

For Immediate Release

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MAYOR TO WELCOME YMCA TO TOWER SQUARE

Press Conference to Announce New Wellness and Child Care Centers

Springfield—April 15, 2019—Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno, along with Tower Square co-owners Dinesh Patel and Vid Mitta, will welcome representatives of the YMCA of Greater Springfield as new tenants of Tower Square on Thursday, April 18 at 2pm.

The relocation, which will occur this August, will include an all-new, state-of-the-art facility at Tower Square to house the YMCA's wellness and childcare programming.

Mayor Sarno is a strong supporter of the robust programming that will continue to be offered by the Springfield Y. "This pivotal relocation will provide easy access – as well as upgraded services – to Springfield residents, students, and individuals employed throughout the city," Sarno said.

"We are delighted to welcome the Springfield Y to Tower Square for several reasons," said Vid Mitta, Managing Partner of Tower Square. "Most significant for us is the chance to offer exceptional educational and wellness facilities to area youth and families."

The owners of Tower Square will work in partnership with the YMCA to help finance the cost of the buildout. In addition, the Y is launching a capital campaign to help pay for furnishing the space.

Child Care Center

The new home for the Springfield Y will include a 18,040 square-foot education center, serving infants through elementary school students, with bright new classrooms and other state-of-the-art amenities. The plans also include an outdoor playground on the sixth floor of the building with brand new playground equipment and an indoor playroom. The YMCA will continue to operate afterschool programs in various schools throughout the region.

Child Care Center amenities include curbside pick-up and drop-off for preschool and school age children; free parking; newly-furnished classrooms; and technology centers in every room.

Wellness Center

The Y will continue to offer its popular fitness and health programming in a brand new 10,708 square-foot wellness center on the mezzanine level of Tower Square, adjacent to the air walk connecting Monarch Place. A variety of premium strength and

conditioning equipment will be available in a bright, inviting space featuring a view overlooking the city.

Amenities for the Wellness Center include free garage parking for all YMCA members and visitors; an open floor plan, including a view of the city; a new group exercise room with all classes included in the membership; new state-of-the-art spin room; new sauna and locker rooms; and a walking track.

YMCA Back Office

The Y will move its back office to a 4,035 square-foot space also on the mezzanine level of Tower Square, adjacent to the air walk connecting City Stage Parking.

“We believe that in the new space in Tower Square, the Y will be joining and contributing to the revitalization now underway in Downtown Springfield. Our new facilities are right across from the Innovation District, in the same building as UMass Springfield Center, and a close distance to the nearly 3,000 employees at MGM with access to a large and growing Downtown workforce,” incoming Board Chair Jeff Poindexter said.

Dexter Johnson, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Springfield, said with the formal announcement about plans to move to Tower Square, the YMCA will make the Chestnut Street property and adjacent parking lot available for sale. Home City Housing recently acquired the second floor of the tower at the YMCA after previously purchasing the third through sixth floors. Renovations are currently underway in those areas of the building, as Home City Housing expands its housing footprint with 104 units of single-room occupancy residences. Johnson said the YMCA at Chestnut Street would stay open to serve members until the new facility is completed.

Johnson said, “We are excited about developing dynamic new space that will help the YMCA grow. The YMCA has a rich legacy here in Springfield, and we remain focused on providing opportunities for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.”

ABOUT THE YMCA OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD

In addition to these Springfield-based programs, the YMCA of Greater Springfield operates the Scantic Valley YMCA, Wilbraham Early Learning Center and Stony Brook Acres Camp in Wilbraham, Camp Weber in West Springfield and youth development programs throughout the Pioneer Valley. The YMCA in Springfield was established in 1852 and has been a way of life for thousands of youth, teens, families and seniors throughout the region.

ABOUT TOWER SQUARE

Tower Square, located at 1500 Main Street in downtown Springfield, was purchased in 2018 by Springfield Tower Square, LLC, a holding company comprised of four Massachusetts entrepreneurs with additional local interests. The 1.6 million sq. ft. property consists of a 266-room hotel, retail and office space, as well as an enclosed parking garage. New tenants include the White Lion Brewery, AT&T Store, and Prodigy Personnel. UMass will continue its tenancy for an additional five-year period. Tower Square owners expect another major announcement in the coming weeks.

