

THE STATE OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD
Mayor James R. Bowlin
April 2022

THE CITY OF WILDWOOD CONTINUES TO BE A SOLID VALUE FOR OUR RESIDENTS. IN MY LAST STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS, I ASKED EACH OF US AS ELECTED OFFICIALS TO SEIZE THE CALLING TO SOLVE SOME OF THE MOST LONGSTANDING ISSUES FACING OUR CITY.

WE HAVE DONE THAT.

ONE OF THE LARGEST IS THE UTILIZATION OF FEDERAL DOLLARS TO BRING INTERNET ACCESS TO ALL OF OUR CITY – FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY.

WE HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH KEY MISSOURI LEGISLATORS, WHOSE DECISIONS IMPACT THE CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS. OUR MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THIS AREA INCLUDE NOT ONLY THE TIME WE SPEND IN JEFFERSON CITY, BUT ALSO THE ADDITION OF A LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT TO OUR TEAM WHO IS THERE EVERY DAY ON OUR BEHALF.

THIS HAS ALLOWED US TO MAKE TREMENDOUS PROGRESS TOWARD PLANS TO ADDRESS OUR WATERSHED EROSION ISSUES, WITH THE POTENTIAL TO SECURE STATE FUNDING.

WE HAVE ALSO RECENTLY COMPLETED A COMPREHENSIVE EIGHT-POINT STRATEGIC PLAN. THIS WILL GUIDE US THROUGH 2025 AS WE CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE KEY GOALS FOR OUR WILDWOOD RESIDENTS.

ALL OF THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED WHILE REMAINING COMMITTED TO BALANCED BUDGETS.

IT HAS ALSO BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT ASKING OUR RESIDENTS TO PAY MORE TAXES.

THESE RESULTS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT, IN PART, BECAUSE OF THE FAR BETTER FOUNDATION WE NOW HAVE FOR GOVERNING: UNPRECEDENTED TRANSPARENCY, THE INCLUSION OF MORE RESIDENTS ON OUR TEAM THROUGH APPLICATION OF VOTER-APPROVED TERM LIMITS, THE ADDITION OF VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION AT OUR MEETINGS FOR RESIDENTS AND LEADERSHIP – AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, GOVERNING OUR CITY WHERE EACH RESIDENT HAS AN EQUAL VOICE.

OUR RESIDENTS FOLLOWED OUR LEAD IN THEIR RECENT APPROVAL – BY MORE THAN 80 PERCENT – OF A *CHARTER* AMENDMENT TO GIVE US GREATER FLEXIBILITY TO WORK IN SERVICE TO THEM.

ALWAYS BEING MINDFUL THAT THESE SEATS WE OCCUPY BELONG TO EACH ONE OF OUR RESIDENTS, LET US CONTINUE ON OUR PATH OF CREATING AND FURTHERING A PLACE FOR OUR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES THAT IS UNIQUELY WILDWOOD.