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## Town of Morristown Updates From Mayor Timothy P. Dougherty

Contact the Mayor directly by email at [mayor@townofmorristown.org](mailto:mayor@townofmorristown.org)



### Individual Highlights:

Morristown's Master Plan  
Status of Affordable Housing  
2013 Jazz & Blues Festival  
Help Deter Crime  
Parklet Program  
Emergency Response Team

### Morristown's Master Plan

The Mayor's Office and the Town's Planning Division continue to lead the way to finalizing initial drafts of the 2013 Town Master Plan. The primary goal for writing a Master Plan is to engage the town in visioning the future of Morristown. The Master Plan will look at land uses that ensure the preservation of Morristown's beautiful neighborhoods, while providing for smart growth in smart locations. The master plan will look at improving traffic circulation, while creating a more pedestrian and bike friendly town. The final preparation of the master plan is expected to occur in September 2013. The Mayor and Planning Division are looking forward to sharing key details of the plan with town residents and businesses at one or more public forums this coming September. The Mayor's goal is to finalize the Master Plan for approvals late Fall.

### Status of Affordable Housing

You may have recently read about the State's attempt to abolish the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) which was denied by the State Supreme Court. COAH is tasked with ensuring that NJ towns provide court-mandated affordable housing to residents. While it is difficult to predict the future of COAH, Morristown's leadership remains committed to its existing municipal ordinance. The municipal ordinance ensures that all residential development projects containing eight or more dwelling units are required to provide a minimum of 12.5% affordable housing units. You should also know that Morristown will actively seek qualified developers through an open request for proposal process. The Mayor's office remains dedicated to Morristown's broad sustainability goals, particularly those concerned with social equity and economics.



## 2013 Jazz & Blues Festival

The Annual Morristown Mayor's Jazz & Blues Festival will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2013. This all-day, free music event will kick-off at noon and continue uninterrupted until 10:00 pm on a stage located on the west side of the Morristown Green. The festival features top jazz and blues artists in a family friendly setting. Last year's festival brought thousands of people to our historic town, many of whom patronized our local stores and restaurants. Please join us on August 17<sup>th</sup> and remember to bring your chairs and blankets.

## Help Deter Crime

Prevent burglaries and thefts by locking and securing homes and vehicles at all times. Do an annual check of all home locks, including basement doors and windows. Report broken street lights and remove valuables from vehicles when they are not in use. Timely reporting of anything you might deem suspicious to the police is critically important. Please report suspicious activity immediately... "if you see something, say something." You can reach the Morristown's Police Bureau at 973-538-2200.



## Parklet Program



A "parklet" is a small public space located in a parking space in a business district that is managed by local businesses interested in creating a public space in front of their store. Together North Jersey, through its Local Demonstration Project Program (LDP), is providing Morristown funding to develop a design manual for a parklet development program. The manual will be designed in a manner that it can be used by other towns across the state. The grant will also result in developing the first parklet in downtown Morristown. The parklet will support the town's goals for creating pedestrian-friendly streets in business districts to increase their economic and social vitality. The parklet program is being implemented to advance the goals of Together North Jersey to promote sustainable, livable and transit-friendly town development.

## Emergency Response Team

If you were affected by Super Storm Sandy, or other emergency situations, you may have received important services from our dedicated voluntary Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). A key component of the Town's emergency preparedness and response initiative is based on citizen volunteers who are active and involved in homeland security and emergency management activities. Morristown now has about 100 trained volunteers, but more are needed. To become a CERT member you must be 18 years of age. You will receive professional training on how to protect yourself, your family and others from disasters; natural and man-made. For more information, please email [CERT@townofmorristown.org](mailto:CERT@townofmorristown.org) or by visiting [www.townofmorristown.org](http://www.townofmorristown.org).



Your Feedback Is Welcome

Send questions, comments and/or suggestions for future issues to [mayor@townofmorristown.org](mailto:mayor@townofmorristown.org).