



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

PRESS RELEASE

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1592 MAIN STREET DEMOLITION BEGINS

July 11, 2011 – Mayor Domenic J. Sarno announced the demolition of the rear portion of the former Asylum nightclub building at 1592 Main Street has begun. Drivers and pedestrians should expect some limited road closures on Worthington and Fort Street during the next few weeks, however all area businesses will remain open and street closures are expected to be done at hours to minimize inconvenience.

“While our attention remains on tornado recovery, we are committed to advancing our key economic development projects,” said Mayor Sarno. “The former Asylum building has long been a problem spot in the heart of our downtown and we look forward to this being another positive turnaround for our Main Street.”

The Mayor referenced a bevy of recent Main Street activity in Springfield including the completion of the redevelopment of the former Federal Building by MassDevelopment, the redevelopment of the Fuller Block by The Dennis Group, the announcement of the relocation of WFCR from Amherst to the Fuller Block, the opening last year of the UMASS Design Center at Court Square, the purchase and planned redevelopment of the Fort Building and the Hippodrome by the New England Farm Workers Council, and the success of the popular Hot Table restaurant now completing its second year on the ground floor of Tower Square.

“The city invested in the beautification of Main Street downtown with new paving, crosswalks, and light fixtures and the private sector has followed with significant investments up and down the street,” said Mayor Sarno. “We look forward to continuing to strengthen our downtown and appreciate the confidence the private sector has shown in investing in Springfield.”

The 1592 Main Street redevelopment project will remove the back two-thirds of the property while retaining the front third of the building and historic art deco façade on Main Street. The project will reduce the building square footage from 37,475 to 13,573, with a new first floor footprint of approximately 5,944 square feet. An announcement on the future use of the building is expected in the coming weeks.

The redevelopment project has been supported through grants from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, city funding, and brownfields funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

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