



Special Report

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The Recovery Act: Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in West Virginia

Earlier this year, the Democratic Congress worked with President Obama to enact the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (the *Recovery Act*) in an effort to rescue, rebuild, and strengthen our struggling national economy. Eight years of failed fiscal policies and misguided economic priorities had left our national economy on the brink of disaster, and now – only nine months later – our economy is on the brink of recovery. The *Recovery Act* and the efforts of American businesses and workers, like those in West Virginia, made this progress possible.

Despite this encouraging news, Democrats know that many West Virginians are still struggling, and unemployment – a lagging economic indicator – remains far too high. In response, Democrats are working to create and save millions of jobs with *Recovery Act* dollars and tax relief. Already, with more than half of the dollars yet to be spent, the recovery package has provided for more than one million jobs and the rate of job loss has slowed significantly. As we look toward the future, Democrats believe that the *Recovery Act*, combined with the American work ethic and ingenuity, will continue to make a difference for families in West Virginia and will deliver on its promise to rebuild our economy and get West Virginians back to work.

The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference

Last week, the White House announced that certain recipients of *Recovery Act* funds have reported the creation of 640,329 direct jobs. About 325,000 of these jobs are in education and over 80,000 are in construction. These numbers, however, represent only about 16 percent of expenditures through September 30 and do not reflect the majority of *Recovery Act* funding to date, which has gone directly to individuals and states, including:

- Tax relief for businesses and working families;
- Small business loans, which are exempt from reporting;
- The first-time homebuyer tax credit;
- Direct federal aid, including \$250 direct stimulus checks, enhanced unemployment benefits, increased food stamp benefits for vulnerable families; and
- State fiscal relief, which prevented job cuts at the state and local government level.

Moreover, the reported data does not capture indirect or induced jobs created when prime contractors hire suppliers or other companies to complete projects or when newly employed workers spend their pay checks. It is estimated that, if included, indirect jobs would add

another 50 percent or more to the direct jobs numbers and induced jobs would add an additional 36 percent. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#); CBPP, [10/28/09](#)]

Taken as a whole, the reported data confirms earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* would create or save over one million jobs by now, even though less than half of the *Recovery Act* funds have been put to work. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#)]

Moreover, without the *Recovery Act*, economists believe that the economy and the unemployment rate would be much worse.

- According to Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, “The effect of the stimulus legislation on the level of economic activity will probably build during the second half of 2009 [and] have its maximum impact in the first half of 2010... CBO estimates that real GDP will be 1.4 percent to 3.8 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2009 than it would have been without the stimulus, 1.1 percent to 3.4 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2010, 0.4 percent to 1.2 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2011, and zero to 0.3 percent higher by the fourth quarter of 2013.” [CBO, [8/09](#)]
- These estimates were bolstered by third quarter growth when, for the first time in more than a year, the economy expanded, and, at 3.5 percent, it expanded faster than expected. [*Wall Street Journal*, [10/29/09](#)]
- According to economist Mark Zandi, “The research of Moody’s Economy.com suggests that a million fewer jobs would exist today, while the unemployment rate would already have risen well into double digits.” [Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, [10/29/09](#)]

The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in West Virginia

In West Virginia, this partial reporting indicates that 2,409 jobs have been created or saved by funding 564 awards worth \$1,043,406,140, of which \$238,948,456 has already been received. [Recovery, Accountability, and Transparency Board, accessed [11/2/09](#)]

Similar to the national number, this validates the White House’s earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* is responsible for saving or creating 5,100 jobs so far for West Virginians (accounting for indirect and induced jobs). [Council of Economic Advisors, [9/2009](#)] **West Virginia is on track to benefit from a total of 20,000 Recovery Act jobs.** [The White House, [2/2009](#)]

These numbers alone cannot adequately convey the human impact of the jobs that are supported by the *Recovery Act* – the real-life stories of local companies that can hire new employees, workers who are no longer faced with uncertainty, and families that no longer need to struggle to pay their bills. The following is a sampling of some of the local *Recovery Act* success stories in West Virginia:

Commerce Department’s NTIA will use *Recovery Act* funding for broadband mapping and planning in West Virginia, laying groundwork for enhanced internet services. “The Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) today announced that it has awarded a grant of approximately \$1.4 million to fund broadband mapping and planning activities in West Virginia under NTIA’s State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program. The program, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will increase broadband access and adoption through better

data collection and broadband planning... ‘Broadband access is the gateway to the modern economy and a key factor in bringing jobs to more Americans. This program will further efforts to increase broadband deployment and adoption in West Virginia and nationwide, helping to chart the course for sustained economic recovery,’ U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke said... NTIA has awarded the West Virginia Geologic and Economic Survey (GES) approximately \$1.2 million to collect and verify the availability, speed, and location of broadband across the state... In addition, the GES will receive \$185,000 for the cost of broadband planning activities in West Virginia over two years, bringing its grant award total to approximately \$1.4 million.” [NTIA, 10/23/09]

Recovery Act created or saved an estimated 370 jobs in the state. “Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act with the goal of creating and retaining jobs. West Virginia got 178.5 million dollars in recovery funds to help save jobs and drive reform. The money is being used for a variety of projects statewide. Manchin administration spokesman Matt Turner says jobs are being saved and created. ‘We have an estimate, and this is strictly an estimate. And, this is based upon a formula the federal government gives us, of about 370 jobs that have been created or retained,’ Turner said. The funds go for projects like bridge replacement and repair along with road resurfacing. Upgrades to the terminal and parking areas at Charleston’s Yeager airport are also being financed with money from the Recovery and Reinvestment Act. According to Turner, ‘We have three priorities for this funding. One of those is to create and retain jobs. We’re being transparent with it. We want people to know how we’re spending the money. And, also to be sure to follow the rules of the legislation.’ Federal stimulus dollars are also being used for upgrading the waste water treatment plant and purchasing hybrid busses in Kanawha County.” [WOWK TV News Channel 13, 9/10/09]

The Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District received Recovery Act money for its civil works program; the district hired 100 temporary employees to assist with the work. “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District has received about \$70.4 million in stimulus money for its Civil Works Program. The Huntington District also has hired 100 temporary employees to assist with the work resulting from the projects. Some of the contracts recently awarded by the Huntington District around the region include: Zoar Levee, Ohio: \$1,064,514 to Ross Brothers Construction of Ashland. The funds will be used to purchase and install an additional pump and backup generator for the pump station for the Zoar Levee... Paintsville Lake, Ky.: \$999,533.72 to Robinson Contracting, of Ashland. Of this, \$902,759.91 are funds that will be used to construct a lighted walkway across Paintsville Dam. The lighted walkway will provide an area for pedestrians to safely walk across the dam... Summersville Lake, W.Va.: \$884,820.41 to Lynd Co., of Shadyside, Ohio. The funds will be used for the construction of a restroom facility at the Battle Run Campground at Summersville Lake. Work is expected to be complete April 2010. Sutton Lake, W.Va.: \$271,679.75 to Cunningham Associates, of Charlotte, N.C. The funds will be used to purchase and erect playground equipment at the Gerald R. Freeman Campground at Sutton Lake.” [The Herald Dispatch, 9/11/09]

Recovery Act funded grants will enable Raleigh County Community Action Association to bus low-income people to doctors appointments, expand programs. “The Raleigh County Community Action Association operates the public bus system ..., said Bobbi Thomas-Bailey, executive director. ‘Transportation is a major issue in southern West Virginia,’ she said. ‘...We pick people up at their homes, take them to their doctor’s appointment and then bring them back home.’... New funding from the federal government will allow the agency to expand its homelessness prevention program, Thomas-Bailey said. ‘The stimulus money has increased our (Community Service Block Grant) funds,’ she said. ‘That holds all of our programs together, including our homeless services.’... Other programs that assist low-

income people or those in economic distress include the Project for Assistance of Transitioning out of Homelessness.” [WVNS Channel 59 News, 8/30/09]

Raleigh County Community Action will use Recovery Act funds to prevent home foreclosures. “The Raleigh County Community Action Association operates the public bus system there... The agency also operates a 150-bed homeless shelter...The agency will use some of the stimulus money to enhance the homeless prevention programs, Thomas-Bailey said. The focus will be on helping those on the verge of losing their homes. ‘We’ll assist people to help keep them in their homes,’ she said.” [WVNS Channel 59 News, 8/30/09]

Recovery Act-funded grant for alternative fuels program should enable WVU to retain 20 workers, hire 17 more. “If Americans are to begin driving electric cars ..., mechanics and other service professionals are going to need new skills. That's one aim of \$6.9 million in federal stimulus funding announced Aug. 5 for the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium, headquartered at West Virginia University... The grant is part of \$2.4 billion in U.S. Department of Energy grants handed out to 48 projects in more than 20 states. The grants will support all aspects of a budding electric vehicle infrastructure: from engine parts to charging stations to batteries and battery recycling, as well as education and training. Overall, the grant could retain up to about 20 jobs and create about 17.” [WVNS Channel 28 News, 8/16/09]

Recovery Act improving public and professional knowledge of hybrid cars in Virginia. “A WVU-based group is getting almost \$7 million to spread the word about alternative-fuel cars. The Alternative Fuels Training Consortium, based in Monongalia County, received the largest education-based grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘It's going to allow us to really expand what we do,’ says NAFTC Executive Director Al Ebron. The group plans to ramp up its efforts to get the public ready for an alternatively-fueled nation. Hybrids, electric cars, and other forms of alternative energy cars are built differently and run differently than traditional gas and diesel vehicles. They require specialized training on how to work on them, in situations ranging from a tune-up to an emergency following a wreck., ‘Be it electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, all of these vehicles will allow us to move our country forward and be less dependent on foreign oil,’ Ebron says. ‘And let's face it, that's what part of this grant is all about.’” [Charleston State Journal, 8/13/09]

Tri-state transit authority supplied with Recovery Act funding for facility renovations, offering higher quality services to consumers. “More than \$1.5 million is on its way to making many bus rides in the area a little smoother, according to Paul E. Davis, general manager and CEO of the Tri-State Transit Authority (TTA) in Huntington. The TTA will receive a \$1,510,771 grant for facility renovations and improvements from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration with funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. More fuel and better security are two of many benefits the Transit Authority expects to see thanks to the funding, Davis said. ‘TTA for some time now has been looking for opportunities to expand our fueling capacity,’ Davis said. The Transit Authority typically has a seven-day fuel supply, but when natural disasters strike, fuel supplies dwindle, such as they did following Hurricane Katrina, Davis said. ‘We almost ran out of fuel,’ he said. Davis said the TTA supplies fuel to the Cabell County EMS, the Sheriff's Department and also serves as the back-up fueling station for the City of Huntington. ‘What we wanted to do was be able to expand that (seven-day supply) to a 30-day supply. If there's any kind of disaster... we would at least have a 30-day supply on hand. Generally, in 30 days we could get fuel,’ Davis said.” [Huntington Herald Dispatch, 8/13/09]

372 young people were employed via workforce summer youth program, which financed their salaries with *Recovery Act* money. “As the Workforce Summer Youth Program draws to a close, site supervisors and youth are relating success stories of obtaining job skills, honors and recognition for hard work, and youth report valuable life lessons learned. There were 372 youth in nine counties, ages 14-24, who worked at job sites including governmental entities and nonprofits as part of the program. The jobs began in June and end this week. The summer youth program, funded through the federal Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was sponsored by WorkForce West Virginia and the WorkForce Investment Board of the Mid-Ohio Valley. It offered employment to low-income youth. ‘By the end of the program, \$500,000 in wages will be paid out to site supervisors and youth in this program. The Recovery Act is all about getting an infusion of funds back into local communities, and I think this program has done that. The youth have said they are using the money for school clothes, school supplies, insurance, new glasses. In some cases they are helping support their families where parents have lost their jobs,’ noted Joyce Okes, program director for WorkForce West Virginia.” [[Parkersburg News and Sentinel](#), 8/13/09]

Cabell County enlisted *Recovery Act* money to hire three teaching specialists and implement cutting-edge teaching methods. “Schools around West Virginia recently received news that they would receive stimulus money to improve schools. The Cabell County Board of Education received almost \$7 million dollars as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The money will help Cabell County develop the latest teaching methods and hire three technological specialists. Cabell County Assistant Superintendent Gerry Sawrey says she’s excited about following the guideline of transforming education. ‘You just don’t get those opportunities. You sit around and you dream; you say what if, if only we had the money to do such and such, and now we have that opportunity so we want to grab it and take hold of it and make the most of it that we can,’ Sawrey said.” [[West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), 8/6/09]

***Recovery Act* funds go to Healthy Smiles and other community health services.** Shenandoah Valley Medical Systems Inc. has received more than \$1.5 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for several projects, including the Healthy Smiles Community Oral Health Center. Of that amount, about \$1.2 million is for capital improvements and about \$157,000 of that amount will go toward finishing building the dental clinic and equipping it... In addition to the funds for the dental clinic... portions of the grants will be used to relocate a small office in Winchester, expand the parking lot at SVMS' Martinsburg location on Tavern Road and erect a security fence along the railroad tracks there. Some of the funds will be used to improve SVMS' diagnostic laboratory, which will lower the costs, and install radiology equipment that can interface with equipment at City Hospital... Twenty-nine community health centers in West Virginia are sharing in about \$26.6 million provided by the stimulus package funds.” [[The Journal-News](#), 7/22/09]

Weatherization a worthy use of *Recovery Act* funding. President Obama’s stimulus package, meant to boost the U.S. economy from the grips of a serious recession, has some questionable programs contained therein. But we feel that money allocated for home weatherization projects is a worthwhile use of federal dollars. Money earmarked for weatherization projects not only boosts employment, but it serves the useful purpose of making people’s homes more resistant to winter’s cold and thus more energy efficient. As a consequence, families helped by this weatherization project can expect to see lower energy bills and income that can be shifted to other priorities...The goal is to weatherize between 650 and 800 homes in the North Central area, which includes the counties of Harrison, Barbour, Marion, Monongalia, Taylor, Tucker, Randolph, Preston, Greenbrier and Pocahontas... More good news

is that employees hired under the program are permanent workers and usually continue working year after year.” [[Clarksburg Exponent Telegram](#), 7/21/09]

WVU wins Recovery Act funds for research. Federal stimulus money from the Obama Administration is heading to Morgantown in support of 10 research projects at West Virginia University. Eight WVU faculty members will share more than \$3 million under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act over the next 2 years. The projects range in disciplines and competed against proposals from across the country. ‘We’re stimulating the economy by buying equipment, paying people’s salary, paying taxes, it’s very basic,’ said Bernard Schreurs, PH.D., neuroscientist at the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute. [[West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), 7/20/09]

Across W.Va.: Recovery Act dollars improving schools, creating jobs. “From new roofs to improved air quality, federal stimulus dollars are now being used to upgrade schools across West Virginia. The state School Building Authority will be closing Wednesday on \$30 million in school construction bonds that will be used to make repairs, replacements and additions to 38 schools in 30 counties through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, state SBA Director Dr. Mark Manchin said. ‘What this does is it creates jobs,’ Manchin, a former school superintendent for McDowell County, said. ‘It is going to require roofing companies across the state to hire people to put these roofs on. But the real benefits will be to the children in the county school systems. All of that comes out of the federal stimulus legislation, which allows us to sell these bonds to give tax credits. We are the first state in the union to actually utilize these bonds. We are ready to go.’ The projects will be financed through Qualified School Construction Bonds, which is a new kind of bond created under the federal stimulus legislation. The bonds provide tax credits to holders, as opposed to a tax exempt interest, which provides for a zero-interest cost loan for school construction.” [[Bluefield Daily Telegraph](#), 7/20/09]

Recovery Act money funding highway projects in Boone. “Driving from Marmet into Racine, one is bound to pass a Department of Highways vehicle working alongside a slick new green sign designating the construction as possible through funding by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘People who live and commute through there are starting to recognize and take note of the work that is being done,’ Boone County Circuit Clerk Sue Ann Zickefoose pointed out. The work in the Peytona-Racine area is just one of five projects in Boone County currently being funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act monies. According to the State of West Virginia’s Economic Recovery Portal web site, the Mountain State is projected to receive \$1.8 Billion in federal assistance through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” [[Coal Valley News](#), 7/15/09]

BOE approves plan for Recovery Act funding for Randolph County schools. “The Randolph County Board of Education approved a spending plan for stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) during a meeting Monday. Randolph County Schools Superintendent Dr. James Phares made a presentation to the board as to how the county will spend the stimulus money. The county received \$1,075,647 in ARRA Title 1 and \$1,266,675 in ARRA IDEA funding, a total of \$2,342,322. ‘A big part of ARRA funds will be used to start professional learning communities,’ Phares said. ‘They are a key factor.’ The board will utilize \$556,964.70 of the funding for professional development, \$239,991 for professional learning communities and \$316,973.70 for other professional development expenditures... Phares told the board some of the money was used to place additional teachers and interventionists at many of the schools that lost positions in the past as a result of reduction in force.” [[The Inter Mountatin](#), 7/7/09]

A Recovery Act grant will allow the Parkersburg Police Department to hire two new police officers. “The Parkersburg Police Department received a grant that is allowing them to put two more police officers on the force. The grant is the Recovery Act Justice Assistance Grant from West Virginia Division of Criminal Justice Services. The grant pays the salary of two police officers for one year. The total of the grant is 62,000 dollars. Captain Roberts said applying for grants and getting them are so important to the community and the department. “This in turn gets their salaries paid for. The department will actually now have those two funded positions that have been unfunded for a while.” [[WTAP-TV](#), 7/23/09]

Recovery Act money will fund the construction of Healthy Smiles Community Oral Health Center, which will provide dental services to low-income families.

“Shenandoah Valley Medical Systems Inc. has received more than \$1.5 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for several projects, including the Healthy Smiles Community Oral Health Center. Of that amount, about \$1.2 million is for capital improvements and about \$157,000 of that amount will go toward finishing building the dental clinic and equipping it, SVMS Executive Director David Fant said in a telephone interview Tuesday. The grant is coming through funds in the stimulus package for community health centers.” [[Martinsburg Journal](#), 7/22/09]

Recovery Act dollars budgeted to West Virginia University for a research and child education programs, resulting in new university positions.

“The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act is intended to inject billions into the economy, kick starting stagnant programs and services. More than \$3 million will go to WVU faculty to reinvigorate research, create jobs, and educate our children. Funds from the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act are awarded competitively, and WVU has claimed a large amount of its funds for the Health Sciences Center. [[WVNS – CBS](#), 7/14/09]

West Virginia became first state to utilize Recovery Act-supported school bonds, benefitting 38 schools across the state.

“The West Virginia School Building Authority plans to use the \$30 million in bond money to fix, replace or add to 38 schools in 30 counties across the mountain state. The schools will benefit from a lower financing cost than they would pay with a traditional state bond. West Virginia is the first state in the nation to release the money for projects. The funds come from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” [[WVNS – CBS](#), 7/12/09]

Hinton received Recovery Act funds for the construction of a new fire department building.

“Hinton Fire Chief Ray Pivont says Hinton residents will be better served thanks to \$1.4 million in federal funding the town will receive for construction of a new fire department. The funding, which comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through USDA Rural Development, was jointly announced Thursday by Senators Robert C. Byrd and Jay Rockefeller along with Rep. Nick Rahall.” Fire chief Pivont: “I’m just overwhelmed. This is a great news.... We’ve just done without a ladder truck and have done the best we could. This is a situation where we can serve the public better in conditions that are more modern.” [[Beckley Register-Herald](#), 7/10/09]

Jefferson County Community Action Council re-hired 251 previously laid-off young employees using Recovery Act funds.

“The 251 summer youth workers employed through the Jefferson County Community Action Council are expected to return to work. The youth workers were laid off Tuesday with CAC officials blaming the Ohio budget stalemate. Mike McGlumphy, director of the CAC Workforce Investment Act and One Stop Program ... said his office normally hires 100 summer youth employees, ‘but the federal stimulus dollars through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allowed us to hire an additional 152 youth workers

this year.' 'It was a shame when we had to lay them off Tuesday because this has been an exceptional group of young people,' McGlumphy said. [[Wheeling News-Register](#), 7/9/09]

\$2,397,500 Recovery Act loan makes up 70 percent of funding for Claywood Park sewer extension. "A Claywood Park Public Service District sewer extension financed with economic stimulus funds might be completed by the end of the year, a district official said Thursday. The \$3.4 million Red Hill project will extend lines to part of Winding Road, Forest Hills and Red Peak Circle, which is the old George Washington Pike, and upgrade the existing treatment plant to handle the treatment and the additional flow from the new PWP recycling plant at the Polymer Alliance Zone in Davisville, said Todd Grinstead, general manager of the public service district. Lines are being expanded he said... Seventy percent of the project, \$2,397,500, is from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's Clean Water State Revolving Fund by a loan under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, said Mike Johnson, coordinator for the clean water revolving loan program." [[Parkersburg News and Sentinel](#), 7/3/09]

\$437,192 in Recovery Act funding announced for expansion of Huntington Housing Authority YouthBuild. "More than \$400,000 in federal stimulus funds will support the Huntington Housing Authority's YouthBuild program, according to a press release issued by the office of U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va. The program will receive \$437,192. That money will help leaders work with disadvantaged youth to develop educational and employment skills... YouthBuild works with at-risk youth ages 16-24, who must spend half of their time program time earning a GED or high school diploma while simultaneously being involved in specialized training to develop leadership skills." [[Huntington Herald-Dispatch](#), 6/26/09]

W-L Construction & Paving and Jefferson Asphalt won Recovery Act-funded repaving contracts in Berkeley County. "Thanks to federal stimulus money, motorists traveling on Interstate 81 in Berkeley County, W.Va., will be subjected to navigating more than eight miles of paving work in the coming months." [[Herald-Mail](#), 6/9/09]

Recovery Act funds will allow West Virginia to expand weatherization two-fold. With \$37.5 million in new resources, state government's objective now to weatherize 2,756 homes. [[Charleston Daily Mail](#), 6/5/09]

Wyoming County slated for infusion of \$1,389,700 in Recovery Act money so as to provide flood plain easements to protect against future damage, creating jobs in the process. Rep. Rahall: "By returning floodplains to their natural contour, high water flow is better managed and flooding can more easily be prevented, safeguarding lives and property. This will require a lot of work, so we will also be creating jobs while we improve our quality of life." [[The Register-Herald](#), 6/4/09]

West Virginia furnished with approximately \$500,000 from Recovery Act for the Lawrence Intermodal Transit Center. [[Huntington Herald-Dispatch](#), 6/2/09]

Shovel-ready projects in downtown Huntington, Harveytown Park and the Hal Greer Boulevard underpass will receive federal Recovery Act money. The only stipulation with the money is that the projects have to begin 120 days from a notice of approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which should come in about a month. [[The Herald-Dispatch](#), 5/27/09]

Marshall University will receive Recovery Act funds from the NIH to study brain cells. [[huntingtonnews.com](#), 5/24/09]

Recovery Act could offset looming budget cuts. “West Virginia is looking to offset nearly \$200 million in needed budget cuts with at least \$34 million from its share of federal stimulus funds. Lawmakers and Gov. Joe Manchin's office say the temporary federal dollars should help cushion the blow, but they add that most agencies and programs will still see their spending reduced by at least 2 percent.” [[Charleston Gazette](#), 5/22/09]

Recovery Act provides increased funds South Charleston bridge project. South Charleston will receive \$737,500 to reimburse the city for the Central Avenue Overpass Bridge project, replacing the \$237,500 the city announced it would receive in March. [[Charleston Gazette](#), 5/21/09]

Martinsburg weatherization office set to open. *Recovery Act* funding will allow ECAA to weatherize an additional 93 residences in Berkeley County, 48 in Jefferson County and 21 in Morgan County. The local office and warehouse are expected to create 13 to 16 new jobs. [[Martinsburg Journal](#), 5/11/09]

U.S. Senator stops in Morgantown, says the state will receive about 30 to 40 million dollars in Recovery Act money. Senator Rockefeller: “A lot of people sort of criticize the stimulus plan because they say it's just spending money. Well it's spending money on all the things that we need to be spending money on and most particularly children – children's healthcare and children's education.” [[WBOY-TV](#), 4/15/09]

Maxwelton airport receives \$1 million in Recovery Act funding. Airport manager: “Air service is essential to the operation of businesses in this community.” [[Register Herald](#), 4/6/09]

Recovery Act weatherization office set to open. “Rick Smith is shooting for May 18 to launch the Eastern West Virginia Community Action Agency's regional office and warehouse in Martinsburg. Headquartered in Moorefield, Hardy County, ECAA is a contractor for the state weatherization program. It serves the greater eight-county Eastern Panhandle. The regional office and warehouse is located in the old GM building, said Smith, ECAA executive director... He expects the local office and warehouse to create 13 to 16 new jobs. The ECAA is getting an additional \$1.4 million for its weatherization program from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, he said. The stimulus package funding will allow ECAA to weatherize an additional 93 residences in Berkeley County, 48 in Jefferson County and 21 in Morgan County...” [[Martinsburg Journal](#), 5/11/09]

U.S. Senator stops in Morgantown. Senator Jay Rockefeller visited Morgantown Wednesday as part of his "Priorities for West Virginia Tour." Wednesday morning he read to kids at the Presbyterian Child Development Center. He spent time meeting with the children and staff and touring the facility to highlight the importance of quality child care in the state. Rockefeller says the state will receive about 30 to 40 million dollars in stimulus money, with West Virginia child care centers receiving federal funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” Senator Rockefeller: “A lot of people sort of criticize the stimulus plan because they say it's just spending money. Well it's spending money on all the things that we need to be spending money on and most particularly children – children's healthcare and children's education.” [[WBOY-TV \(WV\)](#); 4/15/09]

Airport receives \$1 million in Recovery Act funding. “Federal stimulus money is beginning to flow into Greenbrier County, and the airport in Maxwelton is the beneficiary. Sens. Jay Rockefeller and Robert C. Byrd and Congressman Nick Rahall joined forces to announce the Greenbrier Valley Airport will receive a \$1 million grant from the FAA's Air Improvement Program. The funding is available thanks to \$1.1 billion in American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act money recently funneled to AIP for distribution at the discretion of the Department of Transportation.” [[Register Herald \(WV\)](#), 4/6/09]

Recovery Act funds increase for South Charleston bridge project. “South Charleston will receive \$737,500 in stimulus funds from the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways, council members announced at a regular meeting on Thursday. The Division of Highways has agreed to provide money from the federal off-system Bridge Program to reimburse the city for the Central Avenue Overpass Bridge project. The funds will replace the \$237,500 the city announced it would receive from a federal appropriations bill in March. The city will close the bridge on June 5 in order to begin much-needed repairs.” [[The Charleston Gazette](#), 5/21/09]

Streetscape projects get Recovery Act funding. “Shovel-ready projects in downtown Huntington, Harveytown Park and the Hal Greer Boulevard underpass will receive federal stimulus money. Huntington City Council unanimously approved \$558,000 in funding Tuesday for the projects. City officials learned they would receive the economic stimulus dollars from the Community Development Block Grant program in February... The bulk of the stimulus money – \$450,000 – will go to three projects in the central business district. Those include a decorative arch that will span 3rd Avenue near 13th Street, streetscape improvements at the intersection of 4th Avenue and 8th Street, and the continuation of the Old Main Corridor project between 14th Street and Hal Greer Boulevard.” [[The Herald-Dispatch](#), 5/27/09]

Recovery Act could offset looming budget cuts. “West Virginia is looking to offset nearly \$200 million in needed budget cuts with at least \$34 million from its share of federal stimulus funds. Lawmakers and Gov. Joe Manchin's office say the temporary federal dollars should help cushion the blow, but they add that most agencies and programs will still see their spending reduced by at least 2 percent.” [[The Charleston Gazette](#), 5/22/09]