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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

**Date:** December 28, 2015  
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### **BRANSON FLOODING UPDATE**

Flooding conditions have stabilized in the residential and commercial areas along Lake Taneycomo in Branson late Monday afternoon. Resources have been allocated through the City's Emergency Operations center for barricading flooded streets and establishing a shelter for residents displaced from their home.

"Tablerock Dam is currently flowing just over 67,000 cubic feet per second from the flood gates and generators," stated Branson Fire Chief Ted Martin. "The Corp of Engineers expects to maintain this flow overnight and will re-evaluate on Tuesday." Inflows from the north may continue to cause Tablerock Lake to rise through mid-day on Tuesday.

Flooded streets in the Lakewood Subdivision caused residents from 53 duplexes to evacuate their homes. "The streets in this subdivision are privately owned within the subdivision," stated Chief Martin. Approximately 120 single family residences from Parnell Drive upstream to Pointe Royale have been affected by water rising in the neighborhoods. "Most of these homes are not accessible due to high water, have water up to the house, water in crawl spaces and some with water in basements." Several of these areas have had electrical services cut off by Empire District Electric Company to reduce risk and impact to the utility infrastructure.

Several City streets remain closed including Caudill Way and Jupiter Way (low water crossing), Lake Drive, Hawthorn, Sunset Road, and the northern portion of Parnell Drive. MoDOT has also closed the new bridge serving Branson Landing Boulevard from Long Street to the Hollister Round-about due to water over the road at the end of the bridge. These streets have been closed and residents are encouraged to avoid these streets due to high water, some water flow may be swift moving and dangerous.

A shelter has been established at the Salvation Army Church located at 1114 Stanley Street. The shelter is being supported by the Red Cross in partnership with the Salvation Army. Residents in the Branson area that have been displaced from their homes due to flooding may use the shelter starting Monday afternoon. The contact for the shelter operations is Salvation Army volunteer Janetta Shoopman at (417) 213-1094.

Members of the Branson Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) have assisted with emergency responders with notifications regarding flooding conditions, helped residents move belongings in their homes to avoid flood waters, and helped set up the emergency shelter. There have been no injuries reported during the flooding incident. Emergency personnel from the Fire and Police Departments will continue to monitor conditions overnight.

The Branson community continues to be open for business. "Most of the flooding affects residential homes with some commercial impacts along the Branson Landing Development," added Martin. The Branson Landing has a phased program to secure infrastructure as the water rises. All of the businesses at Branson Landing were open for business on Monday according to mall management. The affected area is a narrow path along Lake Taneycomo. "The damages are tough for a lot of our residents and there are some inconveniences with street closures, however the majority of Branson area businesses and attractions are operating normal schedules," stated Martin

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