

**MDA E-News November 3, 2009****Governors Announce Aerospace Alliance, MDA Awards Funding for Projects, Grant Announced for Elementary School Completion, Energy Grant Workshop Registration****In this issue:**

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**Governor Barbour, Governor Riley and Governor Jindal Announce Launch of The Aerospace Alliance**

Governor Haley Barbour, Alabama Governor Bob Riley and Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal announced last week the launch of The Aerospace Alliance, a 501(c)(6) private/public organization that will establish the Gulf Coast states and the surrounding region as a world-class aerospace, space and aviation corridor. The participating entities, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida's Great Northwest, will have opportunities to grow the sector and attract more jobs and suppliers to the region by promoting their common assets as well as the region's long-standing tradition of excellence in the aerospace industry. The announcement was made at an event in Bay Minette, Ala.

According to Governor Barbour, the organization will go far in promoting the region for what it is - one of the largest aerospace corridors in the world and a great place for companies in this sector to do business.

The Aerospace Alliance's members consist of business leaders, economic development professionals and government officials. The Alliance's first priority is to help secure the KC-45 aerial tanker program. If regional partners Northrop Grumman and EADS are selected for this contract, the tankers will be assembled in Mobile, Ala. The project would bring 48,000

direct and indirect jobs to the region, making it one of the largest in the world to build large-body aircraft, joining France and the Pacific Northwest. The tanker program, however, is not the only priority for the Alliance. Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Florida are currently home to manufacturers of helicopters, missile defense systems, composite aircraft structures and engine components and many R&D firms, and the Alliance will work to grow the aerospace, aviation, space and defense industries throughout the region.

### **MDA Awards Approximately \$12 Million in Funding for 32 Infrastructure Improvement Projects**

MDA's Community Services Division recently awarded CDBG Public Facilities funding for 32 infrastructure improvement projects throughout the state. The CDBG Public Facilities Program is available to fund publicly-owned infrastructure for community-based projects. The awards, which total nearly \$12 million, include:

- City of Verona - \$450,000
- Town of Burnsville - \$400,000
- Town of Duncan - \$393,000
- City of Shelby - \$449,266
- Town of Morgan City - \$237,000
- Town of Sledge - \$372,300
- Town of Sallis - \$398,200
- Town of Mayersville - \$405,412
- Town of Crowder - \$300,000
- Town of Polkville - \$450,000
- Town of Roxie - \$445,457
- Town of D'Lo - \$134,222
- Town of Crosby - \$232,250
- Town of Ackerman - \$450,000
- Town of Prentiss - \$291,000
- Town of Summit - \$384,326
- City of Collins - \$450,000
- Town of Cary - \$198,611
- Town of Mendenhall - \$450,000
- Town of Beaumont - \$390,240
- Town of Sebastopol - \$137,720
- Town of Plantersville - \$450,000
- City of Quitman - \$449,734
- Town of Utica - \$417,000
- City of Mound Bayou - \$450,000
- Town of Maben - \$450,000
- City of Lumberton - \$449,400
- Town of Mantee - \$450,000
- Town of Smithville - \$449,674
- Town of Pace - \$325,104

- Town of Decatur - \$430,873
- Town of Taylorsville - \$450,000

To learn more about the funding programs available through MDA's Community Services Division, please visit [www.mississippi.org](http://www.mississippi.org) , and click on the Community and Asset Development link located near the top of the page.

### **Governor Barbour, MDA Disaster Recovery Division Announce \$1.5 Million CDBG Grant for Completion of McCaughan Elementary School in Long Beach**

Governor Haley Barbour and MDA's Disaster Recovery Division recently announced a \$1.5 million Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant for the completion of Long Beach's Harper McCaughan Elementary School. The funds are made available through the Disaster Recovery Division's \$500 million Community Revitalization Program, one of the 17 recovery programs the division administers with the \$5.4 billion the state received in federal disaster recovery funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Governor Barbour said the completion of the McCaughan Elementary School is a major step toward rebuilding a vital public facility that will help hasten recovery in Long Beach. According to Jon Mabry, MDA Disaster Recovery Division chief operations officer, once the school is completed, it will be a more storm resistant, modern facility that will be an improvement of the original structure. He added that the school is a perfect example of how flexible CDBG funds can be used to address specific, locally-defined, locally-driven needs.

To learn more about the ongoing disaster recovery efforts in Mississippi, please visit [www.msdisasterrecovery.com](http://www.msdisasterrecovery.com).

### **Three MDA Energy Grant Workshops Remaining; Be Sure to Register Today**

MDA invites you to register today for one of its final three grant workshops that are designed to educate city and county officials and community and business leaders about the funding opportunities available through the State Energy Program (SEP) and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). Both programs are provided for through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Each workshop begins at 8:00 a.m. and concludes at 12:00 p.m. The dates and locations for the remaining workshops are:

- November 3 - Hattiesburg, Lake Terrace Convention Center, I-59 and Highway 49

- November 5 - Jackson, Jackson Convention Complex, 105 E. Pascagoula St.
- November 12 - Tupelo, Hilton Garden Inn Conference Center, 363 E. Main St.

MDA encourages you to share these dates with colleagues and peers in your community. For more information regarding these workshops or any other energy-related programs, please visit [stimulus.mississippi.org](http://stimulus.mississippi.org). To register for the workshops, please e-mail [stimulusworkshops@mississippi.org](mailto:stimulusworkshops@mississippi.org).

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