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TOWN OF KINGSTON

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Advisory #11

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

Earlier today the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that there were 64 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase from 32 confirmed cases yesterday. We ask that you continue to monitor www.kingstonmass.org for news from Kingston's Emergency Management Team. We have provided links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the Town's website.

This afternoon the Town of Kingston was informed of its first positive case of COVID-19. Kingston's Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor the case. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of this case will remain anonymous.

With the increased availability of testing and community spread of COVID-19, having a positive case in the Town of Kingston was inevitable. This is a crucial time for infection control. Kingston's Emergency Management Team and Board of Health wants to remind you all that maintaining social distancing, limiting exposure to others, avoiding crowded places, and vigilant hand washing are vital steps in slowing the spread of this disease.

As stated in yesterday's "Advisory #10," restricting our movement to essential activities, such as grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions and traveling to medical appointments, will improve our chances for a swift recovery from this pandemic. These drastic measures are designed to give our public health experts, our first responders, and our state and federal government the time to build up their capacity to expand their stock of personal protective equipment, expand testing capabilities, improve tracking, tracing and isolation measures, and create capacity within our hospitals and health care system to effectively push back the virus. Simply put, staying home and drastically limiting your social interactions with others, will help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and possibly save lives.

Efforts to respond to and contain COVID-19 are rapidly changing, but our priority is to serve and support Kingston residents, employees, and businesses through the continuity of basic services and operations. We acknowledge that COVID-19 will significantly impact the lives of all those in our community, but we ask that you take a thoughtful and measured approach to keeping yourselves, your families, and your neighbors safe by following the news and recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, both on the Kingston Board of Health website.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen