A GUIDE FOR DOWNTOWN JACKSON Business

DOWNTOWN JACKSON PARTNERS

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Downtown Jackson Mississippi is not only the economic and cultural heart of Mississippi and the mid-South, it is also the center of business and commerce, and Downtown Jackson Partners is committed to ensuring that the downtown of our capital city remains clean, safe and bustling.

Downtown Jackson Partners (DJP) is a 501 (4) nonprofit organization that oversees the Downtown Jackson Business Improvement District (BID). Our mission is to generate and promote business activity and economic development in ways that fulfill and enhance our vision of a vibrant, thriving center.

DJP serves as a resource for businesses, organizations, institutions, property owners, residents and visitors coming to work or play within the Downtown BID. Often behind the scenes, DJP constantly works on behalf of property owners and merchants to create a favorable environment in terms of cleanliness, planning issues, public safety and much more. We hold relationships with various heads of government in order to work through the bureaucracy and ensure the progress of a holistic downtown.

The following information is a guide intended for new and/or established businesses within the Downtown BID. Contact information for entities and organizations servicing Downtown can be found in the contact section of this booklet.

For more information or to learn of the many DJP projects and initiatives, visit <u>www.downtown-jackson.</u> <u>com/about</u>. We encourage you to stay informed on all that is happening Downtown by subscribing to our e-newsletters, friending us on Facebook, and following us on Instagram and Twitter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us anytime at downtownjacksonpartners@downtown-jackson.com.





When asked why they are here, most Downtown Jackson business owners agree: location, location, location! Jackson is the center of great opportunity in the mid-South and being Downtown puts you right in the middle of it all.

With recent growth of Jackson's metropolitan area, population Downtown has expanded by hundreds within the past few years. The demand for new residential and mixed-use development opportunities continue to increase. Downtown has experienced nearly \$900 million in development since 2005 and there are approximately \$100 million of projects currently underway or on the drawing board. To view current and planned development projects, visit <u>www.downtown-jackson.com/development-projects</u>.

Situated within minutes of the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport and major regional highways, Downtown is a truly accessible meeting and event destination, offering nearly 500,000 square feet of meeting space in a variety of settings – friendly conference or dining rooms, formal banquets or ballrooms, outdoor gardens or vistas, historic chambers and forums – all within walking distance of over 700 hotel rooms, award-winning museums, captivating historic sites and nearly 40 restaurants and nightlife spots all located within the BID.

For market and economic development information of the Downtown BID, view the DJP Economic Development Toolkit at <u>www.downtown-jackson.com/toolkit</u>.



DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

Businesses located in Downtown Jackson have access to multiple federal, state and local economic incentives, including the Ad Valorem (Property Tax) Abatement, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) bonds, sales and tax exemptions, tax credits and more. To view the full development incentive list, visit <u>www.downtown-jackson.com/development-incentives</u>.

BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES AND CERTIFICATION

The City of Jackson Business Development Division, Economic Development Office offers several programs such as the Recruitment and Retention Program, Brownsfield Redevelopment Program, Minority Business Enterprise Certification Program, Equal Business Opportunity and more.

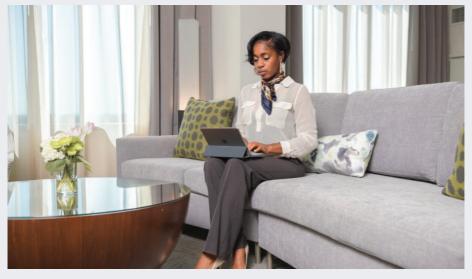
The Business Entrepreneur Assistance Team (BEAT) serves as a personalized assistance program helping individuals obtain their business license from start to finish. BEAT team members are available to personally walk you through the process step by step, turning your idea into a successful business.

Jackson State University offers several classes and workshops including How to Develop a Business Plan, First Steps to Starting a Business, Marketing a Business and more.

To learn more about each of these programs and initiatives, view the New Business Start-Up Kit, gather information on training and customer service and much more, visit <u>www.downtown-jackson.com/development-resources</u>. Find commercial listings, meeting and event space, event planning resources and more at <u>www.downtown-jackson.com/business-development</u>.









Here you will find contact information for many of the offices available to assist you. DJP staff is also available to assist whenever possible at <u>downtownjacksonpartners@downtown-jackson.com</u>.

CITY OF JACKSON DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT 200 S President Street | 601.960.1993

The City of Jackson Planning and Development Department is the economic development arm of the City. The department performs site plan reviews, issues permits and licenses and oversees zoning issues. They also provide useful information on local economic development tools and incentives that can be found under the Resources tab on their website at www.jxnplanning.com.

HINDS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 125 S Congress Street, Ste. 1500 | 601.353.6056

The Hinds County Economic Development Authority serves as the economic development agency for Hinds County. The Authority utilizes two main economic development methodologies to create new jobs and build wealth in the local economy: new business recruitment and expansion, and/or retention of local firms. To learn more, visit <u>www.selecthinds.com</u>.

HINDS COUNTY SITE SELECTOR TOOL

The Hinds County Economic Development Authority Site Selector Tool is an Internet mapping application designed to allow users to easily obtain information and demographics about sites and buildings in Hinds County. Check it out at <u>www.selecthinds.com/siteselector</u>.

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 501 N West Street | 601.359.3449

The Mississippi Development Authority is the State's lead economic and community development agency who works to recruit new businesses to the State and expand existing industry and business. The agency provides Mississippi businesses with technical assistance, as well as economic development tools proven to be helpful resources. Find these and learn more at <u>www.mississippi.org</u>.

JACKSON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 218 S President Street | 601.960.1815

The Jackson Redevelopment Authority Board of Commissioners is the governing board for all urban renewal projects. This includes the rehabilitation, conversion and redevelopment of areas within Jackson as necessary in the interest of public health, safety, morale and welfare of the residents of the city.

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 210 E Capitol Street, Suite 900 | 601.965.4378

The U.S. Small Business Administration works to assist small businesses. The administration has developed many small business loans and assistance programs, as well as special outreach efforts and initiatives to aid and inform small businesses of news and resources, policies and more. Learn more online at www.sba.gov/offices/district/ms/jackson.

GREATER JACKSON CHAMBER PARTNERSHIP 4855 W Frontage Road I-55 North | 601.948.7575

The Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership is an economic and community development organization for the Greater Jackson area, with 2,100 members representing more than 200,000 employees. The Chamber fosters economic growth and works to improve the quality of life in the Greater Jackson area by providing leadership to businesses, organizations, government entities and other interested citizens. To learn more, visit www.greaterjacksonpartnership.com.

INNOVATE MISSISSIPPI 121 N State Street, Ste. 500 | 601.960.3610

Innovate Mississippi is committed to assisting technology entrepreneurs and emerging companies in our State. For more information, visit <u>www.innovate.ms</u>.

