

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **Braxton County Development Authority**, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the Braxton County Development Authority, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will support continued planning and development of the **Elk River Rail Trail Towns** project.

The project will create strategies for the development of businesses, amenities, and services needed by trail users within the footprint of the Elk River Rail Trail and recommendations for effective marketing and signage. The geographic focus of the project includes Braxton and Clay counties, both designated as “distressed” with special attention paid to the towns of Clay, Gassaway and Sutton with a goal of these communities actively collaborating to develop assets, promote the trail, and create economic opportunities through outdoor recreation tourism.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I’m proud to support projects that promote outdoor recreation tourism, create economic opportunities, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 22, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that **Coalfield Development Corporation** has submitted an application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for Coalfield Development Corporation, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will be used for the development and implementation of the **Appalachia FORWARD** (Freight Opportunities Reducing Waste and Revitalizing Development) initiative.

As a following up to last year's ARC funded Bio-Based Manufacturing Corridor technical assistance award, which established a five-state "ReUse Corridor," the Appalachia FORWARD initiative will develop a new commercial base in recycling, reuse, and bio-based manufacturing. By doing so, the initiative will directly grow regional demand for transportation, warehousing, and logistics services. Coalfield Development will leverage their existing capabilities to train and develop a skilled workforce that meets the increased labor demands of the area and help entrepreneurs and stakeholders form social-enterprises and new business. The Appalachia FORWARD initiative will create jobs, investment and opportunities in a regional that's been significantly impacted by the decline in the coal industry.

Coalfield Development alone is a trusted leader, job creator, and good steward of federal grant dollars; but they've also engaged with a number of respected and established regional partners that will ensure an effective and resilient initiative.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that spur economic growth, diversity and resiliency while creating new opportunities and improving the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

July 2, 2021

The Honorable Gayle Manchin  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mrs. Manchin,

I have been alerted that **Friends of Cheat**, located in Kingwood, West Virginia, has submitted a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the Friends of Cheat, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will be utilized to support the launch of the **Mountaineer Trail Network**.

The Mountaineer Trail Network was created by the West Virginia Legislature in 2019 as the Mountaineer Trail Network Recreation Authority (MTNRA) with the intent to be a new regional economic development authority to govern a network of recreational trails across fifteen counties in the northern part of the state.

Specifically, funding from the POWER grant would support five key tasks; solidifying MTNRA's organizational capacity, conduct outreach and due diligence, provide targeted business support, establish branding for the initiative, and officially launch the Mountaineer Trail Network.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that provide economic and recreational development opportunities, create jobs, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **Future of Nursing in West Virginia Coalition**, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my continued support for the Future of Nursing in West Virginia Coalition, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will be utilized to support the **WV Nurse Entrepreneur Center**. The Center will foster entrepreneurial activities and increase economic opportunities for nurses by providing the training and mentorship necessary for them to establish sustainable healthcare businesses.

The WV Nurse Entrepreneur Center builds on a past pilot initiative, the WV Nurse Entrepreneur Project, which proved that nurses could establish and grow sustainable businesses in Appalachian communities. From that pilot project, twelve businesses were successfully opened by program participants. Additionally, the funding organization of the pilot project, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, gave it their "Change Maker Award".

I greatly appreciate your noting my strong interest and full support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that foster entrepreneurship, expand access to healthcare, enhance community wellness, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 14, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that **Glenville State College**, located in Gilmer County, West Virginia, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for Glenville State College, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will be utilized to support the development and implementation of the **Cybersecurity and Safety Workforce Development Initiative**.

This initiative will provide advanced skill training in the high demand field of cybersecurity allowing participants to pursue new or advance in their current careers upon program completion. The initiative will also provide a pipeline of skilled talent to fill the more than 1,000 cybersecurity related careers that already exist in West Virginia. The initiative is expected to train more than 300 individuals across fifteen coal-impacted counties. This program will also create a state-of-the-art simulation experience for cybercrimes and security at Glenville State College. Ultimately, the cybersecurity initiative will create workforce training and job opportunities and economic diversification in a region that is considered at-risk or distressed.

To assist with the bringing the initiative to fruition, the college has partnered with the WV High Technology Foundation, the West Virginia Intelligence/Fusion Center, WV State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Clarksburg, West Virginia, Region VI Workforce Development Board, and many other highly respected organizations.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that provide workforce training and job opportunities that improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **Pocahontas County Commission**, with assistance provided by Region IV Planning and Development Council and Generation West Virginia, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the Pocahontas County Commission, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will support the **Pocahontas County Quiet Zone Fiber-to-Home Project**.

This broadband project will assist in the deployment of fast and reliable internet service to unserved or underserved communities in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Establishing adequate broadband service in this at-risk rural community will provide equitable opportunities in business, distancing learning, online workforce training, remote working, and telemedicine. Additionally, the development of broadband in this region will allow the local community to fully leverage the existence of the popular Snowshoe Mountain Resort and other outdoor recreation tourism opportunities within the footprint of a federally mandated National Quiet Zone.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that seek to expand community broadband infrastructure, create equitable opportunities, and improve the lives of West Virginians. Having access to broadband is no longer a luxury but a necessity to the residents of West Virginia and Appalachia. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III



JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that RenewAll Inc., a West Virginia based non-profit, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for RenewAll Inc., their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, technical assistance funding provided by this opportunity will support the design and development of a "Cultural Wealth Hub" around the 14<sup>th</sup> Street West End section of Huntington, West Virginia.

RenewAll seeks to create a master building improvement and capital attraction plan to boost cultural entrepreneurs in a main street neighborhood that has an emerging culture of creativity, innovation and job creation. Specifically, this project will develop architectural construction designs, test the feasibility of new activities and amenities that attract people to the West End district, creation of a pro-forma business plan for post-renovation operations, deploy strategies to leverage investment for implementation, and develop mutually beneficial collaborations.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that seek to enhance community infrastructure, create opportunities improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **Wayne County Commission**, with assistance provided by Region 2 Planning and Development Council and Generation West Virginia, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the Wayne County Commission, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will support the **Wayne County Phase I Broadband Deployment Project**.

Specifically, the Phase I Broadband Project will help provide fast and reliable broadband service to more than 540 homes and 170 businesses in the underserved communities of Beech Fork, Lavalette, and Ardel by deploying nearly seventeen miles of middle-mile fiber from MountWest Community and Technical College, along WV Rt. 152, to the Wayne County 911 Center.

Having broadband access is no longer a luxury but a necessity to the residents of West Virginia and Appalachia. This project will enhance online education, healthcare, and spur new economic opportunities and diversification in an area that's been significantly impacted by the downturn of the fossil fuel industry over the last decade.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that seek to expand community broadband infrastructure, create equitable opportunities, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III



JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **Woodlands Development Group**, with assistance provided by Region VII Planning and Development Council and Generation West Virginia, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for Woodlands Development Group, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will support the **Woodlands Route 33 Fiber Deployment Project**.

This broadband project will deploy approximately fifty miles of middle and last mile fiber to unserved or underserved communities in Randolph and Tucker Counties in West Virginia. Establishing fast and reliable broadband service along the proposed route will provide equitable opportunities in business, distancing learning, online workforce training, remote working, and telemedicine. Additionally, the development of broadband in this region will allow local communities to fully leverage the local economic benefit of the recently announced multi-million dollar Virgin Hyperloop Certification Center.

Having broadband access is no longer a luxury but a necessity to the residents of West Virginia and Appalachia. By closing the current digital divide, this project will provide new opportunities and diversification in an area that's been significantly impacted by the downturn of the fossil fuel.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that seek to expand community broadband infrastructure, create equitable opportunities, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that the **WV Community Development Hub** is submitting an application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the WV Community Development Hub (The Hub), their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity will be utilized for the implementation of the **Downtown Appalachia: Revitalizing Recreational Economies program**.

The Hub has effectively worked with community stakeholders and businesses in West Virginia to build successful collaborations that drive revitalization and redevelopment efforts in rural underserved areas throughout the state. I have supported them for many years and have seen the positive impacts their Blueprint Communities and the USDA-funded HubCAP Communities of Achievement programs had in the state. I am certain the Downtown Appalachia program will not only meet, but exceed, the impacts and successes of their previous programs.

The Downtown Appalachia program will support the development of the recreational economies of communities within the Monongahela Forest region in West Virginia. The program would integrate downtown building redevelopment, entrepreneurial ecosystem engagement, and long-term community-led revitalization strategies into a sustained rural development strategy that will serve as a model for main street redevelopment focused on growing the tourism industry for extremely rural, underserved, low-income communities. Developing assets to create attractive communities, vibrant businesses and mixed-use development opportunities is an essential part of revitalizing distressed areas and I'm confident this program will accomplish that.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that spur economic growth, enhance our rural communities and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Tim Thomas  
Federal Co-Chair  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009-1068

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been alerted that **West Virginia University Extension Service**, is submitting a grant application to the **Appalachian Regional Commission** under the **Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative**.

Please accept this letter as a record of my support for the WVU Extension Service, their partners, and this application. I understand that, if approved, funding provided by this opportunity be utilized as a planning grant for the **Equity in Entrepreneurship – Strategic Planning for Expansion Youth Entrepreneurship** initiative.

The Equity in Entrepreneurship team will conduct strategic planning for the expansion of youth entrepreneurship education with a focus on rural and low-income youth across West Virginia. The team will conduct a survey, host in-person focus groups with rural youth, and facilitate strategic planning sessions with public and private initiative partners.

Through collaboration, engagement of diverse stakeholders, and a focus on youth voice, this initiative will result in a publicly available strategic plan that includes valuable data and insight that will help guide the development and expansion of opportunities for rural and low-income youth involvement in entrepreneurial education.

I greatly appreciate your noting my interest and support of this application and providing it a full and fair review. I'm proud to support projects that strengthen entrepreneurship, create opportunities for our youth, and improve the lives of West Virginians. If you have questions please contact Ryan Thorn in my Charleston office at 202-213-4365. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III