

5/07/2007 Moran Hosts FEMA Administrator in Greensburg

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Officials Tour Area Following Devastating Tornado, Invites President Bush to View Damage

GREENSBURG - Congressman Jerry Moran today will host Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator R. David Paulison in a visit to Greensburg to view the destruction from the Friday night tornado that swept through the region. Moran has spent Saturday and Sunday in the area meeting with local officials and residents. Officials estimate up to 95 percent of Greensburg was destroyed in the storm.

"The scene in Greensburg is catastrophic," Moran said. "There is not a single building left undamaged. My heart goes out to the residents of this community who, in a matter of minutes, lost family members, homes and normal life as they know it. We are all thankful that the loss of life was not greater with the size and scope of the storm. There has been a tremendous response from across the state and nation and we now band together with area residents to begin piecing the community back together."

The width of the F-5 tornado - the most powerful tornado to hit the U.S. in the last eight years - spanned more than a mile long. The weekend storms claimed 10 lives throughout the state along with numerous injuries. President Bush declared parts of the state a federal disaster area, which allows federal money to be used in recovery efforts, following an expedited request from Moran and other members of the Kansas delegation. Moran has also invited President Bush to Greensburg to view the destruction of this storm.

Moran and Administrator Paulison will be joined today by Governor Sebelius, Senator Sam Brownback and officials from the City of Greensburg and across the state for a briefing by local officials and a tour of the damage.

Kansans can find information about how to help the victims of this weekend's storms by visiting Moran's website at www.jerrymoran.house.gov/.

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