



Montgomery Bulletin

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Tornado Facts

The April 9 tornado that ravaged our community was classified by the National Weather Service as an "F-4" intensity tornado with wind gusts estimated at close to 200 mph. According to Wayne Dunn, the City's building official, 91 homes in Montgomery were damaged as a result of the storm, with 32 of those classified as "condemned." For the purposes of applying for federal emergency management funds, the overall public and private damage within the City was estimated at \$30 million.



A time of sorrow. A time of thanks

The tornado that ravaged portions of Montgomery and the surrounding communities early in the morning on Friday, April 9 was truly a devastating event with tragic consequences. The City of Montgomery would like to express our utmost sympathy to those residents whose lives have been forever affected by the outcome of the tornado and especially to the Cook family and friends who lost loved ones as a result of this deadly occurrence.

In the shadow of tragedy, the true depth of human compassion emerges. The outpouring of concern, caring and assistance from Montgomery residents and businesses for those affected by the tornado was overwhelming. Our deepest thanks and appreciation go to the hundreds of volunteers who assisted the city staff and the affected homeowners by clearing trees, picking up refuse, organizing volunteers, making food, answering phones, offering assistance to the displaced homeown-



Within moments, nature's fury, passed through the City killing four and causing \$30 million in damages.



ers, as well as other acts of kindness. The clean up that has taken place over the past several weeks would have been a much longer and arduous process without your help, and we cannot thank you enough for your efforts.

We would also like to recognize the over thirty public jurisdictions throughout Hamilton, Butler, Warren and Clermont counties that provided the City with mutual aid in the areas

of fire and emergency medical services, police protection and public works. We cannot express enough thanks to these jurisdictions who donated much needed equipment and manpower to assist in our disaster efforts.

To date, Governor Bob Taft has officially declared the tornado damaged areas as State

Disaster Areas. This declaration has allowed the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio National Guard to provide us with their staff and resources. Governor Taft also requested that the President of the United States declare the area as a Federal Disaster Area in order for the affected communities to be eligible for FEMA funds.

FEMA funds would not only provide financial assistance to individuals but it would also provide for reimbursement for the clean up and protection of the affected area. It is anticipated that the City will be notified in the near future about whether we would qualify for this type of assistance.

In addition, the Small Business Administration made its disaster declaration shortly after the event which clears the way for low interest loans for individual property owners who may be underinsured for their losses.

Assistance to Homeowners

The City has provided Homeowner's Assistance Information Sheets to residents in the Montgomery Woods Neighborhood to help answer questions regarding: debris removal, demolition permits, securing of property, contractor registration, income and property tax information, postal service and mediation services available to property owners regarding disputes with insurance companies.

These information sheets are available at City Hall or by calling 891-2424.