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## **Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **THE TOWN OF KINGSTON COMMENCES HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING**

The Kingston Emergency Management Directors (EMDs) met with June Garneau of Mapping and Planning Solutions to work on the required five-year update to the **2019 Kingston Hazard Mitigation Plan**. The Town and Mapping and Planning Solutions are conducting a series of hazard mitigation meetings to develop the plan over the next few months.

During these public meetings, the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team (HMPT) will address natural, technological, and human-caused hazards such as Inland Flooding, Long-Term Utility Outages, and Transport Accidents; the Team will determine "Action Items" to help mitigate the effects of these hazards. The Team will also review shelter sites and the need for generators at those sites.

By examining critical infrastructure and key resources, along with past hazards, the Team will establish priorities for future mitigation projects and steps that can be taken to increase public awareness of hazards in general.

As mandated by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, all municipalities must complete a local hazard mitigation plan to qualify for Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) funding should a natural disaster occur. FEMA grants make the planning processes possible.

The HMPT is currently being formed. Kingston citizens and any interested stakeholders are invited to participate. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 9, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** via "Zoom". The public is encouraged to attend all meetings. To be included in the process, all interested parties should contact Phillip Coombs, Director of Public Works and Deputy EMD, by email at [pcoombs@kingstonnh.org](mailto:pcoombs@kingstonnh.org); interested parties will be added to the Zoom meeting invitation list. Future meetings are tentative and will be announced when determined.

More information on the hazard mitigation planning process is available from June Garneau at Mapping and Planning Solutions, [jgarneau@mappingandplanning.com](mailto:jgarneau@mappingandplanning.com).