

JULY 2017

Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

CMPDD Co-Hosts New Municipal Officials Orientation

The District and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML), co-hosted a newly elected official orientation meeting in CMPDD's Jackson office on Wednesday, July 5, 2017. The meeting was well attended by over 40 new officials and key staff members of MML and the District. While each organization provided an overview of their programs and services, CMPDD explained the multitude of information available on its website at www.cmpdd.org.

Mike Monk, CMPDD's CEO began the meeting with a welcome and an explanation of services available through the District. Other staff members discussed their particular areas of interest in the District. Chuck Carr, Director of Planning and Management, discussed community planning and zoning, GIS capabilities, impact studies, and transportation planning. Mitzi Stubbs, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, discussed grant opportunities for municipalities, and Larry Anderson, Director of Human Services, discussed loan programs, workforce development, aging services, and a Medicaid Waiver program that allows for in-home care.



The remaining portion of the meeting was used by MML to discuss their membership services, lobbying efforts, and issues of interest to municipalities. Orientation meetings help ensure that newly elected officials have the tools to better serve the communities that elected them. The District appreciated the opportunity to co-host the event with MML and speak to these officials early in their term.



Join Us on Facebook

We invite you to join us on Facebook and keep up to date on our weekly activities. You will find information about meetings, programs, and public events. You'll also see highlights of what our staff is doing to fulfill our mission of serving the ever changing needs of the governments of the seven counties we represent – Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo. Just type in Central Mississippi Planning and Development District and join us. Please “like” us and let us be part of your Facebook family.



www.facebook.com/CMPDD/

CMPDD's Senior Health Fair a Big Success

On Tuesday, May 16, 2017 more than 430 people attended CMPDD's/Area Agency on Aging's Seniors Grooving to a Healthy Lifestyle Health Fair in the Sparkman Auditorium of the Mississippi Agriculture Museum. Various speakers, exhibitors, and health providers were available to provide ample information and health screenings to participants. CMPDD's Director of Aging Programs, Chelsea Crittle, kicked off the event with welcoming remarks and introduced the speakers



Family physician Dr. Timothy Quinn discussed the importance of educating seniors on creating healthy life long habits. His presentation was followed by Dr. Jeffery S. Brown, with Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Associates. Dr. Brown spoke on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle because of the long term effects chronic diseases have on oral health. The final presenter was Attorney Richard Courtney, who discussed the legal rights of the elderly regarding such things as: wills, estate planning, and property. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and join a discussion following each presentation.

Throughout the event attendees enjoyed taking pictures in a photo booth, snacking on popcorn and fresh fruit, visiting with exhibitors, and participating in drawings for door prizes from exhibitors. In celebration of Older American's Month, Mr. Aaron Lee was presented a plaque as the Central District Distinguished Honoree for his outstanding service to the community and aging network in central Mississippi. Mr. Lee was selected from numerous nominations through a scoring process. CMPDD's Area Agency on Aging was very pleased to sponsor and host an event that focuses on the needs of seniors in Central Mississippi.



CMPDD Submits 2017 CDBG Public Facilities Applications

The CDBG Public Facility Program provides grant funds to local units of government for a variety of public improvement projects (e.g., water or sewer facilities, storm drainage, public buildings, street reconstruction, etc) that benefit low and moderate income families and areas. Special priority is given to water and sanitary sewer projects that eliminate existing health and safety hazards.

Over the past several months the District has been assisting local governments with the preparation of CDBG Public Facility Applications. The District submitted the following seven (7) applications to the Mississippi Development Authority for review:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Brandon	Unserved Sewer	\$ 374,000	\$ 374,000
Town of Bentonia	Sewer System Improvements	353,396	N/A
Town of Edwards	Unserved Sewer and Sewer Improvements	450,000	N/A
Town of Flora	Water System Improvements	319,752	N/A
Town of Puckett	Senior Citizen Center	418,000	N/A
Town of Utica	Water System Improvements	431,000	N/A
Village of Satartia	Water System Improvements	449,415	N/A

Planning Updates

Elected officials recognize the importance of planning in making effective decisions concerning the community's future. A comprehensive plan is a result of extensive study into existing development patterns, as well as population and the economy. A comprehensive plan should, however, be reviewed and updated periodically (every 5 to 10 years) in order for it to remain current and be effective.

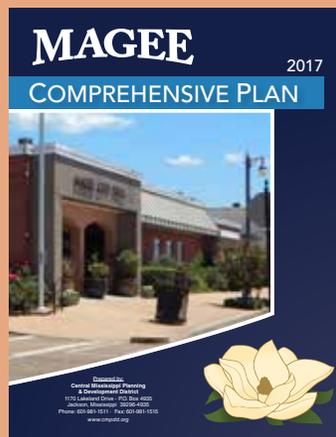
Town of Flora

The District has begun developing an update of the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The Plan update will include revisions to all four elements including the Goals and Objectives, Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, and Community Facilities Plan. The updated Plan will also be integrated into an online interactive system that is linked to the web-based GIS mapping application and viewer that is also being updated by the District. The Plan will then set the foundation and vision for updates to the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

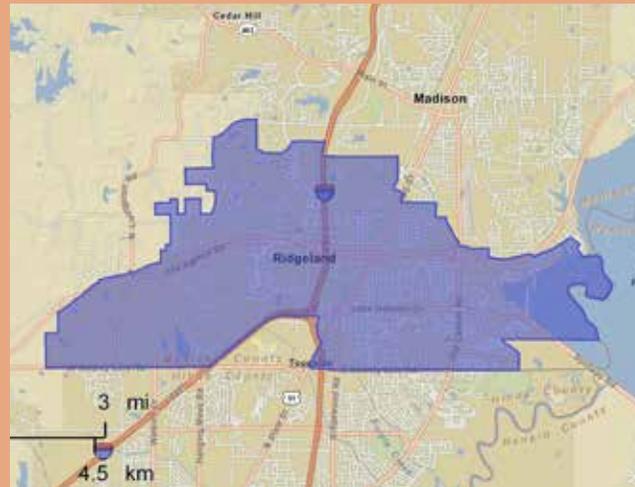
The Town's Zoning Ordinance, which was adopted in 2005 and amended in 2012, will undergo a thorough review and revision to ensure that it matches with the community's vision for growth today. Furthermore, as new trends and judicial rulings are released, a local zoning ordinance must be updated to ensure it adequately addresses the current concerns.

City of Magee

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Magee adopted a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance at their April 18th meeting. The new plan and ordinance was developed by CMPDD over the past year and incorporates new elements such as a chapter on Economic Development and web-based GIS mapping and also incorporates elements of the Simpson County Health Care Zone Master Plan. This is the third time that CMPDD has assisted the City with developing its Comprehensive Plan and maintaining its Zoning Ordinance since they were first implemented in 1998.



This new plan also incorporates a new online technology called Story Maps that is intended to better engage the public by incorporating interactive maps and pictures into the written plan. This allows not only makes the plan more visually appealing to the reader but also allows using the plan as an economic development tool to promote the City.



City of Ridgeland

In April 2017, the District completed a project for the City of Ridgeland which evaluated and estimated the amount of assessment revenue that would be created if the 220 Business Park area in Ridgeland were to establish a Business Improvement District. Data was gathered from multiple sources and the information compiled into the District's ArcMap GIS tool for visual analysis. The final report included a spreadsheet model that will allow the City of Ridgeland to key in various assessment amounts and see the total amount of revenue garnered by each assessment.

DeSoto County

District staff have completed a draft of the fifth of five articles in the update and reorganization of the DeSoto County Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance articles are broad headings under which the sections and sub-sections fall. The DeSoto County Zoning Ordinance will be organized under the following five articles:

- ARTICLE I: General Provision
- ARTICLE II: Definitions
- ARTICLE III: Special Development Standards
- ARTICLE IV: Zoning District Regulations
- ARTICLE V: Administration and Enforcement

The purpose of subdividing the ordinance into five broad articles is to enable the reader to more easily grasp the main ideas. Each section generally will have no more than five subsections, with a few exceptions. Also included is a detailed table of contents and an index to enable the reader to easily find ordinance provisions.

The text of the ordinance is currently under review by DeSoto County officials. When their review is complete, CMPDD will make any suggested changes and resubmit the ordinance for a final review before presenting it to the county's planning commission.

Transitioning MPO to Performance-based Planning and Programming

Beginning in 2012, Federal transportation funding legislation, *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)* and continued in 2015 with the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FACT) Act*, added new requirements of performance-based planning into the metropolitan planning process. MAP-21 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to incorporate clearly stated goals, objective and measures into their planning processes. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have been gradually issuing a set of rulemakings, initially proposed and subsequently final, for the implementation of this performance based planning and programming process initially outlined in MAP-21. The last of six (6) rulemakings was issued in May 2017. Each rulemaking lays out the goals of performance for a particular area of transportation, establishes the measures for evaluating performance, specifies the data to be used to calculate the measures, and then sets requirements for the setting of targets.

What is performance based planning and programming? Performance based planning and programming is a strategic approach that uses performance data to inform decision-making and outcomes. Performance-based planning ties the funding of projects and programs to improving measured performance and achieving targets set for future performance. Under this process states, MPOs, and providers of public transportation must link investment priorities to the achievement of performance target in the following areas:

- Improving safety;
- Maintaining infrastructure condition;
- Reducing traffic congestion;
- Improving efficiency of the system and freight movement;
- Protecting the environment; and
- Reducing delays in project delivery.

The MPO will have to establish its first set of performance targets for safety performance measures by February 27, 2018

in order to maintain compliance with Federal regulations. In addition, MPO documents updated after May 2018, such as the *Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*, *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* and *Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)* will have to address the targets established by the MPO and how activities carried out and funded by the MPO contributes to achieving those targets. The *Final Rule for Safety* establishes five performance measures and the MPO will have to establish a target for each measure using 5-year rolling average data for all public road in the MPO area for each of the following safety performance measures:

- Number of Fatalities
- Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Travel (VMT)
- Number of Serious Injuries
- Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT
- Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries



Over the next year, the MPO will shift some of its data gathering and analysis processes to respond to the *Final Rules* for performance-based planning and programming. CMPDD staff will work with the MPO to establish performance targets for each of the required measures and will set forth plans and procedures to assist the MPO in achieving the established targets.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Being Developed

CMPDD is drafting a new, five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for FY2018 - 2022, and input is being sought from community leaders. The District has emailed the CEDS survey to community leaders and elected officials across its seven counties and have requested that they take the time to complete and return it, as the responses will be compiled and used for the 2018 – 2022 CEDS that will be drafted later this year. Survey results are also used to

assist CMPDD in developing its annual Work Program. In addition to the survey, the District will hold brainstorming sessions in each of its counties to identify potential economic development related projects, strengths and weaknesses of the CMPDD region, and goals for the next five years. Participants in these sessions will include elected officials from the County, Mayors, and economic development officials. These meetings will begin in August and notification of local leaders

will begin late in July.

The CEDS, through input from member governments and local economic development officials, establishes CMPDD's goals, objectives, and key economic development projects to be implemented over a five-year period. Each year, CMPDD reviews its performance in achieving its goals and objectives, and updates the CEDS as necessary based on the changing needs of its participating governments.

Southcentral MS Works Funds Tuition For MI-BEST Participants

A number of community colleges in Mississippi have implemented MI-BEST programs, which are an accelerated approach to the instruction of skills training and workplace preparation. This program structure follows that of I-BEST, a model of education which challenges the conventional notion that basic skills instruction must be completed by students prior to starting college-level courses. Southcentral Mississippi Works Workforce Development Area, administered by CMPDD, is working closely with Hinds Community College, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and Southwest MS Community College, by utilizing funding provided by the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)*, to fund the tuition of some MI-BEST participants and to enhance the success of WIOA MI-BEST students.

MI-BEST's goal is to speed up the rate at which Adult Basic Education students advance to college-level occupational or career tech programs; complete credentials of value in the labor market; and move into high-demand jobs offering good wages and opportunities for career advancement. The community colleges assist students in identifying educational pathways that link to career pathways. MI-BEST provides integrated basic and occupational skills individuals need to succeed in the workforce. Typically, MI-BEST participants are individuals who do not currently possess a high-school diploma or GED, but who desire and need career tech training.

The MI-BEST program structure consists of multiple levels of education along a career pathway that allows students the opportunity to progress along their pathway into more college coursework, further certificates and/or degrees and employment. Individuals are assessed for basic skills proficiency or deficiency prior to enrollment. All individuals enrolled into WIOA funded MI-BEST courses obtain a GED or other acceptable credential prior to exit from the program. Many MI-BEST programs offer the opportunity for individuals to obtain multiple, stackable credentials. In addition, the WorkKeys test is administered to all individuals enrolled into WIOA funded MI-BEST courses and students taking the test must obtain a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) at no less than the Bronze level prior to exit from the program.



David Creel, district director of Manufacturing Training at Hinds Community College, speaks to the House Workforce Development Committee during this year's regular session on the MI-BEST program. Seated in the foreground is state Rep. Ashley Henley, R-Southaven. From center-right, Dr. Robin Parker, assistant dean of Career/Technical Education at the Raymond Campus; Napoleon Miller, a Hinds student who completed the MI-BEST program; and Beverly Trimble, MI-BEST coordinator at the Utica Campus.

Mr. Napoleon Miller shared his success story with the Committee. He was a product of the foster care system, a high-school and Job Corps dropout, who has turned his life around, earned his GED and a Career Certificate and is now on track to receive his AA degree from Hinds Community College.

With the recent completion of the workforce development area's *Sector Strategy Plan*, more emphasis will be placed on those curricula which result in employment in the targeted industry sectors of healthcare, manufacturing, and transportation/distribution/logistics. These industry occupations are considered high-demand and offer the greatest possibility of long-term employment paying a sustainable wage. The colleges continually work with area employers to provide them with skilled workers to meet business and industry needs.

CMPDD Hosts Regional Census LUCA Presentation

In May 2017, the District hosted a Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) promotional presentation by Census staff from North Carolina. The presentation provided valuable information to city and county leaders on how to participate in LUCA and why their input is important to their local area. The goal is to make sure every address is account-

ed for during the 2020 Census campaign and local leaders can play an important role in making sure address information is as comprehensive as possible. Joanna Pitsikoulis of the Census Bureau's Atlanta office spent the week traveling the state and presenting LUCA information to local leaders at the ten Planning and Development District offices across MS.



CMPDD Submits DRA SEDAP Applications

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) is a federal-state partnership created by Congress, which serves a 252 county/parish area in an eight-state region. In Mississippi, 45 counties (including all 7 CMPDD counties) 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. This year approximately \$1,635,177 will be available for the State of Mississippi. In Central Mississippi, the DRA State's Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) is only open to public and non-profit entities in the DRA-designated counties. Listed below are the two applications that CMPDD submitted:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>DRA Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Vicksburg	Parking Area for public/private Innovation Center supporting workforce development, business entrepreneurship, higher education, State technology transfer and tourism for new job creation.	\$547,867	\$5,134,621
Mississippi Primary Health Care Association	Via internship programs with Master of Social Work students in their final semesters, a workforce development/retention program to expand behavioral health and telehealth in underserved Delta regions.	\$877,645	\$215,400

To find out if your project is located within the DRA designated area or for more information about DRA, please visit their website www.dra.gov or contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver Program Highlights

CMPDD's Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver program provides Case Management and Home Delivered Meal services to Medicaid eligible elderly and/or disabled recipients who desire to remain in their home setting. The Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker team assess the needs of the recipients, and also coordinate and manage services for that individual on a monthly basis.

- As May 6-12, 2017 was National Nurses Week, CMPDD's 24 registered nurses received recognition and appreciation during their monthly staff meeting for their commitment and dedication in providing service to Elderly & Disabled Waiver beneficiaries.
- One role of the Medicaid Waiver Case Managers is to provide the clients they serve with information and referral for any needed service, regardless of payor source. On May 16, 23, and 24, 2107, all Case Managers attended a 2-hour training session sponsored by Mississippi's Salvation Army "Power to Care" Program. The goals were to provide information and access to their web-based applications for emergency assistance with electric bills for qualified beneficiaries.
- In coordination and cooperation with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMMS) and the Mississippi Division of Medicaid's Elderly & Disabled Waiver renewal effective July 1, 2017, on June 6-7, 2017 all Medicaid Waiver Case Managers attended informational and interactive workshops at the Madison County WIN Job Center focused on "Person-Centered Thinking Skills". This

training was taught by Courtney Williams, MSW, CMHT, Program Director/Trainer for the "Mississippi Person Centered Practices Initiative", University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work. The workshops provided information on different types of skills and core concepts that can be applied in developing plans of care, and can be used in daily life activities and relationships.

- As part of the Division of Medicaid's Balancing Incentive Project, on June 13 and June 27, the Case Management Director, Waiver Supervisor, and eighteen (18) Case Managers attended training sessions in preparation of the launching of the Electronic Visit Verification (MediKey). MediKey, also known as a One-Time Password (OTP) device, will be assigned and distributed to E&D beneficiaries by their Case Managers. They are to be utilized by personal care attendants (PCA) and in-home respite (IHR) providers as a clocking in/clocking out system in the client's home. MediKey is scheduled to launch September 1, 2017. PCA and IHR providers will also utilize a Waiver clients' accessible landline telephone as an electronic visit verification system and for those without a landline telephone will be given an OTP device to be kept in the home and used by direct care workers.

For more information on Elderly & Disabled Waiver services, please contact Teresa Shoto, RN, Case Management Director, at 601-855-5914 or tburrell@cmpdd.org.

CMDC BULLETIN

Ms. Wanda Cowart, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of one (1) new loan for \$1,804,950 of a \$4,512,375 project under the United States Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program. The proceeds of this loan will partially finance the construction of a new building for a dental practice in Gulfport, Mississippi, which will add two (2) new jobs to the eleven (11) existing jobs in the private sector.

The CMDC is a U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA's) approved Certified Development Company (CDC) and it works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing business loans to small businesses. These loans allow a small business to finance land, building, and equipment with a low down payment and long term financing at competitive interest rates. Fixed rate low interest financing for small businesses saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. Also, this type financing provides an alternative to variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not have a negative impact on the cash flow of those businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the SBA's 504 Loan Program. The maximum loan amount is 40% of the total project

cost up to a maximum loan amount of \$5,000,000 depending on the type of project. The maximum amount for eligible manufacturing projects is \$5,500,000.

Ms. Cowart announced that the current interest rates on business loans under the U. S. Small Business Administration's CMDC remain low. The interest rates are as follow:

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (May 2017)	4.51%
20 (May 2017)	4.67%

The interest rate on loans made under the Mississippi Minority Business Loan Program has increased from 3.25% to 3.50% per annum (Federal Reserve Discount Rate increased by 25 basis points). The maximum term is 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds.

Please visit the District's website (www.cmpdd.org) for a complete listing of other loan programs. Also, you are invited to contact Larry Anderson or Dwayne Perkins at 601-981-1625 for more information on the various loan programs available to small businesses.

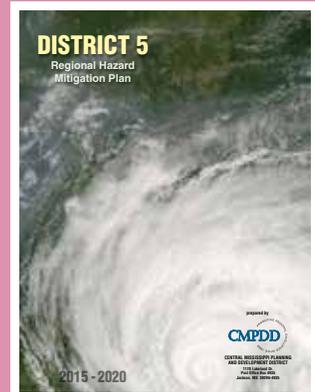
Hazard Mitigation Planning Update

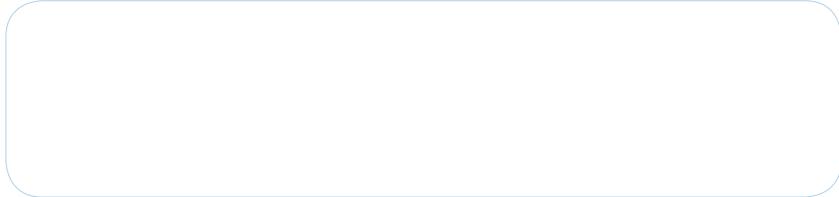
Over the last few months, CMPDD has prepared and submitted for approval Hazard Mitigation Plans for the Cities of Byram and Pearl, and Jackson State University. CMPDD continues to work with the Town of Terry to prepare and submit their updated Plan for approval. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires local jurisdictions to maintain an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to maintain grant eligibility for certain pre- and post-disaster grant programs available through the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition, Plans are required to be reviewed and updated every five-years to account for any changes that might have occurred that could increase or decrease a communities risk to a particular hazard. Plans are submitted by the District to MEMA and if approved at the state level, they are then forwarded to FEMA for final approval.

Predicting where the next disaster will occur, and how severe its impact will be on a community is difficult. Given the right conditions natural disasters, such as tornadoes and flash floods, can occur at anytime and anyplace. Their human and financial consequences can be significant. Mit-

igation planning is intended to assist communities in determining their risks to natural disasters and developing an action plan to address the known risks by lessening the impact of natural disasters when they do take place.

In the past year, revised Mitigation Plans were developed and approved for Bentonina, Brandon, Clinton, Eden, Flora, Florence, Flowood, Georgetown, Hazlehurst, Jackson, Richland, Ridgeland, Pelahatchie, Satartia, Vicksburg, Wesson, Yazoo City, Copiah County, Madison County, Rankin County, Warren County, and Yazoo County. For more information concerning the mitigation planning process underway or to find out how you can be involved in the process contact CMPDD Planning Staff, at 601-981-1511 or visit the District's mitigation website page <http://www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/>.





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

Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program or (SFMNP) is a cooperative effort of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and CMPDD's Area Agency on Aging. The program's goal is to improve the health of seniors by providing access to fresh fruits and vegetables. The program is also designed to increase domestic consumption of agricultural commodities, and specifically to increase the use and awareness of local farmers' markets.

Seniors (60 years of age or older) with certain income qualifications are eligible to receive an annual benefit of \$25.00 (five - \$5.00 vouchers) to shop for fruits and vegetables at an authorized local farmer's market. Program participants are able to redeem the vouchers at authorized local farmers markets through October 2017.

A cooperative effort between Central MS Planning and Development Dis-

trict and the City of Jackson's AmeriCorp program, allows several hundred vouchers to be distributed each year at the Mississippi Farmers Market in Jackson. AmeriCorp volunteers are important partners as they assist seniors with the food voucher application process, help carry purchases to vehicles, and provide a smiling face.

If you would like more information about SFMNP, please contact Chelsea Crittle or Brenda Knott at 601-981-1516.



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