CMPDD
PROMOTING REGIONAL EXCELLENCE SINCE 1968

WORK PROGRAM

2025 - 2026

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
1020 Centre Pointe Boulevard
Pearl, MS 39208
www.cmpdd.org

Work Program
Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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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.
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 *Federal Single Audit Act of 1984*, as amended.
TASK 10-3	INTERNAL AUDIT/MONITOR FUNCTION The Auditor/Monitor function of the District began in Fiscal Year 1993 and will continue for Fiscal Year 2026. 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.

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.
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 and 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.
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.
TASK 10-7	TECHNOLOGY SECURITY AMD INNOVATION GROUP The Technology Security and Innovation 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. This group will be responsible for investigating and implementing new technology and processes that improve office efficiency and diversity of services. 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 inventory of surplus working equipment. • Maintain a library of CMPDD software. • Attend software and/or hardware training courses. • Provide training as requested on software.

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.

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

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$1,209,207
Travel	$24,500
Meetings	$11,000
Dues, Memberships and Subscriptions	$22,000
Audit	$64,000
Contractual Services	$41,000
Equipment Lease/Rental	$132,000
Supplies	$20,000
Printing	$12,000
Postage	$12,000
Equipment Maintenance	$2,000
Legal	$5,000
Communications	$23,000
Insurance and Bonding	$168,000
District Expense Fund	$161,500
Depreciation	$330,000
Space Lease	$3,100
Computer, Software & Maintenance	$145,000
Automobile Pool Costs	$55,000
Miscellaneous	$12,000
Utilities/Housekeeping/Building	$70,000
Prior Year Adjustment	$52,555
TOTAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	$2,574,862

SOURCES	
Assessments-General	$55,500
Lease/Rental Income	$111,352
Allocated to Programs	$2,408,010
TOTAL	$2,574,862

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. 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.
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. 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.
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.
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.

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.
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.
TASK 11-7	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.

REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE BUDGET

EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Personnel	$5,104
Indirect	$1,747
Travel	$300
Miscellaneous	$200
Dues, Memberships & Subscriptions	$500
Un-Programmed	$2,149
TOTAL	$10,000

SOURCES	
Assessments-General	$10,000
TOTAL	$10,000

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 will provide technical assistance to the Town of Bentonia 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.
TASK 12-2	CITY OF BRANDON The District will complete its contract with the City of Brandon to develop a new Zoning Ordinance for the city. The Zoning Ordinance will be modernized to address current development trends. The District will also provide technical assistance, as needed, to the city regarding planning matters.
TASK 12-3	TOWN OF BRAXTON The District will complete its contract with the Town of Braxton 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.
TASK 12-4	CITY OF CLINTON The District will complete its contract with the City of Clinton 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.
TASK 12-5	CITY OF CRYSTAL SPRINGS The District will continue providing technical assistance to the City of Crystal Springs regarding zoning and planning-related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
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.
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.

TASK 12-8	CITY OF FLOWOOD The District will complete its contract with the City of Flowood to develop a new 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. Technical assistance for zoning and planning related matters will also be available.
TASK 12-9	CITY OF MADISON The District will continue efforts with the City of Madison 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.
TASK 12-10	CITY OF MAGEE The District will complete its contract with the City of Magee 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.
TASK 12-11	CITY OF MENDENHALL The District intends to contract with the City of Mendenhall 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.
TASK 12-12	CITY OF PEARL The District will complete its contract with the City of Pearl to develop a new 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. Technical assistance for zoning and planning related matters will also be available.
TASK 12-13	TOWN OF PELAHATCHIE The District intends to contract with the Town of Pelahatchie to develop a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the town. 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 town regarding planning and GIS related matters.
TASK 12-14	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.
TASK 12-15	CITY OF RICHLAND The District will continue providing technical assistance, as needed, to the City of Ridgeland regarding planning and GIS related matters under an existing technical assistance contract.
TASK 12-16	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.
TASK 12-17	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.

TASK 12-18	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.
TASK 12-19	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.
TASK 12-20	MADISON COUNTY The District will provide technical assistance to Madison 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.
TASK 12-21	RANKIN COUNTY The District will continue to provide technical assistance to Rankin 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.
TASK 12-22	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.
TASK 12-23	YAZOO COUNTY The District will complete its contract with Yazoo County to develop a Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for the county. The Plan will include all elements and tasks as required by state code, and also 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.
TASK 12-24	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.
TASK 12-25	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.
TASK 12-26	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 (3) 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.

TASK 12-27	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 2026, the District anticipates completing an update and reorganization of the DeSoto County Zoning Ordinance.
TASK 12-28	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.

LOCAL PLANNING PROJECTS BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$179,228
Indirect	$61,347
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$10,000
Meetings	$3,000
Miscellaneous	$3,000
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$1,500
Contractual Services	$2,000
Communications	$7,000
General Supplies	$3,000
Printing Supplies	$2,000
Un-programmed	$246,895
TOTAL	$518,970

SOURCES	
Local Cash-Contracts	$518,970
TOTAL	$518,970

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.
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.
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.

TASK 13-4	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.
TASK 13-5	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.
TASK 13-6	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.
TASK 13-7	DOCUMENT SCANNING AND CATALOGING SERVICES The District remains available to scan, digitize and catalogue documents and ordinances for local governments.
TASK 13-8	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.
TASK 13-9	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.
TASK 13-10	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.

TASK 13-11	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.
TASK 13-12	CONTINUING EDUCATION Staff will attend meetings of the Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems, GIS User Group, ESRI Conferences and other events to receive continuing education on such matters.

REGIONAL DATA CENTER BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$267,925
Indirect	$91,707
Miscellaneous	$5,000
Dues, Memberships and Subscriptions	$3,000
Computer	$45,000
Contractual Services	$50,000
Equipment Lease/Rental	$70,000
Printing	$1,000
Un-Programmed	$266,368
TOTAL	$800,000
SOURCES	
Federal/State	$680,000
Assessments-General	$120,000
Match Carryover	$0
TOTAL	$800,000

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 2026, 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.
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 2026 in order for the MPO to continue to conduct the performance-based continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. In addition, the Fiscal Years 2025-2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be amended when deemed necessary by CMPDD and the Fiscal Years 2027-2028 UPWP will be drafted.
TASK 14-3	AMENDMENTS TO THE PARTICIPATION PLAN AND ALL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/ INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES During Fiscal Year 2026, 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 2026 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.
TASK 14-4	PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGET ANALYSIS During Fiscal Year 2026, 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 2026.

TASK 14-5	PREPARATION OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN, TRAVEL DEMAND MODEL AND LOCAL PLANS During Fiscal Year 2026 District staff will finalize the development of 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 and resiliency 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.
TASK 14-6	BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES PLANNING During Fiscal Year 2026, 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 and anticipates completing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan by December 2025. District staff will also review the project selection criteria for Transportation Alternatives funding and make revisions as necessary to the selection criteria in preparation for issuing a call for Transportation Alternative projects as funds become available. 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.
TASK 14-7	TRANSIT PLANNING During Fiscal Year 2026, 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 Working 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 which is anticipated to be completed by December 2025.
TASK 14-8	FREIGHT PLANNING The District in Fiscal Year 2026 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 and will continue to monitor the designation of Critical Urban Freight Corridors.
TASK 14-9	PREPARATION OF AND AMENDMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) During Fiscal Year 2026, 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 2026. 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. In addition, the draft Fiscal Years 2027-2030 TIP will be developed during Fiscal Year 2026.

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 Hinds County during Fiscal Year 2026. District staff collect 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, and 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 2026 the District will continue to coordinate efforts with MDOT to partner with them utilizing the statewide contract for pavement condition data collection utilizing a certified data collection vehicle. CMPDD anticipates test data from the certified data collection vehicle to be collected and processed during Fiscal Year 2026. However, until the pavement management process fully transitions to the new data collection process CMPDD will continue to collect windshield survey data.
TASK 14-11	CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS During Fiscal Year 2026, 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.
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 (3) years old. During Fiscal Year 2026, District staff will collect traffic count data in Hinds 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 provides supporting data for the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Congestion Management Process and Pavement Management System. Additionally, District staff will implement a bicycle and pedestrian counter program to collect bicycle and pedestrian specific data on MPO grant sponsored facilities and on an as-requested basis on other bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the MPO's planning area including the advanced planning area during Fiscal Year 2026.
TASK 14-13	REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGN RETROFLECTIVITY SYSTEM During Fiscal Year 2026, the District will continue to maintain the MPO's Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity Maintenance and Management Program. The District maintains three (3) 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.
TASK 14-14	MAINTENANCE OF THE TRANSPORTATION DATABASE During Fiscal Year 2026, 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.

TASK 14-15	REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE AND DEPLOYMENT PLAN During Fiscal Year 2026, CMPDD will maintain the Central Mississippi Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture Plan. The ITS Architecture Plan documents the MPO's vision for the deployment, integration, and operation of intelligent transportation systems within the MPO planning area.
TASK 14-16	STAFF TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT During Fiscal Year 2026, 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. CMPDD staff will also continue to devote considerable time to "in-house" training, becoming familiar with computer software packages such as ESRI that are regularly employed in transportation planning-related functions of the MPO.
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 safety related grant opportunities.
TASK 14-18	SPECIAL STUDIES During Fiscal Year 2026 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.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$1,000,444
Indirect	$342,437
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$80,000
Meetings	$10,000
Furniture/Equipment	$75,000
Equipment Maintenance	$5,000
Miscellaneous	$10,000
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$30,000
Computer	$70,000
Contractual Services	$200,000
Legal	$2,500
Equipment Lease/Rental	$20,000
Communications	$2,000
General Supplies	$10,000
Printing Supplies	$2,000
Postage	$1,000
Un-programmed	$709,863
TOTAL	$2,570,244

SOURCES	
Federal/State	$2,239,302
Assessments - General	$18,676
Match Carryover	$312,266
TOTAL	$2,570,244

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.

The majority 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.

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 2025-2026, the District will continue providing administration services to City of Byram, Warren County, Town of Flora, City of Raymond, Madison County, Town of Georgetown, City of Hazlehurst, City of Brandon and the Town of Utica. Additional projects may be included once new awards are made.
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. 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.

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 2025-2026, staff will be administering projects with the Town of Braxton, Piney Woods School, Town of Edwards, Town of Georgetown, City of Raymond, Town of D'Lo and Mississippi Rural Water Association. Additional projects may be included once new awards are made.
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.
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 2025-2026, CMPDD staff will assist the City of Raymond, Town of Bentonia, Town of Puckett, and Copiah County on their Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Municipality & County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) grants. Staff will also assist the Copiah Water Association with their Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Community Grant and the Mississippi Rural Water Association with their Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Community Project Funding (CPF) grant. The District will also assist other local governments with their and groups with their administrative needs as projects are funded.
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.
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.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$140,228
Indirect	$47,997
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$10,250
Meetings	$500
Miscellaneous	$1,100
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$500
General Supplies	$6,000
Un-Programmed	$311,250
TOTAL	$517,825

SOURCES	
Federal/State	$188,099
Local Cash-Contracts	$329,726
TOTAL	$517,825

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.
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.

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.
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.
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.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Personnel	$82,429
Indirect	$28,214
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$5,000
Meetings	$500
Miscellaneous	$200
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$500
Un-Programmed	$23,157
TOTAL	$140,000
SOURCES	
Federal	$112,000
Assessments-General	$28,000
TOTAL	$140,000

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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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 coordinator of these events and any others which may arise.
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.

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$0
Indirect	$0
Meetings	$300
Miscellaneous	$250
Computer	$600
Un-Programmed	$69,850
TOTAL	$71,000
SOURCES	
Local Cash-Contracts	$26,000
Program Income	$45,000
TOTAL	$71,000

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 2026.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.

TASK 18-7	COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT The District will work with financial institutions in meeting the requirements of the *Federal Community Reinvestment Act* (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.
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.
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.
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.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$135,475
Indirect	$46,372
Travel	$8,000
Miscellaneous	$600
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$2,000
Computer	$3,086
Legal	$600
Loans	$1,302,280
TOTAL	$1,498,413
SOURCES	
Local Cash- Contract	$175,000
Program Income/Equity	$1,236,496
Fees/Interest	$86,917
TOTAL	$1,498,413

PROJECT: **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

PROJECT NUMBER: **19**

DESCRIPTION: The District serves as the fiscal agent for South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW), a federally designated seventeen-county local workforce development area under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). WIOA is designed to strengthen the workforce system through coordinated programs and services that:

- Increase employment, retention, and earnings of participants;
- Improve credential attainment and skill development;
- Reduce welfare dependency and promote economic self-sufficiency;
- Enhance the overall quality of the workforce; and
- Ensure that businesses can meet their current and emerging skill needs.

As fiscal agent, and in collaboration with the Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development District, the District is responsible for preparing, maintaining, and executing a comprehensive strategic workforce investment plan. This plan addresses the diverse needs of employers, job seekers, dislocated workers, youth, and underserved populations, aligning local workforce priorities with the State's WIOA Combined Plan and broader economic development efforts.

The work plan outlines key initiatives and investments to improve access to training, expand employer engagement, modernize service delivery, and support long-term workforce system sustainability across the SCMW region.

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 ongoing training and retraining to meet the needs of both 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 The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), enacted on July 22, 2014, reauthorized and restructured the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), introducing significant reforms to the planning and delivery of workforce development programs. While major provisions of WIOA took effect in Program Years 2015 and 2016, its implementation continues to evolve in response to new federal guidance and administrative priorities. During Program Year 2025 (July 2025 – June 2026), the District will continue to implement WIOA in coordination with the U.S. Department of Labor and the State WIOA oversight entity. This includes ongoing revisions to policies, program services, and service delivery strategies in alignment with the Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan. Emphasis will be placed on maintaining compliance with WIOA requirements while effectively managing changes and guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Labor and the current administration. Key efforts will include updating policies and procedures, refining service delivery models, and strengthening partnerships to meet the evolving workforce needs of businesses and job seekers. The WIOA-required workforce partners include the State Office of Workforce Development (Accelerate MS), the Mississippi Departments of Employment Security, Rehabilitation Services, and Human Services, as well as the state's community college system.

TASK 19-2	STRATEGIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING Accelerate MS has established a Workforce Innovation Group, a statewide cohort of workforce professionals charged with evaluating Mississippi's existing service delivery models and identifying opportunities to deliver more cost-effective and impactful outcomes. The top priority of this group is to maximize return on investment by streamlining administrative costs, optimizing program delivery, and focusing resources on direct service to job seekers and employers. Key Functions of the Workforce Innovation Group: • Evaluating service delivery models statewide to recommend improvements that enhance efficiency and outcomes. • Determining effective implementation of the goals outlined in both the Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan and local workforce development plans in a more targeted, cost-effective manner. • Leading development of a state legislative priority list for the 2026 legislative session, identifying key policy and funding needs that support workforce development objectives and resource alignment. The South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area, in partnership with local agencies, will continue updating the local area workforce plan to integrate insights and recommendations from the group. Local planning efforts will focus on aligning services with labor market demands, improving training access, and delivering measurable impact aligned with the state-level strategy.
TASK 19-3	PLANNING, RECRUITING, AND IMPLEMENTING PRIORITY OCCUPATION TRAINING For Program Year 2025, the Workforce Division will implement training aligned to the 2025–2026 Priority Occupations as identified by the State Workforce Investment Board, Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS), and the CMPDD Workforce Division team. These occupations reflect the most critical workforce needs across ecosystems within the South Central Mississippi Works workforce area and are based on input from existing, new, and expanding businesses and industries. A Priority Occupation Training Plan will be developed and executed in partnership with local training providers and employers aligned with these priority occupations. This collaboration will focus on identifying industry-specific skill gaps, setting targeted goals, and designing training strategies that produce a workforce equipped to meet employer demand. The Workforce Division will coordinate with core and strategic partners to recruit participants for high-demand training opportunities. Recruitment efforts will include both traditional and digital outreach and may incorporate stipends or support services to reduce barriers to participation. Implementation progress will be tracked using the MS Works data system, with a strong emphasis on data-driven decision-making. Feedback from participants and industry stakeholders will inform continuous improvement processes to ensure that training remains responsive, effective, and results oriented.

TASK 19-4	LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD/CHIEF-ELECTED OFFICIAL BOARD In compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), all local workforce development areas must be governed by both a Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and a Chief Elected Officials (CEO) Board. In the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) area, this CEO board functions as the Board of Commissioners, with one representative appointed from each of the 17 county Boards of Supervisors. The Board of Commissioners is responsible for appointing members to the LWDB, based on nominations submitted by local business, education, and community-based organizations in accordance with WIOA membership criteria. Together, the LWDB and the Board of Commissioners oversee workforce development strategies, set local policy direction, and ensure accountability for federal workforce funds. The District's Workforce Division provides professional staffing and administrative support to both boards, facilitating compliance with federal and state guidance, and supporting the execution of WIOA-funded programs. These boards also collaborate to review and approve key planning documents, including the Local Plan and Sector Strategy components, ensuring alignment with the Mississippi WIOA Combined Plan. Board structure, membership, and bylaws will continue to be reviewed and updated as required by WIOA regulations, and modified as necessary to reflect evolving local priorities, sector trends, and federal or state policy updates.
TASK 19-5	IMPLEMENTATION OF ADULT CAREER COACHES IN WIN JOB CENTERS To support workforce participation and advancement among unemployed and underemployed individuals, the South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area will implement a targeted Adult Career Coach initiative within its WIN Job Centers. Modeled after successful high school-based career services, this initiative adapts the coaching framework to address the unique needs of adult populations seeking economic mobility. Adult Career Coaches will be embedded in WIN Job Centers and will play a critical role in guiding individuals through the full workforce development pipeline. These coaches will: • Educate and advise clients about priority occupation training opportunities, including both WIOA-funded and state-funded programs. • Actively recruit unemployed and underemployed individuals to enroll in high-demand occupational training programs aligned with regional labor market needs. • Implement participant retention strategies, including consistent engagement, barrier identification, and proactive support to help clients remain in and complete their training programs. • Facilitate job placement for training completers, leveraging employer partnerships and labor market intelligence, while also connecting individuals to additional upskilling or credentialing opportunities as needed. By providing focused, one-on-one guidance and career pathway planning, Adult Career Coaches will help ensure that more individuals not only access training but also complete it successfully and transition into meaningful employment. This initiative aligns with WIOA's goals of improved employment outcomes, increased training participation, and a stronger connection between workforce services and in-demand occupations.

TASK 19-6	SERVICES TO ADULTS, DISLOCATED WORKERS AND YOUTH WIOA funding, authorized by the U.S. Department of Labor, supports services to Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth populations. In accordance with WIOA requirements, the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) area provides a range of career and training services designed to help participants achieve permanent, self-sufficient employment. The core training options include: 1. On-the-Job Training (OJT): Offers wage reimbursement to employers who hire and train individuals with limited skills in real-time work settings. 2. Individual Training Accounts (ITAs): Provide scholarships for tuition, books, fees, and, when applicable, tools and equipment for approved occupational training. 3. Internships: Provide paid work experience opportunities that allow participants to gain essential job skills and exposure to the workplace. New and Enhanced Training Opportunities: Beginning in Program Year 2025, SCMW will expand its training strategy by incorporating Customized Training and Supportive Services for WIOA participants enrolled in state-funded workforce training programs. These include: • Workforce Enhancement Training (WET) Fund Training**:** Delivered in partnership with employers and training providers, WET training is designed to enhance employee productivity. Success is evaluated based on: 1. A measurable increase in the employee's output that benefits the employer, and/or 2. A measurable increase in the employee's marketable skillset as recognized by the employer. • Mississippi Works Training**:** Focused on increasing the skills of trainees in identified priority occupations, this program supports targeted workforce development by preparing workers to meet industry demand. To support participant success in both WIOA and state-funded programs, SCMW has deployed a dedicated Career Coach who focuses on recruitment, retention, and job placement. This role ensures individuals are matched with appropriate training opportunities, receive ongoing guidance throughout their participation, and are connected to meaningful employment upon completion.
TASK 19-7	IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCURED SERVICE DELIVERY In alignment with WIOA procurement requirements and the District's strategic approach to workforce service delivery, the South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area will continue the implementation of procured service delivery models for both One-Stop Centers, Affiliate Centers**,** and Digital Access Centers. Following the competitive procurement process conducted last year, the District awarded contracts for the operation of One-Stop and Affiliate Centers as well as the establishment of Digital Access Centers aimed at expanding community-based access to workforce services. In Program Year 2025, the District will focus on collaborating with the selected providers to implement the Digital Access Center model, ensuring that services are effectively deployed in underserved and rural communities. These centers will provide access to job search tools, career coaching, training enrollment, and other WIOA-aligned services through remote and in-person support. Implementation efforts will include service integration, coordination with WIN Job Centers, staff training, performance monitoring, and alignment with regional workforce goals. The District will continue to manage and monitor all procured entities in accordance with federal regulations, state policy, and local procurement procedures. Updates to procurement policy and the issuance of future Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will be conducted as needed to support evolving service delivery strategies.

TASK 19-8	COORDINATION OF WORKFORCE DELIVERY IN ALIGNMENT WITH STATE INNOVATION INITIATIVES WIOA requires a coordinated service delivery system across core workforce programs, including Wagner-Peyser, Adult Education (AE)/High School Equivalency (HSE), Vocational Rehabilitation, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and WIOA Title I programs. Each local area must operate at least one Comprehensive One-Stop Center, with additional affiliate and access points to extend service reach. Currently, the South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area maintains six (6) WIN Job Centers strategically located across its seventeen-county region in Jackson, Pearl, Vicksburg, Brookhaven, McComb, and Natchez. These centers serve as core hubs for WIOA-funded programs and partner services. A virtual service delivery component is also being introduced to increase accessibility. To further enhance system alignment and access to training, the District is advancing the Sector Training Plus Comprehensive WIN Job Center model in partnership with Hinds Community College in Jackson and Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. These centers provide integrated service delivery, colocating or virtually connecting programs such as Rehabilitation Services, Human Services, and Employment Security alongside workforce training programs. In Program Year 2025, the District will continue to coordinate the current delivery system while also working closely with state leaders to implement a refined workforce delivery model being shaped by the Workforce Innovation Group and forthcoming state policy. This refined model will focus on increasing system agility, integration, and performance. During the most recent legislative session, the Mississippi State Legislature established a One Door Committee to evaluate the structure and effectiveness of the state's entire workforce system. The District will collaborate with this committee and state-level stakeholders to support the development and deployment of a stronger, more nimble workforce system that better connects Mississippians to education, training, and employment opportunities. The District will continue applying consistent policies and procedures to ensure seamless coordination among partners, shared data systems, and measurable outcomes that align with both federal mandates and evolving state goals.
TASK 19-9	CLOSEOUT OF ARPA SPECIAL POPULATION WRAP-AROUND SERVICES The Office of Workforce Development (Accelerate Mississippi) was awarded oversight of the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) workforce funding, designed to expand training and supportive services for Mississippians disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area implemented a series of workforce initiatives aimed at improving access and outcomes for special populations. This funding supported the launch of two priority occupation-based internship programs, providing eligible participants with paid, sector-aligned work experiences coordinated through a third-party employment service. The internships were designed to: 1. Enhance participants' foundational education and workforce readiness skills; 2. Expose youth and young adults to high-demand careers and workplace environments; 3. Encourage ongoing enrollment in career training or education pathways aligned with regional labor market needs. During Program Year 2025 - 2026, the District will complete the final implementation, documentation, and evaluation of the ARPA-funded Special Population Wrap-Around Services. This includes final participant services, data collection, performance reporting, and financial closeout activities in accordance with ARPA funding requirements and guidance issued by AccelerateMS. All deliverables and outcomes will be summarized to inform future workforce development efforts and support the sustainability of effective service models beyond ARPA funding..

TASK 19-10	PROGRAM MONITORING AND WORKFORCE RETURN ON INVESTMENT EVALUATION The District Workforce Division monitors all workforce development programs, activities, and services under the local WIOA plan to ensure compliance with fiscal, programmatic, and Equal Opportunity (EO) requirements. Monitoring also evaluates the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of service delivery across the workforce system. Beginning in Program Year 2025, the District will transition from an annual monitoring schedule to a quarterly monitoring model. This shift will enhance oversight, allow for earlier identification of compliance or performance issues, and promote continuous improvement across all service providers and program areas. Findings from quarterly reviews will inform technical assistance and, when necessary, corrective action plans. The District will continue to maintain a robust data collection and reporting system to track participant-level data and evaluate program performance. In partnership with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security and nSPARC, the District will support implementation of a Return-on-Investment (ROI) evaluation framework for training programs and training providers. This evaluation will measure participant outcomes and cost-effectiveness and will guide future program offerings and funding priorities across the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) area. The District Workforce Division remains committed to ensuring that all participants have access to the full range of services needed to prepare for, enter, and retain employment that leads to long-term economic self-sufficiency.
TASK 19-11	GOVERNOR’S DISCRETIONARY GRANT During Program Year 2025, the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Workforce Area will implement Governor’s Discretionary Grants awarded under all three WIOA funding streams—Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth (both In-School and Out-of-School). These grants are intended to expand access to stipend-based training and work-based learning opportunities in priority occupations as defined by Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS). The initiative supports hands-on, demand-driven experiences that connect participants to real-world job skills and accelerate their entry or reentry into the workforce. Training and work experience placements will be closely aligned with Mississippi’s workforce sector strategies to maximize employment outcomes and economic impact. The SCMW Workforce Division will manage the implementation, oversight, and closeout of all Governor’s Discretionary Grant activities during the 2025–2026 Program Year, ensuring compliance with programmatic and fiscal requirements. Outcome data and lessons learned will be used to inform future discretionary funding strategies and support long-term improvements in workforce delivery.

TASK 19-12	DISLOCATED WORKER SERVICES/LAYOFF AVERSION PROGRAM The South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Workforce Area is committed to proactively supporting workers and employers impacted by economic disruptions through a comprehensive Dislocated Worker Services and Layoff Aversion strategy. These services are designed to preserve jobs, support re-employment, and stabilize the local workforce. A key feature of this strategy is the implementation of the Reconnect Program, which serves as the primary dislocated worker service model for the region. This initiative offers short-term, stipend-based training to individuals who have been laid off, allowing them to quickly gain new skills aligned with high-demand, sector-based career pathways. To strengthen post-training outcomes, Reconnect participants will also have access to sector-focused Career Connection Events. These events will be held at strategic points during or immediately following training, with the goal of connecting completers directly to job opportunities aligned to the training they recently completed. In addition to supporting individual workers, the SCMW Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) will continue to provide layoff aversion services to help employers retain their workforce during times of potential disruption. These services may include: • Early identification of industries at risk of layoffs • Rapid response outreach to affected or at-risk employers • Business needs assessments and customized support strategies • Recommendations for services or training to stabilize employment The workforce area will also maintain an employer outreach strategy that incorporates both traditional and digital materials. Print and promotional collateral will be refreshed to reflect modern design and messaging, while digital outreach will utilize social media platforms to connect dislocated workers and employers to available training, services, and workforce resources. Together, these efforts support a responsive, skills-focused approach to layoff prevention, rapid reemployment, and long-term workforce sustainability.

TASK 19-13	CAREER COACHING INITIATIVE The Workforce Division will continue to manage the Career Coaching Program across the 17-county South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) area, maintaining a network of 48 Career Coaches serving 47 high schools. These Career Coaches assist students in exploring, preparing for, and connecting with careers in high-tech, high-skill, and high-wage occupations aligned with Mississippi's priority sectors. In Program Year 2025, the District will transition to Career Edge, a new data platform provided by Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS). Career Edge will allow for more effective tracking of student engagement and outcomes, while enhancing coordination across recruitment, retention, and placement efforts. To build on the success of the secondary model, postsecondary Career Coaches will continue serving students at partnering community colleges throughout the region. These coaches provide individualized guidance, helping students select in-demand career pathways, complete relevant training, and successfully transition into employment. In addition to the general Career Coaching model, SCMW will pilot a sector-specific Career Coach focused on the construction industry. This coach will work directly with high school and community college students to promote career opportunities in construction trades, connect them with industry-recognized training, and support job placement efforts in coordination with employers and training providers. Across all levels, Career Coaches will focus on three core objectives: 1. Recruiting students into priority occupation career pathways; 2. Retaining students through personalized support and engagement strategies; 3. Placing students into high-demand jobs or advanced training opportunities. The Career Coaching initiative remains a foundational component of SCMW's workforce pipeline strategy, ensuring that students are prepared to meet the evolving demands of Mississippi's labor market.

TASK 19-14	DIGITAL DELIVERY SYSTEM OF WIN JOB CENTER SEVICES The District Workforce Division will continue implementing the region's Digital Delivery System for WIN Job Center Services, with a focused effort during Program Year 2025 to launch and operationalize Digital Access Centers in Yazoo, Simpson, and Copiah counties. This targeted expansion is part of SCMW's broader strategy to improve equitable access to workforce services across all 17 counties. The digital delivery model is built upon two core goals: 1. Enhance Access to Quality Workforce Services**:** SCMW is committed to ensuring that individuals—regardless of geographic or socioeconomic barriers—can access high-quality career counseling, skills training, job placement assistance, and other workforce services. By establishing Digital Access Centers in underserved areas like Yazoo, Simpson, and Copiah, SCMW is actively expanding its service footprint and creating accessible community-based hubs for workforce development. 2. Optimize Resource Allocation for Cost Effectiveness**:** Through the use of technology and alternative service delivery methods, the District is reducing traditional infrastructure costs and shifting resources toward direct training and job placement. The digital model supports a sustainable system that prioritizes investment in participant-focused services while maintaining program compliance and operational efficiency. The Digital Access Centers will be staffed by WIOA Career Coaches who will help job seekers explore training opportunities, connect with employers, and identify career paths aligned with regional priority occupations. These centers will be integrated into the broader digital service network, which includes: • A user-friendly, secure online portal providing centralized access to program information, career pathways, eligibility tools, and support services; • Real-time scheduling and communication features allowing job seekers to meet virtually with Digital Career Coaches or Sector Strategy Career Coaches; • Seamless coordination with physical Sector Training Plus Comprehensive One-Stop Centers at Hinds Community College – Jackson and Rankin Campuses. This year's implementation will emphasize accessibility, responsiveness, and integration, ensuring that job seekers in Yazoo, Simpson, and Copiah counties can fully engage in the workforce system regardless of location.

Task 19-15	PRIORITY OCCUPATION OUTREACH AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN In Program Year 2025, the South Central Mississippi Works Workforce Area will launch a comprehensive outreach and awareness initiative to increase public understanding of career opportunities aligned with regional priority occupations. This task is designed to support informed career decision-making, drive interest in training programs, and connect more individuals, especially youth, unemployed, and underemployed adults to high-demand sectors. A central feature of this initiative will be the launch of a podcast series that highlights economic growth trends, emerging career paths, and workforce training opportunities across the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD). The podcast will feature six (6) episodes produced throughout the year, each focusing on: • Industry spotlights and sector growth in the region • Career pathways in high-skill, high-wage occupations • Insights from employers, educators, and workforce professionals • Testimonials from individuals who have successfully transitioned into careers through WIOA-funded and state-supported training programs The podcast will serve as a tool to reach a broader audience through accessible, engaging digital content. It will be promoted through WIN Job Centers, social media channels, community partners, and education institutions across the district. Additional outreach strategies will include: • Digital and print materials that explain career pathways and training options; • Targeted community engagement in underserved counties; • Partnerships with schools, community colleges, and faith- and community-based organizations to distribute outreach content. This task will support the District's broader effort to build awareness of workforce development resources, inspire participation in training aligned with labor market demand, and help Mississippians take meaningful steps toward self-sufficiency and career success.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Personnel	$1,101,716
Indirect	$377,101
Travel	$59,947
Meetings	$86,585
Dues/ Memberships/Subscriptions	$30,850
Audit	$9,000
Contractual Services	$2,187,796
Legal	$900
Space Lease/Rental	$1,300
Communications	$100
General Supplies	$127,114
Postage	$25
Services	$5,887,839
Un-programmed	$8,794,100
TOTAL	$18,664,373

SOURCES	
Federal/State	$18,664,373
TOTAL	$18,664,373

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 *Fiscal Year 2026-2029 Area Plan on Aging*, which outlines a range of services for older persons in the central Mississippi area.
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.
TASK 20-3	MANAGEMENT In conjunction with the Mississippi Access to Care (MAC) Centers, the District will continue using Moni Ami and 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.

TASK 20-4	PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM The District will utilize media to inform the public regarding aging matters, including the quarterly, in-house published Central Update, 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 about 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 monthly to older persons at all nutrition sites and senior centers on the importance of physical activity, nutrition, weight control, substance abuse, and other wellness activities.

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

EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Personnel	$1,656,019
Indirect	$510,221
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$60,006
Contractual Services	$719,099
General Supplies	$90,763
Services	$2,801,358
TOTAL	$5,837,466

SOURCES	
Federal/State	$4,998,984
Assessments-General	$0
Assessments-Services	$77,424
Program Income	$72,500
Local In-Kind	$438,466
Local Cash Contracts	$250,092
TOTAL	$5,837,466

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.
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.
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.
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.
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 our 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/support group, respite, homemaker, home-delivered 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 five (5) new ramps at homes for caregivers who take care of loved ones at home who need help with ambulatory care. Additionally, grab bars, smoke detectors, mobility aids, diapers, bluepads, catheters, and similar purchases will be made by the District in support of approximately fifty 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 for caregivers throughout the seven-county area.

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 2026.
TASK 21-7	HOME-DELIVERED MEALS A home-delivered meal is a nutritionally balanced meal which is delivered to the home of some persons who are unable to leave his/her home without assistance, purchase groceries, and/or are unable to cook for themselves. Each meal meets at least one-third of the RDA. We estimate 474,000 meals will be served, including State funded and Medicaid Waiver meals.
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.
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.
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.
TASK 21-11	EMPLOYMENT The District will manage the Title V, Senior Community Service Employment Program, which is designed to provide, foster, and promote useful part-time employment opportunities for low-income persons 55 years of age and older. There will be 19 slots programmed throughout the Hinds, Rankin, Newton, Lauderdale, and Adams County area. The goal of the project is to enhance the skills of the enrollees and to assist them in seeking unsubsidized employment.
TASK 21-12	DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION 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 health-maintenance 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 co-partnered 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.

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.
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. 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 expand. To sustain the program, the District's staff will begin collaborating with additional agencies. Plans are currently underway to establish a partnership with Catholic Charities, Incorporated, through the Kinship 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. Special attention will be focused on providing information and assistance to groups that serve the veterans' population. The District plans to host a charitable event to help raise funds for the home-delivered meals 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 supports 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 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.

TASK 21-17	CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CPM) Case Management is the term used to describe the many approaches needed to meet the service needs of individuals who are at risk for institutionalization. Case Management is a central issue in the provision of health and social services to aged and disabled individuals. It is the mechanism by which services are coordinated and monitored for these individuals in an effort to provide continuity of care and avoid costly duplication of services. The Area Agency on Aging will continue to provide trained case managers to provide a comprehensive assessment by which an individual's needs for services are determined, arrange for those services in an organized and coordinated way to meet goals and objectives in the attainment of those goals. The District will ensure that case management services provided through the Area Agency on Aging are effectively coordinated with federal and state programs to optimize resources, eliminate duplication, and enhance the quality and accessibility of services for older adults.
TASK 21-18	CHORE SERVICES Chore Services provide essential in-home support to eligible older adults who are unable to perform critical household tasks on their own and have no other means of assistance. Services may include yard work and minor home maintenance necessary to ensure a safe and sanitary living environment. For FY 2026, the Area Agency on Aging will prioritize high-risk clients, including those with limited family or community support. Services will continue to be delivered through contracted providers and monitored for quality and timeliness. The goal is to reduce environmental hazards, support aging in place, and promote overall safety and well-being among vulnerable seniors. Chore Services remain a critical component of the home and community-based services system, supporting older adults in maintaining independence and safety in their homes.

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, meaningful day activities, learn new skills, and build natural support.
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. One (1) District Ombudsman, three (3) local Ombudsmen, along with one (1) certified county Ombudsman, 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, and Role of the Ombudsman in Long-Term Care Facilities, Respecting Confidentiality in Long-Term Care Facilities, and How to Choose a Nursing Home.
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.

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.
TASK 22-5	STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM The District will continue to enhance the capacity and reach of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) by recruiting, training, and deploying knowledgeable volunteers to provide unbiased Medicare counseling and outreach to older adults. Insurance Counselors will expand the development of the targeted volunteer recruitment campaign using senior centers, faith-based organizations, and community partners. Schedule and conduct quarterly SHIP training sessions for new volunteers. Staff will train the volunteers with experienced counselors for shadowing and mentorship. Monitor volunteer performance and client satisfaction through surveys and reports. Recognize and retain volunteers through annual appreciation events and continuing education opportunities.
TASK 22-6	EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMMING District staff will continue administering 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 or more chronic diseases. Also, the District plans to continue teaching classes and disseminating fall prevention information on the Walk with Ease Program and Second Winds-Virtual Dementia Tour.

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, Transition Assistance, and two (2) additional services Environmental Safety Services (ESS) and Medication Management Services (MMS).

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 The Case Management team 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. The E & D Waiver utilizes the 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). This system focuses on the person's ability to function and their quality of life by assessing needs, strengths, and preferences. It also identifies persons who could benefit from further evaluation of specific problems, or persons at risk for decline. All Registered Nurses and Licensed Social Workers must be certified to conduct the InterRAI assessment tools within their first 90 days of employment. Certification consists of reading modules of how to conduct the assessment; listening to and analyzing video of a specific situation between a client, caregiver, and the professional; then passing with at least 80% accuracy on a battery of tests. A client's InterRAI assessment is conducted, at a minimum, on an annual basis. The Division of Medicaid approved Plan of Care (PSS) Plan of Services and Supports is generated by the client's Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Social Worker (LSW) Case Managers on the initial assessment home visit. It is monitored and evaluated at each monthly home visit or monthly telephone contact visit to assure that approved services are being provided and meeting the client's needs. Together the Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker conduct the initial assessment visit, the quarterly review home visit, and the yearly recertification assessment visit. All other monthly visits can be conducted by either the RN or the LSW. Through a contracted service provider, CMPDD also provides Home-Delivered Meals (HDM) to Waiver recipients who request the service to 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 five (5) or seven (7) pre-packaged, vacuum-sealed meals each week. 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 team 110 clients Madison County 2 teams 220 clients Warren County 1 team 110 clients Yazoo County 2 teams 220 clients

TASK 23-3	ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY SERVICES (ESS) MEDICATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES (MMS) These 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. <u>Only Medicaid enrolled Case Management providers</u> can assess the waiver participant's need for this service, coordinate, and receive reimbursement for this service. ESS shall not exceed $500.00 per recipient per waiver year (July 1 – June 30). ESS 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 by the recipients' Plan of Care. Once approved, the Case Manager selects a licensed contractor and begins the process of getting the specific ESS service performed by the contractor. 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 by 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.

ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE BUDGET

EXPENSES	**ANNUAL BUDGET**
Personnel	$4,019,183
Indirect	$900,867
Travel/Training/Reg Fees	$28,000
Insurance	$9,000
Computer	$2,500
Miscellaneous	$350
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$8,000
Utilities	$30,000
Contractual Services	$35,000
Building Maintenance and Operations/Janitorial	$20,000
Equipment Lease/Rental	$9,000
Depreciation	$21,000
Communications	$60,000
General Supplies	$15,000
Postage	$1,800
Services	$2,854,300
TOTAL	$8,014,000
SOURCES	
Program Income	$14,000
Federal/State	$8,000,000
TOTAL	$8,014,000

ALL PROJECTS BUDGET SUMMARY

EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET
Personnel	$8,587,751
Indirect	$2,408,010
Travel	$261,503
Meetings	$115,885
Furniture/Equipment	$75,000
Insurance	$9,000
Equipment Maintenance	$5,000
Miscellaneous	$55,700
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	$75,850
Audit	$9,000
Computer	$121,186
Utilities	$30,000
Contractual Services	$3,193,895
Depreciation	$122,000
Legal	$11,000
Building Maintenance and Operations/Janitorial	$20,000
Equipment Lease/Rental	$99,000
Space Lease/Rental	$1,300
Communications	$69,100
General Supplies	$253,877
Printing Supplies	$5,000
Postage	$3,325
Loans	$1,302,280
Services	$11,543,497
Un-programmed	$10,423,632
TOTAL	$38,803,791

SOURCES	
Federal/State	$34,882,758
Assessments-General	$232,176
Assessments-Services	$77,424
Local Cash-Contracts	$1,299,788
Program Equity	$1,071,440
Program Income	$296,556
Local In-kind	$438,466
Fees/Interest	$86,917
Match Carryover	$312,266
Lease/Rental	$106,000
TOTAL	$38,803,791

DISTRICT SUPPORT ALLOCATION
FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

COPIAH COUNTY	0.028827	$ 6,664
Crystal Springs	0.007873	1,820
Hazlehurst	0.002967	1,355
Wesson	0.002894	686
HINDS COUNTY	0.045152	10,438
Byram	0.020508	4,741
Clinton	0.045502	10,519
Edwards	0.001611	372
Jackson	0.248884	57,536
Raymond	0.003175	734
Terry	0.002111	488
Utica	0.001030	238
MADISON COUNTY	0.066802	15,443
Canton	0.017727	4,098
Flora	0.002669	617
Gluckstadt	0.005195	1,201
Madison	0.044931	10,387
Ridgeland	0.039412	9,111
RANKIN COUNTY	0.131571	30,416
Brandon	0.040705	9,410
Florence	0.007401	1,711
Flowood	0.016520	3,819
Pearl	0.043906	10,150
Pelahatchie	0.002059	476
Richland	0.011558	2,672
SIMPSON COUNTY	0.031095	7,188
Magee	0.006458	1,493
Mendenhall	0.003560	823
WARREN COUNTY	0.037487	8,666
Vicksburg	0.034934	8,076
YAZOO COUNTY	0.025803	5,965
Yazoo City	0.016706	3,862
TOTALS	**100.000%**	**$231,176**

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 2025-2026 is projected to be approximately $39 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 2026 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 (SMW) 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, 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.