

Comprehensive Economic

Development Strategy 2022-2026



December 2023



Summary Background

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) is a sub-state regional planning organization, located in the central part of the Mississippi, serving the local governments of a seven-county area including Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren and Yazoo Counties and 35 municipalities within these seven counties. The CMPDD was created in 1968 through the voluntary actions of local government and community leadership as a private, non-profit corporation to address common issues ranging from local planning, economic development, governmental management, and human resource coordination. The land area served encompasses 5,232 square miles, which contains a population of 619,700 persons and includes the state's largest Metropolitan Statistical Area.



The CMPDD assists local governments with economic development financing options through state and federal sources, local land use planning and zoning, transportation, workforce, and elderly programs. CMPDD serves the area as the Economic Development District, Regional Clearinghouse Coordinator, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Area Agency on Aging, Southcentral Mississippi Works, and U.S. Census Data Affiliate.

This Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is the result of a local planning process designed to guide the economic growth of the area. The CEDS was developed using a grass-roots approach and studies the economy of the area and provides a glimpse of the area as a whole. The CEDS includes goals and objectives to assist local governments to create more jobs, fostering a stable and diversified economy and improving living conditions. The CEDS lists specific projects that will enhance the region's competitiveness and details an action plan to assist with the successful implementation. The CEDS also includes an evaluation section which will help in assessing the plan and provide future updates.

Upon completion of the CEDS, copies are made available to State and Federal agencies to coordinate and integrate economic priorities. The CEDS is also available for review on the CMPDD website.

The CEDS is a requirement of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to maintain funding eligibility for the region. Before EDA will consider funding, the project must be addressed in the regional economic development plan, which is the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Furthermore, EDA requires the CEDS to be updated annually with a new CEDS being written at least every five years.

Community and Private Sector Participation

CMPDD works closely with our member governments as well as state and federal agencies. CMPDD also works with economic development professionals from the member government economic development offices as well as private industries, independent agencies, committees, boards and special service organizations.

With these partners, the CMPDD works to address a multitude of issues on a local, regional, state, and often national level. Issues addressed are not limited to what most label as economic development but include issues relating to local planning, serving the elderly population of our area, and implementing the Workforce Investment Act to name a few. Often these organizations tend to have the same goals and visions regarding economic development.



Specifically, during the development of the CEDS, CMPDD solicited the participation of these partners. Partners were invited to attend brainstorming meetings in each county. At these sessions, participants analyzed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) in their communities and the CMPDD region. A discussion of strategic projects followed the SWOT process. The results of these meetings are the foundation of this CEDS. Further, all members of the CEDS committee were asked to respond to a survey regarding needs, specific projects, and priority projects for their community and the region.

CMPDD also published the CEDS on its website for public comment before adopting the strategy. Notice of the comment period was published through mailings to the CMPDD Board of Directors and Steering Committee.

Regional Analysis

POPULATION GROWTH

Total percentage population growth rates from 2010 to 2020 in CMPDD were ahead of the state, but both are lagging behind the United States. Regarding projected population growth, the CMPDD region is projected to grow by .6% by 2025, a higher growth than is projected in the state's projection of .4%, but not as fast as the nation's projected rate of 1.7%.

	CMPDD	Mississippi	USA
2020 Population*	619,700	2,961,279	331,449,281
Growth % Since 2010*	.61%	-0.2%	7.4%
Labor Force**	282,440	1,272,200	165,503,120
Unemployment Rate*	7.8%	5.5%	4.2%
Per Capita Income**	\$27,238	\$25,444	\$34,103
Median Household	\$50,975	\$46,511	\$64,994
Income*			
Poverty Rate**	20.3%	19.6%	11.4%
H.S. Diploma or More**	84.9%	84.5%	88.0%
Bachelor's Degree or	24.7%	22.8%	32.1%
More**			
*LIS Census Bureau 2020 Census			

^{*}US Census Bureau, 2020 Census

UNEMPLOYMENT

The labor force for the District as of July 2022 is estimated to be 260,000 with a 4.4% unemployment rate, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is much lower than the highest unemployment rate seen in April 2020 when the unemployment rate reached 13.9% during the worldwide pandemic.

Based on this information, the region's unemployment rate is in line with the state's unemployment rate but higher than the nation's unemployment rate. While the unemployment rate in the state has rebounded from its high during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is still higher than the nation's current unemployment rate. Therefore, it is important for this region to find ways to lower the unemployment rate even further to be more in line with the nation. Again, more job opportunities are needed for the region's workforce and it is important that those who are unemployed have the knowledge of potential job opportunities as well as the skills to perform these jobs.

POVERTY

Poverty is a good indicator of the health of an economy. CMPDD's poverty rate is lower than the state, which is advantageous. However, compared to the nation, the CMPDD region continues to be burdened with a significant poverty rate. Further, the median household income in the District was \$50,975, which remains higher than the overall state level of \$46,511. However, both indicators continue to remain lower than the nation.

^{**} US Census Bureau, 2016 – 2020 American Community Survey

The reduction in the poverty rate and increase in median household income are vital to the economic future of the area. Therefore, the sheer number of persons and families who are below the poverty level requires that every effort be made to increase job opportunities, provide workforce training and tie potential workers to potential jobs.

PER CAPITA INCOME

Per capita income is a very good measure of how a region is performing in comparison to the state and nation. In the CMPDD region, the per capita income (PCI) has continued to increase over the recent past, as has the PCI of the state and the nation. CMPDD's PCI is more than \$1,500 higher than that of the state, which is a continuation of previous indicators suggesting that the economy of the CMPDD region is slightly stronger than the state. However, the CMPDD's PCI is still \$6,865 behind the United States' which indicates the need for improvement in this regard.

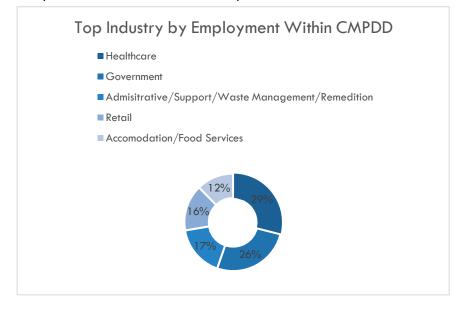
While the CMPDD region is showing improvements in its per capita income, it is lagging well behind the United States PCI. The primary means to substantially increase the region's PCI is to provide higher paying job opportunities to the workers of the area. This can be done through additional industrial recruitment, better education of the workforce, increasing the quality of life in the region to induce potential employers to move into the area as well as to expand existing businesses and industries.

INDUSTRY

CMPDD has two main economic industries making up over 50% of total employment. The CMPDD region is a center for medical services in the State of Mississippi and continues to be a top employer with in the CMPDD with new developments slated to increase hospitals and medical facilities within

the next 5 years. There are four major regional hospitals located in Jackson and each county has a local hospital. Jackson is also the home of Mississippi's only Children's Hospital.

The second major industry with in the CMPDD region is the government. With the state capital of Mississippi being located within the



District, this accounts for a high number of employees. The government industry represents 26% of all employment.



Analysis of Economic Development Problems and Opportunities

Throughout 2022, members of the CEDS Steering Committee, along with representatives of both the public and private sectors, participated in an analysis of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) of the CMPDD region. A SWOT analysis offers a more indepth view of the economic development problems and opportunities that may not be gathered from basic data. By soliciting the input of community representatives in the SWOT process, a more realistic view of the economic development situation is achieved.

The detailed comprehensive SWOT analysis became the foundation for the CMPDD CEDS. It identifies the barriers and issues facing the region that can be mitigated using the identified strengths and opportunities, all of which influence the goals and objectives of the CEDS.

Strengths

Transportation

The transportation network in the region is excellent. The CMPDD region has two interstate highway systems which intersect in the center of the CMPDD region in Jackson; Interstate 20, which travels east/west, and Interstate 55, which travels north/south. These two interstate

systems are connected within Jackson by Interstate 220. Interstate 55 provides quick access to Memphis and New Orleans, both of which are approximately 200 miles away. Interstate 20 connects Jackson to Dallas via Shreveport and to Atlanta via Birmingham. In addition to the Federal Interstate system, there are several Federal Highways that intersect the metro area, including: US Highways 49, 51, and 80. State Highways and the scenic Natchez Trace Parkway connect these major highways and interstates and provide more access to and from other points.

The Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport provides domestic passenger service as well as international freight service for the CMPDD area. The airport is a United States Customs Port of Entry and has been designated a foreign trade zone. It is served by two parallel 8,500-foot runways and an all-weather Category III precision approach landing system and is attended 24 hours a day. Eight airlines provide 40 non-stop flights per day to 10 cities and is home to two air cargo centers. The area also has seven non-commercial airports, which are located in Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo Counties.

The region is also bordered on the west by the Mississippi River and the Yazoo River with two port facilities. The largest port is located at the Port of Vicksburg on the Mississippi River and is a United States Customs port of entry and a designated foreign-trade zone. The mean depth of the channel at the Port of Vicksburg is 12 feet and can accommodate tow boats, small oceangoing vessels, and river barges. The second port is located at the Yazoo County Port on the Yazoo River. The mean depth of this channel is 9 feet and can accommodate standard river barges. The Yazoo River connects south with the Mississippi River.

The main north-south, as well as east-west lines of the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad, provides access to all parts of the CMPDD area. The Illinois Central Gulf Railroad is serviced by two carriers: the Canadian National Railway and the Kansas City Southern Railway Company. The Canadian National Railway has a major terminal switching yard and headquarters for the Gulf Division located in Jackson. This network of rail lines connects Jackson to Memphis, New Orleans, and Mobile. Jackson is in the center of Kansas City Southern's Meridian Speedway line from Meridian to Shreveport. It is also home to one of KCS' primary rail yards and an 85-acre intermodal ramp.

Available Land for Development

Each county within the CMPDD region has significant land available for industrial, commercial, and residential uses in urban, suburban, and rural settings. The development pattern of the CMPDD area is like many other regions in that the region has developed outward from the City of Jackson, which is in the geographic center of the region. Within approximately 10 miles of the city center, the development pattern is suburban in nature, consisting of residential and commercial properties. The area becomes mostly rural beyond approximately 20 miles from

the city center, with more populated pockets within the municipalities. Due to this pattern of development, there are significant pockets of undeveloped land that can be utilized in the future.

Further, each county in the CMPDD region has industrial property available for development. Many of these sites are in existing industrial parks and are served by adequate infrastructure. While there is also available property designated for industrial uses areas outside of the industrial parks, opportunities for commercial and residential development are also abundant within the CMPDD region.

Healthcare Cluster

The CMPDD region is a center for medical services in the State of Mississippi. There are four major regional hospitals located in Jackson, and each county has a smaller hospital. Jackson is also the home of Mississippi's only Children's Hospital. Within the Jackson MSA, which includes Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, and Simpson Counties, the healthcare cluster has 10,487

employees.

This is a growing cluster, not only in the region, but in the state and the United States. Further, the healthcare cluster provides jobs for all skill levels, reaching from



administrative assistants to physicians.

Higher Education Resources

Our region is home to six accredited institutions of higher learning as well as three community colleges. This includes four private, non-profit colleges, including Belhaven University, Millsaps College, Mississippi College, and Tougaloo College, and two public, state-supported universities, the University of MS Medical Center and Jackson State University. The Hinds Community College and Copiah-Lincoln Community College are headquartered within the area, while Holmes Community College has satellite campuses in the region.

Quality of Life, Recreational Assets

The region served by CMPDD is home to several recreational opportunities that influence the

quality of life for its residents. The Ross Barnett Reservoir is a 33,000-acre lake created in the late 1960's by damming the Pearl River on the borders of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties in the CMPDD region. The Reservoir offers five campgrounds, 16 parks, and 22 boat launches, all of which are open to the public. The CMPDD region is also home to over 33 miles of dedicated bike and walking trails with new trail construction underway. Additionally, the Natchez Trace Parkway, a 444-mile National Parkway,



travels through CMPDD and is a popular bicycle route. The combination of the bike trails and the Reservoir has attracted several triathlon events, which has a significant impact on the local economy.

Weaknesses

Infrastructure

While the CMPDD region is served by a vast infrastructure system, there are significant deficiencies that, if not addressed, will limit future development. It should be noted that a significant portion of the systems is more than adequate to support development. Specifically, the water and sanitary sewer system are in the region are weaknesses to CMPDD due to their age and condition. In the rural areas of CMPDD, there are areas that are unserved by any such systems. Many of the systems were constructed over 50 years ago, and due to lack of funding, have not been updated properly or their capacity has been reached. Systems that fall out of compliance with Federal and State regulations are faced with significant fines and could be forced to stall development. Without adequate water and sanitary sewer infrastructure, new development and the attraction of private investment are hampered.

<u>Local Transportation Network</u>

CMPDD is well served by interstate highways and regional, principal arterials. However, there is a need for additional local, principal arterials. Specifically, the 2035 Jackson Urbanized Transportation Plan determined that several of the area's principal arterials are at or near capacity and require expansion. Further, the need for additional arterials and local roads was identified to address the "gaps" in the north/south, east/west roadway system.



Public School Systems

Each County has at least one public school district providing K-12 education with some municipalities having separate school districts. The systems are very diverse in terms of size, financial standing, and performance. Of the 14 systems in the CMPDD region, 11 of the systems are accredited based on the State's accreditation status, while two have "advised" status and one is "probation." It must also be noted that within each system, there are high performing and failing schools. The inconsistency of the quality influences the quality of life for many of the counties and communities within the CMPDD region.

Diversity of Housing Stock



noticeable lack of housing for moderate income families.

Several counties within the CMPDD noted having a shortage of moderate-income housing. A community must contain an adequate supply of quality housing for a variety of income levels to support economic development. Some communities noted an adequate supply of housing that is affordable for low income and for higher income levels, but a

Opportunities

Tourism Assets

Tourism is a far-reaching industry as it provides jobs at tourist attractions and generates

revenues through admission fees and on-site sales. It also generates expenditures in the service sector through dining and overnight accommodations. The CMPDD region is home to numerous tourism assets including historic sites, museums, and natural resources. Tourism, as an industry, is built on the attraction of visitors to a region through the development and marketing of sites of interest. In the case of the CMPDD region, many of



the attractions are "natural" to the area or have been previously developed. The Mississippi River, the Ross Barnett Reservoir, the State Capital, and the Vicksburg National Military Park; all are attractions based on their inherent nature and location in the region. There are also numerous museums, historic homes, and other attractions located in the CMPDD region. However, there remain opportunities to build upon the existing resources and develop even more attractions.

Relative Low Cost of Land and Buildings

The participants in the CMPDD SWOT indicated that the cost of land and building space is lower than the national average. While many factors influence the cost of land and buildings, the cost per acre in the CMPDD region is less than the cost in larger metropolitan areas due to the amount of available property. Based on reports, the average rent per square foot in the region tends to be less than the national average. Office space rent is nearly \$6.00 less in the CMPDD area than the national average. The rent for industrial space in the CMPDD area is approximately 50 percent less than the national average. The relatively low cost of land and buildings in the CMPDD area is an advantage for the region when working to attract businesses and industries from higher rent areas of the nation.

Threats

Perception of Mississippi

The CMPDD region is hampered by the perception of Mississippi lagging behind many other states. It is common to hear stereotypes of Mississippi as undeveloped, without modern

utilities, and uneducated. While the negative perception may be a result of low statewide ratings in education and health status, a negative image of the state significantly impacts the ability to attract industries and young professionals to Mississippi and the CMPDD region.

Brain Drain

During the SWOT Analysis, it was noted that the CMPDD is experiencing a "brain drain" in which young professionals are leaving and not returning to Central Mississippi. In 2020, the Mississippi State Auditor reports that only 50% of the graduates from Mississippi's public universities chose to work in the state three years after graduation and trends show that substantially less will choose to work in the state by 2027.

National Economy

The CMPDD region is not insulated from the fluctuations in the national economy as evidenced by increases in unemployment rates during the recent pandemic. While the CMPDD's unemployment rate did not reach the extremes that some regions experienced, the national economy has impacted and will continue to impact the business climate within CMPDD.

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4
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-2
Q1
Q2
Q3
Q4
Q1
Q2
2021
2022

Real GDP: Percent change from preceding quarter

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Seasonally adjusted at annual rates

CEDS Goals and Objectives

As previously suggested, the CEDS Goals and Objectives are formulated based on the analysis of the problems and opportunities. These goals and objectives are necessary to overcome the barriers and exploit the strengths of the region. The goals are more general, or overarching, while the objectives are more specific and clearly measurable.

Upon review of the findings of the SWOT, two main goals, economic development and community development, were identified. These goals were clearly supported by objectives that collectively would address the barriers and issues of the CMPDD region.

Goal I

Objective A

Identify, secure, and develop new sites to support industrial development.

Develop and/or enforce planning efforts in communities to promote long-term growth.

Economic Development:

Encourage and facilitate efforts that lead to job creation, private investment, and business expansion and retention, which strengthen the regional economy.

Objective B

Expand public infrastructure to support existing and new industries.

Support the expansion of Job Skills Training programs to address workforce needs.

Objective C:

Encourage the retention of existing businesses and attraction of new businesses

Goal II

Objective F:

Encourage the development of a more diversified housing stock, especially to address the need for moderate income housing.

Objective F

Expand tourism through marketing of museums, convention centers, and other points of interest.

Objective A

Support revitalization and creation of town centers to include commercial and residential uses.

Community Development:

Encourage and facilitate efforts that enhance the quality of life, future growth, and long-term prosperity of our communities.

Objective D

Develop communitites to retain and/or attract residents, epsecially younger residents.

Objective B:

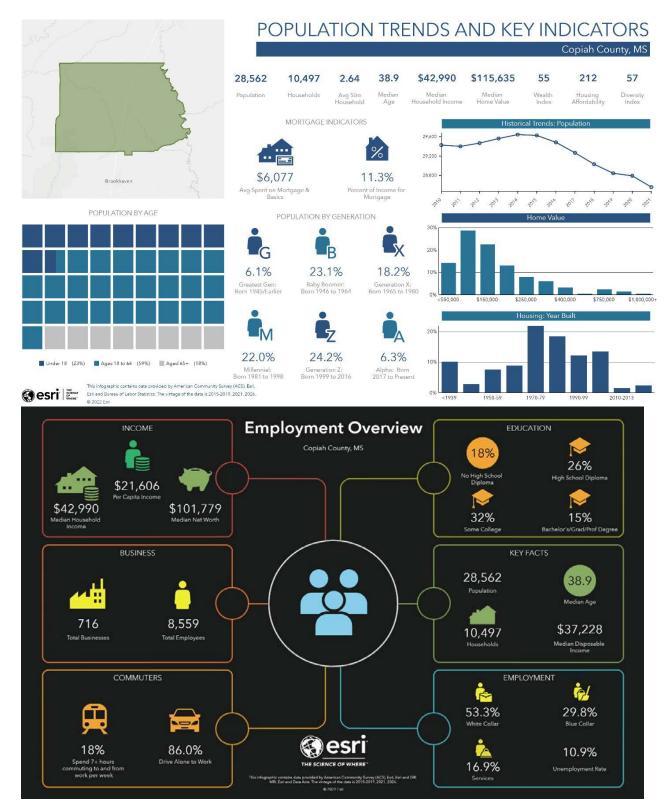
Provide services benifitting the elderly.

Objective (

Support the creation of a regional multiuse trail system and community parks.

County Snapshot and Strategic Projects

Copiah County



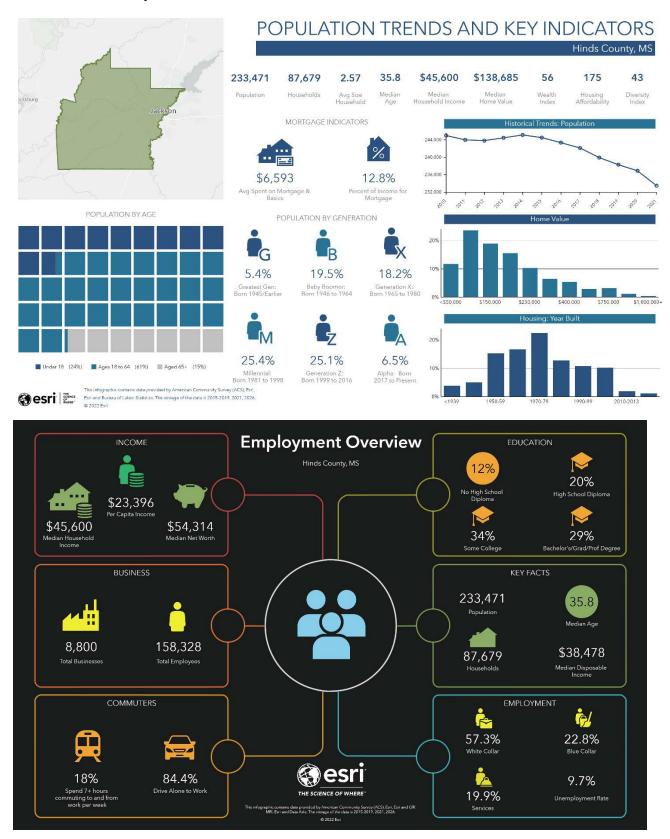
Copiah County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal:	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
	Objective			
Secure Industrial Sites: Secure a	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
long-term option on industrial sites	Objective A	Economic		
for future development.		Development		
		District		
Secure an Additional Industrial	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Building: Secure an additional	Objective A	Economic		
industrial building to supplement		Development		
existing buildings.		District, Copiah		
		County		
Attract Businesses to Existing	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Industrial Parks: Encourage	Objective C	Economic		
businesses, new and existing, to		Development		
locate in the County's existing		District		
industrial parks.				
Support Workforce Development	Goal I:	Local School	TBD	TBD
Program: Encourage and support	Objective D	Districts,		
workforce development programs		Municipalities,		
that focus on trade and vocational		Copiah County		
skills.				
Encourage DSL Expansion: Work	Goal I:	Copiah County,	TBD	TBD
with telecommunication providers	Objective B;	Various		
to expand DSL service within the	Goal II:	Municipalities		
County.	Objective C			
Continuation of Infrastructure	Goal I:	Various	TBD	TBD
Improvements to fund and	Objective B;	Municipalities,		
complete water and wastewater	Goal II:	Copiah County,		
improvements to support industrial,	Objective II	Water		
commercial, and residential		Associations		
development.				
Support Construction of Sports	Goal II:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Complex: Support the construction	Objective C			
of a privately-owned sports				
complex, including a hotel and				
restaurants.				

Expand Tourism Opportunities: Dojective A Expand tourism opportunities: Dojective A Expand tourism opportunities: Expand tourism opportunities
parks including, but not limited to the Blues Museum, Chautauqua Park, and the Visitor's Center. Revitalize Downtown: Support the commercial and housing redevelopment and revitalization of downtown areas Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highway, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.) Public Improvements/Utilities to Support Sites & Buildings (access roads, water & sewer connections, rail spurs, etc.) Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.) Comprehensive Long Term and Strategic (Near Term) Planning, Regional or Metropolitan Economic Development (Analysis and
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Participate in HOME Consortium: Goal II: Copiah County, TBD TBD
Encourage and support the Objective F Municipalities
development of quality housing for
all income levels.
Encourage Expansion of Goal II: Copiah County, TBD TBD
Telecommunications: Encourage Objective C Various
private providers to continue the Municipalities
expansion of broadband services to
rural areas.

Support Economic Development	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Planning: Support the analysis and	Objective E			
planning of regional and				
metropolitan economic				
development to support economic				
growth.				
Provide Information on Information	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Management: Support the provision	Objective D			
of training in the field of information				
management/ computers for county				
employees.				
Marketing/Utilization of Existing	Goal I:	Copiah County	TBD	TBD
Sites and Buildings	Objective C			
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and	Goal II:	Copiah County,	TBD	TBD
programs (libraries, community	Objective D	Municipalities		
centers, museums/arts centers,				
parks, etc.)				
Development of incubator in	Goal II:	Crystal Springs	TBD	TBD
Downtown	Objective D			

Hinds County



Hinds County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Expand Infrastructure to Existing	Goal I: Objective	Hinds County	TBD	TBD
Industrial Parks: Support the	В	Economic		
expansion of infrastructure to all		Development		
existing industrial parks.		Authority, Hinds		
		County, Various		
		Municipalities		
Attract Businesses to Existing	Goal I: Objective	Hinds County	TBD	TBD
Industrial Parks: Encourage	С	Economic		
businesses, new and existing, to		Development		
locate in the County's existing		Authority, Hinds		
industrial parks.		County, Various		
		Municipalities		
New Industrial Sites/Parks, New	Goal I:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Industrial Buildings	Objective B	Various		
_		Municipalities		
Public Improvements/Utilities to	Goal I:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Support Sites &	Objective B	Various		
Buildings (access roads, water &		Municipalities		
sewer connections,				
rail spurs, etc.)				
Marketing/Utilization of Existing	Goal I:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Sites and Buildings	Objective	Various		
		Municipalities		
		·		
Industrial Financing Programs	Goal I:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
(loans, grants bonds,	Objective A	Various		
etc.)		Municipalities		
,				
Job Skills Training (O.J.T. or	Goal 1:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
classroom)	Objective D	Various		
,		Municipalities		
Downtown/Commercial	Goal II:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Redevelopment,	Objective A	Various		
Seed, Venture and Expansion	, -	Municipalities		
Capital or Loans,				

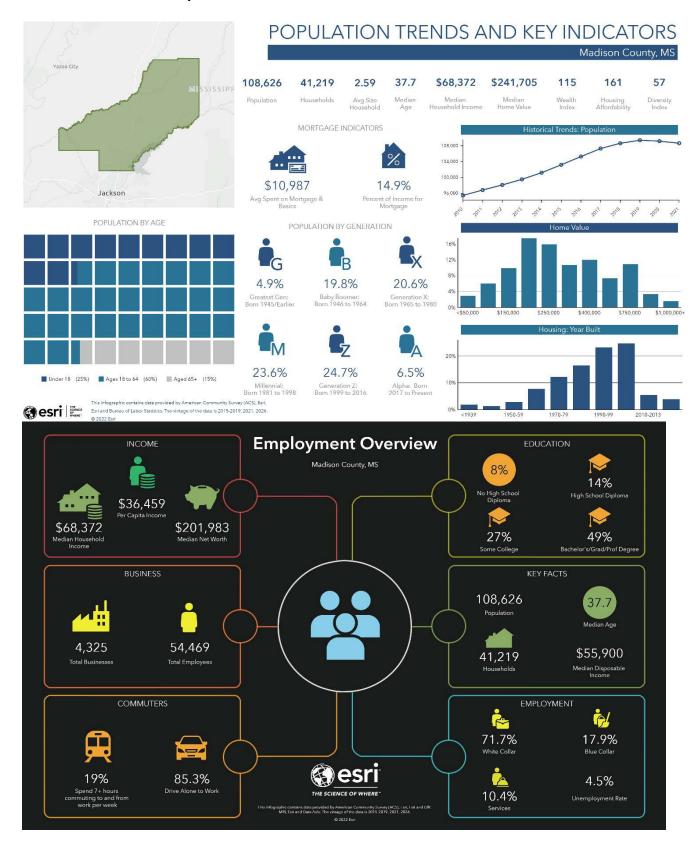
Market and Business Planning Information Assistance				
information / sosistance				
Business Incubators/Technology Transfer, Tourism Development and Expansion, Exporting/International Trade Assistance	Goal II: Objective E	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.)	Goal II: Objective C, E	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highway, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective D	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Environmental Protection (solid waste management, air and water quality, conservation of natural resources, etc.)	Goal 1: Objective B	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Affordable/Available Housing	Goal II: Objective F	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Comprehensive Long Term and Strategic (Near Term) Planning	Goal I: Objective E	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Regional or Metropolitan Economic Development (Analysis and Planning)	Goal I: Objective E	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Support Shared Services for Healthcare Cluster: Encourage and support the development of services and suppliers, such as laundry services and equipment	Goal I: Objective C	City of Jackson, Hinds County, Hinds County Economic Development	TBD	TBD

suppliers that may be utilized by the healthcare cluster.		District, Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership		
Revitalize Downtown: Support the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown areas, especially the continuation of the revitalization of downtown Jackson.	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Improve Quality and Capacity of Roads: Fund road improvement projects that protect the quality and enhance the capacity of the existing roads.	Goal I: Objective B	Hinds County, Various Municipalities, Various Water Authorities	TBD	TBD
Construct Multi-Use Trail System: Participate in the construction of a regional multi-use trail system.	Goal II: Objective C	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Explore Hazard Mitigation Including Alternative Flood Control Methods and Disaster Response Options: Continue exploration and support of flood control methods along the Pearl River that may create new development and tourism opportunities. Also, explore options for the construction of a new Emergency Operations Center to respond to disasters.	Goal I: Objective E;	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Develop Downtown Housing: Encourage the private development of housing through the utilization of tax credits in the downtown/town center areas.	Goal II: Objective F	Hinds County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Expand Public Transit System: Expand the public transit system, as funding will allow, serving a larger area and encouraging increased ridership.	Goal II: Objective D	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD

Support Workforce Development	Goal I: Objective	City of Jackson	TBD	TBD
Program: Encourage and support	D	, -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -: -:		
workforce development programs				
that focus on trade and vocational				
skills.				
Encourage Development of	Goal I: Objective	Southcentral	TBD	TBD
Healthcare Corridor: Support and	C	Mississippi Works,		
encourage the development of		Various		
the "Healthcare Corridor" along		Municipalities,		
Woodrow Wilson Avenue linking		Hinds County,		
UMMC, the Jackson Medical Mall,		Hinds County		
and other healthcare providers.		Economic		
and other neutricare providers.		Development		
		District		
Improvements at Community	Goal II:	City of Jackson,	TBD	TBD
Parks: Continuous improvement	Objective C	Hinds County,	.55	.55
and expansion projects at	Objective C	Hinds County		
community parks to meet the		Economic		
needs of current users.		Development		
necus of current users.		District, Greater		
		Jackson Chamber		
		Partnership		
Establish and Update	Goal II:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Development Controls: Establish	Objective D	Various	100	155
development controls to ensure	objective b	Municipalities		
future growth is in keeping with		TVI di li cipalitici s		
the rural nature of the County and				
buildings are well-constructed.				
Update existing subdivision				
ordinances.				
Participate in Regional Planning:	Goal I: Objective	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Participate in regional	E	Various		
transportation, development, and		Municipalities		
other plans when possible.				
Tourism Development and	Goal II:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Expansion	Objective E	Various		
,		Municipalities		
Cultural/Recreational Facilities	Goal II:	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
and programs (libraries,	Objective C, E	Various		
community centers, museums/art		Municipalities		
centers, parks, etc.)		ameipanties		
cee., parks, e.c.,				

Relocation of Hinds WIN Job	Goal II,	Hinds County,	TBD	TBD
Center to Hinds Community	Objective D	Hinds Community		
College Jackson Campus		College		
Improvements to Town of Utica	Goal II,	Town of Utica	TBD	TBD
police station	Objective E			
Attract a local grocery store for	Goal II:	Town of Utica	TBD	TBD
staple items within city limits	Objective D			
Services for the elderly:	Goal II:	Various	TBD	TBD
community center, transportation	Objective B	Municipalities		

Madison County



Madison County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Expand Infrastructure to Existing	Goal I: Objective	Madison County	65	TBD
Industrial Parks: Support the	В	Economic		
expansion of infrastructure to all		Development		
existing industrial parks.		Authority, Madison		
		County, Various		
		Water Authorities		
Continuation of Infrastructure	Goal I: Objective	Municipalities,	50	TBD
Improvements: Continue to fund	В;	Various		
and complete water and		Authorities.		
wastewater improvements to				
support industrial, commercial,				
and residential development.				
Market Film Studio: Continue	Goal I: Objective	Mississippi Film	TBD	TBD
efforts to market nationally and	С	Studio, Madison		
internationally the Mississippi Film	Goal II:	County Economic		
Studio in Canton.	Objective E	Development		
		Authority		
Support Job Skills Training:	Goal I: Objective	Southcentral	100	TBD
Develop and support job skills	D	Mississippi Works,		
training programs for		WIN Job Center,		
administrative staff and the film		Madison County		
industry.		Economic		
		Development		
		Authority		
Revitalize Downtown: Support the	Goal II:	Municipalities	TBD	TBD
redevelopment and revitalization	Objective A			
of downtown areas, including				
brownfield areas; create				
crosswalks with handicap-				
accessible routes and sidewalks to				
assist citizens.				
Develop Town Centers: Support	Goal II:	Municipalities	TBD	TBD
the development of town center	Objective A			
areas for communities without a				
defined downtown area.				

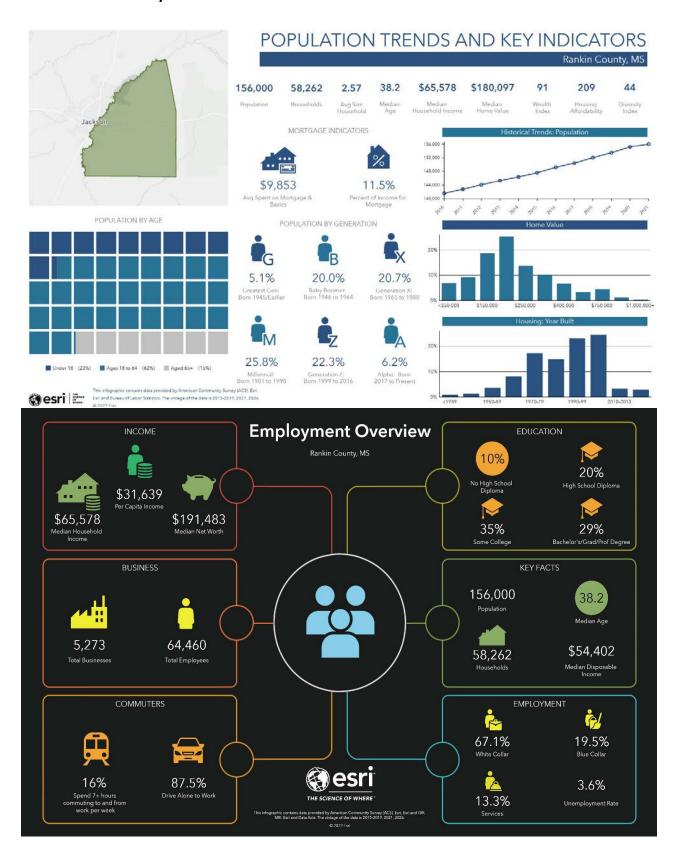
Develop a Bio-Medical	Goal I: Objective	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Commercialization Accelerator:	С	Economic		
Develop a commercialization		Development		
accelerator for the bio-medical		Authority		
sector to provide shared services				
and facilities for researchers with				
prototypes.				
Analyze Available Housing:	Goal II:	Madison County,	TBD	TBD
Perform a housing analysis to	Objective F	Municipalities		
uncover the types of housing				
which are underserved and				
update accordingly.				
Expand Tourism through Film	Goal II:	Mississippi Film	400	\$200,000
Production: Utilize film	Objective E	Studio, Madison		
productions to expand tourism		County Economic		
opportunities.		Development		
		Authority, Canton		
		Convention and		
		Visitors Bureau		
Expand Tourism through Rebates:	Goal II:	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Offer rebates to tourism	Objective E			
establishments to promote				
tourism in Madison County.				
Update Comprehensive Plan:	Goal I: Objective	City of Madison,	TBD	TBD
Continue to update the	E	City of Ridgeland,		
comprehensive plan for the City of		Madison County		
Madison, the City of Ridgeland,				
and Madison County to support				
long-term development.				
Implementation of Roadway	Goal I: Objective	Madison County,	TBD	TBD
Projects: Support financially the	E	MPO		
implementation of identified				
roadway projects to address				
capacity needs, including but not				
limited to Old Canton Rd, County				
Line Rd, W. Jackson St, Colony				
Park Blvd, Highland Colony				
Parkway, I-55 Connector Roads,				
Reunion Parkway Interchange,				
Hoy Road Improvements, School				
St realignment, Lake Harbor Drive				

& Steed Road extension, and a				
truck route in Flora.				
Develop a Fire/ Police Training	Goal I: Objective	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Facility: Develop a training facility	В;			
to enhance the knowledge of	Goal I: Objective			
various fire departments and	E			
police personnel.				
Cultural/Recreational Facilities	Goal II:	Canton	TBD	TBD
and Programs: Construction of a	Objective E			
new park is needed in Canton				
Education Facilities	Goal I: Objective	Local School	TBD	TBD
Improvements: Support upgrades	D	Districts		
to the educational facilities in the				
County, including the installation				
of sidewalks.				
Repair Public Buildings: Facilitate	Goal I: Objective	Madison County,	TBD	TBD
repairs to community buildings,	В	Various		
including but not limited to the		Municipalities		
Ridgeland Fire Station.				
Encourage Expansion of	Goal I: Objective	Municipalities,	25	\$408,000
Telecommunications: Encourage	В	Madison County,		
private providers to continue the		Madison County		
expansion of broadband services		Economic		
to rural areas and participate in		Development		
statewide emergency operations		Authority		
network.				
Construct a Community Civil	Goal II:	City of Madison,	TBD	TBD
Center for Tourism: Construct a	Objective C	Madison County		
community civic center to serve				
the needs of residents and				
businesses.				
Construct a New County Library:	Goal II:	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Construct a new county library to	Objective D			
serve the needs of residents.				

Support the Construction of a	Goal II:	Madison County,	TBD	TBD
Performing Arts Center: Continue	Objective C;	City of Ridgeland		
to support the construction of a				
Performing Arts Center.				
Quality, Diverse Housing:	Goal II:	Municipalities,	TBD	TBD
Encourage and support the	Objective F	Madison County		
development of quality housing				
for all income levels.				
Establish and Update	Goal I: Objective	Municipalities,	TBD	TBD
Development Controls: Establish	Е	Madison County		
development controls to ensure				
future growth is in keeping with				
the rural nature of the County and				
buildings are well-constructed.				
Update existing subdivision				
ordinances.				
Improvements at Community	Goal II:	Municipalities,	15	\$25,900,000
Parks: Continuous improvement	Objective C	Madison County		
and expansion projects at		,		
community parks to meet the				
needs of current users, including				
Freedom Ridge Park, Strawberry				
Patch, and Liberty Village.				
Support Economic Development	Goal I: Objective	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Planning: Support the analysis and	E	·		
planning of regional and				
metropolitan economic				
development to support economic				
growth, particularly along County				
Line Rd.				
Construct a Vocational Technology	Goal I: Objective	Town of Flora,	TBD	TBD
Center: Support the construction	D	Madison County,		
of a vocational technology center		Local School		
to teach citizens a trade.		Districts		
Construct a Health Care Clinic:	Goal II:	Town of Flora,	TBD	TBD
Support the construction of a full-	Objective D	Madison County		
time health care clinic to meet the	_	·		
needs of citizens.				
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New Industrial Sites/Parks	Goal I: Objective A	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Industrial Financing Programs (loans, grants bonds, etc.)	Goal I: Objective A	Madison County	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Environmental Protection (solid waste management, air and water quality, conservation of natural resources, etc.)	Goal I: Objective E	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Affordable/Available Housing	Goal II: Objective F	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Downtown/Commercial Redevelopment	Goal I: Objective B	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Marketing/Utilization of Existing Sites and Buildings	Goal I: Objective A	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Services for the Elderly (home health care, home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker services, senior center activities)	Goal II: Objective B	Madison County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD

Rankin County



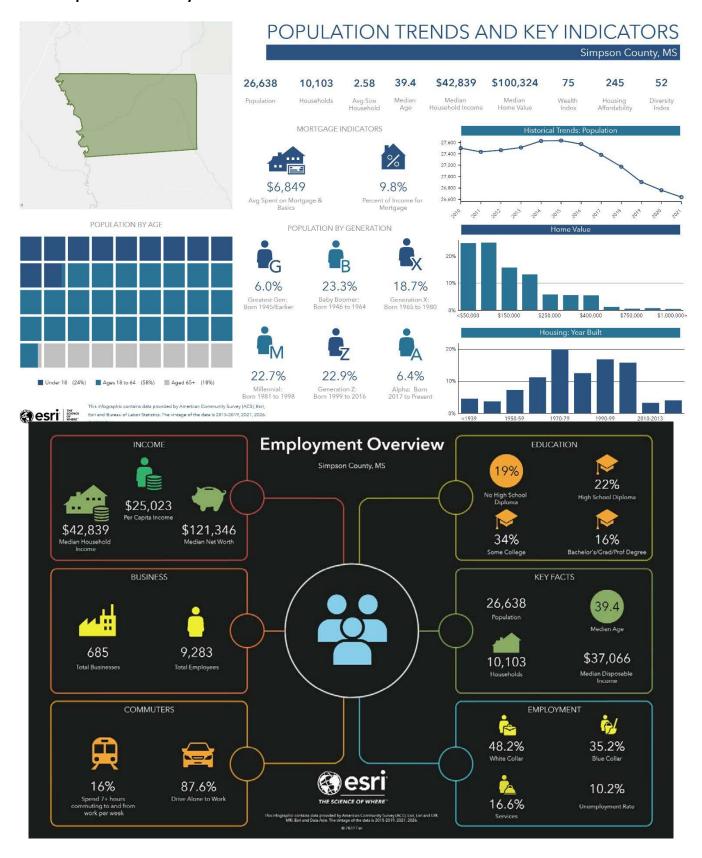
Rankin County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Secure Industrial Sites: Locate and secure a "super-site" in east Rankin County and a smaller site in south Rankin County for future industrial development.	Goal I: Objective A	Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Construct a Speculative Building: Construct a multi-purpose speculative building for prospective businesses.	Goal I: Objective A	Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Expand Infrastructure to Existing Industrial Parks: Support the expansion of infrastructure to all existing industrial parks.	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin First, Rankin County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Market Existing Industrial Sites for Non-Traditional Uses Market remaining sites in existing industrial areas for non-traditional uses that would be appropriate to existing uses.	Goal I: Objective C	Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Revitalize Downtown: Support the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown areas, including residential opportunities.	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Develop Town Centers: Support the development of town center areas for communities without a defined downtown area.	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Support Establishment of a Business Incubator: Encourage and support the establishment of a business incubator to foster business development.	Goal II: Objective D	Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Develop Tourism Opportunities: Develop tourism opportunities to promote the visitation of cities.	Goal II: Objective E	City of Florence, Rankin County, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Market Foreign Trade Zone: Emphasize the Foreign Trade Zone when marketing the area to prospective industries.	Goal I: Objective C	Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Construct a Rail Spur to Serve East Metro: Support the construction of a rail spur to serve the East Metropolitan Center.	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin First	TBD	TBD

Continue Implementation of Transportation Improvements: Working through the MPO, continue implementation of all transportation improvements to address capacity, congestion, and quality decencies.	Goal I: Objective E	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First, MPO	TBD	TBD
Improvements at Community Parks: Continuous improvement and expansion projects at community parks to meet the needs of current users.	Goal II: Objective C	Rankin County, Rankin First, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Provide Services for the Elderly: Support the provision of services for the elderly, including home health care, meal delivery, provision of transportation, and senior center activities	Goal II: Objective B	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Health Care Facilities and Services (hospitals, clinics, health professionals)	Goal II: Objective D	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Continuation of Infrastructure Improvements: Continue to fund and complete water and wastewater improvements to support industrial, commercial, and residential development; specifically, in the West Rankin County area.	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Downtown/Commercial Redevelopment	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.)	Goal II: Objective C	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD

Other Infrastructure/Public Works (public buildings, water/sewer systems, drainage, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
New Industrial Sites/Parks	Goal I: Objective A	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Public Improvements/Utilities to Support Sites & Buildings (access roads, water & sewer connections, rail spurs, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Telecommunications (software, hardware, towers, business development, employment, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD
Marketing/Utilization of Existing Sites and Buildings	Goal I: Objective A	Rankin County, Various Municipalities, Rankin First	TBD	TBD

Simpson County



Simpson County Strategic Projects

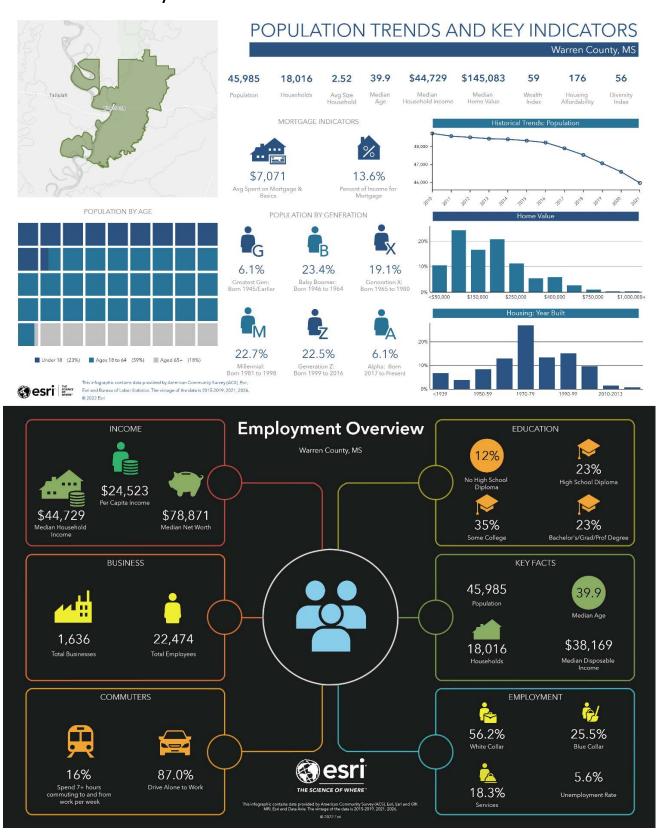
Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Identify and Secure New Industrial Sites: Identify and secure a new industrial park site to supplement the existing parks.	Goal I: Objective A	Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Secure an Additional Industrial Building: Secure an additional industrial building to supplement the existing buildings.	Goal I: Objective A	Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Expand Infrastructure to Existing Industrial Parks: Support the expansion of infrastructure to all existing industrial parks.	Goal I: Objective B	Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Market Existing Industrial Sites: Market existing industrial sites and buildings, specifically the former PFG building, to new users.	Goal I: Objective A	Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Public/Private Workforce Training: Development of a partnership with the public school system and local businesses to offer workforce skills training.	Goal I: Objective D	Simpson County School District, Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Revitalize Downtown: Support the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown areas, including residential uses and new retail business establishments.	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Seed, Venture and Expansion Capital or Loans: Support Main Street businesses through loan programs.	Goal I: Objective C	Simpson County Economic Development Foundation, CMPDD	TBD	TBD
Market Business Park: Market the Business Park to prospective companies looking to locate in the area.	Goal I: Objective C	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Market Downtown Businesses: Emphasize marketing downtown	Goal II: Objective A	Various Municipalities, Simpson County	TBD	TBD

businesses along US 49 to attract travelers.		Economic Development Foundation		
Tourism Development and Expansion: Identify the areas in which tourism may be developed to promote the region and promote tournaments in order draw more to the area.	Goal II: Objective E	Simpson County Economic Development Authority, Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Develop Recreational Facilities: Develop recreational facilities for youth and adults to better serve the needs of the community.	Goal II: Objective C	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Continuation of Infrastructure Improvements: Continue to fund and complete water and wastewater improvements to support industrial, commercial, and residential development.	Goal I: Objective B	Various Municipalities, Simpson County, Simpson County Economic Development Foundation	TBD	TBD
Continue Implementation of Transportation Improvements: Continue implementation of all transportation improvements to address capacity, congestion, and quality decencies; specifically, along US 49 and associated Frontage Roads, and a street overlay program.	Goal I: Objective B	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Encourage Expansion of Telecommunications: Encourage private providers to continue the expansion of broadband services to rural areas.	Goal I: Objective B	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Enable Wi-Fi in Downtown Areas: Increase access to Wi-Fi by supporting its availability in downtown areas.	Goal II: Objective D	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Participate in HOME Consortium: Encourage and support the development of quality housing for all income levels.	Goal II: Objective F	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Develop Downtown Housing: Encourage the private development of housing through the utilization of tax credits in the downtown/town center areas.	Goal II: Objective A; Goal II: Objective F	Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD

Continue Education Facilities Improvements: Support the continued upgrades to the educational systems in the County.	Goal I: Objective D	Local School Districts	TBD	TBD
Improvements at Community Civic Center: Continuous improvement and expansion to the community civic center to meet the needs of current users.	Goal II: Objective C	City of Magee	TBD	TBD
Improvements at Community Parks: Continuous improvement and expansion projects at community parks to meet the needs of current users.	Goal II: Objective C	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Update Comprehensive Plan: Continue to update the comprehensive plan for the City of Magee and Simpson County to support long-term development.	Goal I: Objective E	City of Magee, Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Establish Development Controls: Establish development controls to ensure future growth is in keeping with the rural nature of the County and buildings are well- constructed.	Goal I: Objective E	Simpson County	TBD	TBD
Downtown/Commercial Redevelopment	Goal II: Objective A	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective D	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Public Improvements/Utilities to Support Sites & Buildings (access roads, water & sewer connections, rail spurs, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Marketing/Utilization of Existing Sites and Buildings	Goal II: Objective D	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD

Industrial Financing Programs (loans, grants bonds, etc.)	Goal I: Objectives A, B, C	Town of Magee	TBD	TBD
Downtown/Commercial Redevelopment, Tourism Development and Expansion, Other Business Development Needs	Goal II: Objective A, E	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Development of Downtown Housing, Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal II: Objective F	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Educational facilities and services (pre-school, elementary, secondary, college/university, vocational rehab., adult education, etc.)	Goal I: Objective D	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.)	Goal II: Objective E	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Health Care Facilities and Services (hospitals, clinics, health professionals)	Goal II: Objective D	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Telecommunications (software, hardware, towers, business development, employment, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Services for the Elderly (home health care, home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker services, senior center activities)	Goal II: Objective B	Simpson County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD

Warren County



Warren County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Identify and Secure New Industrial Sites: Identify and secure a new industrial park site to supplement the existing parks; specifically along the Mississippi River.	Goal I: Objective A	Vicksburg –Warren County EDF, Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD
Expand Infrastructure to Existing Industrial Parks: Support the expansion of infrastructure to all existing industrial parks.	Goal I: Objective B	Warren County, City of Vicksburg, Vicksburg-Warren County EDF, Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD
Utilize Existing Resources: Utilize existing resources to supplement industrial development, including the Engineer, Resource and Development Center.	Goal I: Objective A	Warren County, City of Vicksburg	TBD	TBD
Construct a Rail Spur to Serve River Port: Support the construction of a rail spur to serve the River Port and other industrial sites. The proposed spur should be constructed in a manner that mitigates potential flood impact.	Goal I: Objective B	Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD
Create an Additional River Port: Support the construction of an additional river port along the Mississippi River to expand trade.	Goal I: Objective B	Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD
Conduct a Passenger Rail Study: Conduct a study to determine the economic impact of a passenger train from Dallas-Atlanta, with stations in Vicksburg, Jackson, and Meridian.	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Attract Businesses to Existing Industrial Parks: Encourage businesses, new and existing, to locate in the County's existing industrial parks.	Goal I: Objective C	Warren County, City of Vicksburg, Vicksburg-Warren County EDF, Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD

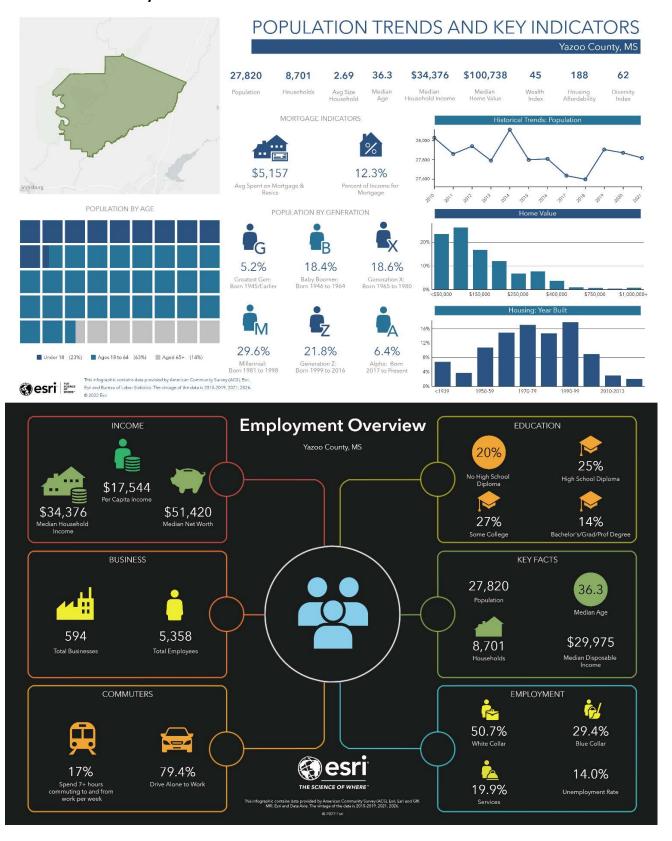
Engage Investors with Vacant Buildings: Engage potential investors with vacant buildings to encourage the re-development of	Goal I: Objective C	Warren County, City of Vicksburg	TBD	TBD
already existing buildings. Continue Implementation of Transportation Improvements: Continue implementation of all transportation improvements to address capacity, congestion, and quality decencies; specifically a connector from the River Port to US 61.	Goal I: Objective E	Warren County, City of Vicksburg, Warren County Port Commission	TBD	TBD
Encourage Retail Development: Encourage the expansion of retail development along and south of the I-20 corridor, and encourage new development along the River.	Goal I: Objective C; Goal II: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County, Vicksburg-Warren County Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
Encourage Business Beautification: Encourage property owners to participate in business beautification programs.	Goal II: Objective D	City of Vicksburg, Warren County, Vicksburg – Warren County Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
Establish a Beautification Program for the Clay and Washington Street and Riverfront Corridors: Establish a beautification program for the Clay and Washington Street Corridors as an entrance to downtown and the Riverfront.	Goal II: Objective D	City of Vicksburg, Vicksburg-Warren County Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
Support Establishment of a Business Incubator: Encourage and support the establishment of a business incubator to foster business development.	Goal I: Objective C	Municipalities, Warren County, Warren County EDF	TBD	TBD
Expand Tourism Opportunities: Expand tourism opportunities through the marketing of new museums, construction of a Convention Center hotel, and a sports complex, and establishing riverboat tourism.	Goal II: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County, Vicksburg – Warren County Chamber of Commerce, Vicksburg Convention and Visitors Bureau	TBD	TBD
Continuation of Infrastructure Improvements: Continue to fund and complete water and wastewater improvements to	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County, Vicksburg-Warren County EDF, Warren	TBD	TBD

support industrial, commercial, and residential development.		County Port Commission		
Expand the Vicksburg Municipal Airport: Expand the existing Vicksburg Municipal Airport to support larger aircraft.	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg	TBD	TBD
Develop Downtown Housing: Encourage the private development of housing through the utilization of tax credits in the downtown/town center areas.	Goal II: Objective A	City of Vicksburg	TBD	TBD
Expand Health Care Facilities: Expand existing health care facilities to include a clinic for adolescents and a hospital.	Goal II: Objective B	Warren County, City of Vicksburg	TBD	TBD
Establish a State-wide Telecommunications System: Establish a telecommunications system that will facilitate the sharing of data between state, county, and local governments.	Goal I: Objective B	Warren County	TBD	TBD
Develop a Comprehensive Plan: Develop a comprehensive plan to support long-term development in the City of Vicksburg and Warren County.	Goal I: Objective E	Warren County, City of Vicksburg, CMPDD	TBD	TBD
Expand Education Facilities: Expand education facilities to assist in vocational rehab & adult education.	Goal I: Objective D	Warren County, Vicksburg-Warren County School District	TBD	TBD
Public/Private Workforce Training: Development of a partnership with the public school system and local businesses to offer workforce skills training.	Goal I: Objective D	Vicksburg-Warren County Chamber of Commerce, Vicksburg-Warren County School District	TBD	TBD
Participate in Regional Planning: Participate in regional transportation, development, and other plans when possible.	Goal I: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Construct Additional Shelters: Assist in the construction of additional shelters for the community, including family shelters.	Goal II: Objective D	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD

Participate in Federal and State Programs: Participate in various programs to support efforts in cleaning blighted areas and in housing rehabilitation.	Goal II: Objective F	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Establish and Update Development and Zoning Controls: Establish development controls through a zoning ordinance that will ensure future development is appropriate for the area, including updating subdivision regulations.	Goal I: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Public Improvements/Utilities to Support Sites & Buildings (access roads, water & sewer connections, rail spurs, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.)	Goal II: Objective C	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Telecommunications (software, hardware, towers, business development, employment, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Services for the Elderly (home health care, home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker services, senior center activities)	Goal II: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Seed, Venture and Expansion Capital or Loans, Market and Business Planning Information Assistance (Census data available to block level)	Goal I: Objective C	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD

Business Incubators/Technology Transfer	Goal I: Objective C	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Job Skills Training (O.J.T. or classroom)	Goal I: Objective D	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Development of Downtown Housing	Goal II: Objective F	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Riverfront development to enhance the quality of life.	Goal II: Objective D	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Comprehensive Waterfront development plan	Goal II: Objective A	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Regional (Multi-County) Planning/Inter-governmental Cooperation	Goal I: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD
Port infrastructure expansion due diligence and plans	Goal I: Objective E	City of Vicksburg, Warren County	TBD	TBD

Yazoo County



Yazoo County Strategic Projects

Strategic Project	Goal: Objective	Lead Organization	Jobs	Investment
Construct a Flood Wall in Industrial Areas: Construct a flood wall in unprotected areas to prevent future damage from flood conditions.	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County Port Commission, Yazoo County	TBD	\$800,000
Construct a Rail Spur to Serve River Port: Support the construction of a rail spur to serve the River Port and other industrial sites. The proposed spur should be constructed in a manner that mitigates potential flood impact.	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County Port Commission, Yazoo County	TBD	TBD
Improve Rail Spur Crossing in Port: Improve rail crossings within the River Port to ensure crossings are safe and functional.	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County Port Commission, Yazoo County	TBD	TBD
Public/Private Workforce Training: Development of a partnership with Holmes Community College and local businesses to offer workforce skills training.	Goal I: Objective D	Holmes Community College, Yazoo Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
Attract Federal Prison Complex Suppliers: Work to attract suppliers for the Federal Prison Complex to nearby industrial parks.	Goal I: Objective C	Yazoo Chamber of Commerce, Yazoo County Economic Development District	TBD	TBD
Revitalize Downtown: Support the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown areas, including residential uses.	Goal II: Objective A	City of Yazoo City, Yazoo Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
Expand Tourism Opportunities: Expand tourism opportunities through the marketing of new museums and the development of sports complex	Goal II: Objective E	City of Yazoo City, Yazoo County, Yazoo Chamber of Commerce, Village of Satartia	TBD	TBD

Continue Implementation of Transportation Improvements: Continue implementation of all transportation improvements to address capacity, congestion, and quality decencies; specifically the Willie Morris Parkway and a street overlay project.	Goal I: Objective D	City of Yazoo City, Yazoo County, Yazoo County Economic Development District	TBD	TBD
Encourage Development of Quality Housing: Encourage the development of quality housing for all income levels; specifically, moderate-income apartments for Federal Prison Complex employees.	Goal II: Objective F	City of Yazoo City, Yazoo County, Village of Satartia	TBD	TBD
Support the Construction of a New Hospital Building: Support the construction of a new hospital building for the Kings Daughters Hospital.	Goal I: Objective C	City of Yazoo City, Yazoo County, Yazoo County Economic Development District, Yazoo Chamber of Commerce	TBD	TBD
New Community Infrastructure: Backup water well is needed to serve the community.	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
New Industrial Sites/Parks and Buildings	Goal I: Objective A	Yazoo County	TBD	TBD
Public Improvements/Utilities to Support Sites & Buildings	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Job Skills Training (O.J.T. or classroom)	Goal I: Objective D	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Marketing/Utilization of Existing Sites and Buildings, Industrial Financing Programs (loans, grants bonds, etc.)	Goal I: Objective C	Yazoo County	TBD	TBD

Downtown/Commercial Redevelopment	Goal II: Objective A	Yazoo City	TBD	TBD
Tourism Development and Expansion	Goal II: Objective E	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Transportation Facilities (roads, streets and highways, rail service, air service, ports, harbors and waterways, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Cultural/Recreational Facilities and programs (libraries, community centers, museums/arts centers, parks, etc.)	Goal II: Objective E	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Telecommunications (software, hardware, towers, business development, employment, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Services for the Elderly (home health care, home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker services, senior center activities)	Goal II: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Permitted County & Municipal Waste/ Rubbish Transfer Station property	Goal II: Objective D	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Other Infrastructure/Public Works (public buildings, water/sewer systems, drainage, etc.)	Goal I: Objective B	Yazoo County, Various Municipalities	TBD	TBD
Storm Shelter	Goal II: Objective D	Village of Eden	TBD	TBD

Economic Resilience

Hazard Mitigation

Mitigation Planning is an ongoing effort by local officials within the CMPDD region to reduce the impact natural disasters have on people and property through damage prevention. Over the past decade, emergency managers have altered their approach to disaster response and recovery due to the rising cost of natural disasters. Emergency managers no longer approach natural disasters with the sole thought of how to recover from a disaster. Instead, emergency managers stress the importance of pre-disaster or ongoing risk analysis to lessen the impact communities sustain from a disaster. Like any other region, the seven counties that comprise CMPDD's area are vulnerable to many different types of natural disasters. These disasters, which include winter storms, flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, droughts, dam/levee failures, wildfires, and thunderstorms, can have substantial human, economic and environmental consequences.

In an effort to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards, CMPDD began working with local jurisdictions in our seven-county region in 2005 to develop Hazard Mitigation Plans. Each plan identifies natural hazards that threaten the area, characterizes each jurisdiction's vulnerability to those hazards, and outlines an action plan of projects that can be implemented to reduce the identified risks.



Since the implementation of these plans in 2005, many local jurisdictions have taken significant strides to protect the safety and welfare of their residents by implementing strategies outlined in their Mitigation Plan. This has included purchasing emergency generators for critical facilities, implementing drainage improvement projects, building community shelters, and improving emergency warning capabilities.

Comprehensive Planning

CMPDD planning staff has extensive experience providing Comprehensive Planning assistance or strategic long-range planning guidance to communities. Comprehensive Plans help communities define their course for the future. Long-range planning efforts examine issues of growth in a community and provide policy recommendations to address development

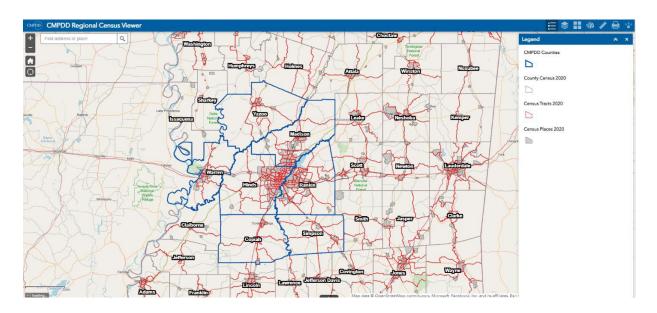
pressures as a community changes from rural to more urban land uses. The heart of a Comprehensive Plan includes a series of recommended growth management strategies in the areas of land use, transportation, economic development, and community facilities.

As with any long-range planning document, a Comprehensive Plan is intended to be an evolving document that is revised as policies and economic conditions change. Comprehensive Plans are also intended to serve as a stepping stone to the development of other policy documents such as Zoning Ordinances, Subdivision Regulations, and Capital Improvement Plans, as well as supplemental regulations such as Sign, Landscaping and Parking Ordinances.

The CMPDD has a staff of AICP-certified planners committed to on-going training and education. As a result, the District continues to provide Comprehensive Planning and other assistance to local communities throughout our region and across the state.

GIS Work

Geographic Information System (GIS) design, maintenance, and upgrades continue to be a major area of emphasis in the GIS Department at CMPDD. A major portion of GIS implementation at CMPDD is associated with data collection. Planners and technicians continually take to the field to collect information on existing development patterns and roadway/bridge conditions, which are then converted to digital layer-based information for analysis.



As GIS use continues to become more widespread, the networking of GIS users allows CMPDD professionals to communicate more effectively with other cities, counties, and external organizations. The GIS Department continues to assist the Regional Data Analyst on requests for the ever-popular Radial Demographic Profile, which utilizes geo-referenced data to provide demographics for a given radius or drive-time polygon around a specified point. Radial Profiles are critical components of market research for business location analysis and are utilized by entrepreneurs, businesses looking to expand or locate, and economic developers looking to attract new industries and businesses.

The District continues to support and upgrade its internet-based GIS viewing tools where users can pick and choose base maps and data layers from a menu of available information. Staff technicians continue to redesign the map viewers with updated products aimed at being more user-friendly and with increased functionality to aid in promoting the region.

CEDS Plan of Action

CMPDD's Plan of Action for the Comprehensive Development Strategy will guide the implementation of the Goals and Objectives in a manner that:

- promotes economic development and opportunity,
- fosters effective transportation access,
- enhances and protects the environment,
- maximizes effective development and use of the workforce consistent with any applicable state or local workforce investment strategy,
- promotes the use of technology in economic development, including access to highspeed telecommunications,
- balances resources through sound management of physical development, and
- obtains and utilizes adequate funds and other resources.

To do this, CMPDD will continue to work closely with committee members and economic development partners to develop and implement the CEDS; use economic development programs to accomplish the strategic projects listed in the CEDS; use the Public Information Program to make the CEDS available to public and private partners; and will work with the state to ensure the integration of the CEDS Strategic projects with the state's economic priorities.

Current economic development programs will be utilized where possible to accomplish the listed Strategic Projects. A listing of available programs is listed below, but is not limited to:

- Delta Regional Authority Programs
- Economic Development Planning Grants

- Economic Development Infrastructure Grants
- Community Development Block Grants

Rural Impact Fund Grants

- Rural Development Community Programs
- Federal and State Loan Programs
- Metropolitan Planning Organization Funds
- Home Investment Partnership Programs
- Tax Abatement and Credits
- Main Street Association Programs
- Workforce Development Programs

The Public Information Program, already in place at CMPDD, is utilized as the formal citizen participation mechanism and to make the CEDS available to public and private partners. This involves publishing articles in newsletters, posting on the website and at www.cmpdd.org and providing press releases to the local newspapers and meeting with local civic clubs and other interested parties. Before the release of the CEDS or before any changes can be made, it is made available to the public at CMPDD's office for a thirty-day comment period.

Finally, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is provided to the State of Mississippi and the Institutions of Higher Learning for integrating the CEDS and the state's economic priorities. CMPDD staff and committee members will continue to work with state agencies to coordinate this effort.

Evaluation Framework

The CEDS for the CMPDD area will utilize a two-phase performance measurement. The first phase will include a comparison of the local economy's unemployment rate and per capita income from year to year in the region, the state, and the nation. It will also include the number of jobs created and retained in the workforce. These alone are not adequate measures of economic development but can be used as good indicators.

The second phase of the evaluation process will include a measure of the previous year's goals and objectives. It will look at the number and type of investments made in the region and the amount of private sector investment.

Specifically, the CMPDD will utilize the following measurements:

- Per Capita Income
- 24–Month Unemployment Rate
- Number of Jobs
- Amount of Public and Private Investment
- Completion of Strategic Projects

Appendix A: CMPDD Board of Directors

County	Name	Occupation	Sector Represented
Copiah County	Supervisor Daryl McMillian, Sr	Copiah County Board of Supervisors	Public, County
	Mayor Sally Garland	City of Crystal Springs	Public, City
	Ms. Daisy Price	Retired Educator	Private, Minority
	Mr. Wendell Stringer	Funeral Home Owner	Private, Business
Hinds County	Supervisor David Archie	Hinds County Board of	Public, County
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	Mayor Isla Tullos	City of Raymond	Public, City
	Supervisor Credell Calhoun	Hinds County Board of	Public, Minority
		Supervisors	, , , , , ,
	Mr. John Morgan Hughes	Small Business Owner	Private, Business
Madison County	Supervisor Gerald Steen	Madison County Board of	Public, County
		Supervisors	
	Mayor Les Childress	Town of Flora	Public, City
	Mr. Dan Hart	Cattleman, Retired Police	Private, Minority
		Detective	
	Mr. Phil Buffington	Attorney	Private, Business
Rankin County	Supervisor Steve Gaines	Rankin County Board of	Public, County
		Supervisors	
	Mayor Pat Sullivan	City of Richland	Public, City
	Mr. Walter Redd	Retired, Business	Private, Minority
	Supervisor Jared Morrison	Small Business Owner	Private, Business
Simpson County	Supervisor Brian Kennedy	Simpson County Board of	Public, County
		Supervisors	
	Mayor Todd Booth	City of Mendenhall	Public, City
	Alderman Patrick Brown	City of Magee	Public, Minority
	Mr. Pat Brown	Newspaper Publisher	Private, Business
Warren County	Supervisor William Banks	Warren County Board of	Public, County
		Supervisors	
	Alderman Michael Mayfield	City of Vicksburg	Public, City
	Ms. Linda Fondren	Business Owner	Private, Minority
	Mr. Michael Matthews	Banker	Private, Business
Yazoo County	Supervisor Cobie Collins	Yazoo County Board of	Public, County
	Mayor David Starling	Supervisors City of Various City	Dublic City
	Mayor David Starling Ms. Mildred Smith	City of Yazoo City	Public, City
		Retired, Educator Small Business Owner	Private, Minority
City of Jackson	Supervisor David Berry Mayor Chokwe Lumumba		Private, Business Public, City
City of Jackson	Mr. Mat Thomas	City of Jackson	
	IVII . IVIAL THOMAS	Business Owner	Private, Minority
	Councilman Angelique Lee	City of Jackson	Public, City
	Mr. Brandon Comer	Business Owner	Private, Business

Appendix B: CEDS Steering Committee

Name	Position	Occupation	Sector
			Represented
Supervisor	President, CMPDD	Warren County	Public,
William Banks	Board of Directors	Board of	County
		Supervisors	
Mayor Sally	Vice President, CMPDD	Mayor, City of	Public, City
Garland	Board of Directors	Crystal Springs	
Mayor Leslie	Secretary/Treasurer	Mayor, Town of	Public, City
Childress		Flora	
Supervisor	Steering Committee	Supervisor, Yazoo	Public,
Colbie Collins	Member	County	County
Mr. Walter	Steering Committee	Foreman at	Private,
Redd	Member	Siemens	Minority
		Corporation	
Mayor Isla	Immediate Past	Mayor, City of	Public, City
Tullos	President	Raymond	
Garland Mayor Leslie Childress Supervisor Colbie Collins Mr. Walter Redd Mayor Isla	Board of Directors Secretary/Treasurer Steering Committee Member Steering Committee Member Immediate Past	Crystal Springs Mayor, Town of Flora Supervisor, Yazoo County Foreman at Siemens Corporation Mayor, City of	Public, City Public, County Private, Minority