# **Senator Manchin Works for Parkersburg and Wood County**

## **Investing in Parkersburg**

Through his work on the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Manchin has helped direct nearly $17 million in federal investment in Wood County so far in 2018. These include:

* $1,195,585 for Parkersburg through the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program and the HOME program. CDBG help develop sustainable communities through expanded housing and economic opportunities, while HOME grants expand the supply of decent, affordable housing by meeting local needs and priorities.
* $662,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development Office for the construction of a new senior living facility in Parkersburg.

## **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Senator Manchin believes that investing in our infrastructure, whether that is through improving our airport runways or fixing our roads and bridges in need of repair, is one of the best ways to create good jobs and build a strong foundation for future economic growth. As a member of the Transportation, Housing & Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee, he strongly supported robust funding for the FAA’s Airport Improvement Program, which is critical for maintaining infrastructure at public airports.

In September 2015, Senator Manchin announced that Wood County Airport Authority would receive $2,773,565 in FAA AIP funding rehabilitate the apron and taxiway at the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Airport in Parkersburg.

## **Supporting the Federal Workforce**

As a member of the Financial Services & General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Manchin has helped to support the Bureau of Fiscal Services (the former Bureau of Public Debt), which provides over 2000 jobs in downtown Parkersburg, by ensuring that the Treasury Department is adequately funded that these programs are protected within its annual budget.

In May 2018, Senator Manchin toured the local offices of the Bureau of Fiscal Services to learn more about the facility and help inform his work on the Appropriations Committee.

## **Fighting for Health & Safety**

In October 2017, Senator Manchin spoke with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt about the industrial fire on the outskirts of Parkersburg at the former Ames Tool Plant to ensure that EPA was providing the equipment and assistance necessary to resolve any air and water issues arising from the fire.

In April 2018, after Parkersburg’s water system was found to be contaminated by unacceptable levels of perfluorooctanic acid (PFOA), Senator Manchin sent a letter to Administrator Pruitt urging swift action to protect communities with groundwater contamination from PFOA. Since that time, Senator Manchin has worked with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), senior officials in the Pentagon, and Office of Management and Budget to make them aware of the severity posed by these chemicals

In May 2018, he asked the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mick Mulvaney to release a study by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) containing updated conclusions regarding public health risks associated with certain levels of exposure to PFAS.

## **Combatting the Opioid Epidemic**

After Senator Manchin sent a letter to the Acting Director of National Drug Control Policy in 2017 urging the designation of Wood County as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Wood County became the 21st county in West Virginia to receive the designation, enabling it to receive federal resources to further the coordination and development of drug control efforts among federal, state and local law enforcement officials and allow local agencies to benefit from ongoing HIDTA-coordinated initiatives working to reduce drug use and its consequences across the United States.

Later in 2017, Senator Manchin attended the opening of Recovery Point Parkersburg, a $1.78 million residential recovery program that will help those battling substance abuse. The 85-bed facility was the newest location for Recovery Point West Virginia, a nonprofit that offers recovery services at no cost to people across the state.