



# Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of  
Central Mississippi Planning &  
Development District

## Planning is Underway for the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Every five (5) years CMPDD, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), is responsible for developing a comprehensive long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan that identifies the needs of the transportation system in the metro-area (Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties) for the next 25 years. In late 2018, CMPDD began working in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the other MPOs in the State to craft a comprehensive statewide plan that is seamless in nature. The 2045 Jackson Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan once complete in late 2020 will identify long-range transportation goals for the metro-area, and will set the stage for strategic transportation investments over the next 25 years. Over the last few

months, CMPDD staff members have been working to update the base model that will be used to project future traffic demand as well as gathering information needed to develop future growth patterns. Using Land Use Plans from existing Comprehensive Plans and information from local developers and other officials regarding future development plans, CMPDD staff members have been working over the last few months to convert land use acreage for each Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) in the model into 2045 forecasts of population and employment based upon the anticipated build out of each TAZ using identified multipliers for each land use category. To stay engaged in the planning process be sure to follow CMPDD's Facebook page and visit <http://mstransportationplan2045.com/>.

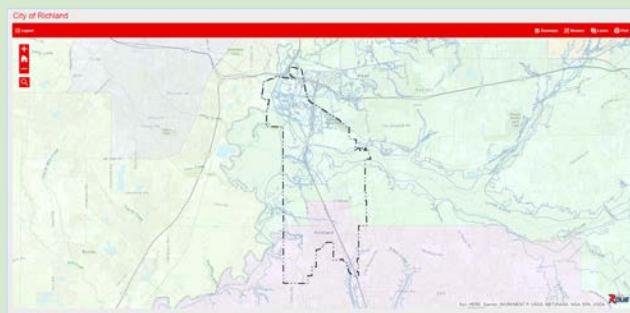
- 1  Define our current transportation needs.
- 2  Explain long-range transportation planning, why it is important and how people can participate in planning for the future.
- 3  Develop growth forecasts and identify future needs.
- 4  Based on needs and input from the public, begin to plan how and where limited transportation funding should be spent.
- 5  Develop goals and performance standards for our state.
- 6  Identify ways to improve transportation in our state.
- 7  Develop a financial plan.
- 8  Put together a draft transportation plan that includes both short-range projects identified in the Transportation Improvement Program and long-term projects.
- 9  Estimate the impact the draft plan might have on the community and the environment.
- 10  Invite the public to review and make comments about the draft plan.
- 11  Develop the final plan, which can be updated or amended if new information is discovered.

WE ARE HERE

# Planning Updates

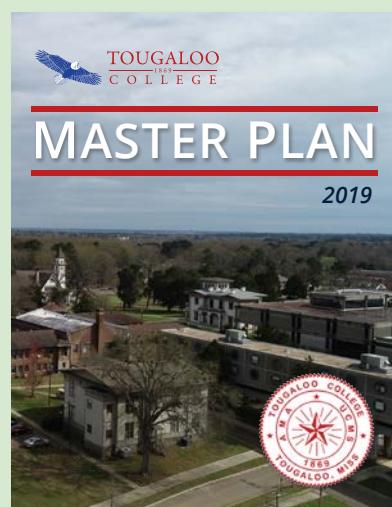
## City of Richland

In May, the Richland Mayor and Board of Aldermen adopted the City's new Comprehensive Plan which was developed by CMPDD's planners. The updated Plan includes not only all elements and tasks as required by state code, but also a web-based GIS map viewer with the capability of viewing various data layers such as infrastructure, the Land Use Plan and Zoning. The new Comprehensive Plan is published both in printed form as well as in an online Story Map format and is available to the public through the City's website.



## Tougaloo College

CMPDD's planners have completed a Master Plan for Tougaloo College that was presented to the college's Board of Trustees in early May. The purpose of the Master Plan is to develop a viable long term plan for the properties owned by Tougaloo College that are adjacent to the campus. Tougaloo College owns approximately 375 acres which are located in both Hinds and Madison County as well as the cities of Jackson and Ridgeland. District planners worked with planners from each jurisdiction to create opportunities for quality development that will complement the campus as well as the surrounding area. The Plan includes reserving land for campus expansion as well as a site specific land use plan for various types of development along with recommended zoning designations. The District utilized its drone capabilities as well as 3-D modeling to develop conceptual layout of the proposed developments.



## Town of Edwards Adopts Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance

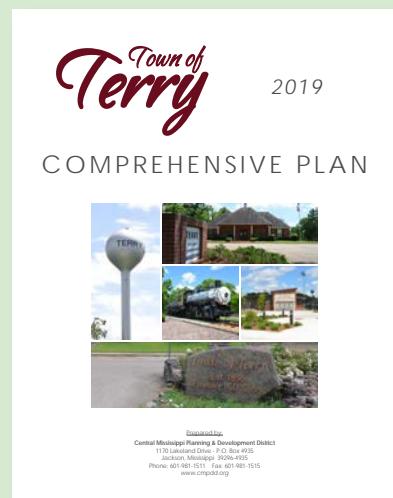
In early April, the Mayor of Edwards and Board of Aldermen adopted the Town's Comprehensive Plan update and Land Use Plan Map, which was developed by CMPDD and published in print and online in an interactive format. The updated Comprehensive Plan considers a larger study area than previous plans and addresses the potential for growth as a result of Continental Tire in western Hinds County. The interactive mapping tools allow for greater exploration of the Plan and can be easily accessed from the Town's website.

The Town also adopted amendments to the Town's Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map, which were prepared by CMPDD planners, in April. The comprehensive rezoning reduced the number of nonconforming properties, allowed for greater architectural controls within the Town, and provides greater housing options for existing residents. Finally, the sign regulations contained within the Zoning Ordinance were amended to be compliant with the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling regarding sign regulations.

## Town of Terry Considers New Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance and Map Amendments

CMPDD planners have prepared a new Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Plan Map for the Town of Terry, which will be released in an online format as well as in print. CMPDD also provided the Town of Terry with proposed amendments to the Town's Zoning Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance includes basic residential, commercial, and industrial zoning districts as well as a district to protect the agricultural areas of the Town and the historic core of the Town. The amendments also address current issues and building trends, such as food trucks and tiny homes, within the Town and the Central Mississippi region. The Town's sign regulations have also been revised to reflect the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling regarding sign ordinances.

Both documents were released for public review and input in June and the Board will consider adoption in July.



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# Jackson MPO Announces Funding for Five (5) Metro-Area Transportation Alternatives Projects

In May, the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved \$1.9 million in funding for metro-area Transportation Alternatives (TA) projects. The TA program is a federal-aid transportation program that provides funding through the MPO, as part of the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Transportation Bill, to local municipalities and counties for transportation alternative improvements in the urbanized area. The TA funding is made available for projects which promote accessibility and mobility for non-drivers through the development of on- and off-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities and infrastructure projects which provide additional modal options for accessing schools and public transportation.

In total, the MPO received 12 applications requesting more than \$5.2 million in TA funding. However, the MPO only had enough funds available to fund the top five (5) rated projects. Combined, jurisdictions receiving the \$1.9 million in transportation funding have committed to provide over \$800,000 in local matching funds.

Local jurisdictions submitted applications to CMPDD in March. The applications were graded and evaluated based on multiple scoring criteria approved by the MPO Planning Policy Committee including:

- Whether or not the project provided more than the minimum required local matching funds.
- The percentage of the total funds available the project requested. Projects requesting the least amount of federal funding received priority.
- Whether or not the project is ready to go to construction. Projects ready to proceed to construction were given priority over projects that may still have design work and/or utility and right-of-way factors to address.
- Whether or not the project improves connectivity to schools, transit stop locations, or other bicycle and/or pedestrian facilities.

Projects rating the highest in each category were selected by the MPO Planning Policy Committee to receive Federal TA grant funding by the Jackson MPO. For more information regarding the MPO transportation planning process or TA program visit the MPO website at [www.cmpdd.org](http://www.cmpdd.org).

Projects selected for TA funding by the MPO include:

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>MPO Funding</u>	<u>Local Matching Funds</u>
<b>Transportation Alternatives</b>			
Brandon	Boyce Thompson Dr. Bike Lanes	\$180,073	\$96,962
Brandon	Woodgate Dr. to Brandon Public Library Multi-Use Path	\$550,000	\$366,647
Brandon	Downtown Brandon Hwy. 80 Sidewalk Connectivity	\$264,064	\$142,188
Jackson	County Line Rd., Lamar St., Marshall/ Webster St. and Gallatin at South St. Sidewalk Improvements	\$484,861	\$161,620
Ridgeland	McClellan Dr. Multi-Use Path	\$480,856	\$120,214

## Central Mississippi Mayors Association

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) quarterly meeting was held on June 24, 2019 in Biloxi, MS while the Mayors were there attending the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) Annual Conference. During the CMMA meeting, Shari Veazey, MML Executive Director, provided a legislative update to the group.

CMMA is made up of 34 cities, towns, and villages in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) and the quarterly meetings are normally 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.

# CMPDD Submits CDBG Public Facilities Applications For 2019

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

Over the past several months the District has been assisting local governments with the preparation of CDBG Public Facility Applications. The District submitted four (4) applications to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) for review. Listed below are the applications that were submitted:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of D'Lo	Sewer System Improvements	\$449,233.60	N/A
City of Pearl	Unserved Sewer Extensions	\$439,100.00	\$1,662,900.00
City of Richland	Senior Citizen Building	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
City of Yazoo City	Senior Citizen Building	\$324,383.00	\$324,383.00

## The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

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

Seniors (60 years of age or older) with specific income qualifications were eligible to receive a one-time benefit of \$25.00 (five - \$5.00 vouchers) to shop for fruits and vegetables at an authorized local farmer's market.

Program participants are able to redeem the vouchers at an authorized local farmer's market through October 2019. In addition, Central Mississippi AAA partnered with the City of Jackson's Senior Service of America (SSA), to distribute several hundred vouchers this year at a local farmer's market. SSA volunteers assisted the seniors with the food voucher application process and helped carry fruits and vegetables to their vehicles. For more information on the Senior Nutrition Programs, contact the Area Agency on Aging at 601-981-1516.



## CMPPD staff members attend Delta Regional Authority's Workforce Opportunity in Rural Communities (WORC) Program Workshop

CMPDD staff members, Mitzi Stubbs and Jimmy Giles, recently attended the 2019 Delta Regional Authority's (DRA) Workforce Opportunity in Rural Communities (WORC) Program Workshop in Memphis, TN. The workshop covered a variety of topics related to industry-driven workforce development, including registered apprenticeships and potential workforce-related grant opportunities. CMPDD continually searches for grants and programs that can enhance the resources available to the district.

## MAS/MML Summer Conferences

CMPDD staff members attended the summer conferences of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and the Mississippi Municipal League (MML), both of which were held during June in Biloxi, MS. In addition to speaking with many of the District's

local officials, CMPDD staff assisted with the MAPDD exhibit booth and helped with MML's conference registration desk. During the MML conference, CMPDD Planner, David Wade and GIS Analyst, Tyler Scott presented "Integrating Emerging

Technology into Municipal Planning and Development" to conference attendees. The session focused on the use of technology such as interactive mapping, apps, and drones to enhance community development.

## MAPDD Annual Conference

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) held its annual conference in Biloxi, MS at the Beau Rivage April 23-26. It was attended by over 600 individuals from across the state. Speakers included Northern, Central, and Southern Transportation Commissioners Mike Tagert, Dick Hall, and Tom King, MS Division of Medicaid Executive Director Drew Snyder, and motivational speaker Dr. Lavon Gray. Concurrent sessions offered during the conference included topics ranging from elder care and safety, to virtual reality training, information on grant funding, and the 2020 census. Plans are already underway for next year's conference. Mark your calendars for April 28 – May 1, 2020 to attend.



## CMPDD Submits Delta Regional Authority (DRA) SEDAP Applications

DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress, which serves a 252 county/parish area in an eight-state region. In Mississippi, 45 counties (including all seven CMPDD counties) are eligible for funding under DRA. The purpose of DRA is to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development partnerships that will have a positive impact on the region's economy. This year approximately \$1,635,177 will be available for the State of Mississippi.

In Central Mississippi, the DRA State's Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) is only open to public and non-profit entities in the DRA-designated counties. 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](http://www.dra.gov).

Listed below are the applications that were submitted:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>DRA Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Canton	Industrial Park Road Improvements	\$250,000.00	\$45,000.00
City of Hazlehurst	Lake Hazel Dam Repair	WITHDRAWN	
Jobs for Mississippi Graduates (JMG)	JMG Workforce Pipeline Project (WPP)	\$105,000.00	\$320,000.00
Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)	Access Road for Madison Megasite	\$450,000.00	\$515,000.00
Mississippi Community Education Center (MSCEC)	MSCEC Maker Space and Career Experience Center	\$26,315.00	\$25,000.00
Town of Pelahatchie	Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW) Improvements	\$500,000.00	\$3,500,000.00

For additional information, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601.981.1511.

## Seniors Grooving to a Healthy Lifestyle!

On May 15, 2019 over 500 people attended CMPDD/Area Agency on Aging's (AAA) Seniors Grooving to a Healthy Lifestyle Health Fair and 2K walk at the Mississippi Department of Agriculture's Trademart Center. Various speakers, exhibitors, and health providers were available to provide information and health screenings to participants. The event started with welcoming remarks from Dr. Chelsea B. Crittle, Director of Aging Programs, and continued with presentations from local physicians, a representative from the Social Security Office, and the Attorney General's Office.

Family physician, Dr. Timothy Quinn, explained the importance of creating healthy, life-long habits for seniors. His presentation was followed by Ms. Barrie Carpenter with the Social Security Administration. She shared information regarding benefits, eligibility, filing claims, fraud, and abuse. In addition, Mr. Ricardo Brown discussed his role and responsibilities at the Attorney General's Office as it relates to protecting the rights of vulnerable adults, conducting investigations, and criminal convictions. Participants were able to ask questions and make comments following each presentation.

Throughout the event attendees enjoyed playing Bingo, taking pictures in a photo booth, and eating popcorn and a variety of fresh fruits. Several names were drawn for door prizes donated by exhibitors. In addition, Ms. Velma Davis from Yazoo City was presented a plaque and named the Central District Distinguished Honoree. The event ended with attendees expressing their gratitude for the services provided and a need for more community events that focus on their target population.



## CMPDD's Role in Workforce

In accordance with the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA), the State of Mississippi is divided into local workforce development areas for the purpose of carrying out the programs funded under the Act. The Act promotes local planning and service delivery as the best mechanism for identifying and meeting workforce skill gaps and needs. There are four (4) workforce areas in the State, each of which is overseen and administered by a fiscal agent. Four (4) of the State's ten Planning and Development Districts serve as fiscal agents to the four (4) workforce areas. CMPDD is the fiscal agent for the Southcentral MS Works (SMW) Workforce Development Area, and is responsible for the planning of the workforce programs offered throughout the area and for the fiscal integrity of the WIOA funds. Although the CMPDD provides many other services to the seven (7) counties in its District, its fiscal agent responsibilities for the SMW workforce area includes seventeen counties in the southwestern quarter of the state.

WIOA provides funds for a number of workforce-related employment and training programs and services aimed at enabling individuals to acquire the skills needed to connect with employment, as well as financial assistance to employers looking for qualified workers. 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 appointed through a process of nominations, while the BOC is composed of one county supervisor from each of the workforce area's 17 counties. These 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 (USDOL) performance mandates are met. The goal of all WIOA workforce programs is to connect individuals with permanent employment that pays a self-sufficient wage. The USDOL evaluates each workforce area and each state based on that criteria by assessing the individual's employment status six (6) months after their participation in the WIOA program and again 12 months after their participation. In addition, the median wage of all individuals who participated in WIOA programs is calculated against an established baseline.

CMPDD and the SMW Workforce area has long exhibited positive performance by meeting or exceeding the established performance goals. The majority of the workforce area's employment and training programs and services are accessed through a network of seven (7) WIN Job Centers located throughout the area. Any job seeker needing services or training should visit a WIN Job Center. Employers needing services may contact a WIN Job Center or staff of the CMPDD Workforce Division.

# CMDC BULLETIN

Ms. Wanda Cowart, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of one (1) new loan.

The loan was for Del Sol Mexican Restaurant for \$208,725 of a \$697,450 project under the United States Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program. The proceeds of this loan will finance the purchase and renovation of a commercial building in Laurel, Mississippi. The building will serve as the third location of Del Sol Mexican Restaurant and create 16 new jobs in the private sector.

CMDC is a commercial lender certified by the United States Small Business Administration and works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small businesses. CMDC provides fixed rate low interest long term financing for small businesses and saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. This type of financing removes the problem of variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not negatively impact the cash flow of those small businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 504 Loan Program. The most recent fixed interest rates under this loan program were:

#### **SBA 504 Loan Program Interest Rates**

<b>TERM (YEARS)</b>	<b>INTEREST RATE</b>
10 (June 2019)	4.36%
20 (June 2019)	3.98%
25 (June 2019)	4.09%

Also, CMDC serves as the Loan Review Board for CMPDD's Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program



*The future site of the third Del Sol Mexican Restaurant.*

(MBELP). The MBELP receives its funding from the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). The interest rate on loans made through this program to a minority owned business is currently 5.00% per annum. The term of a loan can be up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds (commercial buildings, equipment, inventory, working capital, etc.)

Ms. Cowart invites bankers, commercial loan officers, business owners, real estate developers, and general contractors, to contact Dwayne Perkins at 601.981.1625, or visit our website at [cmpdd.org](http://cmpdd.org). See the tab labeled "Small Business Assistance.

## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Administration

The CMPDD has provided CDBG administration services to the Towns of Utica, Puckett, Edwards, Bentonia and Wesson.

The Town of Wesson was awarded a 2018 CDBG Public Facilities grant to make Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements to their public library. The current library has numerous obstacles for people with disabilities that need to be addressed so that everyone in the community can access the library. The public library is vital to the community and

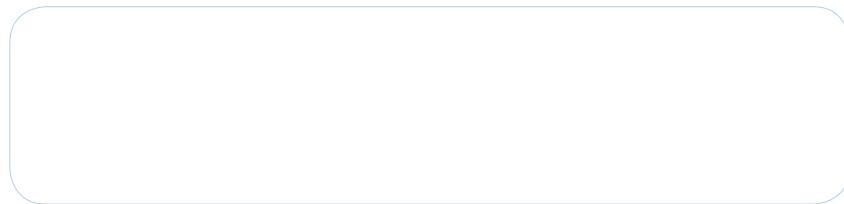
the citizens are excited about the ADA improvements that are to come in the near future.

The Town of Bentonia also received 2018 CDBG Public Facilities funds and will make improvements to the Town's sewer system. The current sewer system is failing and causing sewage back-up. The Town will use these funds to replace two pumps at the pumping stations in hopes of correcting this issue.

The Towns of Edwards, Puckett,

and Utica were funded in 2017 and CMPDD continues to provide administrative services while each project continues to work through the construction phase.

Administrative services include professional services procurement, environmental clearance, assistance with meeting all HUD and MDA regulations, financial management and oversight including submission of requests for cash, reporting compliance, and closeout assistance.



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

## CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver Program Update

CMPDD's Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver program provides Case Management (CM) and Home Delivered Meal (HDM) services to Medicaid eligible elderly and/or disabled recipients who desire to remain in their home setting. The Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker work together as a team to coordinate all approved Waiver services and conduct monthly home visits to assure the approved services are meeting the clients' needs.

As the need for in-home services increases, the referral base for Waiver services also increases. The District maintains an average of 2,400 referrals of potential Waiver beneficiaries. When an opening for a new applicant becomes available, the CM team selects the next referral, conducts the initial screening assessment, and submits the necessary information to the Division of Medicaid for approval. CMPDD continues to provide CM services to 2,331 elderly or disabled Waiver beneficiaries on a monthly basis.

In May 2019 and June 2019, we welcomed two (2) new Case Managers: Rachel Daniels, LCSW and Rhonda Williams, RN.



We have additional job openings for Registered Nurses to work the Hinds County and Madison County areas. Send applications and resumes to [tburrell@cmpdd.org](mailto:tburrell@cmpdd.org).

For more information on Elderly & Disabled Waiver services, please contact Teresa Burrell-Shoto, RN, Case Management Director, at 601.981.1625 or [tburrell@cmpdd.org](mailto:tburrell@cmpdd.org). Contact the Division of Medicaid for information on how to become a Waiver provider.

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