



YEAGER AIRPORT

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PRESS RELEASE

YEAGER AIRPORT AWARDED \$13.49 MILLION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION GRANT FOR RUNWAY SAFETY AREA REPAIR

Charleston's Yeager Airport has received an approximate \$13.49 million discretionary grant from the Federal Aviation Administration for much needed runway safety area improvements to Runway 5/23.

"It has been almost two and a half years since the runway safety area collapse. I would like to thank our congressional delegation and the Federal Aviation Administration for their continued efforts to prioritize funding for this vital safety project," said Yeager Airport's Director, Terry Sayre.

Ed Hill, Chairman of the Central West Virginia Regional Airport Authority Board of Members, will call an emergency meeting of the Board to be held Monday morning, September 11th, at the Airport. "Senators Manchin and Capito, as well as Congressman Jenkins, Congressman Mooney, and Congressman McKinley have worked tirelessly to secure this federal funding," Hill said.

The project grant will fund Phase 1 of runway safety area improvements for Runway 5/23. This includes the final design, environmental review, procurement of an Engineered Materials Arresting System (EMAS), and construction. The installation of an EMAS bed will greatly improve safety in the event of an aircraft overrun. This project also includes improvements to the Airport's runway length—increasing available takeoff and landing distances, thus reducing weight penalties currently imposed on certain aircraft, and reactivation of the Runway 5 instrument landing system.

President of the Kanawha County Commission, Kent Carper, who was instrumental in getting the initial EMAS installed at Yeager Airport, said “I am glad to see this important safety measure restored. We have seen that EMAS saves lives, as it did at Yeager Airport in 2010.”

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