

MAHONING VALLEY MARKET PULSE™

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FROM THE EDITOR

Youngstown awarded a \$7.75 million contract for the Webb Road water booster station, and WRTA secured funding for improvements along its Belmont Avenue bus route. In Niles, a final grant completed the reported funding package for the former Masonic Lodge redevelopment. Those are concrete steps toward better infrastructure and productive reuse.

Downtown Youngstown faces a different test. SOBE Thermal sent disconnection notices to four buildings, including two in the housing redevelopment pipeline, while its rate dispute continues before state regulators. Reliable utility service will matter as much as financing and construction if those buildings are to fulfill their plans. This week's issue follows both the projects moving ahead and the conditions that could hold them back.

Reporting window: September 21-27, 2026. The indicators and two trackers are cumulative reference sections; carried entries retain their stated observation dates and last-known status.

ON DECK

Date	Item
Tuesday, September 29, 2026	Youngstown Technology Park plans to break ground on its first 50,400-square-foot speculative industrial building.
Tuesday, September 29, 2026	The Ohio Controlling Board is scheduled to consider a \$1.3 million roadwork request for access near West Warren Industrial Park. An award should not be presumed.
Wednesday, September 30, 2026	Mahoning Valley Housing Summit , 1–6 p.m., Eastwood Event Centre: financing, zoning, permits, infrastructure, legislation and construction methods.
Friday, October 2, 2026	Questions are due for the Youngstown Innovation Hub technology-development call ; white papers are due October 30.

Mark your calendar

Date	Item
Monday, October 26, 2026	East Palestine–Unity Township JEDD public hearing.
Friday, October 30, 2026	Innovation Hub white-paper deadline.
Tuesday, November 3, 2026	Local data center ballot measures, including the Conneaut proposal; confirm official ballot language before publication.
Friday, November 20, 2026	Innovation Hub awards anticipated, subject to selection.

LEAD STORY

Downtown Steam Dispute Creates Service Risk for Reuse Projects

The dispute over SOBE Thermal's downtown Youngstown steam service widened this week. PUCO staff opposed requests by the city and the Ohio Consumers' Counsel to place an end date and refund condition on the emergency rate arrangement. Separately, the owners of Wick Tower and Erie Terminal sought to intervene, citing service interruptions, billing disputes and the effect on their buildings. [WKBN](#) and [WFMJ](#) report the respective filings.

SOBE subsequently sent disconnection notices to four customers, including Wick Tower, Erie Terminal, the former Mahoning National Bank building and Central Tower. A notice signals a service and payment dispute; it does not establish that service has actually stopped. Two of the buildings are part of downtown's housing and reuse pipeline, making the issue more than a rate-case abstraction. The immediate questions are whether the threatened cutoffs proceed, how the regulator resolves the rate terms and whether the receiver can maintain dependable service while the dispute continues. [Vindicator](#)

STRATEGIC SIGNALS

Niles Redevelopment Reaches Its Funding Milestone

A \$750,000 JobsOhio grant delivered through Lake to River completes the reported financing package for the \$4.6 million redevelopment of the former Masonic Lodge at 22 W. Church St. in Niles. Cadence Care Network is expected to use the property for services, with the project projected to create or retain 180 jobs and reach completion in early 2027. Funding closure is a meaningful advance; construction and occupancy remain the next milestones. [Lake to River](#)

Canadian Extruder Acquires Niles Manufacturer

Can Art Aluminum Extrusion acquired BRT Extrusions in Niles, adding a local plant to a platform that the companies say will have more than 1,000 employees, 15 presses and 10 locations. The purchase terms were not disclosed. BRT's previously reported Niles expansion and electrical-capacity work remain separate development matters to track under the new ownership; a property transfer figure is not the price of the business acquisition. [Vindicator](#)

Mercer Node Permit Reaches a Tentative Decision

The September 26 Pennsylvania Bulletin says DEP has made a **tentative decision to issue** construction-stormwater permit PAD430004 for Mercer Node Development at 200 and 201 Clark Street in Sharon. The application describes an electric substation, two data center equipment buildings, equipment yards, parking and access roads, with 14.64 acres of earth disturbance. The notice is a concrete permitting step for the Keel-linked project, but the permit itself has **not** been issued. It also does not change Sharon's adopted zoning standards or establish a construction start. [Pennsylvania Bulletin](#)

INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Belmont Avenue Transit Route Receives \$2.2 Million Package

WRTA received a \$1.76 million Ohio Workforce Partnership Program grant for improvements along its Belmont Avenue bus route and will provide a \$440,000 match, bringing the project to \$2.2 million. The planned work includes shelters and bus pull-offs, with completion targeted by the end of 2027. The corridor connects travel to jobs and services; the grant is a funded mobility investment, while construction and actual access gains remain to be measured. [Vindicator](#)

Youngstown Awards Webb Road Water Contract

Youngstown's Board of Control awarded Marucci & Gaffney the Webb Road booster-station contract at approximately \$7.749 million, about \$1.2 million below the city's estimate. This resolves the apparent-low-bid stage reported earlier in the week and advances a substantial water-system project into the contract phase. [Vindicator](#)

Dam Design, Transmission Corridor and Brownfield Cleanup

The city also approved a design contract of up to \$743,192 for removal of the Crescent, Marshall and Center Street dams, along with a \$20,150 assignment to examine right-of-way options tied to a proposed six-mile, 138-kV FirstEnergy transmission line. These are design and property-planning actions, not completed construction. [Business Journal Daily](#)

At the former McGuffey Mall site, Western Reserve Port Authority reports cleanup is complete. It is seeking Ohio EPA approval of a No Further Action letter before the environmental liability path is closed. Housing, daycare, commercial and industrial uses have been discussed for portions of the property, but no final reuse or tenant is established. [WFMJ](#)

Columbiana Industrial-Area Road Work Starts This Week

The City of Columbiana says work-zone setup and pipe work for the SR 14 widening project begins September 28, followed by work on the Nulf Drive/SR 14 Industrial Park Entrance beginning October 1. The update advances access work serving Columbiana's industrial area; it is separate from the East Palestine Route 14 industrial-park project. The city update does not state a project cost. [City of Columbiana](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Innovation Hub Opens Technology Call

The Youngstown Innovation Hub's technology-development call seeks white papers for projects that can benefit the four-county Lake to River region. The announced pool is \$300,000 for up to three awards. Proposer questions are due October 2, submissions October 30 and awards are anticipated November 20. The solicitation creates an opportunity for technology development; it is not an award to any applicant yet. [Aerospace Manufacturing & Design](#)

Trumbull Begins Long-Overdue County Plan

Trumbull County's planning commission has begun public engagement for a countywide comprehensive land-use plan, its first major update in nearly 70 years. The process is expected to extend into 2027. For development decisions, its value will depend on how the final plan addresses infrastructure, housing, industrial sites and the differing needs of the county's communities. [Tribune Chronicle](#)

Proposed East Palestine-Unity Township JEDD Heads Toward October 26 Hearing

Its framework includes a proposed 1.5% district income tax to support infrastructure and economic development. The hearing notice advances the process; the district and its terms are not yet a final outcome. [Morning Journal](#)

POWER, DATA & SITE READINESS

Local Rules Remain Distinct From Project Permits

Sharon's adopted data center zoning standards remain a governance matter, while the tentative Mercer Node stormwater decision belongs in the project pipeline. In Mercer County, the regional planning commission's September 22 agenda called for data center discussion and a possible motion, but a posted disposition has not been verified. Likewise, Scott Township's scheduled hearing does not establish that new subdivision rules were adopted. The tracker below retains the last verified posture rather than converting a meeting notice into an action. [MCRPC](#) · [Scott Township notice](#)

Ohio accounted for 20 of 38 local data center ballot measures identified nationally for 2026 in a [Ballotpedia analysis](#). That figure describes ballot activity, not approved projects. Conneaut's local proposal remains a November election question; the city has not approved a data center on that basis. [Farm and Dairy](#)

EMPLOYER WATCH

Schwebel Receiver Seeks Asset-Sale Authorization

The receiver in the Schwebel matter has asked the federal court to authorize an asset-sale arrangement. The proposed liquidation agent would guarantee at least \$3.1 million to the receivership estate, according to [Business Journal Daily](#). Assets have reportedly been consolidated from 19 locations to five. The proposed arrangement remains subject to court authorization; no completed asset sale is established.

Uniserv Sees Demand, With Labor as a Constraint

During a Brookfield plant tour, Uniserv described multiple operating lines and demand from guardrail, oil and gas, automotive and aerospace customers. Management identified finding workers as the chief constraint. The signal is useful precisely because customer demand and labor capacity can move in different directions; the report does not establish a new expansion commitment. [Business Journal Daily](#)

WORKFORCE & EDUCATION

YSU Holds Enrollment, Expands Applied Learning

Youngstown State University reported enrollment of 12,423, essentially level with 12,420 a year earlier, while describing research and workforce efforts around the Innovation Hub, emerging technology and health facilities. The university also reported a decline in international enrollment. Approximately 90 employers took part in its STEM Expo, recruiting for jobs, internships and co-ops, underscoring demand for applied engineering and technical talent. [Vindicator](#) · [Business Journal Daily](#)

Trumbull County Educational Service Center expanded its Career Navigator program to two navigators serving 11 districts. The added capacity is intended to connect students with work-based learning and employers. [Tribune Chronicle](#)

HEALTHCARE

Sharon Regional Payroll Timing Remains an Operating Concern

Employees at Sharon Regional Medical Center reported another payroll timing delay late in the week. Tenor Health disputed characterizations that employees would not be paid and said payroll was expected Friday afternoon or evening. The episode is an operating and employer signal rather than a closure or reopening milestone, but repeated payroll timing concerns remain relevant to hospital stability and workforce confidence. [WFMJ](#)

The Niles Masonic Lodge/Cadence Care redevelopment remains this week’s principal health-services facility development. Its funding milestone and projected employment are covered under Strategic Signals.

RETAIL & RESTAURANT BEAT

Eastwood Toys “R” Us Sets October Return

Toys “R” Us plans to open more than 6,800 square feet at Eastwood Mall in early October, according to a Cafaro release reported by [Business Journal Daily](#). A separate Southern Park Mall hiring listing does not establish a comparable opening date there.

Boardman Site Set for Culver's

Culver's acquired the approximately one-acre former Denny's property at 154 Boardman-Canfield Road for its first Valley restaurant. Site redevelopment lies ahead; no opening date has been announced in the cited reporting. [Business Journal Daily](#)

Chick-fil-A's [Western Pennsylvania expansion announcement](#) includes Hermitage by the end of 2028, without an exact site or opening date. Jersey Mike's [opened in Austintown](#) on September 23.

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY WATCH

Official Ohio legislative pages were checked for the principal measures before production. No new current-week movement was identified on the measures shown below.

Bill	Current treatment	Last verified posture
HB 646	Data center framework	Passed House March 18; recommitted to Senate Energy June 10.
HB 292	Defense and aerospace	Signed July 7; remaining provisions effective October 6, while appropriations took effect July 7.
HB 361	Development review	Referred to House Local Government June 18, 2025; no later action established in this review.
HB 756	R&D tax credit	Referred to House Ways and Means March 18, 2026; hearings followed, with no passage established.
HB 844	Technology investment credit	Referred to House Ways and Means May 13, 2026; no later action established.

Also monitoring: [HB 983](#) (data center accountability), [HB 613](#) (tax enforcement and appeals), [HB 921](#) (E-Verify), [SB 462](#) (employer and higher education workforce partnerships), [SB 428](#) (Build Smart Act and four-family housing) and [SB 250](#) (Promised Land Act housing tax credit). The enacted SB 450 capital-budget items remain carried in the pipeline; no new action was found this week.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The August Ohio county figures replace the July observations for Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana. Other county observations remain at their last verified date; mixing dates should not be read as a same-month county comparison.

Indicator	Latest	Prior	Change	Signal
Mahoning County unemployment	5.0% Aug.	4.6% July	up 0.4 pt.	Higher unemployment
Trumbull County unemployment	5.1% Aug.	5.0% July	up 0.1 pt.	Slight increase
Columbiana County unemployment	3.7% Aug.	3.8% July	down 0.1 pt.	Modest improvement
Ashtabula County unemployment	3.1% July	3.6% June	down 0.5 pt.	Carried observation
Lawrence County unemployment	3.8% July	3.9% June	down 0.1 pt.	Carried observation
Mercer County unemployment	4.1% July	4.3% June	down 0.2 pt.	Carried observation
Ohio unemployment	3.3% Aug.	3.4% July	down 0.1 pt.	New series low
Pennsylvania unemployment	3.7% Aug.	3.9% July	down 0.2 pt.	Improvement
U.S. unemployment	4.1% Aug.	4.1% July	flat	Stable
Ohio initial unemployment claims	4,433 w/e Sept. 19	4,019 w/e Sept. 12	up 414	State-reported weekly series
Valley home sales	455 Aug.	504 Aug. 2025	down 9.7%	Year-over-year decline
30-year fixed mortgage rate	7.03% Sept. 24	6.95% Sept. 17	up 0.08 pt.	Financing costs rose
U.S. headline CPI - annual change	3.4% Aug.	3.4% July	flat	Annual inflation steady
U.S. core CPI - annual change	2.4% Aug.	2.5% July	down 0.1 pt.	Core inflation eased

Sources: [August county unemployment](#) · [BLS State Employment](#) · [BLS Employment Situation](#) · [BLS CPI](#) · [home sales](#) · [Ohio claims](#) · [Freddie Mac](#). County observations retain their stated months; CPI figures are year-over-year changes.

DATA-CENTER MORATORIUM, RESTRICTIONS & GOVERNANCE TRACKER

This tracker covers municipal moratoriums, restrictions, zoning actions and government reviews affecting data center development. It does not indicate that a data center project has been approved unless specifically stated.

No governance row is marked as a current-issue update solely because it was discussed or reported this week. Unmarked entries retain their last verified posture; the Mercer Node permit notice appears in the Capital Pipeline below.

Jurisdiction	Action Being Tracked	Current Status	Effective Date / Next Trigger
Ashtabula Township (Ashtabula OH)	One-year moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Growth Partnership reports trustees implemented a one-year moratorium as of June 2026; exact adoption date remains unverified.
Bazetta Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective May 12 for 180 days; scheduled to expire Nov. 8 unless extended or replaced.

Jurisdiction	Action Being Tracked	Current Status	Effective Date / Next Trigger
Boardman Township (Mahoning OH)	Moratorium / zoning study	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	One-year moratorium adopted April 28; scheduled to expire April 28, 2027.
Braceville Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective June 2 for six months; scheduled to expire Dec. 2.
Bristol Township (Trumbull OH)	Data-center zoning regulations	ZONING REVIEW UNDERWAY	Zoning Commission discussion expected Sept. 14.
Conneaut City (Ashtabula OH)	Charter amendment / power cap; moratorium	BALLOT MEASURE SET / MORATORIUM REJECTED	Council rejected a one-year moratorium; a separate proposed 25-MW charter amendment is scheduled for the Nov. 3 ballot.
Cortland City (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective June 1 for one year; scheduled to expire June 1, 2027.
Girard City (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM ADOPTED	Effective July 13 for 12 months.
Hermitage City (Mercer PA)	Zoning restrictions / conditional-use standards	RESTRICTIONS ENACTED	Ordinance enacted July 22 and effective July 29; data centers are conditional uses in LI/HI districts with specific standards.
Howland Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective June 10 for six months; scheduled to expire Dec. 10.
Hubbard City (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium / local policy review	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective June 1, 2026-June 1, 2027; policy and infrastructure issues remain under review.
Hubbard Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium / permanent zoning standards	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT / ZONING REVIEW UNDERWAY	Sept. 15 Article XX hearing occurred; no verified enactment or post-hearing disposition has been established.
Lawrence County Planning Commission (Lawrence PA)	Preliminary-plan review	PROJECT REVIEW PENDING	North Beaver/Mahoning preliminary plan remains pending; no post-Aug. 12 disposition verified.
Lordstown Village (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium and extension	MORATORIUM EXTENDED	Extension effective July 5; scheduled to expire Jan. 1, 2027 unless further extended or replaced.
Mahoning Township (Lawrence PA)	SS Penn / Powder Mill zoning appeal	APPEAL DENIED - FURTHER APPEAL POSSIBLE	Zoning Hearing Board denied the appeal Sept. 15; applicant has 30 days to appeal to Lawrence County Court of Common Pleas.
McDonald Village (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium / former McDonald Steel site review	MORATORIUM ADOPTED	One-year emergency moratorium adopted Sept. 16; village will not accept or process data center applications during the pause. Oppidan says it intends to continue discussions.
New Beaver Borough (Lawrence PA)	Zoning ordinance review	ZONING REVIEW UNDERWAY	Ordinance No. 2 of 2026 remains the local-review item.
Newton Falls Village (Trumbull OH)	12-month moratorium / governance study	MORATORIUM ADOPTED	Council adopted a 12-month moratorium Sept. 2; exact statutory effective/expiration date remains to be verified from the ordinance.
Niles City (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium	MORATORIUM IN EFFECT	Effective May 20 for 180 days; scheduled to expire Nov. 16.
North Beaver Township (Lawrence PA)	SS Penn / Powder Mill zoning appeal	ZONING APPEAL DENIED - FURTHER APPEAL POSSIBLE	Prior Sept. 10 denial remains; related Mahoning Township appeal was also denied this week.
Ohio statewide ballot issue	Statewide ballot proposal	2026 BALLOT DEADLINE MISSED	Signature threshold was not met for 2026; later effort remains possible.
Pennsylvania statewide	GRID requirements / municipal pause legislation	GRID REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT / MUNICIPAL PAUSE LEGISLATION PENDING	Executive Order 2026-05 effective Aug. 18; HB 2496 and SB 1345 municipal-pause measures remain pending. A separate statewide hyperscale moratorium proposal, SB 1359, remains pending in Senate Local Government.
Sharon City (Mercer PA)	Zoning standards	ZONING STANDARDS ADOPTED	City adopted data center zoning standards in July. The Sept. 26 tentative stormwater decision concerns a separate project permit and does not change this governance row.
Vienna Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium and extension	MORATORIUM EXTENDED	Extension runs Aug. 16-Oct. 16 while permanent zoning language proceeds through review.
Warren City (Trumbull OH)	One-year data center moratorium	MORATORIUM ADOPTED	Council adopted September 9, 2026; applies to facilities larger than 1,000 SF. One-year term; statutory start and end dates not established here.
Warren Township (Trumbull OH)	Temporary moratorium / zoning standards	MORATORIUM UNDER DEVELOPMENT - NOT ADOPTED	Zoning commission is drafting temporary-moratorium language and plans additional work in September; trustees report no board discussion or decision.
Weathersfield Township (Trumbull OH)	Moratorium / zoning standards	MORATORIUM EXTENDED	Trustees approved a six-month extension into April 2027 while zoning regulations and guidelines continue.
Youngstown City (Mahoning OH)	Preliminary recruitment / municipal governance review	GOVERNANCE REVIEW / PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS - NO FORMAL APPLICATION	Public records document site and utility discussions; city reports no application, agreement, permit or site approval.

CAPITAL PIPELINE TRACKER

* = current-issue update; **NEW** = first appearance. This cumulative tracker contains 53 projects. Unmarked entries retain prior reported figures and milestones; projected jobs and proposed costs remain estimates.

Status key: green - construction/completed; yellow - planning; blue - awarded/funded; purple - renovation; red - paused/distressed.

Project	Investment	Jobs / Units	Status	County
Amazon Bazetta DC	\$30M	~120	Employee start schedules reported for June 8; actual operating/ramp status not independently confirmed.	Trumbull
AMG Chrome - New Castle	\$15M	TBD	Opened; sole U.S. chrome-metal producer; 6,500-ton capacity.	Lawrence PA
AMG Titanium - Neshannock	\$15.7M	50+	\$750K RACP supports 60,000-SF production expansion and 17,000-SF corporate headquarters.	Lawrence PA
Bristolville 25 / Lordstown	\$3.6B	120 projected	Lordstown moratorium extended 180 days effective July 5.	Trumbull
NEW - BRT Extrusions / Can Art - Niles	Acquisition terms undisclosed	Combined platform 1,000+ employees	Can Art acquired BRT Sept. 24; previously planned Niles expansion/electrical-capacity work remains to be monitored separately.	Trumbull
Campbell Health & Community Development Center	~\$15M	-	Facility opened; health, educational and community-service capacity added near Campbell schools.	Mahoning
CCL Container - Hermitage	\$16.3M	30 new / 302 retained	New production line will nearly double capacity; Pennsylvania offered \$160K in grants.	Mercer PA
* Central Tower - Youngstown	\$21.66M	~70 units	Financing/drawings previously advancing; Sept. 23 SOBE disconnection notice creates utility-service risk. No actual cutoff verified.	Mahoning
Columbiana Stormwater	\$664,596	-	June 18 FEMA award for storm-sewer upgrades.	Columbiana
Crab Creek industrial-access connector	Nearly \$2M proposed road cost	—	Connector planned between North Garland Avenue and Albert Street; late-2027 construction expected; no tenant identified.	Mahoning
East Palestine Route 14 Industrial Park	\$2.4M EDA award	TBD	Port Authority authorized land/development-agreement negotiations for proposed 85-acre park; JEDD and infrastructure arrangements remain pending; no tenant announced.	Columbiana
East Palestine Train Depot	\$889,545 contract	TBD	Renovation contract awarded.	Columbiana
EOG/Encino - Utica Drilling	\$6.5B	1,000s	Regional upstream priority.	Regional
Everest Aluminum - Warren	\$19.5-33M	70	Tax abatement approved; site decision pending.	Trumbull
FirstEnergy Grid - Trumbull	\$24M	-	138-kV rebuild; Energize365 reliability work.	Trumbull
Graphite One - Conneaut	\$1.4B Ph1	150+	Ohio EPA air-permit application administratively complete; technical review underway; no permit approval.	Ashtabula
Homestead Crossing	\$34.4M proposed total development cost	120 units	OHFA financing approvals in place, including up to \$21.5M in bonds; new construction.	Mahoning
* Innovation Hub - A&D	\$32.7M renovation	450 by 2029	Building renovation underway; technology-development call opened Sept. 23 with a separate \$300K total award pool for up to three proposals. White papers due Oct. 30; no awards yet.	Mahoning
Iten Defense - Saybrook	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	50,000-SF manufacturing expansion broke ground Aug. 5; new equipment/product lines planned.	Ashtabula
K-C Distribution Center	\$160M	65	Board decision pending.	Trumbull
* Keel Data Center - Sharon	\$5B	134	Sept. 26 PA DEP tentative decision to issue construction-stormwater permit PAD430004 for Mercer Node at 200/201 Clark St.; 14.64 acres of disturbance. Permit not issued; zoning/land-development approvals previously secured.	Mercer PA
Kimberly-Clark - Warren Mfg	\$800M	~500	Construction active; access-road design about 30% complete; first road phase targeted for early 2027. Howland approved drainage-facilities/maintenance agreement for four parcels, reported September 11.	Trumbull
MacPherson Safety Glass Facility	\$340,795.72 project / \$250K state loan	3 new / 31 retained	Regional 166 loan supports construction of a safety-glass manufacturing facility at 2809 Mahoning Ave. NW in Warren.	Trumbull
Mahoning Co. Gov't Center	\$60M prior estimate	400+ prior estimate	Last recorded milestone: construction-manager-at-risk qualifications closed July 22. Separate Williamson School relocation talks do not establish a change to this project's scope or budget.	Mahoning
* Mahoning National Bank Bldg	\$18.5M	71 units	Interior renovation previously active; Sept. 23 SOBE disconnection notice creates utility-service risk. No actual cutoff verified.	Mahoning
MCCTC LEAD Center	\$16M	100+ additional student capacity	Roughly 40,000-SF workforce facility opened in August with robotics, automation, cybersecurity, AI/software, HVAC and welding programs.	Mahoning
MCCTC Medical Wellness & Education Center	\$7.5M	Healthcare-training capacity	Opened Sept. 18; 13,000-SF center includes primary/preventive care, walk-in care, behavioral-health support and clinical training.	Mahoning

Project	Investment	Jobs / Units	Status	County
McDonald Steel Site	\$3.25M prior site figure	Potential project; no approved site plan	Oppidan continues discussions, but village adopted a one-year moratorium on data centers. Cleanup/demolition still required before any construction.	Trumbull
NEW - McGuffey Mall Site Cleanup / Reuse	Cleanup cost not stated here	Reuse program TBD	WRPA says cleanup complete; Ohio EPA No Further Action approval still pending. Housing/daycare, commercial and industrial uses under discussion; no tenant.	Mahoning
Meander Reservoir Dam Improvements	\$83M	-	MVSD plans wholesale-rate increases beginning in 2027; \$29M loan supports the broader dam-renovation program; fall 2026 start targeted.	Mahoning / Trumbull
Mercy Health - Champion ER	\$50M project; \$843K bridge	75 prior estimate	Construction active; 32,000-SF Champion Emergency Care Center will include 25-bed freestanding ER, imaging and lab services; spring opening targeted.	Trumbull
Niles / JRD Stillwagon Housing	\$1M REDD infrastructure grant	~100 homes	Commissioners approved annexation of about 62 acres into Niles for JRD Holdings' planned housing development near Niles-Vienna and Stillwagon roads.	Trumbull
NEW - Niles Masonic Lodge / Cadence Care	\$4.6M; \$750K final JobsOhio grant	180 jobs created/retained projected	Funding package reportedly complete Sept. 24; redevelopment at 22 W. Church St. targeted for early 2027 completion.	Trumbull
SB 450 Valley line items	Multiple	-	Capital budget signed; local line items enacted.	Multiple
Sharon Regional modernization	\$11.9M	550+ existing employer	Additional \$3M RACP brings state support to \$5M for major building-system and clinical upgrades.	Mercer PA
SoftBank/Stargate - Lordstown	\$3B+	TBD	Foxconn says Ohio manufacturing and R&D capabilities are expected to build in 2027 as AI-system demand grows; Lordstown transition continues.	Trumbull
TCTC Industrial Technology / Career Resource Center	\$7.6M grant support	Not reported	September 10 ribbon cutting; \$5.1M expansion and \$2.5M equipment grants. Grant support includes facilities and equipment.	Trumbull
Trumbull Energy Center	\$1.2B	-	953-MW Lordstown power plant completed / commercial operation.	Trumbull
Ultium Cells - Lordstown	\$2.3B	~1,400 expected as production resumes	Hundreds of employees returned; training underway ahead of production ramp.	Trumbull
Vallourec - Premium Thread	\$48M	40	New high-torque threading capacity is scheduled to begin ramping in late 2026 and continue into 2027.	Mahoning
Warren Peninsula Project	\$851K	306 units	Awarded March 6.	Trumbull
Warren Steel Site	\$15M loan	-	Foreclosure; 360-acre industrial site.	Trumbull
NEW - WRTA Belmont Avenue Route Improvements	\$2.2M; \$1.76M grant plus \$440K match	Transit access	ODOT workforce partnership grant announced Sept. 26 for shelters, pull-offs and route work; completion targeted by end of 2027.	Mahoning / Trumbull
WRTA Bus Barn	\$6.5M	-	Groundbreaking; EV charging, electrical upgrades and solar.	Mahoning
WRTA Transit Hub	\$60M concept	TBD	Planning/design funded at \$2.94M; full construction financing and mixed-use program remain unresolved.	Mahoning
YNDC Glenwood Cleanup	\$1M	-	EPA Brownfields grant supports assessment and cleanup.	Mahoning
YNG Aviation Education Center	\$7.4M	Workforce-training facility	Groundbreaking held Sept. 18; construction underway. YSU expected to provide academics; FAA-related approval/accreditation remains part of program implementation.	Trumbull
YNG Runway & Airfield Lighting Upgrades	\$22M+ infrastructure package / \$1.71M JobsOhio grant	Not reported	Runway rehabilitation includes resurfacing both runways, drainage and lighting upgrades supporting airport reliability and military operations.	Trumbull
Youngstown REDD Infill	\$2.5M	220 units	City Council authorized implementation of up to \$2.5M in REDD-funded infrastructure serving YNDC sites and Homestead Crossing.	Mahoning
* Youngstown river / sewer infrastructure	\$10.35M sewer + dam work	-	Sept. 24 award of up to \$743,192 for design of three dam removals; \$20,150 for 138-kV line right-of-way options. Separate \$1.19M Exal Court pump-station contract previously awarded.	Mahoning
Youngstown Technology Park	Up to \$6M WRPA development revenue lease bonds; prior city site-readiness funding	Initial 50,400-SF spec building	WRPA authorized final capital-lease documents; Sept. 29 groundbreaking planned for first phase of a broader 200,000-SF Class A industrial-space concept.	Mahoning
NEW - Youngstown Webb Road Booster Station	\$7.749M contract	Water capacity	Board of Control awarded contract Sept. 24 to Marucci & Gaffney; construction delivery pending.	Mahoning
Zuharis / Project Astralus	TBD	2,000-5,000	510-acre data center + power plant + water concept; Q3 2027 target.	Columbiana

Current-update sources: [BRT / Can Art](#) · [Innovation Hub](#) · [Mercer Node](#) · [Downtown utility risk](#) · [McGuffey Mall](#) · [Niles redevelopment](#) · [WRTA Belmont](#) · [Youngstown infrastructure](#) · [Webb Road](#).

FINAL THOUGHT

This week offers a useful hierarchy of progress: a grant closes a funding gap, a contract is awarded, cleanup is completed, and a regulator gives notice of a tentative decision. The Valley's development capacity will be measured by service reliability downtown, completed public works, occupied reused buildings and final permits that translate into responsible construction.

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