

Building Economic Resilience to Disasters in the Southern Tier

Disaster Recovery in Distressed Communities

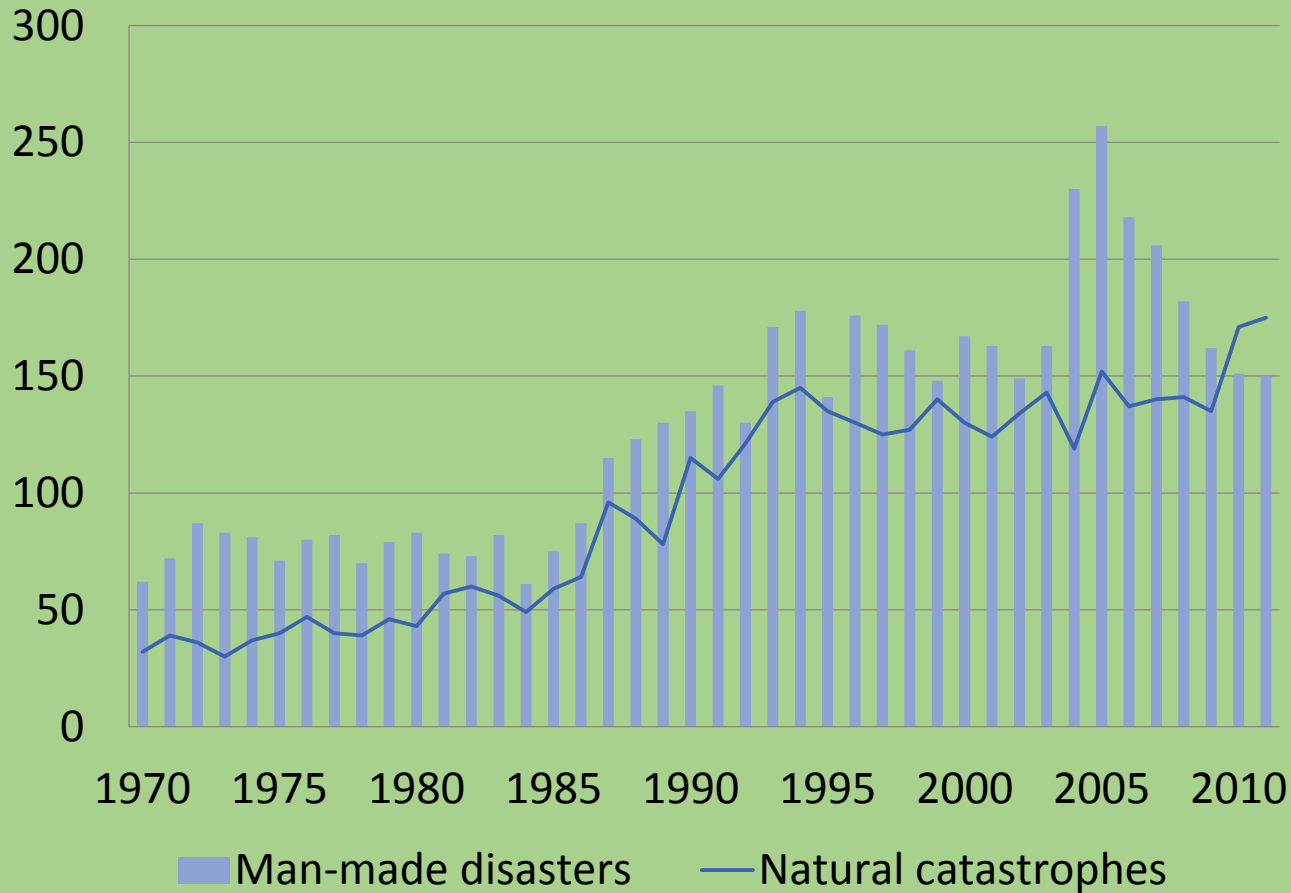
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National Association of Development Organizations
Binghamton, New York
Monday March 31, 2014

Disaster Trends

Global Occurrences 1970 to 2010



22NEWS REMEMBERS

JUNE 1ST TORNADO PATH



**June 1, 2011
Springfield, MA**



















Search & Rescue



Search & Rescue



Protection of Life & Property

Damage Assessment





Cleanup

In economically distressed communities, disasters exacerbate and accelerate the process of decline...





...resulting in more vacant lots and buildings
Decreased economic activity
Increased disinvestment
Loss of community
Decreased public safety



More vacant lots



Illegal Dumping



Vacant Buildings
Survived the tornado – lost to fire



**Tornado damaged Low-income housing co-op
now in foreclosure**

So what do we do now?





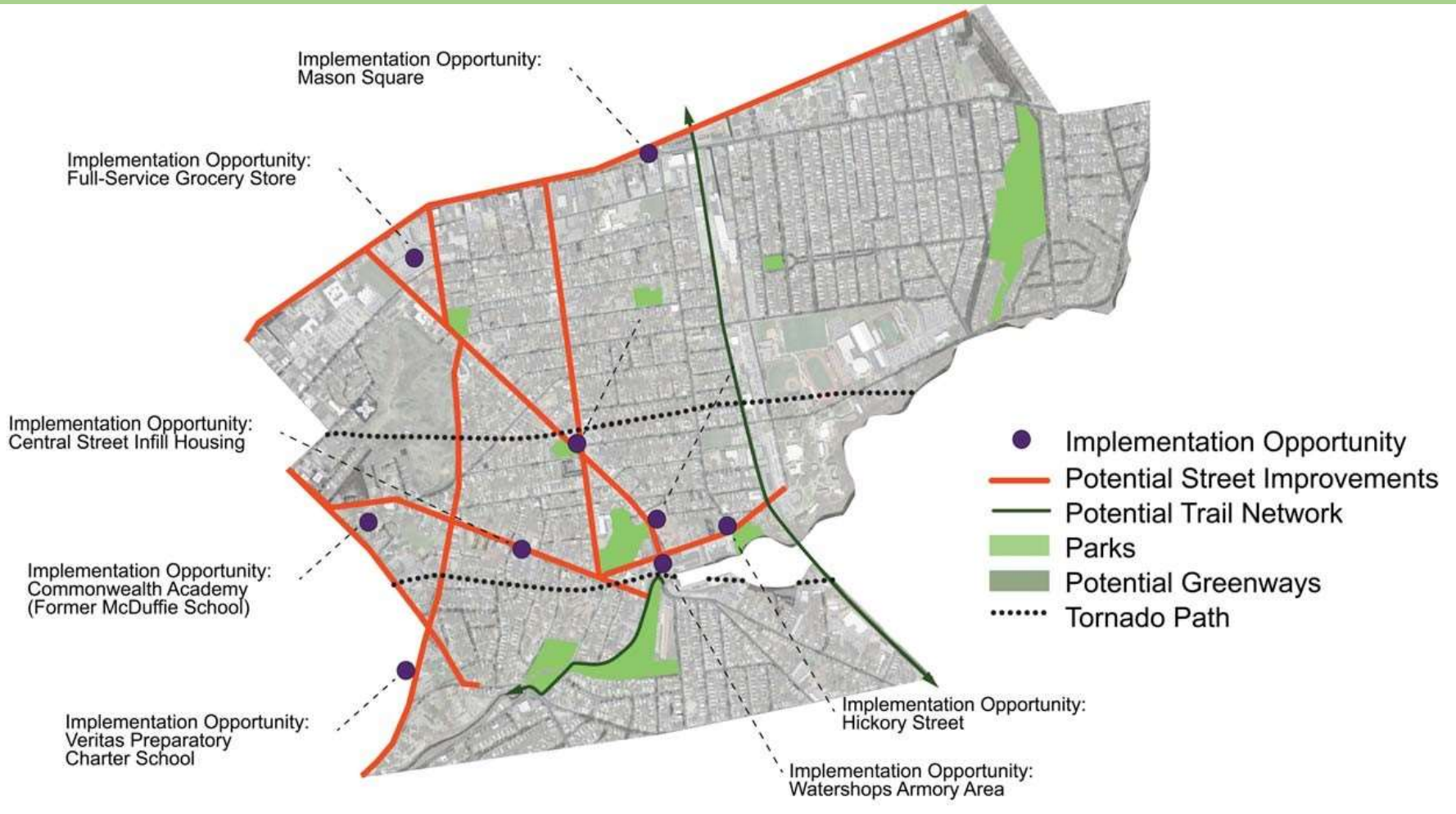
An initiative of DevelopSpringfield and the Springfield Redevelopment Authority

concordia

GOODY CLANCY
ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING
PRESERVATION

PPS
PROJECT for
PUBLIC SPACES

BN+M



Identify new opportunities



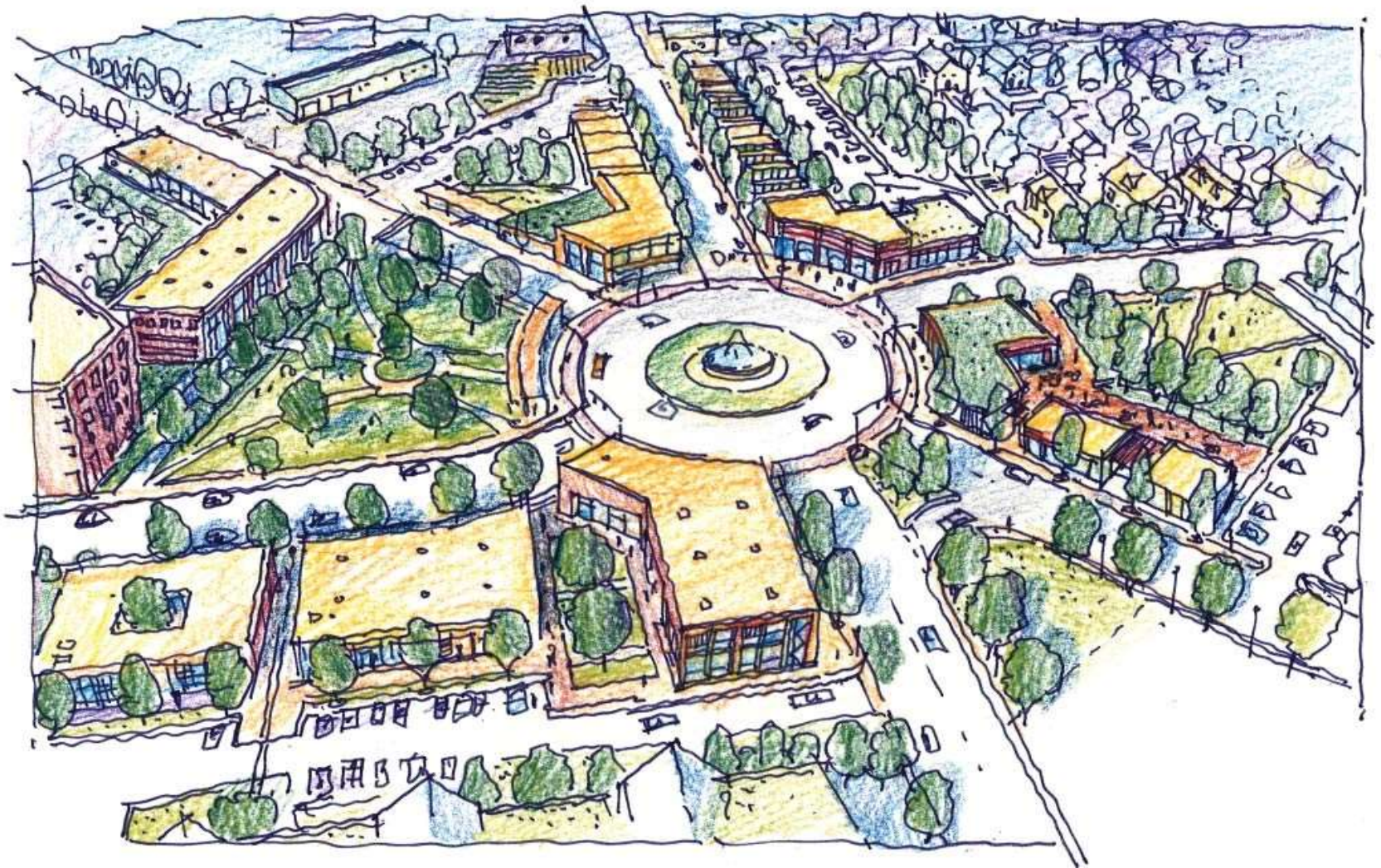
Coordinate Volunteers



Engage the community



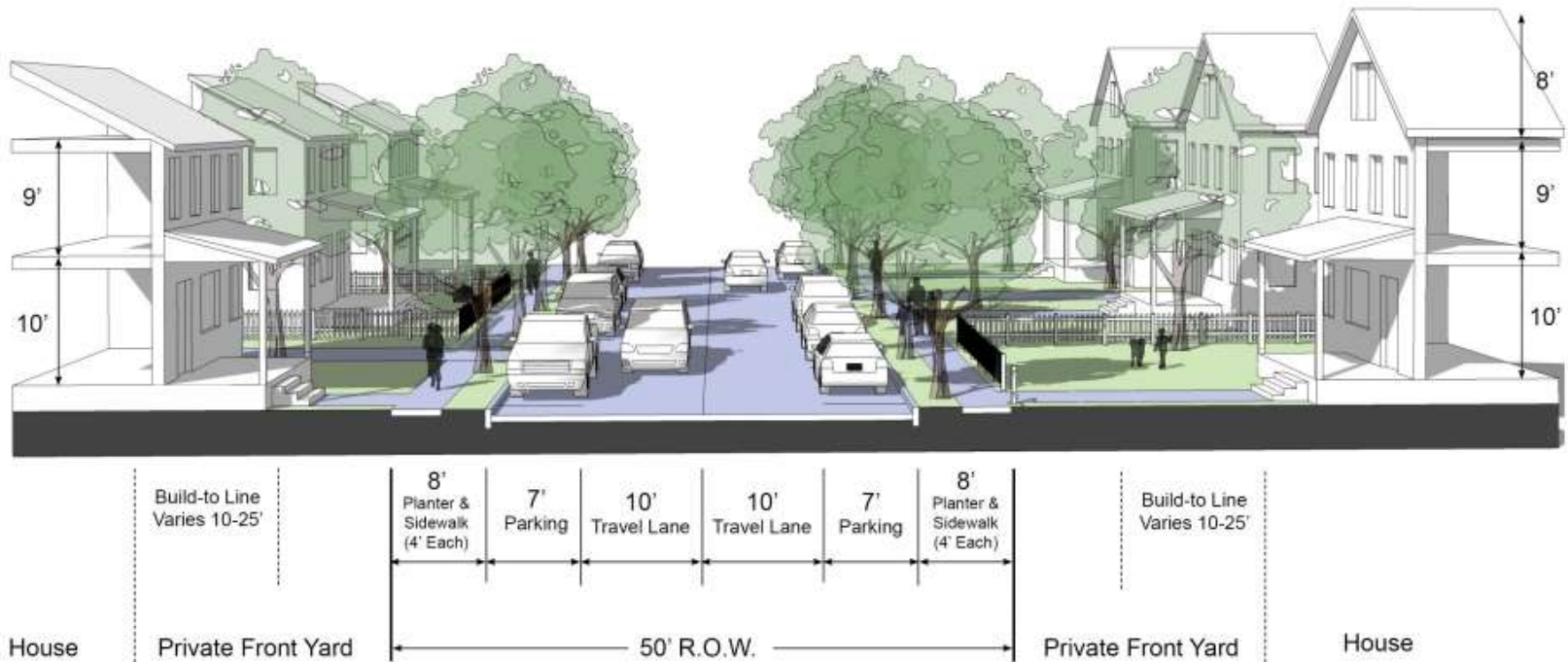
Reimagine Neighborhood Centers



Reimagine Intersections



Envision new streetscapes...



STREET TYPE 2 Residential Streets

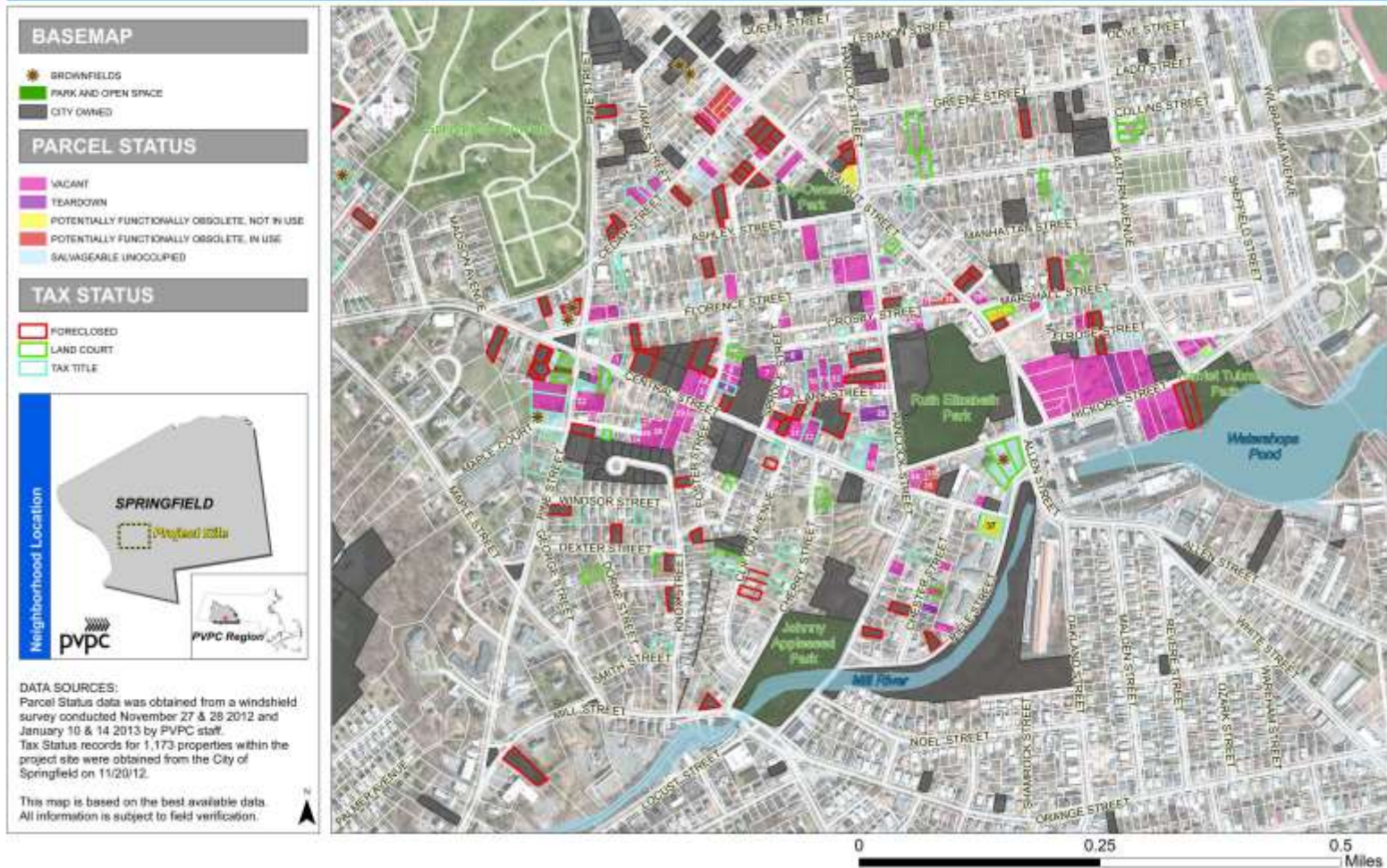
West Springfield Neighborhood Tornado Recovery Plan Proposed Zoning
 Prepared by Dodson&Flinker, Landscape Architecture and Planning - May 10th, 2012

...and new street standards

Neighborhood Stabilization Strategy

- * Demolition of unsalvageable buildings
- * Strategic rehabilitation of salvageable damaged and vacant buildings
- * Business retention strategy
- * Vacant lot clean-up and reuse –
 - expedited abutter lot sale program
 - community gardens
 - pocket parks
 - temporary art installations & murals
 - parking
 - infill development
- * Engage neighborhood residents, business and property owners in the process

Selected Properties of Interest, Watershops District Properties of Interest



Vacant Property Analysis



Selective Demolitions



**Partner with Nonprofit Partners & Volunteers
*Rebuild Together on Tyler Street***



Strategic Acquisitions



Strategic Acquisitions



Leverage Existing Business Assistance Programs
Façade Improvement Grants & RLF Loans





Façade Improvement Grants & RLF Loans



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VACUUM
SERVICE



Re-purpose Vacant Lots Community Gardens



Re-purpose Vacant Lots

Pocket Park - Philadelphia



Re-purpose Vacant Lots

Small Infill parking lots for businesses and residents



**Groundbreaking for New Housing
Funded through NSP and CDBG DR Funds**

Celebrate Every Success

- Create Events – groundbreaking, ribbon cuttings, etc.
- Issue press releases and use social media to broadcast events, business re-openings and other milestones.
- Encourage broad community participation



Tree Planting



Groundbreaking for New School

Plan now because you never know what the next disaster will be or when it will strike...





***Gas explosion - Springfield, MA - November 23, 2012
over 60 downtown buildings damaged or destroyed***