



**TOWN OF WESTPORT**  
**MASSACHUSETTS 02790**  
**"The Coastal Agricultural Resource Community of New England"**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, it is important when a major weather event occurs that local officials be authorized to take such actions as necessary to mitigate damage to property and protect public welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, weather forecasters have declared that the South Coast of Massachusetts including the Town of Westport is now within a Hurricane Watch in response to the movement of Tropical Storm Henri; and

**WHEREAS**, Tropical Storm Henri is expected to strengthen to a Category 1 hurricane on Saturday August 21, 2021 and on a course to seriously affect the east coast of the United States the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the South Coast and most particularly the Town of Westport; and

**WHEREAS**, Tropical Storm Henri is expected to be a Category 1 hurricane when it makes landfall on the coast of Massachusetts on August 22, 2021: and

**WHEREAS**, storms of this strength can result in high winds, heavy rains, and coastal flooding, and significant trees down, flying debris, and electrical outages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Westport Board of Selectmen in consultation with the Town's Emergency Services Director of the Town of Westport has determined that Tropical Storm Henri presents a major disaster possibility which poses an immediate threat to public health, safety, and general welfare of people residing both within and outside of the Town of Westport; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to take steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the public impact of Tropical Storm or Hurricane Henri to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Town of Westport; and

**WHEREAS**, declaring a state of emergency will facilitate and expedite the use of resources to protect persons from the impacts of Hurricane Henri including but not limited to emergency expenditures pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 31 and limitations on operating hours and access to public buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Westport Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westport recommends that a state of emergency be declared in the Town of Westport.

**NOW THEREFORE**, we, the Westport Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westport, Massachusetts, hereby declare that as of Saturday, August 21, 2021, a state of emergency exists in the Town of Westport, Massachusetts. This declaration of emergency shall remain in effect until further notice is given, pursuant to our judgment that the conditions leading to this declaration no longer exist.

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Shana M. Shufelt, Chair

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Steven J. Ouellette, Vice Chair

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Ann E. Boxler

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Brian Valcourt

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Richard W. Brewer, Clerk

**August 20, 2021**

**WESTPORT BOARD OF SELECTMEN**