

**MDA E-News September 14, 2009
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MDA Awards CDBG Economic Development Funding for Wayne Farms Expansion in Laurel

MDA's Community Services Division recently awarded CDBG Economic Development (CDBG ED) funding in the amount of \$598,500 to the City of Laurel on behalf of Wayne Farms, LLC. The funds will be used for site improvements for the company's facility expansion in Laurel. As a result of this project, Wayne Farms will create at least 25 new jobs.

CDBG funds are designed to help local units of government ensure basic community services, environmental quality and economic opportunities for their residents. To learn more about the funding programs available through MDA, please visit www.mississippi.org and click on the Community and Asset Development link located near the top of the page.

MDA Hosting Stimulus Funding Opportunities Webinars on September 29 and October 13

Make plans now to attend MDA's Stimulus Funding Opportunities Webinar, to be held **Tuesday, September 29, at 10:00 a.m.** The event will discuss economic stimulus funding opportunities made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Featured

speakers will include: MDA Community Services Division Director Steve Hardin, who will discuss the **Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)**, the **Community Development Block Grant - Recovery (CDBG-R) Program** and the **Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)**; MDA Financial Resources Division Director Kathy Gelston, who will discuss the **bond programs** provided for in ARRA; and Manning McPhillips, MDA stimulus director, who will provide an overview of the **Broadband Deployment and Adoption** and **Workforce Development** programs. To register for the event, please [click here](#). Participants will be able to ask questions at the conclusion of the event.

Additionally, on **October 13 at 10:00 a.m.** MDA will present a Webinar focusing solely on energy-related stimulus programs. This Webinar will benefit a very broad audience, ranging from city officials to utilities to the general public, so make plans now to participate. More detailed information regarding the energy Webinar will be made available in upcoming issues of MDA's e-News, but anyone wishing to register for this event now may do so by [clicking here](#).

Information regarding any of the programs listed above can be found at stimulus.mississippi.org.

MDA's Angie Cognevich Named 2010 SEDC Chairman of the Board

The Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC) recently announced that Angie Cognevich, regional manager of MDA's Southeast Regional Office, will serve as the organization's Chairman of the Board of Directors effective January 2010. SEDC, the oldest and largest regional economic development association in North America, is a non-profit organization boasting over 900 members from 17 states in the southern United States. Its membership includes industrial and economic developers, utility providers, transportation, financial and educational institutions, chambers of commerce and local, regional and state development agencies.

According to Kirkley Thomas, 2009 SEDC chairman, the main goal of the professional association is to provide tangible benefits to its members, allowing them to advance the economic prosperity of the areas they serve. He continued, stating that Angie will be a great asset in helping SEDC achieve that goal.

To learn more about SEDC, please visit the organization's Web site at www.sedc.org.

Tomorrow is Final Day to Register for SEUS-Japan 33rd Annual Joint Meeting

Tomorrow, September 15, is the final day to register for the Southeast

U.S. - Japan (SEUS-Japan) 33rd Annual Joint Meeting, which will be held October 18-20 in Tokyo. MDA Executive Director Gray Swoope will lead a delegation of state officials and business leaders to Japan for the event, which is designed to create mutually-beneficial relationships among the U.S. and Japanese participants. MDA encourages Mississippi business leaders and economic developers to take advantage of this last chance to register.

To register, please visit www.mississippi.org/seus-japan , print and fill out the downloadable registration form, and fax it to (601) 359-3605 by the close of business on September 15. A conference fee of \$500 per person, payable by check to the Mississippi Development Authority, must be received no later than September 21. For more information, please call (601) 359-3155, or e-mail lcleveland@mississippi.org. To learn more about SEUS-Japan, please visit www.seus-japan.org.

Final Stimulus Opportunities Workshop Scheduled for September 21 in Oxford

County supervisors, local economic developers and representatives from Mississippi's Planning and Development Districts should plan to attend the final workshop in the first series of MDA's *Stimulus Opportunities Workshops*. The event will be held Monday, September 21, from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., at the Oxford Conference Center in Oxford. The workshop is designed to provide beneficial information regarding the funding opportunities available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). During the workshop, MDA Financial Resources Division Director Kathy Gelston will focus on the Build America Bonds and the Recovery Zone Bond programs, including methods to ensure the state's counties are able to take full advantage of the programs. Following Gelston, MDA Stimulus Director Manning McPhillips will touch on MDA's other stimulus programs.

The workshop, which is free of charge, will conclude with a Q&A session, and reference materials will be provided to attendees. To register, please e-mail stimulusworkshops@mississippi.org and enter "September 21 - Oxford Workshop" in the subject line.

For more information on any of these articles, contact us by clicking on the links below. If you have been forwarded this email and would like to subscribe, please contact [Melissa Medley](#) or [Tammy Craft](#) .