



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI FAIR COMMISSION**
COMMISSIONER CINDY HYDE-SMITH
CHAIRMAN

MEDIA ADVISORY

For March 6, 2018

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What: Mississippi Trade Mart Groundbreaking

Who: Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith will preside over the ceremony.

Remarks will be given by Governor Phil Bryant and Speaker of the House of Representatives Philip Gunn.

When: Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 9 a.m.

Where: Mississippi Fairgrounds — East side of the Mississippi Coliseum

Mississippi Fair Commission to Break Ground for the new Mississippi Trade Mart

The Mississippi Fair Commission will celebrate the groundbreaking of the new Mississippi Trade Mart with a ceremony on Thursday, March 8 at 9 a.m. Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith will preside over the ceremony. Governor Phil Bryant and Speaker of the House of Representatives Philip Gunn will also provide remarks.

The Mississippi State Fairgrounds attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year from all across Mississippi and throughout the country and serves as one of the largest economic drivers in the City of Jackson. The Mississippi Legislature authorized \$30 million to build a new Trade Mart and to make improvements to the Mississippi Fairgrounds. This investment in a new Trade Mart will provide a facility that offers services, conveniences and amenities that will attract new businesses and groups to the Mississippi Fairgrounds. The new Trade Mart will be attached to the Mississippi Coliseum, which will make the facility more marketable for hosting a wide array of events. The existing Trade Mart, built in 1975, has exceeded its useful life and is not economically feasible to renovate. After the completion of the new Trade Mart, the existing Trade Mart will be demolished.

The new Trade Mart was designed by Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, and Fountain Construction is the general contractor. Construction is expected to take approximately 18 months. The current Trade Mart will continue to operate until construction on the new Trade Mart is complete.

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