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The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority owns the abandoned Coxton railroad bridge in Exeter Township. The state has awarded the authority \$1 million in funding to demolish the span.

Times Leader file photo

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stabilize the bridge.

LAG Wrecking was owned by towing contractor Leo A. Glodzik III.

Glodzik is serving a 30-month federal prison term for a guilty plea on charges of mail fraud and filing a false tax return. Glodzik's sister, Pilar, president of LAG Wrecking, agreed to sign over the bridge's ownership to any government entity willing to complete demolition.

EXETER TWP. — The Coxton bridge is coming down courtesy of funds from the state Department of Community and Economic Development, officials announced Wednesday.

State Sen. John Yudichak, D-Plymouth Township, announced the DCED has awarded \$1 million to the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority to finance demolition of the dilapidated span.

The state agency decided earlier this month there were no alternatives other than demolishing the former railroad bridge.

(http://timesleader.com/news/66320/5/state-agency-recommends-demolition-of-coxton-bridge)

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Yudichak said the funding "eliminates a clear and present danger to the community."

"We cannot risk the collapse of the bridge that could dam the Susquehanna River, which would threaten surrounding properties in Exeter and Duryea," said the lawmaker.

The bridge, which connects the Coxton Rail Yards in Duryea to the Harding section of Exeter Township, has been a concern for other state agencies since 2014.

The Department of Environmental Protection ordered former owner LAG Wrecking to either rebuild or

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## NATIONAL VIDEO



In February, the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority reacquired the span. LAG Wrecking purchased [the bridge from the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority in 2007 for \\$500](http://timesleader.com/news/636815/plans-to-tear-down-deteriorating-coxton-railroad-bridge-over-susquehanna-approved) (<http://timesleader.com/news/636815/plans-to-tear-down-deteriorating-coxton-railroad-bridge-over-susquehanna-approved>), but never carried out its plans to demolish it and sell the steel for scrap.

Andy Reilly, executive director of the authority, said his agency would “act swiftly to remove” the span.

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