

Municipal Response to Disaster

The City of Springfield's Response
to the June 2011 Tornado



Phases of Disaster Response

- Emergency Response
- Recovery
- Rebuilding

- Disaster management also includes Preparedness and Mitigation

EMERGENCY RESPONSE



- **First Responders**
 - House-to-house searches
 - Clear streets, create access
 - Condemn unsafe structures
 - Order utilities shut off
 - Coordinate emergency demolitions
 - Initiate emergency shelter

- **Leadership and Coordination**
 - Daily coordination meetings run by Mayor
 - Interface with MEMA, state agencies, utilities, Red Cross, Salvation Army

- **Communication**
 - Press, website, alternate communication methods

RECOVERY



- **Coordinate rehousing effort**
 - Provide leadership to multiple agencies involved
 - Access to DHCD/HUD resources, landlord contacts
- **Restore infrastructure & clear public land**
- **Information**
 - FEMA/SBA Information (outreach to residents & businesses)
 - Rebuilding Guide
- **Protection**
 - Holding owners accountable: Legal action
 - Warnings re scams
- **Advocacy**
 - Disaster organizations, state & federal agencies
 - Insurance Commission
 - FEMA

- **Planning**
 - Rebuild Springfield Planning Process
 - CDBG-DR Planning
 - Action Plan
 - Community input

- **Project Management and Implementation**
 - Public Projects (Schools, SE Community Center, Infrastructure, Parks)
 - Partnerships (SHA, owners of affordable housing)
 - Grant management

Fair Housing/Civil Rights Concerns

- Volunteers with limited experience with persons of different races/ethnicities
- Landlord discrimination - regional market
- Property owners abandon property or fail to rebuild
- Victimization by contractors
- Insurance disparities

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