

# DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

## MISSION STATEMENT – 2012

The Department of Development Services is dedicated to eliminate public nuisance and blight by assuring that every structure and property within the City of Tupelo is compliant with the codes and ordinances adopted by the City of Tupelo.

The Development Services Department will continue to aggressively work to eliminate public nuisances and blight realizing that these nuisance and blighted properties represent a remarkable opportunity for neighborhood stability and catalyze for neighborhood revitalization.

## Eight Strategic Goals for 2012

1. Reduce blighted and nuisance properties by working with property owners to repair properties or to abate nuisance properties.
2. Identify, assess and inventory all blighted and nuisance properties within the City of Tupelo.
  - a. Identify selected properties and areas for remediation and strategic corridors for code enforcement. Particular attention will be within a five-block radius of our public schools.
  - b. GIS division will map all data for decision prioritization and implementation of blight abatement strategies.
  - c. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of our current Code Enforcement Program.
  - d. The systematic inventory of properties will define our short and long term goals for code enforcement; create performance measures to assure accountability and measure performance impact.
3. Work with property owners to repair their properties and make them livable and acceptable to the community.
4. Ensure that properties do not pose health and welfare threats to the community.
5. Create stabilized neighborhoods that encourage revitalization and development.
6. Continue to support and encourage our Neighborhood Associations to keep our community safe and vibrant.
7. Treat every resident and property owner with courtesy and respect.
8. Maintain Transparency - The leadership of the Department of Development Services, the Mayor and City Council believes that that taxpayers deserve to understand how this department works and what it is doing.

## Other Departmental Goals

- Complete and adopt the New Development Code
- Continue to upgrade the rental housing in Tupelo
- Revisions or Ordinances for authority to issue citations
- Complete as many SNAP Grants as possible (Special Needs Assistant Program)
- Set measurable goals for what we want to accomplish and norms by which we will achieve them.
- Accept the responsibilities and provide services for newly annexed areas.