



Mississippi Economic Development Council, Inc.  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CITY OF CLINTON WINS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

The City of Clinton was the winner of a Community Economic Development Award (CEDA) in recognition of the Olde Towne Clinton Streetscape project at the Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC) 2010 Summer Conference in Biloxi. The CEDA honors communities throughout Mississippi for their efforts to advance their economic viability through economic and community development programs during the 2008 calendar year.

T. J. McSparrin, Executive Director of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, accepted the award. James Powell, director of economic development for the City of Clinton, nominated the project.

The completion of this ambitious project is the result of partnerships at work over many years. The City of Clinton, Clinton Chamber of Commerce, private citizens and Main Street Clinton partnered to complete this project in two phases.

The most ambitious phase was completed in 2000 and included moving utilities, installing planting beds, decorative street lighting and commemorative pavers along historic Jefferson Street. The second phase of the project was completed in 2009 when Main Street Clinton partnered with the City of Clinton.

Using a combination of volunteer labor and the city's Public Works Department, Main Street Clinton designed and installed an outdoor sound system and added decorative hanging baskets to selected light poles along Jefferson Street. The outcome of these partnerships is an enhanced historic downtown that is very appealing to visitors, businesses and a place where neighboring college students feel right at home.

"MEDC is proud to honor this outstanding community and the people who have been involved in the planning and implementation of this worthwhile project," said Carol Hardwick, Executive Director. "We applaud their commitment to excellence in moving their communities forward."

The Mississippi Economic Development Council is an association of community and economic development and chamber of commerce professionals from across the state. MEDC members work closely with state and local government officials to improve the state's competitiveness in the pursuit of new jobs. Programs are sponsored to educate community leaders regarding the mechanics of economic and industrial development. MEDC encourages professionalism among its members through its conference and other meetings and by awarding scholarships for courses in chamber, community and economic development.

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