



BOROUGH OF TARENTUM

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
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Tarentum Borough Declares Emergency Following Storm Sewer Collapse and Sinkhole at 4th Avenue Bridge

Tarentum, PA —Tarentum Borough has declared a local emergency following the discovery of a significant sinkhole adjacent to the 4th Avenue Bridge over Bull Creek. The sinkhole was caused by the unexpected collapse of a storm sewer line beneath the roadway, resulting in unstable ground conditions and potential risk to the bridge and surrounding infrastructure.

After conducting an on-site evaluation, the Borough's engineering team confirmed the extent of the damage. Based on their findings and upon the recommendation of both the Borough engineer and solicitor, the Borough has taken swift action to **declare a local disaster emergency** in accordance with Pennsylvania law.

"Public safety is our top priority," said Borough Manager Dwight Boddorf. "This declaration allows us to respond quickly and responsibly to a critical infrastructure failure that, if left unaddressed, could worsen and endanger both the roadway and utilities in the area."

The emergency declaration empowers the Borough to take immediate steps to begin necessary repair work while coordinating closely with regulatory agencies. This action ensures that crews can stabilize the site and restore infrastructure as efficiently and safely as possible.

The **4th Avenue Bridge is closed to all traffic until further notice**. However, access to nearby businesses on 4th Avenue remains open via Center Street. Residents and drivers are urged to use alternate routes and obey posted detours.

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