



District Coordinates Multiple Grant Applications for New Hospital

CMPDD prepared and submitted a CDBG Economic Development application in the amount of \$570,000 to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) on behalf of the City of Hazlehurst. Hazlehurst requested financial assistance from MDA to construct sewer system extensions and improvements to support the relocation of Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital to Copiah County. The new location is not developed and has no infrastructure in place. It is anticipated that the city will receive notification of project approval or rejection by the end of April, 2014.

Since the project's water needs are in the Copiah Water Association certificated area, the Association will construct the water system extensions through an Economic Development

Administration grant obtained through CMPDD and Copiah Water Association funds.

Also approved was a \$204,000 Delta Regional Authority grant application, which the District assisted in preparing and submitting, and it will be used to provide the matching funds for this CDBG Economic Development proposed sewer system extension project for a total project cost of \$774,000. The Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital has committed to hire 29 new employees and invest \$16,000,000 in construction and equipment.

This project serves as an example of CMPDD's ability to pull together various State and Federal financial resources for the City of Hazlehurst, Copiah County Water Association,

and Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital to construct infrastructure improvements to support construction of a new hospital that will enhance medical services for the residents of Copiah County. The success of this project required the cooperation and coordination of a number of entities working together for the common good. The District congratulates all those involved at the Federal, State and local levels in helping make all the pieces of the project fit together for the purpose of developing a new hospital facility in Copiah County.

Architect's rendering of new hospital



MPO Preparing 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

A draft for the 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) has been prepared by the MPO and is available on the MPO website www.cmpdd.org for a 45-day public review and comment period. A public hearing notice has also been published on the MPO website listing the times and locations of several public involvement activities.

The TIP is a financially constrained four-year program that identifies all projects for which federal transportation funds have been committed, along with non-federally funded projects which are deemed regionally significant. See page 2 for the full article.



Jackson MPO Prepares 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

CMPDD serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Jackson Urbanized Area. An MPO is a federally mandated planning body responsible for transportation planning activities in urbanized areas and also for developing and maintaining multiple planning documents, including a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The TIP is a financially constrained four-year program that identifies all projects for which federal transportation funds have been committed, along with non-federally funded projects that are deemed regionally significant. In order to select projects for the TIP, the District uses a project selection and application process. This process is used to allocate the limited transportation resources to projects that advance the recommendations of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). These are projects that typically have the greatest impact on reducing traffic congestion, improving substandard pavement conditions, and promoting public safety measures. Once project applications are received and reviewed by MPO staff, they are presented to the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee, which is the policy making board of the MPO, for final approval. All approved projects are then incorporated into the TIP.

Federal law requires the TIP to be updated at least every four (4) years. The Jackson MPO typically updates it's TIP every two (2) years and begins the development process by notifying Local Public Agencies (LPAs) that a full update has been initiated and a request



is made of each LPA to review the existing TIP and notify MPO staff of any necessary project additions or deletions. The MPO staff then reviews the LPA recommendations and develops a full TIP update in draft format.

The draft for the 2015-2019 TIP has been prepared by MPO staff and is available on the Jackson MPO website (www.cmpdd.org) for a 45-day public review and comment period. A public hearing notice has also been published on the MPO website that lists the times and locations of several public involvement activities. In order to meet the needs of the visually impaired, the public hearing notice and draft TIP have been made available in RTF format to improve access by a screen reader. The public hearing notice lists the dates, times, and locations for county-wide summit meetings, which will be used to receive additional public input on the draft TIP, in each of the three (3) counties (Hinds, Madison, and Rankin) in the Jackson Urbanized Area.

The first summit meeting will be held April 22, 2014 at the CMPDD office located at 1170 Lakeland Drive in Jackson. The second will be held April 23, 2014 at the Madison County Board of Supervisors' office at 125 W. North Street, Canton, MS. The final meeting will be held April 24, 2014 at the Rankin County Board of Supervisors' office at 211 E. Government Street, Brandon MS. The summits will be come-and-go style meetings designed to allow the public to review the proposed transportation projects and ask questions. Each summit meeting will be from 4-6 p.m.

In addition, the MPO will host a public hearing at the CMPDD office at the conclusion of the 45-day public review and comment period. A display ad will be published in the Clarion Ledger and Jackson Advocate newspapers informing the public 14 days in advance of the hearing on May 7, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. The public hearing will be conducted in conjunction with regularly scheduled meetings of the Intermodal Technical Committee and the Stakeholders Committee. At the public hearing, MPO staff will review and respond to all public comments received and then pass along all public input to the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee for their consideration prior to a vote being held to approve the new TIP.

Copies of the draft TIP will be available for public review Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the CMPDD office at 1170 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, for the duration of the 45-day public review and comment period prior to the public hearing.

TIP COUNTY-WIDE SUMMIT MEETINGS

<u>County</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>
Hinds	CMPDD offices 1170 Lakeland Dr., Jackson	April 22/ 4-6 p.m.
Madison	Board of Supervisors offices 125 W. North St., Canton	April 23/ 4-6 p.m.
Rankin	Board of Supervisors offices 211 E. Government St., Brandon	April 24/ 4-6 p.m.

Jackson MPO Funds Transportation Alternative Projects

In February, 2014, the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved \$941,000 in funding for metro-area Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects. The Transportation Alternatives Program, created through the *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)* transportation bill, consolidates the previous Transportation Enhancement (TE), Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and Recreational Trails Programs (RTP) and their eligible activities into one funding program. With limited available funds for the 19 local, county, and municipal governments in the MPO planning area, the project selection criteria approved by the MPO focused on projects that would improve non-

driver access by improving connectivity to existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities, public transportation, and schools, while also promoting the safety of users of the proposed facilities through the inclusion of signage and lighting.

The MPO approved funding for four (4) total projects in the amount of \$941,000 in Federal TAP funds. Local entities receiving the TAP funds have committed to provide over \$283,000 in local matching funds. Funded projects include:

- Addition of multiple bike lanes and signed bike routes in the City of Brandon
- Bike lanes along Erlich Road in the City of Florence
- Conversion of Highland Drive in the City of Jackson from four auto lanes to two auto lanes and two repurposed lanes for bikes and pedestrians
- Addition of a separated bike path along Rice and Tisdale Roads in the City of Madison

Data Collection Underway for Congestion Management Process Update

The District has begun collecting data to update the Congestion Management Process (CMP). Updating the CMP is done through the collection of three parameters; a Volume to Capacity ratio analysis, a Congestion Duration Factor study and a Level of Service (LOS) study. Once updated, the CMP provides an effective method for identifying and defining congested road segments in the Jackson Urbanized Area (JUA). Having an up to date CMP is vital in the development and selection of appropriate strategies to mitigate the impacts of traffic congestion.

Volume to Capacity ratios are calculated using a road segment's Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) count and the road segment's known capacity. The capacity of a road is the volume of traffic it was designed to accommodate over a 24 hour period. The Volume to Capacity ratio is calculated by dividing the existing volume, or AADT, by the road segments designed capacity. The Congestion Duration Factor study is measured based on the amount of time delay that occurs when driving a particular roadway segment during peak versus off-peak hours. Peak hours are from 7:00 am until 9:00 am and

4:00 pm until 6:00 pm, and each road segment is traveled during both periods in order to identify the longest travel time during peak hours. Off-peak travel time starts at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm.

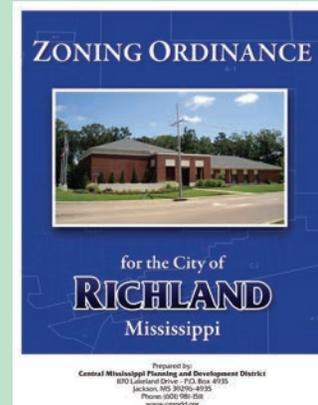
District staff members also grade each road segment's Level of Service (LOS). LOS is a qualitative process used to analyze and assess a roadway segments ability to efficiently service its daily traffic demand resulting in each segment receiving a letter grade ranging from LOS A to LOS F. In assigning a LOS grade, the ability to travel the roadways segments posted speed limit, freedom to maneuver and, the level of comfort and convenience while driving are all taken into account.

Much of the data required to complete the CMP update has been collected and the District will continue to systematically collect the remaining data. Upon completion of the data collection process, the District will produce an updated CMP report which will be included in the Long Range Transportation Plan update.

Richland Adopts New Zoning Ordinance

The City of Richland adopted its newly updated Zoning Ordinance in April of 2014. This update included extensive revisions and all amendments adopted since 2004 when the ordinance was last updated. The adoption of the updated ordinance follows the 2012 adoption of Richland's new Comprehensive Plan.

At the same time the Zoning Ordinance was adopted, the Official Zoning Map was also adopted. The new map reflects current zoning, as well as changes made in accordance with the Land Use Map from the Richland Comprehensive Plan.



CMPDD to Update Comprehensive Plan and Zoning for Pelahatchie

The District has begun developing an update of the Town of Pelahatchie's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The Plan update will include revisions to all four elements including the Goals and Objectives, Land Use Plan, Transportation Plan, and Public Facilities Plan. As part of the development of the Plan, CMPDD will create an interactive, web-based GIS (Geographic Information Systems) mapping application and viewer. With



this internet based GIS viewing tool, users are able to pick and choose which background map and data layer(s) they wish to view from a menu of available

information. This new service will allow accessibility to numerous informational data layers, including aerial imagery, topography, existing land use, the land use plan, the transportation plan, recreational features and facilities, demographic data, flood zones, and zoning. Recommendations and elements found in the Comprehensive Plan will be incorporated into Pelahatchie's Zoning Ordinance which was last updated in 2005.

CMPDD to Develop Campground Study for PRVWSD

CMPDD has contracted with the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District (PRVWSD) to develop a Campground Study. The District will gather and organize data on each of the PRVWSD campgrounds for the purpose of identifying similar campgrounds for comparison of rates. Data such as the number of camp pads, amenities for each campground, amenities offered at each site (i.e. type of hook-ups offered), and rates will be collected and analyzed. The District will then survey similar campgrounds throughout Mississippi and the Southeastern region of the U.S. for the purpose of collecting data on rental rates on a nightly, weekly, and monthly basis, and vacancy rates for each type of camp site (i.e. primitive or RV accommodating). Data will also be collected on the use of seasonal rates. Data collected as a result of this survey will be compiled along with data from the PRVWSD's campgrounds for the purpose of conducting a rate comparison.



Pelahatchie CDBG Economic Development Application Approved

CMPDD prepared and received approval of a CDBG Economic Development application in the amount of \$1,000,000 on behalf of the Town of Pelahatchie. Pelahatchie will use these funds to construct a parking lot and make improvements to an existing building to support the expansion of Multicraft International, an existing industry located in the Pelahatchie Industrial Park. The parking lot and building improvements include a new roof, HVAC, and air compressor improvements. Multicraft International had committed to hire 50 new full-time employees and invest \$375,000.

The CDBG Economic Development program provides grants to local governments for construction of public improvements or loans necessary to secure the location or expansion of business or industry in Mississippi. The purpose of the program is to assist projects that create new job opportunities for citizens of Mississippi, especially persons who are from low to moderate income families.

CDBG Public Facilities Applications Approved

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 District assisted local governments with the preparation of 2013 CDBG Public Facility Applications and listed below are the applications that were approved for funding:

CDBG PUBLIC FACILITIES APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR FUNDING

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of D’Lo	Sanitary Sewer Improvements	\$450,000	N/A
Copiah County	Water System Improvements	406,450	\$ 80,000
Town of Utica	Sanitary Sewer Improvements	450,000	391,456

CAP Loan Applications Submitted and Approved

The District prepared and submitted Local Government Capital Improvements (CAP) Revolving Loan applications for four (4) municipalities:

The **Town of Flora** requested and received \$1,800,000 in CAP loan funds for sewer improvements. In the early 90s, Flora began expanding its water and sewer facilities to areas where infrastructure was inadequate to serve proper fire protection and wastewater. This phase of the Hogg Creek sewer improvements will provide a public wastewater facility to the areas remaining that currently have old septic systems or onsite treatments plants. The contract period for this phase is one year.

The **Town of Edwards** requested and received \$136,340 in CAP Loan funds to complete an existing 2012 CDBG PF sewer project in the amount of \$69,489 and an additional \$66,851 for repairs to the existing sewer pump stations.

The **Town of Pelahatchie** requested and received \$634,160 to purchase a building for the expansion of Multicraft International, an existing business in the Pelahatchie Industrial Park.

The **Town of Utica** requested and received \$391,456 to be used as matching funds for a 2013 CDBG PF application for the construction of sanitary sewer improvements including pump station, lines and treatment.

The Local Government CAP was enacted by the State Legislature and is designed for making loans to counties or municipalities to finance capital improvements in Mississippi. Counties and municipalities are encouraged to use these loans in connection with state and federal programs. Funds for loans are derived from the issuance of state bonds. Eligible projects include the following:

- Construction or repair of water and sewer facilities
- Construction or repair of drainage systems for industrial development
- Improvements in fire protection
- Construction of new buildings for economic development
- Renovation or repair of existing buildings for economic development purposes
- Purchase of buildings for economic development purposes
- Construction of any county or municipally-owned health care facilities, excluding county health departments
- Construction, purchase, renovation or repair of any building to be utilized as an auditorium or convention center
- Construction of multipurpose facilities for tourism development
- Construction or repair of access roads for industrial development
- Construction or repair of railroad spurs for industrial development
- Construction, repair and renovation of parks, swimming pools and recreational and athletic facilities.

The cumulative maximum loan amount for any eligible local unit of government during a calendar year is \$1,000,000 for tax-exempt and taxable loans. The minimum loan amount allowed per project is \$30,000. The maximum CAP loan indebtedness allowed per applicant is \$2,500,000 outstanding principal balance. For more information or to apply for a CAP loan, you may contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

Recreational Trails Program Applications Submitted

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is an 80/20 match program for the development of substantial trail development. The 2013/2014 program was designed to encourage construction of new trail projects that benefit the environment and also the redesign, reconstruction, non-routine maintenance, or relocation of trails that mitigate and minimize the impact to the natural environment. Project sponsors are encouraged to work in partnership with trail-user groups, volunteer groups, the business community, and local, state, and federal agencies to develop projects that benefit the various modes of trail uses in a safe and satisfying manner. CMPDD recently assisted the City of Madison and the Town of Wesson with completing and submitting applications for RTP funding.

The proposed trail for the **City of Madison** will be a ten foot wide multi-use trail that will link to the trail systems of Madison and Ridgeland. The major reason for this project is to connect the 2 present day trails. For those that are utilizing these trails now, they have to get on at Old Canton Road, which is heavily used, and go under the Natchez Trace bridge with traffic. This is a hazard that can be alleviated by this connector trail. This trail will connect Madison to Ridgeland and the

Natchez Trace Parkway. This project leads to one of the most beautiful and historical areas of the state, the Natchez Trace Parkway. There is no doubt this connector trail will benefit residents and provide more recreational opportunities for those wanting to walk and/or bike in their community. The length of this projected trail is 930 feet and will run on the eastern side of Old Canton Road. The property is right-of-way of the Natchez Trace Parkway and is the missing link between trails ending at the Madison and Ridgeland City limits. The predominant use will be walkers, bikers, and skaters. The present day trails are heavily used from dawn to dusk. When this trail becomes a reality, it will provide not only the residents of Madison, but many others with the ability to enjoy this beautiful natural feature at Madison's edge.

The **Town of Wesson** is proposing to construct a 1000 ft. trail with 12 light poles with underground wiring and a 20' x 60' open air pavilion. Wesson is responsible for developing and ensuring the overall quality of life for its citizens. Currently the Town has no public area for recreational activities. This application is proposing to place a recreational trail on a piece of property located at the corner of Church and Beech Street. This will not only act

as a recreational trail, but also as an educational one, by encompassing the history of Wesson by placing of informational signage (similar to historic places signs placed by the state), and by environmental markers identifying trees and shrubbery along the path. If approved, the trail, lined with antique style post lighting, will encircle a little over one acre of property.



The Town's intent is to develop an area where families can enjoy the outdoors, provide a means for physical exercise through a path that will be designed for both pedestrian and/or bicycle use, and to educate others on the history of Wesson and the environment surrounding it.

Still Time to Register!

2014 Annual MAPDD Conference



April 29-May 2, 2014
Beau Rivage
Biloxi, Mississippi

For More Information:
Phone 601-981-1511 or
www.msppdds.com

2014 MAPDD Annual Conference

There is still time to register for the 2014 MAPDD Annual Conference. You can find Registration Forms at www.msppdds.com. Simply print, fill out, and fax your form to 601-981-1515, or mail to MAPDD, P.O. Box 4935, Jackson, MS.

This year's conference will feature several notable speakers, including: Delbert Hoseman, MS Secretary of State; Mark Henry, Executive Director of the MS Dept. of Employment Security; and Malcolm White, Tourism Director of the MS Development Authority.

CMDC BULLETIN

Wanda Cowart, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of one new loan, for **Agape Christian Academy Phaz II, Inc.** for \$175,000 of a \$367,500 project under the Mississippi Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program. Proceeds of this loan will partially finance a child care center in Jackson, which will create one (1) new job and retain eleven (11) jobs in the private sector.

CMDC is certified by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and works in cooperation with local banks and other financial institutions in providing business loans to small businesses. Fixed rate low interest financing for small businesses saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets and removes an alternative to variable rate financing on long term assets. Although uncertain as to when, many economic forecasters are certain that interest

rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not negatively impact the cash flow of those businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the SBA 504 Loan Program. The maximum loan amount is 40% of the total project cost up to a maximum of \$5,000,000 depending on the type of project. The maximum amount for eligible manufacturing projects is \$5,500,000.

Also, Ms. Cowart announced that the current interest rates on business loans from the CMDC remain very low. The current interest rates are:

<u>TERM (YEARS)</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>
10 (March 2014)	4.48%
20 (March 2014)	5.29%



Funds from the MBELP loan to the Agape Christian Academy Phaz II, Inc. will help to purchase this building for the center.

In addition, the District manages a Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP) that is administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), which recognizes the District as a “Qualified Entity” to originate and service loans under MBELP. The interest rate on loans made through this program cannot exceed two percentage points above or below the Federal Reserve discount rate, which is 0.75% at the present time. Hence, a minority owned business can obtain a business loan at a fixed rate of 2.75% per annum for a term up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds.

Bankers, commercial loan officers, real estate developers, contractors, and others interested in locking up extremely low fixed interest rates on business loans are encouraged to call Larry Anderson or Dwayne Perkins at 601-981-1625.

Workforce Skills Training Scheduled

Southcentral Mississippi Works (SMW) Local Workforce Area, along with the other three workforce areas in the state and the MS Dept. of Employment Security, have scheduled workforce skills training for all staff in the state’s WIN Job Centers. The training will be conducted in two sessions, one in April and one in May, at Harrah’s Convention Center in Tunica. SMW encompasses seven WIN Job Centers located in Madison County and the cities of Jackson, Pearl, Vicksburg, Brookhaven, McComb and Natchez.

The training will cover such topics as WIA Data Element Validation and Imaging, a process required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor (DOL) to ensure that all program participant data is valid and documented and that supporting documentation is imaged and stored electronically; Labor Market Information and workforce-related services, which will instruct staff in the use of LMI data in regard to assisting customers; WIA Performance, how it is measured by DOL and what services

impacts its outcomes; Re-employment Assistance Services, the unemployment insurance benefits services available to those who have lost their jobs; and Mobile Technology, the use of the state’s job seeking and job matching software and mobile application. Other areas to be covered are Customer Service and Business Services. Staff will also be given an opportunity to provide feedback to the local workforce area staff in regard to area-specific policies and procedures and make suggestions on how to improve service provision.

Attendance at this training is required for all WIN Job Center staff who serve employers and customers in the Centers. The day and a half sessions will be packed with intensive training and instruction. The rapid technological changes that have been recently implemented, along with the normal turnover of staff in the local WIN Job Centers, results in the need for this type of educational training session. The local workforce area staff hopes that training such as this can be an ongoing exercise. In view of dwindling federal funding for workforce programs, ensuring that staff can work smarter and more efficiently is of utmost importance.

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Mark Your Calendar!

CMPDD's Area Agency on Aging will host a Community Health Fair and Scam Jam on May 28 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the MS Agriculture Museum's Forestry Auditorium, 1150 Lakeland Drive in Jackson. Be confident about your health and protect your identity. Come and enjoy a variety of vendors, health screenings, and door prizes. A shredder truck will be available for individual attendees who wish to bring their paperwork that needs to be shredded for identity protection.

For more information, contact Chelsea Crittle at 601-981-1516.

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Central Mississippi Planning & Development District / Area Agency on Aging
Community Health Fair & Scam Jam
May 28th, 2014 at 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Mississippi Agriculture Museum, Forestry Auditorium

Be Confident About Your Health & Protect Your Identity!

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Healthy living habits

Come and enjoy a variety of vendors and door prizes!

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Office Number: 601-981-1516 ext. 230
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