

OCTOBER 2019

Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

Developing the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Progress continues in the development of the Jackson Urbanized Area's 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which represents long-range transportation goals for the region's transportation system. CMPDD staff members along with consultant team members and the MS Department of Transportation (MDOT) are currently developing goals and performance standards based on priorities identified earlier this year and the data gained from analyses of existing transportation modes and growth forecasts. Development of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan is anticipated to be completed in 2020 following a second round of public meetings. To stay engaged in the planning process be sure to follow CMPDD's Facebook page and visit <http://mstransportationplan2045.com/>.



Did You Know...



- CMPDD's staff update the long-range transportation plan every five (5) years.
- The long-range plan examines both existing and projected conditions of the region's transportation network.



- The transportation network includes more than just roads and bridges. It also includes freight facilities, transit routes, and pedestrian and biking facilities.



- CMPDD works in conjunction with MDOT and other MPOs across the state to craft a coordinated comprehensive statewide transportation plan.
- The Jackson Metropolitan Transportation Plan guides how future projects are selected by the MPO.



- The Jackson Metropolitan Transportation Plan provides a way to collectively look at the big picture of transportation development. It helps answer the questions "What do we want from our transportation system over the next 25 years, and how can we achieve it?"



Stay Engaged!

Watch for quarterly newsbytes such as this one and ways you can participate in transportation planning such as public meetings or surveys. Questions? Contact us at mpo@cmpdd.org or www.cmpdd.org

Vicksburg WIN Job Center Moves to a New Location

The Vicksburg WIN Job Center has relocated to the Vicksburg campus of Hinds Community College. For many years, the Job Center was located in downtown Vicksburg, but now it has moved to a newly renovated building on Hinds' campus. The new location provides staff and customers with a pleasant atmosphere, and the location right off Mississippi Highway 27 makes it much more accessible for people needing the center's services. It will afford the citizens of Warren and Claiborne Counties the chance to be served more efficiently and effectively, as well as providing immediate, convenient access to training. The campus offers adult education programs, career technical training programs, testing for the National Career Readiness Certificate, dual enrollment high-school programs, and a variety of academic training programs. The services and programs available at the Center, funded by The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), include Career Services, On-the-Job Training assistance for employers, Individual Training Account scholarships for individuals needing skills training, internships, and information regarding the establishment of Apprenticeships.

The relocation of the Center to the Hinds Community College campus was a collaborative effort of Hinds, the Southcentral MS Works Workforce Development Area, the MS Department of Employment Security, the Warren Co. Board of Supervisors, and others. The new Center opened to the public on September 16th and an official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House was held on September 19th.

Public transportation is available to the Center. Job seekers



and employer customers can take advantage of the Center's Resource area, computer testing lab, multi-purpose room for Job Fairs, and other workforce-related events. Staff are available for assistance with job search, training enrollment, and other needs.

Mark Your Calendar!

Make Plans to Join Us for the 2020 MAPDD Conference

April 28 - May 1, 2020

in Biloxi, MS at the

Beau Rivage

www.msppdds.com



CMPDD Welcomes New Planner

The CMPDD planning staff welcomes Patrick Besselievre as a Planner. A native of Greenwood, Mississippi, Patrick earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration-Marketing from Mississippi State University and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of Memphis. Patrick will be assisting the Planning Department on numerous comprehensive planning and zoning projects, ongoing transportation planning efforts, and hazard mitigation planning. In addition, Patrick will be assisting in the development of neighborhood and area specific Master Plans.



CMPDD Conducts Existing Land Use Survey of the City of Jackson

CMPDD has completed the field work associated with an existing land use survey of the entire City of Jackson. The scope of work includes a complete field survey of existing land use based on standard land use classifications for all parcels in the City of Jackson. A precise geographical location was collected on each parcel and/or principal structure as well as structural condition and vacancy status. The survey also recorded nuisance properties as well as a complete count of all residential dwellings. The results of this survey will be released to the City of Jackson in the next quarter, once the field data is coded to each parcel.

Wadsworth Attends Data Conference

On September 12th and 13th, Jay Wadsworth, the District's Regional Data Analyst, attended the National Strategic and Planning Center's (NSPARC) 2019 Data Summit held at The Mill Conference center in Starkville, MS. This event was very informative and gave Jay the chance to network with other professionals from around the state and learn more about how collection and management of data impacts our communities. This year's theme was "Cybernetic City: An Ecosystem for Big, Smart, and Fast Economies." The summit consisted of two days of presentations, panel discussions, breakout sessions, and a networking reception. These sessions were focused on the undeniable value of data in increasingly connected cities and towns.

City Clerks Meeting

CMPDD 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



New Building Progress

Construction is progressing on CMPDD's new office building on Centre Pointe Boulevard in Pearl.

CMPDD Receives approval of 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 7 CMPDD counties) are eligible for funding under DRA. The purpose of DRA is to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development partnerships that will have a positive impact on the region's economy. This year approximately \$1,635,177 will be available for the State of Mississippi.

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

Listed below are the applications that were approved for funding:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>DRA Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Jobs for Mississippi Graduates (JMG)	JMG Workforce Pipeline Project (WPP)	\$150,000.00	
Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)	Access Road for Madison Megasite	\$450,000.00	\$515,000.00
Rankin First Economic Development Authority	Prepare Building Site in East Metro Center Business Park (EMC)	\$206,000.00	\$133,000.00

For additional information, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601.981.1511.

The District Hosts MML Regional Meeting

CMPDD once again hosted this year's Mississippi Municipal League (MML) Regional Legislative Meeting. The meeting was held August 19th at the MS Sports Hall of Fame. During the meeting, MML staff members discussed MML's legislative agenda for the upcoming year and gathered feedback from local officials. The meeting was attended by over 40 local municipal officials in addition to District and MML staff members.



CMPDD to Update Hazard Mitigation Plans

The CMPDD has been selected as the contractor to develop the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency's (MEMA) District 5 region, which will take effect Summer 2020. This region includes Hinds County, Simpson County, the Cities of Canton, Crystal Springs, and Madison, and the Town of Puckett from within CMPDD. Claiborne, Issaquena, and Sharkey Counties are included from outside CMPDD. District planners will begin working with local governments within District 5 in the coming months on this vital update.

Additionally, local governments within CMPDD that are not participating in the District 5 Plan, will be contacted in the coming months regarding the expiration of their existing Hazard Mitigation Plan, and necessary actions to complete required updates to their Plans. Local governments are required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through *44 CFR Part 200* to maintain their Hazard Mitigation Plans annually, and submit updated Plans every five (5) years.

CMPDD to Develop Plan for Jackson Medical Mall

CMPDD has contracted with the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation to prepare a Master Plan for the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation properties.

The primary purpose of the Master Plan is to serve as a long range guide to assist the Foundation in making decisions about future development of properties owned by and adjacent to Jackson Medical Mall. The plan will include an inventory of existing land uses in the area, a land use plan and transportation study, and recommendations for future development.



Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program Applications Submitted

The Mississippi Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program (SMLPC) is designed for making grants to small municipalities and limited population counties or natural gas districts to finance projects to promote economic growth in the state. Grants are available to municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less, and counties with a population of 30,000 or less. Eligible projects financed with SMLPC must be publicly owned and address at least one of the priorities listed below.

- Priority #1:** Economic development-related improvements to include water, sewer, street and drainage improvements for the benefit of site development, industrial parks, business districts, tourism destinations, and projects that improve the competitiveness of a community.
- Priority #2:** Downtown improvements to include: sidewalks, lighting, façade improvements, beautification improvements (waste receptacles, stop signs, street signs, landscaping, awnings, etc.), other downtown improvements as approved by MDA.
- Priority #3:** Non-economic development related water, sewer, street and drainage improvements.
- Priority #4:** Purchase, construction or rehabilitation of public buildings to include: town halls, libraries, police stations, fire stations, community centers, courthouses, other publicly owned buildings as approved by MDA.

The maximum grant amount is \$150,000. There is a 10% match requirement for a community with a population of 3,500 or less; and a 20% match requirement for communities with a population greater than 3,500. The match does not have to be cash only.

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District submitted three (3) SMLPC applications for the following cities/counties:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>SMLPC Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Hazlehurst	City Park Improvements	\$150,000	\$ 30,000
Town of Utica	Natural Gas Line Improvements	\$150,000	\$ 15,000
Village of Beauregard	Village Hall Emergency Renovations and Repairs	\$150,000	\$ 18,000

If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning the SMLPC grant program, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601.981.1511.

The Town of Utica Completes CDBG Funded Project

The Town of Utica recently completed a 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project on which it received \$431,000 in CDBG funds to make improvements to the Town's water system. In 2017, the Mississippi State Department of Health provided an inspection report that indicated significant deficiencies with the Town's water system. Items noted included deficiencies in the system's chemical feeding, rust and corrosion in the ground tank, well # 2 was offline (due to an electrical issue), and equipment that would allow the water supply to flow more efficiently needed to be updated as well. The Town was able to correct all of these issues using CDBG funds. CMPDD assisted the Town with both the submission of the application and administrative services on this important project.



CMPDD has also provided CDBG administration services to the Towns of Edwards, Puckett, Bentonia and Wesson. Administrative services include professional services procurement, environmental clearance, insuring compliance with all HUD and MDA regulations, financial management and oversight including submission of requests for cash,

reporting compliance, and closeout assistance. Although the construction phase has not yet begun, we continue to provide administration services in order to move forward with each project. For additional information on the CDBG program, please contact Mitzi Stubbs or Jason Larry, 601.981.1511.



CMPDD Prepares for 2020 Census

One Voice sponsored a Census Complete Count meeting at JSU on September 24, 2019. CMPDD was invited to address community and civic leaders from around the state. Jay Wadsworth, Regional Data Analyst for CMPDD, gave an overview of CMPDD's services and explained how CMPDD uses census data to assist local and regional governments in planning, grant assistance, economic development, and needs assessment. In closing, Jay reinforced the importance of getting a complete count in the 2020 Census and how it will be used as a benchmark for projecting demographic growth and changes in our communities for the next ten (10) years.

Planning Staff Preparing Numerous Plans

The CMPDD planning staff continues to work with the Cities of Pearl and Yazoo City, and the Town of Puckett to complete updates to their Comprehensive Plans. Staff is also working with Madison County to update their Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Each of these plans will be released in interactive, online formats utilizing the Story Map tool of ESRI.



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 Got Gear Properties, LLC for \$2,970,818 of a \$7,730,000 project under the United States Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program. The proceeds of this loan will finance the partner buyout of Got Gear Motorsports which includes the commercial building in Ridgeland, Mississippi. The partner buyout will also create seven (7) new jobs in the private sector.

CMDC is a commercial lender certified by the U. S. 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 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 are:

SBA 504 Loan Program Interest Rates

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (September 2019)	3.56%
20 (September 2019)	3.35%
25 (September 2019)	3.45%



Also, CMDC serves as the Loan Review Board for the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District's (CMPDD) Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (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 4.75% 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 981-1625, or visit our website at cmpdd.org. See the tab labeled "Small Business Assistance."

CMPDD Received MDA Site Visits for 2019 Community Development Building Grant 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 conducted site visits for two (2) potential CDBG Public Facilities projects in the CMPDD area. A site visit does not guarantee approval; however, it is an important step toward approval of the CDBG grant. Listed below are the proposed projects that ranked high enough to be eligible for potential funding through the CDBG Public Facilities Program.

<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	\$687,900.00

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

In the month of August, Teresa Shoto, CMPDD Case Management Director, was the speaker for the DaVita Dialysis Center social workers' quarterly meeting. She discussed the Medicaid Waiver program's eligibility, services, guidelines, and the process of making referrals. There were approximately 20 social workers in attendance.

CMPDD's Caregivers' Support Group also invited Teresa Shoto to present information on the Medicaid Waiver program. Pamphlets which

contained information on the E & D Waiver, who qualifies for it, services offered, qualifications and duties of each service, areas served, and how to make a referral were given out and reviewed by the group.

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. A

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.

For more information on Elderly & Disabled Waiver services, please contact Teresa Burrell-Shoto, RN, Case Management Director, at 601-855-5914 or tburrell@cmpdd.org. Contact the Division of Medicaid for information on how to become a Waiver provider.

Medicare Counseling Available at CMPDD

Insurance Counselors from Central Mississippi Planning and Development District Area Agency on Aging, are available to answer your questions regarding Medicare problems or concerns. This is a free service offered to help you make the best choice possible when it comes to Medicare benefits. If you have concerns, ask yourself the following questions:

1. What are the costs of my current health insurance policies?
2. Is the drug plan meeting my needs?
3. Am I satisfied with the services I am receiving?

The Medicare open enrollment begins October 15, 2019 and ends December 7, 2019. Take advantage of the annual Open Enrollment period to make sure you have the best coverage available to meet your health needs.

For more information, or to arrange for a Counselor to visit your area or speak to a group, contact CMPDD at 601.981.1516.

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