



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

It looks like we should proclaim February as Public Works Month due to the excellent job of keeping the streets as clear and safe as possible during this period of unusually difficult and extreme winter weather.

This week I have seen the hardships this winter storm has brought various parts of the Country. I feel the pain but also see the determination and resolve shown and have been proud to witness neighbors helping neighbors. Together we can weather the storms that confront us, seek to learn from them, and come through it all the stronger as our Branson community is known to do.

To continue our **2020 "Year in Review"** as we look at some City accomplishments from the past year, I wanted to update you on our Public Works & Engineering Department. In February of 2020, the Department implemented a traffic camera system at the signalized intersections throughout the city. This system accurately monitors vehicle and pedestrian counts, improves the safety and efficiency of the traffic network, and helps staff to understand traffic patterns based on seasons, days of the week, and time of day. The City's Geographic Information System Mapping team also used its technology to assist the Taney County Health Department and other health and emergency organizations with COVID-19 tracking and mitigation. And like it does every year, the Public Works & Engineering Department also successfully planned and prepared for the potential of winter weather mitigation to ensure passable roads throughout the city.

Interesting Factoid of the Week: Our great city is named after Reuben Spaulding Branson, born August 22, 1853, died February 10, 1935, and buried in our Branson City Cemetery.

Thank you for your prayers 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