





# City of Springfield



100 Day Tornado Recovery Update  
September 9, 2011

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno  
DevelopSpringfield  
Springfield Redevelopment Authority

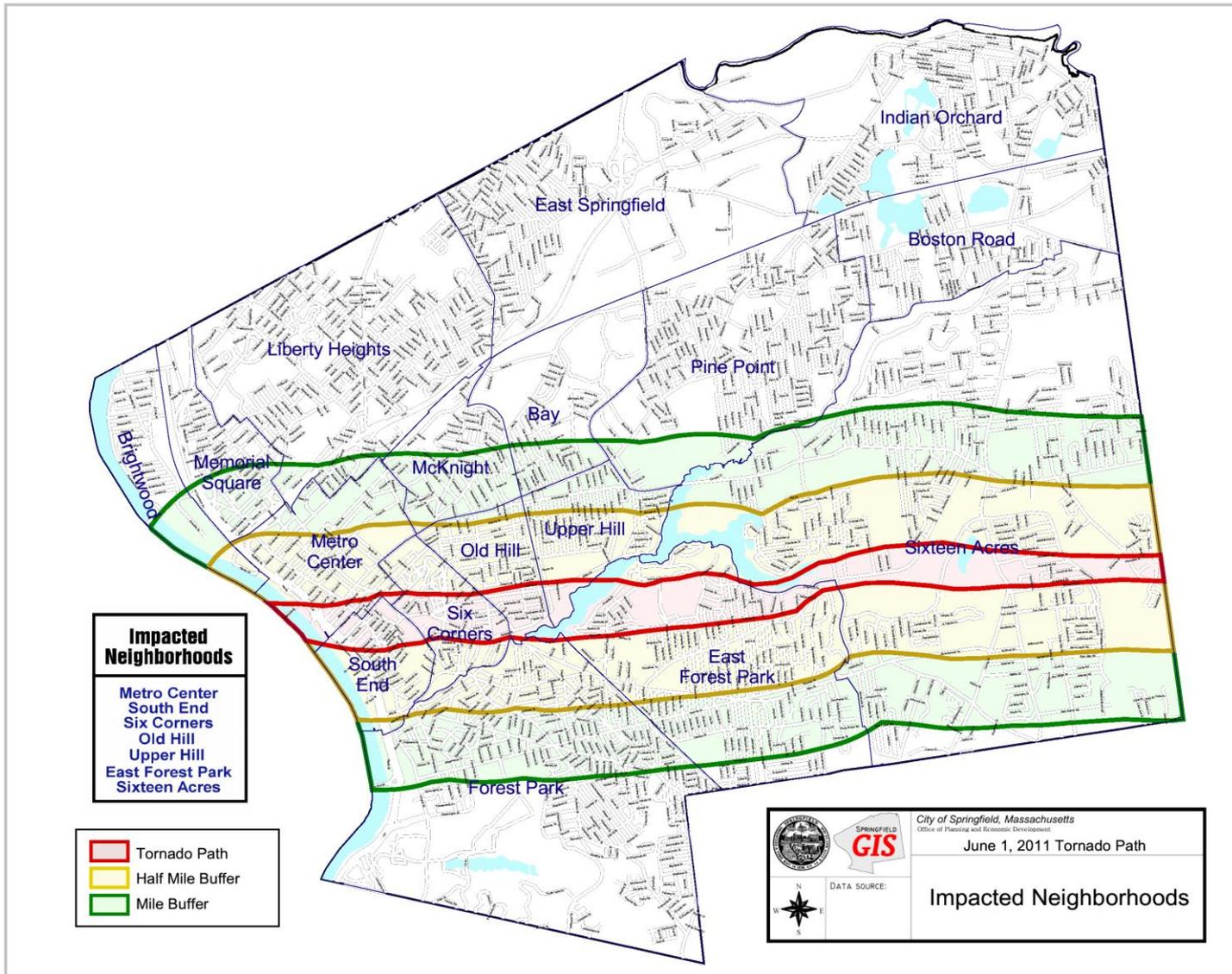
# Tornado Overview

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- ▶ June 1, 2011 – 4:37 pm: EF-3 tornado; speeds of up to 160 mph
- ▶ Path: 6.2 miles long and about ¼ mile wide; 7 neighborhoods
- ▶ About 40% of the city's population impacted in first 48 hours
- ▶ No loss of life/few injuries in Springfield
- ▶ Over 350 people temporarily sheltered at MassMutual Center
- ▶ Over 600 structures damaged
- ▶ Minimal public safety issues
- ▶ Unprecedented community response
- ▶ Federal disaster declaration: June 15, 2011



# Tornado Path



# The Road to Recovery: Residential

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- ▶ Damaged properties:

- ▶ 477 single-family homes
- ▶ 81 multi-family buildings



# The Road to Recovery: Reinvestment

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Tornado Impacted Area:

- ▶ Commercial and residential building permits issued from June 2 to September 1: 2,698
- ▶ Construction value of building permits: \$13,064,000



# The Road to Recovery: Businesses and Non-Profits

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- ▶ 87 small businesses/non-profits affected
- ▶ 82 re-opened (94%)
- ▶ 13 in temporary or new space
- ▶ 5 pending



# The Road to Recovery: Public Schools/Facilities

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## ▶ Public schools:

- ▶ Brookings Elementary School
- ▶ Dryden Veterans Memorial Elementary School
  - ▶ Back in session in 3 school days
  - ▶ Reopened in modular facilities on schedule in September

## ▶ Public facilities:

- ▶ South End Community Center
  - ▶ Temporary Quarters: Milton Bradley School
  - ▶ Permanent Location Pending
- ▶ Old First Church and Campanile:
  - ▶ Emergency repairs complete
  - ▶ Permanent repair assessment underway
- ▶ Howard Street School (Zanetti)
  - ▶ Building secured, initial assessment complete



# The Road to Recovery: Private Educational Facilities

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- ▶ **Springfield College**

- ▶ International Hall Rebuilt
- ▶ Now Open/Occupied

- ▶ **Cathedral High School**

- ▶ Rebuilding on-site
- ▶ Temporarily in Wilbraham

- ▶ **St. Michael's Academy**

- ▶ Rebuilding on-site
- ▶ Temporarily at Holy Cross

- ▶ **Commonwealth Academy (former MacDuffie site)**

- ▶ Limited operations
- ▶ Potential January opening



# The Road to Recovery: Parks and Parkland

## ▶ Parks

- ▶ Johnny Appleseed Park
- ▶ Court Square
- ▶ Nathan Bill Park
- ▶ Emerson Wight Park
- ▶ Gerrish Park
- ▶ Shamrock Park
- ▶ Leonardo Da Vinci Park
- ▶ Harriet Tubman Park
- ▶ Ruth Elizabeth Park
- ▶ Riverfront Park
- ▶ Camp Wilder
- ▶ Murray Park
- ▶ Murphy Park
- ▶ South Branch Parkway

## ▶ Veteran's Golf Course

## ▶ Status:

- ▶ Clean-up complete, repairs pending
- ▶ FEMA funding requests in process



# The Road to Recovery: Public Infrastructure

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- ▶ Power restored in 72 hours
- ▶ 2,217 public way trees removed
- ▶ 3,381 trees damaged in public parks
- ▶ 147,954 cubic yards of vegetation and debris removed from public ways
- ▶ 15,000 cubic yards of construction debris removed from public ways
- ▶ Reforestation plan underway



# The Road to Recovery: Historic Assets

- ▶ 2 local historic districts affected
- ▶ 8 historic properties condemned; 2 demolished
- ▶ Numerous other historic properties damaged
- ▶ Historic “Drill House” part of South End Community Center demolished
- ▶ Loss of 200 year-old *Heritage Trees*
- ▶ Status:
  - ▶ Grant received for historic tree replacement
  - ▶ PreservationMass dedicating “Most Endangered Property” list to TIA
  - ▶ Historic preservation to be master plan theme



# The Road to Recovery: Rebuild Springfield

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- ▶ **Public Private Partnership:**
  - ▶ Springfield Redevelopment Authority
  - ▶ DevelopSpringfield
- ▶ **Community Engagement:**
  - ▶ Rebuild Springfield Advisory Committee appointed
  - ▶ Neighborhoods and stakeholder meetings and listening tours
  - ▶ Community Rebuilding Fair – sponsored by MassMutual: September 28th



**SPRINGFIELD  
REDEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY**

# The Road to Recovery: Rebuild Springfield

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- ▶ **Master Plan/Rebuilding Strategy:**
  - ▶ Opportunity to rebuild better
  - ▶ Neighborhood by neighborhood approach
  - ▶ Broad public consensus essential
  - ▶ Practical and financially feasible implementation plan
- ▶ **Critical Next Steps:**
  - ▶ Secure master planning funds
  - ▶ Engage experienced consultant
  - ▶ Complete planning process (year end)
  - ▶ Continue to work with owners with immediate needs
  - ▶ Obtain implementation funding



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Riverfront Park**

# 100 Days of Progress

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**Court Square**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Leonardo Da Vinci Park**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Main Street, South End**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Main Street, South End**

# 100 Days of Progress

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**Main Street, South End**



# 100 Days of Progress

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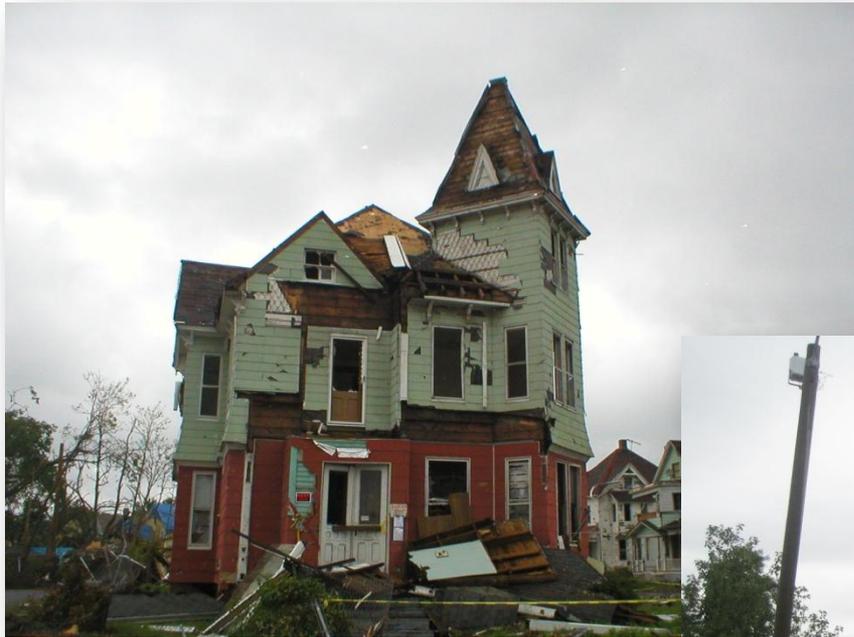


**Central and Maple Streets**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Central Street**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Brookings Elementary School**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**International Hall  
Springfield College**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Arcadia Boulevard**

# 100 Days of Progress

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**Cathedral High School**

# 100 Days of Progress

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**Mary Dryden Elementary School**

# 100 Days of Progress

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**Roosevelt Avenue**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Pennsylvania Avenue**



# 100 Days of Progress

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**Derryfield Avenue**

# Moving Forward: Bigger, Better and Stronger

**SPRINGFIELD  
TORNADO  
RECOVERY**



**DEVELOP  
springfield**

# THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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- ▶ C & W Realty
- ▶ Comcast
- ▶ Constellation Energy
- ▶ Community Foundation of Western Mass
- ▶ Davis Foundation
- ▶ Johnson & Hill Staffing
- ▶ Gene Rosenberg/Paul Cohen Bob's Discount Furniture
- ▶ NUVO Bank
- ▶ Regional Employment Board
- ▶ City of Springfield
- ▶ Smith & Wesson
- ▶ TD Bank
- ▶ United Bank
- ▶ United Way

