



Central Update

JANUARY 2019

A Quarterly Publication of
Central Mississippi Planning &
Development District

Jackson MPO Adopts Performance Targets

At its November meeting, the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Policy Committee approved a series of performance targets in conformance with new federal legislation rules. New guidelines require State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and MPOs to assess the condition and set short-term goals for a number of transportation performance areas such as safety, pavement and bridge conditions, travel time reliability, freight reliability, and transit assets.

Earlier in 2018, the Policy Committee addressed targets for safety and transit assets, but during its November meeting the Committee approved supporting the State of Mississippi's established targets for travel time reliability and bridge and pavement conditions. For more information about performance targets please visit CMPDD's website, www.cmpdd.org/transportation/performance-management/.

Performance Measure	2017 Mississippi Baseline	2017 Jackson MPO Baseline	2018-2021 Targets
Travel Time Reliability			
% of reliable person-miles traveled on the Interstate	99.3%	97.8%	>90%
% of reliable person-miles traveled on the Non-Interstate NHS	95.2%	83.8%	>85%
Index of interstate mileage providing for reliable truck travel time	1.13	1.25	<1.5
Bridge Conditions			
% of NHS bridges by deck area in Good condition	61.75%	48.5%	>60%
% of NHS bridges by deck area in Poor condition	2.09%	0.0002%	<5%
Pavement Conditions			
% of Interstate Pavement in Good condition	74.97%	64.7%	>55%
% of Interstate Pavement in Poor condition	0.99%	0.6%	<5%
% of Non-Interstate NHS Pavement in Good condition	34.99%	6.4%	>25%
% of Non-Interstate NHS Pavement in Poor condition	3.45%	2.8%	<10%

District Awarded Adult Protective Services Program

On January 1, 2019, the District entered into a contractual agreement with the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) to administer the Adult Protective Services (APS) Program. As the number of elder abuse cases in Mississippi continues to rise, protective services and supports are necessary to address this growing problem. The District's APS Program is designed to help vulnerable persons in need or potentially in need

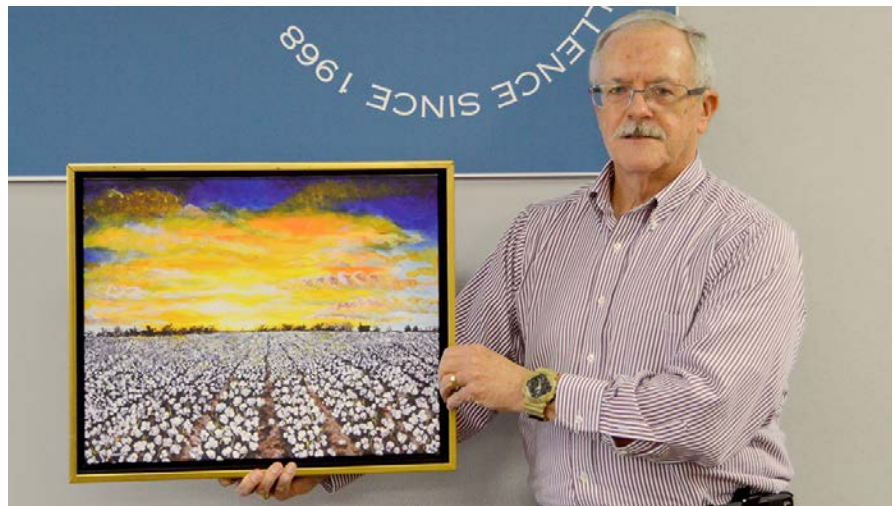
of assistance to find community based resources. This grant provides the agency with funding to employ qualified staff to investigate abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation reports in the central Mississippi area. In an effort to explore all substantiated reports, staff will coordinate with other state and local agencies, community partners, law enforcement, and private entities to ensure victims are safe and protected. If you have any questions or would like additional information

concerning the Adult Protective Service Program, please contact Chelsea Crittle, PhD at 601-981-1516.



Principal Planner William Peacock Retires after 24 Years with CMPDD

William Peacock, AICP, retired from the District in December after 42 years in the planning profession. William came to the District in 1994 and was instrumental in setting the CMPDD standard of excellence in Planning. We thank William for his 24 years of dedicated service to the District.



Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program Applications Approved

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

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

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

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District received approval of three (3) SMLPC applications for the following cities/counties:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>SMLPC Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of Georgetown	Renovate Town Owned Bldg.	\$50,000	\$5,000
Town of Puckett	Town Park Improvements	\$54,000	\$5,400
Village of Satartia	New Water Well	\$120,000	\$12,000

Delta Regional Authority (DRA) Technical Assistance Allocation Project

In December, the District completed the 2019 Update of the DRA Allocation Funding Model. The District has provided this annual service to the DRA since 2004. The DRA is made up of 252 counties and parishes in eight (8) different states. The allocation model includes a measure of poverty,

unemployment, and per capita income for DRA counties in each state. The end result of our effort is a spreadsheet funding model that allows the DRA to allocate certain funding to states with distressed counties. The District is proud to have the opportunity to assist the DRA with this project each year.

Central Mississippi Mayors Association Meeting

The Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) recently had its annual Christmas Party during their regularly scheduled December quarterly meeting. The CMMA is made up of 34 cities, towns, and villages in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development

District (CMPDD) and the quarterly meetings are held at the CMPDD office. The purpose of these CMMA quarterly meetings is to discuss current issues facing the municipalities and exchange ideas of improving each individual area.



Nurse Externship Workforce Program

In August 2017, the Southcentral MS Works Workforce Development Area's staff, employers, educational entities, and state agencies worked together to develop the area's Sector Strategy Plan. The plan identified the industries in our 17-county workforce area where the greatest opportunity for employment exists, while also targeting the most prevalent workforce issues confronting these industries. The targeted industry sectors in our workforce area are Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, and Transportation/Logistics. Healthcare is the single largest industry in the area encompassing 18% of the total workforce, which is approximately 61,150 employees. Healthcare is also the highest paying sector at 19% of the gross wages paid with an average monthly payroll of \$7.5 million dollars.

The healthcare industry employers identified registered nurse retention as their largest workforce issue. Statistics show that 50% of new nurse graduates leave their first job within six (6) months of hire. The large rate of turnover at the early stage of the career is attributed to factors such as burn-out, fear and uncertainty. The bottom line is a young person with no hands-on experience is now in a profession that deals with sick unhappy people and often times they are placed in life or death situations with limited guidance on dealing with these situations.

During the sector planning effort, a survey of MS healthcare professionals was conducted and the Summer Student Nurse Externship program was identified as the best tool in reducing and preventing turnover. The extern program existed prior to the sector strategy plan development, but generally has been an employer supported effort without any workforce program assistance. The program results have repeatedly shown that extern nurses are more prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation and are more likely to seek

employment in the same hospitals in which they participated in the extern program. Hospital staff report extern graduates have stronger clinical skills and the transition from student to employee is smoother. The extern program increases the graduate's confidence in their decision making about job choices and this further decreases the possibility of turnover.

The program operates in a mode very similar to any employment opportunity. Student nurses apply to participating hospitals and are interviewed for the available extern jobs. If hired they are placed with a highly experienced and trained staff nurse. The extern is paid \$10.00 per hour and works side by side with their assigned nurse throughout the summer prior to their senior year in school. The externs work varying shifts, including weekends, and experience the everyday practice of nursing. Throughout the program the student has the assistance of their school nursing instructor and upon successful completion, the student receives three (3) college credit hours.

Approximately 500 student nurses throughout Mississippi apply for externship slots each summer. Hospitals, with their limited funding, are able to hire only about half of those as externs. During the summer of 2018 the Southcentral MS Works Workforce Development Area utilized federal workforce training dollars to fund 42 extern positions in addition to the approximately 120 students that hospitals were able to fund through their own resources.

The workforce area will continue assisting with this program in the summer of 2019 and hospitals, especially in the rural areas, are encouraged to expand their involvement in the program. This is a great opportunity not only for our young people but also existing nursing staff as they have opportunity to work with and teach the next generation of caregivers.

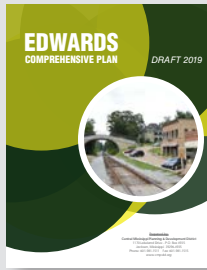
Aging Providers Attend Mandatory Training

The District conducted a mandatory training workshop on November 28, 2018, for aging service providers. Workshop participants were informed about policy and procedure changes, along with contract management requirements for Fiscal Year 2019. During the session, providers were updated on reporting, accountability, and monitoring guidelines required to ensure maximum program efficiency. District staff distributed information which included step-by-step instructions on programmatic reporting and best practices for completing required participant forms. Also, District staff answered questions regarding program eligibility, requirements, and funding availability. For more information regarding Aging Programs, please contact Chelsea Crittle, PhD at 601-981-1516.

Planning Updates

Town of Edwards

CMPDD's AICP Planners have prepared a first draft of the Town's Comprehensive Plan update and Land Use Plan Map. Following upcoming meetings with elected officials and a formal presentation of the draft, the document will be released to the public for review and input. The updated Comprehensive Plan considers a larger study area than previous plans. This enlarged area was influenced by the location of Continental Tire in western Hinds County and the potential growth pattern for the Town.



The Town's Zoning Ordinance and official Zoning Map will be updated in the next quarter following presentation of the Comprehensive Plan draft.

Furthermore, CMPDD will release the Comprehensive Plan in an interactive online format and will develop an online mapping tool designed to allow greater public access to the Town's maps. These products will be released on the Town's website when available.

Town of Flora

The Town of Flora adopted their Comprehensive Plan and amended the Zoning Ordinance in late October. Both documents were developed by CMPDD's AICP Planners, and are available on the Town's website for public use. The Comprehensive Plan has been released in Story Map form, which is a web-based format that appears as a website with interactive graphics and maps. Web-based plans provided greater access to the doc-



ument for current and prospective property owners and investors. The Town has already found the new online format to be extremely useful for citizens, business owners, and elected officials, alike. The Plan update included revisions to all four elements including the Goals and Objectives, Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, and Community Facilities Plan. Additionally, an Economic Development element was included in the Plan. The Comprehensive Plan update set the foundation and vision for updates to the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

The Town's Zoning Ordinance has been streamlined and simplified allowing it to become more user-friendly. The Ordinance also incorporates the community's vision for growth today and further encourages investments in the heart of Flora. Additionally, the Ordinance is reflective of recent United States Supreme Court rulings regarding signs and other legislative actions. The Zoning Map is available in an interactive format through the Town's online mapping service. The zoning and land use designations are available for each parcel through the map as well direct links to the property deed from Madison County. Please visit www.florams.com to view the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and mapping tool.

Madison County

The District is nearly finished with the update of Madison County's Comprehensive Plan. The Transportation Plan is the only element that remains. The Future Land Use Map is almost ready for review by the County's planning and zoning staff. The map shows the County's emerging growth areas for the next ten to twenty years.

In an effort to make the Plan more accessible to the public, the Plan will be developed in an electronic format called Story Map that integrates an interactive GIS map viewer and can be easily accessed from the City's web-

site. The interactive map will include such information as land uses, public facilities, zoning classifications, highways and roads, traffic counts, subdivisions, and other data layers.

Once the Comprehensive Plan has been presented to the Board of Supervisors, the CMPDD will update the County's Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map.

Rankin County

The District has developed a web-based searchable database of all Rankin County ordinances. District planners worked over the past several months with County officials to sort through all ordinances adopted since 1969 and determine which ones are still applicable. After determining which ordinances are still in effect, each ordinance was placed in a uniform digital format for easy viewing along with a scanned image of the original signed document. The District then built a webpage to be incorporated into the County's website. The ordinance webpage has a keyword search function and can be easily accessed by the public through www.rankincounty.org. As the County amends current ordinances or adopts new ones, the webpage will be updated.

Town of Terry

Terry's town officials reviewed the first draft of the proposed Comprehensive Plan and provided input to CMPDD. A second draft updated Terry's Comprehensive Plan and provided town officials with copies for their feedback. After all the feedback is received, The District will make the necessary changes and present the Plan at a public hearing.



As part of this project, CMPDD will develop a web-based GIS mapping application and viewer using CMPDD's

Planning Updates (continued)

virtual server technology and ESRI ArcGIS Server Enterprise software. This internet-based GIS mapping component will enable accessibility to interactive land management maps and data layers including such elements as the Land Use Plan, zoning, flood zones and Transportation Plan. These systems can be designed and used for in-house use and/or for public information dissemination as desired. One result of this technology is a web-based version of the Comprehensive Plan in Story Map format.

Once the Comprehensive Plan has been adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, CMPDD will update the Town's Zoning Ordinance text and official Zoning Map.

Tougaloo College

The District has begun development of a Master Plan for Tougaloo College. The primary purpose of the Master Plan is to serve as a long range guide to assist the Board of Trustees in making decisions about future development of properties owned by and adjacent to Tougaloo College. The Master Plan will include an inventory of the study area, an inventory of infrastructure such as utilities, transportation network and current land uses, and recommendations on zoning amendments and development.

CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver Program Update

CMPDD's Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver program provides Case Management (CM) and Home Delivered Meal (HDM) services to Medicaid eligible elderly and/or disabled recipients who desire to remain in their home setting. The Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Social Worker (LSW) team coordinates all approved Waiver services and conducts monthly home visits to assure the services are meeting the clients' needs. Other services available are Personal Care Attendant (PCA), In-Home Respite (IHR), Adult Day Care (ADC), and Institutional Respite (IR).

- Medicaid Waiver supervisors participate in bi-weekly conference calls hosted by the Division of Medicaid. This serves as an opportunity to discuss and address issues, problems, or questions regarding the waiver program and Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS). LTSS is the web-based system for conducting and submitting initial and recertification applications for E&D waiver participants.
- CMPDD's Medicaid Waiver division welcomed two new Case Managers in October 2018: Audrey Washington, RN (Simpson county), and LaVerne Thigpen, LSW (Hinds county).
- The Waiver division also continues to develop and institute procedures to achieve and maintain 100% paperless files for all Medicaid Waiver participants, team reports, and CM billing reports.
- In partnering with the Area Agency on Aging, all CM teams received and distributed 115 packs of light bulbs to Medicaid Waiver clients. Each pack contained four (4) 60 Watt LED energy-saving bulbs. One pack per household was distributed.
- Two new PCA and IHR providers attended the waiver staff meeting on December 19, 2018, held at the Canton WIN Job Center. Each provider shared information about their agency, specifics regarding availability and number of direct care workers, and contact information.
- Case Managers also participated in the annual Santa for Seniors Project. CM teams received and began distributing Christmas gifts to selected waiver participants. The selected participants were those who had no family or no family support, or participants who had limited resources and/or limited family support.

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

City Clerks Meeting

CMPDD hosted a luncheon/meeting for the City Clerks in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District. The Clerks shared best practices with each other and discussed issues that directly affect their jobs. After business was conducted, the City Clerks celebrated the Christmas season and exchanged gifts Dirty Santa style. We are very happy to facilitate meetings such as this because increased efficiency greatly benefits our participating governments and those they represent.



Census Training

In November, District staff participated in a Census Training workshop held at the University of Mississippi. It was hosted by the State Data Center and the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts. Staff from the State Data Center and the US Census Bureau presented information on preparing for the 2020 Census, sources of economic and health related data, how to present census data, and how to create custom geographies on the Census website to gather data.

CMPDD Received MDA Approval for 2018 CDBG Public Facilities Applications

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

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently announced approval of three (3) CDBG Public Facilities projects in the CMPDD area (listed below).

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of Bentonia	Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	\$72,102
City of Mendenhall	Sewer Improvements	\$449,965	N/A
Town of Wesson	Library ADA Improvements	\$314,489	N/A

CDBG ADMINISTRATION

CMPDD continues to provide CDBG Administration Services to the Towns of Utica, Puckett, and Edwards.

The Town of Utica is using CDBG funds to repair one of two water wells that has been offline due to electrical issues. Once the repairs are made to the well, the Town will have both water wells working properly which will benefit all customers on the Town of Utica's water system.

The Town of Puckett is converting the old Town Hall and Fire Station building into a Senior Citizen Center by renovating the buildings and mak-

ing them handicapped accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The senior citizens in the Town of Puckett currently do not have a meeting place available where they can gather and have activities such as meals on wheels, exercise classes, games, dances, movies, educational programs, etc.

The Town of Edwards is using funds to make improvements to their sewer system. The Town has several unserved (sewer) homes that have old, failing septic tanks with raw sewage in the area that pose a serious health risk to the residents. The Town also

has issues with old lines that clog and sometimes cause sewage back-up in some homes in their community.

Administrative services include professional services procurement, environmental clearance, compliance with all HUD and MDA regulations, financial management and oversight including submission of requests for cash, reporting compliance, and closeout assistance. Although the construction phase has not yet begun, we continue to provide administration services in order to move forward with each project.

Traffic Count Data Collected in Rankin County

CMPDD through the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) works cooperatively with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) to collect traffic count data for all state and non-state maintained roadways that are part of the functional class system in the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA). The collected traffic count data is used by the MPO in the development of a number of transportation planning activities including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Congestion Management Process (CMP), and Pavement Management System.

Traffic count data collected by District staff for the JUA is collected on a three (3) year cyclical basis in Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties. Every third year the data collection process occurs

in one of the aforementioned counties. Due to each county being counted every third year estimates are developed for the interim years in which traffic count data is not collected for a particular traffic segment in the corresponding county. In 2018, the MPO collected traffic count data for Rankin County.

At the end of each year all traffic count data collected in the MPO planning area 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 take into consideration high and low

seasonal and daily traffic patterns to arrive at a more representative "annual" traffic count for the selected roadway segment. Once the MDOT has completed its analysis and provided the updated AADT data to the MPO, the information is made publicly available through the MPO's traffic count viewer. Currently, the most up-to-date traffic count data available is through the year 2017 and can be found on the District's traffic count viewer at <http://gis.cmpdd.org/TC2017/index.html>. For additional information concerning traffic count data or to make a request for a traffic count study to be conducted please contact Scott Burge at (601) 981-1511 or by email at sburge@cmpdd.org.

CMDC BULLETIN



Ms. Wanda Cowart, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of two (2) new loans.

The first loan was for **NJL Holdings, LLC / Grant's Kitchen and Grill** for \$580,000 of a \$1,450,000 project under the United States Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program. The proceeds of this loan will finance the purchase of the existing location of Grant's Kitchen and Grill in Flowood, Mississippi. This business will create four (4) new jobs in the private sector.

The second loan was for **RKBM Real Estate, LLC / Sal & Mookie's Biloxi** for \$880,000 of a \$2,200,000 project under the United States Small Business Administration's 504 Loan Program. The proceeds of this loan will be used to refinance the construction and equipment debt associated with their current location in Biloxi, Mississippi. This business will retain jobs in the private sector.

CMDC is a commercial lender certified by the U. S. Small Business Administration and works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small

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

SBA 504 Loan Program Interest Rates

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (December 2018)	5.18%
20 (December 2018)	4.92%
25 (December 2018)	4.99%

Also, CMDC serves as the Loan Review Board for the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District's (CMPDD's) Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP). The MBELP receives its funding from the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). The interest rate on loans made through this program to a minority owned business is currently **4.75% per annum**. The term of a loan can be up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds (commercial buildings, equipment, inventory, working capital, etc.)

Ms. Cowart invites bankers, commercial loan officers, business owners, real estate developers, and general contractors, to contact Dwayne Perkins at 981-1625, or visit our website at www.cmpdd.org. See the tab labeled "Small Business Assistance."

District Completes Update of Pavement Management System

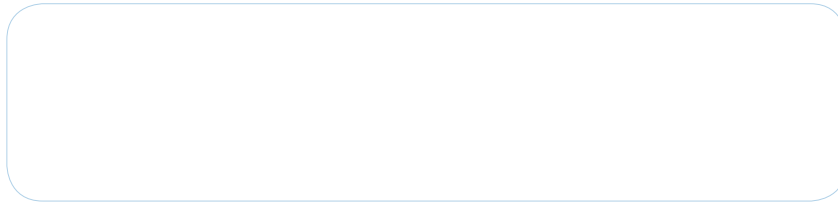
The Pavement Management System is an inventory of the functionally classified, non-state maintained, principal arterial, minor arterial, and collector roadways in the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA). Each year, on a 3 year cyclical basis, District staff completes a reassessment of the pavement conditions for Hinds, Madison and Rankin Counties by completing roadway condition surveys for each roadway in each of the respective counties. For 2018, the District completed the reassessment for Rankin County.

Data is collected for the Pavement Management System by inventorying the roadways through the use of windshield surveys. Windshield surveys are conducted by driving the entire length of the roadway and determining the level of degradation that has occurred. When collecting the survey data the types of cracking are identified, such as alligator, edge, or longitudinal/transverse line cracking. Other sur-

face impediments that may be present are patching, rutting, potholes, heaves and/or swells, and poor storm water drainage issues, just to name a few.

Once the data collection process is complete the information is analyzed using the District's Deighton Total Infrastructure Management System (dTIMS) software program. Based on the input data dTIMS assigns a numeric value, or Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating, to each road segment which indicates from highest to lowest which roadway segments in the JUA are in the poorest condition.

With the data collection process for Rankin County being completed in 2018, a pavement condition reassessment will be conducted in 2019 for the functionally classified roadways in Madison County. If you have questions concerning the Pavement Management System please contact Scott Burge at (601) 981-1511 or by email at sburge@cmpdd.org.



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

District Sponsors Successful “Santa for Seniors” Holiday Project



Three organizations assisted Central Mississippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging with the 2018 Annual “Santa for Seniors Project.” The Jackson Chapter of the National Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA); the Jackson Association of Health Underwriters (JAHU), and Home Instead Senior Care, provided Christmas gifts to over 600 needy seniors in our seven (7) county area. Seniors were asked for their wish lists and the sponsors supplied the items. Robes, blankets, towels, electric heaters, shower chairs, and toiletries are just some of the items purchased for se-

niors who are homebound and in long term care facilities. The seniors were very appreciative of the gifts and were encouraged and uplifted by the generosity extended to them.

Because of sponsors continued participation with this project, the District has been able to provide many needy seniors with Christmas cheer and joy during the holiday season for over 28 years.

We are grateful for the interest and generous support of our sponsors. We look forward to working with them in the future.

CMPDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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District’s AICP Planners Attend Training

In October, CMPDD’s two AICP certified planners attended the Mississippi and Alabama Chapters of American Planning Association’s Joint Annual Planning Conference in Oxford, Mississippi. Planners attended sessions related to regulating signs following the U.S. Supreme Court decision, “Reed vs. Gilbert,” Small Cell Deployment by Cellular Providers, the importance of Fire Codes, and the use of GIS in Planning. These sessions provided new approaches and best practices for the applicable subject matter, which can be implemented in our member governments’ plans and ordinances.