

MID-YEAR REPORT

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

1020 Centre Pointe Boulevard Pearl, MS 39208 www.cmpdd.org

Mid-Year Report Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District

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Officers of the Board of Directors

Mayor Sally Garland, President
Mayor Les Childress, Vice-President
Mr. Dan Hart, Secretary-Treasurer
Supervisor William Banks, Immediate Past President

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) is a voluntary association of local governments whose intent is to find common solutions to problems and issues that go beyond any one political subdivision. Throughout the years, Federal financial assistance has greatly favored the advantages of regionalism and provided substantial funding opportunities to our area. We have always taken great pride in leveraging millions of dollars of Federal and State support with an annual local dues structure of only \$231,176.

We begin this and every Work Program process with the distribution of an online survey link to our participating governments and other stakeholders in the region. The survey is used to help determine the needs, problems, concerns, and priorities of each of our localities. The information received is compiled into a series of projects and tasks with cost estimates being applied to determine the amount of funds to be budgeted. Once the Work Program is reviewed and adopted by the District's Board of Directors, it becomes a working document that is used to track our activities, measure our progress, and accumulate our costs. At the six-month mark of each fiscal year, the District issues a Mid-Year Report that uses the same format and budgets. Its purpose is to show what was accomplished at the midpoint of the fiscal year and the progress anticipated for the remainder of the fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year, we publish an Annual Report that outlines accomplishments for the entire fiscal year.

The District's functions are generally divided into two components - one being regional policies and the second being staff activities. Regional policies include such things as this Work Program, its budget, and the corresponding formal internal policies and procedures. In addition, there is a collection of regional long range plans for functional activities such as transportation, economic development, disaster mitigation, workforce training, and programs for the elderly. The governance of many of these policy areas has been delegated to a specific committee within the District organization in order to provide the proper time and attention to that matter. Once plans and policies have been adopted by the appropriate entities, it is the staff's responsibility to carry out these functions as responsibly and efficiently as possible. The provision of having one common staff to serve the collective needs of this region is the foundation of regional areawide cost effectiveness.

We are fortunate to have a fine group of professionals assigned to implement this program of work. Each local government should be very proud to have a staff that represents the highest level of competency and integrity.

PROJECT: GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION

PROJECT NUMBER: 10

DESCRIPTION: This function will provide sound administrative and financial management through the initiation and implementation of overall organizational policies, procedures, and administrative requirements. Through the guidance of the Board of Directors and various committees, the Chief Executive Officer will direct the affairs of the organization in a proper and cost-effective manner.

NEED	An effective association of local governments needs to exist in order to address problems and concerns in a collective manner. Since most of the funding for District projects and programs are of a public or quasi-public origin, there must be extremely sound procedures in place to ensure that these funds are administered according to all appropriate rules and regulations.
BENEFITS	State, federal, local, and sometimes private sector funding are merged into a collective unified effort to address common issues and problems. This system serves to seek common solutions to mutual problems affecting more than one area of interest and political subdivision, thereby producing cost-effective benefits to all concerned.
TASK 10-1	GENERAL MANAGEMENT The District will continue to utilize innovative technology solutions to effectively manage programs and resources. The District will prepare annual funding applications, budgets, financial reports, statements of progress, work programs, execute agreements, and other necessary formal data for funding sources in order to remain eligible for various types of financial assistance. Adequate financial, legal, and organizational attention will be provided to the various committees and the Board of Directors will be given sufficient service and attention.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District has met or exceeded all management, administrative goals, and requirements of the Work Program during the first half of this fiscal year. Management continues to implement new technological advances to improve efficiency.
TASK 10-2	OVERALL DISTRICT AUDIT The District has and will continue to have a financial audit conducted by an independent certified public accounting firm of all funds received and expended in the fiscal period. The audit is to ensure sound management practices, certify the financial statements, and to comply with the Single Audit Concept of the Office of Management and Budget in the <i>Federal Single Audit Act of 1984</i> , as amended.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District's audit for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 has been completed by the audit firm of FORVIS, LLC, and was reviewed by the CMPDD Board of Directors at their March 12, 2025, meeting. A certified public accountant from FORVIS, LLC, presented the audit and was available to answer any questions. There were no audit findings or recommendations to be addressed.

TASK 10-3 INTERNAL

INTERNAL AUDIT/MONITOR FUNCTION

The Auditor/Monitor function of the District began in Fiscal Year 1993 and will continue for Fiscal Year 2025. The District will be in compliance with required federal standards and will continue its practice of monitoring these funds. The monitoring is of an external nature and deals with both the programmatic and fiscal monitoring elements of Aging network service providers, WIOA service providers, and case management entities. The District has a multitude of sub-recipients and service providers that must be monitored on a continuous basis as an end result of funding and contracting methodologies. This function is continually enhanced to protect the District from possible liabilities and to meet all local and federal requirements in order to maintain compliance and to continue to meet all audit requirements and safeguard the public dollars entrusted to CMPDD.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The Auditor/Monitor function of the District continues for Fiscal Year 2025. The District is in compliance with required federal standards and is continuing its practice of monitoring both the programmatic and fiscal elements of aging network service providers, WIOA service providers, and case management entities. The District is monitoring on a continuous basis a multitude of sub-recipients and service providers to protect the District from possible liabilities and to meet all local and federal requirements necessary to maintain compliance. The District continues to meet all audit requirements and safeguard the public dollars entrusted to it.

TASK 10-4

SUPPORT FOR DISTRICT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

The goals, objectives, policies, and procedures, both internal and external, of this organization will be given extreme attention and promoted in a comprehensive manner. Every effort will be made to secure and attract the necessary resources to implement the overall Work Program and adopted plans and programs of the District. Organizations having potential mutual interests and concerns will be researched and identified in order to help secure and direct both fiscal and human resources in a manner for the collective good of the area. The previously adopted concept of regionalism and seeking a common direction for this area will continue to be aggressively pursued.

The District will be very aggressive and entrepreneurial in marketing and promoting this program of work. It will engage in marketing activities which emphasize regionalism, obtain various forms of financial/contractual support, and promote the overall economic development of the region.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Membership dues for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 have been collected from all participating governments. Grants and contracts from the Delta Regional Authority, Economic Development Administration, Mississippi Department of Transportation, Mississippi Department of Human Services, and other similar ongoing programs are being carried out according to grant and contract requirements.

The District continues to be aggressive and entrepreneurial in seeking new and innovative ways to maximize financial resources.

TASK 10-5 PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM

The District will continue to administer a program of public relations and participation through public hearings, meetings, brochures, news releases, quarterly newsletters, slide and video presentations, television and radio coverage, website, Facebook, and other techniques designed to inform the general public and selected individuals of the overall program of the District. The District will prepare an annual Work Program; Mid-Year Report, which will provide a progress report on the Work Program; and an Annual Report of the programs and projects undertaken during the fiscal year for distribution to the Board of Directors and other participating governments.

The District will continue to update its website, which is www.cmpdd.org. This website is a virtual gateway to District reports, information, and development activities. Improvements are being made to it continuously. In an effort to provide current information about District activities and programs, CMPDD has implemented a Facebook page, which provides the District with a social media presence. The District used consultants in the development of the website and the extremely technical mapping requirements, which are an integral part of the District's Regional Data Center. The District will continue to use these and other consultants to ensure the successful operation of existing and future activities. Costs associated with this Task will be covered by Projects 11 and 13.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

News releases continue to be issued and published as needed and the quarterly newsletters were prepared and distributed on schedule. Both an Annual Report and Work Program have been prepared, published, and distributed. District staff continues to maintain and update CMPDD's website, www.cmpdd.org, which displays all CMPDD publications, services, programs, census data, and mapping products. In addition, the District continues to incorporate cutting edge technology on the website using interactive mapping and data management applications.

The District also manages the Facebook page and strives to post current events and meetings so that participating governments, as well as the general public, can learn more about the activities and programs carried out by the District.

TASK 10-6 INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

Under Federal Executive Order 12372, the District will continue to administer its program of Project Notification and Review. This program will ensure that federally funded projects conform to local and regional planning programs. This process will afford local elected officials and other affected agencies an opportunity to review and comment on these projects prior to funding.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Although this process has been greatly reduced in scope and magnitude, the District continues to administer this review process as required by regulations, various agencies, and programs.

TASK 10-7 TECHNOLOGY GROUP

The Technology Group, comprised of District staff, will manage the implementation and maintenance of document management and digital signature tools chosen by the District to advance the goals of reducing paper waste and organizing archived information so that it is easily accessible. In addition, this group will be responsible for investigating and implementing new technology and processes that improve office efficiency and diversity of services.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The Technology Group continues to explore opportunities to utilize new technology to support the District's operation, which improves services to our local governments.

TASK 10-8

INTERN/OUTREACH PROGRAM

The District will educate and promote its activities, on a selected basis, by attending job fairs, teaching classes; conducting seminars, tours, conferences, and best practices exchanges, and other similar efforts.

The District will use seasonal and somewhat labor-intensive staff to assist in the performance of certain jobs. Using college graduate level students allows the students to engage in real world learning experiences and provides the District with cost-effective staff assistance. Over the years, the District has actually hired many of its interns for permanent jobs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

District staff have spoken at various conferences, seminars, educational events, and online Zoom/Teams meetings. The District is currently determining needs for internship positions during the summer months of 2025.

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC. STATEMENT OF INDIRECT COSTS EXPENSE FUND

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL BUDGET	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$1,167,347	\$710,478
Travel	\$30,000	\$231
Meetings	\$15,000	\$3,997
Dues, Memberships and Subscriptions	\$21,000	\$13,386
Audit	\$60,000	\$17,500
Contractual Services	\$39,000	\$15,539
Equipment Lease/Rental	\$98,000	\$45,613
Supplies	\$20,000	\$6,333
Printing	\$12,000	\$3,306
Postage	\$13,000	\$7,728
Equipment Maintenance	\$1,000	\$200
Legal	\$5,000	\$1,000
Communications	\$52,000	\$11,307
Insurance and Bonding	\$151,000	\$79,347
District Expense Fund	\$123,500	\$63,254
Depreciation	\$333,000	\$162,727
Space Lease	\$2,640	\$1,265
Computer, Software & Maintenance	\$85,000	\$34,231
Automobile Pool Costs	\$55,000	\$25,867
Miscellaneous	\$12,000	\$1,874
Utilities/Housekeeping/Building	\$123,000	\$44,220
Prior Year Adjustment	\$30,000	\$87,238
Current Year Adjustment (Actual or Applied)		\$55,508
TOTAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	\$2,448,487	\$1,392,149
SOURCES		
Assessments-General	\$55,500	\$59,569
Lease/Rental Income	\$78,386	\$69,581
Allocated to Programs	\$2,314,601	\$1,217,880
TOTAL	\$2,448,487	\$1,347,030

PROJECT: REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE

PROJECT NUMBER: 11

DESCRIPTION: The Regional Governmental Assistance Program is an effort by the District to provide common services and improve the management practices of local governments, thus lowering the cost of providing services to the citizens of the respective governmental units. The purpose of this project is to better address the total needs and demands of the local governments in the seven-county area in a regional and collective manner. While traditional interest is expected to be on functional areas, such as economic development and governmental efficiency, there are no limitations identified at this time. An organized process to facilitate joint visioning, strategic planning, effective communications, coordination, and cooperation is needed for government to work in a businesslike manner. Solving problems and addressing common needs on a regional basis will continue to be explored.

NEED	Services can be improved, and costs lessened by seeking mutual solutions to common problems affecting more than one local governmental unit, such as GIS and web-based mapping and information applications. Improved management and administrative techniques increase the effectiveness of local governments by not allowing political boundaries to restrict governmental and business efficiency.
BENEFITS	This program increases the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments and lowers the cost of services for citizens while increasing and improving services. Approaching problem solving at a regional level is a cost effective and logical means of addressing common problems.
TASK 11-1	MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE The District will provide its participating governments with financial, management, administrative, grant, and planning assistance upon request.
	Aid will be provided to seek federal and state financial assistance through such sources as: Mississippi Development Authority US Department of Housing and Urban Development US Department of Commerce Highway Safety Program Federal Emergency Management Agency Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Delta Regional Authority and other appropriate agencies.
	The District will provide technical assistance to further develop GIS capabilities on a District-wide level.
	The District will provide technical assistance in web-based mapping and information applications. Also, CMPDD will continue to take the lead in coordinating both comprehensive and strategic planning initiatives, the offering of public forums, and technical assistance workshops to local units of government.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff have provided administrative, grant, and planning assistance to member governments, and on their behalf have worked with the Mississippi Development Authority, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, US Department of Commerce, and the Delta Regional Authority.
TASK 11-2	INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AND JOINT SERVICES The District will continue its current activities of coordinating and sponsoring multi-county workshops and forums on topics of interest throughout the District's area. Topics could include the following: hazard mitigation, best practices, technology, Census training, etc.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff convene CMPDD's member Mayors and City Clerks on a quarterly basis to identify topics of interest.

TASK 11-3	REGIONAL INITIATIVE The District will continue to work with the governments in its seven (7) counties to identify issues and problems which can best be addressed with a regional approach. The intent is that when a regional issue or problem arises, it will be logically approached from a regional level through CMPDD. Therefore, CMPDD staff will work with area governments to identify issues, determine those who are affected, and develop a means of approaching and solving these issues from a regional point of view. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continues to work with area governments in the CMPDD region to discuss current topics
	and promote regional cooperation primarily in the areas of aging services, transportation planning, workforce, and business development.
TASK 11-4	LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE In an effort to combine support for the entire region, The District will utilize its staff and facilities to develop and follow the progress of legislative initiatives common to the area. Staff will also work with the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD), Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS), and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) when beneficial to member governments.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continue to be vigilant in monitoring legislative issues affecting the Planning and Development Districts' municipalities, and counties.
TASK 11-5	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DISTRICT-WIDE GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS The District will provide technical assistance to the Central Mississippi Mayors Association and City Clerks. District staff will also assist in coordinating meetings to be held on a regular basis at the District headquarters.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff provide administrative and technical assistance to the Central Mississippi Mayors Association and City Clerks. District staff also coordinate meetings for these groups, which are held on a regular basis at District headquarters.
TASK 11-6	USE OF MODELS AND EXAMPLES The District will continue to seek models and examples throughout the nation which could be further considered in this area to improve services. Through the use of regional and national peer groups, systems of information will be exchanged on an improved basis. State and national groups such as the Mississippi Municipal League (MML), Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS), Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD), National League of Cities (NLC), National Association of Counties (NACO), National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), and National Association of Regional Council (NARC) will be used extensively. District staff and Board members will participate in meetings of these organizations to be made aware of issues and developments.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continued to maintain relationships and participate in workshops, conferences, and webinars with MML, MAS, and MAPDD to facilitate an exchange of ideas beneficial to CMPDD's member governments.
TASK 11-7	CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM The District will continue an educational program to allow officials of member governments to be made aware and kept abreast of innovations in municipal and county government, as well as planning, grant programs, management, etc. These programs will be scheduled on an "as needed" basis.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff are coordinating the efforts of the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) to provide CMO credits to municipal officials during the annual MAPDD Conference to be held in April. District staff also participate in field-specific continuing education programs and provide technical assistance to member governments based upon the information learned.

well as serve as a depository for historical data. The District will compile, organize, and analyze data from local and national sources to produce useful tools for local planners, developers, and industries. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Demographic data is displayed on CMPDD's website and is updated as new census data is released. S also respond to requests for data utilizing Business Analyst Online from ESRI as well as U.S. Census data. TASK 11-9 LOCAL/REGIONAL ECONOMIC ANALYSIS Activities associated with this Task are incorporated into the responsibilities of the Regional Data Cersec TASK 13-4. BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL, AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION Activities associated with this Task are incorporated into the responsibilities of the Regional Data Cersec TASK 13-6. TASK 11-11 TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION Staff will continue to serve as advisory staff to management on any technology issues and procureme technology equipment. Technical support will be provided by performing the following duties: Provide network administration by maintaining server backups, user profiles, and system security. Provide technical specifications based on request for equipment purchases. Maintain CMPDD's email address listing. Maintain equipment inventory. Service and maintain non-warranty equipment and act as the central point for procurement of equipment maintenance. Keep a service log on equipment. Maintain a library of CMPDD software. Attend software and/or hardware training courses. Provide training as requested on software. Redesign and maintain CMPDD website and update data as needed. Design and maintain of the Pob website and update data as needed. Design and maintain of the Pob website and update data as needed. Design and maintain of the Pob website and update the data as needed. Design and maintain of the Pob website and update data as needed. Design and maintes of troubleshooting procedures for Internet, email, and the Mississippi Municipal Lee Research alternatives for Itelephones, network, internet access, and email. Main		
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TASK 11-12	MAPPING SUPPORT The District will continue to build and maintain digital base maps and various layers of data/information for use in local planning projects, transportation planning, and for general District-wide use. Planners use these products as foundations for local planning projects, transportation planning, and regional information gathering and dissemination.
	The District will continue building land use and other planning related layers for in-house monitoring and forecasting, local governmental entities, and private business ventures. The District will also continue to maintain an urban area base for Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties in ongoing efforts related to transportation surveillance.
	On a District-wide and general level, the District will continue to update city limits by recording all recent changes, as well as update precinct and Supervisor districts where necessary.
	With regard to GIS cooperation, the District will continue to make a concerted effort to work closely with other governmental GIS users including the Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems, the Mississippi Automated Resource Information Systems (MARIS), the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS), the Mississippi Municipal League (MML), Mississippi 811 (MS 811), and the Mississippi Association for Spatial Technologies (MAST).
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: GIS personnel continue to assist District planners with maps associated with grant applications, comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, redistricting, and numerous other programs. The staff has also assisted District transportation planners with the use of the functional classified roads for pavement management; mapping Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects and associated viewer; and other MPO transportation projects.
TASK 11-13	MAPPING AVAILABILITY The District will continue its efforts to increase visibility, awareness, and ease of use of map products by member governments, the public, and businesses constantly in need of accurate, up-to-date maps.
	The production of readily accessible reproducible or other "on-demand" maps for all current coverage will continue, in addition to providing map viewer products on the District's website.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to provide planning and redistricting maps to city and county officials, political candidates, marketing specialists, and the general public. GIS personnel also maintain online map viewers for greater public access.
TASK 11-14	PROMOTE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM ACTIVITIES The District will continue to encourage and assist local governments in establishing Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities through networking and informational meetings. In addition, the District will provide guidance and assistance by speaking at the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) conferences in regard to GIS issues.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to aid local governments regarding GIS capabilities and provides training sessions on GIS matters via on-site meetings and video conferences.
TASK 11-15	MISSISSIPPI COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR REMOTE SENSING AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MCCRSGIS) Staff will attend meetings of both the subcommittees of the Council, the Policy Advisory Subcommittee and the Technical Advisory Subcommittee, as well as full Council meetings as requested.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District met on several occasions via video conferencing with the Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (MCCRSGIS) to discuss council initiatives and programs.

TASK 11-16

DEVELOPMENT OF WEB-BASED MAPPING AND INFORMATION PRODUCTS AND SERVICES The District will continue to develop, host, and enhance web-based mapping and information application capabilities using CMPDD's virtual server technology and ArcGIS server software solutions to provide innovative interactive mapping and information products and services to clients.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District continues to provide a new map acquisition portal on the CMPDD website where users can acquire PDF maps or order printed maps.

The District provides updates and incorporates improvements to the existing web-based viewers as required to stay current on technological advances. Viewer updates were provided to Madison and Rankin Counties, as well as several municipalities in the district. District GIS staff has added online 3D-Mapping for the development of site plans, master plans, and project renderings. These 3D online mapping applications can help developers and local governments create scenarios for commercial, industrial, and residential revitalization or expansion.

The District's online transportation viewers were updated with the new Jackson MPO Transportation Improvement Program 2025-2028. In addition, the District updated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities, Functional Classification, and Traffic Count online viewers.

TASK 11-17

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

The Central Mississippi Public Improvement Corporation (CMPIC) is a corporation established by CMPDD to assist local governments within the service area with the lease purchase of public buildings for purposes of promoting trade, industry, and economic development (examples include jails, community centers, fire and police facilities, libraries, etc.). Financing is provided through Certificates of Participation (COP) issued by the corporation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The CMPIC continues to offer financing assistance to local governments within the district, as needed, for the financing and construction of eligible public facility projects. During the reporting period, CMPIC completed closing documents for the construction of a new Law Enforcement and Public Safety Facility in Hinds County in the amount of \$99,009,000 and a project for the Canton Public School District in the amount of \$20,000,000.

REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF 3/31/2025
Personnel	\$4,628	\$1,028
Indirect	\$1,536	\$380
Travel	\$300	\$88
Miscellaneous	\$200	0
Dues, Memberships &Subscriptions	\$500	\$385
Un-Programmed	\$32,836	0
TOTAL	\$40,000	\$1,881
SOURCES		
Assessments-General	\$40,000	\$1,841
TOTAL	\$40,000	\$1,841
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(40)

PROJECT: LOCAL PLANNING PROJECTS

PROJECT NUMBER: 12

DESCRIPTION: Throughout the year the District is requested to provide planning assistance to its local governments. This assistance may range from a brief technical assistance effort to preparing a long-range, multi-year comprehensive plan. Other services include preparing zoning ordinances, redistricting plans, and hazard mitigation plans.

NEED	These projects are conducted to ensure that communities not only meet state law requirements for comprehensive planning and zoning but also maintain compliance with state and federal requirements.
BENEFITS	Improves the quality of life for citizens by creating an environment that attracts quality development while also maximizing the use of public resources. Communities maintain eligibility for grant assistance and protect the voting rights of citizens.
TASK 12-1	TOWN OF BENTONIA The District has contracted with the Town of Bentonia to develop a Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the Town. The Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The new Comprehensive Plan will be published in printed form, as well as an online Story Map format that will be available to the public through the City's website.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners have prepared drafts of the Town of Bentonia's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance and have assisted elected officials in reviewing these documents. The work on this project will continue.
TASK 12-2	CITY OF BRANDON The District has contracted with the City of Brandon to develop a new Comprehensive Plan for the City. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers, such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The new Comprehensive Plan will be published in printed form, as well as an online Story Map format that will be available to the public through the City's website.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to work with the City of Brandon on the update to its Comprehensive Plan. A draft of the Comprehensive Plan was presented to the Board of Aldermen in Spring 2025.
TASK 12-3	TOWN OF BOLTON The District intends to contract with the Town to update its Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Development Ordinances. The new Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The Zoning Ordinance will be modernized to address current development trends. The District will also provide technical assistance, as needed, to the Town regarding planning matters.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to work with the Town of Bolton on miscellaneous ordinances and their website.

TASK 12-4	CITY OF CLINTON The District intends to contract with the City to update its Comprehensive Plan. The updated Plan will
	include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The District will also continue providing technical assistance, as needed, to the City regarding planning and GIS related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners contracted with the City of Clinton for the development of a comprehensive plan.
TASK 12-5	CITY OF CRYSTAL SPRINGS The District intends to contract with the City to develop a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the City. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. Technical assistance for zoning and planning related matters will also be available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: To date, an existing land use survey, initial demographic study, a land use plan map, transportation plan map, and community facility meetings have occurred. Planners have also proposed amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance. District planners will continue to work with the City of Crystal Springs on these updates.
TASK 12-6	TOWN OF EDWARDS The District will continue providing technical assistance to the Town of Edwards regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the Town of Edwards as needed
TASK 12-7	TOWN OF FLORA The District will provide technical assistance to the Town of Flora regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. The District will also continue updating the Town's map viewer with additional data as it becomes available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Planners continue to provide technical assistance to the Town of Flora as needed.
TASK 12-8	CITY OF MADISON The District will continue efforts with the City to update its Comprehensive Plan. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: To date, an existing land use survey and initial demographic study have been completed. District planners will continue to work with the City of Madison on these updates.
TASK 12-9	CITY OF MAGEE The District intends to contract with the City to develop a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the City. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The District will continue providing technical assistance, as needed, to the City regarding planning and GIS related matters.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the City of Magee as needed.

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TASK 12-10	CITY OF PEARL The District will continue providing technical assistance, as needed, to the City regarding planning and GIS related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners assisted the City of Pearl through the compilation of amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance.
TASK 12-11	CITY OF PEARL/CHAMBER OF COMMERCE The District will work with the City of Pearl and the Pearl Chamber of Commerce by providing a map viewer of available commercial, industrial and land properties available within the City along with any technical assistance as needed.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District GIS staff provided technical assistance on map viewer updates and will continue to be available to assist as needed.
TASK 12-12	TOWN OF PELAHATCHIE The District intends to contract with the City to develop a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the City. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. The District will continue providing technical assistance, as needed, to the City regarding planning and GIS related matters.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the Town of Pelahatchie as needed.
TASK 12-13	TOWN OF PUCKETT The District will provide technical assistance to the Town of Puckett regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. The District will also continue updating the Town's map viewer with additional data as it becomes available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the Town of Puckett as needed.
TASK 12-14	CITY OF RICHLAND The District intends to contract with the City of Richland to develop a new Comprehensive Plan for the City. The updated Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. Technical assistance for zoning and planning related matters will also be available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The City of Richland adopted the new Comprehensive Plan in February 2025. Planners remain available to assist the city with other matters as needed.
TASK 12-15	TOWN OF TERRY The District will provide technical assistance to the Town of Terry regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. The District will also continue updating the Town's map viewer with additional data as it becomes available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the Town of Terry as needed.

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TASK 12-16	TOWN OF UTICA The District will provide technical assistance, as needed, to the Town of Utica regarding planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
	District planners remain available to assist the Town of Utica as needed.
TASK 12-17	CITY OF VICKSBURG The District will continue providing technical assistance to the City of Vicksburg, as needed, regarding planning and GIS-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist the City of Vicksburg as needed.
TASK 12-18	CITY OF YAZOO CITY The District will continue to provide technical assistance to the City of Yazoo City regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist Yazoo City as needed.
TASK 12-19	MADISON COUNTY The District will provide technical assistance to the County regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. The District will also continue updating the County's map viewer with additional data as it becomes available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist Madison County as needed.
TASK 12-20	RANKIN COUNTY The District will continue to provide technical assistance to the County regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract. The District will also continue updating the County's map viewer with additional data as it becomes available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District Planners remain available to provide technical assistance as needed.
TASK 12-21	SIMPSON COUNTY The District has contracted with Simpson County to develop a Zoning Ordinance for the County. The Ordinance will be based on the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan and will address development trends and issues facing the County. The County's map viewer will also be updated to include the official Zoning Map layer upon adoption. The District will continue to provide technical assistance to the County regarding zoning and planning-related matters.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District Planners drafted a proposed zoning ordinance for Simpson County to review and remain available to provide technical assistance as needed.
TASK 12-22	YAZOO COUNTY The District intends to contract with the County to develop a new Comprehensive Plan. The new Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. Technical assistance for planning related matters will also be available.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners remain available to assist Yazoo County as needed.

TASK 12-23	RANKIN FIRST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY The District will provide technical assistance to the Rankin First Economic Development Authority to assist them with the management of an available buildings database.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to work with Rankin First to make requested updates to the site selection tool on their website.
TASK 12-24	REDISTRICTING PLANS The District will continue to work with its municipal and county governments in advising them of their need to redistrict to meet Justice Department guidelines. As requested by a county or a municipality, existing wards or districts will be mapped and analyzed to see if they meet the "one person - one vote" requirement. If they do not meet the requirements and the governmental entity wishes to proceed, the District will enter into a contractual relationship and a new redistricting plan will be prepared.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District Planners assisted with 25 redistricting plans following the 2020 U.S. Census, and remain available to assist member governments when redistricting is required due to annexation.
TASK 12-25	HAZARD MITIGATION The District will continue to provide assistance to local governments as their Hazard Mitigation Plans approach expiration and require updates. Staff anticipates updating three mitigation plans during the fiscal year. Furthermore, the District will provide technical assistance to all local governments to inform them of mitigation grant opportunities, as well as assist with prioritizing needs, identifying eligible projects, and seeking grant funds to carry out the mitigation actions identified in local mitigation plans.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The City of Gluckstadt received FEMA approval for its Hazard Mitigation Plan in late 2024. The District is currently under contract with the Mississippi Valley State University, Mississippi State University, and University of Mississippi Medical Center for Hazard Mitigation Plans.
TASK 12-26	STATEWIDE PLANNING SUPPORT District planning staff will continue to provide statewide planning assistance to counties and municipalities outside of the CMPDD service area. This assistance will involve comprehensive planning, zoning, annexation studies, redistricting, and other planning services. All services provided will be with the cooperation of the appropriate Planning and Development District. During Fiscal Year 2025, the District anticipates completing an update and reorganization of the DeSoto County Zoning Ordinance.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District remains available to assist DeSoto County when requested.
TASK 12-27	ZONING ORDINANCE REVISIONS Amendments and revisions to Federal and State Code as well as court decisions create an environment for it to be necessary for many of the District's local governments to revise their ordinances. For example, the introduction of Medical Cannabis by the State of Mississippi has required many local governments to amend their ordinances to address the new uses. Many sign ordinances are inconsistent with a 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling and has necessitated revisions as it is now unconstitutional to regulate a sign based on content. The District remains available to review ordinances and then develop revisions should it be deemed necessary.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District planners continue to assist local governments as requested. Furthermore, the planners frequently attend training and conferences to stay abreast of changing practices and legal requirements.

LOCAL PLANNING PROJECTS BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$171,196	\$44,657
Indirect	\$56,809	\$16,527
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$10,000	\$0
Meetings	\$3,000	\$1,022
Miscellaneous	\$3,000	\$1,100
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$1,500	\$0
Contractual Services	\$2,000	\$0
Communications	\$7,000	\$0
General Supplies	\$3,000	\$0
Printing Supplies	\$2,000	\$0
Un-programmed	\$190,495	\$1,696
TOTAL	\$450,000	\$65,002
SOURCES		
Local Cash-Contracts	\$450,000	\$242,322
TOTAL	\$450,000	\$242,322
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$177,320

PROJECT: REGIONAL DATA CENTER

PROJECT NUMBER: 13

DESCRIPTION: Information is a key resource in the economic growth and development of any area, whether for policy decisions or specific site analysis. The collection and analysis of data has always been, and will continue to be, a major function of all aspects of District operations. The function of the Regional Data Center is to compile and analyze the massive amounts of current and future data to be used for internal planning operations, by member governments, and for dissemination to the general public. The day-to-day operations of the Regional Data Center must be balanced between immediate requests for information and the development of useful local databases that can be easily shared or accessed by our local member governments.

NEED	Accurate up-to-date information collection and management systems coupled with sophisticated software applications, web-based mapping, and user input capabilities will improve decision making in business, government, and the financial community. Regional planning efforts of CMPDD and our local governments are made more efficient with the use of accurate information and coordinated data management processes.
BENEFIT	One of the primary benefits of the Central Mississippi Regional Data Center is that it recognizes that multiple users will need the same information and data for many different but related purposes. The cost to any one government or organization to establish this type of center can be prohibitive. The required maintenance of a geographic information mapping system alone denotes the importance of governments and entities coming together in a comprehensive manner to share common costs. While the financial savings of approaching this issue in a collective manner are quite significant, the long-term benefit of having accurate information available for decision making is even more important to efficiently utilize limited resources.
TASK 13-1	MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION One of the principal advantages of sharing information through the Regional Data Center is being able to coordinate diverse data sets for common purposes. To meet today's needs, information must not only be accurate and current, but end users must be able to receive what they need quickly. The District serves as a resource for data mining and demographic analysis needed for grant applications, economic development projects, local forecasting and trend analysis. The Regional Data Center will compile, organize, and analyze data from numerous local and national sources to assist local officials, planners, developers, educators, and other community leaders.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to compile local data sets to use in conjunction with both public and subscription based national and statewide data sources. This data proves to be extremely valuable to planners and participating governments by providing the most up-to-date and comprehensive information possible for staff planners and local decision makers. The District has assisted the planning staff with various projects requiring gathering and organizing demographic data for comprehensive planning, hazard mitigation plan updates, grant applications, and the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) funding allocation model.

TASK 13-2 DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

The District will actively maintain its website as a means to disseminate products under the Regional Data Center tab. Links to various information sources such as census data, economic indicators, transportation data, industrial site data, and other custom reports will be accessible on the District's website.

The District will continue networking the economic development offices in the seven-county area of CMPDD to provide online access to demographic data, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and transportation related information.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District continues to assist local governments with finding and understanding Census 2020 data including ACS estimates as late as 2023 for their local governments. In November of 2024, the District published updated demographic profiles for counties and cities within our district. The demographic profiles are available for viewing or download at no charge by visiting the CMPDD website. The demographic profiles will show the latest available data for these geographic areas and will include a compilation of population, race, housing units, age groups and businesses by SIC and NAICS codes. Because of our experience and expertise using the census data portal, we are able to mine and assemble data products in formats that are easy to use, share and understand.

TASK 13-3 RADIAL SEARCH

A "radial search," or "radial demographic profile" is a summation of the demographic characteristics of a specific area defined by a circular boundary. The requesting party, based on individual needs, determines the size of the area. One benefit of a radial search is the disregard for both political and natural boundaries.

The District will continue to provide radial demographic and boundary demographic profiles as requested by various businesses and individuals seeking to better understand specific market areas, neighborhoods, and regions. These radial demographic profiles will contain a variety of data such as population, housing units, household income and demographic characteristics such as age and race.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Using the subscription-based Business Analyst Online program, the District continues to provide numerous comprehensive data reports and radial analysis reports on an as-requested basis. These reports pull data from various sources and include both demographic and economic data for radial geographies and drive time analysis geographies, as well as specific requested geographies.

TASK-13-4

LOCAL/REGIONAL ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

The District will coordinate, as needed, local economic studies including feasibility studies, tax studies, and economic impact studies. The economic impact studies will be prepared through the use of economic impact modeling software. Such software assists in the development of a report determining the impact of companies moving in and out of a region. These reports will show the direct and indirect economic impacts of a business including:

- Number of new direct and indirect jobs created
- Salaries to be paid to these workers
- Number of new residents expected to move into the area
- Taxable sales anticipated in the area
- Additional residential and commercial property added to local tax rolls, and other applicable impacts.

These reports will also translate the annual revenues over a ten-year period for each local taxing district, including sales taxes, property tax on new residential and commercial properties added to tax rolls, hotel taxes, utilities, school taxes, any other major taxes, user fees, and charges for services.

All economic studies will be provided on a contract basis to local governments, as well as businesses, industrial developers, and potential prospects, or in support of larger planning projects and grant applications.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District's Regional Data Analyst assisted the planning staff with various projects requiring gathering and organizing demographic data for comprehensive planning, hazard mitigation plan updates, grant applications, etc. District Staff compiled housing, population, income, age, race, and other data at the block and block group level for further tabular and GIS analysis to be included in planning related studies. In addition, the District regularly assisted local governments with finding and understanding data related to local economic conditions that affect their areas.

TASK 13-5

CENSUS

The District will continue to collect data as it is released by the U.S. Census Bureau and add it to the District's existing data resources, including easy to access summaries published on the CMPDD website. The District will provide guidance and information, as needed, to its member governments on the use of American Community Survey (ACS) which provides demographic annual estimates available between decennial Census periods. CMPDD can help local governments obtain and understand ACS data needed for planning, grants, and needs analysis.

The District will continue to be a liaison between the Regional Census office and local governments, and District staff will continue to attend census training and State Data Center information workshops. Upon request the District will aid local governments utilizing the latest available Census data for economic development projects, grant applications, needs analysis and other purposes.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District attended the 2024 Census Training Workshop. This workshop covered the use of the data.census.gov data portal, a review of changes to the application, and a discussion of how to find local micro data.

The District continues to monitor Census releases and news that may be of interest to local governments. The District also responded to the BAS survey on behalf of Flora.

TASK 13-6	BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION The District will continue providing current and comprehensive information to businesses, industrial developers, and potential prospects in order to assist them in expanding or relocating their business activities in this area. The District will strive to provide a comprehensive approach to business and industrial development and will include, not only local and regional data at its disposal but also provide access to state and national data systems through public institutions, as well as private information and data companies.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Provided services upon request using our ARC GIS Business Analyst tool. Using this resource, the District is able to aid the public and private sector in evaluating areas for site construction and other economic investment projects. The information we provide is a critical element in the investment decision process.
TASK 13-7	GEO-BASED SMALL AREA POPULATION PROJECTIONS The District will continue to provide detailed and accurate small area projections of population for use in local transportation planning, comprehensive planning, school facilities planning, and business planning. The District will generate current population estimates by adding in additional housing counts and factoring new units with base year housing data. Also, current data and land use information from comprehensive plans will be reviewed to take into account changing development patterns to support local and regional planning efforts.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to provide detailed and accurate small area projections of population for use in local transportation planning, comprehensive planning, school planning, and business location planning. Through the University of MS Center for Population Studies the District receives county population projections which are used by the district to project population for small towns and cities in our district.
Task 13-8	DOCUMENT SCANNING AND CATALOGING SERVICES The District has entered into a contract with the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD) to digitize all of their lease documents. This project is expected to last several months and will involve careful removal and return of lease documents, cataloging file names, capturing key attribute data and digitizing the documents. The physical and digitized files will be returned to PRVWSD according to the contract. Once this project is complete the District will evaluate offering these services to other entities on a case by case basis.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In December the PRVWSD suspended the scanning project due to concerns centered around their lack of a document management system (DMS) to handle the files, physical storage, and inter office training and workflow.

REGIONAL DATA CENTER BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$379,846	\$200,158
Indirect	\$126,046	\$74,078
Miscellaneous	\$6,000	\$0
Dues, Memberships and Subscriptions	\$3,000	\$1,535
Computer	\$40,000	\$94
Contractual Services	\$100,000	\$0
Equipment Lease/Rental	\$70,000	\$0
Un-Programmed	\$45,108	\$192
TOTAL	\$770,000	\$276,057
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$680,000	\$118,471
Assessments-General	\$90,000	\$31,931
Match Carryover	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$770,000	\$150,402
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(125,655)

PROJECT: TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

PROJECT NUMBER: 14

DESCRIPTION: The District is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Jackson Urbanized Area, which includes portions of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties as well as the advanced planning area of Copiah, Simpson, and Yazoo Counties. As the MPO, the District is responsible for coordinating a federally mandated Transportation Planning Process. Federal regulations require all "urbanized areas" with a population of 50,000 or more to conduct a performance-based continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive Transportation Planning Process. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) signed into law in November 2021, continued the role of local governments in planning and prioritizing transportation projects in metropolitan areas that was established under previous transportation re-authorization acts.

TASK 14-1

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING MANAGEMENT

During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will continue to perform general management activities associated with the transportation planning process, including, but not limited to, preparation of progress reports, invoices, planning work schedules, and activities associated with meetings of the Stakeholders Committee, Transit Working Group, Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee, Intermodal Technical Committee, and the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Meetings of the Intermodal Technical Committee were held on November 6, 2024, and February 5, 2025. Meetings of the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee were held on November 13, 2024, and February 12, 2025. In addition, a meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Sub-Committee was held on February 5, 2025, and a meeting of the Transit Committee was held November 6, 2024. Items considered for approval during the Intermodal Technical and Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee meetings included: amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); establishing revised Performance Measure Targets for safety, bridge and pavement conditions; amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program; and amendments to the functional classification system. Furthermore, quarterly progress reports and invoices were prepared and submitted to the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) in October 2024 and January 2025. The Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects and the Public Participation Plan evaluation summary were published on CMPDD's website in December 2024. In addition, a Stakeholders Committee meeting was held October 10, 2024, in coordination with the public kicking-off meeting for the development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Additionally, District staff participated in a number of meetings hosted by MDOT and/or consultant partners related to the 2050 long-range plan update during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. The first phase of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan also included six community outreach events and the launch of an online survey.

TASK 14-2

PREPARATION/REVISION OF PROSPECTUS AND UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

District Staff will draft revisions to the Prospectus (bylaws document) for the MPO as needed to address issues that may arise during Fiscal Year 2025 in order for the MPO to continue to conduct the performance-based continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. In addition, the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be amended when deemed necessary by CMPDD.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Two (2) amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026 related to the District's transportation planning activities were addressed by the MPO in February. The changes included updates to the Pavement Management System activities and the Metropolitan Area Traffic Counting Program. No changes to the Prospectus document were necessary during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. The District received approval from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for the MPO's Fiscal Year 2025 and 2026 UPWP, which began October 1, 2024, in late September 2024.

TASK 14-3

AMENDMENTS TO THE PARTICIPATION PLAN AND ALL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will continually monitor the effectiveness of the MPO's Participation Plan and modify it, as necessary, to expand its usefulness as a tool to encourage involvement in the transportation planning process.

CMPDD will follow the procedures outlined in the MPO's Participation Plan regarding the development or modification of documents identified in the Participation Plan with specific outreach strategies such as the Public Participation Plan, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and the Transportation Improvement Program. Changes to or the development of new plans by the MPO may require CMPDD to coordinate a combination of outreach strategies such as comment periods, community meetings, public notices, or other activities outlined in the Participation Plan. Furthermore, during Fiscal Year 2025 the District will continue to promote the MPO's activities through social media and will expand and maintain information on CMPDD's website related to the transportation planning process.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, District staff drafted articles for the newsletter, the *Central Update*, regarding transportation planning-related activities, and promoted transportation planning activities on CMPDD's Facebook page. In addition, several amendments to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program were advertised on the District's website in accordance with the policies outlined in the MPO's Public Participation Plan. The Fiscal Year 2024 Public Outreach evaluation was conducted during October and November, and the summary report was published on CMPDD's website in December. The outreach campaign for the 2050 long-range plan update started during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. Round 1 public outreach meetings for the official kick-off of the 2050 long-range transportation planning process were held October 9 and October 10, 2024. In addition, multiple community "pop-up" events were held to promote the release of the round 1 public survey. The online survey was available October 1 through November 25, 2024. In addition, a Stakeholders Committee meeting was held in conjunction with the public meeting on October 10, 2025.

TASK 14-4

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGET ANALYSIS

During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will monitor, gather, and analyze performance data as needed to track the MPO's progress toward meeting performance goals. The data gathered will be used to evaluate the conditions and performance of the regional transportation network, which will be documented in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Performance Report. CMPDD, in coordination with the MS Department of Transportation and the City of Jackson Transit Services, will update performance targets as needed in compliance with Final Rulemaking Guidelines for each federally required performance measure during Fiscal Year 2025.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 District staff members continued to monitor, gather, and analyze data related to each federally required performance area which includes safety, bridge and pavement conditions on the National Highway System, travel time reliability on the National Highway System and truck (freight) travel time reliability on the interstate system as well as transit assets and transit safety. In November, District staff members presented information to the MPO Committees related to establishing revised 4-year performance targets for bridge and pavement conditions. In February, safety performance targets for 2025 were adopted by the MPO and 'District staff presented the 2019-2023 Safety Analysis Report.

TASK 14-5 ROADWAY AND BRIDGES PLANNING; CONTINUE PREPARATION OF LOCAL PLANS/LANDUSE FORECASTING

During Fiscal Year 2025 District staff will develop the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The 2050 Plan will include updates to the roadways and bridges plan element as well as the safety and security analysis; environmental mitigation, resiliency, and equity analysis; and the financial plan elements. District staff anticipates completing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan by December 2025.

As part of the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, District staff will continue assisting local governments in the preparation of Comprehensive Plans, including future Land Use Plans, local Transportation Plans, and Public Facilities Plans. The District will use these local plans and previously prepared plans to base forecasts of population, dwelling units, employment, and school enrollment by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) in the MPO's traffic simulation model to forecast travel demand on streets and highways.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

District staff have continued development of local Land Use Plans and Transportation Plans for various communities. A methodology has been developed whereby adopted future land use patterns are translated into forecasts of population, number of dwellings units, and employment for use in the MPO's travel demand model. Staff members also continued efforts to update the travel demand model to the year 2050 as part of the development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025.

TASK 14-6 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES PLANNING

During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will continue to monitor the development of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the MPO Planning Area and update the Bicycle and Pedestrian viewer on the District's website accordingly to reflect the completion of these facilities. District staff will amend and refine the Bicycle and Pedestrian elements included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan as needed.

District staff will also review the project selection criteria for Transportation Alternatives funding and make revisions as necessary to the selection criteria. In addition, District staff will continue meeting with groups both regionally and statewide to discuss bicycle and pedestrian needs impacting local jurisdictions within the MPO Planning Area.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 multiple updates were made to the Bicycle and Pedestrian facilities interactive map on CMPDD's website to add newly developed bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure within the MPO planning area. District staff have continued to meet with local jurisdictions and advocacy groups to discuss bicycle and pedestrian proposed projects as needed. A meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee was held on February 5, 2025.

TASK 14-7 TRANSIT PLANNING

During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will provide technical assistance on an as-requested basis to the City of Jackson Transit Services. The District will work in cooperation with the City of Jackson to maintain all jointly produced MPO and Transit Services documents such as the Unified Planning Work Program, Transportation Improvement Program, Performance Measures and Planning Agreements. District staff will coordinate regularly scheduled Transit Woking Group meetings between the District, City of Jackson, and MDOT's Transit Division personnel. Furthermore, District staff will update the transit planning element in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan anticipated to be completed by December 2025.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

District staff members continued to work with JTRAN officials during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 to coordinate transit planning activities. A meeting of the Transit Working Group was held on November 6, 2024. In addition, the District coordinated with JTRAN to hold a public outreach event at Union Station in October as part of the official kick off activities for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

TASK 14-8

FREIGHT PLANNING

The District, in Fiscal Year 2025 will continue collecting data and meeting with groups both regionally and statewide to assess freight demand. The District will also continue to work collaboratively with MDOT as they maintain the State Freight Plan. District staff will update the freight planning element in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan during Fiscal Year 2025.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 District staff participated in a number of State Freight Advisory Committee meetings and continued to monitor freight-related data. The official public kick-off of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update which will contain a freight analysis was held in October in coordination with community outreach events.

TASK 14-9

PREPARATION OF AND AMENDMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

During Fiscal Year 2025, administrative modifications and amendments to the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2028 will be processed by CMPDD staff members as needed. District staff will coordinate the call for projects process for the MPO as grant funding becomes available in Fiscal Year 2025. Furthermore, District staff will refine and make amendments to the project selection criteria for the MPO's project selection process as needed to reflect priority changes.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 District staff processed seven (7) administrative modifications and four (4) amendments to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document. In addition, the District hosted TIP update meetings between Federal Highway Administration, the MS Department of Transportation, and local jurisdictions on November 6, 2024, and February 5, 2025.

TASK 14-10

PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The District staff will complete an inventory of pavement management data for all non-state maintained arterial and collector roadways in Madison County during Fiscal Year 2025. District staff collects pavement management data using a windshield survey method in which a visual inspection of the condition of each arterial and collector roadway is completed. Once the data has been collected it is analyzed using the MPO's Deighton Total Infrastructure Management System (dTIMS) software. Annually, once the analysis is complete, a new prioritized list of pavement management needs is developed based upon the updated and historical data for each county. This prioritized list is used by District Staff in the project selection process for STBG funding when the MPO issues a call for projects. Additionally, during Fiscal Year 2025 the District will continue to research best practices to see if revisions are needed to the District's pavement management process to improve the accuracy of pavement condition data.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, District staff completed the pavement management data analysis for pavement data collected for Rankin County. Meetings were held with MDOT officials to discuss developing a new process and methodology for collecting and processing pavement management data for the MPO Planning Area in the future. Additionally, District staff will complete a reassessment of pavement data for the functionally classified roadways in Madison County during the summer of Fiscal Year 2025.

TASK 14-11 | CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS

During Fiscal Year 2025, the District will update the MPO's Congestion Management Process as part of the development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This will include gathering travel time data for functionally classified roadways from a reliable data source and analyzing the data to define the extent and duration of congestion throughout the MPO Planning Area.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The official public kick-off of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update, which includes an update to the Congestion Management Process, was held in October in conjunction with multiple community outreach events. An online survey was available October 1 through November 25, 2024, as part of the 2050 planning process that allowed users to identify areas where congestion should be addressed. The update process for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan which will include an update to the Congestion Management Process is expected to be completed by September 2025.

TASK 14-12 TRAFFIC COUNTING PROGRAM

The District will continue to collect traffic count data on selected arterial and collector streets in the MPO's Planning Area on a three-year rotating cycle. This rotating cycle approach ensures raw traffic count data collected for each county is no more than three years old. During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will collect traffic count data in Madison County. In addition, the District will continue to collect traffic count data in Copiah, Simpson, and Yazoo Counties on an as-requested basis.

The District will coordinate these traffic counts with counts performed by MDOT and local governments in the MPO Planning Area in order to avoid a duplication of effort. The District will continue to place the most up to date traffic count data available on its website as it is made available. The traffic count data on the District's website consists of the most recent traffic counts as well as historical data and traffic projections for each traffic count location. Traffic counts performed through this program provide supporting data for the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Congestion Management Process and Pavement Management System.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, District staff completed collecting traffic count data for Rankin County. All data collected was submitted to the MDOT for analysis in December. Multiple special request traffic counts were also conducted throughout the MPO planning area during the first half of this fiscal year. The traffic count data collection process for Madison County began during the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025 and will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

TASK 14-13 | REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGN RETROFLECTIVITY SYSTEM

During Fiscal Year 2025, the District will continue to maintain the MPO's Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity Maintenance and Management Program. The District maintains three sign retroreflectometers and extension poles to assist local governments in measuring the retroreflectivity levels of each sign in their respective jurisdictions. The retroreflectometers and extension poles are available to each jurisdiction in the MPO Planning Area through a month-to-month loan program on an as-requested basis. In addition, the MPO will continue to make available a sign inventory software system, iTrac signs, which allows each jurisdiction to input and maintain their collected data.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

District staff continue to maintain the traffic sign retroreflectivity database system, iTrac Signs. During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, there were no new signs added to the system.

TASK 14-14 MAINTENANCE OF THE TRANSPORTATION DATABASE During Fiscal Year 2025, District staff will continue to develop and maintain interactive Transportation Geographic Information System (GIS) map viewers. District staff will continue to collect and maintain computerized maps of municipalities and unincorporated portions of the entire six-county area (Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, and Yazoo Counties). In addition, District staff will continue gathering local land use data to be used in forecasting land development projections for use in the MPO's traffic simulation model as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District's GIS staff continued preparation of updated base maps for various communities in the MPO planning area. District GIS staff also continued to maintain and update existing transportation viewers on the CMPDD's website. Several updates were made to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities, 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program, and the Traffic Count viewers during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. In addition, an interactive map to assist District staff members with tracking growth patterns throughout the region was developed. TASK 14-15 REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE AND DEPLOYMENT PLAN During Fiscal Year 2025 the District will update the MPO's Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture Plan. The ITS Architecture Plan will document the MPO's vision for the deployment, integration, and operation of intelligent transportation systems within the MPO planning area. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** During the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 the District continued to coordinate with regional stakeholders to maintain the Central MS ITS Architecture Plan that was adopted by the MPO in August 2024. This includes maintaining the ITS Architecture section of CMPDD's website which contains the ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan, information on how to submit requests for changes, and the interactive RAD-IT database. TASK 14-16 STAFF TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT During Fiscal Year 2025, the professional/technical staff of the District will participate in training courses and conferences that further staff members' knowledge of transportation planning, some of which will require out of state travel. District staff will also continue to devote considerable time to "inhouse" training, becoming familiar with computer software packages such as ESRI that are regularly employed in transportation planning-related functions of the MPO. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** District staff participated in various training activities and conferences that enhanced transportation planning capabilities during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025 including: Mississippi South Central Area User Group Mississippi/Alabama American Planning Association Conference Mississippi Transportation Institute Various webinars hosted by the Federal Highway Administration and/or Federal Transit

Administration

TASK 14-17 COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN The District will continue to make the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan publicly available on CMPDD's website. In addition, District staff will develop and submit the annual safety action report required by the Federal Highway Administration. Furthermore, District staff will encourage local entities to explore SS4A grant opportunities. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District has continued to maintain the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) website page during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. Quarterly reports regarding the SS4A program were submitted to Federal Highway in October 2024 and January 2025. In addition, the SS4A annual report was submitted along with a request to officially close out the SS4A grant agreement during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. TASK 14-18 SPECIAL STUDIES During Fiscal Year 2025, as the need arises, CMPDD may undertake special studies to further enhance the regional transportation planning process. Special studies to be performed will be determined based on the needs identified. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Since the start of the work program no additional studies have been identified. Special studies may be undertaken by District staff to further enhance the metropolitan transportation planning process from time to time as the need for more deliberate planning efforts are identified to address a specific issue.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$935,205	\$476,300
Indirect	\$310,334	\$176,279
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$80,000	\$4,832
Meetings	\$10,000	\$4,520
Furniture/Equipment	\$75,000	\$0
Equipment Maintenance	\$5,000	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$10,000	\$0
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$30,000	\$667
Computer	\$70,000	\$53,001
Contractual Services	\$200,000	\$0
Legal	\$2,500	\$0
Equipment Lease/Rental	\$20,000	\$0
Communications	\$2,000	\$301
General Supplies	\$10,000	\$1,370
Printing Supplies	\$2,000	\$0
Postage	\$1,000	\$0
Unprogrammed	\$807,205	\$0
TOTAL	\$2,570,244	\$717,270
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$2,239,302	\$313,283
Assessments - General	\$16,676	\$84,438
Match Carryover	\$314,266	\$0
TOTAL	\$2,570,244	\$397,721
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(319,549)

PROJECT: COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID

PROJECT NUMBER: 15

DESCRIPTION: CMPDD recognizes that one of its primary responsibilities is to improve the infrastructure, living environments, and the economic well-being of the citizens of the central Mississippi region. The District's community and economic development staff work daily to help secure federal and state grants that help provide infrastructure improvements needed to attract business and industrial prospects, as well as investments to allow local businesses to expand or remain in central Mississippi.

Most of the opportunities available to cities and counties are accessed through programs administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and the Delta Regional Authority (DRA). In addition, local governments rely upon these grants and loans to make improvements to infrastructure and public facilities, especially in low to moderate income areas. It is not uncommon for CMPDD to apply to multiple grant sources to maximize funding for an eligible project. Whether assisting a community with job creation, water and wastewater improvements, industrial park enhancements, transportation infrastructure improvements, or job training and education, the District stands ready and able to provide the technical expertise required to meet the demands of competing for and administering ever-changing funding opportunities.

NEED	There is a need in central Mississippi to improve infrastructure and to provide job opportunities in almost all communities and counties. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is one of the few remaining federal programs available to municipalities and counties that provides funds to improve all these things. There is also a need to identify funding sources that can be used to leverage other funding sources and the DRA program is designed to help meet this need by providing local governments and nonprofit corporations with grant funds to address infrastructure needs, business development, and job training assistance. The District has trained experienced staff to provide technical assistance with a wide variety of grant programs.
BENEFITS	Increased opportunities for jobs; adequate water, sewer, storm drainage, roads/streets, and other public facilities; community improvement; and increased economic development start-up and expansion opportunities, which bring new investments and job opportunities for the community.

TASK 15-1

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

The CDBG program is designed to aid in the development of viable communities that provide their residents with suitable living environments and economic opportunities. The three (3) national objectives of the program are to benefit low- and moderate-income persons, to aid in the prevention of slums and blight, and to eliminate conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of a community. District staff provide application assistance for the CDBG Economic Development and Public Facilities programs.

APPLICATION PREPARATION

Staff will provide:

- General technical assistance to all local governments to inform them of CDBG program opportunities, eligible projects, deadlines, prioritizing needs, and other sources of funding for matching CDBG grants.
- Specific technical assistance for communities desiring to apply for CDBG funding by assisting in holding public hearings, establishing time tables for application development, explaining program procedures and rating formulas used by the State to evaluate projects, working closely with project engineers/architects to compile cost estimates and detailed information for proposed projects, and serving as a liaison between the local government and state and federal agencies in connection with the proposed project.
- Application preparation assistance by staff which will consist of providing income survey instruments to
 local government, preparing maps and graphics, analyzing and compiling census data, working with the
 project engineer/architect and state agencies to compile data demonstrating the need for the project
 activities, completing all necessary application forms, and providing for submission of the application to
 the State for review.
- Assist the local government with advertising for professional services.
- Technical assistance to the local government when a site visit is requested by the State for the proposed project.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District received approval for four (4) 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities (PF) applications:

- Town of Georgetown received \$599,992 for drainage improvements.
- Town of Utica received \$600,000 for sewer improvements.
- The City of Brandon received \$691,041 for sewer improvements.
- The City of Hazlehurst received \$750,000 for sewer improvements.

TASK 15-2

CDBG GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Upon approval of a CDBG project the District will:

- Work with the state and the local government to meet any special conditions required by the grant.
- Meet with the local government to inform them of requirements.
- Sign a contract with local government.
- Provide all environmental assessment work, as required by the State and the National Environmental Policy Act.
- Assist the local government with advertising for professional services, which HUD regulations require
 to implement the project.
- Provide the selected project administrator with the files necessary for the implementation of the project.

If CMPDD is requested by the local government to provide full administration of the project the following additional services will be provided:

- Assist the local government in executing contracts with selected consultants and submitting the contracts to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) for approval.
- Assist the local government in the acquisition and recording of all necessary easements identified by the engineer/architect.
- Provide the project engineer/architect with guidance when preparing, advertising, and reviewing bid documents.
- Request wage determinations from MDA for inclusion in the bid documents.
- Submit award notice to MDA for approval of selected contractors.
- Attend the Pre-Construction Conference and explain all applicable regulations to the contractors.
- Collect and review certified pay estimates from the project engineer/architect, seek local government approval for payment, prepare request for cash forms, and submit forms to MDA for approval and payment.
- Maintain an account ledger supported by certified pay estimates and bank statements from the local government to document timely disbursement and use of local matching funds.
- Conduct labor standard interviews for each contractor during project implementation.
- Collect and review weekly certified payrolls from each contractor and ensure compliance with Davis-Bacon requirements.
- Prepare and submit necessary reports.
- For Economic Development projects, assist the benefitting business in documenting job creation reports.
- Host a post award public hearing and a public hearing on Section 3 requirements.
- Attend post award site and monitoring visits.
- Prepare a closeout package and submit it to MDA.

In Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the District will continue providing administration services to the City of Byram, Warren County, Town of Flora, City of Raymond and Madison County. Additional projects may be included once new awards are made.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, the District continues to administer CDBG to Madison and Warren Counties, the Cities of Byram and Raymond, and the Town of Flora.

TASK 15-3 DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY (DRA)

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) is a federal-state partnership created by Congress through the *Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000*, which serves a specified area in an eight-state region. In Mississippi, 45 counties (including the seven (7) counties in CMPDD's area) are eligible for funding under DRA. The purpose of DRA is to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development partnerships that will have a positive impact on the region's economy. Priority for funding is given to four (4) types of projects. These types of projects are basic public infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, business development, and job training and employment-related education. The District maintains its certification as a DRA partner by sending eligible staff to receive this training.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

District Staff will provide general technical assistance to all local governments to inform them of DRA program opportunities, eligible projects, deadlines, prioritizing needs, specific technical assistance to communities desiring to apply for DRA funding and serving as a liaison between the local government and state and federal agencies in connection with the proposed project.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District received approval for a 2024 Critical Infrastructure Fund (CIF) application for the City of Raymond. District staff also applied for three (3) Strategic Planning Grants.

TASK 15-4 DRA PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

District Staff will provide technical assistance to the local governments to administer the project once it has been approved.

For 2024-2025, staff will be administering projects with the Warren County Port Commission, Town of Braxton, Town of Puckett, the Piney Woods School, and Mississippi Rural Water Association. Additional projects may be included once new awards are made.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, staff continues to administer projects with the Town of Braxton, Mississippi Rural Water Association, Town of Georgetown, Magcor Industries and the Town of Edwards. The District is in the process of closing out projects for Piney Woods School and the Warren County Port Commission.

TASK 15-5 | ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES - APPLICATION PREPARATION

District staff will also seek federal and state financial assistance through such sources as the Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, US Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate agencies. A partial listing of additional funding programs include:

- The Local Government Capital Improvement Revolving Loan Program (CAP) was enacted by the Mississippi Legislature and is designed for making low interest loans to counties or municipalities to finance capital improvements in Mississippi.
- The Mississippi Development Infrastructure Program (DIP) is designed for making grants or loans to counties or municipalities to finance small infrastructure projects to promote economic growth in the State of Mississippi.
- The Mississippi Department of Environment Quality Brownfield Program provides technical and financial assistance aimed at prevention, assessment, clean up, and reuse of contaminated properties.

District staff will continue to research and seek out additional funding opportunities from a variety of sources and agencies as funding becomes available.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regarding the grant programs listed above, District staff provided general and technical assistance, application preparation, and evaluation assistance as described above.

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TASK 15-6	GRANT ADMINISTRATION In recent years, the District has expanded its grant administration expertise and established a strong track record in ensuring that all grant guidelines and requirements are met. Administrative services are conducted with the highest level of professionalism and attention to detail, which guarantees the grant recipient a successful conclusion to their project. These administrative services shall be made available to the District's participating governments and other entities upon request. In fiscal year 2024-2025, CMPDD staff will assist the City of Raymond and Copiah County on their Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Municipality & County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) grants and assist the Mississippi Rural Water Association with their Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Community Project Funding (CPF) grant. CMPDD will assist other local governments with their and groups with their administrative needs as projects are funded. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, the District will continue to administer the Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) to the Town of Bentonia, Copiah County, Town of Puckett, and the City of Raymond. Additionally, the District will continue to administer HUD appropriation funds with the
	Mississippi Rural Water Association.
TASK 15-7	MAINTAIN AND UPDATE DRA ALLOCATION FUNDING MODEL District Staff will provide technical services required to update the DRA allocation model on an annual basis as required by DRA. The District will gather and compile the required data on all DRA counties and integrate the data into the allocation model so the DRA can use the model as a guide for funding allocation.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District completed the 2025 update of the DRA Allocation Funding Model for the region's 255 counties and parishes in eight (8) states. The allocation model includes information about poverty, unemployment, and per capita income and compares these local statistics to national averages to identify distressed counties based on these factors. The DRA then allocates certain funding levels specifically aimed at improving conditions in distressed counties. An additional analysis of census tracts withing non-distressed counties was also completed and provided to DRA.
TASK 15-8	DRA PILOT PROGRAM DRA awarded CMPDD funds as a part of the new DRA Pilot Program. These funds allow the District to continue to promote DRA and economic development within our region through DRA and other grant programs. District staff can provide added assistance to the development of our area through job creation, diversifying our economy, and improving living conditions for residents within the distressed areas of our District.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff, along with local partners, have identified 17 projects for assessment. In the last year, 10 projects have been assessed and completed. District staff have completed the original assessment goals of the grant.
TASK 15-9	ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM CMPDD has an open Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant funds can be used for environmental assessments and cleanup planning to help move commercial properties toward redevelopment. Eligible sites will include public and private properties.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, five (5) sites have been identified for assessment and clean up planning. These sites have received a Phase I Environmental Assessment, and some sites have been selected for additional assessments and planning. A priority area has been defined through the parameters of the grant located in Jackson. Current sites are in Hinds, Rankin, and Simpson counties.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID BUDGET

EXPENSES	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$126,784	\$63,263
Indirect	\$42,072	\$23,414
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$10,250	\$212
Meetings	\$500	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$1,100	\$0
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$500	\$0
General Supplies	\$6,000	\$122
Un-Programmed	\$261,458	\$11,140
TOTAL	\$448,664	\$98,151
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$188,253	\$61,581
Local Cash-Contracts	\$260,411	\$23,242
TOTAL	\$448,664	\$84,823
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(13,328)

PROJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES

PROJECT NUMBER: 16

DESCRIPTION: One of the District's main responsibilities is to improve the overall economic well-being of its region. While this responsibility is multifaceted, one of the main efforts is to approach economic development on a regional basis. The District was designated by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) as an Economic Development District in 1969. This designation enables the District to work with member governments to encourage economic development on a regional basis through the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and various funding opportunities.

NEED	There is always a need to bring together the public and private sectors to diversify and strengthen the regional economy, thereby creating employment opportunities for the unemployed and the underemployed.
BENEFITS	This program allows the District to work with member governments and private industry to generate jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically distressed areas of the region. EDA funding opportunities are made available to rural and urban areas experiencing high unemployment, low income, or other severe economic distress.
TASK 16-1	EDA PLANNING The District will continue to promote EDA's various programs with member counties and municipalities as well as local non-profits to develop strong applications. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In the first half of Fiscal Year 2025, District staff submitted the one-year update to the 2022-2026
	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and continue to use this document to guide project evaluation and discussions. The CEDS includes goals and objectives to assist local governments to create more jobs, foster a stable and diversified economy, and improve quality of life. The CEDS lists specific projects that will enhance the region's competitiveness and details an action plan to assist with the successful implementation.
TASK 16-2	EDA GRANT PREPARATION District staff will work with member governments to develop viable projects for EDA funding and prepare the proposals and full applications as directed by EDA. District staff will also assist in determining eligibility and potential grant rates.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff will continue to work with local counties and municipalities in providing EDA grant application assistance as needed.

TASK 16-3 **EDA GRANT ADMINISTRATION** Upon approval of an EDA project the District will: • Work with EDA and the local government to meet any special conditions required by the grant. • Meet with the local government to inform them of their requirements. • Sign a contract with local government. • Provide all environmental assessment work, as required by the EDA and the National Environmental Policy Act. • Assist the local government with advertising for professional services which are required to implement the project, as required by EDA regulations. • Assist the local government in the selection of consultants. • Assist the local government in executing contracts with selected consultants and submitting the contracts to EDA for approval. • Assist the local government acquisition and recording of all necessary easements identified by the engineer/architect. • Submit Site Certificate and seek approval of plans and specifications prior to bid advertising. • Provide the project engineer/architect with guidance when preparing, advertising, and reviewing bid documents. • Provide the project engineer/architect with the appropriate wage determinations for inclusion in the bid documents. • Submit Award Notice to EDA for approval of selected contractors. • Attend the Pre-Construction Conference and explain all applicable regulations to the contractors. • Collect and review certified pay estimates from the project engineer/architect, seek local government approval and payment, prepare request for reimbursement forms, and submit forms to EDA for approval and payment. • Maintain an account ledger supported by certified pay estimates, canceled checks and bank statements from the local government. • Conduct labor standard interviews for each contractor during project implementation. • Collect and review weekly certified payrolls from each contractor and ensure compliance with Davis-Bacon requirements. • Prepare and submit quarterly reports. • Assist the benefitting business in documenting job creation reports. • Attend post award site and monitoring visits. • Prepare a closeout package and submit to EDA. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff will continue to work with local counties and municipalities in providing EDA grant administration as needed. TASK 16-4 **TRAINING** District staff will coordinate efforts with EDA staff to provide training to Planning and Development District staff on a statewide basis. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff received training assistance from EDA staff members in the form of conference calls, webinars, and zoom meetings during the first half of Fiscal Year 2025. TASK 16-5 SPECIFIC PROJECT REQUESTS The District shall assist member governments in seeking funding for specific project requests such as workforce development, job training, transportation, water and sewer improvements, and developing industrial and commercial sites as they relate to job creation and economic development. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District will continue to provide requested assistance in seeking grant funds for workforce development and job training, as well as water and sewer improvements when related to job creation and economic development.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL BUDGET	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$67,324	\$14,027
Indirect	\$22,340	\$5,191
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$5,000	\$111
Meetings	\$500	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$200	\$0
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$500	\$0
Un-Programmed	\$4,136	\$0
TOTAL	\$100,000	\$19,329
SOURCES		
Federal	\$70,000	\$13,595
Assessments-General	\$30,000	\$5,826
TOTAL	\$100,000	\$19,421
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$92

PROJECT: STAFF FOR MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

PROJECT NUMBER: 17

DESCRIPTION: Professional staff is needed to provide administrative and financial support to the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) in order to promote unity and efficiency of operation.

NEED	It is of vital importance that MAPDD operate in a unified, cohesive manner to actively handle the affairs of the association in a cost effective and organized method.
BENEFITS	It is cost effective for this association to pool its resources to collectively address common concerns and problems. Associations are much more influential when they have staff to provide direction and support. No training period is required while staff learn what a Planning and Development District (PDD) is because relationships have already been established. Joint ventures and group purchasing can be accomplished better as a unit versus each PDD acting independently.
TASK 17 -1	MEETING PREPARATION District staff will be responsible for MAPDD housekeeping activities, such as meeting times and places, setting of agendas and programs, and the keeping of minutes. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continue to organize the agenda, as well as keep minutes for all regularly scheduled and special called MAPDD meetings. MAPDD meets at CMPDD's office on the third Wednesday of every month, and on other occasions when needed to address time sensitive issues.
TASK 17-2	FISCAL MANAGEMENT District staff will provide bookkeeping and fiscal management for the Association to include maintaining the proper relationship with the IRS and/or Secretary of State's Office. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff members continue to provide bookkeeping and fiscal management for MAPDD and prepare all necessary paperwork for the Internal Revenue Service and Secretary of State's office.
TASK 17-3	PUBLICATIONS District staff will update and publish the State Directory of Planning and Development Districts (PDDs), as well as maintain the Association's website (www.mspdds.com). District staff will also update and reproduce the PDD promotional brochure, as needed. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff have updated the MAPDD Directory. The Directory will be distributed to elected officials and PDD staff members. In addition, promotional brochures have been prepared to be given out during the MS Association of Supervisors and MS Municipal League conferences in conjunction with the MAPDD Directory. Furthermore, the District has continued to maintain and update MAPDD's website, www.mspdds.com .

TASK 17-4	CONTINUING EDUCATION Educational efforts will be implemented for the professional betterment of the PDDs and their staff, i.e. coordination of seminars and conferences.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continue to organize training opportunities for PDD staff. Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) meet quarterly to discuss current topics within the major division of the PDDs. Additionally, District staff organized a Census training workshop for PDD staff members in December 2024. The training was held at the University of Mississippi and hosted by the State Data Center and the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts.
	District staff also prepared and submitted continuing education applications to the MS Nurses Foundation and the MS Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists in February.
TASK 17-5	LEGISLATIVE ATTENTION District staff will develop and follow the progress of legislative initiatives affecting the Association, each Planning and Development District, and member governments.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff monitored legislative activities of interest to the PDDs and member governments on a daily basis during the most recent legislative session.
TASK 17-6	MAPDD ANNUAL CONFERENCE The District will organize and be responsible for the MAPDD Annual Conference. The District will assume responsibility for all phases of this task and continue to encourage staff from other PDDs to participate in all areas of the conference.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The 2025 Annual MAPDD conference was held April 22-25, 2025, in Biloxi at the Beau Rivage Resort. District staff continue to organize all aspects of the conference. Sponsor registration for the 2025 MAPDD Conference opened in late October and general conference registration opened in February.
TASK 17-7	ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR MAPDD will maintain a presence at both the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) conferences. District staff will serve as the coordinator of these events and any others which may arise.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff coordinated sponsorship activities for MAPDD during the MS Association of Supervisors Mid-Winter Conference in February. Furthermore, District staff anticipate coordinating MAPDD's activities at the MS Association of Supervisors and the Mississippi Municipal League summer conferences to be held later this year.
TASK 17-8	STATEWIDE LIAISON When beneficial to the Association, District staff will serve as a liaison between MAPDD and other state and national organizations to coordinate joint ventures.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: District staff continue to serve as a point of contact for state and national organizations and agencies for MAPDD.

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF 3/31/2025
Personnel	\$6,376	\$5,747
Indirect	\$2,116	\$2,127
Meetings	\$300	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$500	\$0
Computer	\$600	\$456
Un-Programmed	\$56,108	\$0
TOTAL	\$66,000	\$8,330
SOURCES		
Local Cash-Contracts	\$26,000	\$6,379
Program Income	\$40,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$66,000	\$6,379
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(1,951)

PROJECT: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

PROJECT NUMBER: 18

DESCRIPTION: The District will encourage economic development through the management of various business and economic development financing programs. These debt financing programs will complement existing commercial or governmental financing programs.

NEED	Small businesses need access to debt capital that is unavailable through traditional lending sources. Also, small businesses create many of the new jobs in the economy by expanding existing operations and starting new ventures.
BENEFITS	The benefits of this project include new and expanded businesses that save existing jobs and create new ones, increase revenue for local government, and improve the community via low-interest rate loans.
TASK 18-1	CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY The District's Certified Development Company, Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), will approve fixed asset loans up to \$5,000,000 (\$5,500,000 for manufacturers) representing not more than 40% of the total project. Each loan recipient must create or retain at least one job per \$90,000 (\$140,000 for manufacturers) of financing. These loans will be available to small businesses across the State of Mississippi. Loans made under this program are guaranteed by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and the CMDC's goal is to obtain approval from SBA for a minimum of two (2) loans in Fiscal Year 2025.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CMDC obtained the SBA 504 loan approval on May 5, 2024, for Hobb's Automotive in Laurel, MS for \$5,000,000 of a \$17,000,000 project. The loan will assist with financing the construction of a new Toyota CDJR automobile dealership in Laurel, MS. The project will create 20 full-time jobs.
	CMDC obtained the SBA 504 loan approval on September 7, 2024, for. Cannery Row, LLC in Laurel, MS for \$1,593,000 of a \$5,196,320 project. The loan will assist with financing the construction of a 31-room boutique hotel in Laurel, MS. The project will create 25 full-time jobs.
	CMDC obtained the SBA 504 loan approval on November 6, 2024, for. The Hotel Whiskey in Long Beach for \$1,297,777 of a \$3,707,935 project. The loan will assist with financing the construction of a 27-room boutique hotel in Long Beach, MS. The project will create five (5) full-time jobs and two (2) part-time jobs.
TASK 18-2	REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) The District will make fixed assets, inventory, and working capital loans to small businesses in an amount up to \$400,000 representing no more than 33% of the total project cost. Each loan recipient must create at least one job per \$5,000 of project financing. Loans will be available to small businesses in all counties of the District except Rankin and Warren, but the City of Vicksburg is eligible. This program is funded partially by the Economic Development Administration.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025. Due to receiving our EDA Defederalization approval, we anticipate assisting more businesses this year.

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TASK 18-3	MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM (MBE) The District will make fixed assets, inventory, equipment, and working capital loans to minority and female owned businesses up to \$250,000 and representing not more than 50% of the total project cost. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) provides the loan funds for this program.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025. The District continues to receive interest in the program from potential applicants. Thus far, no applications have been submitted.
TASK 18-4	MICRO-MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM (MICRO-MBE) The District will make micro loans to eligible minority business owners. These loans will be for 100% of the project cost not to exceed \$35,000. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) provides the funds for this loan program.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025. The District continues to receive interest in the program from potential applicants. Thus far, no applications have been submitted.
TASK 18-5	MISSISSIPPI SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAM FUND (MSBALP) The District will make loans to small businesses located in its seven-county area. Loans will be to acquire equipment, inventory, machinery, real estate, and working capital. The maximum amount of each loan will be \$250,000 representing no more than 50% of the total loan amount. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) administers this loan program, and it is available to small businesses located in the District's region.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025. The District continues to receive interest in the program from potential applicants. Thus far, no applications have been submitted.
TASK 18-6	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PREPARATION OF OTHER LOAN APPLICATIONS The District will assist small businesses in locating sources of debt financing and will assist them in preparing application packages for the U.S. Small Business Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and others.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to assist small businesses in accessing debt capital through commercial lending institutions and other specialized lending programs offered through private, public, and non-profit entities. This service has remained in effect during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025.

TASK 18-7	COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT The District will work with financial institutions in meeting the requirements of the <i>Federal Community Reinvestment Act</i> (CRA). Under CRA, the comptroller of the currency evaluates the performance of banks in helping to meet the credit needs of the communities where they operate. Upon request, the District will render technical assistance to banks in establishing and maintaining effective community reinvestment activities. Such assistance will include but not be limited to the following: participation with bank officials in community programs, seminars and presentations to community groups in conjunction with or on behalf of specific bank programs, and it will allow bank officials to participate in programs of the District that address community credit needs. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to work with banks in addressing Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) initiatives. The District's staff has participated in meetings, conferences, seminars, and other community-oriented activities programs.
TASK 18-8	EXPORT WORKING CAPITAL LOAN The District will assist small businesses in accessing Export Working Capital Loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). This program, which is partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration, will be advertised and made available statewide.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to advertise this program through the District's newsletter and at various business conferences and seminars. The District refers all interested borrowers to the U. S. Small Business Administration for loan applications and processing.
TASK 18-9	FARISH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT FUND The District will make loans, at a rate not to exceed one percent (1%) below the federal discount rate, to persons or entities to assist in the development of commercial property and culturally significant property in the Farish Street Historic District. The amount of a loan to any one person or entity shall not exceed \$1 million. The District will service all loans pursuant to regulations and guidelines promulgated by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), which provides the funds for this program. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
	The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025.
TASK 18-10	RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT - REVOLVING LOAN FUND The District will manage a \$500,000 grant from the Rural Development Administration (RDA) to establish and operate a Rural Business Enterprise Grant - Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). This RLF will provide debt financing for small and emerging private business enterprises in Madison County and other rural areas of the District, as approved by the RDA. This program is funded by the Rural Development Authority of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continued to market this loan program and service its existing portfolio during the first six months of Fiscal Year 2025. The District received a number of inquiries about the loan program but no applications have been submitted.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING BUDGET

EXPENSES	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$126,822	\$59,110
Indirect	\$42,083	\$21,877
Travel	\$8,000	\$3,691
Miscellaneous	\$2,000	\$153
Postage	\$100	\$0
Computer	\$2,731	\$1,982
Legal	\$600	\$0
Loans	\$1,270,017	\$0
TOTAL SOURCES	\$1,452,353	\$86,813
SOCKCES		
Local Cash- Contract	\$153,434	\$69,039
Program Income/Equity	\$1,296,832	\$1,152,600
Fees/Interest	\$2,087	\$33,592
TOTAL	\$1,452,353	\$1,255,231
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$1,168,418

PROJECT: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT NUMBER: 19

DESCRIPTION: The District serves as the fiscal agent for Southcentral Mississippi Works (SCMW), a seventeen-county local workforce development area under the *Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA). The purpose of WIOA is to provide workforce development activities that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, increase attainment of recognized post-secondary credentials by participants, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, increase economic self-sufficiency, and meet the skill requirements of employers.

In its capacity as fiscal agent, and in cooperation with Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development District, the District will prepare and maintain a strategic workforce investment plan which addresses the workforce development needs of the area, including the needs of employers, job seekers, and youth.

NEED	Workforce development is essential to the quality of life within the area. A supply of qualified workers must be available to employers if they are to compete in the global economy. Workers must have relevant and up-to-date skills if they are to be productive, self-supporting citizens. The rapid pace of economic change requires an ongoing process of training and retraining to meet the needs of both the workers and businesses. Some segments of the population need additional services to ensure that they can effectively compete within the labor market. Workforce development is an investment in human capital, which will return significant dividends to the community.
BENEFITS	Improved economic development potential resulting from a skilled workforce, increased per capita income, reduction in transfer payments, an increased tax base, improved quality of life, and an increase in self-sufficiency.
TASK 19-1	IMPLEMENTATION OF WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT On July 22, 2014, the <i>Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)</i> became law. This reauthorized the prior <i>Workforce Investment Act (WIA)</i> and made numerous modifications to the methods of the planning and delivery of workforce programs. Portions of WIOA took effect on July 1, 2015, with the remaining portions taking effect on July 1, 2016. The District will, over the course of Program Year 2024 (July 2024 – June 2025), continue to work with the U.S. Department of Labor and the State WIOA oversight entity to develop and implement the requirements under the WIOA and the associated regulations. The District will continue to revise existing policies and develop new policies, revise the type of program services and service delivery, and other actions necessitated by this law and the requirements of the State of Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan in order to appropriately respond to the needs of businesses and citizens. The WIOA-required workforce partners include the new State Office of Workforce Development (Accelerate MS), Mississippi Departments of Employment Security, Rehabilitation Services, Human Services, and the State's Community Colleges. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SCMW continues to prioritize the implementation of WIOA by aligning training programs and services with the workforce needs identified in the Sector Strategy Plan. During this reporting period, targeted efforts have focused on advancing sector-specific training opportunities while also expanding outreach to ensure both employers and job seekers are aware of the full range of WIOA-supported workforce resources. These actions support a more responsive, industry-driven service delivery model across the region. In addition, SCMW is closely monitoring discussions around the potential reauthorization of WIOA to ASWA (the A Stronger Workforce for America Act) to stay ahead of anticipated changes and ensure local readiness for future implementation.

STRATEGIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act requires the development of a comprehensive state plan for workforce development. The development of this plan was overseen by the State Workforce Investment Board, and it analyzes the labor force and employment needs within the state and sets policies and directions for the workforce development system. Under this plan, as approved by the U.S. Department of Labor, the State Workforce Investment Board, the Office of Workforce Development, and the Office of Grant Management of the Mississippi Department of Employment Security work in conjunction with one another to develop guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the State plan. During this program year, the Southcentral Mississippi Works Workforce Area, in conjunction with partner agencies, must update the local area workforce which establishes goals for local workforce development efforts and mirrors the goals and objectives of the State's plan.

This includes identifying local labor force needs, options for employment and training service delivery, minimum skill training requirements, expected outcomes and evaluation measures, and reducing administrative cost to increase the percentage of funding allocated to programmatic activity. The plan also describes policies and procedures for the delivery of employment and training services including the implementation of a comprehensive service delivery system and the establishment of "One-Stop" Career Centers, which are known as WIN Job Centers. This ongoing work will continue to be the focus of the District as it implements the various parts of the comprehensive workforce development plan.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

As part of our continued compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, SCMW submitted the updated Local Area Plan to the Mississippi Department of Employment Security in the fall of 2024. The plan received final approval from the Governor in December 2024. Additionally, on December 12, 2024, both the Southcentral Mississippi Works Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and the Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved the designation and certification of the region's One-Stop Centers. These key milestones ensure ongoing alignment with state and federal workforce priorities and support the effective delivery of services throughout the region.

TASK 19-3

PLANNING, RECRUITING, AND IMPLEMENTING PRIORITY OCCUPATION TRAINING In 2023, the State Workforce Investment Board, Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS), and the CMPDD Workforce Division team identified priority occupations for ecosystems within the Southcentral Mississippi Works workforce area. Priority occupations are determined based on the needs of existing, new, and expanding businesses and industries.

A Priority Occupation Training Plan will be developed in collaboration with representatives from local training providers and employers of priority occupations. These stakeholders will identify skill gaps within their industries and outline goals and objectives to address these gaps, ultimately producing a qualified workforce.

The Workforce Division will work with core and strategic partners to recruit participants for the aligned training opportunities. Recruitment efforts may include both traditional and electronic outreach methods, as well as stipend-based training for participants.

Implementation will be tracked using the MS Works data system. Continuous improvement processes will be developed based on implementation data and feedback from participants and stakeholders.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

SCMW applied for and was awarded a \$4,501,957 Reconnect Grant from AccelerateMS, a significant investment in expanding access to workforce training across the region. This funding supports partnerships with local training providers to deliver short-term, priority occupation training programs each designed to be completed in eight weeks or less. The initiative specifically targets the long-term unemployed and underemployed, offering free training along with a \$10 per hour stipend to remove financial barriers to participation. To date, SCMW has launched training programs in collaboration with Holmes Community College, Hinds Community College, and Build MS, providing participants with direct pathways to in-demand careers and greater economic stability.

LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD/CHIEF-ELECTED OFFICIAL BOARD The WIOA law mandates that local workforce area activities be directed by a Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and a Chief Local Elected Officials' Board. In the Southcentral Mississippi Works (SCMW) area, this elected officials' board is called the Board of Commissioners. Each of the 17 counties in the SCMW area has a representative appointed by its respective Board of Supervisors to serve on the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners appoints the LWDB based on nominations from local agencies and organizations. The District's Workforce Division serves as staff to the LWDB, which, in conjunction with the Board of Commissioners, provides policy guidance and oversight for the workforce development programs throughout the area.

The LWDB and the Board of Commissioners review and approve the strategic plan and the Sector Strategy Plan components. These boards will be updated as required by the WIOA and maintained as necessary.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

SCMW remains committed to maintaining compliance with WIOA governance requirements through regular updates to its Board structure. As Board member terms expire or vacancies occur, new nominations are solicited in accordance with federal and state guidelines. These nominations are reviewed and approved by the appropriate governing bodies to ensure balanced and representative Board composition. On September 12, 2024, the SCMW BOC members convened to formally ratify nominations and appoint new members to fill expiring LWDB member terms, ensuring continuity in leadership and maintaining a diverse, well-qualified Board to guide workforce development efforts across the region.

TASK 19-5

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Southcentral Mississippi Works is required to form a Youth Committee to provide guidance and oversight of activities for eligible youth. A Youth Committee has been named by the Local Workforce Development Board and District staff serve as the Committee's staff.

During WIOA Program Year 2024, the Youth Committee will evaluate performance data from current youth providers and work to identify successful best practices for serving this population group.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Although the Youth Committee has not convened during the current program year to date, preparations are underway for a scheduled meeting in May 2025. District staff have been compiling youth performance data from current service providers in anticipation of the Committee's review. The upcoming meeting will focus on evaluating program outcomes, identifying best practices, and strengthening strategies to improve engagement and outcomes for youth participants. The Committee's work will play a key role in guiding future investments and ensuring alignment with WIOA youth program goals.

SERVICES TO ADULTS, DISLOCATED WORKERS AND YOUTH

WIOA funding, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor, supports services for Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth population groups. In accordance with WIOA law, the workforce area offers a variety of career and training services to help these individuals secure permanent employment with self-sufficient wages. The primary training programs include:

- 1. <u>On-the-Job Training (OJT):</u> Provides reimbursement to employers who hire and train unskilled or under-skilled individuals while they work.
- 2. <u>Individual Training Account (ITA) Scholarships:</u> Cover tuition, fees, books, and, in some cases, tools for individuals attending career and technical training to acquire marketable skills.
- 3. <u>Internships:</u> Fund wages for interns, allowing them to gain work experience.

Southcentral Mississippi Works (SCMW) leverages WIOA funding for youth services and programs. In addition to ITA scholarships and internship opportunities, the workforce area contracts with one (1) youth court, where adjudicated youth are remanded to a workforce program as part of their case dispensation, as permitted by law. Youth without a high school diploma or High School Equivalent (HSE) are assisted in obtaining these credentials. Some participants also earn the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). When appropriate, participants are placed into internships. Other WIOA service providers and the area's WIN Job Centers assist youth with career and training services, skill attainment, and employment connections.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

SCMW remains committed to delivering comprehensive WIOA-funded services to eligible Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth through its regional network of WIN Job Centers and contracted service providers. A wide range of career and training opportunities, including Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), On-the-Job Training (OJT), and Internships continue to support participants in developing marketable skills and securing sustainable employment. SCMW also maintains a unique partnership with the Yazoo County Youth Court, which allows adjudicated youth to be remanded to workforce training programs as part of their case resolution. Through this partnership, participants receive support to earn a high school diploma or equivalency, gain industry-recognized credentials such as the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), and access paid internships for real-world work experience.

Additionally, SCMW staff participated in two (2) Rapid Response events during this program year, specifically targeted to support Dislocated Workers impacted by layoffs or business closures. These events provided immediate access to information on available services, job search assistance, and training opportunities designed to help individuals transition quickly into new employment.

SCMW is on target to meet all WIOA performance goals by the end of Program Year 2024-25, reflecting steady progress and effective service delivery across all population groups.

PROCUREMENT AND SERVICE DELIVERY

The District has established and maintains a policy for procuring goods and services essential for implementing the WIOA program and executing the strategic plan to address the workforce development needs of the area. This policy encompasses the selection process for "One-Stop" Center (WIN Job Center) operators, providers of WIOA-funded career and training services, and suitable service providers for eligible youth.

As part of its comprehensive management responsibilities, the District will update and revise the procurement policy, as necessary. Additionally, it will issue Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in accordance with WIOA law and District policy requirements.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In alignment with WIOA regulations and the District's established procurement policy, SCMW initiated a competitive procurement process for the provision of workforce development services for Program Year 2025. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP) was publicly released on February 17, 2025, soliciting qualified entities to provide Adult and Dislocated Worker Career & Training Services, WIN Job Center Operator Services, and Youth Services across designated counties in the region.

This procurement effort was primarily focused on the implementation of Digital Access One-Stop Centers, a key strategy outlined in SCMW's Local Area Plan, which was formally approved by the Governor in December 2024. These Digital Access Centers are designed to expand service delivery to underserved and rural areas through innovative, technology-driven workforce solutions.

To ensure transparency and encourage broad participation, a virtual Bidders' Conference was held on February 24, 2025, and the RFP submission deadline was set for March 7, 2025. The procurement process was structured to promote innovation, enhance service coordination, and strengthen outcomes for WIOA participants.

SCMW is currently evaluating the proposals received and will present funding recommendations to the SCMW Board of Commissioners and Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) at their joint meeting in June 2025. Selected subrecipients are expected to begin service delivery on or after July 1, 2025, following contract negotiations and final approval.

COORDINATED SERVICE DELIVERY

The WIOA law mandates a coordinated delivery of workforce services across core programs, including Wagner-Peyser, Adult Education (AE)/High-School Equivalency (HSE), Rehabilitation Services, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), and WIOA programs. Each local workforce area must maintain at least one "Comprehensive" One-Stop Center. The District collaborates with partner programs to identify and establish both "Comprehensive" centers and other access points, including affiliate centers.

Currently, seven (7) WIN Job Centers are strategically located throughout the workforce area's seventeen counties. These centers are in Madison County, Jackson, Pearl, Vicksburg, Brookhaven, McComb, and Natchez. WIOA-funded and other partner programs and activities are accessible at these WIN Job Centers. An additional virtual delivery system will be introduced during the 2024 program year.

The State of Mississippi's WIOA Combined Plan and the local workforce area plan require the development of a Sector Training Plus Comprehensive WIN Job (One-Stop) Center. The District has collaborated extensively with Hinds Community College to develop such a center, strategically located within the City of Jackson metropolitan area at the Jackson Campus of Hinds Community College. Additionally, during the program year, the District will partner with Copiah-Lincoln Community College to establish a Sector Training Plus Comprehensive WIN Job Center at the Natchez Campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. These centers will house staff or provide online services from WIOA-required workforce partner programs, including Rehabilitation Services, Human Services, and Employment Security. They may also offer workforce training programs from the community colleges.

During the WIOA Program Year 2024, the District will continue efforts to enhance the Sector Training Plus Comprehensive One-Stop Centers.

The District consistently implements policies and procedures applicable across various programs to ensure the coordinated delivery of services. This includes sharing information across agencies, tracking service delivery, and measuring outcomes.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During Program Year 2024, SCMW advanced its commitment to coordinated and accessible workforce service delivery by implementing WIOA-mandated policies around One-Stop Center designation and certification. In alignment with the Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan and SCMW's approved Local Area Plan, significant progress was made in enhancing service integration across core programs such as Wagner-Peyser, Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, TANF, and WIOA Title I services.

At the December 12, 2024, joint meeting of the SCMW Local Workforce Development Board and Board of Commissioners, formal action was taken to certify the Pearl or Jackson WIN Job Center and the Natchez WIN Job Center as Sector Training Plus Comprehensive One-Stop Centers. These designations reflect the District's strategic collaborations with Hinds Community College and Copiah-Lincoln Community College to deliver comprehensive services - including both in-person and virtual access - to job seekers and employers.

Additionally, approval was granted - pending the availability of WIOA funding - to transition the Madison WIN Job Center to a Digital One-Stop Access Center following the expiration of its lease in November 2024.

In support of this transition, SCMW issued a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure services for the new Madison Digital One-Stop Access Center. Proposals are currently under evaluation, with selections to be made in alignment with WIOA procurement policies and strategic priorities for expanded digital service delivery.

These actions represent a major milestone in SCMW's ongoing efforts to modernize workforce service delivery and expand access through a blend of physical and digital infrastructure, ensuring compliance with WIOA requirements and enhancing the customer experience across the region.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING SPECIAL POPULATION WRAP-AROUND SERVICES

The Office of Workforce Development, commonly known as Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS), has been awarded oversight of the ARPA workforce funding for the state. AccelerateMS will procure services for training and supportive services for Mississippians. During the 2024 program year, District staff responded to funding notices aimed at enhancing workforce efforts in the Southcentral Mississippi Workforce Area.

This funding supports the implementation of two priority occupation-based internship opportunities.

The Internship Program will provide eligible participants with the chance to gain practical work experience and obtain job-specific skills through a prescribed period of paid employment. Participants will be employees of a third-party employment service firm and will work in positions related to their current or potential program of study. The purpose of this program is to offer work-based learning and work experience opportunities to eligible participants in SCMW Identified Sectors that will:

- 1. Enhance their basic education and workforce skills level.
- 2. Provide youth and young adults with exposure to the world of work.
- 3. Encourage school enrollment and completion in a workforce training preparation program.

Throughout the 2024 program year, the District will implement and evaluate the ARPA Special Populations Wrap Around Services program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In May 2025, SCMW launched the application process for its ARPA-funded Internship Program, designed to provide eligible participants, particularly youth and young adults with paid work-based learning experiences aligned to priority occupations. Internship placements are scheduled to begin in summer 2025. The program will connect participants with real-world job settings relevant to their field of study or career goals, with the dual aim of strengthening workforce readiness and supporting educational attainment. SCMW continues to collect applications and coordinate with regional employers to finalize internship sites, with program evaluation and participant support services to follow throughout the summer implementation period.

TASK 19-10

PROGRAM MONITORING AND WORKFORCE RETURN ON INVESTMENT EVALUATION The District Workforce Division staff monitors the workforce development system and all activities, programs, and services under the local WIOA workforce plan to ensure compliance with fiscal and programmatic requirements, as well as Equal Opportunity (EO) compliance and quality service delivery. Corrective action is required whenever deficiencies are found. The District maintains a data collection system to track client data as a means of evaluating program performance.

The District Workforce Division will work in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security and the National Strategic Planning and Analysis Research Center (nSPARC) to implement a Return-on-Investment evaluation for training programs and training providers. Data from this evaluation will determine future offerings throughout the SCMW area.

The District's Workforce Division staff oversees the delivery of services and ensures participants receive the full benefit of all services available to prepare them for self-sufficient wage jobs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

SCMW staff conduct regular and structured monitoring of WIOA-funded programs to ensure compliance with fiscal, programmatic, and Equal Opportunity (EO) requirements. These monitoring activities are essential to maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of the workforce system across the region. A designated WIOA staff member within the district serves as the primary point of contact for all EO matters, while fiscal oversight responsibilities are managed by assigned fiscal staff who ensure that expenditures align with federal and state guidelines.

In preparation for upcoming site visits, the District is currently evaluating and refining its internal monitoring instrument to align with the *WIOA Core Monitoring Guide*. This updated tool will enhance consistency and accuracy in assessing subrecipient performance and compliance. Comprehensive monitoring of all subrecipients is scheduled to take place during May and June 2025, ensuring timely oversight and identification of any areas needing corrective action or technical assistance.

GOVERNOR'S DISCRETIONARY GRANT

The SCMW received a Governor's Discretionary Grant for Adult, Dislocated Worker, In-School Youth, and Out-of-School Youth populations. This award will fund stipend-based training opportunities and work experiences in priority occupations identified by Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

During Program Year 2024, Southcentral Mississippi Works (SCMW) was awarded three (3) Governor's Discretionary Grants through the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES), totaling more than \$500,000 to support workforce training, support services, and career exploration opportunities for Adult, Dislocated Worker, Out-of-School Youth, and In-School Youth populations. These grants enable SCMW to implement stipend-based training programs and work-based learning experiences aligned with priority occupations identified by AccelerateMS.

The awarded subgrants include:

- Adult and Dislocated Worker Subgrant—\$125,361.84: This grant supports the delivery of training
 and paid work experience in high-demand sectors such as linework and logging. Participants
 receive weekly stipends during training. Career Coaches stationed in WIN Job Centers, on
 community college campuses, and available virtually assist with recruitment, placement, and
 retention efforts.
- Out-of-School Youth (OSY) Subgrant—\$207,500.00: This funding provides OSY participants with
 access to Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), wrap-around support services, and paid internships
 to help prepare them for careers in priority sectors. Career Coaches guide youth through career
 exploration, enrollment, and transition to employment or post-secondary training.
- In-School Youth (ISY) Subgrant \$167,530.00: This grant expands career readiness services to high school students by offering structured career exploration, skill-building workshops, and exposure to high-growth career pathways. The program also funds paid internship opportunities to promote early engagement in the workforce.

SCMW is actively implementing all three grants in collaboration with community colleges, employers, and regional partners to increase access to career-focused learning and build a stronger pipeline of skilled talent across the Southcentral Mississippi region.

DISLOCATED WORKER SERVICES/LAYOFF AVERSION PROGRAM

The purpose of the Dislocated Worker Services/Layoff Aversion program is to save jobs and help companies grow and prosper. The SCMW LWDB will implement a continuum of layoff aversion strategies and activities as appropriate that assist employers and workers. The SCMW LWDB will also provide re-employment services to workers who have been laid off or terminated.

The workforce area will also provide layoff aversion services that help employers located in the workforce area. The services will include but are not limited to, early identification of an industry's risk of layoffs, assessment of the needs of options for at-risk industries, and recommendations for services to address these needs.

Additionally, the workforce area will develop a business and industry outreach strategy that includes traditional and electronic outreach material. Traditional material will include modernized print material and electronic material will include social media for job seekers to better understand training services and work environments.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In March 2025, Southcentral Mississippi Works (SCMW) was awarded \$550,000 in Rapid Response and Layoff Aversion (RR/LA) funding through Notice of Funds Availability (NFA) #300-24-6 from the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES). These funds support a comprehensive strategy to help local employers prevent layoffs, assist dislocated workers with reemployment, and strengthen business resiliency across the 17-county workforce area.

With these funds, SCMW launched the implementation of its PY2024 Dislocated Worker Services/Layoff Aversion Plan, which includes proactive business outreach, customized training solutions, and on-site Rapid Response events. Funds are also supporting:

- Job retention and reemployment services for dislocated workers
- Customized and incumbent worker training
- Development of mobile-friendly technology and workforce data systems
- Creation of industry-based outreach materials, including virtual reality experiences and videos to better connect job seekers with in-demand careers

This effort is aligned with the Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan and positions SCMW to help stabilize at-risk companies, upskill workers, and enhance outreach to both businesses and job seekers throughout the region. Monitoring, reporting, and outcome tracking will continue quarterly through June 2026.

CAREER COACHING IN SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY PUBLIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

The Workforce Division will effectively and efficiently manage the Career Coaching program across the SCMW 17-county workforce area, with 48 Career Coaches serving 47 high schools. These Career Coaches will assist students in exploring, preparing for, and connecting to high-tech, high-skill, and high-wage jobs throughout the workforce area.

Due to the success of the Career Coach program at the secondary level, postsecondary Career Coaches will be placed at partnering community colleges within the SCMW workforce area. These postsecondary Career Coaches will take on a similar role, helping students explore, prepare for, and connect to high-tech, high-skill, and high-wage jobs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 47 of 48 Career Coach positions have been filled across the SCMW 17-county workforce area. One (1) position became vacant in March 2025 due to a resignation, and the partnering high school has elected to delay filling the role until the start of the next school year.
- Career Coaches are actively serving 47 high schools, helping students explore, prepare for, and connect to high-tech, high-skill, and high-wage jobs aligned with regional workforce needs.
- As of mid-year, Career Coaches have logged:
 - o 8,257 individual student interactions
 - o 26,851 students reached through group sessions
 - 839 business and industry interactions supporting career awareness and work-based learning opportunities
- In response to the program's success at the secondary level, SCMW has expanded the model by placing postsecondary Career Coaches at partnering community colleges throughout the region. These coaches are guiding students through the process of career planning and connecting them to relevant training and employment pathways.
- Career Coaches continue to facilitate career fairs, classroom workshops, employer site visits, and one-on-one advising sessions, building bridges between education and the workforce and contributing to a more career-ready student population.

DIGITAL DELIVERY SYSTEM OF WIN JOB CENTER SEVICES

The District Workforce Division Staff will collaborate with core and strategic workforce partners to develop a one-stop digital delivery system for WIOA services. The new delivery system will be built upon two core goals:

- 1. Enhance Access to Quality Workforce Services: SCMW aims to ensure equitable access to high-quality workforce services for individuals across the 17-county area. This includes comprehensive career counseling, skills training, job placement assistance, and tailored support services to address the diverse needs of SCMW communities. Through expanded outreach efforts, strategic partnerships, and innovative service models, SCMW is committed to promoting inclusivity and enhancing access to workforce development initiatives.
- 2. Optimize Resource Allocation for Cost Effectiveness: Streamlining infrastructure costs associated with workforce service delivery while maintaining a balanced ratio of administrative and training expenditures is essential. SCMW endeavors to achieve a sustainable funding model that reduces administrative costs while providing more resources to training job seekers, redesigning service provision strategies, and implementing cost-effective measures. This ensures efficient allocation of resources to support operational needs and provides essential training and support services to SCMW constituents, driving positive outcomes for individuals and communities.

The system will include the establishment of two Sector Training Plus Comprehensive One-Stop Centers at the Jackson Campus of Hinds Community College and the Natchez Campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Additionally, a groundbreaking digital delivery system featuring nine (9) Digital Delivery Access Centers will be implemented. These centers will house WIOA Career Coaches dedicated to assisting job seekers in exploring, preparing for, and connecting with living-wage careers.

A user-friendly, secure website and online portal serving as a centralized resource for workforce services and training within the SCMW workforce area. This platform will offer comprehensive information on available programs, career pathways, and support services, along with an online scheduling feature for real-time interactions with Digital Career Coaches and Sector Strategy Career Coaches, enhancing accessibility and responsiveness.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In alignment with SCMW's Local Area Plan and the broader goal of increasing access to workforce services in rural and underserved communities, the District released a Request for Proposals (RFP) in February 2025 to procure Digital One-Stop Access Centers. These centers are intended to serve as virtual extensions of the traditional WIN Job Centers, offering remote access to job search assistance, career exploration, and WIOA-funded training services.

The procurement was designed to support the planned transition of the Madison WIN Job Center to a digital model upon the expiration of its lease in November 2024, as well as the potential expansion of similar access points throughout the region. Proposals are currently under evaluation, and funding recommendations will be presented to the SCMW Local Workforce Development Board and Board of Commissioners during the June 2025 meeting. This initiative is a key step in modernizing service delivery and improving equitable access to workforce resources across all 17 counties in the SCMW area.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$1,254,401	\$600,713
Indirect	\$416,254	\$222,324
Travel	\$135,847	\$4,341
Meetings	\$90,585	\$17,752
Insurance	\$0	\$659
Dues/ Memberships/Subscriptions	\$30,850	\$0
Audit	\$9,000	\$6,429
Contractual Services	\$2,187,796	\$1,572,875
Legal	\$900	\$0
Space Lease/Rental	\$1,300	\$5,490
Communications	\$100	\$0
General Supplies	\$135,314	\$464,846
Postage	\$25	\$0
Services	\$3,439,217	\$1,555,030
Unprogrammed	\$4,610,078	\$0
TOTAL	\$12,311,667	\$4,450,459
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$12,311,667	\$3,787,330
TOTAL	\$12,311,667	\$3,787,330
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(663,129)

PROJECT: MANAGEMENT, ADVOCACY, PLANNING, BROKERING, AND

DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY (AREA AGENCY ON

AGING)

PROJECT NUMBER: 20

DESCRIPTION: The District functions as the leading advocate of older persons in Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo Counties. As the designated Area Agency on Aging, the District is responsible for planning, advocating, and coordinating services to promote independence of the elderly in their own homes. The District plays a vital role in meeting the needs of older persons by linking varying agencies, sharing information, brokering, monitoring, and evaluation of services.

NEED	With current advances in medical care, seniors are living longer and the risk of becoming disabled increases dramatically with age. Many people who were healthy in their 60's and even their 70's may become frail with advancing age, therefore the increasing proportion of the older senior citizens means that more people will need additional help in managing their daily lives.
BENEFITS	Promotes on-going activities which will lead to a comprehensive system of services for older persons, promotes quality services, increases public awareness of aging issues, develops partnerships between agencies, and seeks to encourage independence of older persons in this society.
TASK 20-1	ADVOCACY The District will strengthen the capacity of the Aging Advisory Committee members by informing, educating, and seeking input regarding the needs and concerns of older persons. By conducting quarterly meetings of this group, the District will be able to expand its aging agenda to seek support from other segments of the population.
	The District while partnering with the local AARP, will promote, support, and advocate for the passing of legislation which will expand resources for older persons.
	The District will administer the <i>Fiscal Year 2022-2025 (Update FY 2025) Area Plan on Aging</i> , which outlines services to older persons in the central Mississippi area.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There were 21 members appointed to serve a two-year term, beginning September 2023 through September 2025. Two (2) meetings have been held for this fiscal year.
	Currently, all aspects of the <i>FY 2024 Area Plan on Aging</i> are being carried out as approved by the MDHS/Division of Aging. Staff continue to serve on the Technical Assistance Committees for the Mississippi Planning and Development District's Association with the purpose of information-sharing relative to issues facing aging programs in Mississippi.
TASK 20-2	TRAINING To assure that service providers and other staff maintain a high level of job performance, the District will provide a minimum of four (4) training opportunities for its network of providers, including Technical Assistance, State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) training, WellSky computer software training, Adult Day Care Training, Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts, Alzheimer's Association Conference, Cares Conference, Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging (SE4A), National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A), Mississippi Department of Human Services Aging and Adult Services Conference, Nutritional Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Program (NANASP), and any other identified training opportunities.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Staff at the District level, as well as local service providers, have attended and participated in training activities in the following areas: WellSky, Mon AMi, Inform USA, Alzheimer's Foundation of America, Veterans Directed Care, Virtual Dementia Tour, Ombudsman Training, State Health Insurance Program, Serve Safe, Walk with Ease, SE4A, MDES, MAC Center training, and numerous other local workshops. District staff continue to provide training and educational opportunities for service providers and volunteers.

TASK 20-3

MANAGEMENT

In conjunction with the Mississippi Access to Care (MAC) Centers, the District will continue using WellSky software for client tracking which supports the requirements from the Older Americans Act Performance System (OAAPS) and the required reporting data from the Administration on Aging. Continued training and support will be provided to staff to improve the use of all components of the software. Also, staff will continue utilizing the Long-Term Systems and Supports (LTSS) website through the Mississippi Division of Medicaid to identify information on available providers, programs, and services in the community.

Designated staff will monitor all contracts for services at least twice per year to ensure quality and efficient services according to minimum standards. Additionally, the District will coordinate services with organizations that have a proven record of quality performance.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Information from services provided to older adults throughout the District is being tracked through software called SHIP Talk, Mon Ami, "WellSky Information Systems," and "LTSS System." Service providers report their service levels monthly to the District. Staff will continue participating in various training opportunities, which will include meetings, webinars, and phone conferences. The District plans to encourage staff to continue attending training sessions and conferences that focus on the data collection systems.

Monitoring contracts at the local level will begin in the spring of 2025.

TASK 20-4

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM

The District will utilize media to inform the public regarding aging matters, including the quarterly, inhouse published <u>Central Update</u>, Facebook, podcasts, radio ads, as well as local city and county newspapers. Speakers will be made available to those groups wishing to expand their awareness of aging issues. Speaking engagements by staff members to all kinds of groups will be accepted for the sole purpose of educating and empowering families and caregivers of the availability of resources in the seven-county area. The promotion of the Long-Term Systems and Supports website will be ongoing.

The District will provide information on a monthly basis to older persons at all nutrition sites and senior centers regarding the importance of physical activity, nutrition, weight control, substance abuse, and other wellness activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District will continue to distribute the "Aging Services" brochure, which highlights the assistance provided to the public by the Area Agency on Aging. Also, in each publication for the *Central Update*, articles have been prepared that highlight Aging Services and accomplishments in the community. District staff will continue to post events on the company's Facebook page, MAC Center Newsletter, Aging Resource Directory, and make presentations to community groups on resources available to the senior population while distributing information related to services.

MANAGEMENT, ADVOCACY, PLANNING, BROKERING AND DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY (AREA AGENCY ON AGING) BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$1,380,406	\$728,605
Indirect	\$418,656	\$245,364
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$65,337	\$5,479
Meetings	\$0	\$2,675
Audit	\$7,106	\$2,961
Contractual Services	\$724,677	\$71,318
General Supplies	\$51,903	\$126,414
Services	\$3,169,165	\$1,245,560
TOTAL	\$5,817,250	\$2,428,376
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$4,826,909	\$1,617,689
Assessments-General	\$0	\$0
Assessments-Services	\$77,424	\$77,424
Program Income	\$72,500	\$61,046
Local In-Kind	\$524,042	\$354,165
Local Cash Contracts	\$316,375	\$105,021
TOTAL	\$5,817,250	\$2,215,345
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$(213,031)

PROJECT: HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

PROJECT NUMBER: 21

DESCRIPTION: Home and community-based services are those programs which address the physical, nutritional, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of older persons who are at risk of becoming isolated and alienated from society.

NEED	Many older persons, due to physical or mental limitation, are unable to carry on normal tasks of daily living without some assistance. These services are designed to fill those gaps.
BENEFITS	Maintains dignity in later life; delays early institutionalization; provides relief for primary caregivers and their families; reduces feelings of isolation; and provides older persons with a feeling of independence.
TASK 21-1	ADULT DAY CARE Adult day care provides care and supervision for functionally impaired elderly adults for periods of at least four (4) hours a day in a group setting. The day care center provides personal care supervision, limited health care, meals, and group activities. It is anticipated that 3,000 hours of services will be provided.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: To date, 4,516 adult day care hours have been provided to eligible clients.
TASK 21-2	INFORMATION, REFERRAL, AND OUTREACH Trained workers will provide information to the elderly regarding community services. An estimated 20,000 contacts will be made to various agencies to link older people to needed resources.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There were 38,616 contacts completed, which include telephone calls and home visits to individual seniors, thus far.
TASK 21-3	TRANSPORTATION As many older people do not drive or lack a vehicle, they need a system of transportation services. Transportation services, estimated at 75,000 trips, will be provided to older people using vans or buses. The types of trips offered include shopping, medical visits, and other community services.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There have been 34,164 trips provided throughout the seven-county area for seniors who either don't drive or have no other means of transport to places they need for business purposes. Those trips were provided in the following areas:
	City of Jackson – 12,868 Madison – 2,988 Rankin – 998 Simpson – 781 Copiah – 2,696 Special Transportation – 222 Yazoo – 8,291 Clinton – 1,357 Hinds – 2,064 Warren – 1,899
TASK 21-4	LEGAL ASSISTANCE Legal counseling will be provided under contract. The types of cases likely to be brought include job discrimination, guardianship, conservatorship, Medicaid, Medicare, housing, wills, and estates. It is estimated that 75 service hours will be purchased by the District.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: During the past six (6) months, 111 older adults have received either legal counseling or representation from the District's contractor, Mississippi Center for Legal Services Corporation. The District and Southwest MS Legal Services also plan to launch a new initiative to assist clients with making informed decisions while completing their advance care plans.

TASK 21-5

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

Family caregiving has always been the dominant source of care for most individuals in need. Without this essential component of care, the long-term care industry would not be able to meet the needs of the older population. The *Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000* established this program with emphasis on providing support for caregivers who assume the role of care for older adults and other eligible adults on a full-time basis. This program will allow such services as counseling, respite, homemaker, homedelivered meals, transportation, information and assistance, access to T-Care and Trualta evidence-based programming, and the provision of needed supplies for caregivers to support them in their caregiving roles.

The District will build ten (10) new ramps at homes for caregivers taking care of loved ones at home who need help with ambulatory care. Additionally, grab bars, smoke detectors, mobility aids, diapers, blue pads, catheters, and similar purchases will be made by the District in support of approximately 50 caregivers. Staff will continue to provide counseling and educational information to caregivers through the District's caregiver support group. The District, through subcontractors, will provide an estimated 5,000 respite hours to caregivers throughout the seven-county area.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Specifically, for caregivers, the District provided, under contract, 1,921 hours of services to 17 individuals who needed a "break" from caregiving of a loved one. In addition, two (2) wheelchair ramps have been built. The District provided 159 clients with supplies such as diapers, grab bars, blue pads, and supplemental liquids. There were 2,715 home-delivered meals served to families eligible for respite services.

District staff will continue to serve on the Mississippi Caregiver Coalition's Steering Committee and the State of Mississippi Caregiver Support Team for Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias. The District's "Caregiver Connection" (Family Caregivers and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Groups) has provided counseling and emotional support to 32 caregivers. Thus far, District staff have hosted 12 informative caregiver support group sessions for caregivers and grandparents.

TASK 21-6

CONGREGATE MEALS

A congregate meal is a nutritionally balanced meal that is served to older persons in a group setting, such as a senior center, housing facility, or other facility. The purpose of this program is to promote better health among the older segments of the 60+ population through improved nutrition. Each meal meets one-third of the current daily recommended dietary allowances for persons 60 years and older. Approximately 100,000 congregate meals will be served this fiscal year. The District plans to open a minimum of one congregate meal site during FY 2025.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

A total of 29,586 meals were provided five (5) days a week to seniors in congregate settings. This daily service allows seniors the opportunity to have healthy meals, as well as an opportunity to socialize with others. Over the last six (6) months, congregate meals were served in the following areas:

Hinds –

City of Jackson - 14,647 City of Clinton - 2,262 Hinds County - 1,403 Golden Key - 2,318 Push Ministries - 886 Yazoo - 2,235 Madison –
MCCSA - 1,746
Johnnie's Place - 1,214
Rankin –
Town of Puckett - 1,548
Simpson –

City of Magee - 1,327

7			
TASK 21-7	HOME-DELIVERED MEALS A home-delivered meal is a nutritionally balanced meal which is delivered to the home of some p who are unable to leave his/her home without assistance, purchase groceries, and/or are unable to for themselves. Each meal meets at least one-third of the RDA. We estimate 474,000 meals will b served, including State funded and Medicaid Waiver meals.		
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to offer the Home-Delivered Meals Program "Pay As You Go". This program assists clients who can pay for home-delivered meals, but who are unable to prepare a daily nutritious meal. To date, 105 meals have been served. Over the last six months, months, 102,037 were delivered to frail and vulnerable individuals throughout the seven-county area to individual homes. This includes 190 meals served to clients under the Emergency Transitioning Services Program. There were 2,715 meals served to family caregivers throughout central Mississippi. In addition, 25,090 meals were served to eligible clients using State Allocated funding. By area, the number of meals served was as follows:		
	Copiah - 5,785 Warren - 12,130 Yazoo - 9,390 Hinds - 14,167 Rankin - 2,385 City of Pearl - 7,625 City of Jackson - 19,660 Simpson - 2,795		
TASK 21-8	HOMEMAKER SERVICES Many functionally impaired older people have difficulty in performing routine household tasks which are needed to sustain themselves in their own homes. The District provides trained homemakers to assist these older persons with housekeeping tasks and activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, toileting, feeding, shampooing hair, and bed making. Approximately 15,000 hours of service will be provided during the fiscal year.		
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: There were 5,431 hours of homemaker services provided to older individuals throughout the seven-county area. These hours in individual homes were tracked as follows:		
	Copiah - 598 Rankin - 218 Yazoo - 1,142 Hinds - 923 Simpson - 451 Madison - 636 Warren - 1,463		
TASK 21-9	EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICE The District will provide emergency response systems to older persons who cannot be left alone for extended periods of time. There will be 50 Lifeline units placed in the homes of eligible clients.		
	Additionally, the District will continue providing emergency supplies, such as bluepads, medication purchases, mobility aids, syringes, and diapers to those clients who need emergency assistance on an infrequent basis and who are not eligible under the National Family Caregiver Support Program.		
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District continues to provide 24 hours/day monitoring services through the expansion of the emergency response program to 40 individuals. Many of these individuals are private-pay clients, and others receive their monitoring fees paid for through the District. This service will assist clients in case of an emergency and allow them the opportunity to alert medical assistance in the case of an emergency.		
	There were 243 eligible clients who received emergency supplies through the District. In addition, the District provided Chore Service assistance to 46 clients with basic household maintenance work such as replacing ceiling fans, installing new toilets, or lawn care.		

TASK 21-10 PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS The District will continue to administer the "Santa for Seniors" project in conjunction with the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors and Home Instead Senior Care. This program provides needed items during the holiday season to those seniors who would otherwise not be remembered. The District will continue, when appropriate, to seek partnerships with both public and private sectors groups to promote its campaign seeking charitable contributions to provide home delivered meals to those seniors currently on the waiting list due to lack of funding. During December 2024, the District celebrated the Santa for Seniors 34th Anniversary. The District continued its partnership with Home Instead Senior Care and the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals (NABIP) by providing 240 gifts to seniors who otherwise would not receive presents at Christmas. Seniors received gifts such as robes, blankets, gowns, and toiletries. Recipients were grateful and excited to receive their gifts during the holiday season. TASK 21-11 **EMPLOYMENT** The District will manage the Title V, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), which is designed to provide, foster, and promote useful part-time employment opportunities for low income persons 55 years of age and older. Eight (8) slots will be programmed throughout the seven-county area with the goal of enhancing the skills of the enrollees and assisting them in seeking unsubsidized employment. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: To date, five (5) older individuals have participated in the Title V, SCSEP Program to work part-time in community organizations throughout Hinds and Rankin counties. DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION TASK 21-12 Under contract with local providers, the District will make available several forms of health promotion activities for seniors throughout the seven-county area. Recognizing the importance of healthy lifestyles, including exercise, mental health and counseling, disease prevention information, and other healthmaintenance activities, the District will frequently make available these services for their use. District staff will continue teaching classes under the Walk with Ease Program. The classes are taught and copartnered by trained District staff and focus on the safety and well-being of the older adult population. Fall Prevention education is beneficial to the seniors because it is specifically designed to teach practical strategies to manage the risks of falling in the home. Additional evidence-based programs such as T-Care, Trualta, Bingocize, and the Virtual Dementia Tour will be available to assist in the development of confident and competent family caregivers that can manage care at home. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The District will continue partnering with TRUALTA, TCARE, Second Winds, Mississippi State Department of Health, and Mississippi Department of Human Services/Division of Aging and Adult Services to provide educational materials and conduct classes using evidence-based model curricula. Plans are underway to partner with Baptist Healthplex in Jackson to provide health and wellness options to eligible clients. TASK 21-13 PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Many of the State's elderly on limited incomes have a difficult time acquiring the medication they need. Although there may be numerous opportunities for free or reduced cost assistance from pharmaceutical companies, many elderly adults have no way of working through the maze of applications required for participation. The District will provide information and assistance to older individuals regarding medications and medication management. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Through the Insurance Counselors, referrals for prescription assistance are ongoing.

TASK 21-14

MISSISSIPPI ACCESS TO CARE CENTERS (MAC)

Older and disabled persons and their families have difficulty in locating appropriate services and information, which will assist them in making sound decisions regarding long-term care issues. They often have difficulty sorting through or even locating community services, which can result in costly institutionalization. The MAC Center provides a central source of reliable, objective, and unbiased information about a broad range of programs and services and helps people understand and evaluate the various options available to them. The goal of the MAC Center is to empower people to make informed choices and to streamline access to services and support.

In partnership with the Mississippi Department of Human Services/Division of Aging and Adult Services, the District, along with the Mississippi Division of Medicaid will continue making progress with the "No Wrong Door" network in the state of Mississippi. Also, the District plans to continue the expansion of the Emergency Transition Service Program to assist individuals with transitioning from a hospital/nursing home setting back to the community. Through this program eligible clients can receive a home-delivered meal and homemaker services for 21 days. The Jackson MAC Center staff will continue receiving supplementary training as services are increased. To sustain the program, District staff will continue to identify additional funding.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The Jackson Mississippi Access to Care Center continues to make tremendous progress in reaching its goals and mission. To date, the MAC Center has been fully staffed with six (6) certified Inform USA CRS-AD trained Resource Specialists. They have successfully documented 5,014 telephone calls, conducted 7,557 interactions, completed 634 SHIP referrals, participated in 49 training and health fair events, published the MAC's Tea monthly newsletter which has reached over 400 individuals, completed 114 mail-outs, assisted 30 individuals through office visits, contacted and updated 658 Community Resources within the Mississippi Access to Care database system. The MAC Center staff completed 169 Power to Care referrals and 18 Emergency Transition Services Program referrals.

In addition to responding to telephone inquiries and updating resources, through a respite grant, the Jackson MAC Center has partnered with the Mississippi Department of Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services to provide care vouchers to eligible family caregivers. The vouchers may be used to pay an in-home care agency, Adult Day Care, or a private individual to provide respite care.

The District will continue developing a comprehensive plan specifically to meeting the yearly goals of updating the resources in the database. MAC Center staff will continue to work closely with the Medicaid Waiver teams, identifying clients interested in services. Assistance will also be provided to the Medicaid Waiver Teams by conducting follow-ups on waitlisted clients, as well as pre-screening clients ready for Waiver services. To date, 658 Medicaid Waiver screenings and 12 Transition to Community Referrals (TCR's) have been completed.

The MAC Center staff continues to assist clients upon being discharged from the hospital or nursing home settings, and home-delivered meal services are offered for 21 days to help reduce readmission rates. Approximately, 18 clients have received services through the Emergency Transition Service Program.

TASK 21-15

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The District will generate financial support for aging services from local units of government in the seven-county areas and through encouragement for voluntary contributions from older persons for services rendered. While encouraging contributions from older persons who are service recipients, sensitivity to the abilities of low-income individuals to contribute will be maintained. Other anticipated funding includes funding through the United States Department of Agriculture. The District will also collaborate with other state and local entities to seek additional funding for new projects which will expand opportunities for services to older adults.

The District will provide program development and coordination activities with community organizations for the purpose of initiating new services and/or new benefits for older persons with special attention in the areas of caregiving, health promotion, affordable housing, mental health and providing specific services for veterans. Additionally, special attention will be focused on providing information and assistance to groups that serve the veterans population. Lastly, the District plans to host a charitable event to help raise funds for the home-delivered meals program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District has received more than \$77,000 from our local Boards of Supervisors for financial assistance with supportive services, such as transportation, home-delivered meals, and homemaker services for seniors in the seven-county area. This financial assistance allows the District to be able to provide additional services beyond the federal funding. Their contributions are as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Copiah County Board of Supervisors	\$ 6,154
Hinds County Board of Supervisors	30,629
Madison County Board of Supervisors	8,896
Rankin County Board of Supervisors	6,143
Simpson County Board of Supervisors	6,592
Warren County Board of Supervisors	7,597
Yazoo County Board of Supervisors	11,413
TOTAL	77,424

Other accomplishments include the following:

The District's goal is to expand the role of the MAC Center in many ways which should generate a funding stream to assist in expanding the staff. Staff will continue to seek other projects which will allow the expansion of the MAC Center. More information will be provided later when these projects are developed. As an Area Agency on Aging, developing and coordinating programs is an ongoing activity.

The District has collaborated with non-traditional organizations in developing new projects. These organizations include the Mississippi State Department of Health, Mississippi Caregivers Taskforce, UMMC Mind Center, Mississippi Department of Mental Health, Central Mississippi Medical Center (CMMC), Jackson Medical Mall, Northtown Pharmacy, Mississippi Department of Agriculture, MS Gerontology Society, MS Behavioral Health Council, Jackson Free Clinic's, and Alzheimer's Association Mississippi Chapter. The District will continue to partner with the Footprint Farms, Bradford Farms, and AARP.

As a progressive agency, the District hosted an Inaugural Golf Tournament in October 2024 to raise funds for the expansion of the Nutrition Program.

TASK 21-16

VETERANS DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM (VDC)

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) have formed a partnership to develop the Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program to enhance home-based support for veterans. The VDC program offers eligible veterans a flexible budget to purchase goods and services that help them to live independently at home in the community, rather than in an institution.

The District will continue partnering with the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District for the purpose of providing services on behalf of Veterans under the Veteran Directed Care Program. A trained Case Manager will be assigned to assist clients with arranging consumer self-directed services based upon their needs and preferences. Staff will monitor each enrolled Veterans' health, safety, outcomes, spending plan, and purchases by conducting at least one (1) monthly visit.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

To date, District Staff has provided case management for 15 Veteran Directed Care clients.

HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES BUDGET

Budget information on the Home and Community Based Services Program is contained within the Budget of Project #20 - Management, Advocacy, Planning, Brokering, and Development of Services for the Elderly (Area Agency on Aging).

PROJECT: ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION AND ADVOCACY

PROJECT NUMBER: 22

DESCRIPTION: The abuse of the elderly is a shocking revelation to most Americans, and the average citizen may find it hard to believe that the problem exists. Elder Abuse and Advocacy Programs are designed to induce a change in attitudes and stereotypes, to enhance the quality of life and care for the aging community.

NEED	The incidence of elder abuse is high, both in community settings and in institutions, yet the problem is far less likely to be reported than child abuse due to the lack of public awareness. Elderly victims who are frail and/or isolated and unaware of help that is available to them are at the greatest risk of mistreatment or neglect. Direct intervention is critical to immediate resolution of these problems.
BENEFITS	Helps to prevent or minimize the occurrence of abusive situations; promotes citizen involvement; promotes development of new resources to meet the immediate needs of victims and families; and increases public awareness of aging concerns and needs.
TASK 22-1	COMMUNITY TRANSITION SERVICES (CTS) The District will continue administering the Community Transition Services (CTS) Program funded by the Mississippi Division of Medicaid to provide an array of home and community-based services to eligible participants. CTS is a statewide program designed to assist individuals who reside in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual and development disabilities to return to the community.
	The Area Agency on Aging will continue to provide a trained Community Navigator to disseminate information, educate, and refer Medicaid beneficiaries interested in transitioning out of institutional care into the community. Additionally, the Community Navigator will lead a team chosen by the beneficiary to help him or her locate housing, plan employment, participate in meaningful daily activities, learn new skills, and build natural supports.
	ACCOMPLISHMENTS: To date, one (1) CTS referral has been received from the Division of Medicaid for this fiscal year. The Community Navigator has started the initial assessment phase of assisting an eligible participant to transition to the community.

TASK 22-2 NURSING HOME OMBUDSMEN SERVICES

The Ombudsman service is designed to assist residents of nursing homes and personal care homes with problems or concerns relating to their care in these facilities.

Three (3) District Ombudsmen, along with one (1) certified county Ombudsmen, will make routine visits to 64 long-term care facilities with 80 personal care homes and ICF/MR facilities throughout the District monthly. Visits will be made on a scheduled and non-scheduled basis to mediate problems, to follow-up on problems, and to resolve complaints.

The District Ombudsmen will conduct a minimum of five (5) public seminars on subjects related to the following: Resident Rights, Elder Abuse/Neglect, Role of the Ombudsman in Long-Term Care Facilities, Respecting Confidentiality in Long-Term Care Facilities, and How to Choose a Nursing Home.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District, along with one (1) local Ombudsmen, performed the following services at local nursing homes and personal care homes during mid-year:

Number of Facility Visits - 451

Number of Resident Contacts - 19,118

Number of Complaints Investigated-90

Number of Cases Closed- 78

Resident Council Meetings- 10

The District and local Ombudsmen attended the 2024 Consumer Voice Conference via Zoom, attended quarterly in-service training meetings at the Mississippi Department of Human Services/Division of Aging and Adult Services, and presented information about the ombudsman services during the District's monthly caregiver support group meetings. Ombudsmen conducted an in-service training on Resident Rights, Vulnerable Persons, and Elder Abuse on October 4, 2024, for Social Workers, Nursing Home Administrators, and local Ombudsmen.

Several seniors residing in nursing home facilities received Christmas gifts courtesy of the Santa for Seniors Project.

TASK 22-3

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

The District Ombudsmen and staff will continue to educate the community on elder abuse prevention. Information will be shared during in-service training, workshops and community events to increase public awareness of the prevalence of elder abuse in our society.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District has continued to publish elder abuse articles or videos for the MAC Center newsletter. This information is distributed to over 400 individuals monthly. The local Ombudsman conducted one (1) inservice training on Residents' Rights and the role of the local Ombudsman. District staff will continue to network and schedule public seminars on Elder Abuse/Neglect, Respecting Confidentiality in Long-Term Care Facilities, and How to Choose a Nursing Home.

TASK 22-4

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (SHIP)

The District will continue to offer a special counseling program to assist older persons in interpreting public benefit programs and in identifying long-term care insurance. Using media broadcasts and outreach efforts, the program will work to develop an understanding among the service population about all aspects of public benefits.

It is estimated that roughly 4,600 individuals will receive individual counseling and assistance in enrolling in low-income subsidy programs, Medicare savings plans, and the State Prescription Assistance Program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District's SHIP Insurance Counselors are required to make special efforts to locate and train Medicare beneficiaries to apply for benefits provided by Social Security and Medicaid. To date, Counselors have responded to 469 phone calls from beneficiaries with information regarding Medicare health coverage, issues, and supplemental benefits. Insurance Counselors have contacted 135 beneficiaries with assets below the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) limit.

The District has sponsored counselors who attended 38 events and reached 528 beneficiaries. The District's ongoing partnership with the Jackson Free Clinic's, Fresenius Dialysis Clinic, Jackson Medical Mall, and Northtown Pharmacy has proven to be successful and effective. The Insurance Counselors visit these locations weekly to share information with beneficiaries and their family members. There were 600 brochures, literature, and other reading material distributed to individuals in the community.

Since October 2024, the Insurance Counselors have been focusing on building a strong volunteer program. Currently, 44 Medicaid Waiver Case Managers have started to provide outreach services to 2003 Medicaid Waiver recipients. In addition, two (2) new Outreach Volunteer Coordinators have been added to the SHIP Team. They will assist in Hinds and Simpson Counties.

The District led a successful SHIP media campaign during Open Enrollment. Media coverage was provided through iHeart media, WJTV, WAPT ME TV, and WAPT.

As of October 2024, media coverage garnered 516,268 impressions. In February 2025, District Insurance Counselors published an informative SHIP article in The Jackson Advocate and The Mississippi Link.

According to data provided by *The Mississippi Link*, newspapers were distributed weekly to over 7,000 people in the Jackson-Tri County area (Hinds, Madison, and Rankin), and the e-edition article was viewed 478 times.

TASK 22-5

EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMMING

District staff will soon begin administering the Western Kentucky University's Bingocize Program. Participants combine exercise and health information with the familiar game of bingo. The District will continue its contractual agreement with the Mississippi Department of Human Services/Division of Aging and Adult Services to provide the educational component and share resources in the delivery of evidence-based programs using statistically proven facts for consumers identified with one (1) or more chronic diseases. Also, the District plans to continue teaching classes and disseminating fall prevention information on the Walk with Ease Program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

District staff have hosted two (2) Virtual Dementia Tours. The District also hosted a tour at the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts Conference in April 2025.

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION AND ADVOCACY

Budget information on the Elder Abuse Prevention and Advocacy Program is contained within the Budget of Project #20 - Management, Advocacy, Planning, Brokering, and Development of Services for the Elderly (Area Agency on Aging).

PROJECT: ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

PROJECT NUMBER: 23

DESCRIPTION: The Medicaid Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver program is authorized in §1015c of the Federal *Social Security Act*. The program permits a state to furnish an array of HCBS that assist Medicaid beneficiaries to live in the community and avoid institutionalization. Waiver services complement and/or supplement the services that are available to beneficiaries through the State Medicaid Plan, other federal, state, or local programs, as well as the support that families and communities provide.

Mississippi's Elderly & Disabled (E&D) Medicaid Waiver Program is one of five (5) different Waiver programs administered by the State. E&D Waiver services include Case Management, Personal Care Attendant Services, Adult Day Care Services, Extended Home Health Services, Home-Delivered Meals, In-Home Respite Care, Institutional Respite Care, and Transition Assistance.

The E&D Waiver is administered and operated by the Office of Long-Term Care at the Division of Medicaid. Case Management and Home Delivered Meals are provided by CMPDD under the state and federally approved 1915(b)(4) Waiver Fee for Service Selective Contracting Program effective July 1, 2023.

NEED	The aging population is now living longer and the need for plans related to long-term care continues to rise. Elderly and/or disabled persons desire to live independently at home as long as possible. They choose to receive quality in-home assistance (provided by independent, Medicaid approved agencies), in an effort to prevent or delay permanent nursing facility placement. Waiver recipients must be 21 years of age or older being disabled or elderly. Recipients must also be approved for Medicaid to receive any of the approved HCBS services.
BENEFITS	Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) are more cost-effective than institutionalized care. Based on average nursing facility paid claims, and paid waiver services, costs for nursing facility care can exceed the cost of waiver services by an average of \$14,000 per beneficiary per fiscal year. The services provided by the District offer a projected cost savings of federal and state tax dollars of more than \$50 million per fiscal year. According to the Division of Medicaid's overview and program basics, "Medicaid can fund three (3) people in a HCBS Waiver program for the cost of one (1) person in a residential facility."
	HCBS employs a variety of service delivery approaches, including participant direction of services and development of their Plan of Care. There are annual limits to the amount or kind of service that a Medicaid beneficiary can receive under the Medicaid State Plan. For individuals who qualify, those limitations are "waived" thus allowing a participant to receive additional services not otherwise available.

TASK 23-1 CASE MANAGEMENT AND HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

Through ongoing collaboration between the Division of Medicaid and all ten (10) Planning & Development Districts, 1,310 additional waiver slots were granted and were distributed statewide.

CMPDD now reserves the capacity to serve 2,945 waiver slots on the Elderly & Disabled Medicaid Waiver program.

Case Management (CM) teams may consist of a combination of a Registered Nurse and a Licensed Social Worker, or two (2) Registered Nurses, or two (2) Licensed Social Workers.

Home-Delivered Meals (HDM) – are delivered through a contracted service provider for waiver recipients who request the service be added to their Plan of Care, and the Division of Medicaid has approved the service on the client's Plan of Care. HDM's are pre-packaged nutritious frozen meals delivered to the client's home each week. E & D waiver recipients can receive 5 or 7 pre-packaged, vacuum sealed meals each week.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The District currently employs 24 CM teams that assess and coordinate waiver services throughout our seven-county service area. With the increase in allotment of waiver slots, efforts are under way to employ two (2) additional CM teams.

The E & D Waiver utilizes Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) web-based information and assessment tool to submit and approve beneficiaries for waiver services. Incorporated into the LTSS system is the InterRAI HC Assessment tool (interactive Resident Assessment Instrument). The InterRAI assessment is conducted, at a minimum, on an annual basis.

All Registered Nurses and Licensed Social Workers must be certified to conduct the InterRAI assessment tool within their first 90 days of employment. Certification consists of reading modules of how to conduct the assessment, listening to and analyzing videos of a specific situation between a client, caregiver, and the professional, and then passing with at least 80% accuracy on a battery of tests.

From October 2024 to March 2025, two (2) new Case Managers passed the InterRAI certification exams, joining 37 other certified Case Managers for a total of 39 Case Managers currently on staff.

Together the team conducts the initial assessment home visit and the yearly recertification home visit. Quarterly home visits may be conducted by either the RN or the LSW. Regular monthly contact visits may be conducted via telephone by either the RN or the LSW. If the client cannot be reached, or is unable to communicate by telephone, a face-to-face home visit must be conducted. CM's must also conduct face-to-face visits in cases of reported / suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

The recipients' Plan of Care or Plan of Services and Supports (PSS) is generated by the Case Managers on the initial assessment home visit. It is monitored and evaluated at each monthly home visit or monthly telephone contact visit to ensure that approved services are being provided and meeting the client's needs. If changes are needed, the PSS is revised accordingly.

From October 2024 to March 2025, the meal service provider delivered 104,831 individual, pre-packaged meals to E&D waiver recipients. An average of 17,471 meals were delivered each month.

Case Managers complete the provider referral forms and forward them to the client-selected service providers and the HDM provider to start, stop, hold, or terminate a service.

TASK 23-2 HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

NEW - Effective July 1, 2024, through ongoing collaboration between the Division of Medicaid and all ten (10) Planning & Development Districts, 859 additional waiver slots were granted and were distributed statewide. CMPDD received an additional 105 Waiver slots where participants will be removed from waiting lists.

CMPDD now reserves the capacity to serve 2,945 waiver slots.

The Case Management team may consist of a combination of a Registered Nurse (RN) and a Licensed Social Worker (LSW), or two (2) RNs, or two (2) LSWs.

The District will provide home and community-based options to eligible, disabled, and/or elderly individuals so as to divert nursing facility placement. This program is referral-based, waiting list driven. Individuals are served on a first-come, first-serve basis and in order of the date that the application or referral is received. Individuals who are transitioning from a nursing facility long-term care stay, back to a primary residence; or individuals who no longer qualify for any other long-term care program, are given priority assessment for the Waiver program. These are known as Transition to Community Referrals and are included in the total number of clients served.

Case Management teams will be targeted in the following service areas to serve 2,945 recipients districtwide:

Copiah County	2 teams	220 clients
Hinds County	14 teams	1,735 clients
Rankin County	3 teams	330 clients
Simpson County	1 teams	110 clients
Madison County	2 teams	220 clients
Warren County	1 team	110 clients
Yazoo County	2 teams	220 clients

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Each team is tasked with maintaining at least 114 active clients on their caseload, with no more than 120 active clients per team. From October 2024 to March 2025, Case Management teams served an average of 2,458 clients per month.

There were three (3) TCR beneficiaries that were able to transition out of the nursing facility and are receiving HCBS at home through the E&D Waiver program.

TASK 23-3 ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY SERVICES (ESS) AND ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (MEDI-KEY)

These two (2) new services were approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMMS) and the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) and added to existing HCBS available under the Elderly & Disabled Waiver program effective July 1, 2023.

Environmental Safety Services will be initially paid by the Planning & Development District to the approved contractor. Upon completion of the work and submission of appropriate documentation and invoices, the PDD will electronically submit for reimbursement from the Division of Medicaid. Only Medicaid enrolled Case Management providers can bill for this service. ESS shall not exceed \$500.00 per recipient per waiver year (July 1 – June 30).

ESS may include minor home maintenance or repair, heavy household cleaning, non-routine disposal of garbage posing a threat to recipients' health or safety, or pest control services to help prevent or eradicate pests posing a threat to the recipients' health or safety.

If a need for this service is identified, it is requested by the Case Managers and approved on the recipients' Plan of Care. The Case Managers selects a licensed contractor and begins the process of getting the specific ESS service performed. When the specific ESS is completed, the District pays the contractor.

Upon completion of the work and submission of appropriate documentation and invoices, and as the provider of Environmental Safety Services, the PDD will electronically submit for direct reimbursement from the Division of Medicaid.

Medication Management Services are available for recipients who are prescribed five (5) or more prescription medications. MMS provides an initial consultation and up to 15 follow-up sessions per recipient per waiver year by a licensed, Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy provider.

If a need for this service is identified, it is requested by the Case Managers and approved on the recipients' Plan of Care. Once approved, the Case Managers notify the pharmacy provider chosen by the recipient from the Freedom of Choice list provided by the Division of Medicaid. The pharmacy provider is responsible for their direct billing and reimbursement by the Division of Medicaid.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Case Managers assess for the need for ESS and MMS. If a need is identified, the CM's must add the service to the recipient's Plan of Care and be approved by the DOM, along with all other requested HCBS.

The capability to add these services to a recipient's Plan of Care became effective February 1, 2024. As of March 31, 2025, there has been one (1) request and reimbursement for ESS services.

To date, there are no medication management service requests.

ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE BUDGET

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL BUDGET	AS OF <u>3/31/2025</u>
Personnel	\$4,203,032	\$1,737,921
Indirect	\$876,355	\$429,604
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	\$28,000	\$3,271
Insurance	\$9,000	\$3,980
Computer	\$2,500	\$58,113
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$8,000	\$4,374
Utilities	\$25,000	\$7,941
Contractual Services	\$30,000	\$12,082
Building Maintenance and Operations/Janitorial	\$16,000	\$5,725
Equipment Lease/Rental	\$6,000	\$2,761
Depreciation	\$20,000	\$9,470
Communications	\$30,000	\$25,670
General Supplies	\$15,350	\$8,454
Postage	\$1,500	\$1,213
Services	\$2,747,263	\$671,733
TOTAL	\$8,018,000	\$2,982,312
SOURCES		
Program Income	\$14,000	\$7,255
Federal/State	\$8,004,000	\$3,964,240
TOTAL	\$8,018,000	\$3,971,495
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures		\$989,183

ALL PROJECTS BUDGET SUMMARY

<u>EXPENSES</u>	ANNUAL <u>BUDGET</u>	AS OF 3/31/2025
Personnel	\$8,656,020	\$3,931,528
Indirect	\$2,314,601	\$1,392,150
Travel	\$344,734	\$22,024
Meetings	\$119,885	\$25,970
Furniture/Equipment	\$75,000	\$0
Insurance	\$9,000	\$4,638
Equipment Maintenance	\$5,000	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$47,350	\$1,253
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	\$75,850	\$6,961
Audit	\$16,106	\$9,389
Computer	\$115,831	\$113,646
Utilities	\$25,000	\$7,941
Contractual Services	\$3,244,473	\$1,656,275
Depreciation	\$88,000	\$9,470
Legal	\$14,000	\$0
Building Maintenance and Operations/Janitorial	\$16,000	\$5,725
Equipment Lease/Rental	\$96,000	\$2,761
Space Lease/Rental	\$1,300	\$5,490
Communications	\$39,100	\$25,971
General Supplies	\$223,217	\$601,207
Printing Supplies	\$5,000	\$0
Postage	\$3,125	\$1,213
Loans	\$1,270,017	\$0
Services	\$9,355,646	\$3,472,323
Unprogrammed	\$6,007,424	\$13,028
TOTAL	\$32,167,678	\$11,308,963
SOURCES		
Federal/State	\$28,320,131	\$9,876,188
Assessments-General	\$232,176	\$183,604
Assessments-Services	\$77,424	\$77,424
Local Cash-Contracts	\$1,206,220	\$446,003
Program Equity	\$1,117,268	\$1,152,600
Program Income	\$306,064	\$68,301
Local In-kind	\$524,042	\$354,165
Fees/Interest	\$2,087	\$33,592
Match Carryover	\$314,266	\$0
Lease/Rental	\$68,000	\$69,581
TOTAL	\$32,167,678	\$12,261,458

DISTRICT SUPPORT ALLOCATION FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

TOTALS	100.000%	\$231,176
Yazoo City	0.016706	3,862
YAZOO COUNTY	0.025803	5,965
Vicksburg	0.034934	8,076
WARREN COUNTY Violesburg	0.037487	8,666
WADDEN COLINEY	0.027497	0.444
Mendenhall	0.003560	823
Magee	0.006458	1,493
SIMPSON COUNTY	0.031095	7,188
Kicinaliu	0.011336	2,072
Richland	0.002039	2,672
Pelahatchie	0.002059	476
Pearl	0.016520	10,150
Florence Flowood	0.007401 0.016520	1,711 3,819
Brandon	0.040705	9,410
RANKIN COUNTY	0.131571	30,416
-	0.121571	
Ridgeland	0.039412	9,111
Madison	0.044931	10,387
Gluckstadt	0.005195	1,201
Flora	0.002669	617
Canton	0.017727	4,098
MADISON COUNTY	0.066802	15,443
Utica	0.001030	238
Terry	0.002111	488
Raymond	0.003175	734
Jackson	0.248884	57,536
Edwards	0.001611	372
Clinton	0.045502	10,519
Byram	0.020508	4,741
HINDS COUNTY	0.045152	10,438
Wesself.	0.002071	000
Wesson	0.002894	686
Hazlehurst	0.002967	1,355
Crystal Springs	0.007873	1,820
COPIAH COUNTY	0.028827	\$ 6,664

All other towns/villages that are not listed above will each be assessed in the amount of \$100.

BUDGET NOTES

The District Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is projected to be approximately \$32 million dollars with \$231,176 to be generated through the local assessment process. The District Budget contained in this document should be considered a working budget and as projects and tasks are added during the fiscal year it will be altered to reflect those changes. The amounts reflected in the indirect line item for this Fiscal Year 2024 budget are subject to change based on adopting new cognizant agency requirements. The effect on the total budget is expected to be immaterial.

The budget shown to support Project 10 is the same as the Indirect Cost Budget, which supports a federally required and approved system of allocating general administrative and common expenditures in a sound and equitable manner. The funds shown in Project 10 are funds previously approved for non-eligible federal expenditures such as meals, entertainment of guests, and depreciation of equipment purchased with local fund reserves and recouped via overhead cost pool distribution to all programs and projects as lease income.

Project 17 is the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts' administrative management program.

Project 18 consists of Economic Development Administration and Minority Business Enterprise Revolving Loan Programs, as well as the Mississippi Small Business Assistance Revolving Loan Program, the CMDC SBA 504 Loan Program, the State of Mississippi Farish Street Historical District Project, and the USDA Revolving Loan Fund.

Project 19 is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Southcentral Mississippi Works Workforce Development Area (SCMW) and strategic planning and implementation of the WIOA, which is funded through the Department of Labor for Job Training and On the Job Training services, and the Mississippi Association of Workforce Areas (MAWA) among others.

Costs shown and budgeted in Projects 19, 20, 21, and 23 are largely pass-through funds to support services which are purchased at the local level. All of the information shown in this Work Program and corresponding budgets are further supported and supplemented by additional detailed programs of work, such as the Unified Work Program for transportation planning, the Overall Economic Development Plan, Indirect Cost Proposal (Project 10), the Area Agency on Aging Plan, and Workforce Development.

Title III of the Older Americans Act consists of congregate meals, home delivered meals for both seniors and Medicaid Waiver clients, adult day care, legal services, ombudsman, emergency services, respite services, transportation, information and referral, outreach, program development administration, public information initiatives, emergency response, elderly abuse prevention services, and others as mentioned below.

Title V - SCSEP - is an elderly employment program which provides much needed work opportunities for senior citizens, which is budgeted under Project 20.

Insurance Counseling, and Elder Abuse Prevention programs are also a vital part of the AAA budget in providing services to the at-risk elderly population, they also are budgeted under Project 20.

Title XX Social Service Block Grant program provides services to the elderly in home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker services and case management for the elderly, they also are budgeted under Project 20.

The Elderly and Disabled Home and Community-Based Waiver Service Program (Project 23) is also a vital component of the District's services and commitment to the elderly and disabled citizens of CMPDD's area to help them remain in their homes as long as possible and not become a nursing home resident.

The Personnel category for Fiscal Year 2025 includes a variety of pay increases based upon the following: merit, incentive, or reclassification.