



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Bill Johnson
United States House of Representatives
2082 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

I am writing to request your support for two important military construction projects that will directly benefit the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) and the Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center – both, critical regional military assets in Eastern Ohio. These assets include the U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing deploying the only aerial spray capability in the military. Furthermore, the 21,000-acre Garfield site has transformed in recent years from a World War II munitions arsenal to a world-class advanced training site for thousands of troops in the Ohio National Guard and other DOD units producing over \$40 million annually in local economic impact.

In December 2022, the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) selected YARS as the preferred location to receive 8 new C-130J aircraft. Along with your support, this announcement caps off many years of community advocacy to replace our older C-130H aircraft with the new J model aircraft. This basing decision is hugely important to the mission of the 910th by providing long-term stability to the base while enhancing national security and increasing economic benefits to the region.

Projects to support:

Camp Garfield Unpaved Assault Runway

- It is essential that military aircrews are proficient in tactical landings and takeoffs on unpaved assault runways such as they would see in parts of the world during military conflicts. An installation of an unpaved assault runway will allow Camp Garfield to serve as the assault landing zone for all military training in the region by C-130 and C-17 aircraft. To be “combat ready” all aircraft commanders shall obtain an unpaved assault zone certification. The nearest unpaved assault strip location is in North Carolina, which severely limits the capacity for our personnel to gain their required training making them 40% deficient for their required certification.

Alternate Gate Facility at YARS

- With the current gate not meeting the anti-terrorism standards it became evident a secondary gate was necessary. A properly sized alternate gate would meet current standards and alleviate congestion and safety hazards during peak entry times, which causes the local county road to become gridlocked. The alternate gate would prevent obstructions along the northern base boundary and enhance safety and security.

We thank you for your consideration of our request for support and appreciate your leadership and advocacy of Eastern Ohio and our unique military assets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Guy Coviello". The signature is written in a cursive style.

GUY COVIELLO, *President & CEO*

O: 330-744-2131, ext. 1234 | C: 330-550-5258 | Guy@regionalchamber.com

City Centre One, Suite 500 | 100 E. Federal Street | Youngstown, OH 44503 | regionalchamber.com



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Thank you for your consideration of this request. We appreciate your leadership and advocacy on behalf of Eastern Ohio and our unique regional military assets.

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Brad Ehrhart
President
Portage Development Board



March 10, 2023

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United States Senate
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Brad Ehrhart
President
Portage Development Board



Youngstown Air Reserve Base Community Council



PO Box 18

Vienna, Ohio 44473

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March 11, 2023

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C Richard Hale, President

David C. Delbel, Vice President



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President - EOMAC



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The first military construction project is for an unpaved assault runway at Camp Garfield. With the addition of this unpaved assault runway, Camp Garfield would be able to serve as the assault landing zone for all military training in the region by C-130 and C-17 aircraft and is critical with the addition of the new J models. Air crews must be proficient at tactical landing and takeoff on unpaved assault runways. All aircraft commanders are required to have an unpaved assault zone certification before being considered “combat ready.” The nearest unpaved assault zones are located near Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina, within the Fort Bragg Reservation. Accessibility to these zones is severely limited so scheduling training involves long wait times and extensive delays. The three-hour roundtrip from Eastern Ohio severely limits the training capabilities of the 910th Airlift wing. This unit and other units in the region currently have a considerable number of pilots who have no navigation/night vision goggle (NVG) lighting or unpaved assault runway training. Without this project, the aircraft within the region will be unable to train on unpaved tactical landing zones causing pilots to be at least 40 percent deficient for their required certification.

The second military construction project is for a properly sized and configured alternate gate facility at YARS. The current base gate does not meet anti-terrorism requirements.

Advance Aviation & Foster Community and Economic Development

In addition, the vehicles arriving at the station get backed up out onto the main county road during peak arrival times. This back up causes safety issues on the county road. Additionally it impairs access to the base by trucks and other vehicles. The alternate gate would prevent obstructions along the northern base boundary and enhance safety and security.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We appreciate your leadership and advocacy on behalf of Eastern Ohio and our unique regional military assets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Trevena', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anthony Trevena
Executive Director



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Dave Joyce
United States House of Representatives
2065 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Joyce:

I am writing in support of two important military construction projects that will directly benefit the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) and the Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center – both are critical regional military assets in Eastern Ohio. These assets include the U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing – the only aerial spray capability in the military. Furthermore, the 21,000-acre Garfield site has transformed in recent years from a World War II munitions arsenal to a world class advanced training site for thousands of troops in the Ohio National Guard and other DOD units, producing over \$40 million annually in local economic impact.

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Anthony Trevena
Executive Director



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

I am writing in support of two important military construction projects that will directly benefit the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) and the Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center – both are critical regional military assets in Eastern Ohio. These assets include the U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing – the only aerial spray capability in the military. Furthermore, the 21,000-acre Garfield site has transformed in recent years from a World War II munitions arsenal to a world class advanced training site for thousands of troops in the Ohio National Guard and other DOD units, producing over \$40 million annually in local economic impact.

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Anthony Trevena
Executive Director



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Bill Johnson
United States House of Representatives
2082 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

I am writing to request your support for two important military construction projects that will directly benefit the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) and the Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center – both are critical regional military assets in Eastern Ohio. These assets include the U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing – the only aerial spray capability in the military. Furthermore, the 21,000-acre Garfield site has transformed in recent years from a World War II munitions arsenal to a world class advanced training site for thousands of troops in the Ohio National Guard and other DOD units, producing over \$40 million annually in local economic impact.

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Sincerely,

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Kyle English
Executive Director



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Dave Joyce
United States House of Representatives
2065 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Joyce:

I am writing to request your support for two important military construction projects that will directly benefit the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) and the Camp James A. Garfield Joint Military Training Center – both are critical regional military assets in Eastern Ohio. These assets include the U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing – the only aerial spray capability in the military. Furthermore, the 21,000-acre Garfield site has transformed in recent years from a World War II munitions arsenal to a world class advanced training site for thousands of troops in the Ohio National Guard and other DOD units, producing over \$40 million annually in local economic impact.

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Kyle English
Executive Director



March 10, 2023

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

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