



City of Dayton Declares Emergency to Address Storm-Damaged Downtown Building

Release date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025

The City of Dayton has declared an emergency to address structural concerns at 34 N. Main Street, a vacant building that sustained damage due to high winds over the weekend. City officials have determined that the building's parapet wall is at risk of further collapse, posing a potential hazard to the public and nearby properties.

The 14-story tower, built in 1926, was acquired by the City of Dayton in 2016 through receivership. The City took ownership to prevent negligent owners from acquiring the building and to ensure its future use benefited the community. To support redevelopment efforts, the City later transferred the property to the Montgomery County Landbank.

Over the weekend, strong storms with heavy winds caused a partial collapse of the building's parapet wall. Additionally, debris from the collapse caused nonstructural damage to the adjacent Stratacache Tower at 40 N. Main Street. Fortunately, no injuries were reported. This morning, at 8:30 AM, structural engineers, in consultation with a commercial roofing specialist, inspected the remaining parapets and affected walls. Their preliminary assessment determined that additional removal and stabilization work is necessary to ensure the building's short-term stability and safety. This work will begin on Wednesday, March 19 and continue through the remainder of the week.

To accommodate the necessary equipment, the surface parking lot at E. 3rd Street and N. Jefferson Street will be closed. The City of Dayton is actively coordinating with adjacent property owners to keep them informed of these efforts.

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