

Developments

The Newsletter of The Simpson County Development Foundation

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**To All Our Members and Supporters: THANK YOU
for your generous support of and participation
in The Simpson County Development Foundation.**

Industrial Development



County continues to seek industrial development.

Simpson County is in the heart of the Pine Belt, and our most recent industry-location inquiries have been nearly all from timber products processors.

Our current 5-year (2019-2024) Strategic Plan, developed in partnership with The University of Southern Mississippi Trent Lott National Center for Economic Development and Entrepreneurship, has Sawmill and Wood Production as one of our "targeted subsectors with the highest potential for growth."

Mississippi Business Journal has just reported that four state-of-the-art yellow-pine sawmills have either been announced for Mississippi or have already been built, and the state probably needs nine such facilities, according to Pete Stewart. President and founder of Charlotte, NC-based Forest2Market. Forestry was valued at nearly \$1.2 billion in 2019, second in Mississippi behind poultry and eggs, the largest component of the \$7.5 billion agriculture industry in Mississippi. [Jack Weatherly, "The Wood Gap." *Mississippi Business Journal*, 19 November 2020, e-Edition.]



CMPDD submits SMLPC applications for cities in Simpson County.

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) has announced

that among five SMLPC applications submitted by CMPDD are two for cities in Simpson County:

Community Name	Project Description	SMLPC Funds	Matching Funds
City of Magee	City Hall Improvements	\$ 95,820	\$30,000
City of Mendenhall	City Park Improvement	\$150,000	\$15,000

The Mississippi Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program (SMLPC) is designed for making grants to small

municipalities and limited population counties or natural gas districts to finance projects to promote economic growth in the State. [*Central Update*, October 2020, Central Mississippi Planning & Development District.]



The new Mississippi flag has the state flower on a dark blue background with red bars on either end. The magnolia is encircled by stars representing Mississippi as the 20th state. The flag also has a single star made of diamond shapes representing the Native American people who lived on the land before others arrived.

Legislators will put the design into law at the next legislative session.



The Simpson County Development Foundation is a non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Mississippi. For IRS purposes, we are an exempt non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(6). We are not a public or governmental entity. The Foundation is funded by the membership fees of its members.