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Springfield top comeback neighborhood

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The neighborhood contains some of the city's best examples of 19th and early 20th century architecture, which explains Springfield's listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The SPAR Council formed in 1974 and was the first organization to support the neighborhood's revitalization efforts. Since then, numerous public and private development projects have followed.

The community's recent revitalization efforts have been led by a partnership that includes federal, state and city government, private, commercial and

residential developers, arts and cultural developers, and local and national non-profit organizations including Local Initiatives Support Corporation and MetroEdge. Springfield's location within a State Enterprise Zone and a Federal Empowerment Zone offers a variety of benefits to new and expanding businesses in the area.

Springfield resident Jennifer Holbrook is currently working with HDR Engineering Inc., Project for Public Spaces and the City of Jacksonville to enhance and improve the nearby Hogans Creek Park system. Many hope the park improvements will be part of

the city's downtown master plan "Emerald Necklace" initiative.

Springfield's tree-lined streets are within walking distance of the St. Johns River, many city parks and numerous popular businesses including entertainment venues, restaurants and cafes. Springfield offers a mix of authentic restored and new construction homes, and lofts that are historically and urban inspired. The neighborhood's homes are designed with alley-loaded garages for off-street parking and large front porches that promote social interaction with neighbors.

There is truly something for everyone in Springfield.