Narrative Information Sheet

1) Applicant Identification:
   Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District
   10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Gulfport, Mississippi 39503
   DUNS: 069386001

2) Funding Request:
   a) Assessment Grant Type: Community-Wide
   b) Federal Funds Requested: $488,000

3) Location:
   Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District’s (SMPDD) service area is the following 15 counties and 38 municipalities in south Mississippi: Covington County: Collins, Mount Olive, and Seminary; Forrest County: Hattiesburg and Petal; George County: Lucedale; Greene County: Leakesville, McLain and State Line; Hancock County: Bay St. Louis, Diamondhead, and Waveland; Harrison County: Biloxi, D’Iberville, Gulfport, Long Beach and Pass Christian; Jackson County: Gautier, Ocean Springs, Moss Point, and Pascagoula; Jefferson Davis County: Bassfield and Prentiss; Jones County: Ellisville, Laurel, Sandersville and Soso; Lamar County: Hattiesburg, Lumberton, Purvis and Sumrall; Marion County: Columbia; Pearl River County: Picayune and Poplarville; Perry County: Beaumont, New Augusta; and Richton; Stone County: Wiggins; and Wayne County: Waynesboro.

4) Target Area and Priority Site/Property Information:
   Target Areas:
   i. Old North Laurel Neighborhood (Census Tract 9504.02)
   ii. Hattiesburg Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community (Census Tract 107)
   iii. Picayune Southside (Census Tract 9507.02)
   Priority Sites:
   i. Former Charity Hospital Site – 105 Buchanan Street, Laurel, MS
   ii. Former Meridian Fertilizer Site - East 7th Street, Hattiesburg, MS
   iii. Former Valspar Site – 210 Crosby Street, Picayune, MS

5) Contacts:
   a) Project Director:
      Kristyn Gunter, SMPDD Special Projects Division Director
      (228) 868-2311 kgunter@smpdd.com
      10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Gulfport, Mississippi 39503
   b) Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Official:
      Leonard Bentz, SMPDD Executive Director
      (228) 868-2311 lbentz@smpdd.com
      10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Gulfport, Mississippi 39503
6) Population:
   a) Total Population Served: 805,302\(^1\)
   b) Target Area Populations\(^2\): City of Laurel: 18,508; City of Hattiesburg: 46,098; City of Picayune: 11,040

7) Other Factors Checklist:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Factors</th>
<th>Page #</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Population is 10,000 or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory</td>
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<td>The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land</td>
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<td>The priority brownfield site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).</td>
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<tr>
<td>The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain</td>
<td>Pgs 1, 2</td>
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<td>The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar or geothermal energy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The reuse of the priority site (s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures.</td>
<td>Pgs 3, 4</td>
</tr>
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<td>30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse/area-wide planning activities, as described in Section1.A., for priority site(s) within the target area.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>The target area(s) is located within a community in which a coal-fired power plant has recently closed (2011 or later) or is closing.</td>
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</tbody>
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8) Letter from the State of Tribal Environmental Authority: Attached

9) Releasing Copies of Applications: No portions of this application are considered confidential, privileged, or sensitive information.

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\(^1\) https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/

\(^2\) 2019 ACS 1-Year Estimates Detailed Tables
Ms. Kristyn Gunter  
Business/Outreach Division Director  
Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District  
10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1  
Gulfport, MS 39503

RE: EPA Brownfield Grant Application Acknowledgement  
FY22 104(k) Community-Wide Assessment Grant  
Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District

Dear Ms. Gunter:

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) hereby acknowledges the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District’s (SMPDD) plans to conduct brownfield assessments and apply for federal grant funds through the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Brownfields initiative. MDEQ believes the targeted areas within the planning district are communities in considerable need of brownfield assessment and future redevelopment opportunities.

Since many brownfields are abandoned, underutilized, and contaminated, MDEQ is expressly interested in seeing entities like the SMPDD taking the initiative to assess, remediate, and return these sites to productive use. These efforts are consistent with our mission to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of present and future generations of Mississippians. We look forward to our continued role in the SMPDD’s Brownfield Initiative and are available to assist you at any time. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact me at (601) 961-5240.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Wallace, P.E.  
Branch Chief – GARD  
Mississippi Brownfield Coordinator
1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

1.1 Target Area and Brownfields

1.1.1 Background and Description of Target Area

The Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD) is submitting this Assessment Grant proposal to serve our impoverished 15-county area (Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Stone and Wayne Counties). Encompassing roughly 8,800 square miles sandwiched between the Old Choctaw line established by the Treaty of Mt. Dexter in 1805 and the Gulf of Mexico, the SMPDD service area was built on wood products, exporting, and the seafood industry. Industrial manufacturers and forest product companies have enjoyed access to our region’s resources and workforce, but as their operations have closed, we have been left with several large parcels of unused and environmentally complex land. Most of our service area is considered rural and includes the 15 southern-most counties of the state and 38 municipalities, 66% of which have populations below 10,000 people, with over half (8) of our counties experiencing “persistent poverty”, including Forrest and Jones Counties where 2 of our target areas are located. While this grant proposal covers the entire geographic area, SMPDD has selected three target areas. Statistics used below are the most current data from the U.S. Census Bureau (2019), American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Target Area 1 Old North Laurel Neighborhood (Census Tract 9504.02): West of the Norfolk Southern Rail line from Northview Drive running south and east along Highway 11 into downtown Laurel is roughly 2.25 square miles referred to as the Old North Laurel Neighborhood where sawmills, pole yards, and cabinet makers employed the working-class residents for over a century. The City of Laurel is the second county seat of Jones County and is home to 18,508 people. Historically, Laurel was a thriving logging community and cultural hub. However, as is the story for many Mississippi communities, throughout the 1900s, jobs and subsequently the population continually decreased. Laurel and Jones County has an affordable housing crisis. The National Low-Income Housing Coalition estimates that there is a shortage of more than 43,000 affordable housing units across the state of Mississippi. For Laurel, the Coalition estimates that about 30% of residents are cost-burdened by rent and nearly 63% of extremely low-income residents are severely cost-burdened by rent - spending more than 50% of their income on housing instead of basic necessities to live. SMPDD has identified one priority site, the former Laurel Charity Hospital, that requires additional environmental assessment and an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) in order to be eligible for either an EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant or (hopefully) a Brownfield Cleanup Loan from the MDEQ (should MDEQ successfully win an EPA RLF Grant this year). SMPDD has also identified three other large tracts of land in Old North Laurel Neighborhood in need of assessment prior to neighborhood redevelopment consideration by the Laurel Housing Authority (LHA). They are the former Laurel Lumber property, the former Halliburton Energy Services site, and the former Boral Bricks tract. Also, MDEQ’s Uncontrolled Site List indicates 52 identified brownfield sites, over 150 UST sites, 54 of which have closed-in-place tanks, and innumerable underutilized properties within the City of Laurel.

Target Area 2 Hattiesburg - Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community (Census Tract 107): Hattiesburg was founded in 1884 as a railroad junction for the regional lumber industry. Heavy manufacturing developed along the railroad corridor including lumber-related industries (turpentine production and wood treatment facilities), as well as oil refineries. Rich in African American history and culture, the Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising area is a defined target area for Brownfield assessment funding. In 1964, the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) launched Mississippi Freedom Summer with its headquarters at 507 Mobile Street. This same property was the headquarters of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and Victoria Jackson Gray’s U.S. Senate campaign headquarters. The Freedom Schools started in the local African American churches, and are celebrated by a famous Toni Morris “Bench by the Road”. Historically, the Mobile Street area was the only part of town where the African American community could go to try on clothes. This community has been in steady decline due to numerous challenges. Two devastating tornadoes in the last seven years, and a downturn in commercial investments have resulted in poorly-maintained structures, increased vacancies, and abandonment. Socioeconomic challenges include a declining population (-18.92% since 2010), and a median household income of $34,735, much lower than the state of Mississippi ($45,081). Based on severe economic distress exacerbated by the development challenges from being located in a federally-designated floodplain, large sections of this area were designated as Qualified Opportunity Zone Tract 28035010700,
SMPDD has identified the former **Meridian Fertilizer Plant** as a target site in the Twin Forks Rising Community that requires additional environmental assessment prior to redevelopment.

**Target Area 3 Picayune – Southside (Census Tract 9507.02):** Just north of New Orleans, across Lake Pontchartrain and the Pearl River, is a place called Picayune, Mississippi. When the railroad came through in the 1880’s the then known community of Hobolochitto turned to one of its prestigious residents Eliza Jane Poitevent Nicholson, better known by her pen name “Pearl Rivers,” to name the area. Mrs. Nicholson was the owner and publisher of the New Orleans Daily Picayune named after a Spanish coin called a “picayune.” She named the city after her beloved newspaper. With vast timber resources and the railroad, wood products became the major driver of the economy. With wood products came wood treatment; and with wood treatment came a defunct Superfund site adjacent to Southside Elementary School. One significant challenge for “Southside” involves the stigma on brownfield properties around the Picayune Wood Treating Superfund Site. The 32-acre Site closed operations in 1999 and has been undergoing investigation and cleanup by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 2004. In 2005, EPA’s Superfund Redevelopment Initiative (SRI) supported a reuse planning assessment for the site. In 2013, soil cleanup was complete and EPA sponsored a second planning process to update the future use plan based on current remedial features, community goals, and surrounding land use. In addition, EPA’s Technology Innovation and Field Services Division (TIFSD) sponsored a pilot project to develop a Superfund environmental education curriculum for the adjacent elementary school. The City and SMPDD believe that an EPA Brownfield Assessment grant that builds upon the Superfund Site Reuse and Redevelopment plan will support EPA’s strategic priority of “making a visible difference in our community” by assessing the former **Valspar Property** target site and moving it further toward reuse.

1.a.ii. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s)

**Laurel Charity Hospital (former) – ACREs #121941, 105 Buchanan Street, Laurel** Barely visible from the street because of overgrowth, the Laurel Charity Hospital (105 Buchanan Street, ACREs #121941) currently sits abandoned and dilapidated, hovering over the Old North Laurel Neighborhood. The hospital was constructed in 1917 and was specifically created to serve the poor and indigent. It consisted of 125 beds and provided a variety of medical services to residents. In 1989, after 72 years of operation, the hospital was closed and was left abandoned. In the early 2000s, the building caught fire and partially burned down. Decades of neglect combined with the fire have diminished the structure to mere ruins. However, that hasn’t lessened its appeal to the community. Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) by the City of Laurel have confirmed asbestos containing materials (ACM) is present in the rubble of this unsecured safety hazard. The one-building hospital sits adjacent to a playground and is a stone’s throw from a low-income housing project. For years locals have passed on stories of hauntings at the site, which has resulted in significant trespassing by children and teens, who either want to test their courage, vandalize, or look for souvenirs – which potentially contain asbestos. This unrestricted access presents a significant public health concern especially to those living in the adjoining low-income housing development because of the unstable and unsafe condition of the structure and the fact that friable ACM is scattered throughout. A complete site assessment, including a determination of the extent of asbestos in the soils surrounding the site and an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) is needed before the Laurel Housing Authority and a local developer apply to the MDEQ Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) or MDA Capital Improvements RLF.

**Meridian Fertilizer Plant (former) – ACREs #97101, East 7th Street, Hattiesburg** The priority brownfield site in the Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community is the former Meridian Fertilizer Plant site located on East 7th Street, adjacent to the Canadian National Rail Road line. The approximately 13-acre site, **located within a federally designated flood plain**, was once home to the Meridian Fertilizer Factory from 1902 until 1963, when the facility was purchased by Mississippi Chemical. The site operated as a fertilizer storage and mixing facility until it closed in 1988, then was used as a building material salvage operation. Historic records indicate the former presence of multiple underground storage tanks and a sulfuric acid tank on the site. Limited assessment work has been conducted on the northern portion of the site that indicates a need for further assessment of the current arsenic levels found in the soil. Portions of the site are currently utilized as a homeless encampment, potentially exposing our most venerable population to arsenic and other unknown hazardous substances. An updated Phase I and additional Phase II assessment work is needed to determine the full scope and scale of contamination of the entire site as well as cleanup planning and reuse strategy visioning to allow the site to be redeveloped as an integral part of the planned Cultural, Arts, and Innovation District. SMPDD’s
current FY19 Brownfield Assessment grant has identified an additional 28 sites for possible future assessment with more being submitted by the public and project stakeholders on a regular basis.

**Valspar Property (former) - 210 Crosby Street, Picayune**  The priority brownfield site in the Southside community is the Valspar 17-acre city-owned property. Prior to taking ownership of the property in September, 2021, the City conducted all appropriate inquiry which included a Phase I ESA. Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) have been identified. The site was listed as a large quantity generator from the years 1998 to 2015, with the hazardous waste generated or handled that included volatile organic compounds, ignitable waste, corrosive waste, and heavy metals. The adjacent Picayune Wood Treating Superfund Site is currently under remedial action and continues to stigmatize the Valspar and other brownfields in the Southside community. A gravel company, currently located next door to the former Valspar site, would like to expand its operation and is currently negotiating a lease-purchase agreement with the City, with the need for a Phase I (update) and Phase II ESA prior to taking ownership of the site.

1.b. Revitalization of the Target Area

1.b.i. Redevelopment Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans

**Target Area 1 Old North Laurel Neighborhood:**  In 2015, LHA and its development partner, with the cooperation and support of the City of Laurel developed a multi-phase Master Plan to provide affordable housing units within the Old North Laurel Neighborhood as strategy for redeveloping the area around the dilapidated, tax forfeited former Laurel Charity Hospital. Soon thereafter, the City of Laurel conducted a Phase I ESA, followed by an asbestos inspection/survey to align with the LHA’s revitalization plan. In 2016, the Mississippi Home Corporation provided Low-income Housing Tax Credits for Phase I of the Palisades Park, which included 16 units adjacent to the dilapidated former Charity Hospital. On July 13, 2017, the Governor of Mississippi approved the transfer of the tax forfeited former Laurel Charity Hospital to the Laurel Housing Authority as the first step in securing the site with plans under Phase II to include asbestos abatement and “demolition and disposal, according to the recommendations of the environmental assessment, of all existing structure ruins, undergrowth, asphalt, concrete, etc.” and “construction of what will become Palisades Park [Phase II], consisting of eight quadplex buildings containing thirty-two energy efficient units of single family apartments designed as a lease to own development for low to moderate income families in compliance with and according to the regulations of the LIHTC award.”

**Target Area 2 Hattiesburg Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community:**  The Twin Forks Area 2013 Master Plan, a revitalization plan for the community, specifically identified the Meridian Fertilizer Plant priority site as an environmental threat to the community, and indicated that MDEQ intended to complete a Phase II ESA. The final Twin Forks Rising Phase III Master Plan (July 2018) calls for the establishment of a Cultural, Arts, and Innovation District, drawing on the community’s roots as a culturally rich African-American community. This vision requires repurposing vacant space and underutilized properties.

**Target Area 3 Picayune “Southside”:**  In March 2009, the City of Picayune completed its 30-Yr. Master Plan which includes goals involving the Superfund site and the stigmatized brownfields surrounding it. The plan includes the adaptive reuse of the Superfund site to serve as a buffer between the residents of Southside and the light industrial and commercial developments and brownfields like Valspar, the vacant former Honda dealer, and the Hwy 11 Auto Service Center. In January 2013, City representatives expressed interest in acquiring the site ownership of the Superfund Site from the State and determining reuse goals for the site itself, as well as brownfields and other vacant spaces within the Southside neighborhood. During a work session in June 2013, city staff and stakeholders identified goals to guide future use planning for the area which included a focus on connectivity, greenspace, trails and assets that support healthy living for the sensitive populations that live, work, and play around the brownfield sites. The Reuse Concept Plan further stated that “the concept plan below illustrates how the reuse goals could be integrated on the site to align with remedial considerations and other site characteristics. Once implemented, this concept plan will benefit the community by providing recreational and community amenities that connect the site to downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The future use of the adjacent Valspar property (currently for sale) may present additional opportunities for supporting the reuse concept plan goals.”

### 1.b.ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Redevelopment Strategy

This grant will benefit disadvantaged communities as defined by the Justice40 initiative because both the Old North Laurel Neighborhood Census Tract 9504.02 and Hattiesburg Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community
Census Tract 107 are considered in persistent poverty with 40.3% and 36.1% below poverty level respectively. Assessment of the brownfield properties located in these areas will support the existing community revitalization plans including energy efficient housing units, greenspace, and walking trails.

**Old North Laurel Neighborhood:** In a letter dated June 2, 2017 to the State of Mississippi requesting the transfer of the tax forfeited former Laurel Charity Hospital, the LHA clearly identifies that the redevelopment strategy will result in the “construction of what will become Palisades Park [Phase II], consisting of eight quadplex buildings containing thirty-two energy efficient units of single family apartments designed as a lease to own development for low to moderate income families in compliance with and according to the regulations of the LIHTC award.” Redevelopment of the Laurel Charity Hospital site align with the LHA’s current draft goals for neighborhood plans including: expand the existing housing supply, improve connections, utilize development as a catalyst, improve community access, enhance streetscape design and functionality, position redevelopment as an amenity for all, and leverage municipal investments.

**Hattiesburg Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community:** The Brownfield priority site was specifically identified by MDEQ in 2018 as significant threats to human health and the environment. First, assessment would identify the environmental and health threats. Second, redevelopment will be driven by the newly established (2017) Twin Forks Rising Community Development Corporation (TFR CDC). In 2018 Hattiesburg seeded TFR CDC $300,000 to ensure their viability and demonstrate commitment to comprehensive redevelopment of the TFR area. TFR CDC has successfully created the TFR Qualified Opportunity Zone Fund 1 (the first in the state) and combined with new market and low-income tax credits, as well as local financial tax vehicles, will aggressively pursue qualified developers to implement redevelopment projects such as the Cultural, Arts, and Innovation District. TFR CDC is planning new multi-family housing and infill-single family houses, including greenspace and pocket parks on vacant and blighted properties in the target area, and is partnering to deliver career and business skills building programs to improve the pool of human capital.

**Picayune “Southside”:** One obvious outcome from the assessment of the Valspar property is to put the site back on the tax rolls which would provide property tax revenue that is not being generated during a lease-purchase due diligence period. Once the property is in private sector hands, the property owner will be more likely to make improvements and the property can be used as collateral for these capital improvements.

1.c. **Strategy for Leveraging Resources**

1.c.i. **Resources Needed for Site Re-use**

SMPDD is eligible to apply for the EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund grant to facilitate redevelopment of sites assessed through this program. In addition, the grant will stimulate availability of funds through the following established programs. These Mississippi programs provide leverage funding opportunities for environmental remediation at Brownfield sites and are coordinated by MDEQ. Private developers and those interested in redevelopment of the target brownfield sites are eligible to apply for the resources listed below. These additional funding sources and incentives can help offset the additional costs associated with brownfield redevelopment due to cleanup and other hurdles. The **Mississippi Economic Redevelopment Act** promotes redevelopment by incentivizing clean-up of contaminated property. Brownfield assessment and redevelopment planning can lead to approval of a remediation plan by MDEQ. After that, the program allows sales, income and franchise taxes to be deposited into a special fund used to reimburse developers for approved cleanup costs. Brownfield assessment and redevelopment planning can also incentivize participation in the **Mississippi Brownfields Program.** By enrolling in the program, a property owner can get an income tax credit equal to 25% of the costs of assessment, investigation, remediation, monitoring, and related activities at a Brownfield agreement site, with the annual credit capped at $40,000, and the total credit not to exceed $150,000. The property owner may claim a job tax credit for each new employee created as a result of redevelopment. The program also offers CERCLA liability protection. SMPDD operates a **Commercial Revitalization Program** that allows private developers/property owners to apply to the local government for a redevelopment grant/tax reimbursement to incentivize the reuse/redevelopment of existing, vacant commercial buildings. The funding for the redevelopment grant/tax reimbursements comes from the general fund of the participating municipality and is based on the over and above increase in sales and/or property tax that results from the redevelopment/reuse project. These funds are paid from the municipality to SMPDD

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1 2019:ACS 5-Year Estimate Subject Tables
through a Tri-Party Agreement. The Revitalization Program can be used to reimburse the improvements made to both the exterior and interior of private buildings that result in the improved appearance and functionality of the blighted/vacant commercial properties.

1.c.ii. Use of Existing Infrastructure

All identified target areas and priority sites have access along city street networks and have access to existing municipal potable water, sewer, electrical, natural gas, and garbage pickup.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.a. Community Need

2.a.i. The Community’s Need for Funding

According to most current data from the U.S. Census Bureau/American Community Survey (ACS) Demographic and Housing Estimates 2015-2019, Mississippians have the lowest median household income in the nation ($45,792) and in all three of the three Brownfield target areas, the median household income is even lower than the state’s (Laurel at $31,968, Hattiesburg at $34,735, and Picayune at $30,006). Not surprisingly, the poverty rate in Mississippi (19.6%) also greatly exceeds the national average of 12.3%, and Laurel (31.3%) Hattiesburg (32.5%) and Picayune (33.3%) poverty rates all exceed the state’s rate by about 1.5 times. Of the municipalities within SMPDD’s service area, 66% have populations below 10,000 people. These small, poor communities do not have surplus funds or the ability to draw on other sources of funding to implement environmental assess or remediation and site redevelopment. Furthermore, SMPDD is not a taxing authority and does not have surplus funds to assess the brownfield sites located within our 15 County service area.

2.a.ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations

2.a.ii(1) Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations

Due to the small populations within the target areas, there is no specific data available for greater-than-normal incidence of disease or conditions associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. However, health risks due to direct contact or inhalation or vapor intrusion of the contaminants associated with the brownfield sites in the target areas typically include cancer, asthma, liver and kidney damage, and premature death. As subsets of the state of Mississippi, the three target areas reflect the worst of the state’s desperate condition, especially for children, pregnant women, minority and low-income communities. The state is ranked last (#50) in all outcomes according to America’s 2020 Health Rankings (United Health Foundation) and ranks #50 in infant mortality, #50 in low birthweight, #49 in cardiovascular deaths, #49 in premature death, #50 in obesity, #49 in diabetes, and #48 in cancer deaths\(^2\). Mississippi has the second highest percent of births to unmarried mothers and the highest preterm birth rate, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. America’s Health Rankings lists Mississippi as having a high percentage of children in poverty (27.8%, #50), a high mortality rate among women ages 20-44 and a low prevalence of food sufficiency among children. Mississippi is ranked #50 in percentage of children ages 0-17 with asthma, #50 in neonatal mortality, #50 in economic resources for women, #49 in unemployment for women and we are ranked last for women living in poverty. Mississippi is even ranked last for children with neighborhood amenities at only 16.2% compared to the national average of 37.4%. The health, social and economic factors for women and children in the state of Mississippi and our target areas is abysmal. SMPDD believes that assessment of the brownfield properties located within these communities is a step in the right direction to solving this crisis and raising the quality of life for our most sensitive populations.

2.a.ii(2) Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Mill Town, Laurel, Jones Co</th>
<th>Twin Forks, Hattiesburg, Forrest Co</th>
<th>Southside, Picayune, Pearl River Co</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth Defects</td>
<td>3%(^3)</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asthma(^4)</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
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<td>n/a</td>
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<td>Cancer (cases/100,000 people)(^5)</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>471.4</td>
<td>462.9</td>
<td>498.3</td>
<td>511.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>People of Color Population(^6)</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>53%</td>
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</tbody>
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\(^1\) https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Overall/state/MS
\(^2\) https://www.cdc.gov/nchddbd/birthdefects/data.html
\(^3\) CDC – 2018 data from the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network epitracking.cdc.gov
\(^5\) ESCREEN Standard Report, ACS 2014-2018 for tract level data; National and State information from census.gov/quickfacts 2019 population estimates
2.a.ii(3) Promoting Environmental Justice

The high and disproportionate percentage of people in the target areas suffering from chronic health conditions, poverty and unemployment as noted above place a heavy burden on them and the communities in which they live, so much so that no one has the ability to prioritize and fund the identification and assessment of local environmental problems and blight. It’s a downward spiral. For example, when potential developers see the brownfields around the Superfund site in Picayune they walk away, disgusted, and many nearby commercial properties have closed and remain shuttered due to the fear of Superfund. The completion of Phase I of low-income housing adjacent to the dilapidated former Laurel Charity Hospital fulfills one of the City’s dreams for revitalization of the Old North Laurel Neighborhood, but children from the neighborhood playground have easy access to friable asbestos and the unsafe condition of the remains of the structure pose a real and significant threat to the vulnerable populations within the low-income housing development.

According to the most recent report from the MS Department of Health, Jones County, where the Charity Hospital is located, has a 3.9% rate of birth defects, disproportionately higher than the state and national averages of 2.3% and 3.0% respectively. Residents of Jones County also experience a disproportionate rate of deaths of despair from suicide, drug overdose and alcoholism of 51.41 deaths/10,000 people compared to the national average of 45.27 deaths/10,000 people. Deaths of despair are linked to job loss, unemployment and hopelessness that happens when people don’t have opportunities, often exacerbated by brownfields in the community. Environmental concerns about the abandoned industrial sites in the Hattiesburg Mobile Street/Twin Forks Rising Community hinder the redevelopment plans that the TFR CDC has worked so hard to create. These issues can be tangibly addressed, however, through assessment and redevelopment planning provided by this grant.

2.b. Community Engagement

The SMPDD has a successful history of community involvement from our FY2019 EPA Brownfield Grant which will serve as the framework for this grant. Partnerships have been sought with specific groups who are already engaged in the target areas. Recently, SMPDD’s Brownfield activities in the Hattiesburg area were highlighted on The Delgado Report which was broadcast on the local radio and Councilwoman Delgado’s Facebook page. The LHA Charity Hospital Advisory Committee met on 11/17/21 to discuss the findings and steps forward for completing their current master planning efforts for the target site. The following organizations represent a wide array of partners, many of which are members of our Brownfields Steering Committee (BSC), and are excited to support this grant effort. These project partners will be engaged from the outset and continuously throughout the grant period to identify sites, discuss cleanup alternatives, and engage the community on potential redevelopment options.

2.b.i. Program Involvement

List of Project Partners – more will be added as the program progresses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Name</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Specific Role in the Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS Department of Environmental Quality</td>
<td>Thomas Wallace 601-961-5240 <a href="mailto:twallace@mdeq.ms.gov">twallace@mdeq.ms.gov</a></td>
<td>Technical assistance, QAPP review and approval, establish cleanup criteria for sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Laurel</td>
<td>Johnny Magee, Mayor 601-428-6401</td>
<td>BSC, community engagement, redevelopment planning</td>
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<td>Laurel Housing Authority</td>
<td>Ailrick Young, Executive Director 601-425-4651</td>
<td>Owner of Laurel Charity Hospital target site, BSC, redevelopment planning, community engagement</td>
</tr>
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<td>Jones County Economic Development Authority</td>
<td>Ross Tucker, President &amp; CEO 601-649-3031, <a href="mailto:rostt@edajones.com">rostt@edajones.com</a></td>
<td>Site selection, future redevelopment planning, recruit investors for target area redevelopment opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1. [https://mdes.ms.gov/media/23357/labormarketdata.pdf](https://mdes.ms.gov/media/23357/labormarketdata.pdf)
Quadel Consulting, LLC  | Demetria Simpson, Project Director 317-656-8808 | Consultant creating target site Master Plan, community engagement, redevelopment planning |
---|---|---|
City of Hattiesburg  | Debra Delgado, Councilwoman 225-921-0656, ddelgado@hattiesburgms.com | Site selection, community engagement, reuse planning |
City of Hattiesburg  | Andrew Ellard, Community Development Director (601) 454-4609 aellard@hattiesburgms.com | BSC, site selection, community engagement, reuse planning, local incentives |
Twin Forks Rising Comm. Development Corporation  | Ms. Andrea Graham, Director of External Affairs (601) 818-9275 graham@tfrcdc.org | Community engagement, reuse planning |
Forrest County  | David Hogan, President County Board of Supervisors 601-543-9194 dhogan@co.forrest.ms.us | BSC, local incentives, cleanup planning |
City of Picayune  | Larry Breland, Resident and Community Leader 601-798-9770 lbreland@picayune.ms.us | Site selection, community engagement, reuse planning |
City of Picayune  | Harvey Miller, Operations Manager 601-798-9770 hmiller@picayune.ms.us | BSC, site selection, community engagement, reuse planning |
Pearl River County Economic Development District  | Lindsay Ward, Director (228) 861-8260, lward@pearlrivercounty.net | Site selection, local and state incentives, reuse planning |

2.b.ii. Incorporating Community Input

The BSC, consisting of SMPDD staff, and the key project partners, will lead a Community Outreach Program that will inform, update and solicit community input. A Community Involvement Plan will be prepared at the start of the project. The primary communication tool will be a Brownfield Project website, which will include details of important project milestones, such as consultant selections, site inventory lists, assessment and cleanup results, and planned redevelopment. It will share community meetings, press releases, and project partners, and facilitate receiving input by providing contact information and feedback forms. The BSC will solicit site inventory inputs from project partners and resident groups through private and public meetings. Additional inputs from the community will be invited through town hall presentations. Meetings will be held in person following CDC COVID-19 guidelines when possible, but virtual meetings will be used to be inclusive. Project partners will help to advertise and populate the meetings and presentations. Stakeholder interviews will be another important tool used to gather community inputs and feedback. To communicate project progress and gather feedback, the BSC will meet with project partners and residents’ groups at relevant milestones, as needed. Updates will be given at City Council meetings, in town hall meetings, on community partners’ websites and social media pages, through press releases to local newspapers, and via the Brownfield Project website. Flyers will be mailed to those residents and businesses most closely affected by the properties in this project, especially in low-income areas where Internet access is limited. Community feedback will be solicited with all project updates, and will be taken via face-to-face meetings, electronic meetings, phone calls, emails, and web forms. Questions and concerns will be addressed by the BSC, by the most appropriate project partner in a timely manner.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

SMPDD has carefully evaluated and planned activities to ensure they are eligible for reimbursement and appropriate to project goals. We will prioritize the sites in the target areas before assisting others. We will use our extensive in-house grant management, planning, and economic development skills, and access to other partner resources to augment the EPA grant funds to spur redevelopment in our jurisdiction. We have already taken proactive steps to demonstrate our commitment to effective use of brownfield funds by soliciting dedicated and experienced Partners, communicating with BSC members, and committing our own resources to the effort. No health monitoring activities are planned as part of this brownfields project at this time, but
the need for such activities will be evaluated based on the findings of planned environmental assessments. Sections 3.a.i, 3.a.ii, 3.a.iii, and 3.a.iv have been consolidated in the following tables:

**Task 1. Program Management**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>i. Project Implementation</th>
<th>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant oversight and correspond with EPA</td>
<td>Ongoing throughout project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop and monitor the Grant Work Plan</td>
<td>Quarter 1 (Q1), updated as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize scope and terms with environmental professional selected through qualifications-based selection process; Kickoff Meeting with Project Partners and contractors to finalize agreements, and discuss roles and expectations</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRES updates</td>
<td>At the end of each month, and as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial tracking and reports</td>
<td>At the end of each month, annual reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual reports</td>
<td>Q4, Q8, Q12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final report</td>
<td>Q12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend two brownfields conferences</td>
<td>Q1 and Q5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**iii. Task/Activity Lead:** SMPDD, with reporting assistance from QEP

**iv. Outputs:** Grant Work Plan, 36 monthly reports, 3 annual reports, 1 final report

**Task 2. Site Inventory and Community Outreach**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>i. Project Implementation</th>
<th>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish a Community Involvement Plan</td>
<td>Q1, updated as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold meetings with partners and MDEQ to review sites, environmental records, reuse potential, developer interest, and goals alignment</td>
<td>As needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site inventory, selection, and prioritization</td>
<td>Q1, updated monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend community meetings</td>
<td>Q1, Q2, more as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare community educational materials (press releases, flyers, mailers)</td>
<td>As needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website and social media work</td>
<td>Website and social media account integration established in Q1, updated as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect and respond to community feedback</td>
<td>Continuously as needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**iii. Task/Activity Lead:** Brownfields Steering Committee (includes SMPDD staff)

**iv. Outputs:** Brownfields Project website, 6 community meetings, 5 press releases, 5 flyers, site inventory

**Task 3. Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>i. Project Implementation</th>
<th>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct 15 Phase I ESAs (3 Priority Sites plus 12 additional sites)</td>
<td>Begin after site inventory is approved by the BSC. Priority Sites completed by Q4. Additional sites completed throughout the project and completed by Q10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct 9 Phase II ESAs</td>
<td>Begin after a Phase I is completed. Priority Sites completed by Q4. Additional sites completed throughout the project. All completed by Q11.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**iii. Task/Activity Lead:** QEP with SMPDD oversight

**iv. Outputs:** 1 QAPP, 15 Phase I ESAs, 9 Phase II ESAs including Site Specific QAPPs

**Task 4a. Cleanup Planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>i. Project Implementation</th>
<th>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify cleanup options and costs</td>
<td>Begin after a Phase II is completed. Priority sites completed by Q5. All completed by Q12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop 4 Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCAs)</td>
<td>Begin after cleanup identification is completed. Priority sites completed by Q5. All completed by Q12.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### iii. Task/Activity Lead: QEP with SMPDD oversight

### iv. Outputs: 4 ABCAs

#### Task 4b. Eligible Planning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>i. Project Implementation</th>
<th>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create 2 Site Reuse Assessments/Site Disposition Strategies</td>
<td>Begin after assessment and ABCA is completed and may include eligible reuse planning, infrastructure evaluation, or site disposition strategy. All activities completed by mid-Q12.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| iii. Task/Activity Lead: SMPDD Staff with QEP support                                    |
| iv. Outputs: 2 Site Reuse Assessment/Site Disposition Strategies                         |

### 3.b. Cost Estimates

Cost estimates were developed from our experience with our existing FY19 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. Cost estimates for implementing the tasks anticipated to be associated with this project are presented in the below table, followed by a detailed explanation of how the costs were derived. All contractual costs presented below are quote based.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Costs</th>
<th>Program Management</th>
<th>Community Outreach</th>
<th>Phase I &amp; II ESAs</th>
<th>Cleanup and Reuse Planning</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$18,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$12,000.00</td>
<td>$39,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits (29%)</td>
<td>$5,670.00</td>
<td>$2,835.00</td>
<td>$3,780.00</td>
<td>$12,285.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$6,900.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$6,900.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,993.75</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual</td>
<td>$22,500.00</td>
<td>$15,000.00</td>
<td>$357,500.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$415,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Direct Costs**: $53,070.00  
**Total Indirect Costs (25%)**: $5,917.50  
**Total Budget**: $58,987.50

#### Task 1: Program Management

**Personnel Costs**: Cooperative Agreement and Financial Management – 300hrs at avg $60/hr = $18,000  
**Travel Costs**: 2 staff x 2 conferences x $1,725/conference = $6,900, includes flight ($600), hotel ($175/night for 4 nights), meals ($75/day for 4 days) and registration ($125)  
**Contractual Costs**: 36 monthly reports, 3 annual reports, and final reporting = $22,500

#### Task 2: Community Outreach

**Personnel Costs**: meetings, outreach, and feedback - 150 hours at average rate of $60/hr = $9,000  
**Supplies Costs**: BSC/community meeting presentation materials = $1,993.75  
**Contractual Costs**: meetings, outreach, web/social media, flyers and press releases = $15,000

#### Task 3: Phase I & II ESAs

**Contractual Costs**: Generic QAPP for Phase II ESAs = $5,000. 15 Phase I ESAs at avg cost of $4,000ea = $60,000. 9 Phase II ESAs at average of $32,500ea = $292,500. Each will include SSQAPP, Sampling & Analysis Plan, Health & Safety Plan, Property Eligibility Determination, AAI Checklist.

#### Task 4a: Cleanup Planning (QEP)

**Contractual Costs**: identification of cleanup options and costs, and 4 ABCAs at $4,000ea = $16,000

#### Task 4b: Reuse Planning (SMPDD Staff)

**Personnel Costs**: Reuse Assessment and Planning 200 hours at average rate of $60/hr = $12,000  
**Contractual Costs**: Assist with engineering aspects of Reuse Assessment/Site Disposition Strategy for $4,000

### 3.c. Measuring Environmental Results

SMPDD will develop a project work plan with a milestones and deliverables chart to track and measure progress. Project management will be managed with software to assist tracking efforts. A budget will be developed to set cost expectations for each project task. Costs will be tracked monthly to ensure project progress is in line with spending and budgets. SMPDD will require the selected environmental professional to provide a schedule of milestones, budgets and deliverables with monthly updates to integrate into monthly project tracking. Updates will be provided to EPA via the ACRES database. When measures or timeline milestones are not being met, the project manager will meet with EPA, project partners and the environmental professional to evaluate problems, find solutions, and identify steps to regain timeline losses and/or adjust the
project as needed to meet expectations. ESAs will be completed as early in the project as possible to determine if there is extra capacity for additional sites in the target areas and other communities in the SMPDD 15-County area. The outputs defined in the project plan will be tracked and entered into ACRES on a monthly basis. SMPDD will also track outcomes to facilitate EPA’s Strategic Plan. Outcomes such as the number and sizes of sites made available for reuse, jobs created, dollars leveraged, local government use, greenspace made available, energy efficiency measures implemented, and more will be entered into ACRES. Problems will be reported immediately and project management will realign the project plan as needed to redirect work and get back on track efficiently.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

4.a. Programmatic Capability

Sections 4.a.i, 4.a.ii, 4.a.iii, and 4.a.iv have been consolidated in the following section:

4.a.i. Organizational Capacity, 4.a.ii. Organizational Structure, 4.a.iii. Description of Key Staff, and 4.a.iv. Acquiring Additional Resources – SMPDD staff has an extensive and proven track record of managing Federal and State funded programs for a multitude of agencies. We have historically met all grant requirements because we turned in our reports on time, achieved the goals, and met the terms and conditions of the grants that we have managed and implemented. SMPDD staff routinely manages over $25M annually in federal and state funded programs, from inception to closeout, and has the capacity to carry out the programmatic, administrative and financial requirements of the Brownfield Assessment grant. SMPDD staff will oversee the implementation of the project. Environmental assessments, community outreach and engagement, and redevelopment planning will be led by the procured contractor with support from SMPDD staff. Kristyn Gunter, Project Director, serves as the Special Projects Division Director for SMPDD and will serve as the Brownfield Project Manager for SMPDD. She is a Qualified Environmental Professional, working as an environmental consultant for 14 years, conducting Phase I and II ESAs, prior to coming to SMPDD. She has served as the Brownfield Grant Project Manager for SMPDD’s FY19 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. Allison Hawkins, is the Economic/Workforce Development Division Director for SMPDD, leading the department since 2001. With over 20 years of work experience in economic and community development, Ms. Hawkins will oversee the eligible brownfield planning activities. She will also assist with community engagement. Mary LaRosa is the Chief Financial Officer for SMPDD and will continue her role with managing the financial aspects of the grant (invoicing, ASAP drawdowns, audit documentation, etc.). She is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Internal Auditor and oversees all financial aspects of the agency including compliance with all federal and state regulations for the $28M in funding received annually. Additional SMPDD staff are qualified and available as necessary. SMPDD will follow a competitive selection process including a public Request for Qualifications, weighted factors such as qualifications and relevant experience; merit of proposer’s scope of services; and inclusion of DBEs, in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. Should additional contractors be required, the same procurement process will be followed.

4.b. Past Performance and Accomplishments

4.b.i. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant SMPDD was awarded an Assessment Grant under the FY19 grant cycle, BF-00D94719-0 in the amount of $300,000.00.

(1) Accomplishments To date, we have conducted five (5) Phase I ESAs, one (1) Phase I ESA update, one (1) Phase II ESA and one (1) Supplemental Phase II Assessment, which included the removal of 2 abandoned underground storage tanks that resulted in one (1) No Further Action Letter (NFA). An Infrastructure Evaluation was completed for one (1) site. All accomplishments are accurately reflected in ACRES. Another Phase II ESA is currently underway.

(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements SMPDD’s current assessment grant period is 10/01/19-09/30/22. As of 10/01/21, $211,092.65 (70.4%) of the grant funds had been drawn down and distributed with 29.6% of grant funds remaining. To date, 87.6% of the grant expenses incurred through 09/30/2021 have been expended on direct assessment activities. We anticipate continuing to expend funding on this trend. Site assessments, cleanup planning, and community engagement events will continue through this final year of the existing grant.
III.B. Threshold Criteria for Assessment Grants
Below are the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District’s (SMPDD) Threshold Criteria Responses for the Community-Wide Assessment Proposal.

III.B.1. Applicant Eligibility
SMPDD is a designated 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization serving the southern 15 counties of the state of Mississippi. SMPDD, formerly known as the Southern Mississippi Economic Development District, was formed in 1966 for civic improvement and economic development, housing and other benevolent and/or charitable activities.

SMPDD was designated as a “Regional Clearinghouse” by the Office of the Governor of the State of Mississippi by letter dated December 15, 1969, according to Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 and OMB Circular A-95. Executive Order number 81, dated June 11, 1971 designated the 15 county region as a Planning and Development District.

Documentation of our eligibility is included on the following page.
III.B.2. Community Involvement

The SMPDD has a successful history of community involvement from our FY2019 EPA Brownfield Grant which will serve as the framework for this grant. Partnerships have been sought with specific groups who are already engaged in the target areas. Recently, SMPDD’s Brownfield activities in the Hattiesburg area were highlighted on The Delgado Report which was broadcast on the local radio and Councilwoman Delgado’s Facebook page. The LHA Charity Hospital Advisory Committee met on 11/17/21 to discuss the findings and steps forward for completing their current master planning efforts for the target site. The following organizations represent a wide array of partners, many of which are members of our Brownfields Steering Committee (BSC), and are excited to support this grant effort. These project partners will be engaged from the outset and continuously throughout the grant period to identify sites, discuss cleanup alternatives, and engage the community on potential redevelopment options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Name</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Specific Role in the Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS Department of Environmental Quality</td>
<td>Thomas Wallace 601-961-5240 <a href="mailto:twallace@mdeq.ms.gov">twallace@mdeq.ms.gov</a></td>
<td>Technical assistance, QAPP review and approval, establish cleanup criteria for sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Laurel</td>
<td>Johnny Magee, Mayor 601-428-6401</td>
<td>BSC, community engagement, redevelopment planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Harvey Miller, Operations Manager 601-798-9770 <a href="mailto:hmiller@picayune.ms.us">hmiller@picayune.ms.us</a></td>
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III.B.3. Named Contractors and Subrecipients

SMPDD does not currently have a named contractor or subrecipients for this grant.

- **Contractors** – Not Applicable. SMPDD intends to acquire additional resources under this grant and will follow a competitive selection process including a public Request for Qualifications, weighted factors such as qualifications and relevant experience; merit of proposer’s scope of services; and inclusion of DBEs, in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. Should additional contractors be required, the same procurement process will be followed.

- **Subrecipients** – Not Applicable.

III.B.4. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds

SMPDD was awarded an Assessment Grant under the FY19 grant cycle, BF-00D94719-0 in the amount of $300,000.00. SMPDD’s current assessment grant period is 10/01/19-09/30/22. As of 10/01/21, $211,092.65 (70.4%) of the grant funds had been drawn down and distributed with $88,907.35 (29.6%) of grant funds remaining. Documentation of the expenditure of existing funds is provided on the following page.

III.C. Additional Threshold Criteria for Site-Specific Proposals Only

Not applicable

III.D. Additional Threshold Criteria for Community-wide Assessment Grants for State and Tribes Only

Not applicable