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July 22, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

**Downtown Belton Main Street and Main Street Parkville Association
Earn Affiliate Tier Status with Missouri Main Street Connection**

Contact: Gayla Roten, State Director, Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc.; PO Box 1066, Branson, MO 65615; phone: 417-334-3014.

Downtown Belton Main Street and Main Street Parkville Association have been selected as a new Affiliate communities with Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC). MMSC is a statewide non-profit organization designed to help Missouri communities preserve their historic commercial districts through economic revitalization. MMSC currently provides services and trainings to over 160 communities across the state. MMSC has empowered downtown revitalization in Missouri communities since 2006, resulting in \$964 million of private and public investments, the creation of 829 net new businesses, and the development of 4,097 net new jobs in Main Street communities.

MMSC State Director, Gayla Roten noted the following about Belton, "We are excited to welcome Downtown Belton Main Street to the Affiliate Tier! As an organization, they have shown success in educating business owners on the importance of Main Street and its principles and recruiting businesses to the downtown district. We are excited to work closer with Downtown Belton Main Street and to see the positive change that they bring in their downtown!"

Main Street Parkville Association has also been selected as a new Affiliate community with MMSC. Gayla Roten said, "We are so excited to welcome Parkville to the Affiliate Tier! Main Street Parkville Association has shown the capacity and drive to get things done in their downtown, such as working on a Chapter 353 tax abatement to spur development in downtown. We are excited to work closer with Main Street Parkville Association and to see the positive change that they bring in their downtown!"

Communities that have earned Affiliate status have a Main Street program and are diligently working to increase capacity. These Main Street organizations are typically newer programs growing their support base and financial means to accomplish the downtown priorities identified by the community.