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Joplin, Missouri hit by EF-5 Tornado on May 22, 2011

November 10, 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Joplin population grew to approximately 51,300 (July 2015) from 50,175 (2010 Census)
- Daytime population approximately 240,000
- Located in Southwest Missouri along I-44 and I-49 (formerly U.S. Highway 71)
- EF-5 Tornado initially ½ mile, expanding to ¾ mile wide, traveled on ground approximately 13 miles
- Tornado touched down at edge of western city limits, traveled on the ground 6 miles throughout all of City to eastern city limits and continuing into the City of Duquesne and rural Jasper and Newton Counties
- Tornado winds estimated at 200 mph + ; NWS indicates it moved as slowly at 10 mph in some places
- Storm affected homes and businesses in both Jasper and Newton Counties in Missouri
- 161 lives lost due to tornado

Recovery Efforts & Statistics:

- *Spring 2016:* **Groundbreaking planned for Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCU)** College of Osteopathic Medicine**.** In March 2015, University officials announced opening a medical school at the former location of Mercy Joplin's temporary facility. Scheduled to open in Fall 2017, the University is estimated to have 150 students per class, with a total of 600+ for the Joplin Campus by 2020, with indications of significant economic impact and future development in the area. This campus will be the first new medical school location in Missouri to open in 44 years. The College of Osteopathic Medicine is the largest medical school in Missouri and 10th largest medical school in the country.
- *March 2016:* **Joplin Homeowners Assistance Program (J-HAP) has provided $13.65 million** of assistance for down-payment and/or closing costs to homebuyers of 450 homes since program's inception in August 2013. Of these homebuyers, 31% or 140 of them are from outside the Joplin metro area. **J-HAP** offers funding to individuals and families pursuing a home purchase in the recovery area. By assisting eligible homebuyers with down-payment and/or closing costs while supporting single-family housing recovery. Funding assistance provided by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) award.
- *February 2016:* **Building Permits = More than $1.25 Billion in total construction cost since May 22, 2011**. Commercial permits total more than $869 million and residential permits equal nearly $172 million since 2012. In 2011, total building permits totaled $207 million. *(see chart on page 4 for details.)*
- *February, 2016:* **Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity** has completed 105 houses following the tornado, including 35 in the Governor's Challenge, which finished in August 2013. Habitat has 14 more homes to be started in upcoming months, and other affordable housing projects continue with new homes completed regularly. 80 homes have received rehab and/or repair through "A Brush With Kindness," a program to help homeowners with this type of assistance. ReStore.a retail outlet, continues to grow through its mission of providing construction items, household furnishings, appliances and more that are donated and resold at discounted prices to the public to assist in house building effort.

Recovery Efforts & Statistics: *(continued from page 1)*

- *Feb. 2016:* According to the **Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, more than 300 new businesses have opened** since May 2011. As of May 2015, these businesses provided new jobs* for 960 full-time employees and 717 part-time employees. *(*waiting for updated employee numbers)*
- *July 2015*: Council and City staff complete the **capital project prioritization process of the $158 million** awarded by **HUD through the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery program**, Projects are focused Infrastructure & Environment; Housing & Neighborhoods; Schools & Community Facilities; and Economic Development. In reviewing critical needs of the community, consideration also was given to funding criteria that had to be met according to CDBG-DR regulations. *See attachment for listing of projects.*
- *September 2015:* Groundbreaking event to start construction of **new Joplin Public Library relocating to 20th & Connecticut.** ,Completion set for Spring 2017. Relocation is possible with support of $20 million grant awarded by the Economic Development Administration in May 2012, to assist in the redevelopment of the 20th Street area following the disaster. As a matching grant from EDA of 80% to 20% City resources, City will fund an additional $5 million for the project, which includes the land value of property that the City owns at 20th and Connecticut.
- *July 2015:* **U.S. Census Bureau** provides data that shows **Joplin has surpassed its previous population** of 2011 (51,142) and now has a population of 51,316. (need to confirm numbers with Troy)
- *May 2015:* **New Park – 26th & Cunningham Avenue –** Joplin City Council approved planning for a passive park on 16 acres donated to the City by Mercy Hospital. Located on southeast corner of the intersection, Park construction continues with **opening planned for May 2016**. HUD's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program funding approximately $4.7 million to build trails, a small lake, a pavilion, restrooms, and educational signage of natural plantings.
- *March 2015:* **Mercy Hospital Joplin** opens new medical center and offices in new location of 50th Street and Hearnes Boulevard. The hospital and temporary offices held during construction cost nearly $1 billion.
- *April 2015:* **20th Street Overpass** construction announced to begin in May. Safer and more efficient crossing with traffic traveling over railroad crossing of a main Joplin corridor. Project costs = $5.5 million with completion in mid-2017 and is funded through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or **TIGER** Discretionary **Grant** program offered by the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- *October 2014:* Walmart Neighborhood Market to be built in area of 26th Street & Maiden Lane
- *September 2014:* Groundbreaking held at **Joe Becker Stadium for a $4.7 million renovation** of the historic facility built in 1913. The Joplin Blasters, a franchise in the American Association Independent Professional Baseball league, will have their game opener on May 21, 2015 in the 4,200 capacity stadium.
- *September 2014:* **Joplin Schools** reach goal of returning students to permanent facilities by September 2014 with the opening of Joplin High School / Franklin Technology Center.
- *August 2014* : **St. Mary's Elementary** opens in new location of 32nd Street and Central City Road; original structure at 25th & Moffet was destroyed, as was St. Mary's Church, although a large cross remains standing.

Recovery Efforts & Statistics: *(continued from page 2)*

- *April 2014:* **Joplin Homeowners Rehabilitation Program (J-HRP)** initiated to provide $775,000 funding to support single-family housing recovery. The program assists eligible homeowners located in the recovery area in repairing damage not covered by FEMA or insurance and to correct any other deficiencies in the home.

- *March 2014:* **Joplin Tornado First Response Fund** allocated **nearly $1 million** since disaster. Includes 41 grants to 27 various agencies for diverse needs, including home construction and repairs, housing, furnishings and appliances, emergency weather radios, wheelchairs, storm shelters, playground equipment, children's services addressing behavioral and emotional disorders from trauma of tornado, and staffing of growing services needed by survivor.
- *December 2013:* **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7** notified City of $2 million additional funds to ensure lead remediation is completed throughout the recovery area. Initiated in 2012, this funding has allowed the City of Joplin to offer the testing and remediation at no cost to property owners within the area affected by the May 2011 tornado. The City has received $5.5 million of the $8.5 million EPA has pledged to this effort.
- *December 2013:* **Joplin Fire Department Station #2 and #4 opens in new locations.**
- *December 2013:* **Joplin Schools** - new Irving Elementary School, East Middle School & Soaring Heights Elementary School open
- *September, 2013:* **Parr Hill Park** reopens after a major post tornado renovation
- *August 2013:* City launched **Joplin Homeowners Assistance Program (J-HAP)** to offer funding to individuals and families pursuing a home purchase in the recovery area. Details provided above in March 2016 listing.
- *June, 2013:* **Missouri Department of Natural Resources** awards $500,000 toward stormwater improvements & planting of over 1,500 trees, helping offset the estimated 25,000 that were lost.
- *May 22, 2013:* **Economic Development Administration** awarded a $20 million grant to help revitalize the 20th Street commercial corridor, an area that was severely impacted by the tornado. This includes the relocation of the Public Library.
- *May 22, 2013:* TKF Foundation provides a portion of $585,000 grant to Joplin for creation of open space in recovery &healing, aka **Butterfly Garden & Overlook Project,** Cunningham Park.
- *March 27, 2013:* HUD announced an additional $113 million has been allocated to the City of Joplin to help the community recover. This grant was part of $514 million allocated among nine states nationwide and provided through HUD's **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** to support long-term disaster recovery efforts in areas with the greatest extent of 'unmet need.'
- *December, 2012:* Joplin City Council approves plan to form Missouri's largest Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district that includes 19 major projects over 3,000 acres within Joplin including disaster area. Each project will follow standard process of development, allowing public to comment prior to Council's consideration.
- *October, 2012:* U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formally presents the City of Joplin $45 million in **Community Development Block Grant** funding. City's proposed budget for these funds includes more than $31 million for housing; and $6.5 million for infrastructure needs within the disaster area.
- *July, 2012:* City Council approves predevelopment agreement with Wallace Bajjali, a development firm from Sugarland, Texas to serve as the master developer in recovery efforts.
- *April, 2012:* City provides 4,000 NOAA Weather Radios to citizens in Joplin.
- **Economic Development Administration** awarded funds to the City of Joplin for a disaster recovery coordinator position.

Recovery Efforts & Statistics: *(continued from page 3)*

- The **Joplin Redevelopment Corporation,** a Missouri Chapter 353, has aggregated over 50 acres of vacant parcels targeted for major redevelopment projects
- More details of recovery projects are listed on City's website, www.joplinmo.org/thrivein5

Joplin Recovery – Building Permits:

As of March, 2016

Building Permits = More than $1.25 Billion in total construction cost since May 22, 2011.
Commercial permits total more than $869 million and residential permits equal nearly $172 million since 2012. In 2011, total building permits totaled $207 million.

Building Permits through the Years - City of Joplin, Missouri

Fiscal Year	Number of Residential Permits	Construction Value	Number of Commercial Permits	Construction Value	Total Building Permits	Total Construction Value
2011	1,702		131		1,833	$206,193,215
2012	2,125	$74,174,662	383	$482,550,677	2,508	$556,725,339
2013	1,023	$31,608,284	257	$219,237,801	1,280	$250,846,085
2014	988	$26,745,810	284	$68,708,135	1,272	$95,453,945
2015	968	$29,495,921	256	$63,307,772	1,224	$92,803,693
2016 * YTD	348	$9,583,059	75	$35,850,317	421	$45,433,376

History of Building Permits

- On June 20, 2011, City Council passed a building hiatus in the EDR area to allow for a safe operation of debris removal that required large trucks to move through the area efficiently.
- Prior to completion of debris removal, on July 28, 2011 City announced Building Permits available for entire storm-damaged area (rolled out two areas prior to entire area being opened for building: West of Picher Ave opened July 8, 2011; West of Main Street opened July 22, 2011)

Joplin Recovery – Temporary Housing:

- *As of June 9, 2013* - **586 households (100%) have moved out** of FEMA temporary housing and into longer term or permanent housing.

Volunteers, through January 30, 2014:

- 182,044 volunteers, including those registered through AmeriCorps and from other organizations who have reported hours to them.
- Over 1.5 MILLION hours of service from all reporting organizations/agencies with a total of 1,542,353 hours. This equals more than 176 years' worth of service at a 24/7 pace since 5/22/11.
- Volunteer Information Line – for those interested in volunteering: 417-623-0065

Residential Structures Damaged in Tornado:

- Total of 7,500 residential dwellings in the City were damaged or destroyed by storm
- More than 17,000 people affected by tornado
- Of the 7,500 dwellings, approximately 4,000 homes were destroyed , causing an estimated 9,200 people to be displaced

Debris stats:

- Tornado generated nearly 3 million cubic yards of residential debris throughout the disaster area
- FEMA managed the Expedited Debris Removal initiative (EDR) that addressed debris removal in areas of extensive and catastrophic damage. This initiative allowed government-funded contractors to remove loose

tornado debris from private property within a designated tornado-damaged area, and offered 90% federal match to a 10 % local and state match for costs incurred. Missouri Gov. Nixon announced state would pick up the 10% match.

- FEMA mission-assigned the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to execute the debris removal for the City. The Missouri National Guard proved state oversight to the process.
- EDR area was cleared by August 7, 2011.City worked toward this deadline to ensure a quick and efficient cleanup of the disaster.
- Many property owners used insurance proceeds to hire contractors for debris removal; and/or utilized the 100,000 + volunteers who have been active in the cleanup of the City.

Demolition Process:

- City rolled out Demolition Plan with 3 options for property owners on, August 8, 2011:
  - Do It Yourself – if owner has insurance
  - Skilled volunteers affiliated with the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) carry out the demolition of residential structures and/or foundations on behalf of home or property owners.
  - Dangerous, tornado-damaged structures and/or foundations that are ***not*** removed another way will be processed through the dangerous structures provision of the Joplin City Code, starting with the Building Board of Appeals process.

Medical Services:

- By 5-23-2011 Joplin and Jasper County Health Dept. medical services staff worked with local health partners to administer tetanus vaccines to residents and workers in the debris area to provide protection from this disease often associated with debris injuries. The plan included stationary and roving vaccine distribution locations moving throughout tornado affected neighborhoods.
- On 5-24-2011 tetanus vaccinations began and in following weeks over 17,000 tetanus vaccinations were administered by many medical partners in community.
- 14 area health departments along with other local medical partners aided the local tetanus administration effort including over 125 staff.

Animal Control statistics:

- 1,308 pets displaced by tornado picked up and taken to emergency pet shelter by animal control staff
- 529 pets returned to owners from emergency pet shelter operated by ASPCA & Joplin Humane Society
- ASPCA placed remaining tornado displaced animals at end of emergency sheltering operation in new homes through an "Adopt-a-thon" and other placement activities.
- Pet "co-location" shelter with human American Red Cross shelter opened by Joplin Animal Control within few hours of tornado.
- Within hours of the tornado, Joplin Animal Control and Joplin Humane Society opened temporary pet triage clinic to provide emergency medical care for animals transported to the emergency pet shelter.
- Within 24 hours, Humane Society of Missouri was on scene working with Joplin Animal Control for planning animal rescue operations. Within 2 days these operations began.
- ASPCA arrived the day after the storm to handle the emergency pet sheltering operation, working with the Joplin Humane Society.

FEMA Assistance *(as of May 15, 2013 unless otherwise noted)***:**

Information represents Jasper and Newton counties as a whole, including cities of Joplin and Duquesne.

- **More than 13 federal agencies supported critical emergency needs** and functions for Jasper and Newton counties. At peak staffing, **more than 820 FEMA employees** worked the Joplin response and recovery efforts.
- **FEMA and state officials immediately established four joint task forces** to manage the largest recovery priorities – Housing, Debris Removal, Schools and Critical Infrastructure. These task forces included numerous other local, state and federal agencies – all with the goal of bringing an experienced, comprehensive approach to recovery in these key areas.

Information represents Jasper and Newton counties as a whole, including cities of Joplin and Duquesne.

Individuals and Businesses:

10,746 Missourians in Jasper and Newton counties registered for state and federal disaster assistance.

- **More than $21 million in grants** has been approved for eligible Missourians in the two counties to help pay for home repairs, temporary housing and other critical disaster-related needs through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program.
- FEMA provided direct, temporary housing to **586 households** occupying temporary housing units, among **15** sites throughout the metro Joplin area. *As of June 9, 2013* - **586 households (100%) have moved out** of FEMA temporary housing and into longer term or permanent housing.
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance was provided to help workers whose employment was impacted by the tornado but who did not qualify for regular unemployment aid. In the two counties, **541 claims totaling $353,943** were paid.
- A grant of **more than $5.3 million** from the FEMA Disaster Case Management Program was awarded to the Missouri Department of Economic Development to fund disaster case managers to work directly with survivors. The case managers, from agencies such as Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, American Red Cross, Salvation Army and Lutheran Social Services, also have been assisting with developing individual disaster recovery plans that may include referrals, monitoring of services and advocacy, as needed.
- FEMA has provided more than **$4.8 million** to help fund crisis counseling services through community-based outreach and short-term interventions. The services help disaster survivors review their recovery options, discuss their reactions and learn coping strategies.
- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved more than **$43.4 million** in low-interest disaster loans for **521** tornado-impacted individuals, businesses and not-for-profits. SBA provides these loans to help cover property losses. In addition, SBA provides economic injury loans (working capital) for eligible businesses.
    - 417 low-interest disaster loans to homeowners for $26.8 million
    - 100 low-interest disaster loans to businesses for $16.4 million
    - low-interest disaster loans to not-for-profits for $256,400
- **FEMA recovery specialists** helped the Joplin community establish a citizen-based, long-term recovery effort known as the Joplin Area Citizens Advisory Recovery Team (CART). With input from a broad cross-section of the community, CART developed a long-term recovery strategy, the implementation of which is underway.
- FEMA continues to work with a **local Long-Term Recovery Committee,** representing more than 50 voluntary agencies. To date, the committee has handled more than **1,500 cases** of unmet, disaster-related needs.

FEMA Assistance *(as of May 15, 2013, unless otherwise noted):* *continued from previous page*

Information represents Jasper and Newton counties as a whole, including cities of Joplin and Duquesne.

Public Assistance:

- FEMA provides grants to local, state and federal governmental entities, tribal nations and certain not-for-profit organizations to help reimburse eligible costs to remove debris, provide emergency protective measures and to repair or replace damaged public infrastructure and facilities.

- FEMA expects to spend **nearly $150 million*** in both counties to help remove debris, provide emergency protective measures and to permanently repair or replace public buildings and infrastructure damaged or destroyed by the tornado. **About $20 million** of this amount will help fund eligible recovery costs for the City of Joplin; about **$2.5 million** for the City of Duquesne. So far, about **$97.5 million** has been paid to the State of Missouri for disbursement to **25** eligible entities, including local governments, school districts and critical facilities such as hospitals.

  ** Funding subject to change based eligibility review process and potential insurance proceeds. Does not include costs for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Debris Removal operations.*

- FEMA provided **more than $341,000** to the Corporation for National and Community Service for assistance from AmeriCorps to support local and state authorities. About **350 AmeriCorps** members from seven states worked **more than 76,000 hours** in Joplin on various recovery projects, including **2,723** homeowner assistance requests, coordinating donations, removing volumes of debris, including damaged trees and stumps, building a recreational train at FEMA's community housing sites, planting more than 900 new, donated trees for homeowners and helping more than 150 Joplin homeowners and renters in moving from temporary living situations to more permanent housing. AmeriCorps' efforts, which lasted **18 months**, also helped Joplin earn an offset towards the cost-share of some of its local recovery costs.

- Federal, state and local officials teamed up with **The Independent Living Center** in Joplin and other disability organizations to serve as a resource for individuals with disabilities, access and other functional needs -ensuring that people with disabilities, seniors and those with low English proficiency had the same opportunity as others to access and understand disaster assistance.

City Property Receiving Damage:

- Emergency Management — Emergency Sirens
- Fire — Two Fire Stations - No. 2 & No. 4 completely destroyed
  Permanent facilities completed in December 2013.
  Fire Station #2 relocated to 2825 West Junge Boulevard – Opened in December 2013
  Fire Station #4 relocated to 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard – Opened in December 2013
- Fire — Fire Apparatus
  Permanent replacement vehicles in place
- Parks — Senior Citizens Center
- Parks — Cunningham Aquatic Center & Park
- Parks — Parr Hill Park
- Parks — Garvin Park
- Parks — Mohaska Park
- Parks — Ewert Park
- Police — South Police Branch (minor damage)
- Public Works — MAPS Trolley shelters (multiple)
- Public Works — Curb, Streets and Sidewalk, Lights, Signs and Signals
- Public Works — Building structure located at 20th & Connecticut
- Information Systems — CISCO Aironet blown off

Information from Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, as of April 1, 2014

- 553 businesses destroyed or severely damaged
- 4,500-5,000 employees affected
- Approximately 3,000 were kept on payroll in some capacity
- 500 businesses have reopened or are in the process of reopening
- 30 businesses have indicated that they will not rebuild/reopen
- Approximately 150 new businesses have opened since May 22, 2011*

*This count does NOT include contractors/builders that have set up local offices since tornado

Cost of Disaster*:

Provided by Missouri Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions, and Professional Registration

Line of Business	Claims Received	Claims Expected	Losses Paid	Losses Incurred
Commercial Property	2,142	2,159	$986,829,440	$1,320,220,325
Residential Property	8,647	8,784	$535,724,886	$554,388,779
Commercial Auto	309	309	$4,377,076	$4,783,049
Private Auto	6,982	7,117	$47,898,047	$51,084,766
Other Commercial	313	315	$15,031,287	$19,210,900
Total	**18,393**	**18,683**	**$1,589,860,736**	**$1,949,687,819**
County Mutuals	1,477	1,516	$61,789,887	$67,876,781
Total	**19,870**	**20,199**	**$1,651,650,623**	**$2,017,564,600**

**Figures as of October 31, 2012*