



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

Another great week in Branson and the Ozarks has come and gone. As we move from August to September, I can already see the beauty of the fall colors starting to grace the ridges.

We had another busy week in city hall. One key event was the continuation of the 76 Entertainment Community Improvement District (76ECID). As the Chair of the group, Gail Myer continues to lead this project with a focus on making Highway 76 more accessible, attractive, and safe for our citizens and visitors. Thank you to the CID Board for their foresight and concern for our community.

We also conducted a special Board of Aldermen Study Session on September 3, 2020, to discuss Branson Municipal Ordinance 2020-0072, pertaining to face coverings, public spaces, and the spread of communicable diseases. This ordinance went into effect on July 31 and is set to expire on September 8. We will have a regular Board of Aldermen meeting on September 8 to make a decision regarding this ordinance. I want to thank the city staff, local healthcare experts, and tourism and marketing experts who provided us a wealth of information during the Study Session to help us make a truly informed decision. You can watch a recording of the Study Session as well as watch the livestream of the September 8 Board meeting online at www.bransonmo.gov/livestream.

I read a nice article on Forbes.com this week titled "[10 Affordable Lake Towns to Buy a Waterfront Property.](#)" As you can guess, we made the list, coming in at number two. The author of the article highlighted Taneycomo and Table Rock Lakes as great locations for fishing and boating with reasonably priced real estate. It is always nice to see people outside of Branson recognize the beauty of our area. This article is a good read.

I would like to take a moment to thank the Branson Chamber of Commerce and CVB for the great work they are doing, especially with a focus on the future. Just this week Izze Martinez led the "J-1 CSG Meeting." This is the Branson J-1 Community Support Group and International Student Outreach Program. While the global situation due to COVID-19 did not work out well for the year 2020, Izze and her team are looking toward the future to keep this program alive and well. This will continue to benefit Branson as a great summer work/travel program that greatly benefits our businesses and community and helps our employer's labor force.

I wish all of you a safe and happy Labor Day. Please, as called, continue to pray for our city, stay positive, and be thankful for living in the best community in America.

Thank you for letting me serve you,

Mayor Edd Akers