



116 N. Heber St., Suite B
Beckley, WV 25801

304-254-8115
nrgrda.org

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Lisa Gale
304-673-1958
lgale@nrgrda.org

BECKLEY, WV – In a virtual announcement on Wednesday, June 3RD, Governor Jim Justice announced more than \$13 Million dollars of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding across the state, including Raleigh County.

Through funding provided by the Community Development Block Grant program, a total of 17 grants were awarded for development projects in 14 counties. Funding will assist efforts to provide utility and infrastructure improvements for rural communities.

Projects submitted were vetted and recommended for the Governor’s approval by the WV Community and Development Office.

In Raleigh County, \$643,999 was awarded to the Raleigh County Commission, in partnership with Raleigh County Memorial Airport, Region 1 Planning & Development Council and New River Gorge Regional Development Authority (NRGRDA), to benefit a broadband extension project located at Raleigh County Memorial Airport Industrial Park. This project will implement a continuous fiber loop encompassing the entire industrial park and providing broadband access to businesses locating within the park.

“Today’s grant announcement for expanding the broadband around the west side of the airport, completing the loop, is a great addition to our efforts to develop that side of the airport park”, said Ron Hedrick, Commissioner. “It’ll go a long way to attracting businesses to this area, especially in the Aerospace industry.”

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About New River Gorge Regional Development Authority (NRGRDA):

The New River Gorge Regional Development Authority’s mission is to initiate, facilitate and support the economic and community development efforts within the counties of Fayette, Nicholas, Raleigh and Summers located in this region of southern West Virginia. NRGRDA stimulates the regional economy through business expansion and retention efforts, including an extensive portfolio of financial services; the management of sites for new companies locating to our region; and serving as a point of access for local service providers which offer a variety of technical assistance for business owners.