

# TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN

## PRESS RELEASE



### OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

---

**DATE:** DECEMBER 13, 2019  
**FOR RELEASE:** IMMEDIATELY  
**FROM:** ROBERT ZARNETSKE, TOWN MANAGER  
**CONTACT:** TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE 789-9331 x1201

---

### DIRECTOR OF PLANNING HIRED

The Town Manager is pleased to announce that Mickaela Gray will begin on December 16, 2019 as the Town's Director of Planning. In this position, Ms. Gray will report to the Town Manager, work with several of the Town's boards and commissions, and be responsible for the coordinating and supervising the Town's Planning Department. Ms. Gray's duties will include high level technical, administrative, and professional planning work; municipal policy development relating to land use and long range community planning; the development, general administration, and implementation of the Town's long range comprehensive planning efforts, growth management program, community sustainability efforts; and development of the Department's annual operating and capital budget.

Ms. Gray holds a Bachelor's Degree in Science in Community Development and Applied Economics from the University of Vermont. Ms. Gray brings previous planning experience starting in 2014 working for the Town of Lyndon and Village of Lyndonville as well as in 2016 working for the northern New Hampshire regional planning commission. Ms. Gray has been employed by the Town of South Kingstown as Principal Planner since May 2017, during which time she has demonstrated her expertise in development review, comprehensive planning, zoning ordinance development, meeting facilitation, process management, and garnering public input.

After conducting a regional search throughout New England, Ms. Gray was selected from a field of 8 applicants and 3 finalists. "Kaela cares. She cares about the community. She cares about the people who live here. And she cares about achieving the Town's goals for conservation and responsible development. We're lucky to have her stepping up to take this leadership role," said Robert Zarnetske, Town Manager.