



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

Despite the many hardships our community is facing during these troubling times, I am encouraged by the many stories of support and neighbors helping neighbors. That is what we need.

Governor Mike Parson has announced that Phase 1 of the State's "Show Me Strong Recovery" plan has been extended through Monday, June 15, 2020. This is the order through which we as a city continue to operate. Please continue to follow the CDC recommendations as well as the state rules and restrictions. We each have to be accountable for our actions. Please seek to be a good neighbor and know you may, by no fault of your own, come into contact with the virus with which you could infect others. I personally wear a face covering to protect others, especially if I am unable to stay 6-feet apart.

Thankfully, our COVID-19 numbers continue to stay relatively low. Just this week, the Taney County Health Department announced the 13th case of COVID-19 in our community. It's vital that we do not become complacent in seeking to keep this airborne virus at bay.

Economically, I believe we had better than expected results over Memorial Day weekend. However, until we can win more of the consumer's confidence and get to a full level of opening, I think we will continue to see mixed results in our primary industry. Statistically, our budgeted income as a city is 83% tourism-driven.

Next Tuesday the local elections are being held. Please use this time to exercise your right to vote. Three Aldermen positions are up for election. I hope you will vote as an informed citizen for your city. I personally see my focus as being your public servant.

With all the rain we have received lately, it looks like we have been spared from any major damage, for now. We continue to work to get the grant funds to complete flood control and mitigation for critical infrastructure in Branson. This has proved hard during these COVID-19 times as federal and state agencies have been affected operationally during this time as well.

If you haven't already done so, please complete the 2020 Census. It's not too late and we need a good count! You can respond online at my2020census.com, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by mail.

I truly believe our City is doing the right thing, is headed in a positive direction, and will bounce back, better than we were before this crisis. Again I solicit your prayer, if you are so inclined, for us to have the strength to get through this.

Thank you for letting me serve you,

Mayor Edd Akers