

THE OZARKS REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY DECLARE OURSELVES MEMBERS OF THE OZARKS REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP. OUR PARTNERSHIP IS COMMITTED TO REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BELIEVING IT TO BE CRITICAL TO THE LONG TERM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL BEING OF THE OZARKS. IN EXECUTING THIS DOCUMENT, WE FORMALLY AGREE TO PURSUE THE STRATEGIC GOALS SPECIFIED HEREIN.

OUR PARTNERSHIP IS GROUNDED IN A SET OF COMMON BELIEFS.

- WE BELIEVE THAT **COMMON INTERESTS** EXIST AMONG THE CITIES AND COUNTIES OF THE OZARKS REGION.
- WE BELIEVE THAT **MUTUAL BENEFIT** CAN BE DERIVED FROM SHARING RESOURCES, DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES TOGETHER, AND INVOKING A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION.
- WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRESERVATION OF **INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITY IDENTITIES** STRENGTHENS THE REGION.
- WE BELIEVE IN FOSTERING CONTINUED **REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.
- WE BELIEVE IN ACCELERATING **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT** OPPORTUNITIES IN TERMS OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS, JOB TRAINING AND EDUCATION AS A REGION.
- WE BELIEVE THAT OUR REGION HAS A UNIQUE DEPENDENCE ON **WATER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY** FOR CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.
- WE BELIEVE THAT **INFRASTRUCTURE** NEEDS SHOULD BE VIEWED AND ADDRESSED FROM A REGIONAL AND LONG TERM PERSPECTIVE.
- WE BELIEVE IN IMPROVED **COMMUNICATION** AS A CATALYST FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION AND TRUST.

BASED ON THESE SHARED BELIEFS, WE COMMIT TO DEVELOPING ACTION PLANS IN SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIC GOALS.

- EDUCATE AND INFORM CITIZENRY AS TO THE BENEFITS OF MAINTAINING A REGIONAL FOCUS.
- PROTECT AND REINFORCE INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITY IDENTITIES THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION.
- IDENTIFY AND UTILIZE REGIONAL ASSETS TO PROMOTE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DEVELOP AND SUSTAIN REGIONAL LEADERSHIP.
- PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE OZARKS.

IN ORDER TO ATTAIN CONSENSUS ON SPECIFIC ACTION PLANS, WE PLEDGE TO MEET QUARTERLY AND REPORT PROGRESS ANNUALLY TO OUR RESPECTIVE CONSTITUENCIES FOR A MINIMUM PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

MEMBER

DATE