



**Regular Meeting of the City Council  
City of Jackson, Mississippi  
March 7, 2026  
Agenda  
6:00 PM**

**Call to Order by the President**

**Invocation**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Hearing**

**Introductions**

**Introduction of Ordinances**

**Public Comments**

**Consent Agenda**

**Note:** "All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately."

- 1. Approval of the February 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Sample Consent Item Two**
- 3. Sample Consent Item Three**

**Regular Agenda**

- 4. Claims (Caldwell, Horhn)**
- 5. Resolution of the Jackson City Council in Support of the Jackson Public Schools JPS—Hinds Early Learning Collaborative 2026 Read Across Jackson Day. (Parkinson)**

**Discussion**

**Presentation**

- 6. Presentation on the New Agenda Management Software from CivicPlus (AMMS)**

**Proclamation**

**Resolutions**

**Report from Members, Mayor, Department Directors**

- 7. Monthly Financial Reports as required according to Section 12-35-13 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972.**

**Announcements**

**Adjournment**

**Agenda Items in Committee**

**RESOLUTION OF THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS JPS-HINDS EARLY LEARNING COLLABORATIVE 2026 READ ACROSS JACKSON DAY. (PARKINSON)**

**WHEREAS**, reading is a fundamental skill that serves as the foundation for all learning and is essential for academic success, personal growth, and lifelong achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Education Association established Read Across America Day to celebrate reading and inspire a love of books in children across the nation, recognizing that early literacy experiences are critical to school readiness and future success; and

**WHEREAS**, research demonstrates that reading aloud to young children is one of the most effective ways to expose them to enriched language and promote school readiness, yet studies show that one in three children start school without the language skills needed to learn to read; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson Public Schools-Hinds Early Learning Collaborative was established in 2022 and serves more than 900 children across 62 classrooms in 21 sites throughout the City of Jackson, providing high-quality early childhood education through a partnership that includes Jackson Public Schools, Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head Start, Jackson State University, Little Saints Academy, and Funtime Pre-School; and

**WHEREAS**, Jackson Public Schools has successfully hosted Read Across Jackson Day in previous years to promote literacy among young children, build a community of readers in the City of Jackson, and establish this event as the largest celebration of reading in the State of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2026, Jackson Public Schools will host Read Across Jackson Day at Tougaloo College, featuring book readings, interactive learning activities, and performances for more than 900 Pre-K scholars; and

**WHEREAS**, community partners, including Tougaloo College, the Jackson Fire Department, and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science will participate in Read Across Jackson Day, demonstrating the collaborative spirit that strengthens our community and supports our children; and

**WHEREAS**, the event will feature carefully selected children's books such as *Cheer: A Book to Celebrate Community* and *Animamos: Un libro para celebrar la*

comunidad by Uncle Ian Aurora, Firefighter Flo by Andrea G. Zimmerman, and There's an Alligator Under My Bed by Mercer Mayer to inspire a passion for reading and endless creativity in young minds; and

**WHEREAS**, Read Across Jackson Day highlights the importance of reading and literacy for Pre-K scholars, parents, and community members while demonstrating the impact of high-quality Pre-K programming and the value of collaboration among early learning providers; and

**WHEREAS**, this celebration showcases the JPS Pre-K program as a viable option for families considering early learning opportunities and emphasizes the importance of financially supporting public Pre-K programs; and

**WHEREAS**, for many young Jacksonians, the path to literacy begins with timeless traditions like being read to at bedtime, gathering in classrooms for story time, and attending events at local libraries with family and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to recognize and celebrate the dedication of parents, caregivers, educators, librarians, authors, and community members who invest in our city's children and help build their sense of belonging; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:**

Section 1. That the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, hereby recognizes March 5, 2026, as "Read Across Jackson Day" and commends the Jackson Public School for its leadership in promoting early literacy and providing high-quality early childhood education.

Section 2. That the City Council encourages all residents of the City of Jackson to celebrate the joy of reading, support early literacy initiatives, and recognize the critical importance of early childhood education in building a stronger community for all children.

Section 3. That the City Council expresses its appreciation to all community partners, educators, parents, caregivers, and volunteers who contribute to the success of Read Across Jackson Day and to the ongoing mission of ensuring every four-year-old in Jackson enters kindergarten with the language skills needed to learn to read.

Section 4. That the City Council supports continued investment in and expansion of the JPS-Hinds Early Learning Collaborative as a vital resource for families in the City of Jackson.

Section 5. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the City Council and that copies be furnished to Jackson Public Schools, the JPS-Hinds Pre-K Collaborative partners, and Tougaloo College.

## Emergency Exit Routes

How would you escape from your workplace in an emergency? Do you know where all the exits are in case your first choice is too crowded? Are you sure the doors will be unlocked and that the exit access, such as a hallway, will not be blocked during a fire, explosion, or other crisis? Knowing the answers to these questions could keep you safe during an emergency.

### What is an exit route?

An *exit route* is a continuous and unobstructed path of exit travel from any point within a workplace to a place of safety. An *exit route* consists of three parts:

- **Exit access** – portion of an *exit route* that leads to an exit.
- **Exit** – portion of an *exit route* that is generally separated from other areas to provide a protected way of travel to the *exit discharge*.
- **Exit discharge** – part of the *exit route* that leads directly outside or to a street, walkway, refuge area, public way, or open space with access to the outside.

### How many exit routes must a workplace have?

Normally, a workplace must have at least two exit routes to permit prompt evacuation of employees and other building occupants during an emergency. More than two exits are required, however, if the number of employees, size of the building, or arrangement of the workplace will not allow employees to evacuate safely. *Exit routes* must be located as far away as practical from each other in case one is blocked by fire or smoke.

*Exception:* If the number of employees, the size of the building, its occupancy, or the arrangement of the workplace allows all employees to evacuate safely during an emergency, one *exit route* is permitted.

### What are some other design and construction requirements for exit routes?

- *Exit routes* must be permanent parts of the workplace.
- *Exit discharges* must lead directly outside or to a street, walkway, refuge area, public way, or open space with access to the outside. These *exit discharge* areas must be large enough to accommodate the building occupants likely to use the *exit route*.

- *Exit stairs* that continue beyond the level on which the *exit discharge* is located must be interrupted at that level by doors, partitions, or other effective means that clearly indicate the direction of travel leading to the *exit discharge*.
- *Exit route* doors must be unlocked from the inside. They must be free of devices or alarms that could restrict use of the *exit route* if the device or alarm fails.
- Side-hinged exit doors must be used to connect rooms to *exit routes*. These doors must swing out in the direction of exit travel if the room is to be occupied by more than 50 people or if the room is a high-hazard area.
- *Exit routes* must support the maximum permitted occupant load for each floor served, and the capacity of an *exit route* may not decrease in the direction of *exit route* travel to the *exit discharge*.
- Ceilings of *exit routes* must be at least 7 feet, 6 inches high.
- An exit access must be at least 28 inches wide at all points. Where there is only one exit access leading to an exit or exit discharge, the width of the exit and exit discharge must be at least equal to the width of the exit access. Objects that project into the exit must not reduce its width.
- Outdoor *exit routes* are permitted but must meet the minimum height and width requirement for indoor *exit routes* and must
  - have guardrails to protect unenclosed sides if a fall hazard exists;
  - be covered if snow or ice is likely to accumulate, unless the employer can demonstrate accumulations will be removed before a slipping hazard exists;
  - be reasonably straight and have smooth, solid, substantially level walkways; and
  - not have a dead-end longer than 20 feet.

## What are the requirements for exits?

- *Exits* must be separated by fire resistant materials—that is, one-hour fire-resistance rating if the exit connects three or fewer stories and two-hour fire-resistance rating if the exit connects more than three floors.
- *Exits* are permitted to have only those openings necessary to allow access to the *exit* from occupied areas of the workplace or to the *exit discharge*. Openings must be protected by a self-closing, approved *fire door* that remains closed or automatically closes in an emergency.

## What are the maintenance, safeguarding, and operational features for exit routes?

OSHA standards require employers to do the following:

- Keep *exit routes* free of explosive or highly flammable furnishings and other decorations.
- Arrange *exit routes* so employees will not have to travel toward a high-hazard area unless the path of travel is effectively shielded from the high-hazard area.
- Ensure that *exit routes* are unobstructed such as by materials, equipment, locked doors, or dead-end corridors.
- Ensure that safeguards designed to protect employees during an emergency remain in good working order.
- Provide lighting for *exit routes* adequate for employees with normal vision.
- Keep *exit route* doors free of decorations or signs that obscure the visibility of *exit route doors*.
- Post signs along the *exit access* indicating the direction of travel to the nearest *exit* and *exit discharge* if that direction is not immediately apparent. Also, the line-of-sight to an exit sign must be clearly visible at all times.
- Mark doors or passages along an *exit access* that could be mistaken for an *exit* “Not an Exit” or with a sign identifying its use (such as “Closet”).
- Install “EXIT” signs in plainly legible letters.
- Renew fire-retardant paints or solutions often enough to maintain their fire-retardant properties.
- Maintain *exit routes* during construction, repairs, or alterations.
- Provide an emergency alarm system to alert employees, unless employees can promptly see or smell a fire or other hazard in time to provide adequate warning to them.

## Are employers required to have emergency action plans?

If you have *10 or fewer employees*, you may communicate your plan orally. If you have *more than 10 employees*, however, your plan must be written,

kept in the workplace, and available for employee review. Although employers are required to have an emergency action plan (EAP) only when the applicable OSHA standard requires it, OSHA strongly recommends that all employers have an EAP. Here are the OSHA standards that require EAPs:

- Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals - 1910.119
- Fixed Extinguishing Systems, General - 1910.160
- Fire Detection Systems, 1910.164
- Grain Handling - 1910.272
- Ethylene Oxide - 1910.1047
- Methylenedianiline - 1910.1050
- 1,3-Butadiene - 1910.1051

## What are the minimum elements of an emergency action plan?

- Procedures for reporting fires and other emergencies.
- Procedures for emergency evacuation, including the type of evacuation and *exit route* assignments.
- Procedures for employees who stay behind to continue critical plant operations.
- Procedures to account for all employees after evacuation.
- Procedures for employees performing rescue or medical duties.
- Name or job title of employees to contact for detailed plan information.
- Alarm system to alert workers.

In addition, you must designate and train employees to assist in a safe and orderly evacuation of other employees. You must also review the emergency action plan with each employee covered when the following occur:

- Plan is developed or an employee is assigned initially to a job.
- Employee’s responsibilities under the plan changes.
- Plan is changed.

## Must all employers have fire prevention plans?

If you have *10 or fewer employees*, you may communicate your plan orally. If you have *more than 10 employees*, however, your plan must be written, kept in the workplace, and available for employee review. Although employers are only required to have a fire prevention plan (FPP) when the applicable OSHA standard requires it, OSHA strongly recommends that all employers have a FPP. The following OSHA standards require fire prevention plans:

- Ethylene Oxide - 1910.1047
- Methylenedianiline - 1910.1050
- 1,3-Butadiene - 1910.1051

## Here are the minimum provisions of a fire prevention plan:

- List of all major fire hazards, proper handling and storage procedures for hazardous materials, potential ignition sources and their control, and the type of fire protection equipment necessary to control each major hazard.
- Procedures to control accumulations of flammable and combustible waste materials.
- Procedures for regular maintenance of safeguards installed on heat-producing equipment to prevent the accidental ignition of combustible materials.
- Name or job title of employees responsible for maintaining equipment to prevent or control sources of ignition or fires.
- Name or job title of employees responsible for the control of fuel source hazards.

In addition, when you assign employees to a job, you must inform them of any fire hazards they may be exposed to. You must also review with each employee those parts of the fire prevention plan necessary for self-protection.

## How can I get more information on exit route safety?

For more detail on exit routes and related standards see *Exit Routes, Emergency Action Plans, and Fire Prevention Plans* in Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910.33-39; and OSHA Directive CPL 2-1.037, *Compliance Policy for Emergency Action Plans and Fire Prevention Plans*. In addition, employers who comply with the exit route provisions of the National Fire Protection Association's 101-2009, *Life Safety Code*, or the exit provisions of the International Fire Code, 2009, will be considered in compliance with the OSHA requirements for exit routes.

## Workers' Rights

Workers have the right to:

- Working conditions that do not pose a risk of serious harm.
- Receive information and training (in a language and vocabulary the worker understands) about workplace hazards, methods to prevent them, and the OSHA standards that apply to their workplace.
- Review records of work-related injuries and illnesses.
- File a complaint asking OSHA to inspect their workplace if they believe there is a serious hazard or that their employer is not following OSHA's rules. OSHA will keep all identities confidential.
- Exercise their rights under the law without retaliation, including reporting an injury or raising health and safety concerns with their employer or OSHA. If a worker has been retaliated against for using their rights, they must file a complaint with OSHA as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days.

For additional information, see [OSHA's Workers page \(www.osha.gov/workers\)](http://www.osha.gov/workers).

## How to Contact OSHA

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) or call OSHA at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), TTY 1-877-889-5627.

**This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.**



U.S. Department of Labor



DSG FS-3943 03/2018

## **Introduce New Fire Escape Plan for the Second Floor of Town Hall**

Design a basic floor plan for each floor of the building. On each floor, indicate the location of all fire exits, fire extinguishers, manual pull stations and emergency equipment. Post the floor plan throughout the building. Mark “YOU ARE HERE” according to the location of the posted plan, as well as marking the two closest fire exits. Also, note that elevators must not be used as a fire exit.

Choose an outside location for occupants to meet after evacuating – a minimum of a 50-foot distance from the building is required. In the event of an evacuation, the designated location is a place to meet and determine if all occupants have successfully evacuated or have been accounted for. The assembly point should be far enough away from the building to keep individuals out of the way of firefighting activities and away from falling glass and debris.

