

JANUARY 2018

Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

CMPDD Celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2018

My, how time flies! CMPDD is celebrating its 50th Anniversary during 2018. Founded in 1968 as the Economic Development District of Central Mississippi, Inc. and later changed to the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) in 1971, CMPDD has worked hard to build a strong reputation for quality work. Established as a sub-state, non-profit corporation to serve the needs of local governments within a seven county region consisting of Co-



piah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Warren, and Yazoo Counties, CMPDD is one of ten Planning and Development Districts in the State.

Throughout the year CMPDD will be looking back over our 50 year history to highlight various programs and activities that have benefitted our communities and region. We encourage you to follow these historic highlights that will be featured periodically on our Facebook page. If you have visited our webpage or Facebook page recently you may have noticed a change in our logo. We will be using this logo for 2018 in celebration of our 50th golden anniversary.

WIOA Funded Workforce Training Programs Produce Life-Changing Results

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provides funds for a number of workforce –related employment and training programs and services aimed at enabling individuals to acquire the skills and support they need to connect with employment. The Southcentral MS Works Local Workforce Development Area’s programs, services and activities are planned and overseen by both a Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and a Board of Commissioners (BOC). The LWDB is composed of a majority of business and industry leaders, while the BOC is composed of one county supervisor from each of the workforce area’s seventeen counties. These two boards jointly develop policy governing WIOA programs, services and activities, while CMPDD’s Workforce Division staff handle the day-to-day duties of implementing the policies and working with various WIOA service providers to ensure that US Department of Labor performance mandates are met.

Hearing personal stories from individuals who have had their lives changed by the programs and services that WIOA funding provides brings it all into focus. The LWDB and the BOC held a joint meeting in December on the campus of Hinds Community College, one of the workforce area’s four partner community colleges. The highlight of the meeting was the opportunity to hear first-hand testimony from a Hinds

student who is enrolled in career skills training paid for with WIOA funding. WIOA pays the young man’s tuition, fees, books, and other allowable costs through the award of an Individual Training Account (ITA). The student shared his story of completing high school with only an occupational certificate, not a high school diploma or its equivalent. His school counselor told him about the MI-BEST program at the community college, whereby he could obtain his high school equivalency and gain career tech skills simultaneously. He desperately wanted his high school equivalency degree and he wanted to attend college. He shared with the board members that he is now drawing close to graduation from Hinds. But this remarkable young man also works at Hunter Engineering while attending school, and while caring for his invalid mother at home.

Seeing the face of this young man and hearing a first-hand account of his struggles, his accomplishments, and new found self-confidence was very touching for the board members. The WIOA programs serve many individuals like this young man, whether it is through the tuition assistance provided by an ITA, on-the-Job training, or Internship assistance provided to an employer. Every day, Southcentral MS Works’ WIOA programs strive to make someone’s life better by giving them the skills they need to get a first job, a better job, or a great job.

National Community Planning Month

In recognition of October being National Community Planning Month, CMPDD Planners, David Wade and Gray Ouzts, served on the panel discussion, “Innovations in Planning” that was hosted by the City of Jackson and the Jackson State University Department of Urban and Regional Planning. This year’s theme underscored the role of planning in addressing and adapting to the challenges facing communities in the 21st century.



A New Public Participation Plan Approved by the Jackson MPO

In November, the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved a revised Public Participation Plan. The revised plan provides a list of activities and procedures the Jackson MPO follows to engage the public in the transportation planning process. The document also outlines the methods used by the Jackson MPO to provide a proactive public involvement process aimed at increasing public awareness and understanding. The plan can be viewed by visiting the MPO’s website, <http://www.cmpdd.org/public-participation-plan/>.

The Jackson MPO established five (5) objectives for creating and maintaining an effective public participation process.

Objective #1: Educate

The Jackson MPO strives to inform and educate the public about the regional transportation planning process by creating a forum that allows for meaningful participation and involvement by citizens and stakeholders.

Objective #2: Engage

The Jackson MPO engages the public by providing ample and consistent opportunity for involvement and participation in the transportation planning process.

Objective #3: Encourage

The Jackson MPO encourages all citizens, stakeholders and transportation users to provide input and participate in the planning process. Hearing from a variety of individuals with diverse transportation experiences and needs is key to the overall success of the transportation planning process.

Objective #4: Incorporate

The Jackson MPO takes the information and feedback received from the public to the members of the Jackson MPO Committee structure for consideration and incorporation, as appropriate into transportation plans, programs, or projects.

Objective #5: Evaluate

The Jackson MPO routinely evaluates the public participation process to gauge the effectiveness of the methods used to involve the public in the transportation planning process, and make changes as needed to improve upon the public participation process.



CMPDD Received MDA Approval for four 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.

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently approved four CDBG Public Facilities projects in the CMPDD area. Listed below are the projects that received funding through the CDBG Public Facilities Program.

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Brandon	Unserved Sewer	\$ 372,400	\$374,000
Town of Edwards	Sewer Improvements & Extensions	\$ 450,000	N/A
Town of Puckett	Senior Citizen Center	\$ 418,000	N/A
Town of Utica	Water System Improvements	\$ 431,000	N/A

2018-2022 CEDS Approval

In December 2017, CMPDD staff presented the final version of the 2018-2022 Economic Development Administration (EDA) Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and received approval from the CMPDD Board of Directors.

The CEDS is the result of a local planning process designed to guide the economic growth of the area. It was developed using a grass-roots approach and studies the economy of the area. It includes goals and objectives to assist local governments to create more jobs,

foster a stable and diversified economy, and improve quality of life. The CEDS lists specific projects that will enhance the region's competitiveness and details an action plan to assist with the successful implementation.

The CEDS is a requirement of EDA to maintain funding eligibility for the region. Before EDA will consider funding a project, it 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 every five years.

The final version of the 2018-2022 can be viewed on CMPDD's website here: <http://gis.cmpdd.org/CEDS/index.html>

MPO Approves Updated Urban Functional Classification System

On August 9, 2017, the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee approved proposed changes to the Urban Functional Classification System for the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA). These approved changes included adding, deleting, and reclassifying various roadways within the JUA on the Urban Functional Class System based on the roadways demonstrated ability to provide access and mobility to, from, and around the urbanized area.

Functional classification is the process by which roadways are grouped into classes according to the character of service that they are intended to provide in meeting travel needs. Roadways with higher classifications serve the mobility needs of a greater number of people, and typically carry more traffic. Roadways with lower classifications tend to provide access more to individual properties than serve the mobility needs of a greater number of people. In the JUA five (5) classifications are used to categorize roadways based on their identified purpose and function for meeting the demands of motorists on the overall roadway network. They include interstates, principal arterials, minor arterials, collectors, and local streets. Below is a listing of each classification with a brief description explaining the function each classification typically serves.

- Interstates - are the highest classification of arterials and are designed and constructed with mobility and long-distance travel in mind.

- Principal Arterials - serve major activity centers. They are the highest traffic volume corridors (with the exception of Interstates), have the longest trip demands, and carry a high proportion of total urban travel on a minimum amount of mileage. They also interconnect and provide continuity for major rural corridors to accommodate trips entering and leaving urban areas and movements through urban areas.
- Minor Arterials - provide service for trips of moderate length at a somewhat lower level of travel mobility, distribute traffic to smaller geographic areas, provide more land access than principal arterials without penetrating identifiable neighborhoods, and offer connectivity to the higher arterial system.
- Collector Streets - provide both land service and traffic movement functions. Collectors serve as intermediate feeders between arterials and local streets and primarily accommodate short distance trips.
- Local Streets - consist of all roads not defined as arterials or collectors. Local streets typically support direct access to homes and are generally designed for slow speeds.

The updated functional classification system map can be found by accessing the Districts website at <http://www.cmpdd.org>.

Census Training

In November, District staff participated in a Census Training workshop held at the University of Mississippi and hosted by the State Data Center and the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts. The workshop included discussion of Census efforts related to LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses), the American Fact Finder, and the new

data dissemination tool on the horizon. Staff from the State Data Center and the US Census Bureau presented information on population forecasting models, methods to compare the American Community Survey, sources of economic and health related data, how to present census data, and how to create custom geographies on the Census website to gather data.

Planning Updates



Town of Braxton Comprehensive Plan

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Braxton adopted their first Comprehensive Plan following a public hearing on January 9, 2018. The Mayor and Board listened to comments and questions from citizens regarding the plan.

The Plan developed by the District, encourages more commercial development. Additionally, the

Plan recommends that the town annex across U.S. Highway 49 so the town can benefit from future commercial development. It also recommends that the town develop a process to demolish dilapidated and uninhabited houses.

Among a number of recommendations in the Plan, the transportation section recommends repairing sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian circulation, and one new connector street. The Community Facilities Section states that a new water well is needed, as well as a new filtration system to filter out sediment and the brownish color of the town's water. The town's park needs some playground equipment for the children.

The next step for Braxton's Mayor and Board is to review and discuss the proposed Zoning Ordinance prepared and presented to them by the District in December 2017.

Madison County Comprehensive Plan

The District has signed a contract with Madison County to prepare an update of its Comprehensive Plan and to update the county's Zoning Ordinance. The work on the Comprehensive Plan began in December 2017, and will take approximately a year to complete. Madison County is one of the state's fastest growing counties, and the updated plan will enable the county to make adjustments in land use policies to stay abreast of new development patterns and changing conditions.

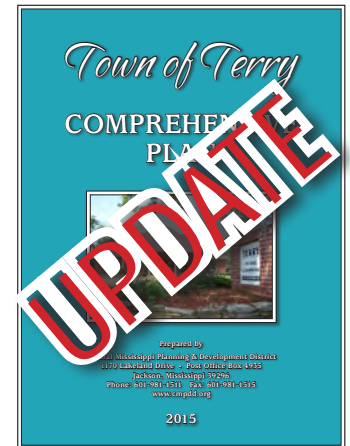
The plan is a general long-range policy guide to decision-making for future development in the county. The District will develop and conduct an online survey to gather citizen input and opinions. Following completion of the Comprehensive Plan, the District will review the current Zoning Ordinance and propose amendments to match some of the plan's recommendations. Also, the county's zoning map will be reviewed and recommendations made to update the map.

Additionally, CMPDD will develop a web-based version of the plan in Story Map format using CMPDD's virtual server technology and ESRI ArcGIS server Enterprise software. This internet based component will also utilize Madison County's existing GIS Map Viewer and enable accessibility

to interactive land management maps and data layers including such elements as the Land Use Plan, zoning, flood zones, and Transportation Plan. All layers developed as part of this project will be added to the County's web-based GIS mapping application and viewer.

Town of Terry Comprehensive Plan

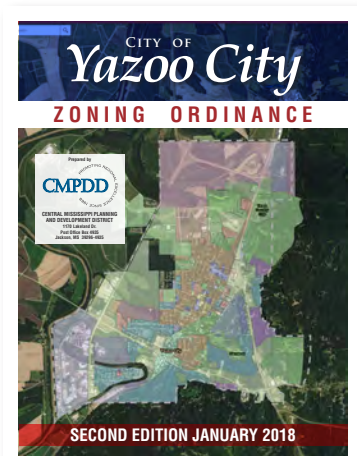
The District entered into a contract with the Town of Terry to update its Comprehensive Plan. The Plan update will include revisions to all four statutorily required elements including the Goals and Objectives, Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, and Public Facilities Plan. The plan will also include a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as the Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, Zoning, and available infrastructure layers. The new Comprehensive Plan will be published in printed form, as well as an online Story Map format that will be available for public viewing through the town's website, giving citizens greater access to the information.



Yazoo City Zoning Ordinance

The District provided the Yazoo City with an updated Zoning Ordinance in December 2017. The Yazoo City Zoning Ordinance was originally adopted in 2010. In the succeeding years the Zoning Ordinance was amended nine (9) times. The District compiled those amendments and incorporated them into the new edition of the Ordinance.

Five of the amendments involved adding single uses to permitted uses or to special exceptions of several zoning districts. One amendment added regulations for manufactured homes. Another amendment added two new districts: a P-1 Public/Quasi-public Use District and an F-1 Flood Plain District. The final amendment was the addition of the S-4 Willie E. Morris Parkway Overlay District, which applied some particular appearance regulations for new development occurring along the Willie E. Morris Parkway.



CMPDD Hosts Census LUCA Informational Workshop

In November 2017, the District and Regional Census staff from Atlanta worked together to conduct a Local Update of Census Address (LUCA) informational workshop. The workshop was held to engage and educate local leaders about the importance of participating in the LUCA program in advance of the 2020 Census. The turnout was very good. Many of our local leaders have already taken the steps necessary to participate in the LUCA program in 2018.

Why is LUCA important to our communities? Accurate Census counts re-

sult in better decision making at the state and local levels of government and help drive public and private economic development efforts that rely on Census data. Each year the Federal Government spends over \$400 billion dollars through various programs that benefit our communities. Agency decisions regarding where and how much is spent are driven by Census data. In one of our Census LUCA workshops held at CMPDD, we learned that it's estimated that for each person not counted in the upcoming 2020 Census, it will cost

the community where they live approximately \$2,000 in lost funding through Federal programs based on Census data. Communities that are undercounted will experience missed opportunity to benefit from the programs that are available and will have to wait until the 2030 Census to for the next opportunity to have an accurate count. The current LUCA program is our chance to ensure Mississippi communities are accurately counted in the 2020 Census and we encourage all county and municipal leaders across our state to participate in the program.

Central Mississippi Mayors Association

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) recently had its annual Christmas Party during their regularly scheduled December quarterly meeting. The CMMA is made up of 34 cities, towns and villages in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) and the quarterly meetings are held at the CMPDD office. The purpose of these CMMA quarterly meetings is to discuss current issues facing the municipalities and exchange ideas of improving each individual area. State legislators were invited to attend this year's Christmas Party.



Hazard Mitigation Planning Update

Over the last few months, CMPDD has prepared and submitted for approval of the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town of Terry. CMPDD continues to work with Mississippi Valley State University 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 (5) years to account for any changes that could increase or decrease a community's risk to a particular hazard.

Predicting where the next disaster will occur and how severe its impact will be

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

In the past year, revised Mitigation Plans were developed and approved for Benton, Brandon, Byram, Clinton, Eden, Flora, Florence, Flowood, Georgetown, Hazlehurst, Jackson, Richland, Ridgeland, Pearl, Pelahatchie, Satartia, Vicksburg, Wesson, Yazoo City, Copiah County, Madison County, Rankin County, Warren County, Yazoo County, and Jackson State University. For more information con-



cerning 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 www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/.

DRA Distressed County Project

The District completed the 2018 Update of the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) Allocation Funding Model. This is an annual project that requires update and analysis of unemployment, poverty, and per capita income data for all the counties in the DRA to determine which counties are distressed and should be included in the model summary. The end result is a spreadsheet funding model that allows the DRA to allocate certain funding to states with distressed counties.

City Clerks Meeting

CMPDD recently hosted a luncheon/meeting for the City Clerks in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District. The Clerks shared best practices with each other and discussed issues that directly affect their jobs. We are very happy to facilitate meetings such as this because increased efficiency greatly benefits our participating governments and those they represent.

CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver Program Update

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, coordinate, and manage the services on a monthly basis.

- We are pleased to announce that the Division of Medicaid is moving closer to becoming paper-free in submitting and maintaining applicants' files for the E & D Waiver program. Electronic submission of initial and recertification assessments and application packets in the new Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) web-based system began September 1, 2015. Case Managers began completing, submitting, and maintaining their monthly, face to face Case Management visit note in LTSS beginning October 1, 2017.
- Electronic visit verification (MediKey) for Personal Care Attendant (PCA) and In-Home Respite (IHR) providers began November 1, 2017. PCA and IHR providers' billing claims are processed through the electronic visit verification system.
- Our monthly staff meeting for December was held on Thursday, December 7, 2017, in the main office conference room. Pictured below are representatives from a newly approved Waiver provider – St. John's PCA & IHR Services – in attendance to introduce their agency and provide contact information for clients who choose their agency for their personal care or in-home respite services.
- CMPDD's Waiver Case Managers participated in the annual, sponsored Santa For Seniors project. Christmas gifts were distributed to 400 needy or isolated elderly and disabled waiver clients. Pictured below, Cyndy Berg, RN (Hinds 5 team) delivers a gift to a client on their team.

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

Job Creation Requirements Complete in Hazlehurst

The Copiah County Medical Center (CCMC), in Hazlehurst is complete and has created 29 new jobs as a result of their new facility. The necessary water and sewer infrastructure serving the new hospital, which is located just off Interstate 55 on Highway 28, was funded by various grants. Each funding agency required the beneficiary to create jobs to receive their investment. This requirement has been successfully met by CCMC. The City of Hazlehurst extended an existing sewer main from the east side of Interstate 55 to the site, which is west of Interstate 55. The City was awarded \$570,000 in Communi-

ty Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and \$204,000 from the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), totaling \$774,000 to complete the project. However, bids for the project came in well under budget and Hazlehurst was able to complete the project for just under \$400,000. The Copiah Water Association utilized \$385,055 of Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding to provide water infrastructure to the site. The Copiah Water Association provided matching funds of \$278,000 to complete the project. These funds allowed for the installa-

tion of a new main line, storage tank with pump, an emergency generator, and a chlorination system. The Copiah County Hospital Authority and Copiah County Board of Supervisors held a ribbon cutting on February 14, 2017 and the Copiah County Medical Center was fully operational on February 21, 2017. The CCMC, which is a state of the art facility, cost \$16 million.

CMPDD assisted the City of Hazlehurst and the Copiah Water Association through a combination of grant application services and administration assistance.

CMDC BULLETIN

CMDC is a U. S. Small Business Administration's approved Certified Development Company (CDC). 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 U. S. Small Business Administration'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. Wanda Cowart announced that the current interest rates on business loans under the U. S. Small Business Administration's CMDC remain very low! The interest rates are as follow:

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (January 2018)	4.66%
20 (January 2018)	4.64%

The interest rate on loans made under the Mississippi Minority Business Loan Program has increased from 3.75% to 4.00% 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 our website for a complete listing of our other loan programs including the Mississippi Minority Busi-



Groundbreaking and construction of Albriton's Jewelry new location.

ness Loan Program (MBELP); Mississippi Small Business Assistance Loan Program (MSBALP); Economic Development Administration's Revolving Loan Fund (EDA/RLF), Rural Business Enterprise Loan Program (RBEG); and the Farish Street Historic District Loan Program (FSHDLP) Funded by the State of Mississippi. The website address is www.cmpdd.org. For more details on these business loan programs, please contact Larry Anderson or Dwayne Perkins at 601.981.1625 for more information on these various programs available to small businesses.

2017 Application Approved for DRA SEDAP funding

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) is a federal-state partnership created by Congress, which serves a 240 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.

In Central Mississippi, the States' Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) program is only open to public and non-profit entities in the DRA-designated counties. 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. This year approximately \$4.4 million was available for the State of Mississippi.

The City of Vicksburg received a DRA award in the amount of \$545,000 for a basic infrastructure and transportation infrastructure project to support a support renovation of a 51,000-square-foot building in downtown Vicksburg to develop a Center of Innovation. This investment will strengthen workforce training and infrastructure, and increase community competitiveness. Other public funds in the amount of \$134,621 will be used as well as a private investment of \$5,000,000 for a total DRA investment of \$5,679,621. For additional information, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601.981.1511.

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

Seniors Benefit from Annual Holiday Project

Three organizations assisted Central Mississippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging with the 2017 Annual “Santa for Seniors Project.” The Jackson Chapter of the National Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), the Jackson Association of Health Underwriters (JAHU), and Home Instead Senior Care provided Christmas gifts to over 500 needy seniors in our seven (7) county area. Seniors were asked to create a wish list of items and the sponsors supplied them. Robes, blankets, towels, electric heaters, shower chairs, and toiletries are just some of the items purchased for seniors who were homebound and/or in long term care facilities. The seniors were very appreciative of the gifts and were encouraged and uplifted by the generosity extended to them.

Because sponsors have continued to participate with this project, the District has been able to provide many needy seniors with Christmas cheer and joy during the Holiday season for over twenty-seven (27) years. We look forward to working with them again in the future.



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