



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Town of Morristown Receives Two Grant Awards

Grants awarded on behalf of the Transportation Alternatives Program and Green Acres Open Space Expansion Project

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY -- Morristown Mayor Timothy Dougherty is proud to announce that the Town of Morristown has recently been awarded two grants, one by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority Board (NJTPA), and one by the Department of Environmental Protection. The NJTPA Board of Trustees has authorized a \$1,000,000 grant to Morristown for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Promenade Transit Connection project. This grant is part of the Transportation Alternatives Program funded by the Federal Highway Administration. Additionally, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Garden State Preservation Trust has approved the Town's application for a Green Acres matching grant of \$500,000 for the Open Space Expansion project in Morristown. The Mayor shared that the grants will be used for several municipal projects in the upcoming months that will help improve Morristown's walk-ability into the downtown area and enhance the Town's open spaces and historic landscape.

"These grants, both awarded to Morristown on separate merits, will be put into great use to help accommodate and enhance our residents' quality of life," says Mayor Dougherty. "I am excited to see both of these projects move forward."

The grant awarded on behalf of the Transportation Alternatives Program will be used to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety and complete the ongoing MLK Promenade project. The scope of this project consists of connecting the MLK Promenade project to Spring Street, improving the intersection of Martin Luther King Ave and Spring Street, improving the pedestrian route along Spring Street and Water Streets and placing signage along this route directing pedestrian/bicycle traffic towards the Green and business district, as well as the Morristown Train Station. Streetscape, sidewalk improvements, lighting, traffic calming measures and points of interest signs will all help to improve the ability to walk or bike in downtown Morristown.

The Green Acres program grant awarded to the Town will help acquire an 11-acre lot owned by Loyola House of Retreats along James Street that adjoins the Town's Foote's Pond Wood to preserve the land as open space and annex it to Foote's Pond Wood, creating a nearly 25-acre preserved public open space facility owned by the Town. Foote's Pond Wood is an integral part of the cultural, historical, and environmental fabric of Morristown. This project represents a significant step in keeping Morristown a sustainable community and moving forward with ways to protect our environment.

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