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News Release

For Immediate Release

Mayor Bob Stephens addresses tragedy of Hailey Owens' death

Mayor Bob Stephens provided words of support and encouragement to the community, following last week's tragic news of the abduction and death of Hailey Owens, at a news conference 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24.

"There are plenty of victims to go around. From Hailey Owens, to her family, to the parents of the person accused of this terrible crime, our thoughts and prayers go out to all of them. However, if we truly want to honor the memory of Hailey Owens, we can do that by helping the young people in our city. As a community, we need to make a commitment to feed them, to teach them, and to protect them. If we make this long-lasting commitment today and moving into the future, then Hailey's legacy will be one of beauty and love," he said.

Download the [full transcript of his remarks](#). (pdf)

The video can be viewed at <http://cityview.springfieldmo.gov/mayors-news-conference-february-24-2014/>.

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