

**RESOLUTION R-2023-100**  
**LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*A Resolution of the Luzerne County Authorizing the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds on Various Wyoming Valley Airport Improvements*

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R. 1319) into law; and

WHEREAS, the \$1.9 trillion package, based on President Biden's American Rescue Plan, is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (American Rescue Plan) established a \$10 billion Capital Projects Fund to provide funding to states, territories, and Tribal governments to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the focus of the Capital Projects Fund is on the continuing need for connectivity in response to the COVID-19 pandemic complements the broader range of uses, including for broadband infrastructure, of the American Rescue Plan's separate \$350 billion Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Council would like to allocate \$6,000,000.00 to the Wyoming Valley Airport (Forty-Fort Airport) for much needed repairs and improvements to the infrastructure of the Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter at section 2.09.B.8., in part, requires Luzerne County Council to approve, by resolution adopted by affirmative vote of at least a majority of its current members, any contract or obligation that would result in a payment by the County of more than \$25,000 in any future calendar year for which no budget has been adopted; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to approve the use of up to \$6,000,000.00 in American Rescue Plan Act funds for the Wyoming Valley Airport related projects as set forth in the accompanying agenda submittal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council approves the use of \$6,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds for various improvements and related projects as set forth in the accompanying agenda submittal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Manager is authorized to execute the contracts related to the aforesaid projects.

This Resolution shall become effective 6 days after adoption.

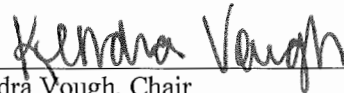
ADOPTED at a meeting of Luzerne County Council held on July 25, 2023.

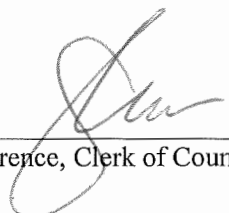
ROLL CALL VOTE (10-1)

YES: Bienias, Lescavage, Lombardo, McDermott, Mitchell, Perry, Thornton, SJ Urban, Vough and Wolovich


NO: McGinley

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

By:   
Kendra Vough, Chair

Attest:   
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

LUZERNE COUNTY MANAGER

By:   
Romilda Crocamo, Esq.  
County Manager



**AGENDA SUBMITTAL TO LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

<b><u>ITEM TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>COUNCIL MEETING DATE</u></b>	<b><u>AGENDA NUMBER</u></b>						
To Approve a Resolution to use ARPA approved funds to complete improvements at the Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport	July 25, 2023							
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="224 548 402 590"><b>Dept:</b></td> <td data-bbox="402 548 1427 590">Operations</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="224 590 402 632"><b>Contact:</b></td> <td data-bbox="402 590 1427 632">Greg Kurtz</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="224 632 402 657"><b>Phone:</b></td> <td data-bbox="402 632 1427 657">(570) 855-6909</td> </tr> </table>			<b>Dept:</b>	Operations	<b>Contact:</b>	Greg Kurtz	<b>Phone:</b>	(570) 855-6909
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**DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:**

The Operations Division, by and through its division head, Greg Kurtz asks Council to adopt a resolution authorizing the use of ARPA funds to start improvement projects to at the Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport.

**SUMMARY:**

This proposal asks Council to approve ARPA funds in the use of rehabilitating and constructing various projects at the Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport with a timeline to complete by 2026.

**FINANCING:**

Requested ARPA approved funds via schedule in attached documentation.

**DISCUSSION:**

Improvements and reconstruction are required at the Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport to ensure safety guidelines are met at this county owned facility. Per the project schedule attached to this submittal, we are asking Council to approve ARPA funding for these improvements to rehabilitate, replace, construct, and overall refine the airport’s function.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The Council may choose not to approve this resolution which would leave the airport in a bad state, potentially opening us up to litigation if there is injury or malfunction due to needed improvements at the airport.