



## **TANEY COUNTY PARTNERSHIP**

### **City of Branson Quarterly Update, May 15, 2019**

Mayor and members of the Board of Alderman: Below is a topical review of the Partnership’s activities from my last update to you through May 2019. Please contact me with any questions or concerns and if you would like more information as a group, or individually.

**Partners:** We are pleased to welcome Skoglund Properties as the newest partner in 2019. Unfortunately, we did see CFS Engineers leave as of January 1. The number of Public Partners is 10 and Business Sector is 30.

**Projects:** Activity and interest in the market continues to be strong as gauged by the number of calls and requests for data and information that we are getting. We are currently assisting and tracking 25 active, 5 inactive (no activity within last 90 days). Out of the 25 active projects, 15 are within the city limits of Branson. The cumulative industry breakdowns are as follows:

Manufacturing/Wholesale	4
Financial/Business Services	0
Medical Services/Healthcare	1
Supply Chain Management	1
IT/Innovation	1
Tourism/Retail/Lodging	17
Agriculture/Forestry	0
Housing	6

**2018-2021 TCP Action Plan:** The TCP board approved the 2018-2021 Action Plan in November. The new proposed strategic plan will narrow the measured areas of focus to Business/Industry Attraction & Marketing, Business Retention & Expansion and Workforce Development. We will continue to work and support efforts in Small Business & Entrepreneurial Development and provide Project Management services when requested and appropriate. All plan activities will be tied to the overall strategy of “asset-based development” while leveraging the strengths of the market and unique assets within Taney County. Success indicators and reporting metrics will include jobs filled, created and retained as well as capital investment and business and real property tax revenue creation, just to name a few.

**CWRC:** Updated National Career Readiness Certificates and maintenance goals can be seen below, and more information accessed at <http://www.workreadycommunities.org/MO/213>.

## Maintaining Goals <sup>1</sup>

Workforce	Goals	Actual NCRC
Emerging	374	363
Current	74	151
Transitioning	359	331
	Goals	Actual
Improved Certificates	14	1

## Employer Supporting Goals

Employers supporting	119
<sup>1</sup> New and reaffirming employers support goal	96
<sup>1</sup> New and reaffirming employers support actual	43

**Website:** The quarterly economic overviews are available through our subscription with Chmura Economics and their JobsEQ platform, which has been renewed, and are sent to the city administrator and planning and development director. We are able to run reports and analytics on economic development, education and workforce that we are happy to share with partners, prospects and community stakeholders. Those reports and some of the information can be found at [OnPointMO.com](http://OnPointMO.com) and [TaneyCountyPartnership.com](http://TaneyCountyPartnership.com).

**Site Selectors/Consultants:** We have completed five site selection consultant missions so far in 2019 with the Missouri Partnership and met with agencies and consultants in Dallas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Chicago to educate them on the unique assets of Taney County and expand their awareness of what our communities have to offer their clients. We've had 71 individual consultant contacts representing 44 agencies and organizations. We have hosted 3 site visits to-date in 2019.

**Workforce Development:** Our team, along with Chamber and CVB staff, is planning the 4th Annual Summer Work Travel Community Support Group Summit (J1) which will be held in Branson in November. We did have a small increase in J-1 visa students in the market for 2018 and we expect another sizable increase in 2019 based off early indications from employers and sponsors. Housing inventory remains a challenge in the efforts to grow the J-1 and other programs. The 2018 Taney County Comprehensive Housing Study, commissioned by the Taney County Partnership, was presented to the community by RDg Planning and Design on March 14 and is now available for view and download at [TaneyCountyPartnership.com](http://TaneyCountyPartnership.com). We completed our first of two Puerto Rico talent attraction trips planned for 2019 in February with over 120 job openings filled with seasonal labor for the hospitality industry and full-time positions for regional healthcare.

Thank you for your continued support and participation with the TCP!

Jonas Arjes, CEcD, EDFP  
Executive Director  
Taney County Partnership  
Executive Vice President/Chief Economic Development Officer  
Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce & CVB