



JACKSON

REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

LEADERSHIP PROFILE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jackson Redevelopment Authority | Jackson, Mississippi

“Through strategic partnerships, the Jackson Redevelopment Authority commits to promote social equity, environmental sustainability, and economic growth. We will work every day in the public interest to develop vibrant and engaging communities that are unique to our city’s culture. We will help create safer housing, develop innovative businesses, build stronger infrastructure, and create unique public spaces through partnerships with the City of Jackson, Hinds County, the state of Mississippi and other public and private partners, to help Jackson thrive.”

THE OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE JACKSON FORWARD

The Jackson Redevelopment Authority (JRA) in Jackson, Mississippi is seeking a full-time Executive Director. The Executive Director of JRA serves as the head of the Authority and leads all aspects of its strategy and execution. She or he will be responsible for assisting and coordinating downtown revitalization activities in the City of Jackson.

The City of Jackson offers property tax incentives that encourage rehabilitation of multi-family units, historic properties, and conversion of commercial buildings within certain areas to residential use. The Executive Director is responsible for managing the pipeline of JRA investments, overseeing the selection and closing of individual deals, setting the direction of the JRA and actively managing relations with local, state, and Federal government, and the public.

The Executive Director is responsible for supervising (hiring, evaluating, and discharging, when necessary) all personnel assigned to the JRA and managing services provided to JRA by third party contractors, including developers, facility operators, appraisers, real estate professionals, surveyors, attorneys, planners, engineers, architects, and others. She or he reports to and receives policy direction from the JRA Board of Commissioners.



*Downtown Jackson
Photo from City of Jackson*

WE ARE THE CITY WITH SOUL



Jackson, Mississippi is known as the City with Soul because of her perseverance and her triumphant spirit. Jackson has a hospitality that is uniquely southern, and an embrace of diversity that is distinctly Jackson. Being a part of the Jackson community means having access to international events and local festivals, being in the center of state policymaking, family friendly activities, beautiful green spaces, history and culture, sports, and a music nightlife scene for sitting back or being up front in the crowd.

Jackson offers a variety of neighborhoods that reflect the true spirit of community. Whether you enjoy downtown condo living or envision a home with a large backyard for family gatherings, Jackson has it all. If you are new to Jackson, our partners at Visit Jackson (www.visitjackson.com) have the information you need to help make Jackson, Mississippi home.

AN ECONOMY ON THE MOVE



Photo from visitjackson.com

The Jackson metropolitan area has a diverse economy in sectors such as aerospace, food processing, automotive, education, health care, manufacturing, technology and transportation. Major companies have operations in the region, including Nissan, Continental Tire, AT&T, Lockheed Martin, Johnson Controls and International Paper.

Jackson is home to several public and private colleges and universities, including Jackson State University, Belhaven College, Millsaps College, Tougaloo College, and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. These institutions offer a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as continuing education opportunities.

ESTABLISHED FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT – JRA

The Jackson Redevelopment Authority (JRA), an Urban Renewal Agency and Parking Authority, was created by the City Council of Jackson, MS on August 13, 1968, pursuant to the Statutes of the State of MS through a resolution adopted by the City Council of Jackson.

JRA recently engaged in a strategic planning process defining a bold vision and strengthening the continued commitment to achieving the desired impact through collaboration. As the new Executive Director of JRA, you will have the opportunity to lead an existing team of professionals as well as the ability to build team capacity through expansion.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Mayor & City Council – Appoints & Confirms JRA Board Commissioners

JRA Board Commissioners – Governance

Department of Planning and Development – Collaboration, Confirms Commissioners, and Information Sharing

Multi-Sector Community Partners



*Standard Life Building
Photo by Ty Cole*



*Mississippi State Capitol Building
Photo from visittheusa.com*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assume management responsibility for all services and activities of the JRA including the functions of urban renewal projects and housing developments, property acquisition and disposition, demolition and removal of buildings, and construction and reconstruction of street utilities and parks.
- Manage an expected portfolio of projects, ensuring that funds are committed to projects consistent with the mandate of JRA, in the form of loans, loan guarantees, grants or other investment forms.
- Ensure that JRA closes deals and that applications are processed in accordance with JRA policies and target processing times.
- Build and maintain a positive reputation for JRA through targeted outreach as well as public speaking and press interactions on a selective basis.
- Collaborate with local government and state and Federal agencies to ensure that the JRA and its projects operate in a timely and efficient manner without administrative holdups.



*Downtown Jackson
Photo from City of Jackson*

- Manage key JRA staff and outside contractors to secure the relevant resources from their current staffs.
- Provide monthly updates to the leadership of the JRA Board and City Council.
- Review any proposed changes to funding criteria, list of eligible facilities, and terms of available credit products and submit recommendations to the JRA governing Board on a regular basis.
- Travel, both in- and out-of-state, to collaborate with stakeholders, customers, other infrastructure banks and state and Federal agencies.
- Publish public monthly report online on the activities and impact of the JRA as defined by the terms of the JRA's policies and procedures.
- Advise elected officials on planning and development laws, codes, regulations procedures, and policies.
- Research, analyze, and interpret social, economic and urban renewal trends; prepare written reports and graphics on current and long-range planning matters.
- Communicate with citizen groups, businesses, professional organizations and individuals to solicit support for urban renewal and housing projects.
- Attend and participate in City Council, County Board, other city departments and committees in order to provide information and advice regarding JRA activities.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- **Technical knowledge** – Understanding of facilities development and construction projects.
- **Financial/investment experience** – Understanding of lending/investment models for medium or large capital projects, the trade-offs between different forms of financing (e.g., loans, grants, loan guarantees) and the complexities of multi-million dollar deals.
- **Sensitivity to stakeholder needs and interests** – Experience and strength in stakeholder management/negotiation coupled with a keen sensitivity to stakeholder needs and interests.
- **Public interaction** – Demonstrates the confidence, poise and discretion required for public speaking, stakeholder workshops and press appearances necessary to run a high-profile institution.

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

- **Acquires and Develops Talent** - Acquires and develops talent to meet current and future organizational goals.
- **Builds and Manages a Distributed Team** - Excellent interpersonal and relationship building skills with the ability to build, coach and lead a team with diverse levels of experience who are not physically co-located.
- **Collaborates/Partners Effectively Across Boundaries/Functions** - Encourages and facilitates cooperation and collaboration in teams and across organizational boundaries to achieve strategies and objectives.
- **Drives a Vision** - Inspires a sense of shared purpose.
- **Drives for Results** - Demonstrates a commitment to achieving goals and overcoming obstacles.
- **Encourages New Ideas and Opportunities for Change** - Encourages new ideas and initiatives; creates opportunities for change.

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

- **Motivates and Energizes Others** - Influences, motivates and challenges others; encourages contributions.
- **Thinks Strategically** - Makes sound, well-informed and strategic decisions; understands the impact and implications of decisions.
- **Passion for Purpose** – Passionate and deeply committed to the goals of the JRA.
- **Shows Entrepreneurial Drive** – has the required skills to launch new, ambitious programs in complex environments.
- **Applies analytical approach to challenging problems** - Rigorous analytical approach to both strategic and financial questions.
- **Demonstrates impeccable ethics and sound judgment** – shows a clear pattern of identifying and responding appropriately to moral, ethical, and legal issues.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

Requirements:

- Graduate degree required.
- 10+ years of leadership in economic development, real estate development, urban planning/renewal and/or construction.
- Experience in investment/commercial lending for capital projects in infrastructure preferred.
- Significant experience in public sector management.
- Prior team management experience required.
- Substantial experience in infrastructure, construction or engineering preferred.



APPLICATION

Applicants should submit an updated resume and cover letter stating qualifications, chronological employment history, salary history, and references. ***Email submissions only.*** Any offer of employment is conditioned upon the successful completion of a background investigation and drug screen.

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