

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

1020 Centre Pointe Boulevard • Pearl, Mississippi 39208 • (601) 981-1511 • Fax: (601) 981-1515

William Banks, President
Sally Garland, Vice President
Les Childress, Secretary-Treasurer
Michael Monk, Chief Executive Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: CMPDD MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

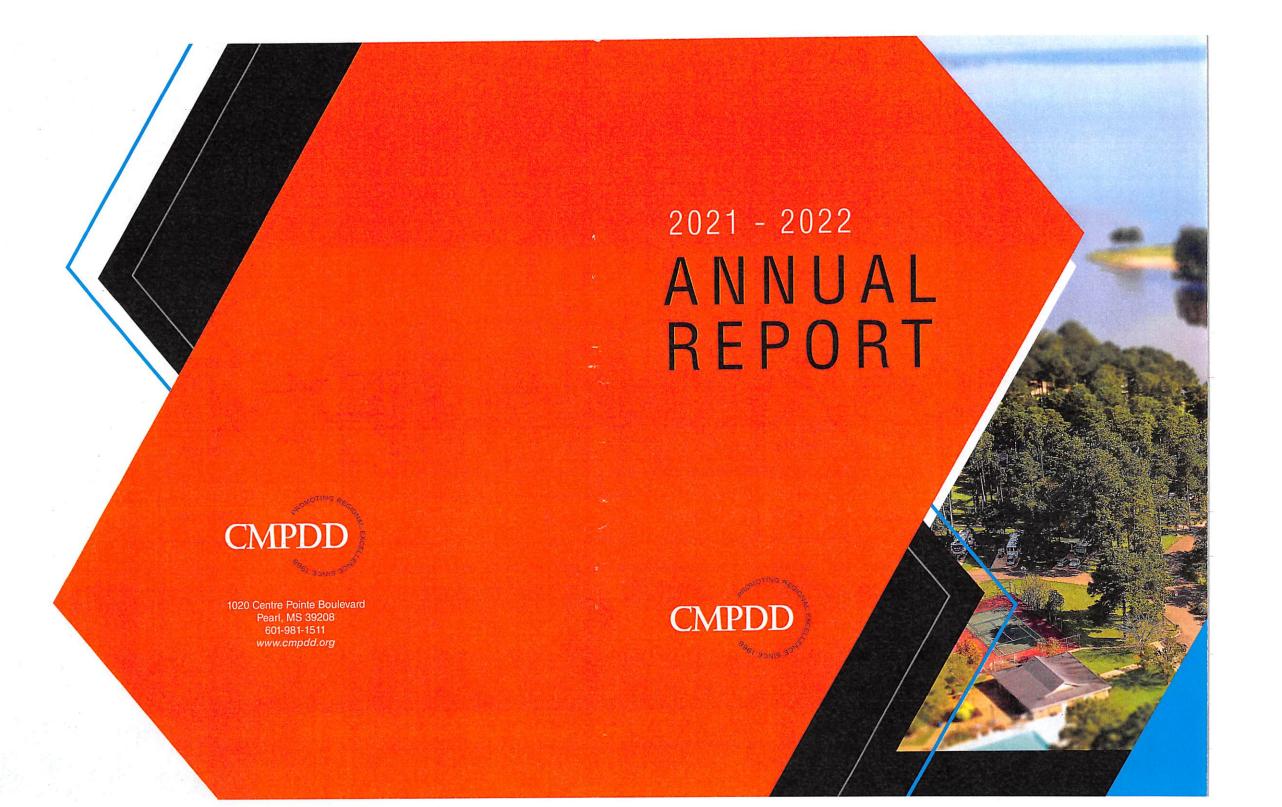
FROM: MIKE MONK, CEO

RE: 2021 – 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

DATE: January 9, 2022

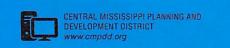
We are pleased to present you with the enclosed copy of the CMPDD's 2021-2022 Annual Report, which gives an overview of our projects, programs, and activities from October 2021 through September 2022.

After reviewing this document it is our hope that you will agree that we have had a most productive and beneficial year. If you have any questions, comments, or need further information, I would encourage you to call me or the appropriate person on our staff. Thank you for all your support and we look forward to working with you in the coming year.











FINANCIAL SUMMARY

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.
UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

R	eve	nu	es
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Interest	(109,078)
Lease	\$13,200
Federal/State	\$20,529,717
Assessments General and Services	\$309,701
Program Income	\$192,411
Local Contracts	\$628,504
Local Cash/In-Kind	\$1,138,456
Loan Revenue	\$6,274,745
Miscellaneous	\$70,808

Total Revenues \$29,048,465

Expenditures:

Services	\$13,865,325
Loans Made	\$0
Personnel	\$6,566,876
Overhead	\$2,398,105
Other	\$0

Total Expenditures \$22,830,306

Revenues Over Expenditures \$6,218,159

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



On behalf of the staff and the Board of Directors, it is an honor and a pleasure to present the 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD). Hopefully, this document represents an interesting and attractive overview of the projects, programs, and activities during the last fiscal year.

In accordance with our bylaws, the CMPDD Board of Directors in June elected new officers to serve a two (2) year term. We are fortunate to have excellent leadership once again in place to help guide the organization. The new officers are as follows:

Honorable William Banks, President, Supervisor, Warren County Honorable Sally Garland, Vice President, Mayor, City of Crystal Springs Honorable Leslie Childress, Secretary/Treasurer, Mayor, Town of Flora Honorable Isla Tullos, Immediate Past President, Mayor, City of Raymond

Organizationally, the CMPDD is a non-profit organization created to improve the overall well-being of the seven-county area by addressing problems and issues that go beyond any one political subdivision. The local cities and counties within this region are the entities this organization primarily serves. Many of our activities remain the same each year, while others greatly vary as the needs of this ever-changing region vary quite a bit. Our effectiveness can rarely be measured by one fiscal year, one project, program, or activity. Our major strength is bringing many groups, organizations, and interests into one common element for the long-term benefit of this region. We represent the only organization of this type in this area and are constantly striving to bring about better coordination, cooperation, and consistency.

Another strength CMPDD has is its ability to adapt to changing conditions for which we seemingly have little or no control. The District is extremely diverse in the types of functions and activities it provides and therefore has numerous streams of revenue. We are uniquely structured where, during difficult times, we can look for opportunities to promote a regional approach. The District and its staff are instilled with an entrepreneurial spirit and are constantly looking for new and innovative ways to address the common issues and concerns of this most important region.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC. UNAUDITED BALANCE SHEET AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Assets	
Current Assets:	
Cash & Investments	\$13,798,176
Receivables	\$1,100,804
Prepaid Expenses	\$48,172
Total Current Assets	\$14,947,152
Long Term Assets	
Fixed Assets (Furniture & Fixtures, Equipment & Building)	\$10,358,143
Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$1,984,994
Total Long Term Assets	\$8,373,149
Total Assets	\$23,320,301
Liabilities and Fund Balance	
Current Liabilities	
Accrued Leave & Retirement on Accrued Leave	\$923,556
Accrued OPEB Liability	\$85,898
Deferred Revenue	\$0
Accounts Payable (Net)	\$1,349,913
Payroll Taxes Payable	\$559
Total Current Liabilities	\$2,359,926
Long Term Liabilites	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$2,359,926
Fund Balances	
Agency Equity-General	\$14,960,375
Agency Equity-Committed	\$4,000,000
Agency Equity-Designated	\$2,000,000
Total Agency Equity	\$20,960,375
Total Liabilities and and Fund Balance	\$23,320,301

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS (MAPDD)



CMPDD is under contract with the MS Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) to serve as the association's staff. CMPDD is responsible for setting up monthly informational and administrative meetings, as well as spearheading the association's annual conference, and coordinating receptions throughout the year. Working collectively, the PDDs meet monthly to discuss common interests, hear federal and state officials as they provide updates and information on their programs, and to conduct MAPDD business.

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) held its annual conference in Biloxi, MS at the Beau Rivage April 19-22. It was attended by over 700 individuals from across the State. Speakers included Mississippi's Favorite Reporter, Walt Grayson; NADO Executive Director, Joe McKinney; as well as Mississippi Secretary of State, Michael Watson. Concurrent sessions offered during the conference included sessions on Medicaid Waiver, Workforce, Aging, and Planning.

District staff also organized a two-day Census training in February 2022 in partnership with the Center for Population Studies and State Data Center of Mississippi. PDD staff state-wide traveled to Oxford for workshops offered on census products, micro-data analysis, as well as college undercounts. District staff also coordinated the Association's activities for the PDDs involvement with the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and Mississippi Municipal League's (MML) summer conferences.



There is no way to truly determine our most significant or important activities for the year, but a few are:

- CMPDD's Planners have been very busy this past fiscal year with several Comprehensive Planning
 and Zoning projects in the region and beyond, assisting Brandon, Clinton, Richland, Rankin County,
 Simpson County, and the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD). In addition, the
 District completed a Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for Tate County, which is outside
 our service area.
- District staff completed a five (5) year re-write of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for each county in the region. The CEDS is a requirement of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to maintain funding eligibility. Staff held meetings in each county and conducted a SWOT Analysis to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for the area.
- CMPDD's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) awarded \$27.1 million in Surface Transportation
 Block Grant (STBG) funds to 37 transportation projects in the Jackson Urbanized Area. Another
 \$7.7 million was leveraged in local matching funds that brings the total to \$34.8 million for projects.
- The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) continued to make good use of funding to benefit the elderly of
 the region. Through the additional infusion of funding due to COVID-19 the District has been able
 to provide more home delivered meals and emergency supplies to those in need. In addition, the
 AAA has implemented new programs such as Chore Services and a Taste of Central meal card to
 enhance services.
- CMPDD's Workforce Development Division, referred to as Southcentral Mississippi Works (SMW),
 has worked diligently with the newly formed Accelerate Mississippi to devise a fresh statewide
 workforce strategy and foster collaboration across the broad spectrum of workforce development
 groups. In addition to our normal responsibilities of managing WIOA funding, SMW applied for and
 received approval from Accelerate Mississippi to provide Wrap-Around Supportive Services (\$2.8
 million) and Career Coaching (\$1.1 million). These funds will be used to further enhance workforce
 development efforts in our region.

After reviewing this document, it is our hope that you will agree that we have had a most productive and beneficial year. If you have any questions, comments, or need further information please feel free to contact the appropriate person within the organization.

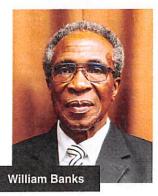
ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION

CMPDD is a sub-state regional planning organization serving the governments of seven (7) adjacent counties in Central Mississippi - Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo. CMPDD is a non-profit corporation concerned with meeting the ever changing needs of its seven participating counties and thirty-five municipalities. The District promotes area-wide progress through regional planning and development concepts in such areas as local planning, governmental management, economic development financing, and human resource coordination.

CMPDD was created in 1968 through the voluntary actions of local community leadership with technical assistance provided by various local, state, and federal agencies. Many of these agencies provided financial incentives to create local regions to address multi-jurisdictional issues.

The District prides itself in effectively organizing and managing its functions and activities. Each year an overall program of work is developed, which contains all projects and activities expected to be undertaken during the upcoming fiscal year. There is a corresponding budget for each project. In addition, a Mid-Year Report is presented in the identical format of the Work Program, and shows the progress of each activity along with a year-to-date spending analysis. The District also produces a newsletter each quarter, which relates the activities that have occurred during that three month period. Finally, the District maintains an up-to-date website. Information on planning and development, grants, loans, workforce training, aging activities, as well as transportation planning is available at www.cmpdd.org.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The District is governed by a Board of Directors composed of county and municipal elected officials, representatives of business and industry, and minority leaders. The Board of Supervisors from each county appoints three members - one in each category - and the municipalities in each county select an elected official as their representative. In addition to these members, representation from the City of Jackson is composed of two elected officials, a leader in business or industry, and a minority representative.

BOARD OFFICERS

Supervisor William Banks, President Mayor Sally Garland, Vice-President Mayor Les Childress, Secretary-Treasurer Mayor Isla Tullos, Immediate Past President

BOARD MEMBERS

COPIAH COUNTY

Mayor Sally Garland Supervisor Daryl McMillian Sr. Ms. Daisy Price Mr. Wendell Stringer

HINDS COUNTY

Supervisor David Archie Supervisor Credell Calhoun Mr. John Hughes Morgan Mayor Isla Tullos

MADISON COUNTY

Supervisor Gerald Steen Mayor Les Childress Mr. Dan Hart Mr. Phil Buffington

RANKIN COUNTY

Supervisor Jared Morrison Supervisor Steve Gaines Mr. Walter Redd Mayor Pat Sullivan

SIMPSON COUNTY

Mayor Todd Booth Alderman Patrick Brown Mr. Pat Brown Supervisor Brian Kennedy

WARREN COUNTY

Supervisor William Banks Mr. Michael Mathews Alderman Michael Mayfield Ms. Linda Fondren

YAZOO COUNTY

Supervisor David Berry Supervisor Cobie Collins Ms. Mildred Smith Mayor David Starling

CITY OF JACKSON

Mayor Chokwe Lumumba Councilman Angelique Lee Mr. Mat Thomas Mr. Brandon Comer Additionally, through our contracted meal delivery provider, the CMPDD provided 288,870 home delivered meals to Medicaid Waiver recipients during FY2022.

The placement of teams and the distribution of slots are indicated below:

County	# of Teams (RN and SW)	Clients to be served
Copiah	2 full	220
Hinds	13 full & 1half	1,464
Madison	2 full	220
Rankin	3 full	330
Yazoo	2 full	220
Warren	1 full	110
Simpson	1 full	110
Total	24 full teams / 1 half team	2,674

The number of clients served includes active clients, and clients pending approval by the Division of Medicaid. CMPDD also maintained an average of 1,713 applicants on waiting lists during the fiscal year. This reflects a decrease in the number of potential waiver clients on waiting lists.



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

In response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division of Medicaid continues to operate under the federally declared Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Public Health Emergency (PHE). The PHE applies to all state approved waiver programs. It consists of allowable flexibility for providers to continue to serve individuals impacted or may be impacted by the emergence of the COVID-19 virus. Targeting Case Management duties and responsibilities, these flexibilities include:

- Allowing case managers to conduct monthly client contact by telephone, or virtual contact. Face-to-face monthly
 contact is required for recipients who are unable to be contacted by telephone, or unable to communicate by
 telephone.
- Foregoing client signatures. Verbal consent is documented in lieu of signatures for recipients who prefer not to sign electronically.
- Allowing beneficiaries to exceed or forego the 30-day limit of being away from services without being discharged from the waiver program.
- Temporarily allowing participants to exceed the 30-day limit for institutional (nursing facility) respite stay, up to a maximum of 90 days.
- Temporarily allowing services to be provided by relatives of beneficiaries.
 Excluded relatives are spouses, parents (including stepparents or foster parents), children of the Waiver beneficiary (including stepchildren and grandchildren), grandparents of the beneficiary, and siblings or stepsiblings.
- Temporarily allowing flexibility in provider training requirements.
- Allowing continuation of services to waiver beneficiaries that are diagnosed with Covid-19, utilizing all available PPE and safety precautions.

MEDICAID WAIVER



HOME & COMMUNITY-BASED ELDERLY & DISABLED MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM

The Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) programs offer in-home and/or community-based services instead of institutional care. These waiver programs provide more specialized services above and beyond State Plan services. The Elderly & Disabled (E&D) Waiver is one of five (5) HCBS waiver programs offered by the State of Mississippi. It is also the largest statewide waiver serving an average of 17,800 beneficiaries per month.

According to data, reports, and information provided by the Division of Medicaid, costs for nursing facility care can exceed paid waiver services provided in a home or community setting by an average of more than \$23,000 per beneficiary per fiscal year. One (1) person in a nursing facility can fund three (3) people enrolled in a HCBS Waiver

The purpose of the E&D Waiver is to allow eligible Medicaid individuals who require nursing facility level of care to receive assistive services in their homes or community-based settings, instead of receiving services in a nursing facility. If not for the provision of services through the Waiver, the person would be at increased risk for permanent nursing facility placement.

Services available through the Elderly & Disabled Waiver program include Case Management, Personal Care Attendant Services, Adult Day Care services, Extended Home Health services, Home Delivered Meals, In-Home Respite Care, Institutional Respite Care, and Transition Assistance. Through participation with the State of Mississippi Division of Medicaid, CMPDD provides Case Management and Home Delivered Meals to eligible recipients.

- · Registered Nurses and Licensed Social Workers work as a team to provide monthly Case Management services. Home Delivered Meals are prepared and delivered by a licensed and contracted meal provider.
- · To qualify for this program:
- ° Clients must be 21 years of age or older.
- ° Clients must have an approved Level of Care (LoC) or LOC derived from the InterRAI assessment in the Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) web-based system.
- ° Clients must qualify by either SSI (Supplemental Security Income) income eligibility or 300% of SSI income.
- ° Clients must meet all income, resources, and other Mississippi Medicaid eligibility requirements.
- Personal care attendants and in-home respite providers utilize the Medi-Key device as a clocking in/ clocking out system in the client's homes. Medi-Key is also known as One-Time Password (OTP) device. The OTP devices will display an 8-digit number (password) that will be entered via telephone by the

- direct care worker upon arrival to the client's home to clock in. After the completion of service, the direct care worker will enter the new password displayed upon leaving the client's home to clock out.
- CMPDD Case Managers are responsible for assigning the OTP device in the LTSS system, distributing, and explaining the use of the OTP devices to the Waiver clients.
- · Use of the electronic visit verification also serves as submission, verification, and payment of claims for PCA and IHR providers.
- For Fiscal Year 2022, CMPDD Case Managers distributed an additional 300 OTP devices to Waiver clients. Some clients have chosen to use their landline phone for direct care workers to clock in and clock out, instead of being assigned an OTP device. Reserve devices are available for lost, stolen, or malfunctioning devices.

CMPDD reserves the capacity to serve 2,674 clients on the Elderly & Disabled Waiver Program. During FY2022, CMPDD served an average of 2,543 Medicaid beneficiaries per month. This reflects an increase of an additional 97 clients served per month.

DISTRICT STAFF

Geanell Adams, Workforce Coordinator Sonya Banes, District Accountant Cyndy Berg, RN, Case Manager Katie Bilbro, Medicaid Wavier Supervisor Lisa Blanton, LSW, Case Manager Pastina Booker, RN, Case Manager Thomas Brewer, GIS Analyst Mary Broadway, RN, Case Manager Scott Burge, Senior Transportation Analyst Stephanie Byrd, LSW, Case Manager Lesley Callender, Senior Planner Chuck Carr. Director of Planning and Management Justice Dinkins, RN, Case Manager Aviance Caston, RN, Case Manager Brittany Coleman, Aging Specialist Karla Craine, Medicaid Reimbursement Specialist Chelsea Crittle, Aging Program Director Michael Curran. Senior Workforce Coordinator Sharon A. Dallis, Nutrition Activity Coordinator Justice Dinkins, RN, Case Manager Jason Duff. IT System Analyst Cathy Duke, Director of Finance Jane Foster, Executive Assistant Felicia Garner, LSW. Case Manager Robin Greer, Case Manager Kenya Hampton, Insurance Counselor Chi Harper, Medicaid Waiver Office Assistant Angela Harris, LSW, Case Manager Clorese Harris, RN, Case Manager Delicia Harrison, Resource Specialist III Debra Hartfield, HR Manager Lynn Head, District Accountant Fenicia Hill, LSW, Case Manager Michael Howared, LSW, Case Manager Krissy Hudson, Help Me Grow Resource Specialist Tia Hudson, LSW, Ombudsman Vickie Hughes, Social Support/Help Me Grow Specialist Angel Idowu, LSW, Case Manager Leslie Ivers, RN, Case Manager Dylan Johnson, Operations Technician Carla Jones, RN, Case Manager Jace Jones, Aging Data Entry Specialist Rena Jones, RN, Case Manager Tara Jones-Cooper, Aging Program, Specialist Brenda Knott, Senior Aging Program Coordinator Clarissa Leflore, LSW, Case Manager Shay Lipe, Consultant Makleisha Logan-Hite. Insurance Counselor - Ombudsman Brenica Mallett-Dotson, Aging Case Manager Tressa Matthews, RN, Case Manager Jay McCarthy, Community and Economic Development Coordinator Martha McPhail. Office Manager

Michelle McVey, LSW, Case Manager

Deanna McWilliams, RN, Case Manager Tom Meek, Workforce Systems Coordinator II Jill Middleton, RN, Case Manager Linda Mitchell, RN, Case Manager Mike Monk, Chief Executive Officer Evelyn Morris, LSW, Case Manager Shineka Morris, Fiscal Monitoring Specialist Darlene Morton, LSW, Social Worker/Case Manager Angela Neal, RN, Case Manager Janice Neal, LSW, Case Manager Terrianna Nelson, LSW, Case Manager Gray Ouzts, Principal Planner Robin Parker, Director of Workforce Roxanne Pendleton, LSW, Case Manager Corita Perkins, RN, Case Manager Dwayne Perkins, Loan Program Director Regina Phillips, RN, Case Manager Emma Powell. Community Navigator Mary Powers. Consultant Dominique Ramsey, LSW, Case Manager Sonia Riptoe, Community Navigator Bridget Robinson, Outreach Specialist Ashley Rowells, Planning Assistant Michelle Rutledge, RN, Case Manager Rose Scott, RN. Case Manager Lindsay Sellers, Community and Economic Development Specialist Christina Shores. Receptionist Teresa Shoto, RN, Case Management Director Johnathan Simon, GIS & Information and Technology Manager Amy Smith, Community and Economic Development Specialist Anita Smith, RN, Case Manager Don Smith. Graphic Designer Michael Smith. District Accountant Dionne Taylor, LSW. Case Manager Laverne Thigpen, LSW, Case Manager Tracy Thompson, LSW, Case Manager Tina Tolar, Workforce Compliance and Reporting Coordinator Angela Travis, LSW, Case Manager Taisha Travis, RN, Case Manager David Wade, Principal Planner Jay Wadsworth, Regional Data Analyst Anthony Walker, MAC Center Support Specialist Detetria Washington, RN, Case Manager Paris Wheaton, RN. Case Manager Barbara White, LSW, Case Manager Lasharon Williams, Resource Specialist III Patricia Williams, LSW, Case Manager Tiesha Williams, RN, Case Manager Tony Wonch, Senior GIS Planner Lousonya Woodland, Workforce Program Manager Trisha Worthy, LSW, Case Manager

COMMITTEES

The District is a very diverse organization concerned with many issues and opportunities. To provide the staff with adequate input and maximum policy direction, the Board of Directors has delegated much authority to its standing committee system which has proven to be an effective mechanism for providing guidance and direction in a timely manner. At each Board of Directors' meeting, reports from the committees are presented in written form, and the Board acts with recommendations from these committees. The committee members listed are those that are serving at the time this document was written.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Supervisor William Banks, President Mayor Sally Garland, Vice-President Mayor Les Childress, Secretary-Treasurer Mayor Isla Tullos, Immediate Past-President Mr. Walter Redd Supervisor Cobie Collins

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT COMPANY BOARD

Representative De'Keither Stamps, President Mr. Frank Quinn, Secretary-Treasurer Mayor David Starling Mr. Johnny Donaldson Mr. John Morgan Hughes Supervisor Jared Morrison Mr. Wendell Stringer

MISSISSIPPI SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE LOAN REVIEW BOARD

Mr. James Stirgus, Jr., Chairman

Mr. Bill Guion Mr. Fountaine McNair Mr. Donald Price Ms. Delores Suel Mr. Tom Troxler

Ms. Deborah Crook

REVOLVING LOAN FUND/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION LOAN BOARD

Mr. James Stirgus, Jr., Chairman

Mr. Bill Guion
Mr. Fountaine McNair

Mr. Frank Pickering Ms. Delores Suel Ms. Deborah Crook

METROPOLITAN PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Mayor Butch Lee, Chairman Supervisor David Archie Supervisor Trey Baxter Mayor Karl VanHorn Mayor Lawrence Butler Mayor Mary Hawkins Butler Supervisor Credell Calhoun Mayor Les Childress Mayor Phil Fisher Supervisor Steve Gaines Mr. Dan Hart
Mayor Joseph Kendrick, Jr.
Mayor Chokwe Lumumba
Mayor Gene McGee
Supervisor Bobby McGowan
Mr. Brad White
Mayor Robert Morris
Supervisor Jared Morrison
Mr. Walter Redd
Mayor Gary Rhoads

Mr. Don Davis
Supervisor Gerald Steen
Mayor Pat Sullivan
Mr. Mat Thomas
Mayor William Truly
Mayor Isla Tullos
Ms. Christine Welch
Mayor Jichard White
Mayor Jake Windham
Mr. Andres Ramirez

MISSISSIPPI ACCESS TO CARE (MAC) CENTER

Through a grant awarded to the District by the Mississippi Department of Human Services to administer the Mississippi Access to Care Center is one portion of a larger "No Wrong Door" (NWD) network in the State of Mississippi. This program enables individuals and their families to make informed decisions relative to long-term care options and secure needed services or benefits by locating resources available in their communities.



The MAC Center staff has successfully documented 10,486 telephone calls, completed 488 SHIP referrals, mailed 128 respite voucher applications, conducted 3,463 follow-ups, responded to 1,947 email requests, attended 88 trainings, assisted 24 individuals through office visits, mailed out 440 information packets and brochures, updated 1,489 Community

Resources within the Mississippi Access to Care database system, and served 102 people through the Help Me Grow Program which resulted in 642 interactions. In addition, MAC Center staff completed 239 TCR referrals, conducted 927 Medicaid Waiver screenings, completed 117 COVID-19 vaccination referrals, and assisted 26 Veterans.

CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The District administered Case Management as an approach needed to meet the service needs of individuals who are at risk of institutionalization. The main objective of Case Management is continuity of services. This program provides the comprehensive assessment by which an individual's needs for services are determined

and arranges for those services in an organized and coordinated way to meet goals and objectives. An Aging Case Manager is responsible for conducting monthly home visits, completing assessments and reassessments, developing, and initiating the appropriate plan of care.

There were 44 clients who received 792 units of service that enhanced

home-based services and supports this fiscal year.

County	Clients
Copiah	2
Hinds	31
Madison	5
Rankin	3
Yazoo	- 1
Total	44

CHORE SERVICES PROGRAM

In FY 2022, the District implemented the Chore Services Program to assist seniors with minor essential household repairs and lawn services. Eligible clients are allocated a \$300 dollar budget for the 12-month period. Clients received assistance with changing air filters,

light bulbs, installation of modified toilets, grab bars, bathroom, and kitchen faucets.

There were 72 clients who received 666 units of service that enhanced home-based services and supports this fiscal year.

County	Clients
Hinds	52
Madison	5
Rankin	14
Yazoo	_1
Total	72





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LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The District provided legal assistance to 251 clients through a contract with the Mississippi Center for Legal Services Corporation. Areas of assistance included issues relating to name change, Social Security, wills and estates, Advance Directives and Powers of Attorney, and home ownership and property. Additional CARES Act Funding was provided to Legal Services to provide assistance to seniors affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Elder Abuse Prevention Program is designed to alert the public to the critical need for individual and collective action to protect abused, neglected, and exploited older adults in the community. This program seeks to serve as an information and referral base for broadening public and private involvement in the protection of at-risk older persons.

The District provides trained speakers for professional, civic, and church groups who wish to be a part of a crusade against abuse. District staff participated in the North Mississippi Rural Legal Services 2022 Elder Law Conference/ Webinar. Also, staff received multiple calls from multiple alleged victims and alleged perpetrators. In addition, District staff participated in ongoing collaborative efforts with the Mississippi Department of Human Services Adult Protective Services Call Center to ensure program success. District staff participated in two (2) community presentations and along with serving as a guest speaker on the Dennis Ayers Radio Show. Additionally, an elder abuse series is featured monthly in the MAC Center newsletter.

COMMUNITY TRANSITION SERVICES PROGRAM

The District administered the Community Transition Services (CTS) Program, a statewide program funded by the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM). CTS is designed to assist individuals who reside in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual and development disabilities to return to the community. Community Transition Services Program is built around the core principles of consumer choice and empowerment to assist individuals in facilities to identify potential living options. The District's Community Navigators provided information, education, and referral to Medicaid beneficiaries interested in transitioning out of institutional care into the community. The District's



staff provided assistance and collaborated with various community representatives in providing navigation to seven (7) clients. The Community Navigators provide assistance to clients with different circumstances which affect their transitions. Also, the Community Navigators completed 273 of case management, by telephone or through face-to-face contact with patients and family members.

VETERANS DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM

The District partnered with Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District for the purpose of providing services on behalf of Veterans under the Veteran Directed Care Program. The VDC program offers eligible veterans a flexible budget to purchase goods and services that assists them with living independently at home within the community, rather than in an institution. Trained Case Managers were assigned to assist clients with arranging consumer self-directed services based upon their needs and preferences.

Five (5) clients were provided case-management services that enhanced home based services and supports this fiscal year.

INTERMODAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Dexter Shelby Ms. Lesley Callender, Chairman Ms. Jordan Hillman Mr. Mark Bevea Mr. Charles Sims Mr. Ken Seawright Mr. Jake Shelby Mayor Joseph Kendrick Mr. Bill Milev Mr. Chris Smith Mr. Robert Lee Ms. Chloe Dotson Mr. Perry Brown Mr. Stan Martin Mr. Evan Wright Mr. Tim Bryan Mr. Christopher Bryson Mr. Joel Yelverton Mr. James Caldwell Mr. Chris Smith Mr. Mike McCollum Mayor Les Childress Mr. Paul Forster Ms. Kim Thurman Mr. Trent Curtis Mr. Bill Owen Mayor Lawrence Butler Mr. Matthew Dodd Mr. Tim Parker Mr. Jeff Rent

Ms. Christina Smith Mr. Neil Patterson Mr. Rick Ferguson Mr. Andres Ramirez

SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Supervisor Melvin Graves Supervisor Kenvon Jackson Supervisor Robert Accardo Supervisor Angela Hutchins Supervisor Kenyon Jackson Supervisor Karl Banks Supervisor Shawn Jackson Supervisor Jimmie Bass Supervisor Brad Calhoun Supervisor Kelvin King Supervisor Darvl McMillian Supervisor Danny Craft Supervisor Coney Dorsey Supervisor Doug Popwell Supervisor Doug Falvey Supervisor Stanley Stephen Supervisor Willie Wright Supervisor Robert Graham

SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Mr. Benny Hubbard, Chairman Mr. Arthur Evans, Jr. Mr. Clarence Scutter Ms. Tara Barnes Mr. Kenny Goza Dr. Mary Sims-Johnson Ms. Cindy Bennett Ms. Myrle Grate Ms. Kemsye Smith Ms. Sarah Bridge Mr. John Graves Mr. C. Jim Stephens Ms. Jill Busby Mr. Harold Hart Mr. Michael Suttlar Ms Keisha Butler Ms. Shannon Hillman Mr. Daren Vandevender Mr. Garrick Combs Mr. Chris Hinton Mr. Earl Washington Ms. Shakira Crain Ms. Donna Hollis Mr. Scott Westberry Ms. Deborah Crook Mr. Francis Jackson Ms. Tuanna Williams

Ms. Carley Dear Mr. David Livingston
Mr. Marcus Estes Mr. Allen Scott

SOUTHCENTRAL MS WORKS YOUTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Michael Suttlar, Chairman Ms. Lisa Davis Mr. Rowan Torrey
Ms. Tuesday Abraham Mr. Marcus Estes Ms. Carld Wisch
Mr. Tim Buckley Ms. Jackie Martin Ms. Jeanette Yates
Mr. Richard Burge Mr. Clarence Scutter

Dr. Mary Sims-Johnson

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LOCAL PLANNING AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE

CMPDD offers comprehensive planning assistance to local governments, including preparation of comprehensive plans in accordance with State law, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, sign ordinances, and unified development codes that embrace all development-related controls. CMPDD also prepares master plans and economic feasibility studies for local governments and private parties. In addition, CMPDD is the only one of ten (10) Mississippi Planning and Development Districts (PDD's) that has a staff of trained urban and regional planners who have been accredited by the American Institute of Certified Planners. CMPDD's certified planners receive annual continuing education to ensure that their credentials are kept current and that they can provide local governments with recommendations on the latest urban planning trends and techniques. Because of these expert professional capabilities,



techniques. Because of these expert professional capabilities, CMPDD, in cooperation with the other PDD's, offers planning assistance to local governments outside of its seven-county area.

The regional governmental assistance program at CMPDD continues to offer planning services to areas that have common issues and needs. The purpose of this program is to better address the total needs and demands of the local governments in the seven-county area in a regional and collective manner, thus lowering the cost of providing services to the citizens of the respective governmental units. Over the past year, The District has provided notifications and technical assistance to local governments regarding various federal and state grant opportunities and hosted numerous meetings at The District's headquarters to disseminate information. In addition, CMPDD staff provided technical assistance to the Central Mississippi Mayors Association and City Clerks by coordinating regular meetings at The District. CMPDD also hosted a regional meeting for the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) to provide municipal officials with an update of ongoing legislative issues, as well as, setting future legislative priorities.

Through CMPDD's Geographic Information System (GIS) and Regional Data Center, assistance is provided on a contractual basis for mapping services, data management services, technology development/hosting services, feasibility studies, tax studies, and economic impact analyses.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, ZONING, AND OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

MASTER PLAN UPDATE FOR THE PEARL RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT

The District has contracted with the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD) to update their Master Plan. The District developed the current Master Plan in 2013 which received a 2014 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) as well as the Best Project Award from the Mississippi Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-MS). The current Plan has served as a policy guide for the physical and economic development of properties in the PRVWSD.



In Fiscal Year 2022, planners completed the existing land use survey, and drafted a Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, and Community Facilities Plan. An online survey garnered over 1,200 responses helped shape and guide the development of each of these elements. Additional public meetings and input will be gathered in FY 2023 prior to adoption of the Plan. The District will also develop a financial analysis of expected revenues and expenditures based on various build out scenarios for PRVWSD properties.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICE

Living alone can be quite frightening to seniors who feel that if something traumatic happened in their homes, no one would be alerted. They need reassurance that help is just a button away. To address this need, the District placed 308 Emergency

••	ITVIOL					
	Response	Units	in	the	homes	of
	seniors livin	g alon	e.T	he D	istrict pa	ays
	\$24.95 a m	nonth	per	unit	for the	se
	seniors to b	e moi	nitor	ed 3	65 days	a
	year, 24 hou	irs a d	lay.	Thes	e units a	are
	in the follow	ing co	unti	es:		

County	Units
Copiah	11
Hinds	198
Madison	25
Rankin	42
Simpson	23
Warren	6
Yazoo	3
Total	308

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Family caregivers are an essential part of any long-term care system. They maintain and coordinate care for the elderly, chronically, or terminally ill, or disabled relatives at home. The likelihood of each person becoming or needing a caregiver is rapidly increasing. Due to its pervasive quality, it is imperative to address the needs of these caregivers in continuing their care at home for their loved ones. As the health system undergoes swift and significant changes, the future will bring with it even greater needs and stresses.

With funds under the National Family Caregiver Support Program, authorized under the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000, the District works to provide assistance to families in the following areas: Adult Day Care Respite; In-Home Respite; Information and Assistance; and Supplemental Services. During FY 2022, 61 caregivers received 10,457 hours of relief time, 448 individuals received assistance with ensure and incontinence supplies, 22 caregivers received homemaker services, 13,828 meals were served to care recipients, and eight (8) wheelchair ramps were built at homes to assist with mobility. A total of 83 unduplicated people received a wealth of information and support through the Caregiver Connection Support Group. Also, 478 clients received supplies through the Emergency Services Program.

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION & ADVOCACY SERVICES

NURSING HOME OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

Through contractual arrangements with local entities throughout the seven-county area, trained ombudsmen visit all nursing homes and licensed personal care homes to investigate complaints from residents and their families regarding the care they receive in these facilities. While assuming these responsibilities, they serve as companions and advocates to these individuals. In central Mississippi, there are long-term care nursing home facilities with 3,514 beds; personal care homes and assisted living facilities with 2,005 beds; and two (2) intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled with



152 beds. The District Ombudsman and certified County Ombudsmen conducted 819 facility visits; attended 59 resident council meetings; and participated in ten (10) state surveys.

Complaints were investigated by county as shown in the following chart:

County	Resident Contacts	Contacts Complaints
Rankin	7,663	6
Warren	3,845	22
Copiah	1,852	2
Simpson	1,749	0
Hinds	11,503	15
Yazoo	4,527	2
Madison	6,123	<u>-1</u>
Total	37,264	46

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CONGREGATE MEALS

There were 15 nutrition sites in central Mississippi that served hot, nutritionally balanced meals, five (5) days a week to the 60 years old and older population. These sites provide a pleasing setting for meals and an atmosphere for socialization and activities. Congregate Meal sites reopened to serve program participants.

	County/City	Annual Meals
	Hinds (3 sites)	6,755
	Madison (1 sites)	3,840
	Rankin (2 sites)	5,376
	Yazoo (1 site)	2,338
	City of Jackson (8 sites	31,661
102	Total Meals	49,970

HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

The Home-Delivered Meals program is designed to provide meals to individuals 60 years of age and older who are homebound due to failing health and/or physical limitations. This program served these individuals with a balanced meal five days a week, either frozen or hot. Hot meals are delivered daily and at least five (5) frozen meals are delivered weekly. This program receives the highest percentage of funding through the District and is the most popular program that the District operates throughout its seven-county area with 1,720 meals being served daily.

County/City	Annual Meals
Copiah	23,134
Hinds	38,551
Madison	30,225
Rankin	42,397
Simpson	15,249
Warren	45,080
Yazoo	43,837
City of Jackson	68,887
NFCSP Meals	13,828
COVID-19	127,441
Private Pay	55
Emergency Transition	305
Total Meals	448,989



HOMEMAKER SERVICES

Many older persons are functionally impaired and experience difficulty in performing routine household tasks which they need to sustain themselves in their own homes. Priority is given to those persons who have been screened as frail, vulnerable, lack family and friend support systems and are at risk of early institutionalization without some type of in-home intervention.

County	Hours
Copiah	2,063
Hinds	2,486
Madison	1,231.75
Rankin	2,039.75
Simpson	1,841.25
Warren	4,268.5
Yazoo	2,558
Total Homemaker Hours	16,488.25

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION

The District contracts with several local entities to provide transportation to those seniors who no longer drive or for other reasons have no dependable transportation. Trips are provided primarily for medical appointments, shopping, or other essential services. Daily routes are established for each area, and many of the buses are equipped for the disabled.

County/City	Trips
Copiah	4,345
Hinds	5,894
Madison	3,372
Rankin	2,573
Simpson	1,656
Warren	909
Yazoo	10,037
City of Jackson	20,630
Total Trips	49,416

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, ZONING, AND OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL REDISTRICTING

The District received the 2020 Census population data in September 2021 and began an analysis to determine which jurisdictions are in need of redistricting. The process involved utilizing the District's GIS system to overlay current municipal ward lines and county supervisor and justice court districts over the new 2020 Census population data to determine where changes are needed.

The District has contracted with 20 jurisdictions to develop redistricting plans. These include six (6) counties, thirteen (13) municipalities and one (1) school district. To date, a total of nine (9) plans have been adopted and two (2) are under consideration.

The next phase of this project will involve meeting with election officials to redraw voting precincts based on the changes to election districts.

CITY OF BRANDON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The District planners continued to work on the City of Brandon's Comprehensive Plan and expect a completion date in early 2023. To date, the following has been completed, existing land use survey, survey of Mayor and Board of Aldermen, community facilities and department head meetings, population analysis, and building permit data collection. A public input survey is ongoing, and the results will influence the drafting of the Land Use Plan and Transportation Plan. Emphasis will be on improving transportation, both vehicular and pedestrian/bicycle, designating new lands for adequately scaled development, and creating connections within Brandon.

RANKIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The District planners are working with Rankin County on an update to their Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The existing land use survey was completed and is being analyzed. An online survey was conducted as a method of public engagement. Planners are now collecting information on public facilities and developing other elements of the plan.

SIMPSON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The District planners completed the existing land use survey for Simpson County as the first step in an update to their Comprehensive Plan. An online public input survey has been released and the results will be considered in the development of the Plan.

ZONING ASSISTANCE

The District Planners developed new zoning ordinances for the cities of Clinton and Richland. The new ordinances incorporated many amendments that had been made over the past several years. The new ordinances also made important updates related to changes in zoning practices.

The District Planners answered numerous questions and provided guidance on zoning amendments because of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act becoming law. The District planners continue to study the Act and have sought guidance on the regulatory authority, including zoning, provided to local governments through the Act. Our planners remain available to member governments as local decisions are considered.

REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI MAYORS ASSOCIATION

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) consists of the Mayors from the 35 municipalities within the District's seven-county region of Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo Counties. The organization was established to further relationships throughout the region and provide an avenue for the exchange of ideas, coordination of activities, and to address common issues pertinent to municipal government basis such as funding programs, pending legislation affecting municipalities, and current laws.



CMPDD CITY CLERKS QUARTERLY MEETINGS

The District hosts quarterly meetings of the City Clerks representing the 35 cities/towns/villages within its region. These meetings provide the Clerks with the opportunity to discuss common goals, issues, and concerns, as well as share best practices with each other. At each meeting, CMPDD highlights specific programs and services that are available through the District.



CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI MAYORS ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2022 CMMA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) recently awarded two (2) 2022 CMMA Scholarships to students within the District. Nick Thornton from Brandon High School and Allyse Hayes from Pearl High School were selected from 21 students who applied. Each applicant excelled academically and exceeded expectations with community service.



HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

INFORMATION, REFERRAL AND OUTREACH

The Outreach and Information and Referral Offices in each county serve as the focal point for information in that county. Qualified staff was available to inform older persons regarding the services, benefits, and resources in the community which could assist them with their problems. There were 38,529 contacts made by individuals requesting assistance regarding resources and the need for services.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING RESOURCE CENTER

The District's Resource Center provides assistance to consumers and their families who frequently end up confused and frustrated when trying to access information and support for social services. The Resource Center makes it possible for individuals to enter a "one-stop" point of entry for all services. The Resource Center is designed to reduce or eliminate consumers from being bounced around from agency to agency, with no systematic follow-up to make sure that needs are met.

There were 963 calls documented through the Center. In addition to their telephone inquiries, staff received training, and performed numerous other tasks. Referrals to the Resource Center come primarily from self-referrals, family members, and other social service agencies. To date, the Director of Aging Programs and the Aging Resource staff continues to successfully meet all the requirements and has been awarded recertification by the Alliance of Information & Referral Systems.

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (SHIP)

The State Health Insurance Program is designed to increase the knowledge of older persons regarding health insurance, public benefits, including Medicare, Medicaid, HMOs, and long-term care insurance. The purposes of the program are to informand to increase the number of eligible Medicare beneficiaries through distribution of information. The District's Insurance Counselors are a critical component in the area of advocacy



throughout the fiscal year. Beneficiaries were interested in assistance in determining the best Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. SHIP Insurance Counselors advised beneficiaries one-on-one with Extra Help assistance, appeals, complaints, and grievances reaching 620 seniors. Throughout the fiscal year 17 events and health fairs reached an additional 1,825 seniors. Counselors reached an estimated number of 300 eligible beneficiaries with printed material and newspaper articles. Through a robust media campaign, the District SHIP Medicare commercial reached 274,900 people, newspaper ads reached 720,000 people, SHIP/MIPPA billboards produced 5 million impressions, and internet ads produced 576,000 impressions.

ADULT DAY CARE

The District contracted with Loving Healthcare, LLC to operate the adult day care program for the metro Jackson area. The adult day care is a place for aged and disabled individuals with serious health problems or impairments to go during the day for recreational activities, personal care supervision, nutrition, limited health care and the opportunity to interact socially with others. To date, 4,098 units of service were provided to 13 clients.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

The District received \$80,028 in funding under the Title V, Senior Community Employment Program, to employ eight (8) individuals to work in community service employment in Hinds and Rankin counties. The purpose of this project is to promote useful part-time employment for low-income persons who are 55 years of age and older, and to the extent feasible, to assist and promote the transition of program enrollees to private or other unsubsidized employment.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FISCAL YEAR 2022

- 1. Prepared the FY 2022 Area Plan on Aging for Central Mississippi.
- Maintained 308 clients with Lifeline Units, which monitor senior's safety 24 hours a day.
- 3. Sustained an ongoing partnership with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture & Commerce through the Senior Nutrition Farmers Market Program. A total of 750 vouchers were issued to participants.
- 4. Implemented the Emergency Transportation Program to assist seniors with transportation to medical appointment outside of the City of Jackson city limits.
- 5. Developed a partnership with the MS State Department of Health, Building Resilient Inclusive Communities to combat social isolation and address social connectedness.
- 6. Rebranded the Congregate Meal Program to include more engaging activities for the seniors.
- 7. Implemented the Emergency Transitions Program to assist seniors discharging from the hospital or nursing home facilities with home delivered meals and homemaker services. A total of 37 clients received services designed to assist with ADL's, nutritious meals during recovery time, and reduce hospital readmission rates.
- 8. Expanded the emergency services and supplemental services program.
- 9. Implemented the Cuddle and Comfort with Central Program. This program was created to provide therapy dolls to Alzheimer's and Dementia patients in home settings, adult daycares, nursing facilities or assisted living
- 10. Aging staff completed the Virtual Dementia Tour training. Plans are underway to host our first tour in December 2022.
- 11. Expanded Aging's Evidence-Based Programs to include Walk with Ease and Virtual Dementia Tour.
- 12. Continued to serve on various committees for the purpose of providing/advocating resources to assist the elderly, including:
 - Mississippi State Department of Health At Risk Population Task Force
 - Technical Assistance Committee for the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts
 - · AAA Director served as a Board Member of the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging
 - · Mississippi State Board of Health/Metro Home Health Advisory Council
 - · Mississippi Transportation Coalition Committee
 - · Mississippi Caregiver Steering Committee
 - · Mississippi State Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council
 - Central Mississippi Transitional Care Coalition
 - · Alzheimer's State Plan Caregiver Support Team
 - Trans-Con Regional Transportation Committee
 - · Central MS Housing & Development Corporation
 - · Age-Friendly Public Health Systems Advisory Committee
- 13. Attended the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging Conference.
- 14. Celebrated "Santa for Seniors" Holiday Project's 31st Year Anniversary. The Area Agency on Aging successfully executed the annual project by partnering with Home Instead Senior Care and Jackson Association of Health Underwriters. Gifts were provided to 265 seniors in central Mississippi.
- 15. Implemented the "A Taste of Central Program" in the Jackson Metropolitan area to encourage social connectedness by reducing loneliness, isolation, and depression. Currently, 215 seniors are registered to enjoy a delicious healthy meal at participating restaurants.
- 16. Aging staff resumed participating in face-to-face health fairs and attending conferences.
- 17. Hosted an in-person Area Agency on Aging Public Hearing since the pandemic.



REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **ASSISTANCE**

CENSUS SUPPORT AND UPDATES

Since the release of the 2020 Census, CMPDD has worked to update and publish demographic profiles for our member governments. These profiles can be found on the CMPDD website and include demographic, housing, income, and age data commonly used in planning and grant applications. CMPDD will also periodically update these profiles between decennial census periods using the Census American Community Survey data.

HAZARD MITIGATION

The District has a long history of assisting member governments, universities, and the MEMA District 5 Region with Hazard Mitigation planning and is currently assisting numerous governments with updates to their Hazard Mitigation Plans. 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 might have occurred that could increase or decrease a community's risk to a particular hazard.

The following jurisdictions have received final approval from MEMA and FEMA on their 2021-2026 or 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plans:

- · City of Brandon
- · City of Clinton
- · City of Flora
- · City of Florence
- · City of Flowood · City of Hazlehurst
- · City of Richland
- · City of Ridgeland
- · City of Vicksburg
- · Town of Pelahatchie
- Madison County
- Rankin County
- Warren County
- MEMA District 5 Region including Claiborne County and Port Gibson; Hinds County, Bolton, Edwards, Raymond, and Utica; Issaquena County and Mayersville; Sharkey County, Anguilla, Cary, and Rolling Fork; Simpson County, Braxton, D'Lo, Magee, and Mendenhall; and the Cities of Canton, Crystal Springs, Madison, and Puckett.
- · Copiah County Multi-Jurisdictional Plan including Copiah County, Towns of Georgetown, and Wesson.
- Yazoo County Multi-Jurisdiction Plan including Yazoo County, Bentonia, Eden, Satartia, and Yazoo City.

The following jurisdictions have submitted their 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plan for FEMA for approval:

- · City of Byram
- · City of Pearl
- · Jackson State University

The City of Jackson received FEMA approval for their 2022-2027 Hazard Mitigation Plan pending local adoption.

The Town of Terry is currently working with the District to complete updates to its Hazard Mitigation Plan.



REGIONAL DATA CENTER

CENSUS SUPPORT AND UPDATES

Throughout the year the District provided information and assistance to local governments regarding Census data for their areas. Additionally, 2020 Census data releases for Demographic Profiles and Demographic and Housing Characteristics are expected to be released in May of 2023. An alternative source for demographic data is the Census American Community Survey (ACS) program. The District routinely uses ACS data in between decennial census periods as a substitute or supplement to the decennial data. The ACS source provides estimates for a wide range of demographic categories many of which are not included in the decennial census. The demographic profiles found on the CMPDD website are created using a mix of decennial census and ACS data categories. During 2022, these profiles have been updated to reflect 2020 data for our district.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) ACTIVITIES

Geographic Information System (GIS) design, maintenance, and upgrades continue to be a major area of emphasis in the GIS Department at CMPDD. During this past year, CMPDD GIS staff migrated the GIS system to the Microsoft Azure cloud system. This cloud-based solution ensures that GIS services remain available 24/7 even when there is a local power or internet outage. In addition, the CMPDD GIS staff continues to assist staff planners with numerous special projects using GIS technology aimed at information management and increasing public access/availability. Specifically, GIS technology was used extensively in data gathering and analysis for updating a comprehensive plan for Tate County. CMPDD continues to incorporate story maps in all comprehensive plan updates. The story map medium provides a more user-friendly means of engaging the public by incorporating interactive maps and pictures into the written plans.

In addition, CMPDD received final approval from MEMA and FEMA on the Hazard Mitigation Plans for Copiah County (which includes Wesson and Georgetown), Flowood, Hazlehurst, Jackson, Jackson State University, Madison County, Pearl, Pelahatchie, Rankin County, Warren County, and Yazoo County. Updates to Hazard Mitigation Plans for Byram and Terry are currently in development. Additionally, the District is using GIS technology to develop an update to the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD) Master Plan which is currently under review. Also in development, are updates to the comprehensive plans for Rankin County, the City of Brandon, Simpson County, and the City of Senatobia. CMPDD uses GIS to develop existing land use maps, future land use plan maps, and transportation plan maps, as well as providing essential statistical analysis of comprehensive plan data for long range planning.

Finally, CMPDD continued to develop and enhance web applications for several member governments. These services consist of online map viewers for the



COVID Cares Act Available Commercial Properties project, Mississippi Home Corporation assistance, and the Mississippi Conference of Methodist Churches application. Planners and technicians are continually collecting GIS field data on existing development patterns and roadway/bridge conditions, which is then converted to digital 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 radial demographic profiles, which utilizes geo-referenced data to provide demographics for a given radius or drivetime polygon around a specified point. Radial profiles are critical components of market research for business location analysis and are utilized by business owners, entrepreneurs and economic developers looking to attract new industry and business. CMPDD was able to continue 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. As always, CMPDD technology staff continue to redesign map viewers with updated products aimed at being more user-friendly and with increased functionality.

PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SANTA FOR SENIORS

Although we were amid a pandemic, as in past years, the annual "Santa for Senior" project was a huge success. Several other organizations also participated in purchasing the gifts for seniors, including the Jackson Association of Health Underwriters and Home Instead, Inc. (a Clinton, MS based company) joined with CMPDD in its annual Santa for Seniors Program. There were 265 needy seniors in the Jackson Metro area supplied with Christmas gifts selected from wish lists that they were asked to complete. Gifts included housecoats, pajamas, gowns, toiletries, and other similar items.

Gifts were delivered to residents that lived in nursing homes, personal care homes, and recipients of Aging and Medicaid Waiver services. Seniors expressed sincere gratitude to those organizations, and they were excited to receive the needed gifts. All gifts were delivered before Christmas, and for many it was the only gift they would receive.









FISCAL YEAR 2022 PROVIDERS OF AGING SERVICES

County	Provider	Amount*
Copiah	Copiah County Human Resource Agency	\$302,112
Hinds	Hinds County Human Resource Agency	314,276
	City of Jackson	1,028,504
	Clinton Community Christian Corporation	289,228
	Hinds County Board of Supervisors	66,499
	First Choice Home Care	172,250
Madison	Madison County Citizens Services Agency	269,651
Rankin	City of Pearl	138,618
Simpson	South Central Community Action Agency	306,348
Warren	Community Council of Warren County, Inc.	429,508
Yazoo	Yazoo County Human Resource Agency	493,602
District-Wide	Help At Home/ d.b.a. Oxford HealthCare	550,000
District-Wide	Loving Healthcare, LLC.	467,763.39
District-Wide	MS Center for Legal Services Corp.	52,000
Total Resource		\$4,880,359.39

^{*} includes program income, local cash, in-kind match, and federal and state dollars.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, serving as the Area Agency on Aging, continues to build on its strengths in its efforts to develop a comprehensive system of services for older persons. Since its designation as the Area Agency on Aging in 1973, the District continues to play a significant role in the creation of new services and the expansion of many services which are designed to promote independence for the elderly in central Mississippi. Aside from the usual supportive



services, the District has advocated for other significant services, including the establishment of assisted-living facilities, adult day care services, and support for caregivers, including Alzheimer victims and their families.

According to population projections from the District's Regional Data Center, using data collected through the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1 and projections made by Esri Forecasts for the year 2020 and the Year 2025, the 60 years of age and older populations in central Mississippi will continue to grow. Estimates by county are as follows:

COUNTY	Year 2020	Year 2025	% Change
Copiah	7,044	7,620	0.0818
Hinds	48,385	51,101	0.0561
Madison	21,935	25,989	0.1848
Rankin	32,272	36,848	0.1418
Simpson	6,434	6,904	0.0730
Warren	11,537	12,243	0.0612
Yazoo	5,399	5,782	0.0709
Total	133,006	146,487	0.1014

With this continued growth in the population, it is anticipated that there will be more families in Mississippi which will need help in caring for an older adult at home. Further, it is estimated that 25 to 30 percent of all nursing home patients do not need to be institutionalized, but their families have had limited alternatives. In general, the preference for most families is to keep their older family member at home where they can live, participate, and maintain a viable presence within the family structure whenever possible.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 as amended, the primary piece of legislation which created the network of Area Agencies on Aging and its mission, has not provided adequate funding from year to year to keep up with the growth and needs of the aging population. This has caused many of the District's services to be limited. Despite this, the District has managed to deliver quality services through a variety of means including partnering with other agencies, selecting quality service providers, working with local elected officials, and involving and including the private sector in aging matters.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

The Boards of Supervisors in central Mississippi made a commitment to their older citizens by providing local cash contributions listed in the chart to supplement federal and state resources. Without their help, there would be a loss of home-delivered meals, homemaker visits, transportation trips, and case-management services.

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County	Amount
Copiah County Board of Supervisors	\$6,154
Hinds County Board of Supervisors	30,629
Madison County Board of Supervisors	8,896
Rankin County Board of Supervisors	6,143
Simpson County Board of Supervisors	6,592
Warren County Board of Supervisors	7,597
Yazoo County Board of Supervisors	11,413
Total	\$77,424

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The District as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Jackson Urbanized Area, is responsible for coordinating the federally mandated transportation planning process. Federal regulations require all "urbanized areas" (cities with populations of 50,000 or more including the surrounding closely settled area) to have a performance-based continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) signed into law in November 2021, continued the role of local governments in planning and prioritizing transportation projects in metropolitan areas that was established under previous transportation re-authorization acts.



The MPO is required to produce four (4) main documents as part of the transportation planning process: a Unified Planning Work Program, a long-range transportation plan known as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, a Transportation Improvement Program, and a Public Participation Plan. The Unified Planning Work Program is produced every two (2) years, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan is produced every five (5) years, and the Transportation Improvement Program is produced at least every four (4) years. The Public Participation Plan is a living document that is continuously evaluated to determine its effectiveness but is formally reviewed at least every five (5) years. Other documents developed as part of the transportation planning process include the Prospectus, Annual Listing of Obligated Projects, Project Submittal Guidelines, and other documents as needed to carry out the transportation planning process.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Meetings of the Intermodal Technical Committee were held on November 3, 2021, February 2, 2022, May 4, 2022, and August 3, 2022. During the meetings several items were presented for discussion and review including: status reports on projects included in the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program; amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program; recommendations to establish 2022 Safety Performance Measure Targets; revisions to the Project Submittal Guidelines; project rankings for applications



submitted for consideration of Surface Transportation Program grant funding and Transportation Alternatives grant funding; revisions to the Critical Urban Freight Corridors; 2016-2020 Safety Analysis Report; the Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Years 2023-2024; and the Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2026.

Meetings of the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee were held on November 10, 2021, February 9, 2022, May 11, 2022, and August 10, 2022. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Committee held meetings on February 2, 2022, and August 3, 2022. Furthermore, meetings were held on November 3, 2021, and May 11, 2022, with the Transit Committee. Project update meetings between CMPDD staff members, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), MS Department of Transportation (MDOT), and Local Public Agencies were held November 3, 2021, February 2, 2022, May 4, 2022, and August 3, 2022. A Stakeholders Committee meeting was held July 19, 2022, and sub-committee meetings to review the Project Submittal Guidelines were held in January and September.

In addition, during Fiscal Year 2022, seven (7) amendments and ten (10) administrative modifications were processed for the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program for 2021-2024. Furthermore, seven (7) projects awarded federal grant funds by CMPDD through the MPO's project selection process were obligated during Fiscal Year 2022 meaning they will advance to construction once a contractor is selected. The projects included \$15.6 million in Federal MPO Grant funds.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS APPROVED

A total of \$27.1 million in grants were awarded to 37 projects in the metro Jackson area by CMPDD through its MPO project selection process in 2022.

The MPO grants support a wide variety of projects that take steps toward the implementation of the MPO's long-range transportation plan adopted in November 2020. Some expand capacity, such as the Yandell Road project, a road widening project in Madison County near Madison Crossing Elementary School. Others improve existing infrastructure, with roadway resurfacing projects along State Street in Jackson, Old Fannin Road in Rankin County, and East County Line Road in Ridgeland. While others focus to improve traffic mobility and safety, such as the installation of two new traffic signals in the City of Madison along Highland Colony Parkway at Lake Castle Road and Madison Central Drive. Other safety projects provide for upgrades to existing span wire traffic signals to mast arm traffic signals such as in Pearl at U.S. 80 and Highways 49 and 468. Grant funds were also awarded for bridge repair project on Gary Road in Byram and the Monument Street bridge in Jackson. Finally, other projects will provide new multi-purpose trails in the Cities of Flowood and Brandon.

Eligible jurisdictions in Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties submitted applications to CMPDD. The applications were then evaluated by CMPDD staff based on the proposed project type and assigned a project score. In total, CMPDD reviewed and graded 68 applications requesting more than \$70.3 million in grant funding. The projects with the highest scores were the basis for a recommendation to the MPO Policy Committee, which approved the funding for the 37 projects. Combined, cities and counties receiving the \$27.1 million in CMPDD's MPO grant funds have committed to provide over \$7.7 million in local matching funds.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

During Fiscal Year 2022 CMPDD staff continued conducting activities implementing the MPO's Public Participation Plan adopted in November 2020. CMPDD is required to develop and use a documented public involvement plan that defines a process for providing stakeholders a reasonable opportunity to be involved in the MPO's transportation planning process. Engaging community members to provide meaningful public input is a key component in transportation planning and the cornerstone of all CMPDD outreach efforts. CMPDD utilized a multitude of different tools and outreach methods during 2022 to receive feedback from local residents and businesses.

- 6 Public Review Opportunities
- 142 Review Days
- 7 Newspaper Ads
- 7 Community Speaking Events
- 3 Community Meetings
- 3 Media Interviews
- 3 Press Releases
- 14 Transportation Social Media Posts
- 4 Newsletters
- 1 Annual Report
- 1 Mid-Year Report
- 3 Community Surveys













TRANSPORTATION DATABASE

CMPDD continued to utilize interactive story maps to help tell the story of projects developed during the transportation planning process during Fiscal Year 2022. A new story map was developed as part of the development of the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, and it was released during the 45-day comment opportunity. Other interactive maps such as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Viewer and the Traffic Count Viewer were updated during 2022 on a continuous basis with the latest information. Furthermore,



the District's GIS staff continued preparation/revision of updated base maps in connection with the development of Comprehensive Plans for local communities.

SERVICES TO YOUTH

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) offers a variety of options for helping youth prepare for future careers. Services for youth are guided by the Southcentral Mississippi Works Youth Committee under regulations from the State of Mississippi and the US Department of Labor.

During the past program year, Southcentral Mississippi Works offered Out-of-School Youth Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) which paid tuition and certain other allowable costs, thereby enabling them to pursue post-secondary career



and technical training programs at area community colleges and other authorized training providers. ITAs provided these youth with recognized occupational skills, degrees, and certifications which led to productive employment.

Youth, either In-School or Out-of-School, who lacked labor market experience also were offered limited internship opportunities designed to better prepare them for getting and keeping a job.

In addition to ITAs and internship opportunities, the workforce area continued a unique program to serve the area's Out-of-School Youth population. This program was operated by the Madison and Yazoo County Youth Courts. Adjudicated youth were remanded to the Madison County Jobs4Youth and the Yazoo County Youth Empowered to Succeed (YES) programs in lieu of serving jail time. They were provided with instruction and testing to obtain their high-school equivalency certificate, basic necessary job skills, and workforce-related competencies. Youth in these programs who are deemed to be ready for employment are afforded Internship opportunities. In lieu of wages, funds earned may be deposited into an account in the name of the youth worker to be used for post-secondary education.

Another program the workforce area funded is a program of service provided by the Refill Jackson Initiative to work with at-risk, hard-to-serve, out-of-school youth. Eligible program participants spend a few weeks learning basic necessary work skills while receiving career counseling and earning appropriate credentials, including a High School Equivalency (HSE) if needed, after which they are afforded training. The training and the obtaining of the National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC) provide the youth with the workplace skills they need to enter gainful employment. The program then places participants with area businesses for internship opportunities. This program has been guite successful and serves a real need in serving this youth population.

Another unique program SMW funds is a program for foster care system youth in a transitional living environment, who are provided career services, Smart Start classes, attainment of the NCRC, and internship opportunities upon completion of the program.

SOUTHCENTRAL MISSISSIPPI WORKS WIN JOB CENTER LOCATIONS

Brookhaven

Brookhaven WIN Job Center 545 Brookway Boulevard Post Office Box 790 Brookhaven, MS 39602-0790 601-833-3511

<u>Jackson</u>

Jackson WIN Job Center 5959 I-55 Frontage Road, Suite C Jackson, MS 39213 601-321-7931

Madison County

Madison County WIN Job Center 167 North Orchard Lane Madison, MS 39110 601-407-2457

McComb

McComb WIN Job Center 1400-A Harrison Ave. McComb, MS 39648 601-648-4421

Natchez

Natchez WIN Job Center 107 John Pitchford Parkway Natchez, MS 39120 601-442-0243

Pearl

Pearl WIN Job Center 3805 Highway 80 East Pearl, MS 39208 601-936-1903

Vicksburg

Vicksburg WIN Job Center 755 Hwy. 27 S. Vicksburg, MS 39180 601-619-2841

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

During this past program year, Southcentral Mississippi Works continued its commitment to provide assistance to individuals who needed some form of occupational skills training in order to be successful in the labor market. WIOA-funded training services were provided through either Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), formal On-the-Job (OJT) Training contracts with employers, or Internships. Individual Training Accounts are scholarships that cover tuition and related costs of attending established occupational or career-tech training programs. On-the-Job Training allows workers to gain new skills while on the job and allows employers to reduce training costs by receiving reimbursement of a portion of the trainee's wages while they are learning. Internships allow eligible individuals the opportunity for limited paid work experience to assist them with connecting to permanent unsubsidized employment.

In addition to training services, Southcentral Mississippi Works WIN Job Center staff assisted numerous other individuals with basic career services and helped them find suitable employment when additional skills training was not required.

The table below describes the number of participants served with career and training services:

Service	Total Participants Served		
Career Services	1,045		
Individual Training Accounts	288		
On the Job Training	278		
Internships	109		

Southcentral Mississippi Works aids employers as well as job seekers. Through the WIN Job Centers, employers can locate qualified employees, obtain information on the local labor market, receive assistance with training new workers and locate other resources to assist them in meeting the needs of their business.

Additionally, the workforce area partners with its community colleges to provide training through Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MI-BEST) programs. These programs offer individuals the opportunity to obtain their high-school equivalency certificate while simultaneously obtaining a career and technical education skills, putting them on a fast track to employment. The local workforce board works intensively with the community colleges' MI-BEST programs to fund ITAs for eligible individuals. MI-BEST programs have been very successful in providing individuals who might not otherwise have the opportunity to obtain these needed credentials, with a greater chance for self-sufficient employment.

Through a partnership with Hinds Community College, the local area workforce board continues to utilize special funding made available from the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB), by supporting a Maritime Training Academy to train deckhands for employment in the river barge industry. These special SWIB funds were also used to support a Structural Steel Fitting Training program which prepared individuals for employment in the steel fitting industry. Completers of the program were offered permanent employment through several companies within the state.



MPO PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Each year CMPDD staff members produce a variety of plans, projects, and studies as part of the MPO's transportation planning process. The resulting documents are made available to the public as reports and maps. Based on the type of document, feedback is solicited through a variety of formats including but not limited to community meetings, presentations to the MPO committees, social media, or online engagement, Overall, CMPDD released seven (7) documents in Fiscal Year 2022 as part of the transportation planning process,



FY 2021 Obligated Projects Report

The annual listing of obligated transportation projects serves as a record for tracking projects receiving federal transportation funds.

Published December 2021



FY 2021 Annual Public Outreach Summary

Provides a synopsis of the MPO's outreach activities from October 1, 2020, thru September 30, 2021.

Published December 2021



Transportation Alternatives **Project Submittal Guideline**

information reference material to assist local governments in completing applications for Transportation Alternatives grant funding through the MPO. The document outlines the parameters by which CMPDD personnel evaluates requests for funding during a call for projects.

Adopted February 2022



2016-2020 Safety Analysis Report

Produced annually as a way to track the progress being made to reduce crashes in the MPO planning area. The report primarily focuses on the number and types of crashes that have occurred and the resulting injuries or fatalities. The report also details the MPO's annual Safety Performance Targets.

Published May 2022

Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization Prospectus

Updated as needed, the bylaws document outlines the MPO's organizational structure and primary responsibilities. The document was amended in May to add the City of Gluckstadt to the MPO's committee structure. In addition, formatting, layout, and



general language updates were made throughout the document to maintain consistency.

Adopted May 2022

2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

A short-term planning document providing an overview of how federal transportation dollars and local funds will be invested over a four-year period by federal, state, and local agencies responsible for building, operating, and maintaining the multimodal



regional transportation system. CMPDD held a 45-day comment period for the new TIP which began June 16th and concluded August 2nd. In addition, three in-person community meetings were held in July allowing community members the opportunity to review the TIP in-person and to ask CMPDD staff, public transit officials, and MDOT officials questions about the proposed projects.

Adopted August 2022

2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program

Describes all transportation planning activities to be performed by CMPDD and the designated public transit provider (JTRAN) during Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024. It includes a listing of major planning activities and tasks anticipated to be performed including details on



who will complete the work, the schedule for completing the work, the resulting planning products, and a summary of the proposed funding sources. The 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program was initially submitted to MDOT for review in July and was approved by the MPO in August.

Adopted August 2022

METRO AREA TRAFFIC COUNTING PROGRAM

CMPDD, in cooperation with the MDOT, collects traffic count data on a three-year cyclical basis on all functionally classified roadways within the MPO's planning area boundary. This cyclical approach taken by both the MDOT and CMPDD is necessary to ensure that raw traffic count data collected for each of the counties in the MPO planning area is no more than three years old. In January District staff began collecting traffic count data for Madison County and anticipate completing the data collection process by this December.

Annually once the traffic count data collection process is complete, all collected data is submitted to the MDOT for analysis. This analysis includes reviewing the submitted data to ensure there are no irregularities or "bad data" and then applying traffic adjustment factors to the raw data to develop Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) counts. The traffic adjustment factors used by the MDOT to develop AADT counts takes into consideration high and low daily and seasonal traffic patterns to arrive at a more representative "annual" traffic count for each traffic count location. In the interim years, when traffic count data is not collected for select locations, an estimated count for those locations is developed using existing historical traffic count data and applying estimation factors. Once the MDOT has completed its analysis and developed interim year estimates the updated data for the Jackson MPO Planning Area is provided to the District and made publicly available through our traffic count viewer. Traffic count data collected by District staff serves as the foundation in the development of numerous transportation planning activities the District is responsible for as the MPO including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Congestion Management Process and Pavement Management System.

In August District staff updated the traffic count viewer to include all traffic count data for 2021. The traffic count viewer includes not only data for 2021, but also data from 2011-2019. As can be seen on the viewer, traffic count data for 2020 is not included. Due to substantial irregularities in traffic patterns resulting from the COVID-19 shutdown in 2020 this data was excluded. The traffic count viewer can be accessed through the District's website by visiting www.cmpdd.org/traffic-counting/.

PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Pavement management data is collected by District staff on a three-year cyclical basis on all non-state maintained functionally classified roadways within the MPO's planning area boundary. The pavement management data is collected by District staff through the use of windshield surveys. A windshield survey is taken by driving the entire length of a roadway and determining the level of surface degradation that has occurred. These surveys identify the types and extent of cracking, such as alligator, edge, or longitudinal/transverse lines; while also checking for other surface impediments that may be present such as patching, rutting, potholes and poor storm water drainage. The collected data is analyzed using the District's dTIMS pavement management software. Once the analysis is complete District staff use the data to rank the roadway segments from worst to best dependent on the extent and severity of the inventoried roadway's surface conditions.

The District uses the pavement management data as a basis for determining project priority when a Call for Projects for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding is issued for pavement management projects.

During FY 2022, a re-inventory and assessment of pavement management data for the functionally classified arterial and collector roadways in Madison County was completed. Based on the three-year cycle approach for inventorying roadways in the Jackson MPO Planning Area, CMPDD will complete a pavement management system re-inventory and assessment for Hinds County in 2023.

CMPDD APPLIES FOR SS4A GRANT FUNDING

In September CMPDD submitted a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant application on behalf of CMPDD's seven-county region to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The new grant opportunity was created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and provides \$5 billion in grant funding spread over the next five (5) years. The purpose of the SS4A grants is to improve roadway safety by significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries through safety action plan development and implementation of projects focused on all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, motorist, and commercial vehicle operators.

If awarded, the grant will support CMPDD's effort to develop a comprehensive seven-county safety action plan. The plan's development will include conducting a detailed analysis of crash data to identify locations, patterns, and types of serious crashes in CMPDD's seven-county region. The results of the detailed analysis along with public outreach efforts will be used to identify a prioritized strategy of policy changes and potential projects aimed at saving lives on the region's roadways. USDOT anticipates announcing grant awards in January 2023.

LOCAL PERFORMANCE DATA

During the past program year, Mississippi's workforce programs and activities were evaluated according to the U. S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) "common measures" performance standards. Under WIOA, this performance measuring system is applicable to all federally funded workforce-related programs operated by a variety of workforce partners and agencies. Southcentral Mississippi Works achieved the following overall performance through the fourth quarter of the Program Year 2022:

WIOA Title I Adult Program			
Performance Indicator	Local Negotiated	Local Actual	
Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	77.0%	86.6%	
Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	75.0%	85.0%	
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$5,200	\$7,697	
Credential Attainment within 4 Quarters After Exit	53.0%	61.0%	
Measurable Skills Gain	51.0%	52.5	

WIOA Title I Dislocated Worker Program			
Performance Indicator	Local Negotiated	Local Actual	
Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	74.0%	81.9%	
Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	66.5% \$5,200	79.8% \$7,223	
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit			
Credential Attainment within 4 Quarters After Exit	53.0%	74.2%	
Measurable Skills Gain	46.0%	50.9	

WIOA Title I Youth Program				
Performance Indicator	Local Negotiated	Local Actual		
Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	71.0%	69.7%		
Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	69.5%	76.6% \$3,581 65.0%		
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$2,700 71.0%			
Credential Attainment within 4 Quarters After Exit				
Measurable Skills Gain	48.0%	34.8%		

Once again, the State of Mississippi saw a reduction in federal funds allocated to the WIOA program. As a result of the reduction in state funding, the local workforce area also received a reduction in funds. Although funding was cut, the workforce area continued to provide quality training. Under current laws, WIOA is the only program that offers training options to a broad base of workers to help them gain the skills needed to fill jobs that are in-demand in the current economy. Southcentral Mississippi Works is committed to utilizing WIOA funds in the most advantageous manner possible to enhance the employment opportunities of its citizens.



GETTING MISSISSIPPIANS BACK TO WORK

CMPDD's Workforce Division has worked diligently to partner with the Governor's Job Fair Network to offer regional career fairs to those who are unemployed or looking for career advancements. The Governor's Job Fair Network is a proactive employment assistance resource for the unemployed, employers, and communities of Mississippi, The Network schedules several events throughout the year in cities and towns statewide. The Job Fair creates an environment that facilitates the hiring process with the ultimate objective being job placement. The job fairs, coordinated by the Governor's Job Fair Network, are presented in conjunction with local community efforts to provide people looking for jobs the opportunity to apply for jobs with several different employers in a centralized, user-friendly setting. For businesses and industries, career fairs provide their human resource representatives the opportunity to interview a variety of potential employees. Many job seekers receive job offers on the day of the job fair, while others are required to complete additional screening for current and future position vacancies. Job fairs are a means to help meet the needs of employers, the unemployed, graduating college and community college students, and returning military service members. The table below describes the impact of each career fair.

	Central MS Employment Expo April 13, 2022	Southwest MS Career Fair May 3, 2022	Yazoo County Job Fair May 10, 2022	
Number of Employers	91	30	35	
Number of Job Applicants	270+	120+	110+	
Onsite Interviews	357	91	75	
Job Offers	133	87	58	
Projected # of Hires During the Next Year	262	108	131	

NURSE EXTERN PROGRAM HELPS NURSING STUDENTS TAKE NEXT STEP

The SMW Local Workforce Development Area once again partnered with the Mississippi Hospital Association (MHA) and area hospitals to place 50 nursing students entering their senior year of nursing school into paid work experiences.

The Student Nurse Extern Program was developed based on a proven, innovative model that utilizes extern experiences to enhance the success of nursing students entering their last year of Registered Nurse education. The goals of the Student Nurse Extern Program are to:

- 1. Increase the number of extern opportunities in SMW hospitals by offering to students a supplemental practical experience within the hospital or clinic.
- 2. Offer an opportunity to enhance students' clinical and critical thinking skills.
- 3. Increase recruitment of future externs as the new graduates begin their nursing careers in the SMW Workforce Development Area.

The Extern Program was incredibly successful. Of the 50 participants who enrolled, 50 completed giving the program a 96% completion rate. Through the program, student nurses work eight (8) to nine (9) weeks in a supervised clinical experience in the summer prior to his/her last year in nursing school. The program provides classroom learning and clinical orientation with a trained RN preceptor and allows the nursing student to observe as well as gain valuable hands-on

experiences to prepare them for their role as registered

The program is an excellent recruitment strategy for area hospitals. Many hospitals report a decrease in vacancy rates after implementation. Participants are more prepared to enter the work force upon graduation and are more likely to seek employment in the same hospitals in which they trained. Participants reported a smoother transition from student nurse to graduate nurse because of the extern experience.



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The District was created in 1968 to address chronic and critical economic development problems in the central Mississippi region. To fulfill that mission, an overall economic development plan was formulated and continues to be updated through outreach and collaboration efforts with member governments, economic development specialists and community leaders. This plan is known today as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), 2022-2026. This planning process identifies the barriers which must be removed and the opportunities which can be built upon for the seven-county region to grow and prosper. The District's staff work daily to help secure federal and state grants which help provide the identified infrastructure improvements needed to attract business and industrial prospects, as well as investments to allow local businesses to expand or remain in Central Mississippi.



Additionally, the District continues to provide highly trained and dedicated staff to assist local governments with staying informed and engaged in monitoring and participating in federal and state grant and loan programs. The District has long recognized that one of its primary responsibilities is to improve infrastructure, living environments, and the economic well-being of the citizens of the central Mississippi region. The majority of the opportunities available to cities and counties are accessed through programs administered by the Mississippi Development Authority, the Delta Regional Authority, and the Economic Development Administration. It is not uncommon for the District to apply to multiple grant sources in order to maximize funding for an eligible project. Whether assisting a community with job creation, water and wastewater improvements, industrial park enhancements, transportation infrastructure improvements, or job training and education, the District stands ready and able to provide the technical expertise required to meet the demands of competing for ever changing funding opportunities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) was established to generate jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically distressed areas of the United States. EDA assistance is available to rural and urban areas of the nation experiencing high unemployment, low income, or other severe economic distress. EDA is guided by the basic principle that distressed communities must be empowered to develop and implement their own economic development and revitalization strategies. These local strategies thereby aid distressed communities to address problems associated with long-term economic distress, as well as sudden and severe economic dislocations, including recovering from the economic impacts of natural disasters, the closure of military installations and other Federal facilities, changing trade patterns, and the depletion of natural resources.

CMPDD serves as the local arm of the EDA and assists its local governments in obtaining grant funding for local projects. These funds are in turn used to support job creation and private investment that will stimulate economic development in low-income and high-unemployment areas. Funds are provided to support the construction, expansion or upgrade of essential public infrastructure and facilities. The benefiting local government, university, or non-profit must partner with a private company that will benefit from the infrastructure improvements to create or retain jobs. Applications are accepted on a quarterly basis and, if approved, CMPDD provides administration services for EDA grants to ensure that the recipient meets all federal requirements and guidelines.

AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INVENTORY VIEWER

CMPDD recently completed a CARES Act Grant which, in part, enabled the District to provide technical assistance to member governments through the inventory of available commercial properties and the publication of an online, map-based directory. CMPDD staff has gathered data and information on approximately 300 available commercial properties and developed the on-line map viewer to show these properties. Staff will continue to add and update information and properties on a regular basis. This task will increase the capacity of member governments and their economic development agencies to better market available properties in the CMPDD region.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS' ROUNDTABLE

On September 12th, CMPDD hosted the District's economic developers for a lunch presentation and discussion of the Mississippi Development Authority's new incentive program, the Mississippi Flexible Incentive Plan (MFLEX). Sara Watson, Mississippi Development Authority Director of Business Incentives, Bridgette Thomas, Mississippi Department of Revenue Chief Counsel, and Kathy Gelston, Vision First Advisors Financial Analyst, provided an in-depth presentation and answered questions on these new tax incentives/rebates available to manufacturers and other qualified businesses in Mississippi.



CMPDD arranged this presentation to assist economic developers and CMPDD staff in becoming more knowledgeable of economic development incentives that will assist businesses and allow local communities to prosper and grow.

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

In early 2022, District staff began work on the five year re-write of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS is a requirement of the Economic Development Administration (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. In September 2022, CMPDD submitted the final version of the 2022-2026 CEDS to EDA.

EPA'S BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The District was recently awarded a \$453,000 Community-Wide Assessment Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of the program is to help redevelop abandoned, idle, or underutilized properties where expansion or redevelopment is hindered by actual or perceived environmental conditions. Examples include abandoned gas stations, industrial, and commercial properties. Grant funds can be used to pay for environmental assessments and cleanup planning to help move commercial properties to redevelopment.

PPM Consultants, Inc. has been retained by The District to facilitate the grant program and inform the commercial real estate community and potential buyers and sellers of real estate.

Any commercial property located within the CMPDD jurisdictional limits is eligible for funding, regardless of ownership. The program is designed to facilitate development of any commercial property, whether a private or public transaction.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

The District approved a new business loan in Fiscal Year 2022 for a total of \$556,800. A summary of the loan is listed the following paragraph.



CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC. (CMDC)

The Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. is a Certified Development Company (CDC) under the U.S. Small Business Administration's 504 Certified Development Company (CDC) Program. It provides loans to small businesses for their use in acquiring fixed assets including land, buildings, machinery, and equipment. These loans can provide up to 40% of a project's cost and are financed at attractive interest rates for a term of ten, twenty or twenty-five years. The following loans were approved:

BUSINESS	COUNTY	LOAN AMT	TOTAL	JOBS	PRODUCT / SERVICE
Grant's Kitchen Biloxi	Harrison	\$556,800	\$1,392,000	21	Restaurant
TOTAL (1)		\$556,800	\$1,392,000	21	

viable relationships with school districts, to deploy career coaches to target the alignment of students' strengths with intentional academic and work-based learning in pursuit of meaningful employment. Career coaches will work with students in their schools to expose students to workforce opportunities that are available in their local communities. They will help students identify their interests and aptitudes to connect them with high-skill, high-demand, and high-wage careers. In partnership with Jackson Public School District, Vicksburg-Warren School District, Madison County School District, Simpson County School District, and Natchez-Adams School District, CMPDD will place 12 career coaches during the 2022-23 school year.

Wrap-Around Supportive Services Initiative: AccelerateMS was tasked by the Mississippi Legislature to administer American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding related to workforce development. A portion of that funding provided wrap-around supportive services to job seekers. After submitting a successful proposal, CMPDD was awarded funding to provide training and wrap-around services to citizens in the seventeen-county workforce area.

AITX Mississippi Works Partnership: AITX is expanding its Mississippi operations and will be adding 125 jobs in the southwest portion of the state. Through Mississippi Works Funding, AccelerateMS funded on-the-job training services for the 125 new employees.

CTE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM CONNECTS STUDENTS WITH CAREERS

Holmes Community College, Hinds Community College, and Copiah-Lincoln Community College have partnered with the local industry to provide WIOA-funded internship opportunities to currently enrolled Career and Technical Training (CTE) students. This program connects current students entering their final semester of training to work opportunities within their related fields of study.

The goals of the WIOA CTE Internship Program are to:

- Increase the number of internship opportunities to CTE Students who are preparing to enter the workforce in identified high-wage, high-demand, and/or high-skill industry sectors.
- Offer students a work-based learning experience that allows them to implement learned technical skills and enhances employability skills necessary within the workplace for future successful employment.
- Increase placement into the employment of qualified trained graduates to begin their careers in the Workforce Development Area.

In this program, the students complete industry work experiences and have the opportunity to receive college credit from their respective institution for successful completion of the required 320 work hours, as they work in a supervised environment during their last semester of training.



LouSonya Woodland, Workforce Coordinator; Malcolm Bouldin, Intern; Benny Hubbard, Chairman of Southcentral MS Works Workforce Board; Shannon Dunaway, Intern; and Robin Parker, Director of Workforce

The program provides classroom learning combined with real-world training, led by skilled industry professionals, where the students observe as well as gain hands-on experience to prepare them for their role as future industry professionals.

Two interns came to the Southcentral MS Works Workforce Board meeting to share their experiences. At the board meeting, Malcolm Bouldin said, "My experience at Nissan was a 10 out of 10. My goal was to further my knowledge and get my fout in the

door of a company like Nissan, and this experience gave me that opportunity." Shannon Dunaway added, "My goal was to learn as much as I could during the internship to help me during my final year at Co-Lin Community College. I accomplished this goal and built relationships with people who may give me the opportunity to work for them in a position that will help me to better provide for my future family."

SYNERGETIC PARTNERSHIPS WITH ACCELERATE MS

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 (10) Planning and Development







Districts serve as fiscal agents to the workforce areas. CMPDD is the fiscal agent for the Southcentral Mississippi 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 include seventeen counties in the southwestern quarter of the state.

The Mississippi legislature enacted Senate Bill 2564 during its 2020 session, which established the Office of Workforce Development, now branded as Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS). The main responsibility of AccelerateMS is to devise a statewide workforce strategy, foster collaboration across public organizations and state entities that provide workforce training and employment opportunities to individuals, and to direct spending over specific funding sources used for workforce development. Specifically, these funding sources are the Workforce Enhancement Training (WET) funds, previously administered by the Mississippi Community College Board, and the Mississippi Works funds, previously administered by the Mississippi Development Authority for the purpose of providing training support to new and existing employers.

AccelerateMS has identified eight (8) ecosystems within the state to address local-level needs within the workforce development areas. Each ecosystem will convene stakeholders to share best practices, voice concerns, provide feedback and participate in the development of workforce strategies appropriately focused upon the needs of that ecosystem. Regular review of labor market data, supply chain needs, available educational resources, and regional/community assets will result in the ability to meet needs more accurately in real-time.

Mississippi has great potential and thousands of good job opportunities. By working together, partners can help realize this potential, identify high-paying, in-demand career paths, and align resources throughout the state. The SMW Workforce Development Area will play a large role in working within the ecosystems as we all strive to move Mississippi forward and "accelerate" her growth.

PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

WIOA State Plan Modification: In accordance with federal law, AccelerateMS led the State of Mississippi in the development of the modified statewide combined workforce plan called the 2022 Mississippi Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Plan. Upon the modification of the State Plan, the SMW Workforce Development Area updated the local area plan to align with the strategic vision cast by AccelerateMS and core partners. This local plan details how SMW will implement the state's combined workforce plan in the local area and how the local area will ensure that the federally funded WIOA services and activities are structured to maximize their benefit to our citizens and our businesses. As required, the workforce plan has been updated and revised to reflect new and completed activities within the area.

Career Coach Initiative: CMPDD was awarded a Career Coach Deployment grant from AccelerateMS. The purpose of this program is to support middle schools and high schools as students are exposed, prepared, and connected to career avenues within and beyond the classroom setting. This program was established through House Bill 1388 (Mississippi Legislature, 2022). This bill calls for strong partnerships with economic and business leaders, in

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM

The Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP) received its funding from the State of Mississippi. It provides loans to eligible certified minority owned businesses for their use in acquiring fixed assets including land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and working capital. These loans can provide up to the lesser of one-half of the total debt financing or \$250,000. There were no loans approved.

MISSISSIPPI SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAM

The Mississippi Small Business Assistance Loan Program (MSBALP) received its funding from the State of Mississippi. It provides loans to eligible small businesses for their use in acquiring fixed assets including land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and working capital. These loans can provide up to the lesser of one-half of the total debt financing or \$250,000. The loan amount can be up to the lesser of one-half of the total debt financing cost or \$250,000. The District continued to service this loan's portfolio.

FARISH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT LOAN PROGRAM

The Farish Street Historic District Loan Program (FSHDLP) received its funding from the State of Mississippi. It provides loans for eligible small businesses located in the Farish Street Historic District in Jackson, Mississippi. The loan amount can be up to a maximum amount of \$1,000,000 per entity or borrower. Loan proceeds are limited to the development of commercial and culturally significant properties located in the District, to include new building construction and or the rehabilitation of historic buildings. The District continued to service this loan's portfolio.



RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RBEG/RLF)

The Rural Business Enterprise Grant Loan Program received its funding from the U. S. Rural Development Administration. It provides loan funds for small businesses for their use in acquiring fixed assets including land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and working capital. The loan amount can be up to a maximum amount of \$500,000. The District continued to service this loan's portfolio.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF)

The EDA Revolving Loan Program received its funding from the U. S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration. It provides loan funds for small businesses for their use in acquiring fixed assets including land, buildings, machinery, and equipment, and working capital. The loan amount can be up to a maximum amount of \$200,000. The District continued to service this loan's portfolio.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)

Community development in most Mississippi communities is an integral part of the overall economy. Strong, viable communities with adequate infrastructure and public facilities are critical to meet the needs of the public, as well as to support improved growth development. Over the years, CMPDD has assisted local governments with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application and administration services. The local governments have relied on the District's expertise in writing grant applications, as well as conducting the administration services necessary to complete the project. As a result, CMPDD has established a strong track record in ensuring that all grant guidelines and requirements are met.

CMPDD is currently providing CDBG administration services to the following local governments: Pearl, Hazlehurst, Magee, Utica, and Warren County.

CMPDD RECEIVED MDA APPROVAL FOR 2021 CDBG PUBLIC FACILITIES APPLICATIONS

The CDBG Public Facilities 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) approved two (2) CDBG Public Facilities projects in the CMPDD area. Listed below are the projects that were awarded funding.

Community Name	Project Description	CDBG Funds	Matching Funds
City of Magee	Wastewater System Improvements	\$510,263.20	\$300,000
Town of Utica	Sewer System Improvements	\$356,329	N/A

CMPDD SUBMITS CDBG PUBLIC FACILITIES APPLICATIONS FOR 2022

District staff assisted six (6) local governments with Community Development Block Grants offered through the Mississippi Development Authority in May 2022. These grants were for critical infrastructure projects such as sewage lagoons, clean water, drainage, and unserved sewage services.

CMPDD RECEIVED MDA APPROVAL FOR 2022 CDBG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

The CDBG Economic Development Improvement Grant Program provides assistance to local units of government in the funding of eligible infrastructure improvements in support of better paying private sector jobs. The use of these funds is directly associated with the creation or retention of jobs of which at least 51% must be low-and moderate-income.

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) approved a CDBG Economic Development project in the CMPDD area. Listed below is the project that was awarded funding

Community Name	Project Description	CDBG Funds	Matching Funds
Warren County	Wastewater System Improvements	\$880,000	\$234,111.50

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY (DRA)

CMPDD RECEIVES APPROVAL OF 2022 DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY (DRA) SEDAP AND CIF APPLICATIONS

In September, the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) announced their 2022 States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) and Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) awards. DRA's investment will improve basic public infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, and job training to support economic development in communities across Mississippi. District staff worked with local municipalities and organizations in the spring on their applications. There were 21 grants awarded within the State of Mississippi, with three (3) within the District.



Community Name	Project Description	DRA Funds
Town of Braxton	Clean Water Project	\$609,900 awarded
Town of Puckett	Asbestos Cement Water Pipe Removal	\$165,544 awarded
Pinev Woods School	Infrastructure Improvement Program	\$1,347,127 awarded

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

As an integral part of its overall economic development efforts, the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District is directly involved in the development of the local workforce. The District administers the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program to help local workers obtain the skills they need to serve as productive members of society and to achieve personal economic sufficiency. The District serves as fiscal agent for the program and, in conjunction with Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development District, administers the WIOA programs, services and activities as Southcentral Mississippi Works, a seventeen-county local workforce development area, designated by the Governor in accordance with the WIOA requirements. The WIOA also allows the workforce area to provide



services to business and industry to assist them with training and retaining workers.

As required by the Act, guidance and oversight is provided by a Local Workforce Development Board, a Local Elected Officials' Board, and a Youth Committee appointed by elected officials from the area. The Local Workforce Development Board, with assistance from District staff, maintains a comprehensive workforce development implemented through the area's WIN Job Centers.

PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022 HIGHLIGHTS

NEW LOCATION FOR THE MADISON WIN JOB CENTER

Job seekers and employers in Madison and surrounding counties can now access a wide variety of workforce employment and training-related services at the newly opened WIN Job Center. The center is located at 167 Orchard Lane North, Madison, MS 39110. The new location offers renovated office space, a computer lab that can be used for technology training, a Resource Center for searching for employment opportunities, a multi-purpose training room, and space for employers to interview prospective employees.

The Center is a partnership between the Southcentral Mississippi Works Workforce Development Area and the MS Department of Employment Security (MDES). The staff of MDES provides a variety of services to job



seekers and employers. Utilizing federal WIOA funding, individuals seeking skills advancement and training can apply for Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) to pay the cost of tuition and other expenses related to career and technical training; employers can access funding to help offset the cost of hiring and training new employees through the On-the-Job Training program, and both job seekers and employers can access the workforce area's Internship program. The Center can be reached by telephone at 601-859-7609.