

DEMOPOLIS

— Alabama —

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ABOUT THE CITY

DEMOPOLIS

— Alabama —

Located in west-central Alabama, where the Tombigbee and Black Warrior Rivers meet, Demopolis is a welcoming community rich in history, culture, and scenic beauty. Known as “The City of the People,” Demopolis was first settled in 1817 by French expatriates as part of the Vine and Olive Colony and later incorporated in 1821, making it one of the oldest continuous inland settlements in the state. While the early agricultural experiment in olives and grapes did not succeed, the spirit of its founders remains woven into the city’s identity — reflected today in historic architecture, French-inspired street names, and a strong sense of civic pride.

Demopolis serves as the largest city in Marengo County, offering residents a unique blend of historic charm and outdoor lifestyle. The city’s stunning White Bluff overlooks the junction of the two rivers, providing miles of waterfront for boating, fishing, and recreation. Residents and visitors alike enjoy parks, walking trails, and community spaces such as the River Walk, Foscue Creek Park, and the Demopolis SportsPlex. The downtown Public Square remains a vibrant local hub with shops, restaurants, and seasonal events that reinforce the city’s small-town warmth and hospitality.

Demopolis’s economy blends traditional and modern industries, with manufacturing, agriculture, and river-related commerce contributing to local employment, while community events like Christmas on the River and cultural attractions such as historic Gaineswood and Bluff Hall draw visitors throughout the year. The area’s friendly pace of life, affordable living, and proximity to major cities make Demopolis an ideal place for families, professionals, and retirees alike.



COMMUNITY LIFE

DEMOPOLIS

Alabama

Demopolis offers a community-centered lifestyle rooted in connection, tradition, and local pride. At the heart of this is the city's active Main Street program, which has helped drive a remarkable revitalization of the historic downtown district—transforming an area that was largely inactive just a few years ago into a vibrant hub of activity. Today, the downtown square serves as a focal point for community life, hosting events, seasonal celebrations, and local initiatives that bring residents together year-round. From parades and holiday festivities to concerts and civic gatherings, Demopolis fosters an environment where neighbors know one another and take pride in their shared community.

That strong sense of connection is also evident in everyday experiences, such as the local farmers' market, where residents gather to support local growers, artisans, and small businesses. Parks, youth sports, and community organizations further contribute to an engaged and family-friendly atmosphere. Whether through volunteerism, school involvement, or local events, Demopolis residents are deeply invested in their community—creating a warm, welcoming environment that makes it easy for newcomers to feel at home.



EMPLOYERS



Demopolis's economy is supported by a diverse and resilient mix of industries that anchor both local employment and regional economic strength.

Manufacturing & Industrial

- **Smurfit WestRock** – Major paper products manufacturer and one of the largest employers in the area.
- **Drax** — Operates a modern wood pellet facility in Demopolis, producing sustainable biomass fuel used for renewable energy generation in global markets. The company's significant investment in the region supports local job creation and economic growth, while strengthening the area's forestry and manufacturing supply chain.
- **Cemex** - Operates a major cement plant in Demopolis, supplying materials for projects ranging from residential construction to large-scale infrastructure across the region. As part of a global building materials company, the facility plays a key role in supporting regional development and is an important contributor to the local industrial economy.
- **Two Rivers Lumber** – Produces Southern Yellow Pine dimensional lumber for regional and national markets. The company is an important local industrial employer, offering stable jobs and supporting the Demopolis economy.
- **Foster Farms** – Operates a major prepared foods plant in Demopolis, Alabama, where it mass-produces corn dogs — historically exceeding about 1 million per day, which scales to roughly half a billion annually

Healthcare

- **Whitfield Regional Hospital** – A leading regional healthcare provider affiliated with the **UAB Health System**, offering a wide range of medical services and strong workforce opportunities in clinical and support roles.

Retail & Local Services

- Demopolis offers a mix of national retailers and locally owned shops, providing jobs in sales, management, and services while supporting the community. The **Demopolis Area Chamber of Commerce** helps local businesses grow and thrive, strengthening downtown vitality and the city's economy.

SCHOOLS



Demopolis City Schools

- Demopolis City Schools serve more than 2,400 students across Westside Elementary, U.S. Jones Elementary, Demopolis Middle School, and Demopolis High School — a National Blue Ribbon School — and are recognized for strong academics, supportive programs, and active community engagement. The Demopolis City Schools Foundation strengthens classrooms and supports the community by providing grants and investing in innovation and student success across the district.
- In addition to a strong K–12 system, Demopolis benefits from access to higher education and workforce training opportunities nearby. **Wallace Community College – Demopolis Campus** provides academic and technical programs and is expanding with a new nursing school under construction adjacent to **Whitfield Regional Hospital**, further strengthening the local healthcare workforce pipeline. Just a short drive away, the **University of West Alabama** in Livingston — along with **University Charter School** — offers additional educational resources, while **The University of Alabama**, located approximately 55 miles north in Tuscaloosa, provides access to a major flagship university. The area is also continuing to grow as a hub for healthcare education, with the **Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences** currently under construction next to Whitfield Regional Hospital.



THE POSITION



The Chief Development Officer serves as a senior-level facilitator and central coordinator of community and economic development initiatives for the City of Demopolis, reporting directly to the Mayor. This position functions as the primary point of contact and strategic liaison for developers, business owners, property owners, contractors, local schools, industry partners, the Chamber of Commerce, the Main Street Director, state legislative representatives, and other stakeholders.

The role encompasses guiding projects through the City's permitting, development, and construction processes while also bridging organizational and intergovernmental gaps to promote seamless collaboration, resolve barriers, and align resources across the full spectrum of municipal operations, educational systems, business and industry sectors, and state-level partners.

The Chief Development Officer works proactively across all City departments and with external entities to support responsible growth, strengthen communication channels, identify and secure funding opportunities, represent City interests in state-level engagements, and advance comprehensive strategic priorities that enhance economic vitality, infrastructure, community cohesion, and overall quality of life.



DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES



The following duties are illustrative of the responsibilities associated with this position and are not intended to be all-inclusive:

- *Serve as the primary point of contact for new and existing businesses, developers, property owners, contractors, and others involved in the City's development and permitting processes.*
- *Coordinate the flow of information among applicants, City departments, public officials, utilities, consultants, and other stakeholders involved in development projects, ensuring timely and accurate exchanges at every stage.*
- *Respond to inquiries and requests for information from developers, business owners, property owners, and members of the public regarding development procedures, requirements, and opportunities.*
- *Work collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders to identify practical solutions to development-related issues and barriers.*
- *Identify opportunities to implement City initiatives related to community development, economic development, retail recruitment, revitalization, and tourism.*
- *Organize, maintain, and analyze relevant demographic, market, and development data to support marketing, recruitment, and strategic planning efforts.*
- *Assist with business recruitment and marketing efforts, including discovery meetings, outreach calls, trade shows, and related activities.*

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- *Manage and oversee the City's grant program by identifying, evaluating, and pursuing local, state, and federal funding opportunities that support community and economic development, infrastructure, revitalization, tourism, and other City priorities.*
- *Oversee the preparation and submission of high-quality grant applications and supporting documentation, coordinating with City departments as needed to gather required information.*
- *Manage and oversee grant-funded projects to ensure compliance with all grant terms, timely implementation, accurate financial tracking, and successful outcomes.*
- *Provide strategic guidance and technical assistance to City staff and departments regarding grant identification, application processes, and compliance requirements.*
- *Maintain oversight of grant tracking systems, deadlines, reporting schedules, and overall program outcomes; regularly update the Mayor, elected officials, and department heads on grant status and results.*
- *Assist in formulating and facilitating community and economic development goals, strategies, plans, and long-term visioning efforts.*
- *Coordinate with City staff to identify infrastructure deficiencies or constraints that may impact growth and development, and help pursue solutions—including grant funding—to address those issues.*



DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

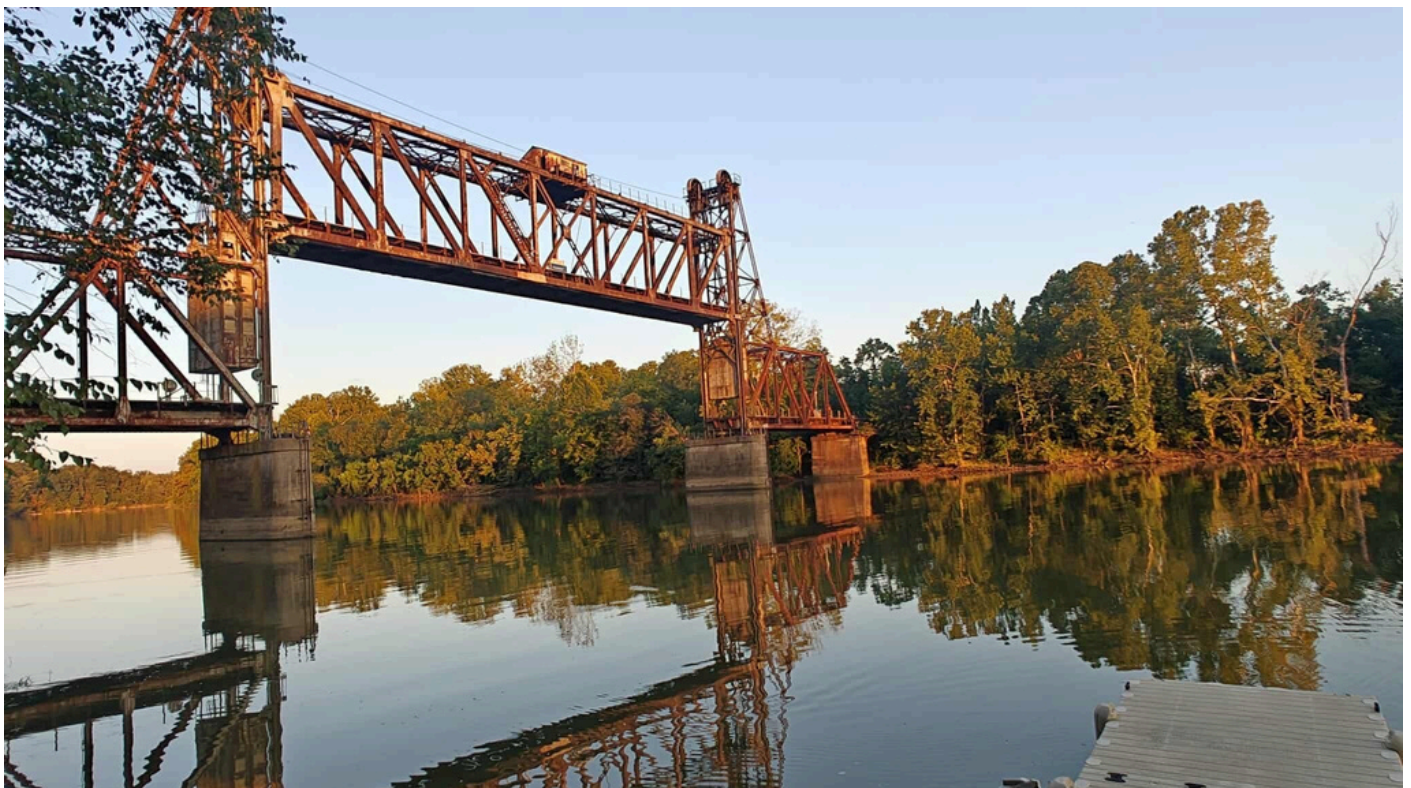


- *Provide staff support to assigned committees, including but not limited to the Zoning Board of Adjustments and Planning Commission.*
- *Serve as the City's primary liaison to outside organizations and partner entities, including but not limited to the Chamber of Commerce, local schools and educational institutions, universities, industry partners, the Main Street Director, state legislative offices, and similar groups; foster strong, ongoing relationships and bridge communication gaps to promote unified action on shared priorities.*
- *Develop and maintain strategic partnerships across municipal departments, educational systems, business and industry sectors, and community organizations to align efforts, eliminate silos, and drive cohesive advancement of the City's goals.*
- *Represent the City of Demopolis in meetings and engagements with state officials, agencies, and legislative bodies in Montgomery and elsewhere, advocating for local priorities, policies, and resources that support community and economic objectives.*
- *Monitor state legislation and policy developments that may affect the City; provide timely analysis, recommendations, and coordinated responses to the Mayor and staff.*
- *Coordinate multi-stakeholder initiatives and forums involving the Mayor's office, local schools, industry partners, Chamber of Commerce, Main Street program, and state partners to identify opportunities, resolve challenges, and advance joint projects.*
- *Educate developers, business owners, and the public on City development policies, procedures, and permitting processes; communicate policy and process changes on time.*
- *Gather feedback from developers, business owners, property owners, and stakeholders on the effectiveness and efficiency of the City's development processes.*
- *Direct business owners, developers, and property owners to available funding sources, incentive programs, and other resources.*
- *Coordinate and facilitate pre-application and pre-design meetings for commercial, residential, and industrial development projects.*

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

DEMOPOLIS
— Alabama —

- *Receive, review for completeness, and distribute commercial development submittals and plans to appropriate City departments.*
- *Create and maintain a database of available commercial properties and a current directory of businesses operating in the City of Demopolis.*
- *Perform other related duties as assigned in support of the City's development, planning, economic growth, and grant administration objectives.*



COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

The salary for this position is **\$150,000**. Relocation assistance may be available for qualified candidates.

The City of Demopolis provides a competitive benefits package, including:

- Comprehensive health, dental, and vision insurance
- Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- City-paid basic life and AD&D insurance
- Voluntary group life and supplemental insurance options
- Robust retirement plan with City contributions
- Generous paid vacation, sick leave, and 10 paid holidays
- Family Medical Leave and other protected leaves
- Additional perks, including a City vehicle and cell phone

Full details available upon request.

BACKGROUND

The final candidates will undergo background checks and credit checks that may include:

- Criminal records
- Driving records
- Education completion
- Personality profile assessments

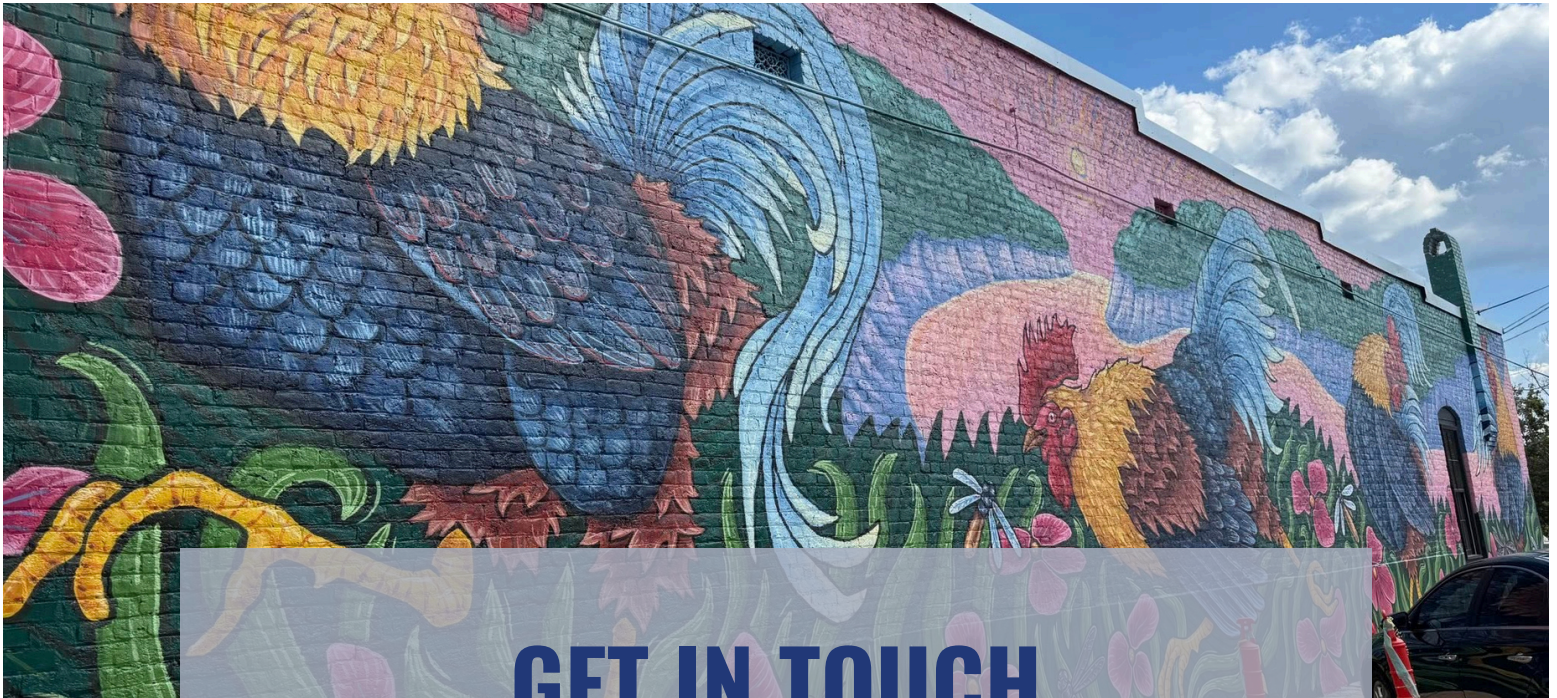


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GET IN TOUCH

If you have questions, please reach out to
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