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City of Pascagoula & Mississippi Maritime Museum identify potential site for new museum

PASCAGOULA, Miss. – The City of Pascagoula and the Mississippi Maritime Museum are coming together with plans of constructing a new Mississippi Maritime Museum.

The Mississippi Maritime Museum aims to preserve and share the State’s 300-year maritime industry history with the public. Furthermore, the Mississippi Maritime Museum teaches children about the legacy of our local maritime history and introduces them to possible career paths.

A new facility will allow the Mississippi Maritime Museum to become an attraction for both locals and tourists. The Museum anticipates it will bring in 600,000 visitors and 60,000 school children over the next 30 years.

City and museum officials have identified an ideal site at the northeast corner of Pascagoula Street and Highway 90, which is currently owned by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. City and museum officials are developing a plan to acquire the land and set goals for construction of the new museum.

Mayor Steve Demetropoulos and Mississippi Maritime Museum President Perry Thompson signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the following agreements:

1. The City of Pascagoula and the Mississippi Maritime Museum will jointly request the Mississippi Department of Transportation sell the property to the City of Pascagoula. If that happens, the City will lease the property to the Mississippi Maritime Museum.
2. The Museum will make every effort to use local contractors and suppliers during construction.
3. A Pascagoula Welcome Center will be created in the lobby of the Museum.

The Memorandum of Understanding is the first step in moving towards building a facility that will benefit the Pascagoula community through history, education, and tourism.

