



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

**A PROCLAMATION  
CELEBRATING THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF TUPELO**

**WHEREAS**, Tupelo was incorporated July 20, 1870 with a population of 618.

**WHEREAS**, the city's rich history tells a story of innovation, collaboration, and progress, better known as the Tupelo Spirit. Yet, the Tupelo Spirit began long before the city's incorporation, with the unconquerable Chickasaw Nation, and has remained a central thread woven through Tupelo's narrative for 150 years.

**WHEREAS**, Tupelo innovated to move from a waning agrarian economy to become the upholstered furniture manufacturing capital of the world, and today, is an automotive manufacturing hub in the South as well as a banking leader, being named Bank City, USA by American Banking Journal.

**WHEREAS**, Tupelo collaborated to become the first city to receive electricity from the Tennessee Valley Authority. Today, the Community Development Foundation, CREATE, Sanctuary Hospice House, and Eight Days of Hope are the direct result of the spirit of collaboration in Tupelo.

**WHEREAS**, Tupelo became a town when the railroad came through and its progress is on display every day when a train goes through Crosstown. Its unrivaled arts community, strong public school system, and diverse business sectors are a testament to Tupelo's reputation as a progressive city.

**WHEREAS**, what is now Tupelo, as Capitol of the Chickasaw Nation, was part of the French Indian War (Battle of Ackia), the Civil War, FDR's New Deal, and the Civil Rights Movement. The Story of Tupelo is the Story of America.

**WHEREAS**, today, Tupelo is home to 38,000 citizens, the largest public high school in the state, the largest rural hospital in the country, headquarters to one of the top ten most visited national parks in the country, the birthplace of an icon that is annually explored by thousands of visitors from all over the world, and has been named an All-America City five times by the National Civic League, which is the organization's highest honor for municipalities.

**WHEREAS**, the Tupelo Spirit is alive and well and will continue to tell the Tupelo Story for the next 150 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Jason L. Shelton and the Tupelo City Council declares July 20, 2020 as the

**150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY AND SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE CITY OF TUPELO.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tupelo, Mississippi, to be affixed this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2020.

**ATTEST:**

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Kim Hanna, City Clerk

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Jason L. Shelton, Mayor  
City of Tupelo, Mississippi