building—in December 2024. These buildings continue to support downtown stabilization by providing space for economic development agencies, foundations, law firms, and other key community organizations.



YNG Taking Flight

YNG Aviation Education Center

A new 18,000 square foot structure is slated for construction in 2025. It will house the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics expansion and the newly established YNG Flight School.



This building will be equipped with a state-of-the-art flight simulator and a mechanics lab to help support the aviation industry's workforce shortages by training future mechanics and pilots.



Air Heritage Trail

Work has started on the Western Reserve Port Authority's new Air Heritage Trail in Vienna. The cost of the \$500,000 project is covered with earmarked money from the state's capital budget.

The land will become a 1-mile public walking path in the shape of a C-130 where visitors can learn about the area's aviation history.



The Air Heritage Trail is just down the road from the Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport, near the site of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station's new main gate. Asphalt millings from the recently completed Taxiway-H rehabilitation project will be used to construct the walking path.

YARS Main Gate Relocation

WRPA acquired 42.35 acres for the Youngstown (YARS) Air Reserve Station for the construction of a \$12,000,000 new front gate/visitors center.

Our partnership with YARS allowed WRPA to acquire the property in advance, to assist in expediting a project that would have faced Department of Defense bureaucracy and delays.



YNG Airport Runway Improvements

Hotel Taxiway Rehabilitation- \$8,850,000 (2024)

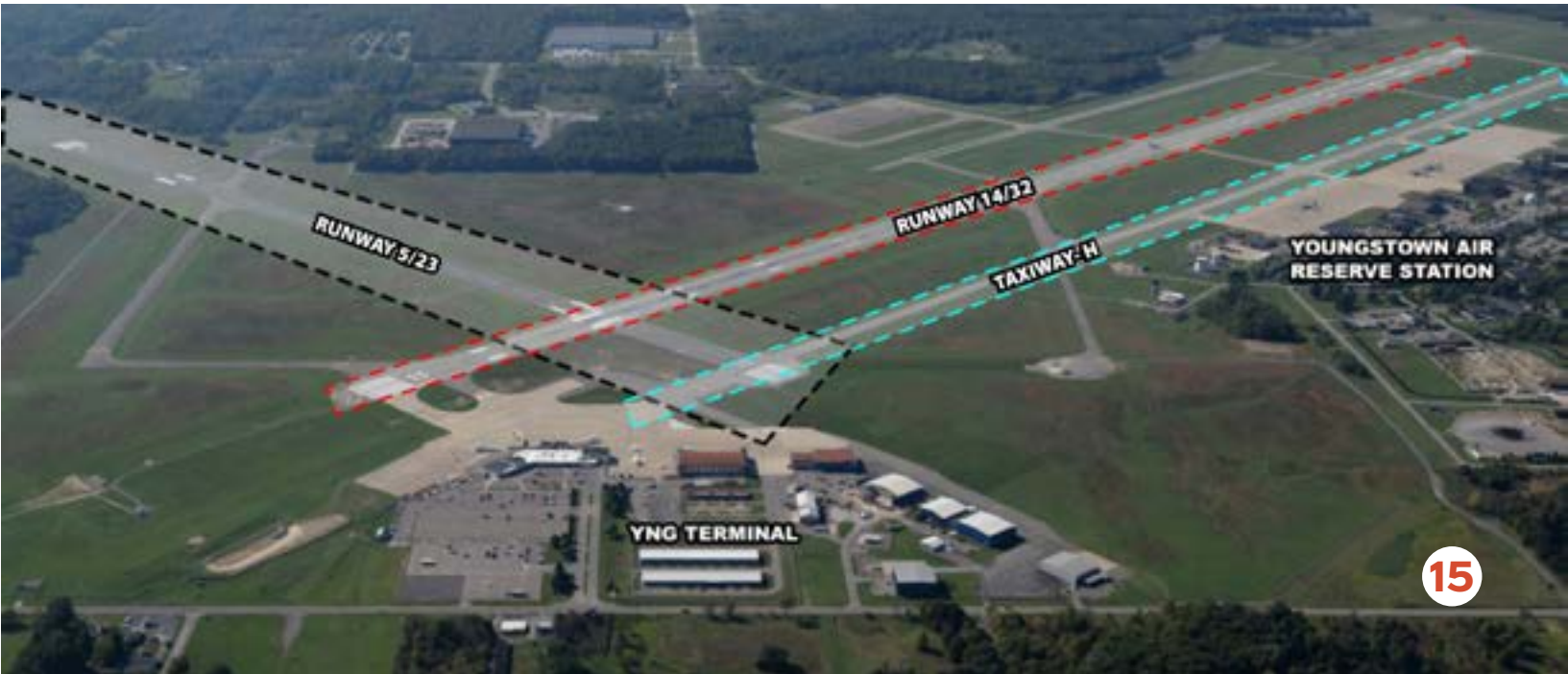
- Work includes resurfacing an 8000' long taxiway along with associated electrical and drainage upgrades.

Runway 14/32 Rehabilitation- \$14,000,000 (2025)

- Work includes resurfacing 9000' long primary runway along with centerline lighting installation and associated drainage work.

Runway 5/23 Rehabilitation- \$14,000,000 (2026)

- Federal grant requests have been submitted to rehabilitate the 6000' secondary runway



THANK YOU

Over the last three years, The Western Reserve Port Authority has been honored to work alongside a wide array of public sector and economic development-focused partners. Together, we are tackling challenges, unlocking new possibilities, and shaping the future of our valley.





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