

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Steven Hoffman

Southeast MO State Univ., Cape Girardeau

Vice President, Robert Lewis

St. Louis University, St. Louis

Treasurer, Bridgette Kelch

East Central College Foundation, Washington

Karen Bode Baxter

Preservation Specialist, St. Louis

Dawn Dauer

The Bank of Missouri, Cape Girardeau

Robert Espeland

US Bank, St. Louis

Shelia Holm

AARP, St. Louis

Christine Johnston

MarksNelson, LLC, Kansas City

Joe Lauber

Lauber Municipal Law, Lee's Summit

Sandy Lucy

Mayor, Washington, MO

Mark Pauley

MO Dept. of Econ. Dev., Jefferson City

Dan Ross

Missouri Municipal League, Jefferson City

Russ Volmert

Forest Park Forever, St. Louis

ADVISORY BOARD

Jonathan M. Kemper

William T. Kemper Foundation, Kansas City

Julie Turnipseed

Anderson Co. Devel. Agency, Garnett, KS

July 22, 2020
PRESS RELEASE

Independence Square Association Achieves Associate 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.

The Independence Square Association has been selected as a new Associate community 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 commented, "We are excited to see the progress of the Independence Square Association as a Main Street organization. As a newer Main Street program, they have implemented the Main Street principles and built a strong foundation which is why they have achieved the Associate Tier level within Missouri Main Street."

Associate communities are those working toward being recognized as a nationally Accredited Main Street community by Missouri Main Street and National Main Street Center. The Associate Tier will help prepare the community for meeting the standards to be a Nationally and State Accredited community. At the Associate Tier level, the community is seeing an increase in the economic value of the downtown and is making progress to achieve an active and vibrant downtown revitalization organization.