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For Immediate Release

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Uniontown, PA - U.S. Rep. John Murtha today inspected plans for improvements to Route 21 at the entrance to Uniontown Hospital and in South Union Township, as well as Matthew Drive and New Salem Road at the Fayette County Business Park.

Over the past few years, Murtha has obtained funds to advance the work on these projects. In addition, he has supported \$820,000 in grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission for development of the Business Park, which has the potential to attract 290 jobs and \$10.5 million in investment.

"The hospital officials have been pushing to improve the Route 21 entrance to provide better access in and out of their facilities, which is so important with a primary health-care facility like this. I'm pleased that some of this money was able to advance the timeline for that vital project," Murtha said.

Murtha also noted that Route 21 has become increasingly congested through the heavily commercialized area from Route 119 to the Uniontown Mall and the new Business Park.

"The developments in this area are creating jobs and helping to rebuild our economy," Murtha added. "In addition, it's important to remember that convenient shopping is one of those quality-of-life issues that can help to attract other businesses and development. So this work is quite important to the future of Fayette County."

Murtha said he is also encouraged by the work in the Business Park. "With the access to the Mon-Fayette Expressway, this park is a centerpiece of our efforts to rebuild the economy of Fayette County, so it's certainly encouraging to see the work progressing and the highway plans moving forward," he said.

Murtha has also obtained funding to advance the Mon-Fayette and for sewerage upgrades in the vicinity, including the Jennings Run project that will serve the Business Park.