

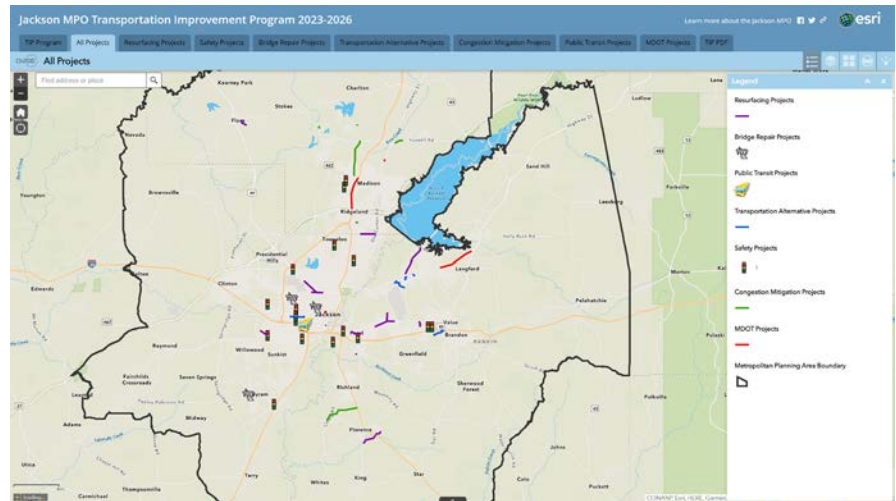


Central Update

OCTOBER 2022

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

Jackson MPO Approves 2023-2026 TIP and 2023-2024 UPWP Documents



In August, the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved the 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The TIP is a multi-year listing of transportation projects within the Jackson Metropolitan Area with a commitment of funding from a combination of federal, state, and/or local sources. The TIP serves as a short-term planning document that lists approximately four (4) years of federally funded or regionally significant transportation projects designed to carry out the recommendations of the region’s long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The projects include various capital and operating needs of the region including reconstruction; maintenance and operation of major highways, arterials, collectors, and intersections; maintenance of public transit services, and construction of bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

All projects that have received a commitment of federal transportation funds, along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant,

are included in the TIP. The TIP lists all project phases and the anticipated implementation schedule for those phases for each included project. Project phases can include preliminary engineering, design, environmental review, right-of-way acquisition, and construction. The TIP is required to be realistic in terms of available funding. Meaning the projected amount of expenditures does not exceed the projected amount of revenue each year. The 2023-2026 Jackson Urbanized Area TIP covers the timeframe of October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2026. By federal law, the TIP is required to be updated at least every four (4) years, but the Jackson MPO typically updates its TIP every two (2) years. The TIP document as well as an interactive TIP map is available for review on CMPDD’s website, <http://cmpdd.org/transportation-improvement-program-tip/>.

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes all transportation

planning activities to be performed by the CMPDD as the designated MPO and JTRAN as the designated public transit provider during fiscal years 2023 and 2024 (October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2024). It includes a listing of major activities and tasks anticipated to be performed including details on who will complete the work, the schedule for completing the work, the resulting planning products, and a summary of the proposed funding sources. The 2023-2024 UPWP contains four (4) major program areas with associated subtasks for each including:

- Transportation Planning Process Program Administration
- System Planning
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Support Activities

CMPDD Applies for SS4A Grant Funding

The Central MS Planning and Development District (CMPDD) has submitted a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant application on behalf of CMPDD's seven-county region. This U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) grant opportunity was created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and provides \$5 billion in grant funding spread over the next Five (5) years.

The SS4A program supports the USDOT's goal of zero (0) deaths and serious injuries on the nation's roadway. If awarded, the grant will support CMPDD's effort to develop a comprehensive seven-county safety action plan. The Plan's development



will include conducting a detailed analysis of crash data to identify locations, patterns, and types of serious crashes in CMPDD's seven-county region. The results of the detailed analysis along with public outreach efforts will be used to identify a prioritized strategy of policy changes and potential projects aimed at saving lives on the region's roadways.

The purpose of the SS4A grants is to improve roadway safety by

significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries through safety action plan development and implementation of projects focused on all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, motorist, and commercial vehicle operators.

USDOT anticipates announcing grant awards in January 2023.

The Action Plan Planning Process



Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved for Hazlehurst

On September 16th, 2022, the Hazlehurst Hazard Mitigation Plan update coordinated by CMPDD on behalf of the City of Hazlehurst was fully approved by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). The plan will be good for five (5) years through September 15, 2027. It will make the city eligible to apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Flood Mitigation Assistance, and Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities.



Redistricting Update

The District received the 2020 Census population data in September 2021 and began an analysis to determine which jurisdictions are in need of redistricting. The process involves utilizing the District's GIS system to overlay current municipal ward lines and county supervisor and justice court districts over the new 2020 Census population data to determine where changes are needed.

CMPDD has contracted with 20 jurisdictions to develop redistricting plans. These include six (6) counties, thirteen (13) municipalities and one (1) school district. To date, a total of nine (9) plans have been adopted and two (2) are under consideration.

The next phase of this project will involve meeting with election officials to redraw voting precincts based on the changes to election districts.

The Planning Corner Update

CMPDD presented the results of an online survey to the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District's Board of Directors in September as well as an initial draft of a Land Use Plan. The survey received over 1,200 comments which directly impacted the development of the Land Use Plan. Additionally, meetings with overlapping jurisdictions, specifically Rankin County and City of Ridgeland, were held to discuss the common interest in land development within PRVWSD, which also influenced the Land Use Plan. A public draft of the Master Plan is expected in early November.

Work continues on the City of Brandon's Comprehensive Plan as a public input survey has been released and an initial draft of the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan is underway. These drafts are based on input received from meetings with department heads, a review of existing land use data, and conversations with the Mayor and Board of Alderman on necessary revisions.

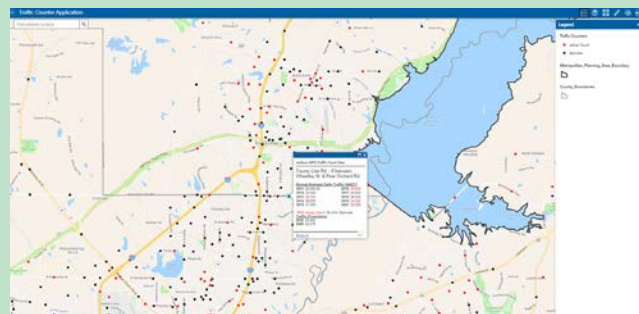
Planners are working with Rankin County on an update to their Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The existing land use survey was completed and is being analyzed. An online survey was conducted as a method of public engagement.

CMPDD planners completed the existing land use survey for Simpson County as the first step in an update to their Comprehensive Plan. The next phase will include meeting with the Simpson County Planning Commission to develop goals and objectives for the plan.

CMPDD Planners continue to field numerous questions and provided guidance on zoning amendments because of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act becoming law. CMPDD planners continue to study the Act and have sought guidance on the regulatory authority, including zoning, provided to local governments through the Act. Our planners remain available to member governments as local decisions are considered.

Traffic Count Viewer Updated

District staff, in cooperation with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), collect traffic count data on all functionally classified roadways in the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA), which includes portions of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties on a three-year cyclical basis. At the end of each year all traffic count data collected by District Staff is submitted to MDOT for analysis. This analysis includes reviewing the submitted data to ensure there are no irregularities or "bad data" and then applying traffic adjustment factors to the raw data to develop Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) counts. The traffic adjustment factors used by MDOT to develop AADT counts takes into consideration high and low daily and seasonal traffic patterns to arrive at a more representative "annual" traffic count for each location. In the interim years, when traffic count data is not collected for select locations, an estimated count for those locations is developed using existing historical traffic count data and applying estimation factors. Once the MDOT has completed its analysis and developed interim year estimates the updated data for the Jackson MPO Planning Area is provided to the District and made publicly available through our traffic count viewer.



In August District staff updated the traffic count viewer to include all traffic count data for 2021. The traffic count viewer includes not only data for 2021, but also data from 2011-2019. As can be seen on the viewer, traffic count data for 2020 is not included. Due to substantial irregularities in traffic patterns, resulting from the COVID-19 shutdown in 2020 this data was excluded.

The traffic count viewer can be accessed through the District's website at <http://cmpdd.org/traffic-counting/>. If you have any questions concerning the traffic count viewer, please contact Scott Burge at (601) 321-2150 or by email at sburge@cmpdd.org.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Continues

CMPDD has a long history of assisting member governments, universities, and the MEMA District 5 Region with Hazard Mitigation planning and is currently assisting numerous governments with updates to their Hazard Mitigation Plans. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires local jurisdictions to maintain an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan to maintain grant eligibility for certain pre- and post- disaster grant programs available through the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition, Plans are required to be reviewed and updated every five (5) years to account for any changes that might have occurred that could increase or decrease a community's risk to a particular hazard.

Predicting where the next disaster will occur, and how severe its impact will be on a community is difficult. Given the right conditions natural disasters, such as tornadoes and flash floods, can occur at anytime and anyplace. Their human and financial consequences can be significant. Mitigation Planning is intended to assist communities in determining their risks to natural disasters and developing an action plan to address the known risks by lessening the impact of natural disasters when they do take place.

The following jurisdictions have received final approval from MEMA and FEMA on their 2021-2026 or 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plans:

- City of Brandon
- City of Clinton
- City of Flora
- City of Florence
- City of Flowood
- City of Hazlehurst
- City of Richland
- City of Ridgeland
- City of Vicksburg
- Town of Pelahatchie
- Madison County
- Rankin County
- Warren County
- MEMA District 5 Region including Claiborne County and Port Gibson; Hinds County, Bolton, Edwards, Raymond, and Utica; Issaquena County and Mayersville; Sharkey County, Anguilla, Cary, and Rolling Fork; Simpson County, Braxton, D'Lo, Magee, and Mendenhall; and the Cities of Canton, Crystal Springs, Madison, and Puckett.
- Copiah County Multi-Jurisdictional Plan including Copiah County, Towns of Georgetown, and Wesson.
- Yazoo County Multi-Jurisdiction Plan including Yazoo County, Bentonina, Eden, Satartia, and Yazoo City.

The following jurisdictions have received FEMA approval for their 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plan pending local adoption:

- City of Jackson

The following jurisdictions have submitted their 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plan for FEMA for approval:

- City of Byram
- City of Pearl
- Jackson State University

The following jurisdiction are currently working with CMPDD to complete updates to the Hazard Mitigation Plans:

- Town of Terry

CMPDD Assists with Annual Chancery Clerks Association Convention

District staff assisted in planning the 2022 Annual Chancery Clerks Association Convention. The Convention was held in Natchez, MS. This convention was attended by almost 60 Clerks from all over the State of Mississippi. The Clerks enjoyed special events in Natchez, as well as

attending educational sessions lead by the State Department of Audit, the Mississippi Personnel Board, and the State Department of Mental Health. This is the second year that District staff has assisted in the planning and implementation of this event.

CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver Program Update

The Elderly & Disabled Medicaid Waiver (E&D Waiver) is a statewide program designed to provide in-home assistance to qualified Medicaid beneficiaries. Beneficiaries must be 21 years of age or older. They must qualify by either SSI Medicaid or 300% of SSI Medicaid. They must require assistance with Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) such as bathing, dressing, eating, ambulation and/or transferring or Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) such as laundry, light housekeeping, errands, and/or assistance on community outings. Registered Nurses (RN) and Licensed Social Workers (LSW) work together as a team to case manage Medicaid eligible beneficiaries.

CMPDD currently employs 24 Case Management teams. We are working in partnership with CMPDD's Workforce Investment division to launch a new program targeting Social Workers who have received their bachelor's degree in Social Work and are seeking to work as a licensed social worker case manager. This program consists of exposure to actual job requirements of the Case Managers. It also provides

for and allows dedicated study time, information, and preparation for taking the licensure exam. The LSW trainee program consists of a 12-week period of studying, preparing for the licensure exam, and accompanying established Case Managers on home visits while receiving compensation during the training period. Trainees also receive the traditional benefits of insurance coverage, leave time accrual, and other employee benefits. At the end of the 12-week training period, and passing the licensure exam, the trainee will automatically transition to a permanent LSW Case Manager position.

The Division of Medicaid continues to operate under a federally approved Public Health Emergency (PHE) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the PHE, Case Management flexibilities remains in effect: (1) Monthly CM contact visits may be conducted via telephone or video conference; (2) Initial, Recertification, Transfer, or Readmit assessments must be conducted face-to-face; (3) Face-to-face visits must be conducted if the beneficiary is

unable to communicate by telephone, if the beneficiary has unmet needs that cannot be resolved by telephone, if risks or reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation is identified, or if the beneficiary or representative cannot be reached by telephone; and (4) With proper documentation, "Verbal Consent" may documented in lieu of the beneficiary's or representative's original signature. E & D Waiver's personal care attendant, in-home respite and adult day care, and home-delivered meal providers continue to provide services as required.

*Individuals who own an agency and is seeking to become a Medicaid Waiver service provider should contact the Division of Medicaid, Long-Term Care Bureau at 601-359-6141.

For more information on Elderly & Disabled Waiver services, please contact CMPDD's Mississippi Access to Care (MAC) Center at 1-844-822-4622. Or contact Teresa Burrell-Shoto, RN, Case Management Director at 601-855-5914 or tburrell@cmpdd.org.

CMPDD Awarded Grants from Delta Regional Authority

In September, the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) announced their 2022 States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) and Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) awards. DRA's investment will improve basic public infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, and job training to support economic development in communities across Mississippi. District staff worked with local municipalities and organizations in the spring on their applications. There were 21 grants awarded within the State of Mississippi, with three (3) within the District.



Town of Braxton	Clean Water Project	\$609,900 awarded
Town of Puckett	Asbestos Cement Water Pipe Removal	\$165,544 awarded
Piney Woods School	Infrastructure Improvement Program	\$1,347,127 awarded

Quarterly Association Meetings

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association and the City Clerks in the District both met this summer for quarterly luncheons. CMPDD hosts these groups to cultivate relationships between municipalities and to discuss daily practices and upcoming opportunities. The Central Mississippi Mayors Association met in Biloxi, MS, at the Annual Mississippi Municipal League Summer Conference in July, and the Clerks met at CMPDD's main office.



CMPDD

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Essential to the Aging Population Reassurance Program

The Reassurance Program seeks to meet the special needs of people who are elderly or physically challenged and living alone by placing a regular phone call at a pre-arranged time.



Calls are made to

- Check on the client's well-being.
- Affirm that someone does care.
- Provide emergency follow-ups.

Improvement
in
depression

Improvement
in
loneliness

Decreases
anxiety



For more information, call
844-822-4622



MORE INFO
www.cmpdd.org



MAC Center
Mississippi Access to Care

CMDC BULLETIN

Representative De'Keither Stamps, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of no new loans.

CMDC is a commercial lender certified by the U. S. Small Business Administration and works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small businesses. CMDC provides fixed rate low interest long term financing for small businesses and saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. This type financing removes the problem of variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not negatively impact the cash flow of those small businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 504 Loan Program. The most recent fixed interest rates under this loan program were:

SBA 504 Loan Program Interest Rates

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (September 2022)	5.33%
20 (September 2022)	5.34%
25 (September 2022)	5.44%



Also, CMDC serves as the Loan Review Board for the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District's (CMPDD's) Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP). The MBELP receives its funding from the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). The interest rate on loans made through this program to a minority owned business is currently 3.25% per annum. The term of a loan can be up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds (commercial buildings, equipment, inventory, working capital, etc.)

Representative De'Keither Stamps invites bankers, commercial loan officers, business owners, real estate developers, and general contractors, to contact Dwayne Perkins at 981-1625, or visit our website at cmpdd.org. See the tab labeled "Small Business Loans."

Economic Developers Roundtable

On September 12th, CMPDD hosted the District's economic developers for a lunch presentation and discussion of the Mississippi Development Authority's new incentive program, the Mississippi Flexible Incentive Plan (MFLEX). Sara Watson, Director of Business Incentives at the Mississippi Development Authority, Bridgette

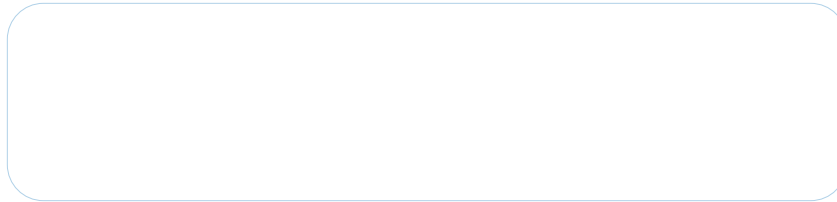


Thomas, Chief Counsel at the Mississippi Department of Revenue, and Kathy Gelston, Financial Analyst with Vision First Advisors, provided an in-depth presentation and answered questions on these new tax incentives/rebates available to manufacturers and other qualified businesses in Mississippi.

CMPDD arranged this presentation to assist economic developers and CMPDD staff in becoming more knowledgeable of economic development incentives that will assist businesses and allow local communities to prosper and grow.

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) ARPA Match Grant Program

This summer, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality announced the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program. This grant allows municipalities the opportunity to apply for matching funds on their ARPA awards exclusively for water infrastructure projects. District staff assisted many municipalities with their applications in September. District staff are available to assist with grant administration should a municipality desire assistance once the awards are announced. District staff will be available to assist again with applications once the second round of the program opens in the spring.



If the name and address of the recipient needs to be updated, please contact our office at 601-981-1511.

Internship Program Helps Turn Job into Career Opportunity

The workforce division partnered with Nissan North America in Canton to offer a summer internship to current Community College students. This internship is designed to help students still enrolled in school gain experience in their area of study before taking the final steps into full-time employment. Additionally, this work experience offered students an opportunity to implement the technical skills that they were learning in their classroom instruction.

Seven (7) students from Hinds Community College, Holmes Community College, and Copiah-Lincoln Community College successfully completed the 320-hour paid internship program at the Canton plant. Internship wages were paid through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

All students who completed the internship will return to their respective Colleges to complete their degrees. Nissan has expressed interest in offering the interns full-time employment upon graduation.

Two (2) of the seven (7) interns came to the Southcentral MS Works Workforce Board Meeting to share their experiences. At the board meeting, Malcolm Bouldin said,



LouSonya Woodland, Workforce Coordinator; Malcolm Bouldin, Intern; Benny Hubbard, Chairman of Southcentral MS Works Workforce Board; Shannon Dunaway, Intern; and Robin Parker, Director of Workforce

“My experience at Nissan was a 10 out of 10. My goal was to further my knowledge and get my foot in the door of a company like Nissan and this experience gave me that opportunity”. Shannon Dunaway stated, “My goal was to learn as much as I could during the internship to help me during my final year at Co-Lin Community College. I accomplished this goal and built relationships with people who may give me the opportunity to work for them in a position that will help me to better provide for my future family”.

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Number 4