

Jerry Creel,
Director & Building Official
jcreel@biloxi.ms.us
Phone (228) 435-6280
Physical Location:
676 Dr. Martin Luther King,
Jr. Boulevard
Biloxi, MS 39530

Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 508
Biloxi, MS 39533

Planning Division: 435-6266
Building Division: 435-6270
Business License Info: 435-6247

The Biloxi Development Process

Biloxi's Community Development Department operates in a "developer friendly" climate to facilitate local development. Recent updates to the Biloxi Land Development Ordinance have streamlined and enhanced the permit application process. Well trained, helpful staff assist developers in their efforts to "grow Biloxi" into a more diversified, sustainable community. All development-related permit applications are available on-line and at the Community Development Department, taking the guess work out of the permit process.

The Land Development Ordinance (LDO) defines Biloxi zoning classifications and land use

regulations as well as the step-by-step review process for each type of proposed project. In addition, the LDO provides specific information about permits required for each development activity and any applicable review process that may involve the Development Review Committee, the Planning Commission, the Architectural and Historical Review Commission, and/or the City Council. The LDO is available at Community Development, City Hall, any branch of the Biloxi Library and on the City's website.

The Planning and Building Divisions work with developers to insure compliance with permit and licensing requirements to safeguard the public health and safety. All general contractors and subcontractors must be licensed by the State of Mississippi or the City of Biloxi to perform the work identified in a Biloxi Building Permit.



Biloxi's website, biloxi.ms.us, includes links to:

- the **Biloxi Comprehensive Plan**;
 - the **Biloxi Land Development Ordinance and Official Zoning District Map**;
 - development application **Forms and Permits**;
 - **agendas** for upcoming meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, and Architectural and Historical Review Commission;
 - **Flood Elevation/Flood Zone Maps**;
 - **Biloxi Code of Ordinances**, including the **Building Code**; and
 - **Stormwater management** links and educational materials.
-

Licensing Requirements

- Contractors with a City of Biloxi Business License must provide certification of \$300,000 in general liability insurance, with the City listed as a certificate holder, and a \$5,000 License and Permitting Surety Bond.
- Mississippi contractors with offices located outside of Biloxi must provide the City with a copy of their Mississippi Contractors License, certification that \$300,000 in general liability insurance is held, with the City listed as a certificate holder, and a \$5,000 License and Permitting Surety Bond.
- Contractors from other states must obtain a license from the State of Mississippi.

Development Review Meetings

A standard review schedule is in place to expedite permit review and approval; meetings are held at the Biloxi Community Development Department.

- The **Development Review Committee (DRC)** meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. to review commercial and multi-family development applications to insure compliance with life safety, planning and building codes.
- The **Biloxi Planning Commission** meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2 p.m.
- Meetings of the **Architectural and Historical Review Commission (AHRC)** are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8:30 a.m.

Floodplain Information

Biloxi's Building Codes require that new buildings be elevated to the base flood elevation. For answers to floodplain questions, visit the City's website or call/email Biloxi's full-time Floodplain Administrator, Rick Stickler: phone 435-6270, email rstickler@biloxi.ms.us.

Stormwater Management Information

Development in the City of Biloxi is subject to regulations and policies of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, which also monitors compliance. Links on the City's website provide information to help developers plan for and comply with stormwater management, flood prevention and water quality protection regulations. The Biloxi stormwater management contact is Christy LeBatard: phone 435-6269, email clebatard@biloxi.ms.us.

Biloxi Comprehensive Plan

The City adopted an updated Comprehensive Plan in December 2009 to redefine long-range goals and policies to insure overall physical growth and future development are well coordinated. The Plan update was guided by the goal of preserving and promoting public health and safety while improving community character, economic prosperity and quality of life. A link to the Comprehensive Plan is included on the City's website.

Annexation

In May 2010, an annexation ruling awarded the City of Biloxi about 2.5 square miles located at the City's northeastern boundary along new Highway 67. The ruling is being appealed by the City of D'Iberville. Among the court's findings, were:

- 1) the area south of Lamey Bridge Road and the Highway 67 corridor "are within the path of growth of the City of Biloxi, not the City of D'Iberville;"
- 2) the complete lack of interconnection between the Biloxi Critical Area and the City of D'Iberville is a significant indicator that the Biloxi Critical Area is not within a path of growth of the City of D'Iberville;" and
- 3) the critical area is adjacent to the City of Biloxi and is accessible only from Biloxi; D'Iberville has no municipal streets extending into the area nor has it extended water or sewer services into the area.

In June 2011, the City of Gulfport's suit to annex 2.5 square miles on Biloxi's northwestern boundary was dismissed. In response, Mayor Holloway said "This is outstanding news for Biloxi. We think that the judge looked at the facts in the case – just as he did in the annexation attempt by D'Iberville – and he made a sound ruling." Mayor Holloway continued, "The important issue here is that Biloxi has a natural path of growth." Court rulings in both cases are posted as a link on the City's website.

City of Biloxi Facts

Biloxi was settled in 1699 and incorporated in 1838. Its name originates from a Native American tribe that used the area as a hunting ground. Biloxi is centrally located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in Harrison County, midway between New Orleans and Mobile.

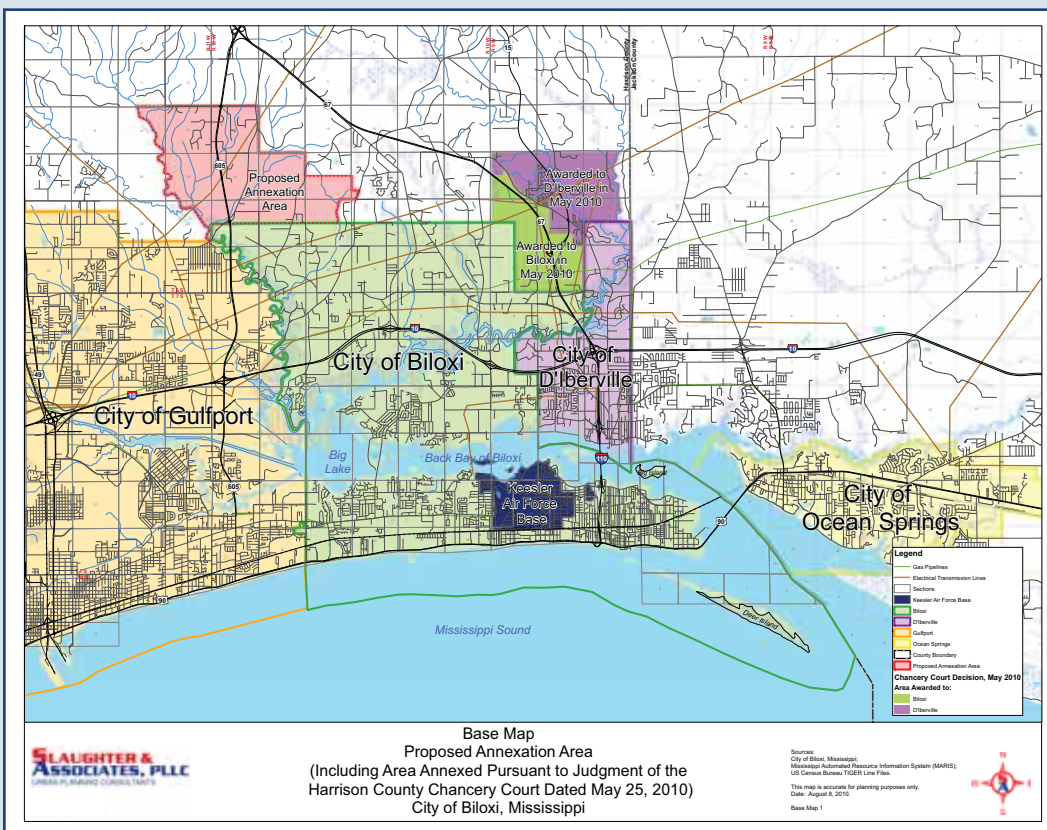
Climate

Annual rainfall 61"
 Annual average snowfall
 less than 1"
 Average January temperature
 52° F
 Average July temperature . . 92° F
 Annual sunny days 219

Number of City employees
 (including police and fire) 623
 Area in square miles 62*
 Park acreage 258
 Number of playgrounds 20
 Number of ball fields 30
 Community Centers 2
 Miles of paved streets 220
 Miles of water mains 251
 Miles of sanitary sewer lines . 235
 Number of police stations 1
 Number of fire stations 9
 Number of fire hydrants 1,890

Source: Biloxi Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, FY10

*This does not include 2.5 square miles from the May 2010 annexation ruling, which will not be official until the appeal is heard.





For Additional Information

| | |
|---|--|
| City of Biloxi | biloxi.ms.us |
| Biloxi Public School District | www.biloxischools.net |
| Mississippi Gulf Coast Agencies & Links to: | www.gulfcoast.org |
| Harrison County Development Commission | |
| The Innovation Center | |
| Mississippi Coast Coliseum Commission | |
| Mississippi Development Authority | |
| Mississippi Foreign Trade Zone, Inc. | |
| Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau | |
| Mississippi State Port at Gulfport | |
| Mississippi State Tax Commission | |
| Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport | www.flygpt.com |
| Harrison County and links to databases: | www.co.harrison.ms.us |
| Landrolls | |
| Deeds & Records | |
| Uniform Commercial Code | |
| The Official State of Mississippi website: | www.state.ms.us |

Turn your email
into Bmail

Sign up at biloxi.ms.us
for the most current
news about Biloxi.



biloxi.ms.us

City of Biloxi Frequently Called Numbers

(Area code is 228 for all numbers, unless noted otherwise)

- **Auto tag info** 435-8242
County Courthouse at Lameuse Street
and MLK Boulevard
- **Birth certificates** 601-576-7960
State Department of Vital Statistics
- **Building permits** 435-6270
To obtain permits for construction and
improvements
- **Business licenses** 435-6247
To obtain a license to do business
in the city
- **City Council** 435-6257
To reach council members or
clerks of council
- **City Court** 435-6125
Information on traffic tickets and
court docket
- **Drivers licenses** 392-1183
- **Emergency police and fire** 911
Non-emergency: 435-6100 (police)
or 435-6200 (fire)
- **Garbage collection** 328-1820
- **Housing Authority** 374-7771
- **Human Resources** 435-6259
For information on city employment
- **Mayor's office** 435-6254
Citizen services, proclamations, public
records requests
- **Parks & Recreation** 435-6294
Information on programs, or to rent most
city facilities
- **Planning Commission** 435-6266
To apply for a change in zoning
or land use
- **Public schools** 374-1810
Administrative office for all Biloxi
public schools
- **Visitor information** 374-3105
or 1-800-BILOXI-3
- **Voter registration** 435-6279
To register to vote or change in address
- **Water service** 374-7953