

Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island



Office of the Town Manager  
100 Fairway Drive  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
Phone: (401) 268-1501  
[www.northkingstownri.gov](http://www.northkingstownri.gov)

For Immediate Release  
February 10, 2023

**PRESS RELEASE**

**North Kingstown On Its Way to Becoming A Four Minute City**

**North Kingstown, RI** — Fire Chief Scott Kettelle, Assistant Chief John Linacre, and Town Manager Ralph Mollis presented an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Recommendation to Town Council this week for the purchase and 5-year maintenance program of sixty (60) AEDs. The Recommendation received unanimous approval from the Town Council and could see the life-saving units installed in many Town parks, outdoor recreation facilities, and playgrounds beginning in May 2023.

The 60 new Avive Connect AEDs would partially satisfy the Town's coverage within its desired designation as a Four Minute City, an initiative to make AEDs accessible within four minutes of a collapse from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). SCA was the leading cause of natural death in the United States in 2022.

A victim of SCA experiences a 7-10% reduction in their chances for survival each minute that passes without a shock from an AED. "Access to this critical, life-saving technology through an easy-to-use and reliable platform with built-in maintenance is key to the inherent safety and health of our residents and visitors," said Town Manager Ralph Mollis. The State of Rhode Island enacted legislation in 2016 requiring all public middle and high schools to have AEDs and "research shows that having units like these readily available will save lives. It's not a question of if, it's when," said Fire Chief Scott Kettelle said of his eagerness to move North Kingstown's Four Minute City initiative forward.

Funding for the Town's Four Minute City initiative is allocated within the Rescue Billing Account of the FY23 municipal budget with no impact on the current tax rate for residents. The purchase of additional AEDs to fully satisfy the Four Minute City initiative coverage will be being proposed by Town Manager Mollis with funding in the FY2024 budget. The supplemental units to those approved by the Town Council this week will complete the installation of AEDs at public facilities, known densely populated areas, and areas deemed high-hazard risks determined between the Town's emergency management, recreation, facilities, and public works departments.

The Recommendation's approval from Town Council awards a five-year contract to Avive Solutions, a San Francisco based team of engineers, doctors, and first responders with the mission to increase the survival rate for SCA by proactively empowering people with reliable life-saving tools. Avive Solutions is the exclusive owner and authorized representative of The Avive Connect AED and all accessories and management of the device. The Avive AED Connect units approved for installation in North Kingstown are the first and only AEDs to date to be fully integrated to over 90% of 911 call centers, and feature increased security and ease-of-use features to speed up key links in the chain of survival of a person experiencing SCA.

North Kingstown's 4 Minute City initiative with Avive Solutions was developed alongside emergency management officials from North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Charlestown and Narragansett with a goal is to provide next-generation AED units through a consolidated procurement and replacement process.

Please contact Kate Glass, Executive Assistant, at [kglass@northkingstownri.gov](mailto:kglass@northkingstownri.gov) with any questions.

— END —