

NESHOBA COUNTY

ADOPTED
February 2, 2015

Comprehensive Road and Bridge Plan

2015-2019

COUNTY DATA

Neshoba County, Mississippi is approximately 90 miles northeast of Jackson, Mississippi. Philadelphia is the county seat and principal City. The county has a total area of 351,305 acres or 572 square miles.

Neshoba County was established by the Mississippi Legislature on December 23, 1833. The word “Neshoba” is believed to be derived from an Indian word for “wolf”. Philadelphia became the county seat of Neshoba County on August 15, 1837. The Pearl River, which flows east to west through Neshoba County, was an important waterway for early settlers, especially between 1830 and 1860. It reportedly took 15 days to travel by keel boat from Philadelphia to Jackson and about 30 days of vigorous labor to bring a keel boat upstream from Jackson to Philadelphia.

Federal Colonel Benjamin Grierson’s grandstanding expedition through Neshoba County in the spring of 1863 was the only significant action of the Civil War near Philadelphia.

However, hundreds of Neshoba County men were killed in battle, died from the “fevers” that plagued Civil War camps, or were maimed for life by federal shot and shell. In addition to the human loss, Neshoba Countians also lost tens of thousands of dollars

in precious hard currency invested in Confederate bonds and other financial instruments that were worthless when the rebellion failed.

Share-cropping and other forms of hard-scrabble farming characterized the post-war years in Neshoba County. The “one-mule farm” became a standard operation. By 1880 the county’s natural timber resources were becoming an important economic factor, and by 1910 Neshoba County sawmills were too numerous to count. Today, modern industries and representatives of some of America’s “blue chip” companies have become mainstays of the local economy. Local business people have continued to develop Neshoba County’s timber and land resources for the benefit of their investors and hundreds of local people employed in forest products industries.

The Neshoba County population has increased during the past several decades. In 1970 Neshoba County population was 20,802. In 1980 population the population increased to 23,789. The 1990 county population increased to 24,800. The county population has shown steady growth in 2000 with a population of 28,684. The 2010 Census revealed a population of 29,676. Neshoba County is bounded on the north by Winston County; on the east by Kemper County; on the south by Newton County and on the west by Leake County. It is approximately 23.5 miles long by 23.3 miles wide and is served by The Kansas City Southern Railroad running generally north and south through the county just west of Philadelphia.

Neshoba County has considerable potential for year round outdoor recreation because of favorable climate and location. Northside Park, containing almost 130 acres is located on north Pecan Avenue. A log cabin, pavilion, ½ mile scenic drive, fountain, lighted baseball fields, lighted tennis courts, playground, restrooms and special exhibits are provided for all ages. Westside Park, more than ten acres on the west side of

Philadelphia, provides a community center/swimming pool complex. The center has an auditorium, a library, meeting rooms, kitchen and various indoor activity rooms. There are lighted baseball fields, tennis courts, and several outdoor basketball practice areas. Burnside Lake, a scenic park located 5 miles north of Philadelphia offers year round camping facilities. Campers will find 21 hookups, an open air pavilion and lighted baseball fields. There are nature trails (national recreation trails) and huge cypress trees rising from the lake. Non-motor boating is permitted along with fishing and canoeing. The park has a beautiful rustic interpretive auditorium with a seating capacity of 350. The Pearl River flows generally east to west across the county and is open for fishing and boating. Deer and small game also offer good recreation for hunters. The entire Philadelphia-Neshoba County Park System underwent a \$ 6 Million dollar renovation and expansion which was completed in 2010.

The Neshoba County Coliseum is providing many opportunities that have not been available to citizens in this area. The Coliseum features seating for almost 2,500 people in chair back air conditioned comfort. The Coliseum has the ability to provide up to 2,500 additional seats in the arena area to boost the seating capacity to about 5,000 for a concert. The Coliseum owns a 40 foot by 40 foot portable professional stage system that has adjustable height from the floor. The Coliseum also owns a portable floor system that may be used for events in the arena. The Coliseum features a state of the art sound system that can deliver 10,000 watts of crystal clear sound. The complex also has an animal barn that contains almost 100 animal stalls. The Coliseum has recently added 47 Camper hook-ups on the property to allow for overnight stays for major events.

ECONOMIC DATA

The main crops grown in the county are corn, soybeans and small grain. Livestock, dairy, poultry and timber are produced on many farms. Timber income is very important since approximately 65% of the land area is considered commercial forest land.

In December 2014, Neshoba County's labor force was 11,950. The total employed was 11,280 resulting in 670 persons or a 5.6% unemployment rate according to figures supplied by the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.

The 2010 census population was 29,676 with the population estimate for 2012 reaching 29,698. In 2012 the annual average wage of Neshoba County residents was \$33,702.00. Significant additional tax revenue will not be available. In calendar year 2014 the gross retail sales of Neshoba County was \$614,878,942 which reflected a 34% increase over the previous fiscal year.

TRANSPORTATION DATA

Transportation facilities are excellent. The Kansas City Southern Railroad runs generally north and south through the county and passes through Philadelphia, Mississippi. The entire county is served by several major truck lines. Highway 15 runs generally North and South; Highway 19 runs from Southeast to Northwest; Highway 21 runs from Southwest to Northeast; Highway 16 runs generally East and West. All of these highways intersect in Philadelphia, Mississippi and are considered major trade routes.

ROAD AND BRIDGE DATA

The Neshoba County road system is composed of approximately 726.94 miles (see attached map). State highways, U.S. highways and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) roads are not included in this road system total.

<u>Surfaces</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Hard Surfaced (two lane)	394.83
Unpaved (gravel)	332.11
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Total	726.94

BRIDGES

Box Bridges	40
Concrete	40
Precast	22
Temporary Double Pipe Line	2
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Total	104

LOCAL SYSTEM BRIDGE PROGRAM

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors is participating in The State of Mississippi's Local System Bridge Program. This program uses funds appropriated by the State Legislature for the replacement of substandard bridges on public roads that are considered to be off the State and Federal Aid Systems. The Board has adopted a separate program to utilize these funds.

STATE AID / FEDERAL AID ROAD PROGRAM

In addition, the Board of Supervisors as a part of the four year State Aid Road Program has designated certain bridges that will be replaced with Federal Bridge Replacement Funds and State Aid Road Funds. The four year State Aide Road Program has hereby made a part of the comprehensive road and bridge program for Neshoba County, Mississippi.

LONG-TERM BRIDGE AND ROAD PLAN

The primary emphasis on bridges over the next four years will be to reduce the number of bridges that are in to the rating category of 25 or below. Once these are replaced the next priority to replace those with a rating of 49 or below.

The primary emphasis on roads over the next four years will be to maintain the existing road system and hard surface as many miles as available funds will permit. The Board of Supervisors will set the priorities for paving each year on the basis of County wide needs. Some of the criteria to be used in making that determination will include the following: Number of families served, use of the road for access to church and community centers, main road that will connect from one community to another and cost of construction of the road.

Paving and improving dirt or gravel roads is an important part of the operation of the Neshoba County Road Department. The Board of Supervisors will work with the Road Manager to secure needed Right of Ways in order to allow for the improvement of roads on the Neshoba County Road System.

The Following is a listing of roads that have been considered for improving and hard surfacing between the date of adoption of this plan and January 1, 2019. The following roads may be added to or removed by order of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors.

Hard Surfacing of Roads

<u>Road</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Material Cost</u>
153	1.30	1	\$ 91,000.00
2610	1.00	1	\$ 70,000.00
165	1.60	1	\$ 112,000.00
Marty Stuart Drive	1.00	1	\$ 70,000.00
373	1.20	1	\$ 84,000.00
379	1.20	1	\$ 84,000.00
397	1.75	1	\$ 122,500.00
385	0.70	1	\$ 49,000.00
167	1.50	1	\$ 105,000.00
171	1.00	1	\$ 70,000.00
1133	0.75	1	\$ 52,500.00
381	1.00	1	\$ 70,000.00
575	1.20	2	\$ 84,000.00
583	1.30	2	\$ 91,000.00
622	0.50	2	\$ 35,000.00
620	0.30	2	\$ 21,000.00
644	1.00	2	\$ 70,000.00
739	2.50	2	\$ 175,000.00
751	1.70	2	\$ 119,000.00
777	1.00	2	\$ 70,000.00
785	1.30	2	\$ 91,000.00
589	0.50	2	\$ 35,000.00
575	0.50	2	\$ 35,000.00
1714	0.40	2	\$ 28,000.00
2444	0.30	2	\$ 21,000.00
773	0.90	2	\$ 63,000.00
783	1.00	2	\$ 70,000.00
2831	1.00	2	\$ 70,000.00
2826	1.30	2	\$ 91,000.00
1727	0.70	2	\$ 49,000.00
638	0.50	2	\$ 35,000.00
636	0.40	2	\$ 28,000.00
464	0.70	2	\$ 49,000.00
773	0.90	2	\$ 63,000.00

628	1.30	2	\$ 91,000.00
2822	0.70	2	\$ 49,000.00
2630	0.30	2	\$ 21,000.00
741	2.20	2	\$ 154,000.00
567	1.40	2	\$ 98,000.00
1535	0.75	2	\$ 52,500.00
832	0.75	2	\$ 52,500.00
848	1.50	2	\$ 105,000.00
448 West (Reclamation)	2.40	3	\$ 168,000.00
450	1.50	3	\$ 105,000.00
266	2.20	3	\$ 154,000.00
452	2.00	3	\$ 140,000.00
711	0.50	3	\$ 35,000.00
529	1.10	3	\$ 77,000.00
517	0.50	3	\$ 35,000.00
523	1.00	3	\$ 70,000.00
262	0.50	3	\$ 35,000.00
288	1.00	3	\$ 70,000.00
280	0.40	3	\$ 28,000.00
444	0.50	3	\$ 35,000.00
290	0.20	3	\$ 14,000.00
4308	1.00	3	\$ 70,000.00
327	0.30	3	\$ 21,000.00
294	0.40	3	\$ 28,000.00
298	1.10	3	\$ 77,000.00
Alecia Circle	0.30	3	\$ 21,000.00
McKee Street	0.25	3	\$ 17,500.00
240	2.00	4	\$ 140,000.00
226	1.80	4	\$ 126,000.00
402	2.80	4	\$ 196,000.00
339	2.80	4	\$ 196,000.00
363	0.60	4	\$ 42,000.00
541	2.40	4	\$ 168,000.00
121	2.50	4	\$ 175,000.00
315	2.70	4	\$ 189,000.00
1131	1.10	4	\$ 77,000.00
246	0.70	4	\$ 49,000.00
428	0.80	4	\$ 56,000.00
244	1.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
313	1.30	4	\$ 91,000.00
432	2.20	4	\$ 154,000.00
531	1.80	4	\$ 126,000.00
109	2.30	4	\$ 161,000.00
317	2.60	4	\$ 182,000.00
351	0.60	4	\$ 42,000.00

420	0.60	4	\$ 42,000.00
412	1.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
533	0.75	4	\$ 52,500.00
125	2.60	4	\$ 182,000.00
410	0.75	4	\$ 52,500.00
418	1.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
343	0.90	4	\$ 63,000.00
139	1.60	4	\$ 112,000.00
127	1.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
107	2.00	4	\$ 140,000.00
206	2.80	4	\$ 196,000.00
361	3.10	4	\$ 217,000.00
145	2.30	4	\$ 161,000.00
2426	0.75	4	\$ 52,500.00
133	0.20	4	\$ 14,000.00
406	1.30	4	\$ 91,000.00
139	1.60	4	\$ 112,000.00
212	1.60	4	\$ 112,000.00
123	1.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
236	2.00	4	\$ 140,000.00
743	1.25	5	\$ 87,500.00
3403	1.50	5	\$ 105,000.00
1361	1.00	5	\$ 70,000.00
1357	1.00	5	\$ 70,000.00
630	0.60	5	\$ 42,000.00
2642	0.50	5	\$ 35,000.00
1721	0.60	5	\$ 42,000.00
822	2.30	5	\$ 161,000.00
171	1.50	5	\$ 105,000.00
173	2.50	5	\$ 175,000.00
3407	1.40	5	\$ 98,000.00
1354	0.20	5	\$ 14,000.00
2808	0.80	5	\$ 56,000.00
1723	0.30	5	\$ 21,000.00
1721	0.60	5	\$ 42,000.00
1720	0.20	5	\$ 14,000.00
1719	0.20	5	\$ 14,000.00
3403	1.30	5	\$ 91,000.00
3405	1.20	5	\$ 84,000.00
TOTAL	139.75		\$ 9,782,500.00

RESEAL AND NEW WEAR SURFACE OF HARDSURFACE ROADS

The following is a listing of roads that may need to be resealed and have a new wear surface placed on them by January 1, 2019. Through this resealed and placing a new wear surface the life of the road will be extended.

<u>Road</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Material Cost</u>
2608	1.00	1	\$ 35,000.00
367	1.60	1	\$ 56,000.00
408	0.80	1	\$ 28,000.00
339	2.50	1	\$ 87,500.00
149	3.80	1	\$ 133,000.00
2808	0.80	1	\$ 28,000.00
1129	0.70	1	\$ 24,500.00
830	1.00	1	\$ 35,000.00
545	1.00	2	\$ 35,000.00
569	1.80	2	\$ 63,000.00
767	1.00	2	\$ 35,000.00
755	1.50	2	\$ 52,500.00
547	1.00	2	\$ 35,000.00
854	1.00	2	\$ 35,000.00
832	1.50	2	\$ 52,500.00
Plantation Point Dr-South	0.50	2	\$ 17,500.00
Condo Road	0.10	2	\$ 3,500.00
Condo Drive	0.10	2	\$ 3,500.00
Gateway Dr	0.10	2	\$ 3,500.00
761	1.80	2	\$ 63,000.00
2828	0.30	2	\$ 10,500.00
628	2.30	2	\$ 80,500.00
775	1.50	2	\$ 52,500.00
450	0.80	3	\$ 28,000.00
448 (East Side)	2.16	3	\$ 75,600.00
507	0.75	3	\$ 26,250.00
462	1.00	3	\$ 35,000.00
468	1.30	3	\$ 45,500.00
282	1.50	3	\$ 52,500.00
739	2.00	3	\$ 70,000.00
717	2.20	3	\$ 77,000.00
723	0.50	3	\$ 17,500.00
4316	1.00	3	\$ 35,000.00
270	2.80	3	\$ 98,000.00
529	0.60	3	\$ 21,000.00
511	1.50	3	\$ 52,500.00
515	2.00	3	\$ 70,000.00
507	0.80	3	\$ 28,000.00

101	1.50	4	\$ 52,500.00
206	0.50	4	\$ 17,500.00
127	1.60	4	\$ 56,000.00
325	5.40	4	\$ 189,000.00
418	3.10	4	\$ 108,500.00
414	0.70	4	\$ 24,500.00
248	5.60	4	\$ 196,000.00
129	0.25	4	\$ 8,750.00
367	1.60	4	\$ 56,000.00
369	1.60	4	\$ 56,000.00
234	2.00	4	\$ 70,000.00
430	1.40	4	\$ 49,000.00
361	1.50	4	\$ 52,500.00
171	1.00	5	\$ 35,000.00
TOTAL	76.36		\$ 2,672,600.00

GRAVEL ON COUNTY ROADS

County roads will be graveled on an as needed basis when regular maintenance is performed on these roads. The County is divided up into four (4) work areas for motor grader purposes. Those areas are Southeast (zone one); Southwest (zone two); Northwest (zone three); Northeast (zone four). Each of these areas has one or more motor graders assigned to them with an experienced operator.

ROAD SIDE CLIPPING

County roads will have the road sides clipped on an annual basis. The County is divided into two (2) work zones. Those areas are East and West.

POTHOLE AND SHOULDER REPAIR

County hard surfaced roads will have a minimum of one crew assigned daily for the sole purpose of repairing potholes and shoulders along public roads of Neshoba County.

ROADSIDE SPRAYING

All county gravel roads will be sprayed on an annual basis for weed and brush control. All county hard surfaced roads will be sprayed on an annual basis to help in grass and weed control.

NEW EQUIPMENT NEEDS

By January 1, 2019 Neshoba County will need to consider replacing and purchasing the following equipment used in its road department:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Tractors	4	200,000.00
Boom Mowers	2	175,000.00
Clippers	4	100,000.00
Dump Trucks	4	400,000.00
Pickup Trucks	5	100,000.00

PERSONNEL NEEDS

The Neshoba County Road and Bridge Department will employ a Road Manager who will be responsible for the implementation of the Road and Bridge Program set forth by the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors. Personnel will be assigned to the following area:

1	Road Manager
4	Long Hall Truck Drivers
1	Fuel Truck
2	Pot Hole Patching
3	Mechanics
6	Motor Graders
1	Track hoe
4	Dump Trucks
2	Culvert Installation
5	Construction & Heavy Maintenance
4	Bush hogging Crews
2	Boom Axe
6	Miscellaneous Labor

The County will need to employ 41 road department personnel through January 1, 2019.