# RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 2:50 pm, Jun 22, 2022



Board of Selectmen

June 16, 2022

**Regular Meeting** 

6:30 P.M.

The minutes reflect motions and a summary of the discussion. Refer to the attached link for the recording of this meeting

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLVFZ0n6Kao

Jean Speck, Rufus deRham and Glenn Sanchez.

Also present: Minutes drafted from Zoom video, unable to confirm attendees.

## Call to order:

Jean Speck called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

## Amend agenda:

Glenn Sanchez made a motion to amend the agenda to move 5.2 Streetscape Clerk-ofthe -Works job description to Old Business 6.16. Jean Speck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Glenn Sanchez made a motion to add the following item to the agenda:

6.17 Electric mower proposal

Jean Speck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Approval of Minutes

Jean Speck made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2022 Regular BoS meeting, as submitted. Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Correspondence:

None.

"An equal opportunity employer and service provider." The Board of Selectmen Regular meeting minutes of June 14, 2022

## Tax Refunds:

Jean Speck made a motion to accept the three tax refunds totaling \$1,794.64, as submitted. Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

# Tax Collector request to retain overpayments of taxes less than \$5

Jean Speck made a motion to approve the request from the tax collector regarding the retaining of tax overpayments totaling \$55.63. Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Streetscape Clerk of the works job description

Agenda item moved to 6.16 on the agenda.

## Town Hall 2<sup>rd</sup> floor rethinking of space:

Jean Speck:

- To accommodate some growth on the second floor looking to juggle some of the offices.
- Moving the ROVs down to the small conference room.
  - During an election they need more space to allow for all four of them to be in the office.
- Keep P&R in the office at the other end of the hall, where they are currently,
  - They are standing up a ton of programs.
  - There are three of them in the office: P&R Director, ASP Director and Camp Director.
  - Lots of stuff coming into the building for the programs and nowhere else to store the stuff.
- The cost will likely be limited to possibly one desk or some sort of horizontal surface and some moving of technology.
- The "kitchen" or "breakroom" will still be available for small groups to meet.
- There has been a request to spread them out.

Glenn Sanchez requested a tour of the second floor to help understand the proposed changes. He agreed to stop in next week.

Debbie Devaux asked why P&R is not using the Community House to store their equipment? Jean noted that "it takes them out of the building for any moving around or managing of the equipment." She also clarified that there is not adequate office space at the Community House move to P&R over there.

## **Resolution – Pension Plan:**

Jean Speck made the following motion:

The undersigned authorized representative of the Town of Kent (the Employer) hereby certifies that the following resolution was duly adopted by the Employer on June 16, 2022, and that such resolution has not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof.

RESOLVED, that the form of amended Plan and Trust effective, January 1, 2022, presented to this meeting is hereby approved and adopted and that an authorized representative of the Employer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of the Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto are true copies of the Town of Kent Money Purchase Plan as amended and restated, and the Summary of Plan Provisions, which hereby approved and adopted.

Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Tree pruning and removal contractors – RFP:

Jean Speck made a motion to accept the proposal to contract with Emmons Tree and Landscaping LLC for three years for tree pruning and removal, as outlined in the RFP. Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

# Contracting services for drainage replacement – RFP:

Rufus deRham made a motion to accept Joe Gawel's proposal for contracting services for drainage replacement for three years, July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025. Jean Speck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Truck replacements - RFP:

Rick Osborne reported that there were no responses to the RFP for the truck replacements. He requested that the BoS allow him to look for trucks on the State bid list and/or Sourcewell pricing. The Board agreed to allow Rick to look to those source for the truck replacements.

## Correct motion for hiring ASP Director:

Jean Speck tabled until the next meeting.

# Correct motion for hiring Camp Director:

Jean Speck tabled until the next meeting.

# Assessor & Tax Collector Computer issues:

Assessor Jen Dubray sent an email on June 13, 2022 (attached), requesting this item be removed from the agenda.

Jean Speck stated she did a deeper dive with Yucatech because Jen and Jimmy both said no improvements. Bob is looking into the issues.

## Schaghticoke/BIA update:

Waiting for Jeff Sienkiewicz to provide a date for a special meeting.

# Salary review - Management review:

Jean Speck:

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- Not prepared to do any sort of deep dive tonight.
- Keep o the agenda.
- Focus on it next meeting.
- Will send Glenn and Rufus the COG salary survey and link to CCM website.
- The review needs to be wrapped-up by December or January for next budget season.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Doing research on his own.
- Started a spreadsheet.
- Reviewed the Management Review but noted it is four years old.
- Wil continue to do his own research.

# Town Hall large meeting room video conference system update:

Joyce Kearns provided a written report, attached.

# Emergency Management Director job description:

Jean Speck tabled until the next meeting.

# Deputy Emergency Management Director job description:

Jean Speck tabled until next meeting.

## COVID -19 pandemic update:

Jean Speck:

- Seven cases reported in the last two weeks.
- Data "a little goofy" because of home testing.
- Extension approved, so likely to continue testing at Transfer Station.
- Running low on home testing kits.
- Emergency Management is looking into two vendors for testing kits.

## Flag policy:

Jean Speck:

- Randy has reviewed and made some revisions.
- Jean will put into "resolution" template for approval at next meeting.

## EV Charging Station:

Jean Speck:

- Eversource has new rebate programs for Electric car charging stations for businesses.
- Work with Barbara to see what costs are going to be for a charger and what we can get for a rebate.

Donna Hayes:

- Car charging stations are considered structures and require a permit.
- P&Z is working on changing the regulations.

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The Board of Selectmen Regular meeting minutes of June 14, 2022

Regulation changes probably won't be effective until September.

## B.E.T.T.Y. update:

Jean Speck had nothing new to report.

## Juneteenth:

Jean Speck made a motion to add June 19th know as Juneteenth Independence Day to section nine, Administrative Policies, Town Hall Closures in the Town of Kent Employee Policy and Procedure Manual effective beginning in 2023. Rufus deRham seconded he motion and the motion carried.

## Main Street Noise and Traffic report:

Jean Speck:

- Contacted DOT.
- Requested a meeting with the Division Chief of Traffic Engineering to talk about next steps.

## Streetscape update:

Jean Speck:

- Curbing materials are proving very difficult to source.
- Mather has located a supplier but there is an additional \$67,000 fee.
- Going to email Mather tonight to confirm the start date and timeline.

Glenn Sanchez made a motion to accept the Streetscape Clerk-of-the -Works job description and post it in time for the beginning of the project. Jean Speck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Electric Mower Proposal:

Glenn Sanchez:

- At the last meeting. BoS authorized Rick to move forward with obtaining bids for an electric mower.
- The mower is to be purchased by the end of this month.
- If we need a mower now, and if we are worried a little bit about where the money is going to come from, because the electric mower is more expensive than a gas mower, could we just go with a gas mower and wait until next time to purchase the electric mower?

Jean and Rufus agreed to move forward with the electric mower.

## **ARPA Needs Assessment Committee:**

Glenn Sanchez:

ARPA meeting with the BoS next Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. to present their report

## Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee:

Jean Speck:

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- Next Community Forum is also Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Working toward the November date for the report to be submitted to OPM.

## Broadband Working Group:

Jean Speck:

- The group has not met.
- A lot of changes with funding sources and interest at the Federal, State and regional levels.
- Congress has planned a round table for next week.

## Kent Sustainability Team:

Jean Speck:

- Continue to talk about the various action items.
- The Nature Conservancy provided a Community Resilience Forum and they created a report for Kent, attached.
- The report should be reviewed and approved by the BoS at the next meeting.
- There is no Zoom recording of the forum, it was not a meeting coordinated by the subcommittee.
- Will inquire if changes can be made to the report.
- Have the sustainability team proofread the report and have them go back to Adam and have him fix any errors.

## KVFD/Ambulance staffing subcommittee:

Jean Speck:

- Evident that New Milford will likely not to move forward with the Medic 4 consortium.
- New Milford's percentage in that consortium was 41.95%.
- Will be meeting with Trinity EMAS along with the other seven towns in the consortium.
- The subcommittee continues to look at all the different models: stand alone, contracting.

## Main Street Noise and Traffic Committee:

Glenn Sanchez:

- Continue to meet.
- Focusing on the noise and enforcement parts.
- Will produce a report for the BoS for consideration.
- The committee was interested in knowing the status of the first report.

## Streetscape Building Committee:

Jean Speck:

• No meetings, no tasks.

## Swift House Task Force:

Glenn Sanchez:

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- Continue to meet.
- Created survey questions.

Jean Speck:

- Spoke with Zanne Charity regarding the survey.
- Will be creating the survey this weekend and should be completed very quickly.
- Met with John Worthington and completed an ADA checklist.
- Review the ADA checklist at next week's meeting.
- Cannot find a job description for an ADA coordinator.

## Selectmen's Reports:

Jean Speck:

- Vandalism at the Welcome Center a couple of weekends ago.
- Will be meeting with the young folks and their parents in the next week.
- Contacted a local vendor for cameras at the Welcome Center.

Glenn Sanchez:

• Nothing additional to report.

Rufus deRham:

• Nothing additional to report.

<u>Adjourn:</u> Jean Speck adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

*Joyce Rearns* Joyce Kearns Administrative Assistant

These are draft minutes and the Board of Selectmen at the subsequent meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval.



BOARD OF SELECTMEN Regular Meeting Agenda June 16, 2022 6:30 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82970811978
Meeting ID:	829 7081 1978
One tap mobile:	+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Supporting documentation for this meeting: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1oQ3IHcsOu45\_fYoDRxjLmp98X1-zFXH8

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Approval of Minutes 2.1. June 2, 2022. Regular BoS meeting
- 3. Correspondence
- 4. Tax Refunds
- 5. New Business
  - 5.1. Tax Collector request to retain overpayments of taxes less than \$5
  - 5.2. ADA coordinator job description
  - 5.3. Streetscape Clerk of the works job description
  - 5.4. Town Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rethinking of space
  - 5.5. Resolution Pension Plan
  - 5.6. Tree pruning and removal contractors RFP
  - 5.7. Contracting services. For drainage replacement RFP
  - 5.8. Truck replacement RFP
  - 5.9. Approval of Kent Sustainability Team summary of findings
- 6. Old Business
  - 6.1. Correct motion for hiring ASP Director
  - 6.2. Correct motion for hiring Camp Director
  - 6.3. Assessor & Tax Collector
  - 6.4. Schaghticoke/BIA update
  - 6.5. Salary review Management review

## REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES

Sec. 12-81(20), Sec. 12-124, 12-125, 12-126, 12-127, 12-127a, 12-128, 12-129 Rev. as Amended This is to certify that ROSE JULIA &

has presented satisfactory proof that he/she is entitled to an exemption on the assessment list of 10/01/2020 Sec. 12-81 (20) Servicemen Having Disability Rating.

- Sec. 12-124 Abatement to poor.
- Sec. 12-125 Abatement of Taxes of Corporations.
- □ Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Assessed in more than one Municipality.
- □ Sec. 12-127 Abatement or Refund to Blind Persons.
- □ Sec. 12-127A Abatement of Taxes on Structures of Historical or Architectural Merit.
- Sec. 12-128 Refund of Taxes Erroneously Collected from Veterans and Relatives.
- ☑ Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

ROSE JULIA & KAY BRYAN C PO BOX 935 KENT, CT 06757

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2020-01-0000592
00113700
378 KENT RD
*2020010000592*

To DEBORAH DEVAUX

Collector of KENT State of Connecticut.

I hereby apply for refund\* of such part of my tax as shall represent:

The service exemption or Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments. (State reason -- Cross out service exemption if it does not apply)

**********	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	**************************************	Interest	Lien	************* Fee	**************************************	Overpaid Tax
Total Due	07/01/2021	6,196.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,196.82	
Total Paid	03/30/2022	7,696.82	139.43	0.00	0.00	7,836.25	-1,500.00 ***
Adjusted Ref	und	-1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	

## PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund. I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.

رجسان 151 Print Name

hature of Taxpayer

## COLLECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BODY

To the First Selectman, or It is recommended that refund\* of property taxes and interest in the amount of 1,500.00 be made to the above-named taxpayer in accordance with the provisions of Section (s):

Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

DATED AT KENT, CONNECTICUT THIS 16 DAY OF May 2022

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## ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

The First Selectman, as authorized by the Board of Selectman, or approved on the day of 2022. It was voted to refund Property Taxes and Interest amounting to \$ to

First Selectman

Other Governing Body

Clerk

Mail To : DEBORAH DEVAUX KENT PO BOX 311 KENT, CT 06757

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AS OF 05/16/2022

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## REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES

rd, a Sec. 12-81(20), Sec. 12-124, 12-125, 12-126, 12-127, 12-127a, 12-128, 12-129 Rev. as Amended This is to certify that CAMP WILLIAM O JR

has presented satisfactory proof that he/she is entitled to an exemption on the assessment list of 10/01/2020 Sec. 12-81 (20) Servicemen Having Disability Rating. П

- Sec. 12-124 Abatement to poor. Sec. 12-125 Abatement of Taxes of Corporations.
- Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Assessed in more than one Municipality.
- Sec. 12-127 Abatement or Refund to Blind Persons.
- Sec. 12-127A Abatement of Taxes on Structures of Historical or Architectural Merit.
- Sec. 12-128 Refund of Taxes Erroneously Collected from Veterans and Relatives.
- Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

CAMP WILLIAM O JR 55 CAMPS RD KENT, CT 06757

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## 2020-01-0000286 00025700 CAMPS RD

### To DEBORAH DEVAUX

Collector of State of Connecticut. KENT

I hereby apply for refund\* of such part of my tax as shall represent:

The service exemption or Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments. (State reason -- Cross out service exemption if it does not apply)

	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	Tax	Interest	Lien	Fee	Total	Overpaid Tax
Total Due	07/01/2021	332.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	332.40	
Total Paid	01/26/2022	498.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	498.60	-166.20 ***
Adjusted Ref	und	-166.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	166.20	

## PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund. I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.

Robert G. CAMp Print Name Administrator Print Name

Robert & Camp Signature of Taxpayer

## COLLECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BODY

To the First Selectman, or It is recommended that refund\* of property taxes and interest in the amount of 166.20 be made to the above-named taxpayer in accordance with the provisions of Section (s):

Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

DATED AT KENT, CONNECTICUT THIS 08 DAY OF March 2022

Nevan

## ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

The First Selectman, as authorized by the Board of Selectman, or 2022. It was voted to refund approved on the day of Property Taxes and Interest amounting to \$ to

First Selectman

Other Governing Body

Clerk

Mail To : DEBORAH DEVAUX KENT PO BOX 311 KENT, CT 06757

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## REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES

Sec. 12-81(20), Sec. 12-124, 12-125, 12-126, 12-127, 12-127a, 12-128, 12-129 Rev. as Amended This is to certify that BERGOFIN WILLIAM D

has presented satisfactory proof that he/she is entitled to an exemption on the assessment list of 10/01/2020 Sec. 12-81 (20) Servicemen Having Disability Rating.

- □ Sec. 12-124 Abatement to poor.
- Sec. 12-125 Abatement of Taxes of Corporations.
- □ Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Assessed in more than one Municipality.
- □ Sec. 12-127 Abatement or Refund to Blind Persons.
- □ Sec. 12-127A Abatement of Taxes on Structures of Historical or Architectural Merit.
- □ Sec. 12-128 Refund of Taxes Erroneously Collected from Veterans and Relatives.
- □ Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

BERGOFIN WILLIAM D 27 UPPER KENT HOLLOW RD KENT, CT 06757-1819

## 2020-04-0080035 80035 /BA57103/WP1AF2A56FLB92068

20040080035

To DEBORAH DEVAUX

Collector of KENT State of Connecticut.

I hereby apply for refund\* of such part of my tax as shall represent:

The service exemption or

(State reason -- Cross out service exemption if it does not apply)

Adjusted Refu	und	-128.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	128.44		
Total Paid	02/28/2022	385.36	11.56	0.00	0.00	396.92	-128.44	-**
Total Due	01/01/2022	256.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	256.92		
		Tax	Interest	Lien	Fee	Total	Overpaid	Tax

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## PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund. I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.

ero IM 0 lam Print Name "

Signature of Taxpayer

## COLLECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BODY

To the First Selectman, or

It is recommended that refund\* of property taxes and interest in the amount of 128.44 be made to the above-named taxpayer in accordance with the provisions of Section (s):

DATED AT KENT, CONNECTICUT THIS 09 DAY OF May 2022

DEBORAH DEVAUX

Date

## ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

The First Selectman, as authorized by the Board of Selectman, or approved on the day of 2022. It was voted to refund Property Taxes and Interest amounting to \$ to

First Selectman

Other Governing Body

Clerk

Mail To : DEBORAH DEVAUX KENT PO BOX 311 KENT, CT 06757

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# Office of the Tax Collector

Town of Kent

41 Kent Green Boulevard P.O. Box 311 Kent, CT 06757 (860) 927-3269

June 13, 2022

In accordance with the Town of Kent Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Sec. 18-8 dated 1/2009; the Tax Collector is authorized to retain overpayments of taxes if such credit balances are less than \$5.00. The thirty two accounts on the attached list dated 06/13/2022 have balances from (\$.01) to (\$5.00) totaling \$55.63. I request that the Board of Selectman approve adjusting all of these credit balances to zero and the \$55.63 be transferred to Tax Refunds, Line 130-320.

Date of approval of Tax Collector: 06/13/2022

Deborah Devaux, CCMC, Tax Collector, Town of Kent

Date of approval of the Board of Selectman:

Board of Selectman

<b>Credit Report</b> Conditions : Ye	KENT <b>AS OF Date 06/13/20</b> . Year 2015 To 2020 Dist To Order BV	06/13/2022 Cash Type : TOWN Order By Bill Number Include Susp	: TOWN iclude Susp :	se Recap by	: No Recap by	Date: No Ta	/13/2022 Def All	Page: 1		
		TOT Tax	TOT Adj	d Last		T Due	Lien Due	Fee Due	Bint Due	Total Due
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2020-01-0001176	MAKAREWICH CHARLES & SUSA	3,621.16	0.00	3,623.49 07/15/2021	-2.33	0.00	00.0	0.00	0.00	-2.33
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2020-01-0001685	GODSOE TRAVIS RATHBUN & J	3,662.00	0.00	662.02 11/10/202	-0.02	¢,	0.	0	•	0
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2020-01-0001832	VALDES PRISCILLA CROFT &	2,809.64	0.00	812.67 01/18/202	-3.03	0.	0	•		0
TOT REAL ESTATE	# Of Accts: 19	75,400.98	0.00	75,428.24	-27.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-27.26
2020-02-0040217	MERRYALL MAINTENANCE LLC	221.74	0.00	225.07 08/16/2021	65.6-	0.00	00.00	0.00	0.00	-3.33
TOT PERS PROPERT	# Of Accts: 1	221.74	0.00	225.07	-3,33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-3.33
2020-03-0050654 <sup>.</sup> 2020-03-0051490 <sup>.</sup> 2020-03-0051942 <b>.</b>	DOWNS CHRISTOPHER K KELLY JOHN N MONIZ ALICIA M	175.86 81.89 46.43	00.00	175.99 09/08/2021 85.76 07/27/2021 47.34 11/16/2021	1000	0.00	0.00	00.00	0000	+0.13 -3.87 -0.91
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2020-03-0052893	WEEKS DYLAN R	22.84	00.00	84 10/12/202	0	<u></u>	°.	•	°,	•
TOT MOTOR VEHICL	# Of Accts: 9	1,078.55	-4.67	1,089.42	-15.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-15.54
2020-04-0080072 <sup>-</sup> 2020-04-0080304	BURT RUTH V LANG WILLIAM H JR	117.90 75.51	-16.79 0.00	104.94 02/07/2022 79.36 01/11/2022	-3.83 -3.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.00	-3.83 -3.85
TOT MV SUPPLEMEN	# Of Accts: 2	193.41	-16.79	184.30	-7.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-7.68
YEAR 2020	# Of Accts: 31	76,894.68	-21.46	76,927.03	-53.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-53.81
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GRAND TOTAL	# Of Accts: 32	76,938.04	-21.46	10,972.21	20.00-	~~~~	~~~~	•	***	i.

## ADOPTING RESOLUTION

The undersigned authorized representative of Town of Kent (the Employer) hereby certifies that the following resolution was duly adopted by the Employer on \_\_\_\_\_\_, and that such resolution has not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof:

RESOLVED, that the form of amended Plan and Trust effective January 1, 2022, presented to this meeting is hereby approved and adopted and that an authorized representative of the Employer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of the Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto are true copies of Town of Kent Money Purchase Pension Plan as amended and restated, and the Summary of Plan Provisions, which are hereby approved and adopted.

Date:

Signed:

[print name/title]



## TOWN OF KENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL May 1, 2022

The Town of Kent is interested in obtaining RFP's for contracting services for tree pruning or removal for the following three fiscal years, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.

Please provide your firm's hourly cost and model of equipment available. Include any fringe or other costs not shown in hourly rate. All RFP's are due at the Selectman's Office no later than Friday, May 27, 2022. You can mail to Kent Town Hall, Attn: Rick Osborne, P.O. Box 678, Kent CT 06757, email to <a href="http://publicworks@townofkentct.org">http://publicworks@townofkentct.org</a>, hand deliver or fax to 860 - 927-1313, attention Rick Osborne.

Bid price shall include bucket truck with operator, chipper truck with operator, and laborer/traffic person.

Company Name: Contact Name: Company Address:	Emmons Tree & Landscaping Service, LLC Shawn Emmons PO Box 1716, New Milford, CT 06776 shawn@emmonstree.com
Contact Phone Number	
75 Feet of Reach	\$ <u>2,400.00</u> per day.
	\$ 525.00 per hour for storm/emergency bucket only.
	\$ 685.00 per hour for storm/emergency all equipment.

Contractors are expected to comply with standard insurance requirements for liability and worker's compensation.

NECEIVED MAY 2'5 2022 B¥: .....



## EMMONS TREE & LANDSCAPING SERVICE, LLC P.O. Box 1716 New Milford, CT 06776 (860) 355-9709 <u>shawn@emmonstree.com</u>

Equipment List

Year	Make	Model	Misc Information		
2019	International	4300 Series Bucket Truck	75ft Reach		
2018	CMC	Track Lift	85ft Reach		
2004	Kenworth	Log Truck w/Grapple			
2007	Kenworth	Chip Truck			
2019	International	4300 Chip Truck			
2012	Bandit	1990 Chipper			
2013	Bandit	1390 Chipper			
2018	Bandit	19XP Chipper			

Shawn Emmons Owner/Operator Connecticut Arborist # S-6221

ACORD				E	MMOTRE-01		JFINLEY	
ACORD	CERT	FICATE OF LIA	ABILITY INS			DAT	E (MM/DD/YYYY)	
THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS	A						5/16/2022	
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CERTIFICATE HOLDER			CANCELLATION					
Town of Kent 41 Kent Green Blvd.								
			SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN					
			ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.					
PO Box 678								
Kent, CT 06757			AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE					
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ACORD 25 (2016/03)			@ 19	88-2015 AC	ORD CORPORATION.	All rin	this reserved	
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Joseph G. Ganel 47A Studio HIM RJ. Hent CT. OBTST



## TOWN OF KENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Town of Kent is interested in obtaining RFP's for contracting services for drainage replacement on various roads and other projects for the following three fiscal years, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.

Please provide your firm's hourly cost and model of equipment available. Include any fringe or other costs not shown on hourly rate. <u>All RFP's are due no later than Friday, May 27,</u> <u>2022.</u> You can mail to Kent Town Hall, Attn: Rick Osborne, P.O. Box 678, Kent, CT 06757, email to <u>http://publicworks@townofkentct.org</u>, hand deliver or fax to 860 - 927-1313, attention Rick Osborne.

EQUIPMENT	PER HOUR	TYPE OF EQUIPMENT
EXCAVATOR	\$ 175.00	John Deere 210 John Deere 135
BACKHOE with rubber tire	\$ 100.00	John Deere 310
LOADER with rubber tires		
DUMP TRUCK 6-WHEEL 10-WHEEL TRIAXLE OTHER	\$ 175.00	Jaternarfrasan 4700
MISCELLANEOUS (tamp	ers, pumps, etc.)	
LABOR	\$ 50.00	
Tauna and the second states of		او ا

Town will be supplying pipe and catch basins and will designate a gravel supplier for contractor to use.

Contractors are expected to comply with standard insurance requirements for liability and worker's compensation.



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

## Removal of 7.1. Assessor & Tax Collector computer issue update

1 message

Jen Dubray <assessor@townofkentct.org> Mon, Jun 13, 2022 at 1:43 PM

Cc: Jean Conlon Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>, rufuspderham@townofkentct.org, glennsanchez@townofkentct.org, Deborah Devaux <taxcollector@townofkentct.org>

I would request that you remove the Assessor & Tax Collector Computer Issue Update from the agenda. It has been since January of 2021 that we brought these issues to the boards' attention and as I mentioned at the last meeting nothing has changed to improve our system.

Sincerely,

Jennifer & Debbie

Jennifer Dubray, CCMA II, CCMC

To: adminassist@townofkentct.org

Assessor

Town of Kent, CT



To: Board of Selectmen

From: Joyce Kearns

Date: June 16, 2022

Re: Large Meeting Video Conferencing System Update

Since the initial meeting with Ted Orr of Yucatech on May 25, 2022:

## June 2, 2022

Ted came to town hall to take photos of the large meeting room for placement if the equipment and wiring.

He confirmed he has been working with the equipment vendor.

## Tasks:

Ted:

Produce a list of equipment to be purchased with pricing and forward to Joyce. Reach out to electrician.

Discuss need for electrical work.

Discuss pricing.

Need for carpenter will be decided once information on equipment id received and approved.

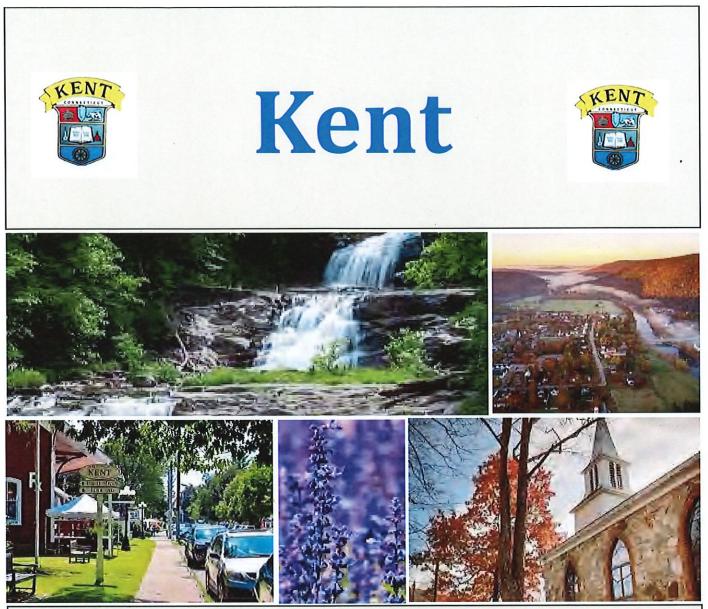


Photo Credits: newengland.com, newstimes.com, ruralintelligence.com, svadore.com, kentct.com

Community Resilience Building Workshop Summary of Findings

**March 2022** 



# Town of Kent, Connecticut Community Resilience Building Workshop *Summary of Findings*

## **Overview**

The need for municipalities, regional planning organizations, corporations, states, and federal agencies to increase resilience to extreme weather events and a changing climate is strikingly evident amongst the communities across the state of Connecticut. Recent events such as Tropical Storm Irene, Super Storm Sandy, and Tropical Storm Isaias have reinforced this urgency and compelled leading communities like the Town of Kent to proactively collaborate on planning and mitigating risks. Ultimately, this type of leadership is to be commended because it will reduce the vulnerability and reinforce the strengths of people, infrastructure, and ecosystems and serve as a model for other communities in Connecticut, New England, and the Nation.

Recently, the Town of Kent embarked on certification with Sustainable CT. As part of that certification, The Nature Conservancy and Sustainable CT provided the Town with a community-driven process to conduct an assessment of climate change impacts and generate potential and prioritized solutions. In March 2022, a municipal-based core team organized a Community Resilience Building Workshop facilitated by the Nature Conservancy in partnership with Sustainable CT. The core directive of this effort was the engagement with and between community members to define strengths and vulner-abilities and the development of priority resilience actions for the Town of Kent.

The Kent Community Resilience Building Workshop's central objectives were to:

- Define top local, natural, and climate-related hazards of concern;
- Identify existing and future strengths and vulnerabilities;
- Identify and prioritize actions for the Town;
- Identify opportunities to collaboratively advance actions to increase resilience alongside residents and organizations from across the Town, and beyond.

The Town of Kent benefited from a unique "anywhere at any scale", communitydriven called Community Resilience Building (CRB) process (www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.org). The CRB's tools, other relevant planning documents, and local maps were integrated into the workshop process to provide both decision-support and visualization around shared issues and existing priorities across Kent. The Kent Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Annex (2022) and Plan of Conservation and Development (2013) were particularly instructive. Using the CRB process, rich with information, experience, and dialogue, the participants produced the findings presented in this summary report including an overview of the top hazards, current concerns and challenges, existing strengths, and proposed actions to improve resilience to hazards and climate change, today and in the future.

The summary of findings transcribed in this report, like any that concern the evolving nature of risk assessment and associated action, are proffered for comments, corrections and updates from workshop attendees and other community stakeholders alike. The leadership displayed by the Town of Kent on community resilience building will benefit from the continuous and expanding participation of all those concerned.

## **Summary of Findings**

## Top Hazards and Vulnerable Areas for the Community

Prior to the CRB workshop, the Kent Core Project Team identified the top hazards for the Town in cross-reference with the Kent Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The hazards of greatest concern included flooding (riverine principally), hurricanes, and tornados and high wind events. Additional hazards mentioned and discussed during the CRB workshop included more intense and longer duration heat waves and droughts as well as associated wildfire risk. These hazards have direct and increasing impacts on the infrastructure, residents, and environment including neighborhoods, natural areas (rivers, wetlands, forests, parks), roads, bridges, businesses, municipal facilities, churches, schools (public and private), social support services, and other critical infrastructure and community assets.

3

# Top Hazards and Areas of Concern for the Community

## Top Hazards

- Flooding (riverine principally ice jams in winter)
- Hurricanes
- Tornados & High Wind Events
- Heat Waves & Droughts (and associated wild fire)

**Areas of Concern in Kent\* -** Several categories and locations were identified as being particularly vulnerable by workshop participants and/or in Kent's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (see Appendix A) including:

**Infrastructure:** Kent School - Admissions Building, Jordan Pond Dam, Hilltop Pond Dam, Hatch Pond Dam, Irving Pond Dam, Broadband Internet and Mobile Broadband Infrastructure, Kent Center School, South Kent School, Marvelwood School, Kent Sewer Treatment Plant, Community House, two Residential Repetitive Loss Properties (per FEMA designation), Municipal Community Pool, Historic Resources, Senior Center, Emory and Kent Commons, Fields at Kent Center School.

**Ecosystems/Waterways:** Housatonic River, Macedonia Brook, Cobble Brook, West Aspetuck River, Dead and Standing Trees, Beaver Dams, Schaghticoke Mountain (brush fire - 2017), Appalachian Trail, Top Soil & Agricultural Lands, Wetlands, Forests, Coldwater Streams/Coldwater Species (i.e. Eastern Brook Trout), Pond Mountain Brook, Invasive Species.

**Roads, Bridges, and Road Network:** Route 7, Route 341, South Kent Road, Bridge at Straight Road/Kent Hollow Road, Bridge and Culverts along Tanguay Road at West Aspetuck River, Schaghticoke Road, Route 341 Bridge, Skiff Mountain Road (snow drifts), Road-Stream Crossings, Culverts (barriers to aquatic organism movement).

**Vulnerable Populations:** Elderly, Economically Disadvantaged Groups, People with Disabilities/Hearing-Impaired, Students (from out-of-state or oversees - three Board-ing Schools), Agricultural Community Members.

<sup>\*</sup>Information from workshop participants augmented via review of the Town of Kent's NHMP Municipal Annex (2022) and Plan of Conservation and Development (2013). See Appendix A for full list of mitigation/adaptation actions from the Town of Kent NHMP Municipal Annex.

# **Current Concerns and Challenges Presented by Hazards**

The Town of Kent has several concerns and faces multiple challenges related to the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. In recent years, Kent has experienced a series of highly disruptive and damaging weather events including March 2010 floods, Tropical Storm Irene (August 2011), Storm Alfred (October 2011), Super Storm Sandy (October 2012), winter Nor'easter Nemo (February 2013), January 2018 Ice Jam, Tropical Storm Isaias (2020), and other less impactful but more frequent events. Impacts from Irene included rain-induced, inland flooding and wind damage as did Isaias with long power outages. Sandy caused some wind and tree damage across portions of Kent. Storms Alfred and Nemo respectively dropped several feet of snow on the Town knocking out power and isolating residents and neighborhoods due to extended road closures. The magnitude and intensity of these events and others across Connecticut have increased awareness of natural hazards and climate change, while motivating communities such as Kent to proactively and comprehensively improve their resilience.

This series of extreme weather events highlights that the impacts from hazards are diverse: ranging from riverine flooding of critical infrastructure, bridges, roads, and lowlying areas; localized flooding from stormwater runoff during intense storms and heavy precipitation events; road closures due to downed trees; property damage from trees, wind, snow, and ice. Longer periods of elevated heat, particularly in July and August, have raised concerns about vulnerable segments of the population including elderly, disabled, and/or isolated residents. The combination of these issues presents a challenge to preparedness and mitigation priorities and requires comprehensive, yet tailored actions for particular locations and/or areas across the Town of Kent.

The workshop participants were generally in agreement that Kent is experiencing more intense and frequent storm events and heat waves. Additionally, there was a general concern about the increasing challenges of being prepared for the worst case scenarios (i.e. major disasters, storms, major hurricanes (Cat-3 or above)) throughout the year, but particularly in the fall/winter months due to more intense snow and ice storms coupled with colder weather. The impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic was raised several times by workshop participants.



(Credit: nytimes.com)

(Credit: kentct.com)

## Specific Categories of Concerns and Challenges

As in any community, Kent is not uniformly vulnerable to hazards and climate change, and certain locations, assets, and populations have and will be affected to a greater degree than others. Workshop participants identified the following items as their community's key areas of concern and challenges across three broad categories - Infrastructure, Societal, and Environmental.

## Infrastructure Concerns and Challenges

## Roads, Bridges, and Road Networks:

- Route 7 flooding from the Housatonic River during high flows as well as due to ice jams/damming during the winter months which has resulted in increased flooding in area near the Kent School.
- Increasing number of ageing and undersized culverts that need to be upgraded and replaced to allow for greater water conveyance due to higher intensity storms as well as provide for improved ecological benefits such as fish passage.
- Growing need to identify and secure funding for projects such as fish-friendly road crossing that also reduce the risk of flooding at and downstream of road crossings.

## **Emergency Management and Preparedness:**

- Limited planning, assessment, and awareness of downstream impacts of catastrophic failure of dams as well as impairment of culverts on private property.
- Difficulty in reaching citizens with information and resources during major weather events that result in longer-term power outages.
- Limited access to emergency preparedness and response information disseminated online amongst elderly population without computers or limited internet technical capabilities.
- Uncertainty about process for updating and maintaining list of vulnerable residents with additional needs during emergency situations including isolation and medical requirements during power outages.
- Lack of preparedness and available educational resources for emergency situations especially amongst newer residents that are not used to living in rural communities.
- Large number of second homes with owners absent for long periods in the winter with reduced access during emergencies due to unplowed driveways.
- Limited and delayed response by energy utility (Eversource) during past storms events resulting in further isolation of residents and vulnerable populations across Town (i.e. elderly).
- Strong winds and gusts due to topography and shifting weather patterns resulting in impacts from downed trees and limbs on electrical power continuity to residential homes, businesses, and private and municipal facilities.

## Specific Categories of Concerns and Challenges (cont'd)

- Lack of backup power generation in several municipal buildings as well as the Community House and Senior Center that could serve as secondary shelters and charging stations if equipped with generators.
- Uncertainty regarding availability of backup power generators amongst private residences particularly in homes where vulnerable individuals reside.
- Key facilities that provide critical community needs such as local IGA Grocery Store and Town Hall are located in flood prone areas.
- Local Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is outdated (circa 2010) and not responsive to current needs due to increasing magnitude and duration of extreme weather events.

## Housing & Cost of Living:

- Reliance on electric grid to power private drinking water wells.
- Limited local job base coupled with lack of affordable housing which makes it difficult to retain local workers.
- Aging demographics with limited attraction of younger families and early-career professionals due to housing and low affordability.

## Societal Concerns and Challenges

## Vulnerable Populations:

• Aging population with a growing number of elderly that presents unique challenges and increased risk of complications due to isolation, lack of mobility, and medical needs during major weather events and disasters.

## **Development:**

- Flooding in developed areas adjoining and/or in proximity to certain waterways.
- Limited municipal-owned property to accommodate the relocation of critical facilities out of exiting floodplains.

## **Businesses:**

• Business community is vulnerable to natural disasters and major events such as flooding with direct impacts to structures as well as longer term disruption of commerce and revenue due to closure during recovery phases.

## **Community Engagement & Services:**

• Limited engagement and collaboration with neighboring towns (including in state of New York) on topics and issues better solved collectively across larger, more regional geographies.

## Specific Categories of Concerns and Challenges (cont'd)

- Reliance on volunteers to maintain community services such as Fire Department.
- Limited connectivity and broadband access in Town and across entire Northwest Corner with current technology infrastructure not meeting the demands and needs of families that work at home and attend schools in Kent.
- Understaffed recreational areas with limited parking make it difficult to safely accommodate the large "surge" of visitors to municipal and state parks in the aftermath of the Pandemic.
- Emory and Kent Commons and the fields at Kent Center School need flood remediation project implemented and overall improvements to resources and facilities for safe public use.
- Municipal park system is in an ongoing state of decline which has limited the ability of these assets to provide the multitude of benefits residents and visitors experienced in the past.

## Environmental Concerns and Challenges

## Trees and Forests:

- Extensive impact to forested areas in Town by pests and pathogens such as hemlock scale and emerald ash borer, among others, resulting in a decline in ecological services, scenic values, slope stabilization, and groundwater filtration capacity.
- Ongoing devastating loss of ash trees within and across forested areas in Kent which has required increased cutting and removal of dead and standing trees near structures and roadways.

## **Open Space, Watersheds, and Waterways:**

- The bisecting nature of the Housatonic River through the center of the municipality with ongoing and increasing threat of flooding of roads and adjoining property.
- Growing concerns regarding interaction with bears amongst residents with uncertainty on how to manage without further encroachment on their natural habitat.
- Lack of municipal mechanism to generate dedicated funding for open space (e.g. real estate transfer tax).
- Concerns about the control and oversight by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions for the reach of Housatonic River that runs through the center of town related to downstream hydroelectric dam operations.
- Increasing interactions between humans and development and resident and migratory wildlife including snakes and deer (particularly car-deer collisions).

# **Current Strengths and Assets**

Just as certain locations, assets, and populations in Kent stand out as particularly vulnerable to the effects of hazards and climate change, other features are notably assets for Kent's resilience building. Workshop participants identified the following items as their community's key strengths and expressed interest in using them as the core of future resilience building actions.

- Clearly, the responsive and committed engagement exhibited by leaderships, staff, and residents is a very appreciated strength within and across Kent. Ongoing collaboration between municipal staff, committee/commission volunteers, business community, faith-based organizations, NGOs, adjoining municipalities, Housatonic Valley Association, Northwest Hills Connecticut Council of Governments, and various statelevel organizations, among others, on priorities identified herein will help advance comprehensive, cost-effective, community resilience building actions.
- Solid expertise and deep knowledge of community by residents serving in volunteer opportunities on various boards and commissions including the Commission focused on updating the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, among others.
- Remarkable custom and culture of volunteerism that has only become stronger as more "weekenders" (principally New York residents) have transitioned to "fulltimers" during the Pandemic.
- Historic and current connection to and appreciation of the rural character of the Town with emphasis on maintenance via preservation that dissuades larger corporations and businesses relocating to Kent.
- High degree of acceptance and empathy amongst residents of each other regardless of economic advantages, political views, and societal position (i.e. "classlessness", "tolerance").
- Incredible natural beauty, resources, and vistas with a strong conservation ethic amongst residents resulting in relatively large amount of accessible and conserved lands (approximately 43% open space) with diverse ownership and management (land trusts, municipal, state, federal).
- Recent and increasing investments by newcomers in upgrading residential homes and building new business enterprises in Kent's downtown area.
- Strong pride in community and a shared passion amongst residents to help one another.

# Current Strengths and Assets (cont'd)

- The Town is increasingly preparing for climate change given the concern about current impacts from hazards - particularly from storms, flooding, and wind.
- The presence and constructive involvement of the Housatonic Valley Association in helping to promote more inclusivity of recreational opportunities on open space as well as technical expertise on ecological improvements such as fish-friendly road-crossing amongst the Housatonic River towns including Kent.
- Presence of three private schools which provides many different cultural benefits and engagement opportunities for residents as well as injecting a youthfulness and presence in Kent that helps to elevate positivity about the future of the community.
- Kent Valley Park managed by the Kent Land Trust provides trails plus a boat launch with safe access to the Housatonic River. Park serves as a model for future river access improvements elsewhere in Town and the region.
- Town has a resident state trooper which is shared by State Troop L across three towns including Kent and Washington.
- Town road crew is very open to building in natural-based solutions for pollution prevention and flood control measures into maintenance and planning efforts to help further protect rivers, streams, and wetlands.
- Conservation Commission continually identifies opportunities to protect the environment including work on transfer station improvements, composting, and air quality monitoring.
- Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning Commissions work to draft and enforce regulations with an eye towards protecting the environment while balancing the advancement of appropriate and responsible development.
- Town Hall is a true community asset that continues to be responsive during storm events provides power generation needs, meals for residents, and strong communication channels to all affected by events.
- The municipal response to and operations for the Pandemic are viewed favorably by residents.
- The three private schools are major employers in Kent and bring visitors, shoppers, and additional residents which help to increase cultural vibrancy and economic vitality in Kent.

# Current Strengths and Assets (cont'd)

- Commitment to improving the communication channels and effectiveness by utilization of social media, emails, in-person discussions by the CERT and Fire Department with current efforts to implement an Everbridge system that would further connect and inform residents across Kent.
- Town maintains a list of vulnerable population and their locations with routine updating to ensure additions and modification of those in need and requiring additional care during major events are included. This resource has been invaluable; for example, during Tropical Storm Isaias, municipal staff did in-person wellness checks to all those on the vulnerable population list which was greatly appreciated by residents.
- The forested hillsides surrounding the downtown provide multiple benefits in addition to beauty including cooler temperatures, cleaner air, wildlife habitat, soil protection, slope stabilization, and carbon sequestration (i.e. "hard-working forests").
- Kent has a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).



(Credit: patch.com)

# **Recommendations to Improve Resilience**

A common theme among workshop participants was the need to continue communitybased planning efforts focused on developing adaptive measures to reduce Kent's vulnerability to extreme weather, climate change and other common concerns raised. To that end, the workshop participants helped to identify several priority topics requiring more immediate and/or ongoing attention including:

- Long-term vision and growth (i.e. development, conservation, diverse demographics, zoning, affordable housing, volunteerism, land use, floodplain regulations, wildlife interface, Appalachian Trail, schools);
- Infrastructure improvements (i.e. road/bridge network, stormwater management systems, critical facilities improvements, municipal parks & community pool);
- **Quality of life improvements** (i.e. tree management, housing, affordability, sustainability, health equity, downtown vibrancy, connectivity, demographic diversity);
- **Emergency management** (i.e. communications, outreach, education, continuation of services, business recovery, sheltering, evacuation, vulnerable populations).

In direct response, the workshop participants developed the following priority and additional action list. Mitigation/adaptation actions from the Kent NHMP Municipal Annex (2022) are provided in Appendix A for cross reference. In addition, actions previously identified in the Kent Plan of Conservation and Development (2013) were reviewed for consistency with input gathered during the CRB workshop from participants.

# **Priority Actions**

- Hire a grants manager to help identify, secure, and administer funding to advance critical projects and programs within Kent.
- Continue to maintain and support the rural character of Kent as well as seek ways to increase housing for the "missing-middle" those families that make too much to qualify for housing subsidies and make too little to afford a home in the community.
- Increase support from municipal leadership to secure federal designation of Kent as an Appalachian Trail Community (first in Connecticut).

# Priority Actions (cont'd)

- Identify mechanisms that allow for higher density and more affordable housing options (duplexes, apartments, etc.) in the downtown area which will help create more vibrancy and greater economic prosperity for the community.
- Increase the ability to reach and serve vulnerable populations (i.e. elderly, etc.) via emergency management communications.
- Establish emergency management as a formal department within the Town's municipal structure coupled with creating a permanent, full-time, paid, emergency manager position.
- Protect and enhance existing and future open space to further help reduce the impacts of flooding, heat waves, and other natural disasters (see Appendix B).
- Enact a Kent municipal land acquisition fund to preserve additional environmentally sensitive areas to help elevate the wellbeing of residents and visitors as well as ecological integrity of the existing open space network.
- Identify potential opportunities to safely enhance the ability of residents and visitors to access the Housatonic River for passive recreation such as picnicking, walking, fishing, and boating using the Clair Murphy Park recent upgrades as a model.
- Explore options that will provide swimming opportunities (i.e. community pool versus fast moving river) for residents and visitors to help reduce the impacts of heat and increase the number of community assets that attract young families to Kent.
- Look to identify opportunities to reduce impervious surfaces across Kent with a particular emphasis on pavement in close proximity to wetlands and waterways as well as in the Town center.
- Increase natural plantings throughout the Town center that will help absorb water and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff during rain events.
- Continue to provide educational programs and informative materials for residents on better ways to manage their properties to minimize runoff and maximize infiltration of rain.
- Initiate a survey of residents and visitors to better understand wildlife movement patterns throughout the seasons in hopes of better managing wildlife-human interactions.

### **Priority Actions (cont'd)**

- Identify opportunities to design and install rain gardens, bioswales, or other water retention projects on municipal property as an example and inspiration for residents and visitors alike in hopes of stimulating projects on their own properties.
- Explore potential opportunities to harden the electric power grid by placing electrical lines underground in key locations that are subjected to repetitive impacts and subsequent power outages for residents.
- Secure generators for various municipal buildings, Community Center, and Senior Center.



(Credit: alamy.com

(Credit: nynjtc.org)

Kent Community Resilience Building Workshop

■ Summary of Findings ■ March 2022

(Credit: facebook.com)

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## **Additional Actions**

- Work to update and improve the municipal list of residents in need of additional support and medical supplies during periods of extended power outages or other events that increase concerns amongst at-risk populations such as the elderly.
- Increase funding opportunities for Town parks and facilities to enable park managers to perform much needed maintenance and updates to outdoor programming that will further enhance the wellbeing of residents and visitors.
- Explore options to revitalize existing under-utilized buildings in and around the downtown area in hopes of encouraging additional investment in the community (e.g. Kent Green).
- Integrate into municipal procedures, guidance and techniques provided by US Forest Service and Housatonic Valley Association for road and culvert repairs and upgrades.
- Identify ways to ensure culverts and dams on private property are properly inspected and maintained (via CT DEEP) to help prevent downstream impacts from catastrophic failure or impairment.
- Establish enabling legislation to allow municipalities to enact legal/policy mechanisms to create dedicated funding sources for open space acquisition (i.e. real estate transfer tax for open space) with an emphasis environmentally sensitive areas.
- Seek ways to compel the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, among others, to better care for and improve management of Bulls Ridge.
- Define techniques and projects that help to better manage the large influx of visitors accessing the natural resources including the Housatonic River which has an alarming increase in drownings as of late.
- Revisit, publish, and make more widely available guides to the numerous trails and recreational opportunities across Kent.
- Increasing interest in proposed building and associated projects in flood prone areas that require deeper understanding and involvement by various boards and commissions to ensure flood friendly development occurs in ways and places that don't increase the challenges given future projections for precipitation events of greater magnitude and duration.
- Provide education to residents as to how to interact safely with wildlife in the event encounters occur.
- Look to capitalize on the Route 7's designation as an Electric Vehicle Charging Corridor by the federal government.

### Additional Actions (cont'd)

- Strengthen the interaction and collaboration initiated through Sustainable CT activities including improvements in the relationships between commissions, organizations, and residents.
- Geographically identify location and percentages of residents that currently have backup generation and research funding opportunities to procure generators for residents that are particularly vulnerable to power outages (i.e. elderly, medical assistance needs, etc.).
- Look to ensure that all culvert and bridge replacement projects are accounting for movement of wildlife, designed to be fish-friendly with limited to no obstructions to upstream and downstream passage, and can manage larger, more intense, precipitation events in the future.
- Initiate a gathering of wetland commission members and other interested parties from neighboring towns in Litchfield County to discuss current issues and opportunities related to wetland health, maintenance, and ongoing protection.
- Better position the municipality to take advantage of projected increases in federal funding by generating a list of actionable projects related to roads, transportation, equipment, ecological restoration, social programs, parks and recreation assets, and facility improvements.
- Work to maintain strong relationships with private school leadership and staff and annually convene to explore collaborative opportunities to increase the resilience and sustainability of Kent.
- Continue to minimize or limit development and redevelopment in flood prone areas across Kent. If projects do proceed, ensure final designs prevent construction that will impede the flow and recharge of associated wetlands and watercourses.
- Strive to fund and implement improvements to stormwater management at municipal parks.
- Incorporate Stream Simulation Design techniques when upgrading/replacing roadstream crossings to ensure structures are resilient in the face of climate change.
- Offer annual training on diversity, inclusion and equity for all Town employees, boards, and commissions.

# **<u>CRB Workshop Participants: Department/Organization</u></u>**

Town of Kent - Office of the First Selectman Town of Kent - Volunteer Fire Department Town of Kent - Community Emergency Response Team Town of Kent - Kent Sustainability Team Town of Kent - Parks and Recreation Department Town of Kent - Parks and Recreation Department Town of Kent - Conservation Commission Town of Kent - Plan of Conservation and Development Committee Kent Chamber of Commerce Kent Land Trust Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy Kent Falls Brewery Farm Housatonic Valley Association

### Kent Community Resilience Building Core Project Team

Jean Speck - First Selectmen - Town of Kent Lianna Gantt - Sustainability Team - Town of Kent Joanne Wasti - Sustainability Team - Town of Kent Miranda Lovato - Sustainability Team - Town of Kent

## **Online Community Resilience Building Facilitation Team**

The Nature Conservancy - Adam Whelchel, Ph.D. (Lead Facilitator) Sustainable CT - Jessica LeClair (Small Group Facilitator) Sustainable CT - Torin Radicioni (Scribe) Sustainable CT - Jim Hunt (Scribe)

# **Recommended Citation**

Town of Kent (2022). Online Community Resilience Building Workshop - Summary of Findings Report. The Nature Conservancy and Sustainable CT. Kent, Connecticut.

# Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the Town leadership, staff, and community members for their willingness to embrace the process in hopes of a more resilient future for Kent. This online Community Resilience Building Workshop was made possible in large part through the generous contribution of the facilitation team members who skillfully conducted the Kent Community Resilience Building workshop in close partnership with the Kent Community Resilience Building Core Project Team.

# Appendix A

# Town of Kent Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Annex (2022)

# **Mitigation Strategies and Actions from Previous HMP**

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**Updated Mitigation Strategies and Actions** 

# **Mitigation Strategies and Actions from Previous HMP**

#	Action	Status	Notes
1	Utilize the existing CTAlert emergency notification system to its fullest capabilities and subscribe as many residents as possible.	Complete / Carry Forward with Revision	Town has instituted the Everbridge alert system. The Town has just begun a process to rebuild the database. A revised action to complete the database rebuilding is carried forward.
2	Encourage residents to purchase and use NOAA weather radio with an alarm feature	Drop	Town does not believe this action is necessary given the many other technologies for weather alerts.
3	Pursue standby power supplies for critical facilities that do not have generators.	Completed	Most critical facilities have generators. The Community House is in need of a generator; this is addressed in the next action.
4	Obtain funding for a generator at the Community House.	Carry Forward	The Town explored grant opportunities, but was not able to find grants for a generator that would be big enough for the entire building. This building also has accessibility issues, and so is not ideal as a primary shelter. Nevertheless, the Town is interested in expanding its sheltering capabilities, including heating and cooling centers, and so wishes to continue pursuing installation of a generator at this site. The Town will pursue generator installation options, including a generator that may only power a section of the building. In addition to installing a generator, the Town will have to consider personnel needs for managing the shelter. This may involve increasing the capabilities of the local CERT. This action is carried forward. A new action to increase the capabilities of the local CERT team to enable staffing of a secondary shelter is added to this plan.
5	Update the Town's Floodplain Management Regulations to reflect the recent recommendations from CT DEEP	Carry Forward	This action has not yet been pursued due to staffing limitations. Floodplain Management Regulations haven't been updated since 2001

#	Action	Status	Notes
6	Consider incorporating elements of Low Impact Development into the Subdivision and Zoning Regulations, Consider prohibiting new	Partially Completed Carry Forward with Revisions	Zoning Regulations were updated in 2020 and includes LID elements. Subdivision Regulations update is underway. Action is carried forward, revised to refer only to Subdivision Regulations.
7	residential construction in SFHAs, or require freeboard of at least one foot.	Capability	All new construction must adhere to the State Building Code, which requires one foot of freeboard.
8	Encourage FEMA to update the Flood Insurance Study and SFHA mapping to reflect revised hydrology.	Carry Forward	<ul> <li>Town staff attended a meeting in the past five years where they were told that the flood maps would be updated by 2020. Town does not expect this schedule to be kept.</li> <li>FEMA has not communicated with anybody from the Town about map updates.</li> <li>The current FEMA maps are dated 1980. Town staff report that this area of the state has the most out-of-date mapping. They observed that coastal areas have seen multiple updates over recent years, but despite multiple significant flood events in inland areas, no update has occurred. Town would like FEMA to prioritize this corner of the state</li> </ul>
9	Require developers to demonstrate whether detention or retention of storm water is the best option for reducing peak flows downstream	Capability	This is a capability.
10	Evaluate the critical facilities along the Housatonic River to determine potential flood damage reduction methods.	Carry Forward	<ul> <li>This action has not yet been completed due to funding and staffing limitations. Action is carried forward.</li> <li>Two new actions addressing specific facilities are added to this plan:</li> <li>Complete an analysis of flood mitigation options at the Sewer Treatment Plant. This facility was at risk of failure during the 2018 ice jams event.</li> <li>Work with the Kent School to address floodwater and groundwater issues. Currently the school regularly has to pump out water into the Town sewer system, which stresses the system. Explore options for circumventing the system for this pumping.</li> </ul>
11	Evaluate RLPs mapped in the 100-year floodplain to identify appropriate methods of reducing flood risks.	Carry Forward with Revisions	Town reports that RLPs are repetitively flooded, but do not experience economic losses or notable damages during flooding; residents temporarily evacuate and then move back. This makes incentivizing mitigation challenging. Despite this, Town staff report that one homeowner has elevated utilities above flood grade. Town does not feel that identifying flood reduction methods is an appropriate action for these properties. A new RLP action, encouraging sending letters to RLP property owners to raise awareness of hazard and mitigation options, will be added to the plan.

#	Action	Status	Notes
12	Determine the address of the unidentified repetitive loss property.	Completed	This property is a residence located at the end of Johnson Road. The actual address and owner's name are known to the Land Use Office. A new action is added to the plan to validate/correct the RL list for the town and fill out the AW-501 forms.
13	Evaluate the side street flooding concerns along Kent Hollow Road and the West Aspetuck River to identify appropriate methods of reducing flood risks.	Completed	<ul> <li>Town reports that flooding in this area is caused by beaver activities. Flooding can happen during storms because beavers keep water high. Flooding is usually relatively minor, only temporarily causing road closures.</li> <li>Town traps and removes beavers on occasion. During flooding, the Town closes roads and temporarily reroutes traffic.</li> <li>Town does not believe this intermittent flooding warrants major capital expenditure.</li> </ul>
14	Provide technical assistance regarding floodproofing measures to interested residents,	Capability	Town is able to assist residents as needed. No residents have requested information.
15	Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of flood prone areas along Route 7 at the Housatonic River to determine appropriate flood mitigation measures.	Carry Forward	Action has not yet been pursued due to funding limitations.
16	Compile a checklist cross referencing ordinances and regulations and make this available to development applicants	Completed	Town has a regulations checklist that is provided to developers along with permit applications. A Floodplain Application is available on the Town's website.
17	Ensure that the appropriate municipal personnel are trained in flood damage prevention methods.	Carry Forward	Land Use Administrator completed a flood-related training when she started her job. Town would like to have land use and road crew staff complete flood mitigation training.
18	Provide outreach regarding home elevation, relocation, flood barriers, dry and wet floodproofing, and other home and business improvement techniques	Carry Forward with Revisions	Town has not yet pursued this action due to staff limitations. Carry forward revised to specifically call for providing informational pamphlets at the Town Hall, and including hazard mitigation information on the Town website.
19	Selectively pursue conservation recommendations listed in the Plan of Conservation and Development	Capability	This is a capability
20	Pursue acquisition of additional municipal open space in SHFAs and set it aside for greenways, parks, etc.	Drop	Town has a high percentage of open space land in town, and active land conservation organizations. Development within the floodplain is already limited. Town does not believe acquisition of open space by the Town is necessary.
21	Replace two culverts along Tanguay Road and the Aspetuck River	Carry Forward	Action has not yet been pursued due to funding limitations and the low priority of this action with regards to hazard mitigation. Action is carried forward.

<b>#</b>	Action	Status	Notes
22	Replace the bridge at Straight Road/Kent Hollow Road and the Aspetuck River	Completed	Kent Hollow Road Bridge was replaced with a box culvert in 2017. The new culvert was rated for a 100-year storm. This is a low velocity section of the Aspetuck River and the culvert design was determined to be sufficient.
23	Develop a plan for continued culvert maintenance.	Capability	Town has a culvert maintenance regime in place.
24	When replacing or upgrading culverts, work with CT DOT to incorporate findings of the climate change pilot study and work with HVA to incorporate stream crossing policies	Carry Forward	Action has not yet been completed due to funding and staffing limitations. Action is carried forward
25	Ensure adequate barricades are available to block flooded areas in flood prone areas of the town.	Capability	Town has adequate barricades.
26	Work with CTDOT to upgrade sections of South Kent Road in order to accommodate increased traffic when Route 7 is closed due to flooding.	Capability	Town communicates with CTDOT about alternative access needs in case Route 7 is closed, and performs upgrades to South Kent Road as needed.
27	Develop a town wide tree limb inspection and maintenance programs to ensure that the potential for downed power lines is diminished.	Capability	Town has a tree maintenance program.
28	Work with CL&P to determine the feasibility of placing non- conducting steel cables above the power lines to protect them from falling branches and trees.	Completed	Eversource has increased efforts to improve power delivery reliability.
29	Continue to require the location of utilities underground in new developments or during redevelopment whenever possible.	Capability	Underground utilities are required, when feasible, in new developments.
30	The Building Department shall provide literature regarding appropriate design standards for wind.	Capability	Wind standards are provided through State Building Code
31	Encourage the use of structural techniques related to mitigation of wind damage in new residential and commercial structures	Capability	Wind standards are provided through State Building Code

#	Action	Status	Notes
32	Coordinate with the three private schools in town during expansion and renovation to ensure that buildings are designed to be resilient to wind damage.	Capability	State building codes are enforced for municipal buildings.
33	Develop a plan to prioritize snow removal from the roof of municipal buildings (especially critical facilities) and have funding available for clearing	Capability	Town has sufficient capabilities for clearing snow from municipal building roofs.
34	Consider posting the snow plowing routes in municipal buildings and the town web site	Drop	Town does not believe this action will improve hazard mitigation capabilities
35	Identify areas that are difficult to access during winter storm events and develop contingency plans	Capability	Town is aware of difficult-to access areas and takes special precautions to maintain access during emergency events.
36	Provide information for mitigating icing, insulating pipes, and retrofits for flat roofed buildings	Capability	Mitigation guidelines provided in State Building Code.
37	Consider the hardening of utilities along North Kent Road to minimize power outages during storm events	Capability	Town works closely with Eversource to ensure appropriate power hardening and redundancy measures are taken.
38	Consider preventing residential development in areas prone to collapse such as below steep slopes, or in areas prone to liquefaction	Completed	Steep slopes have been addressed in the updated zoning regulations.
39	Ensure that municipal departments and critical facilities have adequate backup facilities in case damage occurs	Carry Forward with Revisions	Previous action is vague. Carried forward to call for enabling remote-access to essential operational systems in case municipal facilities cannot be accessed.
40	Consider bracing systems and assets inside critical facilities	Carry Forward with Revisions	Replace action with one calling for backing-up of data and systems on the cloud (merge with new action above)
41	Include dam failure areas in the CTAlert emergency contact database	Capability	Dam failure areas are included in CTAlert system
42	Develop a long term beaver dam management plan.	Capability	Beaver management requires an Inland Wetlands Permit. In most cases the IWC recommends the hiring of Beaver Solutions. Removal of the beaver itself requires a DEEP permit through a licensed trapper.
43	Consider replacing culverts frequently impacted by beavers with free span bridges.	Drop	Town feels its beaver management activities are sufficient. Specific culvert and bridge replacement projects will be identified as actions moving forward.

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#	Action	Status	Notes
44	Consider the use of beaver deterrent devices such as beaver stops, beaver bafflers or beaver deceivers.	Capability	See action 42
45	Require installation of fire ponds and dry hydrants in areas not served by public water, and sprinkler systems in buildings where access is limited	Capability	This is a capability
46	Coordinate between the Fire Department and Aquarion Water Company to identify areas of low pressure or limited fire fighting capacity	Carry Forward	Action not yet completed due to staffing limitations. Carry forward.

# Updated Mitigation Strategies and Actions (2022)

Action KNT-01 Update the Town's Subdivision Regulations, explicitly incorporating natural hazard concerns.			
Cost	\$0 - \$25,000		
Funding	OB		
Timeframe	2022		
Priority	High		

Action KNT-02				
Ensure that the appropriate municipal personnel are trained in flood damage prevention methods.				
Lead	Planning; EMD			
Cost	\$0 - \$25,000			
Funding	OB, CT DEMHS			
Timeframe	2022			
Priority <b>Exception</b>	High			

	Action KNT-03		
Remain engaged with FEMA and the State during the Housatonic River Watershed flood map updates. Review draft maps and provide comments to FEMA.			
Lead	Planning		
Cost	\$0 - \$25,000		
Funding	OB		
Timeframe	2022 - 2023		
Priority	Low		

	Action KNT-04		
Refer to the Morris Low Impact Sustainable Development Design Manual, created to be a regional resource by the Northwest Conservation District and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, to incorporate LID guidance and regulations into the Subdivision Regulations.			
Lead	Planning, DPW, ConCom		
Cost	\$0 - \$25,000		
Funding	OB, NCD		
Timeframe	2022 - 2023		
Priority	Low		

Action KNT-05

prevention regulations (o	e provisions of the DEEP model flood regulations into the local flood damage r ordinance), including but not limited to the required design flood elevations for oor, building electrical systems, and building mechanical systems.
Lead	Planning
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000
Funding	OB, FEMA Grant, CT DEEP
Timeframe	2022 – 2024
Priority	High

#### Action KNT-06

Take one of the following actions that will mitigate natural hazard risks while also meeting Sustainable CT objectives:

1. Disseminate a toolkit for pre-disaster business preparedness.

2. Revise regulations to promote Low Impact Development.

3. Include the goals of this Hazard Mitigation Plan, and at least three other sustainability concepts, in your next POCD update.

Lead	Planning	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, Sustainable CT	nigrat 3
Timeframe	2022 – 2024	
Priority <b>Priority</b>	High	

#### Action KNT-07

Contact the owners of Repetitive Loss Properties and nearby properties at risk to raise awareness about hazards, inquire about mitigation undertaken, and suggest options for mitigating flooding in those areas. This should be accomplished by annually sending letters to RLP property owners and owners of nearby properties at risk.

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Lead	Planning	a han had been
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, CT DEEP	1. Coloran
Timeframe	2022 – 2024	
Priority	Med	

Action KNT-08 Nork with CT DEEP to complete a formal validation of the Repetitive Loss Property list and update the mitigation status of each listed property.	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000
Funding	OB, CT DEEP
Timeframe	. 2022 – 2024
Priority <b>Priority</b>	Med

	Action KNT-09
Establish a protocol for backing up municipal data and IT systems on the cloud. Enable remote-access to essential operational systems in case municipal facilities cannot be accessed following hazard event.	
Lead	EMD, IT
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000
Funding	OB
Timeframe	2022 – 2024
Priority	Med

#### Action KNT-10

Coordinate with CT SHPO to conduct historic resource surveys, focusing on areas within natural hazard risk zones (flood zones, wildfire hazard zones, steep slopes) to support the preparation of resiliency plans across the state.

Lead	Planning	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, CT SHPO	
Timeframe	2022 – 2024	
Priority	Low	NATE OF ALL OF

	Action KNT-11	
Coordinate with CT SHPO to conduct outreach to owners of historic properties to educate them on nethods of retrofitting historic properties to be more hazard-resilient while maintaining historic character.		
Lead Association	Planning	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, CT SHPO	
Timeframe	2022 - 2024	
Priority	Low	

	Action KNT-12
Provide at the Town Hall informational pamphlets about property elevation, relocation, and other risk reduction measures, and include hazard mitigation information on the Town website.	
Lead	EMD; First Selectman
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000
Funding	OB, CT DEMHS
Timeframe	. 2022 – 2024
Priority	Low

	Action KNT-13	
	Use the CT Toxics Users and Climate Resilience Map to identify toxic users located in hazard zones within your community. Contact those users to inform them about the CT DEEP small business chemical management initiative.	
Lead	Planning; Chamber	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, CT DEEP	
Timeframe	2022 - 2024	
Priority	Low	

	Action KNT-14
When replacing or upgrading culverts, review culvert conveyances based on Northeast Regional Climate Center Guidance, in accordance with the findings of the CT DOT climate change pilot study. Additionally, work with HVA to incorporate findings of the stream crossing assessment training.	
Lead	DPW
Cost	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Funding	OB, CIP, CT DEEP
Timeframe	2023 - 2025
Priority	High

	Action KNT-15
Take the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) Road-Stream Crossing Inventory analysis into consideration when upgrading and replacing infrastructure, including the restoration prioritization results.	
Lead	DPW
Cost	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Funding	OB, HVA
Timeframe	2023 - 2025
Priority	Med

	Action KNT-16	
Evaluate the critical facilities along the Housatonic River to determine potential flood damage reduction methods.		
Lead	DPW; EMD	
Cost	\$50,000 - \$100,000	
Funding	OB, CIP, FEMA Grant	
Timeframe	2023 - 2025	
Priority Priority	Med	

	Action KNT-17
Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of flood prone areas along Route 7 at the Housatonic River to determine appropriate flood mitigation measures.	
Lead	DPW
Cost	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Funding	OB, CIP, FEMA Grant
Timeframe	2023 - 2025
Priority	Med

	Action KNT-18
Coordinate between the Fire Department and Aquarion Water Company to identify areas of low pressure or limited fire fighting capacity	
Lead	EMD, Fire
Cost	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Funding	OB, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant
Timeframe	2023 – 2025
Priority	Med

Action KNT-19		
Complete rebuild of the Everbridge Alert system contact database.		
Lead	EMD	
Cost	\$25,000 - \$50,000	
Funding	OB, CT DEMHS	
Timeframe	2023 - 2025	
Priority	Low	

Action KNT-20 Obtain funding for a generator at the Community House to help increase the Town's capacity to provide emergency sheltering or comfort stations.	
Cost	More than \$500,000
Funding	CIP, FEMA Grant, CT DEMHS
Timeframe	2024 - 2026
Priority	Med

Action KNT-21			
Replace two culverts along Tanguay Road and the Aspetuck River			
Lead	DPW		
Cost	\$100,000 - \$500,000		
Funding	CIP, FEMA Grant, CT DEEP		
Timeframe	2024 - 2026		
Priority	Low		

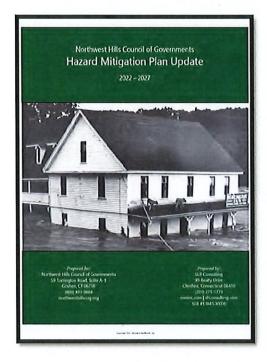
Action KNT-22 Replace the bridge at Anderson Acres Road and Kent Hollow Road over the West Aspetuck River with an aluminum bridge.	
Cost	More than \$500,000
Funding	CIP, FEMA Grant, CT DEEP
Timeframe	2024 - 2026
Priority	Low

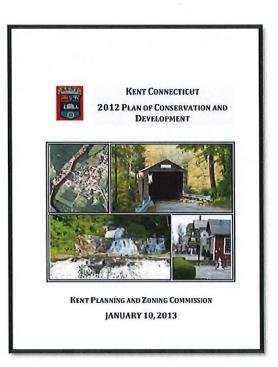
Action KNT-23		
Work with the Red Cross on development of a regional shelter that would serve Kent residents.		
Lead	EMD	
Cost	\$100,000 - \$500,000	
Funding	CIP, FEMA Grant, CT DEMHS	
Timeframe	2024 – 2026	
Priority	Low	

	Action KNT-24
During the 2018 ice jam there was a concern about not having flat-bottomed boats. The Town has therefore secured a grant for the Fire Department to purchase a new flat-bottomed boat.	
Lead	EMD; Fire
Cost	\$100,000 - \$500,000
Funding	OB, CIP, CT DEMHS
Timeframe	2025 – 2027
Priority	Low

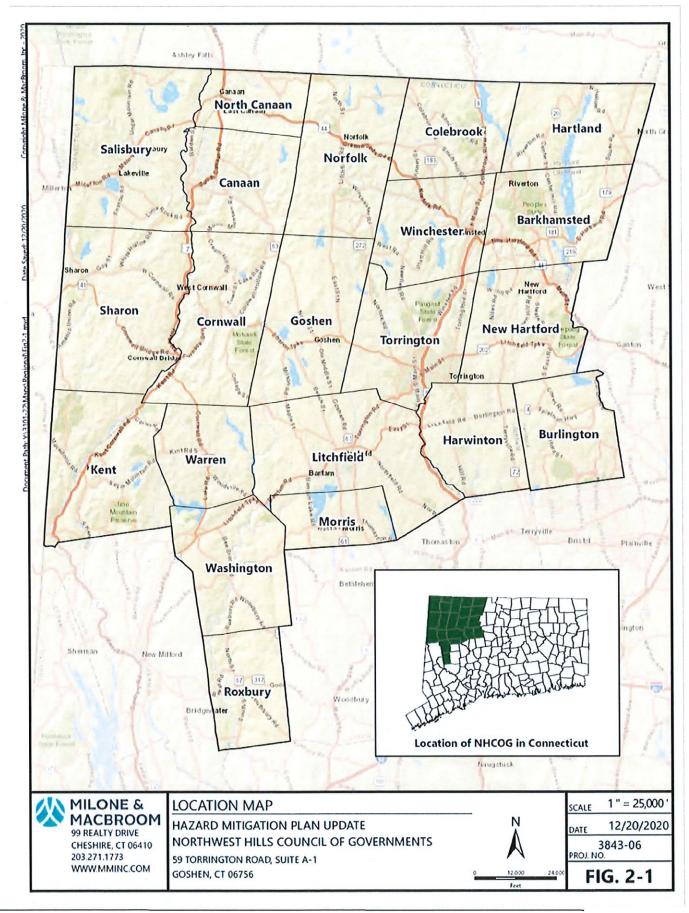
# Appendix B

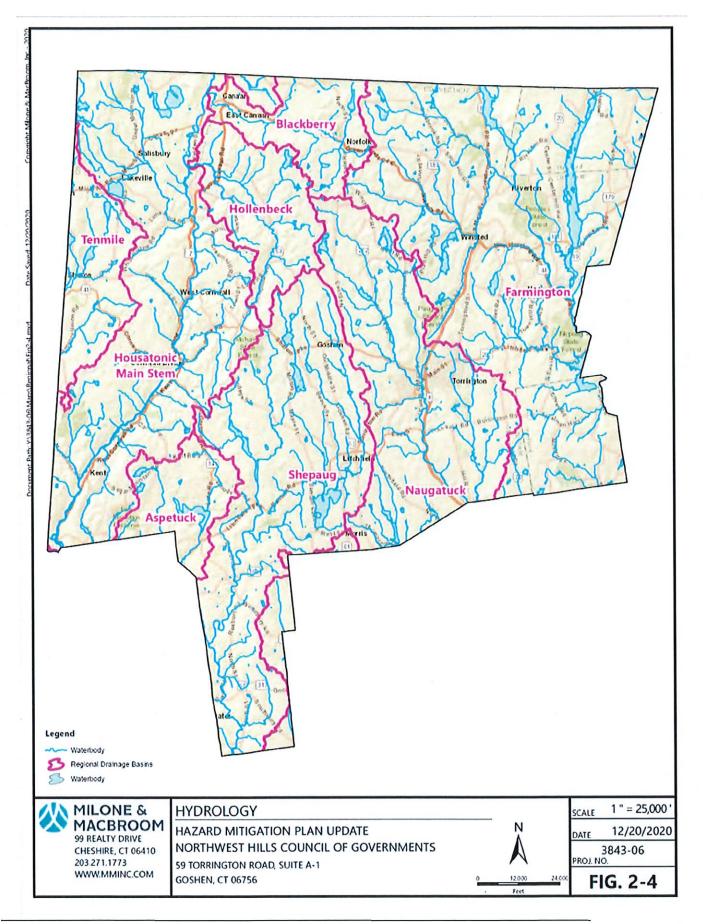
Town of Kent Map Resource Packet\* Used During Community Resilience Building Workshop

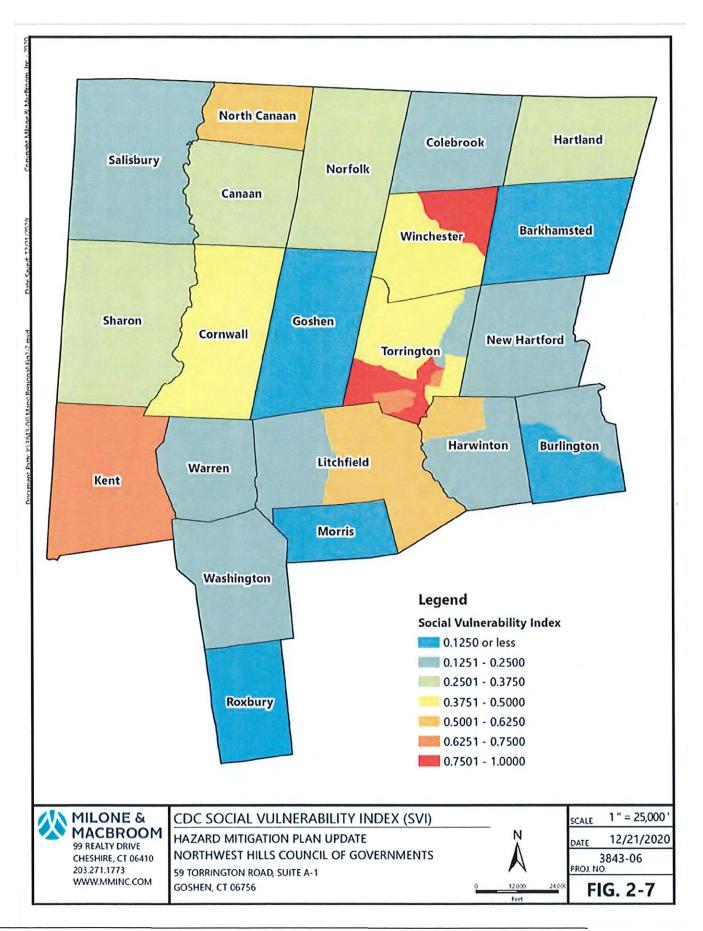


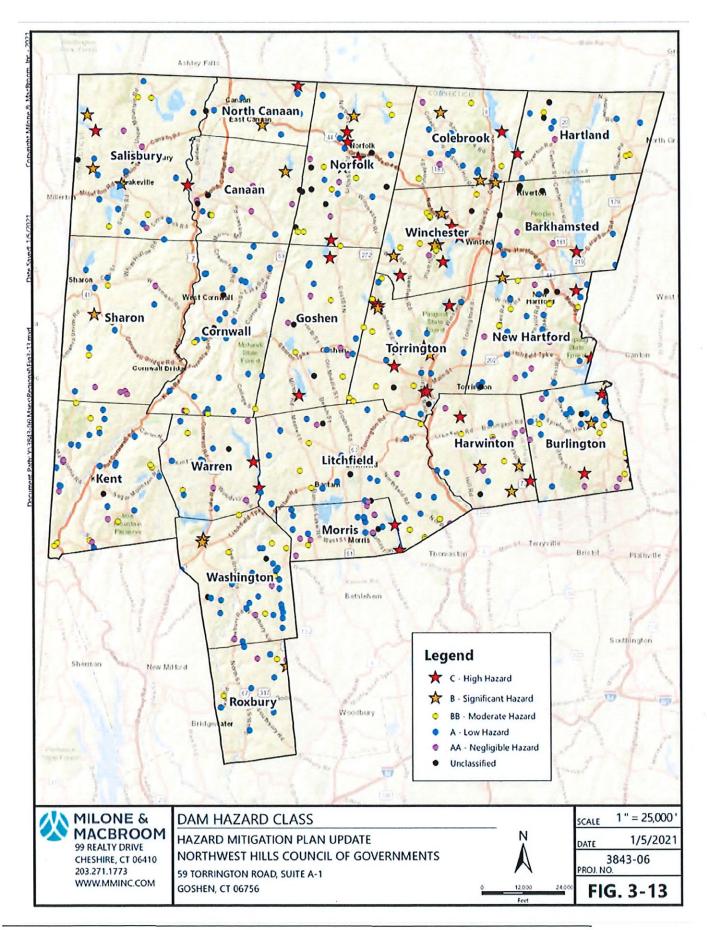


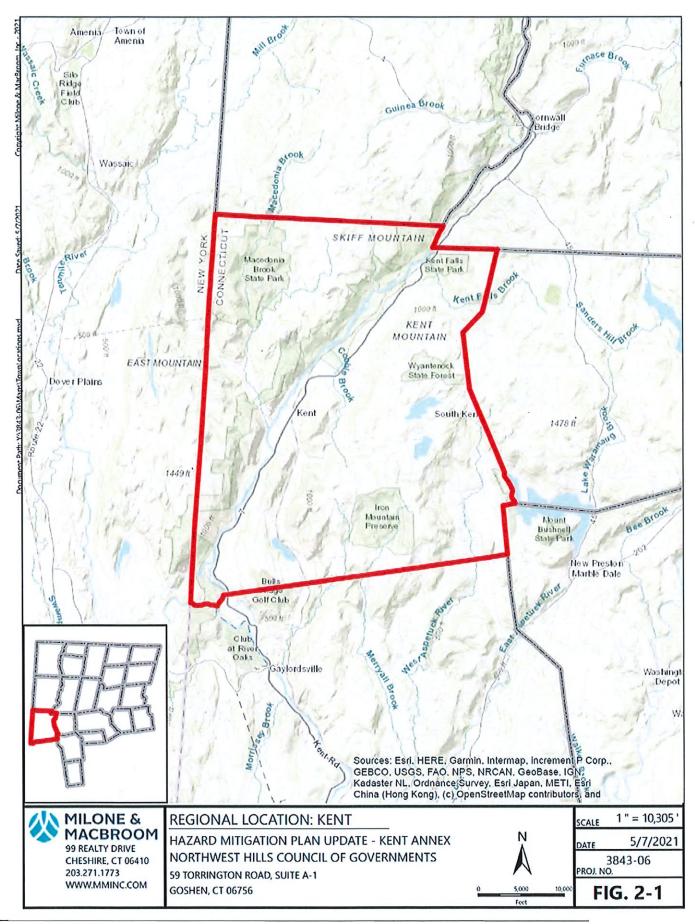
#### \*Gathered from Kent Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Annex (2022) & Plan of Conservation & Development (2013)

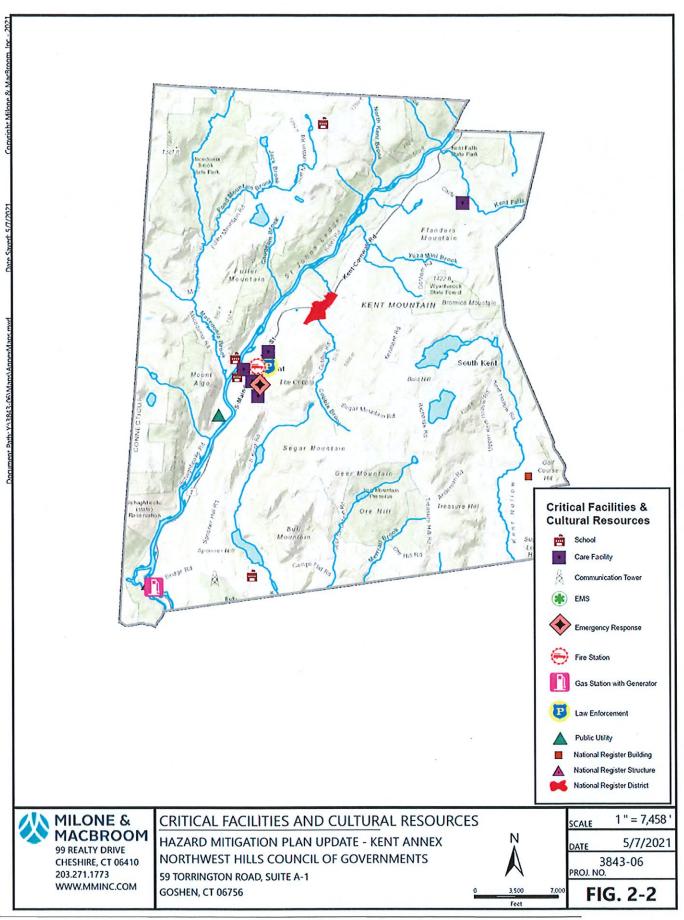


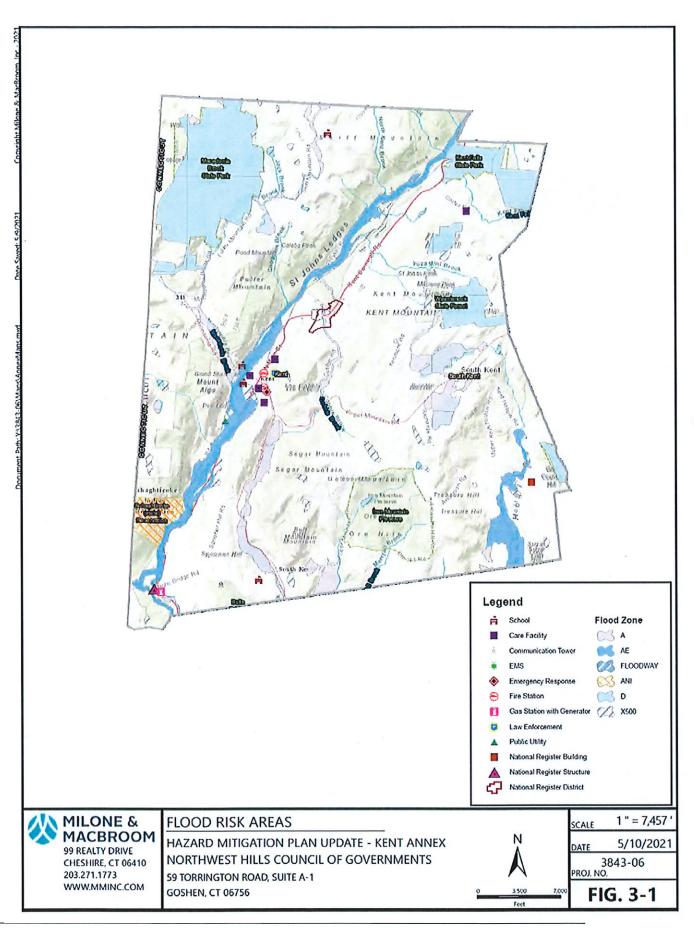


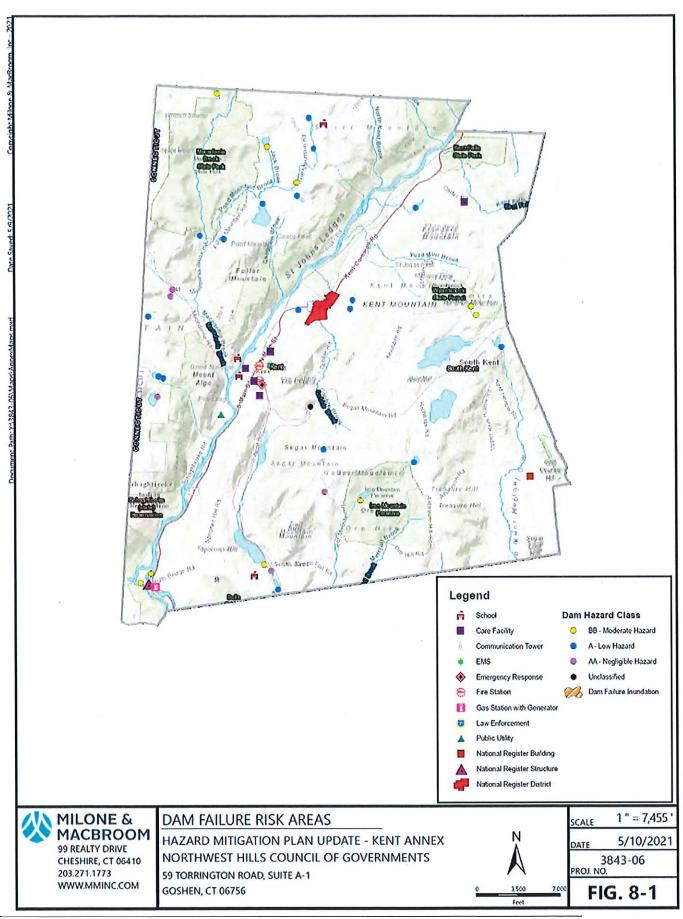


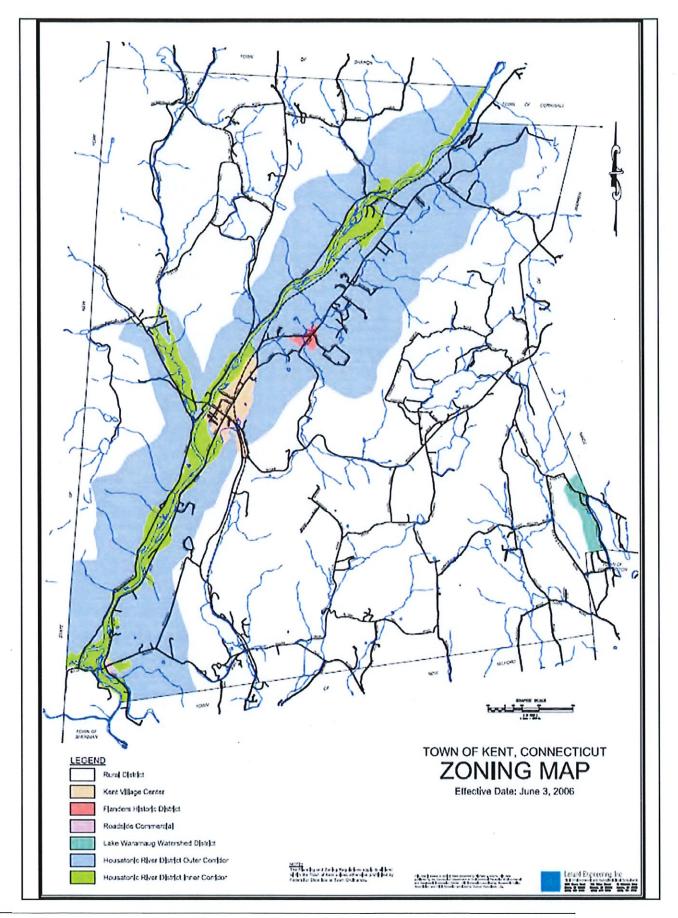






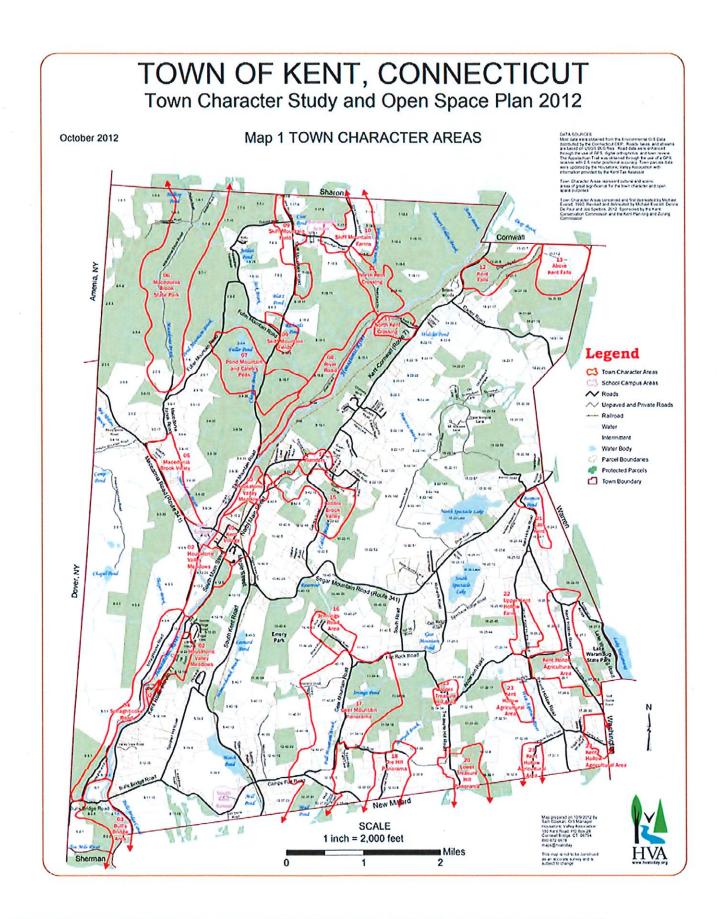


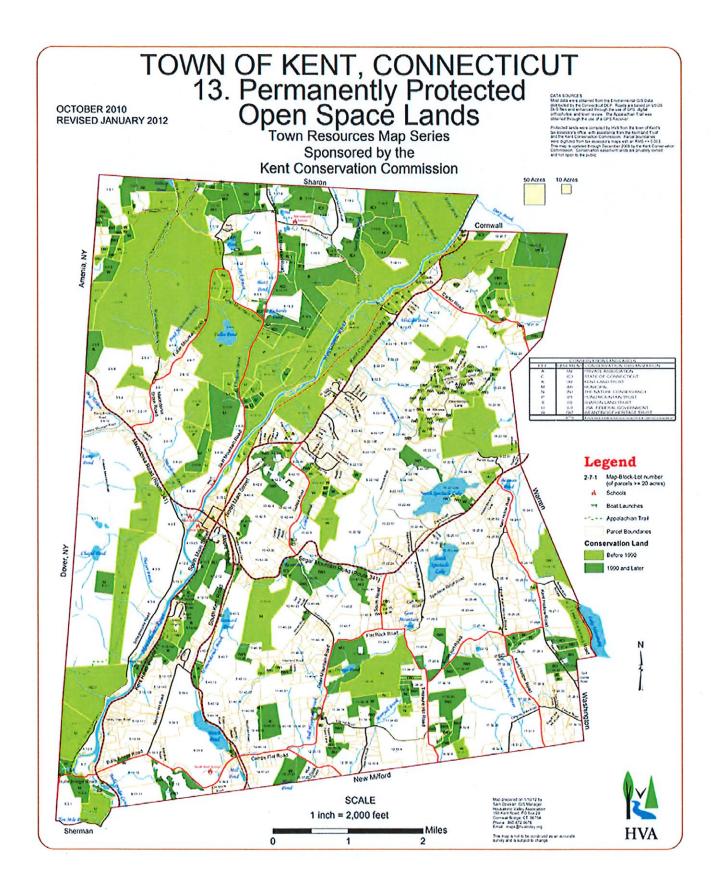


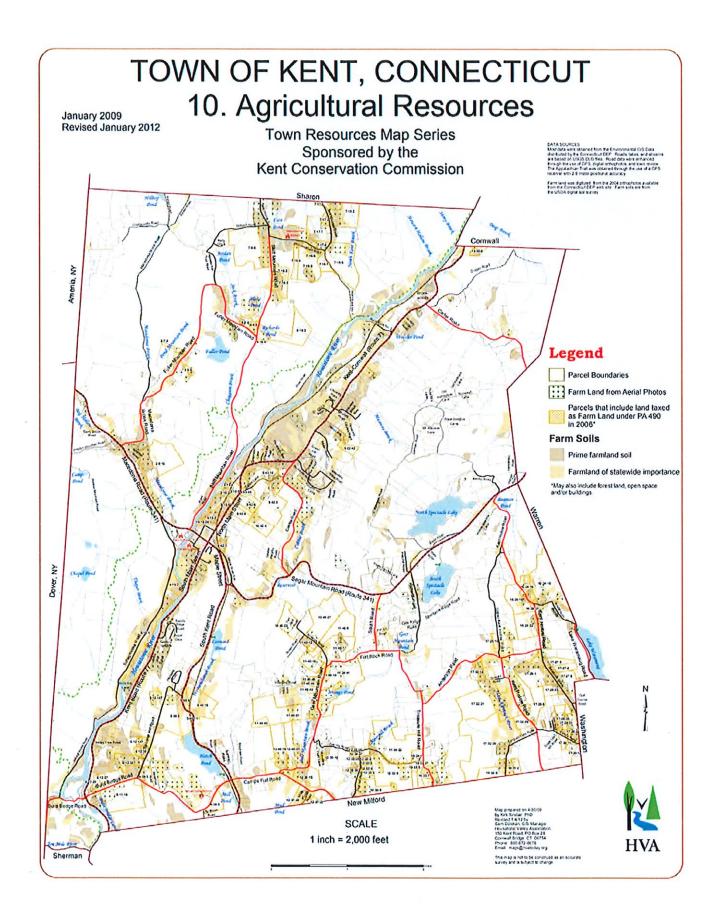


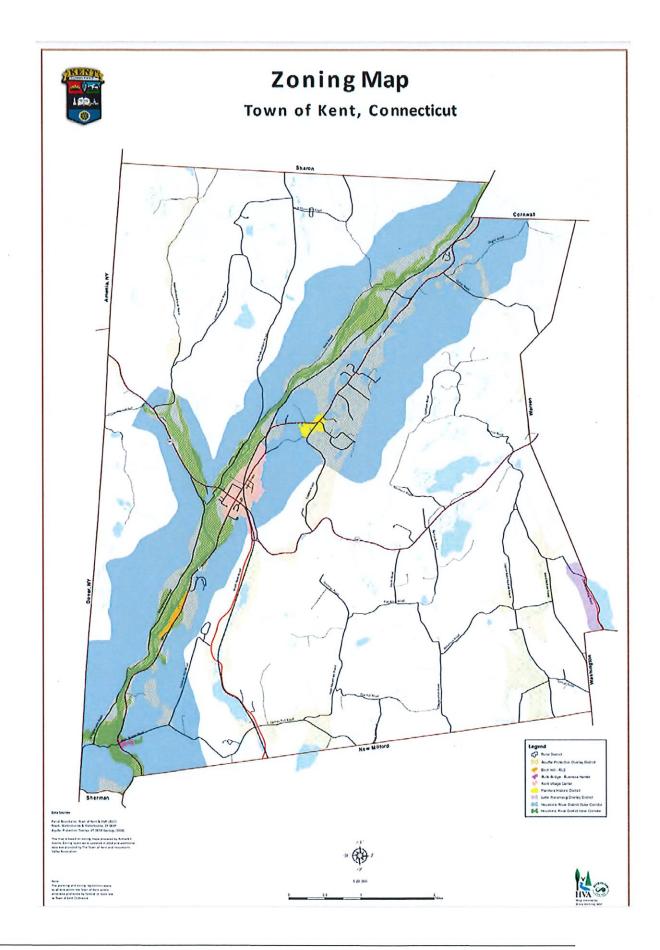
Kent Community Resilience Building Workshop

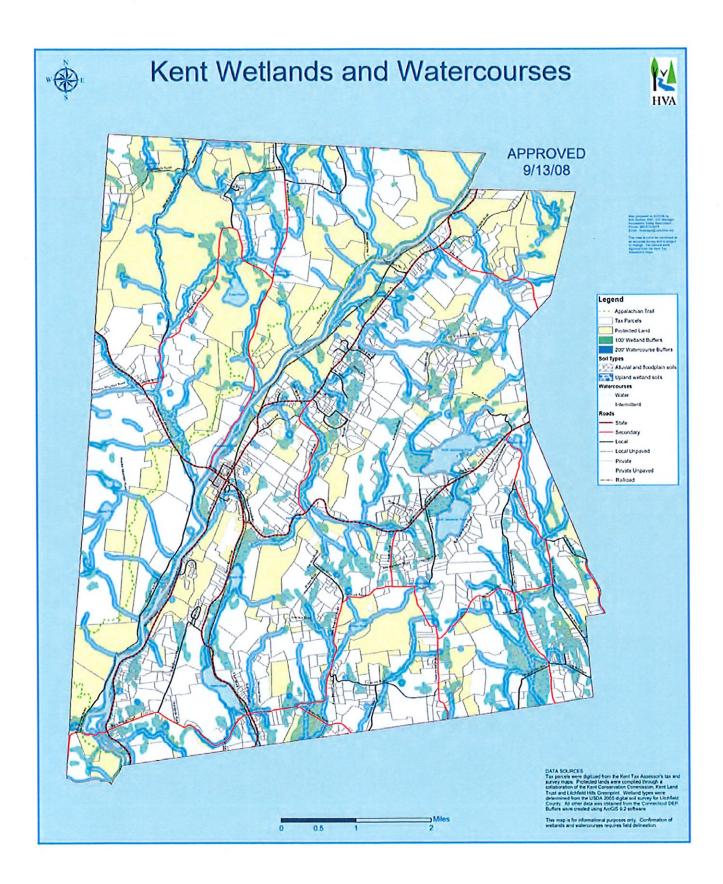
■ Summary of Findings ■ March 2022

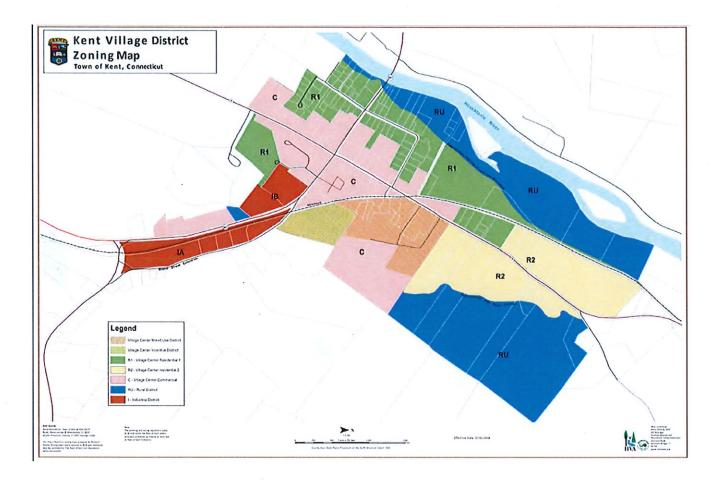


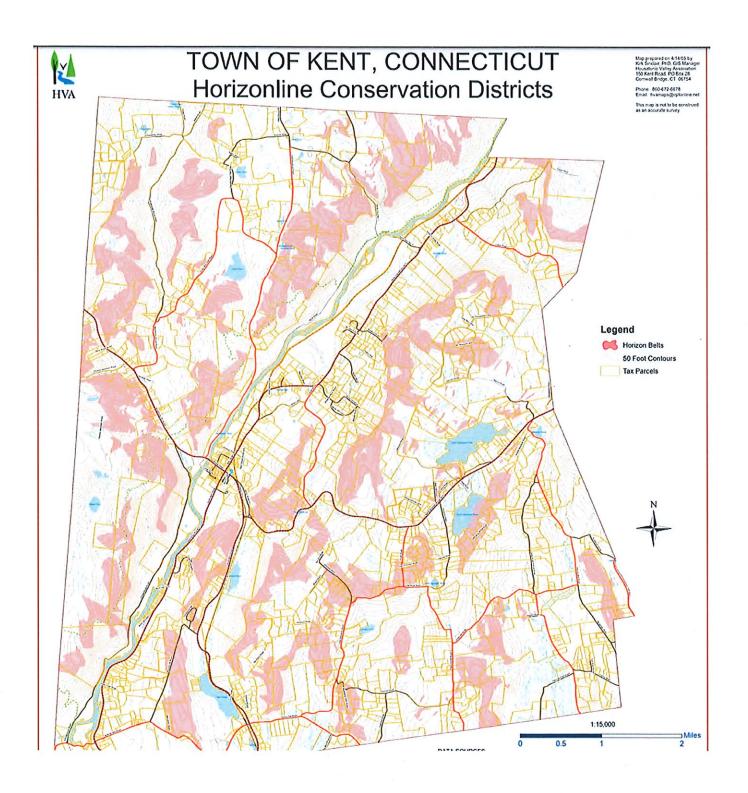


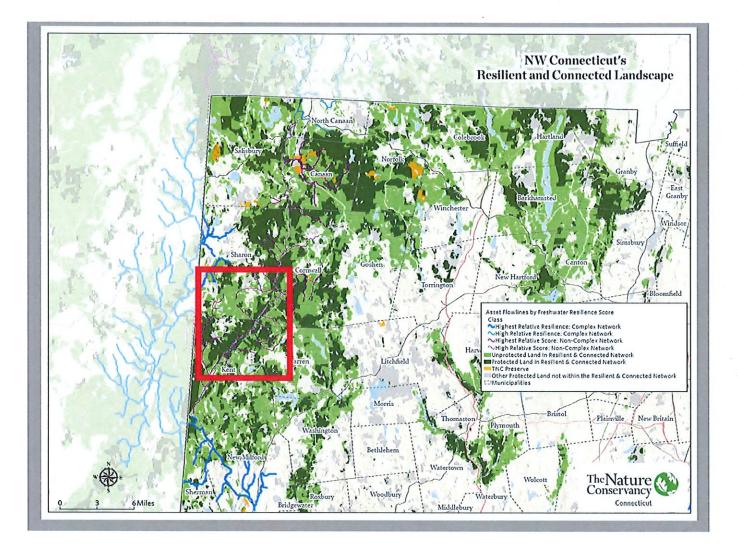


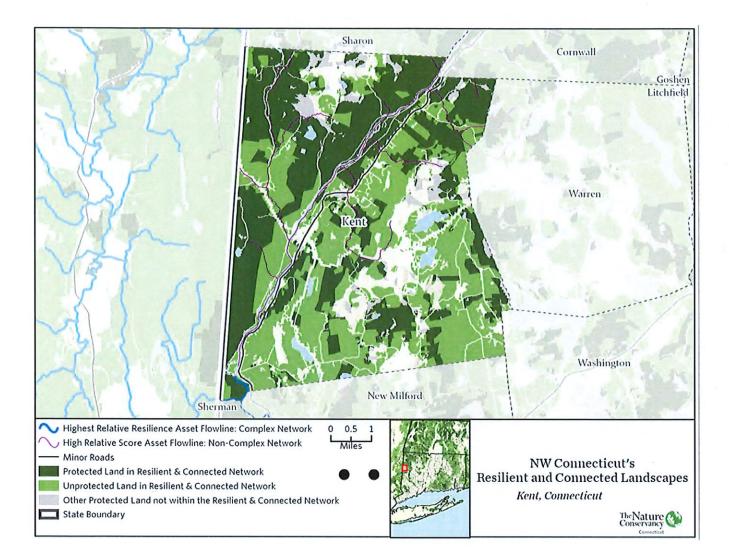












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