

What They Said

Written by

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Morning After Reactions of Governor Mark Dayton and other public officials during a Monday morning walking tour of the West Broadway/Penn neighborhood disaster area. The May 29th tornado cut a diagonal swath through North Minneapolis demolishing some homes and businesses, uprooting thousands of lives and trees.

“What we saw last night was people being very cooperative. We didn’t know how it would go with no lights. The bottom line is people behaved and it was a very quite night.” -- **Minneapolis Police Chief Tim Dolan**

“There were 40 people here at church when the tornado struck. Virtually every car that was parked here got their window smashed by falling bricks.” -- **Minneapolis 5th Ward City Council Member Don Samuels**

“We appreciate all of our officials coming together. We’ve been through this tough issue before. We deeply appreciate the Governor who’s interest in North Minneapolis did not start when the tornado came through.” -- **Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak**

“I was at the family center this morning. Their lives have been twisted just like their homes. I met a woman who had nine kids with her. We saw a number of people who had trees through their homes and they just want to know what will happen next. I reminded them how this state and this city have a history of wrapping arms around those who need it most. Next will be the rebuilding and recovering of North Minneapolis. We stand ready to help in any way.” -- **Minnesota Lieutenant Governor Yvonne Prettner Solon**

“For me, Representative Bobby Joe Champion, Senator Linda Higgins, Council Members Hofstede and Samuels, and Representative Mullery, we live right here. To see our neighborhood so beat up after this natural disaster is pretty shocking. We feel a lot better because of the great response of the police, fire and neighbors. There are neighbors helping neighbors out here. This is the spirit of our great state. Plug in. Get the help you need. You are not alone.” -- **Minnesota 5th District Congressman Keith Ellison**

“We need to take care of the people who have been injured, families whose lives have been destroyed.” -- **Governor Mark Dayton**

“Having seen these disasters in other parts of the state, this tornado was on the ground for four miles and impacted 10,000 homes. The fact that people are already finding shelter, that trees are being cleared, and that power is being restored, is really a testament to people working together. It could have been much worse.” -- **Lieutenant Governor Yvonne Prettner Solon**