PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release March 24, 2022 Contact: Christopher J. Ryan Director of Community & Economic Development Town of Harvard 978-456-4100 x.323

Town of Harvard Invites the Public to a Meeting to Learn About the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Revised 04/13/2022

The Town of Harvard is developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan that identifies and prioritizes actions the Town can take to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. Citizen participation is essential.

A virtual public meeting will be held on:

- Thursday, April 14, 2022
- 4:30 pm 5:30 pm

You can join the meeting at the Senior Center or on your computer. Revision

- o https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89617192870?pwd=WVUzbHpreno4bmkwbUMvVW9MdE1SZz09
- Meeting ID: 896 1719 2870
- o Passcode: 428239

At the meeting, you will have an opportunity to contribute your ideas for making the Town more resilient to natural hazards such as flooding, snowstorms, high winds, and extreme temperatures. This plan is being developed by a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee comprised of Town officials and local stakeholders. Jamie Caplan Consulting LLC, a Northampton, MA based firm, is leading this effort on behalf of the Town and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approval, and Town adoption, of the Hazard Mitigation Plan allows the Town to apply for pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation grant funds.

Harvard developed a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plan in 2019 that also identified possible actions to mitigate risks to natural hazards and climate change. The Hazard Mitigation Plan will include all of those identified actions still relevant today.

For questions regarding this project, please contact Christopher J. Ryan, Director of Community & Economic Development, Phone: 978-456-4100 x.323, <u>cryan@harvard-ma.gov</u>.