



Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District

**FEBRUARY
2010**

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SMPDD

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Mississippi Area Remapping Strategies

Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District is partnering with the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast, St. Stanislaus Preparatory College, Bay-Waveland Main Street Association and the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce to map commercial assets in the downtown area of Bay St. Louis. The project, called the Mississippi Area Remapping Strategies (MARS) program, is a Geospatial Information Science & Technology (GIS&T) high school/community outreach program sponsored by the Enterprise for Innovative Geospatial Solutions (EIGS) & the IHL Geospatial Council.

Students from St. Stanislaus will collect local business GPS point locations, building photographs, restaurant menus and business web sites to add to a comprehensive Main Street business data set initiated by the Bay-Waveland Main Street Association. The purpose of the project is to collect data which will be presented inside a publicly accessible web mapping application that will allow internet visitors to interactively view details about local downtown businesses. The completed project will be presented by the St. Stanislaus students in April 2010 in Jackson, MS in competition with twelve other MARS program high schools from across the state of Mississippi.



The U.S. Department of Labor has recognized geospatial science as one of the top three fastest growing career fields in the nation, and geospatial science is also one of the fastest growing fields in the world. The MARS program is specifically designed to introduce GIS&T to high school students to encourage and promote applied geospatial technology education.

Census 2010 Counts

Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. The data are used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing development and various community facilities. Boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts are also determined by census data.

Please encourage the residents of your cities and counties to complete and return their 2010 Census questionnaire as soon as it is received. With only 10 questions, the survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

United States[®]
Census
2010

Key Dates

February – March 2010

Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

March – April 2010

Census questionnaires are available at select public sites for those who did not receive one by mail.

April 1, 2010

CENSUS DAY

May – July 2010

Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.

December 31, 2010

By law, the Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President.

March 2011

By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

Who Dat ? We Dat !



Gulfport Mayor George Schloegel encouraged businesses citywide to show support of the Saints going to the Super bowl by having tailgate parties on the Friday before the big game. So the District went Black and Gold in support of the Saints. We like to think that we did our part to help the "Who Dat Nation" support the Saints and bring them to victory. We Dat!!

MAPDD/MAS Reception

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts and The Mississippi Association of Supervisors will hold an annual reception honoring Mississippi's U.S. Congressional Delegation on Tuesday the 9th of March, 2010 at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C.

In Deepest Sympathy...

Mr. Buford Charles Blount, II, Mayor of the Town of Bassfield, died on December 22, 2009. The District expresses deepest sympathy to his family, friends and community. Mayor Blount began his service to Bassfield in 1973 and was serving his 9th term and his 36th year in office. He will be sadly missed.

EDA Award

The Mississippi Enterprise for Technology has received \$600,000 in disaster recovery funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. This investment is part of a \$750,000 project that will strengthen MsET's organizational sustainability by creating programs that provide new levels of service to clients, increase regional economic impact and develop a funding structure that puts available revenue to its best use. The University of Southern Mississippi is a partner on the project and Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District completed and submitted the application.

The Mississippi Enterprise for Technology Inc. at John C. Stennis Space Center is a nonprofit created in 1994 as a business incubator and technology transfer office. The joint effort of the Mississippi Development Authority, NASA and the state's universities was designed to spawn the development of high wage, high-skill technology jobs. Its mission as an incubator and tech transfer office is to provide an environment where start-ups can turn technologies into products and services. It's a means to leverage Stennis Space Center as a catalyst to facilitate commerce, create job opportunities and improve the quality of life in South Mississippi.

Group Makes Recommendation to Improve Federal Response to Post Disaster Economic Recovery

In December 2010, the International Economic Development Council, the U.S. Chamber's Business and Civic Leadership Center and the National Association of Development Districts convened a select group of individuals to draft a summary of recommendations on how to provide more comprehensive support to communities' long-term economic recovery efforts.

The recommendations and full report have been submitted to the Long-Term Disaster Recovery Working Group, which has been convened at the request of President Obama by the Secretaries of Homeland Security and Housing and Urban Development. The document can be found at www.smpdd.com under Latest News.

Allison Beasley, SMPDD Planning Director, was invited to attend but unable due to flight cancellation. SMPDD has participated in follow-up work on the document.





**SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT**

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