

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



EAST CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

280 Commercial Drive
Post Office Box 499
Newton, Mississippi 39345

CLARKE • JASPER • KEMPER • LAUDERDALE • LEAKE • NESHOBA • NEWTON • SCOTT • SMITH

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

EAST CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.
280 Commercial Drive
P. O. Box 499
Newton, Mississippi 39345

December 31, 2022

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EAST CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Board of Directors

2022

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*Curtis Gray - Vice President

*Dot Merchant - Secretary

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*Perry Duckworth

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*Executive Committee

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DIRECTORS PAGE**

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PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES

JOB DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) provided a Title IX Economic Adjustment Assistance grant to establish a revolving loan fund (RLF) in the nine counties of East Central Planning and Development District. The \$500,000 grant was combined with local funds of \$166,671 provided by the nine counties, making a total of \$666,671 to be used to promote business development by providing loans to businesses within Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, and Smith Counties. The loans are used to create jobs and are being paid back to the District and loaned again to other businesses. To date, 29 EDA loans have been made to local businesses, for a total of \$4,500,626 in loans. The loans, coupled with other loans and capital investments, have helped to create or save 1,041 jobs.



In addition to the EDA portion of the RLF, the District also has funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for use within Kemper County, which is located within the ARC region. To date, 13 ARC loans have been made, for a total of \$1,569,000 in loans and 755 jobs created or retained.

The State has a minority loan fund program that is set up similarly to the other RLF funds and is targeted toward minorities. The State legislature also allocated funds to be used for the Mississippi Small Business Assistance Loan Program. To date, 98 loans from these funds have been made, totaling \$10,387,670 and creating or retaining 564 jobs.

The District also received a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development for the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program to establish an RBEG Revolving Loan Fund to supplement the District's current RLF program. The RBEG RLF assists small and emerging businesses in rural areas of less than 50,000 population. To date, 7 loans have been made from these funds, totaling \$1,034,334 and 194 jobs created or retained.

In 2020, the District received \$1.4 million from EDA's CARES Revolving Loan Fund to establish a new Revolving Loan Program that temporarily has a lower interest rate and less requirements for match. To date, 11 loans have been made from these funds, totaling \$1,447,000 and 49 jobs created/retained.

A total of 160 loans have been made, totaling \$18,938,630 and creating or retaining 2,603 jobs. They are located in the counties of Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, and Smith.



**East Central Planning and Development District
Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee**

Mr. Jeff McCoy, Chairman
Lauderdale County

Mr. Kenny Dickerson
Neshoba County

Mr. Ned Rushing, RLF Secretary
Leake County

Mr. James Graham
Newton County

Mr. Frank Burt
Clarke County

Ms. Jean Cox
Scott County

Mr. Carter Sims
Jasper County

Mr. Newt Ishee
Smith County

Mr. Michael Dudley
Kemper County

Mr. David Vowell
Neshoba County

U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA)

The District prepared and submitted the following grant applications to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) in 2022:

East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) – Workforce Development Center (Scooba campus). \$3,000,000 EDA \$1,000,000 ARC; 2,000,000 EMCC; \$6,000,000 total project cost.
Pending

Meridian Community College (MCC) - Transportation Technology Center \$3,552,000 EDA; \$888,000 local; \$4,440,000 total project cost.

The District prepared and submitted the following American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Tourism Grant applications to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) in January 2022:

City of Meridian - Conferencing Center. \$4,874,460 EDA; \$1,218,615 local; \$6,093,075 total project cost.

Scott County-Forest – To replace the roof and HVAC systems and to install a gas service line to the Scott County-Forest Coliseum. \$1,956,835 EDA; \$244,605 City; \$244,605 County; \$2,446,045 total project cost.

CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act Recovery Assistance Grant

The District received funding through the EDA Planning Program for EDD Districts in the amount of \$400,000 to respond to the coronavirus pandemic by providing technical assistance to its nine (9) member counties. The District also received \$1.4 million from EDA’s CARES Revolving Loan Fund to establish a new Revolving Loan Program that temporarily has a lower interest rate and less requirements for match.

The District assisted two local units of government, two community colleges, and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) applications.

Delta Regional Authority (DRA)

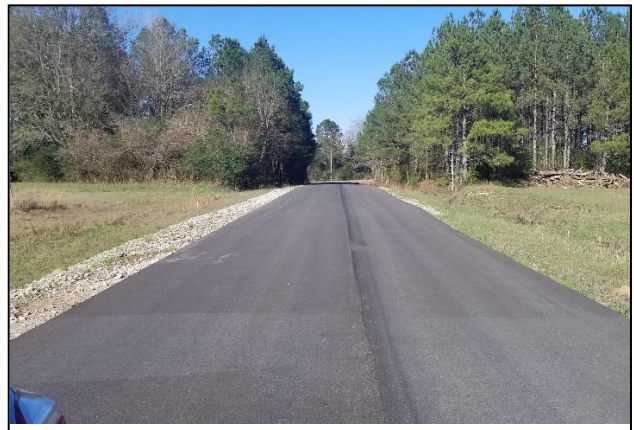
East Central Planning and Development District provides technical assistance to economically distressed communities who are trying to assess, plan and implement projects aimed at improving the economic and social quality of life within the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) region. ECPDD assists with the DRA Federal Grant Program's application processes which are focused on basic infrastructure development and transportation improvements, business development and job training services. Jasper and Smith counties are designated as DRA counties in the ECPDD area.

The following DRA grant applications were submitted to and **approved** by Delta Regional Authority in 2022:

City of Bay Springs -- Industrial Road Improvements - DRA \$183,960; local \$20,440; total project cost \$204,400.

Town of Mize – Sewer improvements. \$222,098 DRA; \$24000 local; \$246,098 total project cost.

The following grant applications were submitted to Delta Regional Authority in 2021 and **approved in 2022**:



Jasper County - Industrial road improvements. \$100,000 DRA; \$28,400 local; \$128,400 total project cost.

Town of Louin – Water improvements. \$213,475 DRA; \$25,000 local; \$238,475 total project cost.



Town of Sylvarena - Water improvements. \$147,721 DRA; \$545,000 local; \$692,721 total project cost.

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded DRA projects in 2022:

Town of Heidelberg – Sewer improvements. \$171,155 DRA; \$9,000 local; \$180,155 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville - Sewer improvements. \$110,050 DRA; \$20,000 local; \$130,050 total project cost.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

ARC Revolving Loan Fund - The District is implementing an ARC revolving loan fund (RLF) that will assist Kemper County businesses in creating new jobs. In addition to the EDA portion of the RLF, the District also has funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for use within Kemper County, which is located within the ARC region. To date, 13 ARC loans have been made, for a total of \$1,569,000 in loans and 170 jobs created or retained.

ARC Applications

The District prepared and submitted the following ARC pre-applications in 2022:

Kemper County Gas District – To construct a meter and regulator station for a new gas line to service East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) in Scooba, MS. \$480,000 ARC; \$120,000 Kemper County; \$600,000 total project cost. **Pending**

Town of Scooba – Sewer improvements. \$300,000 ARC; \$550,000 CDBG; \$850,000 total project cost. **The Town of Scooba submitted a full application in 2022.**

The District prepared and submitted the following ARC full applications in 2022:

East Mississippi Community College (EMCC) – Industrial Workforce Training Center – Scooba Campus; \$1,000,000 ARC; \$4,917,526 local; \$5,917,526 total project cost. **Approved**

Town of Scooba - Improvements to the Town's wastewater lagoon, Lagoon Dike Stabilization Cell No. 1-3. \$300,000 ARC; \$550,000 other; \$850,000 total project cost. **Approved**

ARC Administration

The District assisted in the administration of the following previously funded ARC projects in 2022:

Kemper County – To provide water and sewer extensions to reach the newly developed 215-acre Kemper Crossing Industrial Park. \$250,000 ARC; \$666,500 local; \$916,500 total project cost.

Kemper County - Building construction for Emilia Resources. \$1,140,000 ARC; \$100,000 RIF grant; \$500,000 CAP Loan; \$1,000,000 Company; \$2,740,000 total project cost.

Ready Appalachia

The District prepared and submitted the following Ready Appalachia – A Community Capacity-Building Initiative grant application to ARC in 2022:

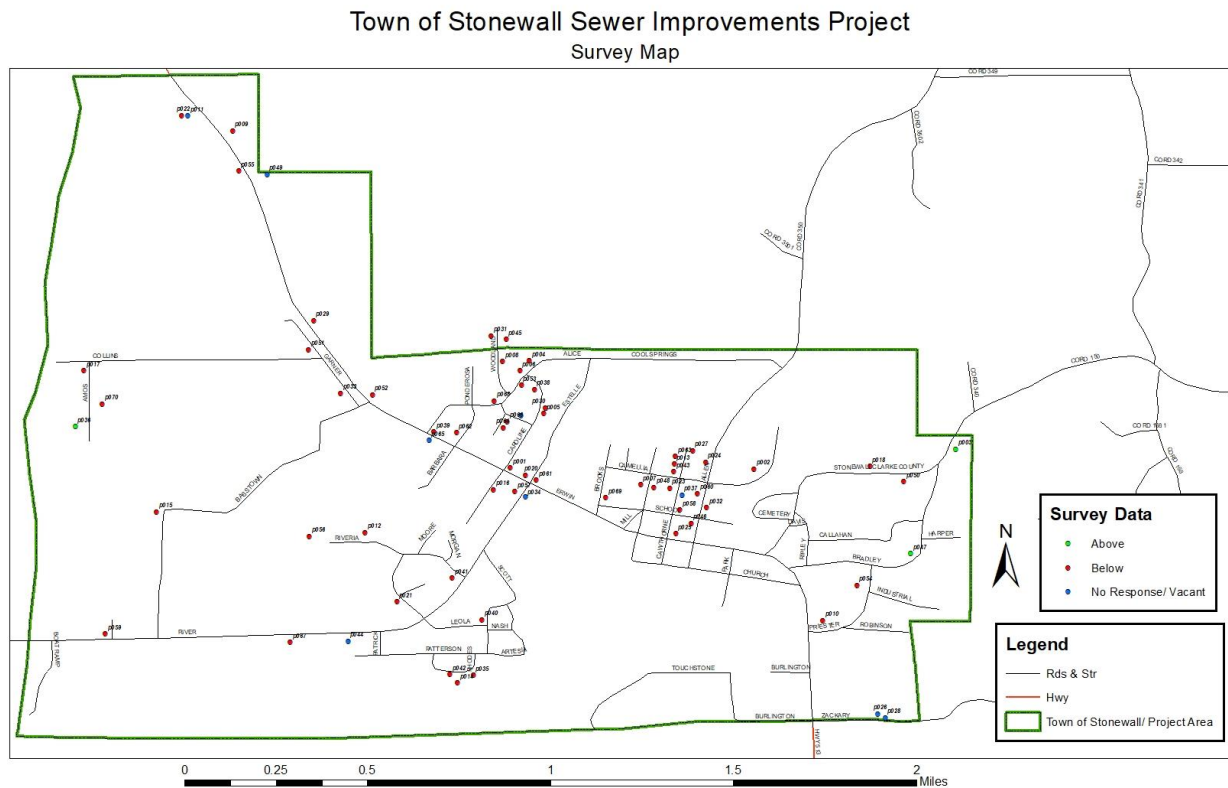
East Central PDD – Funds to hire additional staff to service Kemper County. Grant would cover salary, fringe, indirect costs, travel, and registrations for two years. \$200,000 ARC; \$200,000 total project cost.

This application is **pending**.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The GIS program has been used to enhance planning programs and project applications and surveys, such as CDBG, for the District area. The staff utilizes GIS software, digital photography, mapping techniques, and global positioning equipment.

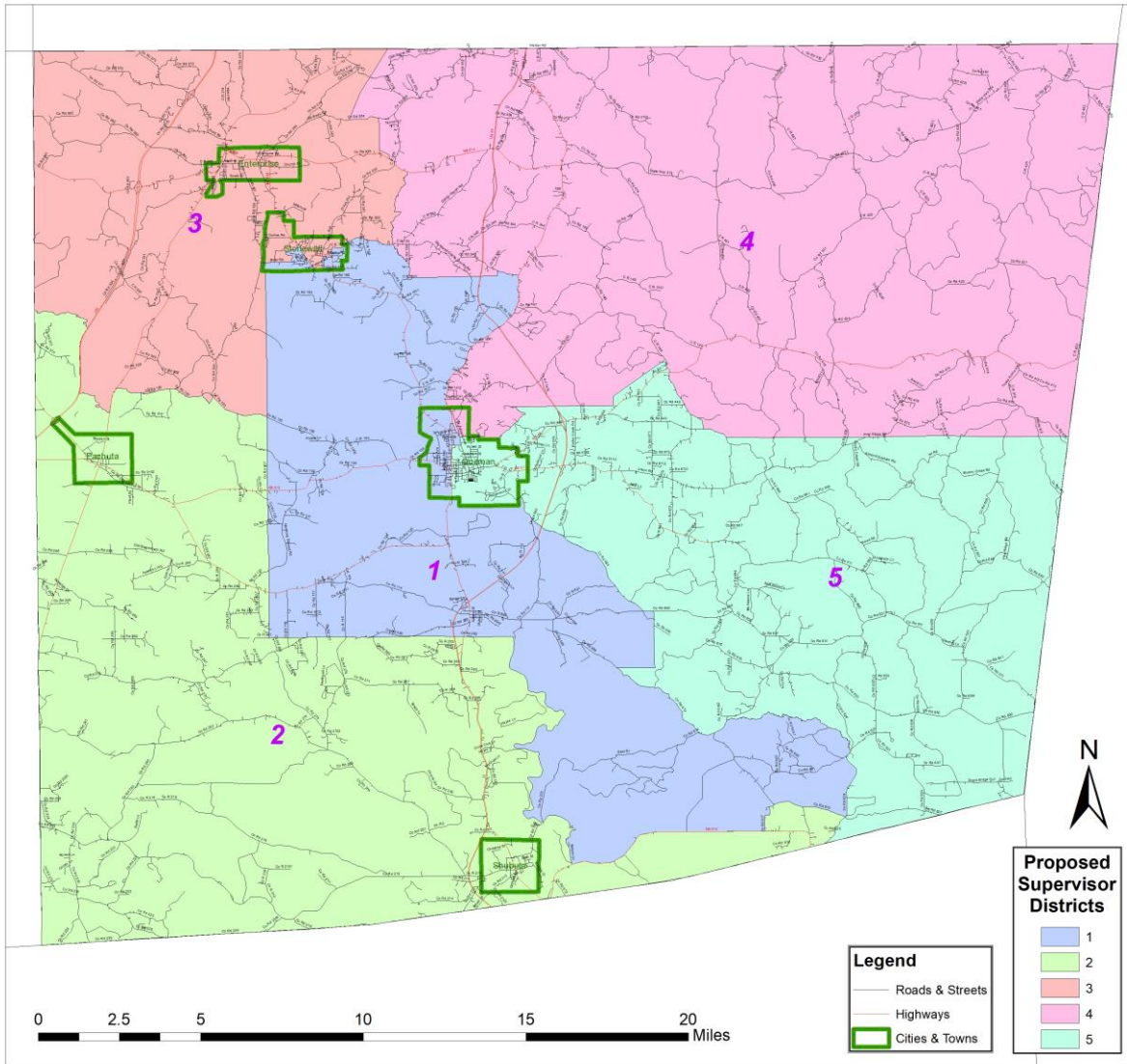
In addition to mapping minority areas and substandard housing areas, GIS staff utilizes the GIS program to plot housing units on maps to complete random surveys. Random surveys are used to determine the low- and moderate-income percentages for CDBG project applications (see map below).



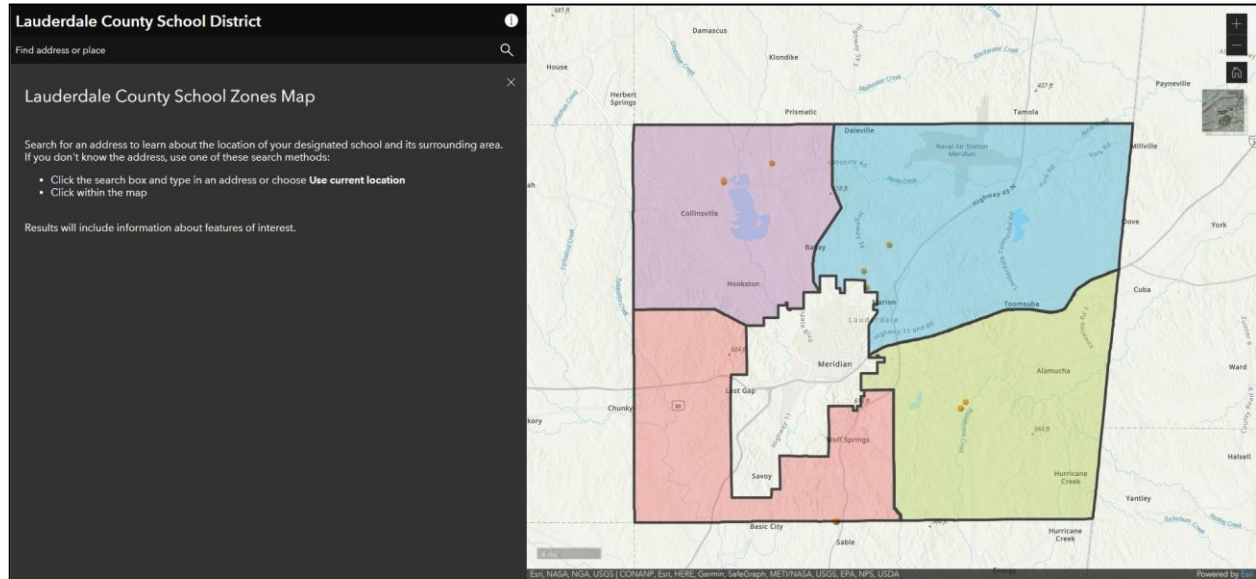
The GIS program has been an integral part of the redistricting process for the Boards of Supervisors, Municipalities, Justice Courts, Constables, Election Commissions, and School Districts.

District staff assisted with redistricting plans based on the 2020 Census for Clarke County, Jasper County, Leake County, Smith County, and the City of Carthage. Staff also worked on redistricting for the City of Meridian in 2022.

Proposed Clarke County Redistricting Map 2022



In 2021, the District developed an interactive map depicting school zone boundary lines for the Lauderdale County School District. The purpose of this map was to create a tool where users could identify school zones based on addresses or locations. ECPDD continues to provide assistance to LCSD, included utilizing ArcGIS mapping program data, the ArcGIS Instant Apps for addresses located in Lauderdale County, and the boundary lines for the school zones. The



interactive map developed allows users to identify the school zones based on address or location.

In 2022, District staff utilized the GIS program to prepare maps as related to the Medical Cannabis Program for the City of Quitman and the City of Morton. Interactive maps were prepared to depict the distance the medical cannabis grower and distributor sites will be from schools and churches. Staff also updated Land Use maps to allow for the growing of and distribution of medical cannabis.

The GIS staff is available to prepare current road maps and other specialized maps for counties, municipalities, and emergency service providers, as well as hazard mitigation planning.

OTHER PUBLIC FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

Mississippi Development Authority (MDA)

Community Development Block Grant Program Public Facilities

The following 2022 CDBG Public Facilities applications were **submitted to and approved by** the Mississippi Development Authority in 2022:

Jasper County – Construction of a fire station for needed fire protection. \$504,463 CDBG; \$45,000 local; \$549,463 total project cost. **Approved for \$499,205.34.**

Lauderdale County – To make ADA improvements to the Frances W. Davidson Memorial Homeless Shelter. \$138,493 CDBG; \$158,492 local; \$296,985 total project cost. **Approved for \$137,493.**

Smith County – To repair and repave SCR 109. \$750,000 CDBG; \$585,000 local; \$1,335,000 total project cost.

City of Forest – To construct a new water well. \$750,000 CDBG; \$1,267,342.25 local; \$2,017,342.25 total project cost. **Approved for \$637,637.52.**

City of Quitman – To provide sewer improvements for the City. \$600,000 CDBG; \$600,000 total project cost.

Town of Raleigh – To make needed sewer repairs in the Turner Chapel area of the Town. \$595,763 CDBG; \$595,763 total project cost.

Town of Scooba - Improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Lagoon. \$550,000 CDBG; \$300,000,00 local; \$850,000 total project cost. **Approved for \$548,779.20.**

The following 2022 CDBG Public Facilities applications were also submitted to the Mississippi Development Authority in 2022:

City of Bay Springs - Improvements to the wastewater transportation line. \$597,955 CDBG; \$597,955 total project cost.

City of Meridian – To make sewer improvements to a low-income area of Meridian as required by Consent Decree with EPA. \$750,000 CDBG; \$3,939,289 local; \$4,689,289 total project cost.

Town of Marion – Sewer improvements in a low-income area of Marion. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.

Leake County – To repair and repave St. Anne Road and Holly Hill Road. \$563,742.72 CDBG; \$150,000 local; \$713,742.72 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville – To make water improvements throughout the Town. \$600,000 CDBG; \$600,000 total project cost.

Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grants

In 2001, the State of Mississippi established the Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties (SMLPC) Grants Program as part of the Advantage Mississippi Initiative. The program provides grants to finance projects to promote economic growth.

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded SMLPC projects in 2022:

Clarke County – Site improvements to a new industrial park. \$129,000 SMLPC; \$26,000 local; \$155,000 total project cost.

Kemper County – Provide water and sewer extensions to reach the newly developed Kemper Crossing Industrial Park. \$150,000 SMLPC; \$765,500 local; \$915,500 total project cost.

Neshoba County - Street paving in the Industrial Park in Union. \$100,000 SMLPC; \$20,000 local; \$120,000 total project cost.

Newton County – To construct a new Multi-Purpose Building. \$150,000 SMLPC; \$98,419 local; \$248,419 total project cost.

City of Newton – Repair and repave Old Highway 15 Loop. \$100,000 SMLPC; \$45,040 local; \$145,040 total project cost.

Town of Decatur – Drainage improvements that would benefit East Central Community College. \$150,000 SMLPC; \$41,100 local; \$191,100 total project cost.

Town of Lake - Renovations to Depot Park. \$148,338 SMLPC; \$18,735 local; \$167,073 total project cost.

Rural Impact Fund (RIF)

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded Rural Impact Fund (RIF) projects in 2022:

Kemper County - Building construction for Emilia Resources. Company will create at least 27 new fulltime positions. \$100,000 RIF grant; \$840,000 ARC; \$500,000 CAP Loan; \$1,000,000 Company; \$2,440,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Ace Fund Grant

The District prepared and submitted the following Mississippi Ace Fund Grant application to the Mississippi Development Authority in 2022:

East Mississippi Business Development Corporation (EMBDC)/Shloop, Inc. – Repair the roof on the old Hardin Bakery-Hooper Electronics Building. Create 50 new jobs. \$59,400 grant; \$500,000 company; \$559,400 total project cost. **Approved**

Mississippi Development Infrastructure Program (DIP)

The District prepared and submitted the following Mississippi Development Infrastructure Program (DIP) application to the Mississippi Development Authority in 2022:



Jasper County – Parking lot improvements for Hol-Mac – approximately 31 new jobs. DIP \$212,349; local \$21,349; Company \$1,000,000; total project cost \$1,233,698. **Approved**

Mississippi Site Development Grant Program

The District submitted the following Mississippi Site Development Grant Program application to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) in 2022:

Neshoba County – Building pad and road improvements for Neshoba Industrial Park. \$250,000 MDA; \$250,000 local; \$500,000 total project cost. **Pending**

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded Mississippi Site Development Grant Program application to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) in 2022:

Smith County Economic Development District – To construct two access roads on the western side of the Smith County Industrial Site near Taylorsville. \$250,000 MDA; \$575,000 local; \$825,000 total project cost.

Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Program (CAP)

The following Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Program (CAP) applications were submitted to and **approved** by the Mississippi Development Authority in 2022:

City of Meridian – Renovations to the Frank Cochran Center located in the historical Highland Park. \$1,250,000 CAP; \$1,877,001 other; \$3,127,001 total project cost.

Town of Marion – Wastewater Treatment Improvements. \$860,000 CAP; \$860,000 total project cost.

Neshoba County – Building improvements to the hospital. \$1,250,000 CAP; \$1,250,000 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville – To purchase a new Class A pumper for the Taylorsville Volunteer Fire Department. \$374,718 CAP Loan.

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously approved CAP Loans in 2022:

Clarke County – Purchase of five (5) fire trucks. \$1.2 million CAP; \$150,000 Rural Development; \$180,000 Rural Fire Truck Acquisition; \$1,530,000 total project cost.

City of Newton – Purchase of a Class A pumper. \$542,477.99 CAP Loan; \$542,477.99 total project cost.

Scott County – Purchase of five (5) Class A pumpers. \$1,250,000 CAP Loan; \$390,000 Rural Fire Truck Acquisition Program; \$352,000 local; \$1,992,320 total project cost.

Town of Raleigh – Funds to purchase a new Class A Pumper. \$400,000 CAP; \$400,000 total project cost.



Mississippi Industry Incentive Financing Revolving Loan Fund

The District also administered the following previously funded Mississippi Industry Incentive Financing Revolving Loan Fund project in 2022:

Neshoba County – Needed improvements and upgrades to the existing Ellis Theater that is part of the Marty Stuart Congress of Music. \$1,000,000 MDA; \$238,000 Marty Stuart Bond; \$1,267,000 Marty Stuart Fundraiser; \$2,505,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Home Corporation

A Homebuyer Assistance application was **approved** by the Mississippi Home Corporation in 2019: To provide for the HOME Down Payment Assistance Program to encompass 44 counties for an estimated 48 loans. This is a combined project with North Central Planning and Development District, Golden Triangle Planning and Development District, Three Rivers Planning and Development District, North Delta Planning and Development District, Northeast Planning and Development District, and East Central Planning and Development District. \$850,091 HOME; \$850,091 total project cost.

The Mississippi Home Corporation is presently preparing the policies and procedures for the program.

CDBG and HOME Project Administration - The District assisted with the administration of the following CDBG Public Facilities (PF) and HOME projects in 2022:

East Central PDD – HOME - To provide for the HOME Down Payment Assistance Program to encompass 44 counties for an estimated 48 loans. \$850,091 HOME; \$850,091 total project cost.

Clarke County - PF - To provide handicapped accessibility improvements to the Clarke County Courthouse. \$105,400 CDBG; \$105,400 local; \$210,800 total project cost.

Village of Pachuta - PF - Water system improvements. \$449,350 CDBG; \$449,350 total project cost.

City of Quitman - PF - To provide wastewater improvements to the City of Quitman. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.

Town of Shubuta - PF - Drainage improvements. \$449,053; \$449,053 total project cost.

Town of Stonewall - PF - Sewer system improvements. \$449,900 CDBG; \$449,900 total project cost.

Jasper County - PF - Construction of a fire station. \$600,000 CDBG; \$95,373 local; \$695,373 total project cost.

Town of Heidelberg - PF - Sewer system improvements. \$314,400 CDBG; \$314,400 total project cost.

Town of Montrose - PF - Water system improvements. \$324,100 CDBG; \$324,100 total project cost.

Kemper County - PF - ADA improvements to the Kemper County Courthouse. \$600,000 CDBG; \$75,000 other; \$675,000 total project cost.

Town of DeKalb - PF - To make improvements to the wastewater collection system for the Town. \$295,000 CDBG; \$295,000 total project cost.

Town of Scooba - PF - Wastewater treatment facilities improvements. \$400,000 CDBG; \$250,000 ARC; \$650,000 total project cost.

City of Carthage - PF - To make urgently needed repairs to its aging sanitary sewer system. \$299,829 CDBG; \$300,000 local; \$599,829 total project cost.

Neshoba County - PF - Building improvements to the County-owned Nursing Home associated with Neshoba General Hospital. \$600,000 CDBG; \$2,586,929 other; \$3,186,929 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia - PF - ADA improvements to the “Booker T” School building that currently houses the City’s Headstart Program. \$192,200 CDBG; \$25,000 other; \$217,200 total project cost.

City of Newton - PF - To make sewer improvements to prevent inflow/infiltration and sewage overflows. \$449,127 CDBG; \$449,127 total project cost.

Town of Decatur - PF - Sewer rehabilitation in a low-income area of Decatur. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.



Town of Hickory - PF - Sewer improvements in a low-income area of Hickory. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.

Town of Union - PF - Town-wide water improvements. \$449,975 CDBG; \$449,975 total project cost.

City of Morton - PF - Improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. \$600,000 CDBG; \$203,321 local; \$803,321 total project cost.

Town of Lake - PF - Sewer improvements. \$449,900 CDBG; \$449,900 total project cost.

Town of Mize - PF - To make required improvements to the wastewater’s sewer plant. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.



Town of Polkville - PF - Water improvements. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.

Town of Raleigh - PF - To make sewer improvements to eliminate inflow/infiltration into the system to prevent sewerage overflows. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.

Town of Sylvarena - PF - Water improvements to include drilling a water well. \$450,000 CDBG; \$295,000 local; \$745,000 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville - PF - Replace approximately 1.75 miles of asbestos cement water pipe in low- and moderate-income areas of the Town. \$450,000 CDBG; \$450,000 total project cost.



OTHER PROJECTS

Mississippi Department of Public Safety

The District prepared and submitted the following **2023 Occupant Protection Grant** applications to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety in 2022:

City of Carthage – To pay for officer overtime to continue the City’s Occupant Protection (seatbelt/child restraint) Program. \$10,000 grant; \$10,000 total project cost. **Approved**

City of Philadelphia – To pay for officer overtime to continue the City’s Occupant Protection Program. \$10,404 grant; \$10,404 total project cost. **Approved**

The District prepared and submitted the following **2024 Occupant Protection Grant** applications to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Office of Highway Safety in December 2022:

City of Carthage – To continue the Carthage Police Department’s Occupant Protection Program. \$10,000 MOHS; \$10,000 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia – To continue the City’s Police Department’s Occupant Protection Program. \$10,404 grant; \$10,404 total project cost.

City of Morton – To restart the Morton Police Department’s Occupant Protection Program. \$10,000 MOHS; \$10,000 total project cost.

These applications are **pending**.

The District prepared and submitted the following **2023 Alcohol Countermeasures (DUI)** applications to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety in 2022:

Leake County – To pay for officer overtime to continue the County’s DUI Program. \$10,000 grant; \$10,000 total project cost.

City of Carthage -- To pay for a DUI officer to continue the City’s DUI Program. \$43,329 grant; \$43,329 total project cost. **Approved**

City of Philadelphia – To pay for officer overtime and equipment to continue the City’s DUI Program. \$46,818.70 grant; \$46,818.70 total project cost. **Approved**

The District prepared and submitted the following **2024 Alcohol Countermeasures (DUI)** applications to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Office of Highway Safety in December 2022:

City of Carthage – To continue the Carthage Police Department’s Alcohol Countermeasures Program. \$20,978.50 MOHS; \$20,978.59 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia – To continue the County’s Alcohol Countermeasures (DUI) program. \$48,751.60 grant; \$48,751.60 total project cost.

These applications are **pending**.

The following FY 2020 Project Safe Neighborhood grant application was submitted to and **approved by** the Office of Highway Safety of the Mississippi Department of Highway Safety in 2022:

City of Philadelphia – To purchase equipment that would assist in curbing the violent grant and gun crime in the city. \$55,048 grant; \$18,350 local; \$73,398 total project cost.

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)

The following 2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) applications were submitted to and **approved** by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety in 2022:

Clarke County – To purchase two (2) new radios for the Sheriff’s Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

City of Quitman – To purchase three (3) new tasers for the City of Quitman’s Police Officers. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Town of Enterprise – To purchase two (2) tasers with cartridges and magazines and two (2) body cameras for the Enterprise Police Department. \$4,000 JAG; \$4,000 total project cost.

Town of Stonewall – Purchase tasers and equipment for the Stonewall Police Department. \$3,727.60 JAG; \$1,242.53 local; \$4,970.13 total project cost.



Leake County – To purchase a recording device and intoximeters for the Leake County Sheriff’s Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

City of Carthage - To purchase Class A uniforms for the Carthage Police Department. \$4,992 JAG; \$4,992 total project cost.

Town of Lena – To purchase equipment and supplies for the Lena Police Department. \$3,913.91 JAG; \$3,931.91 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia – To purchase equipment and supplies for the City’s police officers. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Newton County - To purchase 10 spike strips and one (1) taser for the Newton County Sheriff’s Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

City of Newton – To purchase two (2) speed signs. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Town of Decatur – To purchase equipment and supplies for the Decatur Police Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Town of Union – To purchase equipment and supplies for the Union Police Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.



City of Forest – To purchase two (2) radar units. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Town of Lake – To purchase equipment and supplies for the Lake Police Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

City of Morton – To pay overtime for the officers and dispatchers at Morton Police Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$5,000 total project cost.

Smith County – To purchase six (6) service weapons and two (2) radios for the Smith County Sheriff’s Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$384 local; \$5,384 total project cost.

Town of Polkville – To purchase radios and ammunition for the Polkville Police Department. \$5,000 JAG; \$42.57 local; \$5,042.57 total project cost.

Town of Raleigh – To purchase equipment and supplies for the Raleigh Police Department. \$4,542 JAG; \$4,541 total project cost.

Town of Mize – To purchase radios for the Mize Police Department. \$2,553.34 JAG; \$851.11 local; \$3,404.45 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville – To purchase three (3) handheld radios for the Taylorsville Police Department. \$4,950 JAG; \$4,950 total project cost.

The following 2020 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) applications were submitted to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety in October 2021 and **approved in 2022**:

Town of Lena – To purchase needed equipment for the Lena Police Department. \$1,927 JAG; \$1,927 total project amount.

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

The following Bulletproof Vests Partnership (BVP) Grant applications were submitted to and **approved by** the U.S. Department of Justice in 2022:

City of Newton – To purchase five (5) bulletproof vests for the Newton Police Department. \$2,000 BVP; \$2,000 local; \$4,000 total project cost.

City of Morton – To purchase eight (8) bulletproof vests for the Morton Police Department. \$2,934 BVP; \$2,932 local; \$5,864 total project cost.

Smith County – To purchase 18 bulletproof vests for the Smith County Sheriff's Department. \$6,597 BVP; \$6,597 local; \$13,194 total project costs.

MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

The following Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant applications were submitted to and **approved by** the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks in 2022:

Lauderdale County (West Lauderdale Recreational Trail Project) – Walking trail around the ballfields. \$120,000 RTP; \$159,725 County; \$279,725 total project cost.

Town of Union - New fitness trail at Laird Park. \$120,000 RTP; \$30,000 local; \$150,000 total project cost.

The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded RTP grants in 2022:

Jasper County – To construct a non-motorized walking trail in the Paulding community (east Jasper County). \$120,000 RTP; \$44,475 local; \$164,475 total project cost.

Town of Scooba - To construct a non-motorized walking trail approximately 2,640 linear feet long and 10 feet wide. \$95,000 RTP; \$3,750 local; \$20,000 Partners for Kemper County Grant; \$118,750 total project cost.

Leake County – To construct a multi-use nature trail adjacent to McMillan Park in Carthage. \$62,798 RTP; \$15,699 local; \$78,497 total project cost.

City of Newton – To construct a multi-use trail at ESCO Park. \$120,000 RTP; \$30,000 local; \$150,000 total project cost.



Town of Sylvarena – Construct a new walking trail. \$96,000 RTP; \$24,000 local; \$120,000 total project cost.

The following 2020 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) applications were submitted to the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks in 2021 and **approved in 2022**:

City of Forest – Construction of a soccer complex. \$402,188 LWCF; \$402,188 local; \$804,376 total project cost.

Town of Mize - To make improvements to the playground area, to provide handicap accessible playground equipment and to make the restrooms handicap accessible. \$50,000 LWCF; \$50,000 local; \$100,000 total project cost.

The District also assisted with the administration of the following previously funded Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants in 2022:

Clarke County – To make improvements to the existing Clarke Recreational Park. \$54,750 LWCF; \$54,750 local; \$109,500 total project cost.

Jasper County – Assist with purchase of playground equipment and park amenities at the Paulding Recreational Park. \$35,000 LWCF; \$35,000 local; \$70,000 total project cost.

Town of Louin – Playground equipment improvements. \$50,000 LWCF; \$25,000 Town; \$25,000 Jasper County; \$100,000 total project cost.



City of Morton – To construct a soccer/football complex. \$30,000 LWCF; \$30,000 local; \$60,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

The District prepared and submitted the following Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) Community Heritage Preservation Grant (CHPG) applications in 2022:

City of Meridian – Repairs to the Dentzel Carousel House, roof, windows, exterior woodwork and provide fire protection. \$400,000 CHPG; \$100,000 local; \$500,000 total project cost.

Kemper County – Repair the roof on building perimeter, rebuild two original skylights, patch the third-floor stucco, and restore the third-floor original window frames. \$312,000 CHPG; \$78,000 local; \$390,000 total project cost.

These applications were **pending as of December 21, 2021.**



The District assisted with the administration of the following previously funded Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) Community Heritage Preservation Grant (CHPG) grants in 2022:



Kemper County – Full restoration of the porticos and cornice band on the exterior of the Kemper County Courthouse. \$288,000 CHPG; \$72,000 local; \$360,000 total project cost.

Lauderdale County - To install a new roof and weatherproofing on the exterior of the Lauderdale County Courthouse. \$382,264 CHPG; \$95,566 local; \$477,830 total project cost.

Wechsler Foundation (Lauderdale County) – Roof repairs and windows replacement of the 1951 portion of the Wechsler School. \$85,824 CHPG; \$21,456 local; \$107,280 total project cost.

Wechsler Foundation (Lauderdale County) – Continued renovations to the 1951 portion of the Wechsler School building. \$277,154 MDAH; \$452,100 local; \$729,254 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia – Improvements to the Booker T. School. \$115,200 grant; \$28,800 match; \$144,000 total project cost.



National Park Service

The District prepared and submitted the following Lower Mississippi Delta Initiative (LMDI) Local Heritage Grant application to the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, in 2022:

Lauderdale County - To construct restrooms at the James Chaney Park, an African American park named for James Earl Chaney, civil rights worker killed in Philadelphia, Mississippi, in 1964. \$21,813 LMDI; \$21,812 match; \$43,625 total project cost.

The District assisted the Wechsler Foundation with applying for and administering the following African American Civil Rights grant funded under the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the National Park Service, US Department of the Interior:

Wechsler Foundation (Lauderdale County) – Building improvements for the historic Wechsler School. \$500,000 grant; \$500,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)

The District prepared and submitted the following Solid Waste Assistance Grant (SWAG) applications to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) in April 2022:

Jasper County – Funds for Solid Waste Officer’s salary and benefits. \$20,482.82 SWAG; \$20,482.82 local; \$40,965.64 total project cost. **Approved**

Leake County – To pay ½ of Solid Waste Officer’s salary and for cleanup of unauthorized dumps. \$47,476.73 SWAG; \$47,476.73 total project cost. **Approved**

Scott County – To continue the County’s white goods collection program. \$72,657.99 SWAG; \$72,657.99 total project cost. **Approved**

Smith County – To pay ½ of Solid Waste Officer’s salary, for cleanup of unauthorized dumps, and for waste tire program. \$69,939.03 SWAG; \$69,939.03 total project cost. **Approved**

The District prepared and submitted the following Round 1 Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) grant applications to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality in 2022:

Town of Enterprise - Wastewater improvements. \$261,359 MCWI; \$116,786 local ARPA; \$378,145 total project cost.

City of Quitman - Sewer improvements. \$987,852 MCWI; \$115,300 local ARPA; \$1,103,152 total project cost.

City of Quitman - Stormwater improvements. \$640,752 MCWI; \$231,000 local ARPA; \$871,752 total project cost.

Town of Shubuta - Storm water improvements. \$199,626 MCWI; \$99,813 local ARPA; \$299,439 total project cost.

Kemper County - Water and sewer to new industrial area. \$859,859.50 MCWI; \$859,859.50 local ARPA; \$110,206 local; \$ 1829,925 total project cost. **Approved**

Town of Dekalb - Sewer improvements. \$478,000 MCWI; \$239,000 local ARPA; \$717,000 total project cost.

Lauderdale County- Water and sewer to new industrial area. \$2,050,000 MCWI; \$2,050,000 local ARPA; \$4,100,000 total project cost.

Town of Marion - Sewer improvements. \$600,000 MCWI; \$300,000 local ARPA; \$900,000 total project cost.

City of Philadelphia – Wastewater Treatment Project. \$750,000 MCWI; \$750,000 local ARPA; \$1,500,000 total project. **Approved**

Town of Decatur - Sewer improvements. \$838,332 MCWI; \$419,166 local ARPA; \$616,002 SRF; \$1,873,500 total project cost.

Town of Hickory - Water improvements. \$260,104 MCWI; \$130,052 local ARPA; \$390,156 total project. **Approved**

Town of Union - Water improvements. \$20,959 MCWI; \$321,916 local ARPA; \$1,142,875 total project cost.

City of Forest – To construct a new water well. \$1,146,432.50 MCWI; \$1,146,432.50 local ARPA; \$2,292,865 total project cost.

Town of Taylorsville – For system-wide water improvements. \$612,154.48 MCWI; \$306,077.24 local ARPA; \$918,231.72 total project cost.

Mississippi State Department of Health

The District prepared and submitted the following ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant (RWAIG) Program applications to the Mississippi State Department of Health in September 2022:

Clarkdale Water Association (Clarke/Lauderdale counties) – Replace deteriorated asbestos and PVC water line with new 6” water line and install 1,250 new radio read water meters replacing outdated water meters. \$2,500,000 RWAIG; \$2,500,000 total project cost.

Townsend Water Association (Kemper County) – Water line replacements. \$701,000 RWAIG; \$701,000 total project cost. **Approved**

Russell Utilities (Lauderdale County) – Water distribution improvements to serve Betts Radcliff Road to LCWA area. \$1,117,000 RWAIG; \$1,117,000 total project cost.

Russell Utilities (Lauderdale County) – New water well, water meters and other associated improvements. \$1,108,000 RWAIG; \$1,108,000 total project cost.

Center Ridge Water Association (Smith County) – Water line and meter improvements. \$2,361,000 RWAIG; \$2,361,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)

The District prepared and submitted the following Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) applications to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency in in 2021 that were **approved in 2022**:

Clarke County – Purchase a generator for Quitman Fire Department. \$27,750 HMGP; \$9,250 match; \$13,750 local; \$37,000 total project cost.

Town of Shubuta – Purchase a generator for a lift station. \$27,750 HMGP; \$9,250 match; \$13,750 local; \$37,000 total project cost.

City of Forest - To purchase a generator for the Highway 80 West Water Well. \$49,440 HMGP; \$16,480 local; \$65,920 total project cost.

City of Morton – To purchase a weather warning siren. \$23,925.50 HMGP; \$2,592.50 local; \$25,925 total project cost.

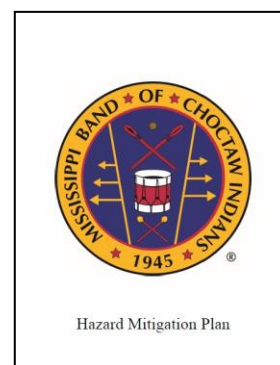
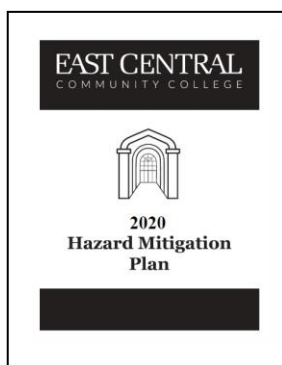
Town of Lake – To purchase two (2) generators for the water system. \$48,000 HMGP; \$16,000 local; \$64,000 total project cost.

Town of Polkville – To purchase three (3) generators for the Town. \$46,479.76 HMGP; \$15,493.25 local; \$61,973.01 total project cost.

The District also assisted with the administration of the previously funded Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant projects in 2020:

East Central Community College (ECCC) - To update East Central Community College’s Hazard Mitigation Plan to meet DMA2K five-year update requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). \$27,000 MEMA; \$3,000 ECCC; \$30,000 total project cost.

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) – To update the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians’ Hazard Mitigation Plan to meet DMA2K five-year requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). \$27,000 MEMA; \$3,000 MBCI; \$30,000 total project cost.



USDA - Rural Development

The District prepared and submitted the following Community Facilities Grant applications to USDA – Rural Development in 2022:

Town of Pachuta – To purchase a compost excavator and trailer to haul excavator; \$38,256 USDA; \$12,752 local; \$51,008 total project cost. **Pending**

Newton County – To purchase a backhoe for Beat 3. \$50,000 USDA; \$71,528.68 local; \$121,528.68 total project cost. **Pending**

City of Forest – To purchase an Animal Control truck for the City. \$31,416 USDA; \$25,704 local; \$57,120 total project cost. **Pending**

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The District also prepared and submitted the following Community Facilities Grant applications to USDA – Rural Development in 2021 that were **approved in 2022**:

Town of Dekalb – Purchase a truck for the Town’s Public Work’s Department. \$18,150 RD; \$14,850 local; \$33,000 total project cost.



City of Forest - To purchase two (2) patrol vehicles for the Forest Police Department. \$47,516 USDA; \$38,876 local; \$86,392 total project cost.

City of Forest – To purchase an excavator and trailer for the Public Works Department. \$37,402.75 USDA; \$30,602.25 local; \$68,005 total project cost.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)

The following 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) applications were submitted to FEMA in 2022:

DeKalb VFD – To purchase a fire truck. \$380,800 AFG; \$19,200 local; \$400,000 total project cost.

Bay Springs VFD – To purchase equipment for the fire department. \$45,057.14 AFG; \$2,252.86 local; \$47,310 total project cost.

Bay Springs VFD – To purchase a rescue truck for the fire department. \$83,204.76 AFG; \$4,160.24 local; \$87,365 total project cost.

Barnes VFD (Leake County) – To purchase extrication equipment for the fire department. \$34,253.33 AFG; \$1,712.67 local; \$35,966 total project cost.

Barnes VFD (Leake County) – To purchase a Class A pumper for the fire department. \$344,761.90 AFG; \$17,238.10 local; \$362,000 total project cost.

Lena VFD – To purchase equipment and PPE for the fire department. \$148,082.86 AFG; \$7,404.14 local; \$155,487 total project cost.

Marydell VFD (Leake County) – To purchase equipment and PPE for the fire department. \$70,627.62 AFG; \$3,531.38 local; \$74,159 total project cost.

Union VFD – To purchase radios for the fire department. \$33,039.05 AFG; \$1,651.95 local; \$34,691 total project cost.

Forest Fire Department – To purchase SCBA for the fire department. \$103,325.71 AFG; \$5,166.29 local; \$108,492 total project cost.

Smith County - To purchase equipment and PPE for Pineville VFD. \$62,344.76 AFG; \$3,117.24 local; \$65,462 total project cost.



Polkville VFD – To purchase equipment and PPE for the fire department. \$51,414.29 AFG; \$2,570.71 local; \$53,985 total project cost.

Raleigh VFD – To purchase equipment and PPE for the fire department. \$46,510.48 AFG; \$2,325.52 local; \$48,836 total project cost. **Approved**

Sylvarena VFD – To purchase a brush truck for the fire department. \$83,204.76 AFG; \$4,160.24 local; \$87,365 total project cost.

Sylvarena VFD – To purchase turnout gear for the fire department. \$13,142.86 AFG; \$657.14 local; \$13,800 total project cost.

Partners for Kemper County Advisory Counsel

The District prepared and submitted the following Partners for Kemper County Advisory Counsel grant application in 2022:

Town of Scooba – Park improvements, including concession stand and dugout repair work. \$10,000 Grant; \$10,000 local; \$20,000 total project cost. **Approved**

Destination Marketing Organization Grant (DMO)

The following Destination Marketing Organization Grant (DMO), House Bill #453 Tourism, grant application was **submitted to and approved by** the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) in 2022:

Partnership of Neshoba County – Tourism funding help pay cost for certain marketing activities. Funds will be divided between the approved applications. \$250,000 grant; \$250,000 total project cost.

U.S. Department of Defense

The District prepared and submitted the following Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP) grant application to the U.S. Department of Defense in 2022:

Lauderdale County – Proposal to pave Rabbit Road in Lauderdale County adjacent to the Navy Base. \$5,000,000 grant; \$5,000,000 total project cost.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Nutrition - Twenty-three nutrition sites funded with Title III funds are operated within the nine-county area, providing nutritious lunches to approximately 600 congregate participants. Approximately 1,418 homebound persons are provided home-delivered meals within the District area. This program provides a nutritionally balanced meal five days a week to persons 60 years of age and older.

Nutrition sites are located in the following locations:

Clarke County
Jasper County
Kemper County
Lauderdale County
Leake County
Neshoba County
Newton County
Scott County
Smith County



Enterprise, Quitman, Shubuta, Stonewall
Bay Springs, Heidelberg, Stringer, Rose Hill
Bailey/Ft. Stephens, DeKalb
Wechsler, East End
McMillan Park
Linwood, Longino
Decatur, Newton
Forest, Morton
Mize, Polkville, Raleigh, Taylorsville



Transportation - Bus service is provided to persons sixty years of age and older in the following counties: Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and a portion of Smith. Rides, which serve approximately 160 persons each month, providing approximately 2,258 rides, are provided for grocery shopping, doctors' visits, visits to other social services agencies, such as Social Security, Welfare Department, Neighborhood Services Center, etc., and for paying bills and visiting Nutrition Sites. The buses were obtained with funding provided through the Mississippi Department of Transportation, under Section 5310, which provided eighty percent (80%) of the funding to purchase vehicles and equipment. Operating costs are provided through Title III of the Older Americans Act.

Information and Referral/Outreach - Information 60+, an information and referral service for persons 60 years of age and over, is a service of the District. The I&R and Outreach programs utilize a toll-free telephone line (1-800-264-2007) for the convenience of older persons seeking information about services and benefits available to them. A Program Specialist is employed for each of the District's nine counties, and they attempt to link senior citizens' needs with the agency or organization that can help meet those needs, such as Medicare, Medicaid, homemaker services, referral for nutrition and transportation services, home weatherization, home health care, disaster-related services, and emergency financial assistance applications for heating. Some 1,079 persons benefit from these services, providing 1,451 units of service.



Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) - This program is designed to provide meaningful employment training to those persons 55 years of age and above. Currently, East Central is allocated eight (8) positions under the State SCSEP and 26 slots under the National SCSEP.

Homemaker Services - Homemaker services are provided to those homebound elderly who are unable to perform the simple tasks required for daily living. Services are currently provided to residents of all of the District's nine counties. Approximately 226 persons are receiving this service, with approximately 1,043 hours of service being provided monthly. Currently fourteen (14) Homemakers are employed for this program.

Ombudsman Services - Ombudsman services are available to nursing home residents throughout the nine-county area. This program is designed to offer assistance to those elderly persons who reside in nursing homes or for assisted living residents. Twenty-two (22) nursing homes and 18 personal care facilities are served each month. The program currently serves approximately 2,434 residents.

Medicaid Waiver Case Management - Case management is the planning, arrangement, and coordination of appropriate community-based services to be provided to clients under the elderly and disabled program as an alternative to nursing home placement. Eligible services include homemaker services, personal care services, home health assistance, adult day care, respite care, and home delivered meals. Approximately 1,400 persons are receiving this service.

SHIP - The State Health Insurance and Assistance Program utilizes the aging network within the state to provide information and referrals to the elderly regarding Medicare, Medicaid, and questions or concerns about health care coverage.

Legal Assistance: Legal assistance refers to legal advice by a licensed lawyer, including, to the extent feasible, counseling or other appropriate assistance by a paralegal or law student under the supervision of a licensed lawyer, and includes counseling by a non-lawyer where permitted by law. The service targets those elderly persons with economic and/or social needs. The overall purpose of legal assistance is to assist older persons in identifying possible legal problems and to assist them in the legal process to resolve those problems.

Respite - Respite care is the providing of temporary relief time for the regular or primary caregiver (spouse, child, relative) of an ill, infirm, functionally impaired older individual or dementia patient who requires constant in-home care.

A Matter of Balance (Fall Prevention) – A Matter of Balance (Fall Prevention) is an evidence-based falls management program that is offered at **no cost** to participants. *A Matter of Balance* is an 8-week group training that emphasizes practical ways to reduce fear of falling and increase activity levels. Participants learn to view falls and the fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and exercise to increase strength and balance.

Walk With Ease -- The Walk with Ease Program is a six (6) week course that combines self-paced walking along with information about health-related topics. The objectives of the program are to improve balance and strength, improve arthritis symptoms, increase strength, increase walking pace, and to improve confidence in one’s ability to manage arthritis symptoms.

**EAST CENTRAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

- Lucy H. Vance, Chairman
- Jerusha Walker
- Ned Rushing
- Bill Freeman
- Spencer Blaylock
- Kenyatta Pearson
- Janice Mills
- Jimmy Nix
- Bob Ivy
- James Young
- Greg Butler

SERVICES

Technical Assistance

Providing technical assistance to local governments is a very important function of East Central Planning and Development District. Few communities in the area can afford to pay a staff to deal with the overflow of demands on local officials for services as well as the ever-present state and federal requirements governing these programs.

Assistance in preparing grant applications, meeting state and federal program requirements, planning and developing projects utilizing U.S. Census and other data, and providing implementation and administration is given to local officials.

Clearinghouse Coordination

The District serves as the Regional Clearinghouse for federal programs. In essence, this means that certain applicants for federal assistance notify the District of their intentions to file an application. After receiving this notification, which should include a description of the project, the District in turn notifies local officials, agencies and individuals which might have an interest in the proposed project or know of any possible conflicts, duplication of efforts, or environmental effects which the proposed project might create. After allowing ample time for responses, the District informs the applicant of any request for further information about the project and encloses any comments that have been received, whether pro or con, regarding the project. Also, as part of its review procedure, the District reviews the project in light of any comprehensive planning programs which might affect the project area to determine if the project is in conformance with these plans.

Its role as Regional Clearinghouse helps keep the District organization abreast of most federal activities and projects proposed throughout the District. The staff takes a responsible role in helping to coordinate federal assistance programs by prevention of possible duplication and overlapping of efforts and provides a forum for discussion to iron out any conflicts or inconsistencies between project proposals. It also provides an opportunity for the organization to assure itself that District projects are in conformity with the District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

The following is a listing of those additional projects reviewed during the reporting period concerning public facilities, programs and environmental improvements within the East Central Planning and Development District. The inclusion of a project on this list does not necessarily constitute the funding of a project. District staff members have been involved in these projects in varying degrees, ranging from providing information, to conducting regional clearinghouse review and comments, to completely formulating the application.

NAME OF PROJECT	COUNTY	FEDERAL AGENCY	FEDERAL FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Village of Pachuta Compact Excavator and Trailer	Clarke	USDA Rural Development	\$ 38,256.00	\$ 51,008.00
East Central Planning and Development District Transportation Vehicle	Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Smith	Federal Transit Administration	\$ 95,301.00	\$ 119,126.00
City of Meridian Convention Center Complex	Lauderdale	Economic Development Administration	\$ 4,848,444.00	\$ 6,093,076.00
Meridian Community College Transportation Technology Center	Lauderdale	Economic Development Administration	\$ 3,552,000.00	\$ 4,440,000.00
Walnut Grove Fire Rescue Vehicle	Leake	USDA Rural Development	\$ 33,192.50	\$ 60,350.00
MS Band of Choctaw Indians Water Treatment Facility	Neshoba	USDA Rural Development	\$19,934,972.00	\$19,934,972.00
Newton County Backhoe	Newton	USDA Rural Development	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 121,528.68
Scott County/City of Forest Coliseum Improvements	Scott	Economic Development Administration	\$ 1,956,835.00	\$ 2,446,045.00
A New Start: Financial & Social Services Emergency Rural Health Care	Scott	USDA Rural Development	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
City of Forest Animal Control Truck	Scott	USDA Rural Development	\$ 31,416.00	\$ 57,120.00

PLANNING, INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, AND RESEARCH

Redistricting

District staff continues to meet with the municipalities and counties to determine the need for redistricting ward lines as a result of the 2010 U. S. Census.

Area Agency on Aging

The District continues to study the problems and needs of the aging, inventory their resources, and develop priority projects utilizing these resources in meeting the needs of the elderly. The District received planning grants for administration on Aging through the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services. The District is designated as an Area Agency on Aging.

Clearinghouse

The District continues its role in serving as the regional clearinghouse for proposed programs and projects.

MBCI

Staff members continue a close working relationship with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

ARC

The District assisted the Appalachian Regional Commission in developing plans and project applications for Kemper County.

DRA

The District assisted the Delta Regional Authority in developing plans and project applications for Jasper and Smith counties.

MAS - District Supervisors Meeting

Elected officials from the nine-county district and staff of East Central PDD, Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service, and Mississippi Association of Supervisors attended the annual District Supervisors Meeting. Each year, ECPDD, in cooperation with the Mississippi Association of Supervisors and the Cooperative Extension Service, hosts a workshop/training meeting with the Supervisors and other County officials. Legislative issues and concerns are discussed and ECPDD gives a report on project activities in the area.

MML - Regional Meeting

Municipal officials from throughout the District and staff of East Central PDD and the Mississippi Municipal League attended the annual Regional MML Meeting. Each year, ECPDD, in cooperation with MML, hosts a workshop/training meeting with the Mayors and other municipal officials. Legislative issues and concerns are discussed and ECPDD gives a report on project activities in the area.

East Central Mississippi Mayors Association

The East Central Mississippi Mayors Association is a non-partisan organization made up of participating mayors in east central Mississippi. The association endeavors to coordinate planning activities so far as municipal governments are involved by working together for a common good, to serve as an interchange of ideas and information by governments within the organization on common problems, and to further the relationships of municipal governments in the designated counties.

East Central Planning and Development District serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the East Central Mississippi Mayors Association and assists the association's chairman in scheduling and planning the quarterly meetings of the association. East Central PDD also collects dues from the member mayors and handles correspondence for the chairman as deemed necessary.

Census Information

The District serves as the area State Data Center Affiliate and has access to census information maintained at the State Data Center at the University of Mississippi. The District has detailed data for each of our nine counties on the general population, housing, income, and socio-economic characteristics.

ADMINISTRATION

East Central Planning and Development District has an 18-member Board of Directors who set policy for the corporation. They serve without salary and the term of office is one year with no limit to succession. The Board meets quarterly or more frequently as needed and receives written notice of meetings in advance.

The Executive Director is responsible to the Board. He is charged with the primary responsibility for executing the resolutions, directives, and policies of the Board of Directors. He is responsible for the overall management of the organization. The staff members are responsible to the Executive Director.

The entire staff provides assistance to counties, municipalities, various functional committees, advisory groups, task forces, and others studying pertinent problems within the District and planning strategies for development, along with actual assistance in the implementation stages of District projects. ECPDD is staffed as follows:

EAST CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – STAFF

KAWANA MCCARY
Executive Director

PATSY BLALOCK
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

TODD BLOUNT
Fiscal Officer

JENIFER BUFORD
Economic and Community Development Director

LEVERA CHAPMAN
Executive Secretary

JO ANN COLE
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

ROSIE COLEMAN
Aging Division Director

LYNNETTA COOKSEY
Project Developer

DOUG DALY
Business Loan Manager

TORI DEAN
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

CYNTHIA ELLIS
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

MALITHIA FORD
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

DAMIEN FRANKLIN
Program Coordinator

DOROTHY GRAVES
Medicaid Waiver Secretary

HOPE GREER
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

NICOLE HAMILTON
District Ombudsman

ROBERT HAMRICK
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

STEPHANIE HARRIS
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

SHEKELIA HOLLIDAY
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

ALICE DAWKINS-HOPSON
Medicaid Waiver Supervisor

TAMMY HOWSE
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

ROSALIND JONES
I&R /SHIP Coordinator

TANYA KING
Social Worker Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

MONICA LOGAN
Bookkeeper/Program Aide

BETTY MCGOWAN
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

JENNIFER MORGAN
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

PAULA MYERS
Bookkeeper

SHIRLEY NASH
Office Clerk

MONICKALA NICHOLSON
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

SUSIE PARKER
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

CLARRISSA ROBINSON
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

JOSIE ROBINSON
Nutrition Coordinator

LATORRIA TOWNER
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

BREUNA TOWNSEND
Receptionist

TERESA TULLOS
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

LOUISE WALLACE
Registered Nurse/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

GINNY WATKINS
Social Worker/Medicaid Waiver Case Manager

ANNIE LOIS WILSON
Janitorial

COOPERATION WITH OTHER GROUPS

STATE ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

The District participated as a member of the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts during the past year. As a member of the Association, it participated in program items and business pertaining to the monthly meeting of the ten Planning and Development Districts in the state. The monthly association meetings have been invaluable to the Districts for information sharing on programs and activities and as a coordination point for a united voice from the Districts.

OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The District is a member of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) and is also a member of the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts. The District also participates with Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC), Southeast Regional Directors Institute (SERDI), and Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC).

WORKSHOPS ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

East Central Planning and Development District staff members have attended several workshops on the Community Development guidelines, regulations, and procedures for the application and administration of CDBG projects.

The District serves as a flow-through for information and technical assistance for Community Development projects and works with many of the towns and counties in the preparation of CDBG applications. ECPDD staff members have been involved in the administrative activities of CDBG recipients and expect to continue working with the towns and counties that receive community development grants.

East Central Planning and Development District staff members have attended several workshops on the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) guidelines, regulations, and procedures for the application and administration of DRA projects.

The District serves as a flow-through for information and technical assistance for Delta Regional Authority projects and works with many of the towns and counties in the preparation of DRA applications. ECPDD staff members have been involved in the administrative activities of DRA recipients and expect to continue working with the towns and counties that receive community development grants.

STATE

The District has received cooperation and assistance from various state offices. This working relationship has been especially beneficial in making better coordination with the various federal and state programs and agencies with which we deal. Some of the state offices most frequently

involved include the Mississippi Development Authority (CDBG), Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), Department of Archives and History, Department of Public Safety, Department of Environmental Quality, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Department of Employment Security, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, Department of Human Services, Division of Medicaid, and the State Board of Health.

OTHER AGENCIES

Besides the Economic Development Administration, some of the other federal-related agencies with which we work closely and well are the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Health and Human Services, Appalachian Regional Commission, Delta Regional Authority, and USDA Rural Development. Local agencies include city and county governments, chambers of commerce, East MS Business Development Corporation, Mid-Mississippi Development District, Community Development Partnership (Neshoba County), Leake County Industrial Development Authority, Kemper County Economic Development Authority, and others.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

As a part of the District's continuing public relations efforts, staff members circulate throughout the District, meeting and talking with local, municipal and county officials concerning their problems and the availability of services from the District.

The District also developed an audio-visual presentation that is presented to interested groups throughout the District and also at regional and statewide conferences, forums, and seminars.

News releases with photographs, where possible, are distributed to weekly and daily newspapers when developments of interest occur relating to District programs and staff activities.

In addition, the District's website (www.ecpdd.org) has information on District activities.

The District maintains its headquarters at the geographic center of the District in Newton and greets visitors with courtesy and hospitality and provides prompt, efficient, and friendly responses to inquiries regarding information and assistance.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

The District hopes that it will be able to operate basically the same programs in the future that it has during the past year, and will continue to make special efforts to develop new jobs and better paying jobs for our work force, assist our communities in improving their facilities and making them more attractive to their current residents and prospective industrialists, seek to help upgrade the vocational and educational skill levels of our people, and help the elderly obtain the services that they need for better health and enjoyment of life.

EAST CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

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*Executive Committee