

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

125 West North Street • Post Office Box 608 Canton, Mississippi 39046 601-855-5500 • Facsimile 601-855-5759 www.madison-co.com

March 19, 2018

Mr. Shane Homan Secretary Greater Mississippi Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc. 398 E. Main Street Tupelo, MS 38804

Dear Mr. Homan:

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of Madison County for inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) No. 158. We understand that this means that the grantee, the Greater Mississippi Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc., will be able to apply to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board for authority to serve sites located within Madison County based on businesses' trade-related needs. We also note that the zone will be made available on a uniform basis to companies within this county, in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.

Thank you for making the FTZ program more easily available to our business community.

Sincerely,

Sheila Jones, Board President

Shelton Vance

From: Joey Deason < jdeason@madisoncountyeda.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2018 2:00 PM

To: Shelton Vance

Cc: Shane Homan (shoman@cdfms.org)

Subject: RE: FTZ reorganization

Shelton

Long story short.

The Mississippi Foreign Trade Zone is reorganizing under what is described below Alternative Site-Management Framework (ASF).

Nissan and Levi's are already Members and qualify under the Mississippi Foreign Trade Zone.

The reason for the reorg is to cut down on the amount of time to receive designation.

What normally requires multiple months to complete will be reduced to 30days.

Madison County already qualifies and will continue to qualify.

The letter is only a letter of support. This letter will join many others around the state.

Benefits of the FTZ can be seen in the link below.

It attempts to even the playing field with regards to tariffs so that product can be produced in the US as opposed to overseas.

https://www.foreign-trade-zone.com/benefits.htm

I've copied Shane Homan with Community Development Foundation (Tupelo/Lee County) who serves as the Ms. FTZ Secretary on this email and can add or subtract from my comments.

Reach out or call if you have questions or if you need additional assistance.

Joey

Joseph P. Deason

Executive Director



135 Mississippi Parkway Canton, Ms. 39046

jdeason@madisoncountyeda.com

Office: 601-605-0368 Mobile: 601-502-5151 From: Shelton Vance <Shelton.Vance@madison-co.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2018 10:58 AM

To: Joey Deason < jdeason@madisoncountyeda.com>

Subject: RE: FTZ reorganization

Thanks. I would like to have this available for discussion at the 3/19 meeting.

From: Joey Deason [mailto:jdeason@madisoncountyeda.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 4:40 PM

To: Shelton Vance

Subject: RE: FTZ reorganization

Shelton

Let me check on this.....

Joey

Joseph P. Deason Executive Director



135 Mississippi Parkway Canton, Ms. 39046

ideason@madisoncountyeda.com

Office: 601-605-0368 Mobile: 601-502-5151

From: Shelton Vance <Shelton.Vance@madison-co.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 8:17 AM

To: Joey Deason < ideason@madisoncountyeda.com >

Subject: FW: FTZ reorganization

Joey,

Do you have information on the Greater Mississippi Foreign Trade Zone? If I understand correctly, we are the only county that has not agreed to participate in our area.

SV

From: Greg Jones [mailto:GregJones@ftzcorp.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 4:29 PM

To: Shelton Vance

Cc: Carl D. Newman; Ana Kimball **Subject:** FTZ reorganization

Hello Shelton,

As we discussed, the Greater Mississippi Foreign Trade Zone, whose Board members are appointed by various public bodies, is reorganizing the FTZ project under the so-called Alternative Site-Management Framework (ASF). Under ASF, new "Usage-Driven" FTZ sites can be designated through a 30-day process in order to need the immediate needs of the business community. As we also discussed, the ASF requires a defined "Service Area" within which the 30-day site designation process is available. The Greater Mississippi FTZ is inviting all counties in which a Zone site has been previously designated, along with those counties whose economic development professionals have made FTZ-related inquires, to be within its proposed ASF Service Area.

This includes Madison County. As we discussed, the Nissan production facility and the Levi Strauss distribution facility are both already participants in the Greater Mississippi FTZ project; however, under the so-called "Traditional" sitemanagement framework, the process by which their sites received FTZ designation required several months to complete. ASF will help speed this process considerably.

Attached is a draft Word document for the use of your Board of Supervisors, and letters from your neighboring counties that have already been received to date. There is no cost to the County for inclusion in the ASF Service Area.

Finally, if you want to know more about the FTZ program and its role in local economic development, please take a look at the article that can be accessed at the link below:

https://www.tradeandindustrydev.com/industry/foreign-trade-zones-helping-communities-face-globa-10739

I look forward to assisting with you in obtaining your letter from the Board of Supervisors.

Please let me know if anyone has any questions. Thank you again for your assistance.

Best regards,

Greg

Greg Jones
Vice-President

FTZC™ (Foreign-Trade Zone Corporation)
2062 Old Shell Road
Mobile, AI 36607
(P)251-445-1372

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