



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

I want to continue highlighting City accomplishments from 2020 this week with a focus on our Parks & Recreation Department which did a great job this year reinventing itself. COVID-19 forced the Department to come up with fresh, impactful programs and modify existing programs to continue to serve the community. A few examples include online pool ticket sales, drive thru senior events and a new hiking initiative. Many of these new programs and ideas have led to permanent positive innovation, process streamlining, and an increase in the Department's digital platform. This shift has required a great deal of leadership, adaptability, and strategic modifications. The Parks & Recreation Department continues to use these qualities to provide quality online, in-person, and outdoor recreation opportunities for the enjoyment of the community as well as to develop and maintain the City's 15 beautiful parks and 12+ miles (and growing) of trails that we all enjoy.

We have good news from our Board of Alderman meeting this week as they approved the intergovernmental agreement with Taney County to take over recycling operations for the entire county. We have been training their team over the last few weeks along with shipping our equipment to their facility. The Branson location closed on Wednesday, January 27, and the Taney County facility will open in the first part of February. The new facility is within the Taney County Transfer Station at 274 Buchanan Road, Branson, MO 65616. For any questions about the new location, contact the Taney County Road & Bridge Department at 417-546-7268.

**Interesting Factoid of the Week:** Branson is divided into three wards. There are approximately 3,823 citizens in Ward 1; 2,972 in Ward 2; and 3,685 in Ward 3.

Thank you to those who continue to pray for our city. Please stay positive and be thankful for living in the best city in America.

Thank you for letting me serve you,

Mayor Edd Akers