



Fellow State Team Members,

COVID-19 brought with it sweeping health and economic impacts that will have lasting effects on the lives and livelihoods of every Missourian.

These are unprecedented times, and our work as public servants has tangible impacts on our fellow citizens today and for years to come.

We are now seeing a gradual reopening of the economy, and our response to the pandemic has entered a new phase. That's why Governor Parson launched the Show Me Strong recovery plan, to help businesses, communities and citizens across Missouri.

Our economic recovery effort focuses on four priorities:

- **Businesses** – We want businesses to reopen, and we want to build on the economic progress we made before the pandemic.
- **Communities** – Local governments and nonprofit organizations provide services to citizens, and they help safely resume civic and social activity.
- **Citizens** – Job training, education, and other assistance will help Missourians transition to the “new normal” after the pandemic.
- **Infrastructure** – By investing in our state’s infrastructure, we create an environment for businesses, communities, and citizens to thrive.

More than ever before, we must understand the challenges that our businesses, communities, and citizens are facing. We need to use our expertise and resources to help them recover. By helping to rebuild our strong economic environment, we are helping Missouri citizens to earn a living and provide for their families.

This is incredibly important work. Every state team member and every state department needs to work together on our state’s economic recovery, just as we have collaborated on the public health response.

In fact, our public health response to COVID-19 and our economic recovery from it are not separate issues. They are two sides of the same coin.

We've already begun this work, and teams from every state department are working together to help Missouri businesses, communities and citizens. Our fellow citizens need us to succeed.

Thank you for everything you do, and it is an honor to be a part of this team with you.

Sincerely,

Rob Dixon

Director

Department of Economic Development

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