



## CMPDD to Develop Simpson County Health Care Zone Master Plan

The District was selected by the Simpson County Development Foundation to prepare a Health Care Zone Master Plan for Simpson County. The County's Health Care Zone will encompass two five-mile radials around Magee General Hospital and Simpson General Hospital in Mendenhall. The Master Plan examines the existing health care industry within the County, explores opportunities for growth of the industry, and provides policy recommendations for future expansion.



Specifically, CMPDD will conduct an analysis of existing land use and demographic data, and conduct stakeholder interviews, which will result in an asset map of the community and existing local industries. A target demand study and a marketing/public relations strategy focusing on healthcare enterprises and local "centers of excellence" that may benefit from health care related development incentives will be developed. As part of this project, CMPDD will conduct an analysis and quantification of economic influence/growth outcomes based on projected estimates of economic activity associated with health care industry enterprises.

A site master plan will also be developed for the areas

identified as "health care clusters" by stakeholders and local officials. The Master Plan, through land use and zoning recommendations, will integrate local development codes and assist with the establishment of a local healthcare zone, or district. Finally, the District will develop a web-based GIS mapping application and viewer.

For a county to qualify as a Health Care Zone, it must be part of a three county contiguous area that contains a minimum of 375 or more acute care hospital beds or the county must be able to demonstrate a minimum investment of \$250 million in a hospital since July 1, 2012. For Health Care Zones with less than 375 hospital beds as defined above, a master plan must be developed by an AICP certified planner with experience in working in Mississippi. Additionally, the Health Care Zone must encompass an area within a 5-mile radius of a hospital with a certificate of need. The Health Care Master Plan is designed to be economic development tool for communities to follow in order to facilitate health care job creation and wealth. CMPDD has AICP certified planners on staff and is available to assist local governments with the

*(see **Health Care Zone** on p.2)*

## District Contracted for Tax Study of County Line Road

CMPDD is currently under contract to complete a tax study for both the Jackson and Ridgeland sides of County Line Road. This study will examine property proposed as part of a Business Improvement District (BID) for County Line Road. Business owners along County Line Road are interested in creating a BID, much like the one established in Downtown Jackson. If a BID is implemented, which by law requires 60% of business owners to vote in favor of its implementation, businesses in the area would be assessed an annual tax. The annual tax could then be used by the BID Board to pay for things such as marketing, landscaping, and private security.

CMPDD is currently working to identify all property owners, as well as building square footage and parcel sizes in the proposed boundary area. The study, which should

be completed by the end of the year, is being funded as a joint effort by the Hinds County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA), Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA), Downtown Jackson Partners (DJP), and Team Jackson.



# Chronic Disease Classes Offered by CMPDD

Chronic Diseases are now the leading cause of disability and death in the United States, with seven in ten deaths each year attributed to illnesses such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes. According to statistics from the American Association of Retired Persons, about 133 million Americans live with at least one chronic disease and more than one in ten have three or more.

Since May 2010, CMPDD has offered Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) classes at local senior centers and apartments. The most recent CDSMP class was held at Azalea Christian Manor in Jackson, Mississippi, with over twenty participants attending the classes.



May 2014 CDSMP class at Azalea Christian Manor

versity researchers in 1991 with the purpose of developing a results-oriented self-management program that would improve the quality of life for people with chronic conditions. The program offers everything from diet advice to tips on communicating with doctors. The program provides information and teaches practical skills on managing chronic health problems. The sessions are highly participative, where mutual support and success builds the participants' confidence in their ability to manage their health

and maintain active and fulfilling lives and an overall sense of empowerment.

For more information regarding this program, please contact Chelsea Crittle or Brenda Knott at 601-981-1516.

The CDSMP was developed by a team of Stanford Uni-

## CMPDD Submits CDBG Public Facilities Applications For 2014

Over the past several months the District has been assisting local governments with the preparation of CDBG Public Facility Applications. The District submitted the following seven (7) applications to the Mississippi Development Authority for review.

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Brandon	Sewer System for Unserved Area	\$600,000	\$732,100
City of Byram	Sewer System for Unserved Area	525,000	632,000
City of Hazlehurst	Sewer System for Unserved Area	360,000	360,000
City of Madison	Inclusive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Playground	305,000	315,000
City of Vicksburg	Sanitary Sewer Improvements	413,000	790,000
Town of Wesson	ADA Town Hall Improvements	450,000	N/A
Yazoo County	ADA County Courthouse Improvements	534,215	660,000

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.

## Health Care Zone *(continued from p.1)*

development and preparation of Health Care Master Plans.

Certified businesses located within a Health Care Zone are eligible to receive the following incentives through the Mississippi Health Care Industry Zone Incentive Program:

- An accelerated, 10-year state income tax depreciation deduction.
- A sales tax exemption for equipment and materials purchased from the date of the project's certification

until three months after the facility is completed.

In addition, the program allows counties and cities to grant a property tax "fee in lieu" for 10 years for any certified project with an investment of more than \$10 million or a 10-year ad valorem tax exemption at the city or county's discretion. Certified companies can also qualify for other Mississippi incentive programs.

## District Assists Statewide Associations

CMPPD staff volunteered their services for both the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) and Mississippi Municipal League (MML) annual conferences in the month of June. The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts' had an exhibit booth at both conferences with various staff members present discussing the various roles of the Planning and Development Districts.

## EDA News

The Copiah Water Association has been awarded an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works Grant in the amount of \$399,405. The District assisted the Association in the application process and will now assist in administering the grant. The funds will be used to construct a new water main to serve the relocation of Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital. The Copiah Water Association will contribute \$266,270 to the project, and the Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital, whose current building must be replaced to continue its vital operations, has committed to a \$16 million investment while creating 29 new jobs.

The District has issued its annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) survey. The responses will be compiled and used for the 2015 update of the 2013 – 2018 CEDS that was adopted in September 2012. Moreover, the information received will help guide CMPDD in the development of its upcoming 2014-2015 Work Program and Budget.

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## MPO Adopts 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

On May 14, 2014 the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee for the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) voted unanimously to adopt the 2015-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). By federal law a MPO is required to develop and maintain a TIP, which is a fiscally constrained planning document that addresses the implementation of short-term transportation priorities identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan. The TIP lists each project for which federal transportation funds have been committed in the MPO area, along with non-federally funded projects that are deemed regionally significant.



Prior to adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee, a draft of the 2015-2019 TIP was made available for a 45 day public review and comment period on the Jackson MPO website ([www.cmpdd.org](http://www.cmpdd.org)). The MPO also published display ads in the Clarion Ledger and Jackson Advocate newspapers informing the public of a public hearing on the draft

## District Drafting 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program

Over the last few months, the District's staff have been working to develop the 2015-2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which will be presented to the Intermodal Technical Committee and Policy Committee for consideration in August. The UPWP includes all transportation planning activities to be conducted by CMPDD and the City of Jackson Transit Division during the next two years. One of the main tasks in the 2015-2016 UPWP is the completion of the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan. The UPWP contains four (4) major program areas with subtasks for each area including:

### Administration of the Transportation Planning Process

- Program Management
- Preparation / Revision of Prospectus and UPWP
- Citizen Involvement / Informational Activities

### Long-Range Transportation Plan Update: The 2040 Jackson Urbanized Area Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Programs

- 2040 Streets and Highways Element
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Element
- Transit Planning
- Transportation Safety, Security and Environmental Mitigation
- Pavement Management Element
- Financial Plan
- Preparation/Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program

### Congestion Management Process

- Data Maintenance and Performance Monitoring
- Evaluation of Ridesharing as a Congestion Management Strategy

### Transportation Planning Support Activities

- Maintenance of Transportation Database
- Traffic Counting Program
- Training Activities
- Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity Program
- Freight Planning

TIP that would follow the 45 day public review and comment period. In addition, county-wide summits were held to solicit additional public comment on the TIP in each of the three (3) counties (Hinds, Madison, and Rankin) in the Jackson MPO Urbanized Area. All comments received through these public involvement activities were presented to the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee for their consideration prior to their vote to approve the 2015-2019 TIP.

Once approved by the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration, the 2015-2019 TIP will be available for public review on the Jackson MPO website ([www.cmpdd.org](http://www.cmpdd.org)) and will take effect on October 1, 2014.

# District Staff Member Re-Certified as DRA Project Specialist



The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) recently held its Professional Development Academy for staff of local development districts in DRA's eight-state region.

The Academy provided project management training through the Management Concepts course, as well as orientation on Authority programs, policies, procedures, and goals for the coming project

funding cycles. CMPDD staff member, Mitzi Stubbs completed the Academy and has been re-certified as a DRA Project Specialist, and the District has again been designated as a Certified Strategic Partner with DRA.

DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress, which serves a 240 county/parish area in an eight-state region. In Mississippi, 45 counties (including all 7 CMPDD counties) are eligible for funding under DRA. The purpose of DRA is to remedy severe and chronic economic distress by stimulating economic development partnerships that will have a positive impact on

the region's economy.

Priority for funding is given to four types of projects: (1) Basic Public Infrastructure; (2) Transportation Infrastructure; (3) Business Development; and (4) Job Training and Employment-related Education. DRA funds may also be used to leverage other federal and state programs. Under federal law, 75 percent of funds are targeted to distressed counties and pockets of poverty, and 50 percent of dollars are earmarked for transportation and basic public infrastructure. For additional information, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

## CMPDD Submits Land and Water Conservation Fund Applications For 2014

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program provides 50% matching grants for the acquisition and/or development of outdoor recreation facilities. This program is administered on the federal level by the National Park Service (NPS) with federal funds appropriated by Congress through the United States Department of the Interior, and on the state level by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP), Outdoor Recreation Grants Office.

Over the past several months the District has been assisting local governments with the preparation of applications for Land and Water Conservation Funds. The District submitted the following seven (7) applications to MDWFP for review.

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
City of Hazlehurst	Ballfield Lighting	\$28,000	\$28,000
City of Madison	Inclusive Americans with Disabilities Act Playground	100,000	100,000
Town of Pelahatchie	Playground Improvements	42,455	42,455
Town of Puckett	Tennis Courts	82,750	82,750
Town of Wesson	Park Development	57,500	57,500

## Hazlehurst & Puckett Receive CDBG Economic Development Grants

The Town of Puckett has received a CDBG Economic Development (ED) award in the amount of \$426,700, which the District assisted the Town in writing the application and will now assist in administering the award. The Town will use the funds to widen an existing roadway to allow easier and safer access to R-Squared Puckett, Inc., as well as to relocate utilities as a result of the roadway. R-Squared Puckett, Inc. will invest approximately \$2 million in building improvements and it will create 50 new jobs.

The Mississippi Development Authority also recently approved a CDBG Economic Development application that CMPDD prepared and submitted on behalf of the City of Hazlehurst. Hazlehurst requested \$570,000 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 does not have infrastructure in place. Since the water needs are in the Copiah Water Association certificated area, the Copiah

Water Association will construct the water system extensions through an Economic Development Administration grant and Copiah Water Association funds.

The City has also been approved for a \$204,000 Delta Regional Authority (DRA) grant which CMPDD prepared and submitted on their behalf. These funds will be used to provide the matching funds for this CDBG ED proposed sewer system extension project for a total project cost of \$774,000.00. The Hardy Wilson Memorial Hospital has committed to hire 29 new employees and invest \$16,000,000 in construction and equipment.

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.

## MAPDD Annual Conference

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) held its annual conference in Biloxi, MS at the Beau Rivage Hotel April 29th -May 2nd and it was attended by over 500 individuals from all over the State. Speakers included Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, Mississippi Department of Employment Security Executive Director Mark Henry, and Mississippi Development Authority's Tourism Director Malcolm White. Concurrent sessions were also offered during the conference with topics ranging from estate planning, to audit requirements, to community based care programs, to structuring successful economic development projects.

Plans are already underway for next year's conference. Mark your calendars for April 21st-24th, 2015 at the Beau Rivage to participate in MAPDD's next conference.



## District Staff Provides Statewide Training on Sign Retroreflectivity

For the second consecutive year, District staff member Scott Burge served as an instructor for statewide training on Sign Retroreflectivity sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Scott worked with the LTAP coordinators to develop the training schedule and prepare the training workshop materials for each of two (2) training sessions which took place in Hattiesburg and Jackson. These training sessions provided information on the federal requirements concerning sign retroreflectivity and the methods that can be used to determine if a sign meets minimum federal sign retroreflectivity standards. In addition, a presentation was made that showed how to use a sign retroreflectometer, which is a device used to measure the retroreflectivity levels of signs, and how a sign inventory system could be established that would aid in tracking and maintaining the retroreflectivity levels of signs after the initial data collection process had been completed.

Originally there were three (3) compliance dates established by the Federal Highway Administration that a Local Public Agency would need to meet in order to satisfy new sign retroreflectivity minimum requirements. The first date required that an assessment or management method to determine if signs met minimum retroreflectivity requirements be in place prior to January 2012. The second and third

dates of January 2015 and 2018 required all signs that failed to meet minimum retroreflective standards be replaced. The January 2015 date was set to replace all regulatory, warning, and all ground mounted guide signs (except street name signs) that fail to meet the minimum standards. The January 2018 date was to replace street name and overhead guide signs not meeting the standards.



The January 2012 deadline to have an assessment or management method in place was revised to June 2014. The 2015 & 2018 compliance dates for replacing regulatory, warning, street name, and guide signs that didn't meet the minimum retroreflectivity standards have been eliminated. Though the compliance dates have been eliminated, it is still recommended that local governments inventory and replace all signage not meeting minimum standards in a timely manner. For more information about the sign retroreflectivity program and retroreflectometer loan program established by the Jackson MPO, please contact Scott Burge at 601-981-1511 or by email at [sburge@cmpdd.org](mailto:sburge@cmpdd.org).

# District Selected for Hazard Mitigation Planning

In April, CMPDD was selected through the Request For Proposal process conducted by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to develop an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for select communities participating in the District 5 mitigation update process. In accordance with requirements of the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, local communities are required to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in place to maintain eligibility for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding. In addition, communities are required to update their plan every five-years to track progress implementing mitigation actions and to evaluate any changes that might have occurred.

Mitigation plans identify the natural hazards that impact communities, identify actions to reduce losses from those hazards, and establish a coordinated process to implement the actions identified in the plan. Mitigation efforts are most effective when it is based on a comprehensive long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs.

Communities participating in the plan update process for District 5 include Claiborne, Hinds, Issaquena, Sharkey, and Simpson Counties along with the Cities of Canton, Crystal Springs, and Madison and the Town of Puckett. As the project leader, CMPDD will work with those participating in the plan update process to conduct a comprehensive examination of all

natural hazards affecting the region and to develop a framework for informed decision-making regarding the selection of cost-effective mitigation actions. The Hazard Mitigation Plan developed at the end of this project will meet all of the requirements of Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations and will recognize the unique characteristics of each community participating in the planning process. The planning process will include completing 6 main tasks:

- TASK 1**     **Building the Planning Team**
- TASK 2**     **Creating an Outreach Strategy**
- TASK 3**     **Reviewing Community Capabilities**
- TASK 4**     **Conducting a Risk Assessment**
- TASK 5**     **Developing a Mitigation Strategy**
- TASK 6**     **Plan Review, Approval, and Adoption**

As with any mitigation planning process, open public involvement is essential to the development of an effective comprehensive plan. For more information concerning the mitigation planning process underway or to find out how you can be involved in the process contact Lesley Callender at 601-981-1511 or visit the District's mitigation website page: [www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/](http://www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/).

## Development of 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Underway

Preparation is now underway to develop an update to the *2035 Jackson Urbanized Area Transportation Plan* adopted by the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in March 2011. As the MPO, the District is responsible, along with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), for conducting a federally-mandated Transportation Planning Process for the Jackson Metropolitan Area. One of the primary tasks is the development of a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the area expected to become urbanized within a 20-25 year horizon. Federal regulations require that an LRTP be updated every five years. The update of the 2035 LRTP will result in the production of the *2040 Jackson Urbanized Area Transportation Plan*.

MDOT and the various MPOs across Mississippi have selected a consultant to assist in development of the LRTP. It is anticipated that kick-off meetings with the public will be held in the fall of 2014, and completion of the 2040 LRTP is scheduled for December 2015. Elements in the plan include an updated:

- Streets and Highways Element
- Local Land Use and Transportation Plan Review
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Element;
- Transit Plan Element
- Congestion Management Plan Element
- Transportation Safety, Security and Environmental Mitigation Analysis
- Financial Plan Element

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## Additional Planning News

### City of Magnolia

At the City of Magnolia's request, the District prepared an updated zoning map for the City which includes annexed land to its northwest. The District surveyed the existing land uses in the annexed area and prepared a zoning plan for the area. The District presented the proposed zoning for the annexed area and a new Official Zoning Map for the Mayor and Board to review. It is anticipated that the City will adopt the proposed map with few or no changes.

### City of Vicksburg

The District developed an executive summary of the Comprehensive Plan. It is the first and possibly the only portion of the Plan that some will read. The executive summary highlights portions of a lengthy planning report for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, so they can easily know what the complete report contains.

# CMDC BULLETIN

Ms. Wanda Cowart, President of the Central Mississippi Development Company, Inc. (CMDC), announced the approval of three (3) new loans under the U. S. Small Business Administration’s 504 Loan Program and two (2) new loans under the Mississippi Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program.

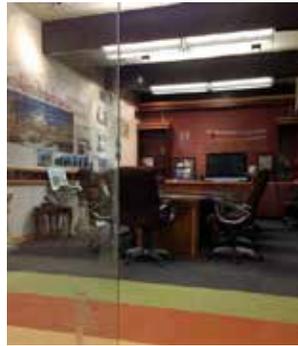
The three loans under the U.S. Small Business Administration’s 504 Loan Program were as follows:

- Amar Nath, LLC in the amount of \$697,372 of a \$1,992,492 project to partially finance a child care center in Madison, Mississippi. This business will create approximately nineteen (19) new jobs in the private sector.
- RFFS, LLC d//a Riemann Family Funeral Home, Inc. in the amount of \$864,348 of a \$2,160,870 project to partially finance a funeral home in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. This business will create approximately three (3) new jobs in the private sector.
- Twenty-four Seven Fitness, LLC. in the amount of \$300,000 of a \$750,000 project to partially finance a fitness center in Picayune, Mississippi. This business will create approximately three (3) new jobs in the private sector.

The two loans under the Mississippi Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program were as follows:

- M3A Architecture, PLLC for \$250,000 of a \$600,000 project to partially finance the renovation of an office building and provide working capital for this architectural and engineering business in Jackson, Mississippi.
- Agape Christian Academy Phaz II, Inc. for \$175,000 of a \$367,500 project to partially finance the acquisition of a child care center and provide working capital for this architectural and engineering business in Jackson, Mississippi.

CMDC is certified by the U. S. Small Business Administration and works in cooperation with local banks and other financial institutions in providing business loans to small businesses. These loans allow a small business to finance land, building, and equipment with a low down payment and long term financing at competitive interest rates. Fixed rate low interest financing for small businesses saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. Also, this type financing provides an alternative to variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not have a negative impact on the cash flow of those businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the U. S. Small Business Administration’s 504 Loan Program. The maximum loan amount is 40% of the total project cost up to a maximum loan amount of \$5,000,000



*The offices of M3A Architecture, PLLC.*

depending on the type of project. The maximum amount for eligible manufacturing projects is \$5,500,000.

Ms. Cowart announced that the current interest rates on business loans under the U. S. Small Business Administration’s CMDC remain very low. The interest rates are as follows:

TERM (YEARS)	INTEREST RATE
10 (June 2014)	4.50%
20 (June 2014)	5.07%

The District manages the 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 the 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. Therefore, 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.

Small business owners, 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.



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

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## Community Health Fair & Scam Jam

On Wednesday May 28, 2014, more than 200 people attended CMPDD's Area Agency on Aging's Community Health Fair & Scam Jam in the Forestry Auditorium at the Mississippi Agriculture Museum. Various speakers, exhibitors, and health providers were available to provide a variety of information and health screenings to participants. The event began with welcoming remarks from Chelsea Crittle, Director of Aging Programs, and continued with presentations from representatives of an law firm which focuses on elder issues, the Attorney Generals' Office, and the Better Business Bureau.

The group was addressed by Mr. Doug Tyrone, Investigator for the Consumer Protection Division/Attorney General's Office, who discussed preventive measures that seniors could take to minimize consumer fraud and identity theft. His presentation was followed by Mr. John O'Hara, President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau, who shared information on consumer rights. Mr. O'Hara also provided situational scenarios that focused on the reasons penalties are enforced on small businesses that take advantage of consumers. The final presenter was Attorney Richard Courtney, who discussed the legal rights of the elderly on such topics such as: wills, estate planning, and



***Clockwise from left:***  
*Attendees examine exhibitor booths to get information and services; Speaker Doug Tyrone tells attendees about the perils of consumer fraud identity theft; Area on Aging employees pass out fruit and water to attendees; Attorney Richard Courtney speaks about elder law and the rights of the elderly.*

property. Participants were able to ask questions and make comments following each presentation.

Throughout the event attendees enjoyed refreshments and registered for door prizes donated by exhibitors. In addition, attendees took advantage of free onsite document shredding to destroy unneeded documents containing personal information and thereby reduce opportunities for consumer fraud and identity theft. The event was a success with attendees expressing their gratitude for the services provided by the Area Agency on Aging and requesting more events focused on seniors.

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