











# Morristown Comprehensive Plan 2019

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## *Preface*

This Comprehensive Plan, prepared for the Town of Morristown, is meant as a guide for future development in the Morristown community. The impetus for the Plan resulted from the decision by Village of Morristown residents to dissolve the Village. A referendum was carried out in June of 2018, with the Village officially dissolving on December 31, 2019.

Prior to the June vote, an exhaustive dissolution study was prepared by the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC). A wealth in information about the Town and Village of Morristown was gathered as part of the dissolution study, including a detailed Existing Conditions Report that should be considered a background compendium to this Comprehensive Plan. That information is available at: <https://www.danc.org/morristown-study>.

This Comprehensive Plan focuses on five areas of study: agriculture, business environment, community infrastructure, local government, and quality of life. A community profile that addresses Morristown's history, demographics, natural features, and land use provides context for the action items in the Plan.

For each area of study a narrative gives background information, summarizes community based input, identifies specific goals toward which Morristown should strive and makes recommendations that will assist in the realization of each goal.

In order for the Plan to be effective, it must be implemented. An Implementation Matrix is attached that lists each recommendation and describes the entity responsible for initiating the task, a timeframe and, if applicable, what funding sources, or outside agencies, can assist with moving the initiative forward. Each entry in the matrix is taken from the recommendations listed in the Plan's main sections.

A series of maps that describe the current land use, natural features and habitat, agricultural characteristics, community amenities and current zoning are also included. Additional specific maps that support text within the plan are also found in the map documents section.

Appendixes include survey results, public input session summaries and supporting documentation for the areas of study.

This Plan was developed by the residents of Morristown with assistance from the St. Lawrence County Planning Office and a review committee made up of local individuals and Town and Village Officials in the fall of 2018.

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## ***Town of Morristown Vision Statement***

The following vision statement was developed from comments offered by residents during the Morristown Comprehensive plan public consultation process. It reflects the community's hopes for the future of Morristown and answers the question "what will Morristown look like in 10 years".

In 2029, Morristown will be known as a recreational and cultural hub, both on the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake. Access to the water will be unrestricted for both residents and tourists alike. Existing amenities and services, such as the museum, library, fire and rescue squads, remain strong and will have expanded to serve more individuals. Local government will be responsive and a focus on zoning and strong code enforcement will be in effect. The agricultural nature of Morristown is evident with productive farms covering the rural landscape. Renewable energy is being produced through limited scale solar installations on non-prime agricultural land.

Additional commercial amenities are concentrated in the hamlets of Morristown, Brier Hill, and Edwardsville. Additional businesses such as a pharmacy, grocery store, dollar store, coffee shop and restaurants will be present. Bed and Breakfasts and hotels will accommodate the influx of cyclists and other tourists that will come to Morristown for its numerous artisan and musical festivals and walking trails. The bridge over Northumberland Street will be removed and the back bay will be fully accessible with much improved water quality. Access to a public beach will be free for all Morristown residents.

Morristown continues to be a safe, friendly, caring community with affordable and improving housing, easy access to the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake, a robust business community, strong agricultural presence, and active cultural and recreational amenities.





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## *A Comprehensive Plan Defined*

Before the benefits of a comprehensive plan can be realized, a clear understanding of what a comprehensive plan is must be established. A number of definitions of a comprehensive plan are listed below. Definitions are drawn from New York State Town Law as well as Planning literature.

New York State Town Law Section 272-a 2. (a) defines a comprehensive plan as:

“The materials, written and/or graphic, including but not limited to maps, charts, studies, resolutions, reports and other descriptive material that identify the goals, objectives, principles, guidelines, policies, standards, devices and instruments for the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development of the town located outside the limits of an incorporated village or city.”

The American Planning Association defines a comprehensive plan as:

“A compilation of policy statements, goals and objectives, standards, maps, and statistical data for the physical, social, and economic development, both public and private of the community.” (Las Cruces, New Mexico)

A general definition of a comprehensive plan written by the County Planning Office is:

“A document that presents, in general terms, proposals and suggestions that guide future development of elements in the physical, social and cultural environment of a community. The comprehensive plan should be seen as a document that envisions what a community wants to be like in the future and puts forth recommendations on how it can fulfill those desires.”

Once a comprehensive plan is formally adopted by a municipality, Town Law, Section 272-a, requires certain compliance with established municipal land use regulations, specifically:

11. Effect of adoption of the town comprehensive plan.

(a) All town land use regulations must be in accordance with a comprehensive plan adopted pursuant to this section.

(b) All plans for capital projects of another governmental agency on land included in the town comprehensive plan adopted pursuant to this section shall take such plan into consideration.

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## *How a Comprehensive Plan can be used*

The following two scenarios describe how a comprehensive plan can be used.

### Scenario 1.

In a few years' time, the town is faced with a difficult budget year and hard financial decisions need to be made. The Town is not interested in overriding the tax cap but needs additional funding to provide for road maintenance and to support community programming. Both initiatives are identified in the Comprehensive Plan and the Town is conflicted on which recommendation should take precedent.

#### *What should the Town do?*

The Town should look to the Comprehensive Plan implementation matrix. The matrix offers guidance for all the goals and recommendations in the Plan. The timeframe associated with the recommendations in question should be reviewed and if one recommendation has a nearer implementation date then that recommendation should be addressed first. Additionally, the potential funding sources could help prioritize when a project can and should be undertaken.

### Scenario 2.

Sometime in the future, additional funding from the State is released to assist residents of substandard homes to repair their dwelling units. Local government entities can apply for these funds through a competitive grant application process. The funds are available but difficult to obtain because of the high application rate. One of the conditions of the application is that the community applying has identified housing repair as a key goal in its community.

#### *What should the Town do?*

Town officials should consult the Morristown Comprehensive Plan and review the section on Housing. In that section one of the stated goals reads: "Enhance and preserve the appearance and condition of housing in the Town". With this goal, and the supporting documentation that makes up the Housing section of the plan, the Town has a solid background from which to draft the application.

### **Comprehensive Plan Review Schedule:**

In order for a comprehensive plan to be an effective tool in guiding the desires of Morristown residents, it must be reviewed on a regular basis. Ideas and attitudes change over time. Five years from now, a goal that is in the current plan may be met and a different goal may have taken its place. **It is recommended that a comprehensive plan be reexamined every five years to ensure that its content is still relevant.**





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## *Executive Summary*

Morristown is a community with a diverse history and a great deal of community creativity. However, like many communities in St. Lawrence County and across New York State, Morristown is faced with a number of challenges.

To encourage communities to better prepare for the changes that time inevitably brings, the State of New York has recommended municipalities create comprehensive plans. Morristown has decided, after careful study, to dissolve one of its municipal entities: the Village. While the structures that make up the Village of Morristown will remain, the political boundary and Village administration will cease to exist after 2019. To ensure that the new consolidated Morristown has a solid footing, a Comprehensive Plan was initiated by the Town. This plan will help guide the future of Morristown through its next lifecycle; one that has not existed since the founding of the Village in 1884.

The Plan is divided into five main sections: a Community Profile, Community Characteristics, Goals and Recommendations, Implementation, Map Documents, and Appendices. Each section is described briefly below:

The Community Profile describes the history of Morristown, from its days of origin to its current land uses. A Demographic Overview cites population, school enrollment, income, housing, and other descriptive data for the Town and Village. The Natural and Built Features Assessment contains an inventory of waterbodies, public lands and trails, and other features such as the Seaway and international border. A thorough assessment of the variety of land uses currently in the town is represented in table and narrative form. St. Lawrence River shoreline resiliency is of critical importance to the Town and is also addressed in the profile.

The Community Characteristics, Goals and Recommendations section addresses five areas of interest. These are: Agriculture, the Business Environment, Community Infrastructure, Local Government and Quality of Life.

The Agriculture section gives an overview of the variety of agricultural land uses, describes the soil types, and identifies agricultural land use constraints such as wetlands and hydric soils. The goal identified in this section addresses the need to use the best soils in Morristown for agricultural production. Recommendations include minimizing development of solar arrays on prime agricultural land and reviewing the Town's subdivision and zoning regulations to promote sustainable agricultural practices.

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The Business Environment section identifies current businesses in Morristown. An extensive public input section mentions numerous businesses that residents would like to see in the Town as well as need to expand the tourist industry. Four general goals with specific recommendations are made. The goals speak to maintaining the current economic drivers in the Town, creating new businesses, revitalizing the downtown business in the former Village and maximizing tourism using the St. Lawrence River and the Black Lake as anchors. Some specific recommendations include pursuing rehabilitation funding, nurturing partnerships with state and local agencies, and soliciting development proposals for desired businesses.

The Community Infrastructure section address five characteristics: education, housing, telecommunication, transportation, and, water and sewer. Goals include maintaining a quality education opportunity for K-12 students; improving housing conditions and choice; making the most of State telecommunications funding; improving roads and access to and from Morristown; and ensuring that local budget appropriations are adequate to maintain current water and sewer infrastructure. A total of nine goals are identified in this section.

The Local Government Section identifies the current structure of the Town of Morristown and speaks to the roles and responsibilities the Town will have with former Village assets. With one land use code for the entire Town, code enforcement will need to be modified and recommendations on how are featured in this section. A thorough land use document, the Morristown Local Waterfront Development Plan, is referenced as a compendium document for guiding development along the St. Lawrence River. Three specific goals address government transition, code revision and the Local Waterfront Development Plan.

The Quality of Life section summarizes Morristown's community amenities & programming, service organizations and community revitalization aspirations. Five goals address improving community aesthetics, improving water quality along the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake, increasing recreational opportunities, capitalizing on local history and strengthening and diversifying community engagement.

Implementation is the most critical part of any comprehensive plan. Each recommendation in this plan is listed in a matrix that identifies who will be responsible for implementation, the time frame, potential funding sources, and other agencies that may be able to assist in implementing the recommendation.

Maps to support the various areas of study in this plan are located in the map document section. The appendices contain a variety of raw data and supporting information. Both map document titles and appendix titles are listed in the Table of Contents.

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## *History of Morristown, NY*

The original inhabitants of the area comprising present-day Morristown were indigenous people, most probably St. Lawrence Iroquoian, who lived in the lowlands along the St. Lawrence River from Lake Ontario east past Montreal. These Iroquoian peoples consisted of numerous smaller groups with a total population of over 100,000; they were distinct from the Haudenosaunee (present-day Iroquois) and Huron tribes.

Archeological evidence indicates that these Iroquoian peoples occupied the river valley from the 1300s to almost 1600. Jacques Cartier reported encounters with St. Lawrence Iroquoians in 1535-36. However, by the time that Samuel de Champlain explored the region in 1608, he reported no inhabitants. After that time, the area was not permanently settled until Anglo settlers arrived after 1800.

The area of the Town was surveyed in 1799 by Jacob Brown (later, as General Brown, a North Country hero of the War of 1812). A plan for the waterfront community (originally named Morrisville) was created soon thereafter and Col. David Ford was appointed land agent. In 1808 he built the first house in what would one day become the Village.

Morrisville began to grow as a location to obtain supplies for boats travelling the St. Lawrence River. That may be why, in July 1812, the American vessel *Julia* battled the British ship *Earl of Moira* off the shore of Morristown. Various reports indicate that the action was inconsequential.



The waterfront community continued to grow after the war, with a stone windmill constructed in 1825 to supply power for industrial uses. The hamlet also acquired a Customs House, since cross-river trade with Brockville, Ontario developed to include a ferry.

Settlers also began to arrive throughout the town after the War of 1812. The Town of Morristown was officially formed in 1821. Portions of the Town were taken to become part of Hammond (1827) and Macomb (1841).

A Post Office was established in 1837 where a ferry crossed “the Narrows” of Black Lake; this grew into the hamlet of Edwardsville. Another Post Office was established in 1853 along the old Indian Trail that was used by people travelling between Ogdensburg,

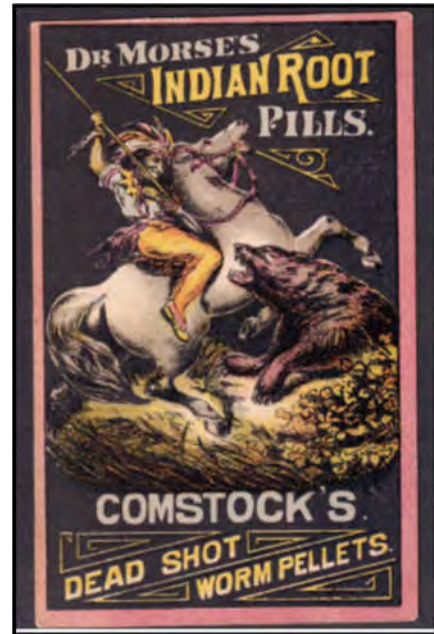




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The publication “A History of Morristown” reported that “while the (rail) road is a wonderful convenience ... it cannot be said to have greatly benefited this town in a material sense”. (<http://history.rays-place.com/ny/morristown-ny.htm> 1894). The railroad continued to serve Morristown until the 1960s.

In 1867, the manufacture of “Dr. Morse’s Indian Root Pills” and other patent remedies became an established business in the hamlet of Morristown by William H. Comstock, a peripatetic businessman who moved between New York City, St. Catherines and Brockville, Ontario, and Morristown. Comstock’s Indian Root Pills were sold throughout the Midwest (particularly in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin) and Canada (Ontario). A sister facility across the River in Brockville also manufactured Comstock’s pills; both plants could be managed by a supervisor crossing the River by ferry.



In addition to establishing the Comstock Hotel, the factory lead to availability of electricity, steam heat and drinking water. The patent remedy business continued until 1960.



*The Comstock factory in Morristown NY, circa 1910*

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Over the years, the Town outside the Village has remained rural. Farming and dairy have always been important; at one point Morristown was home to five cheese factories and one butter factory.

Recreation and tourism have long been part of Morristown's heritage. While the Thousand Islands lie to the west of Morristown, which thereby missed the benefits of having the incredibly wealthy make summer homes a tradition, Morristown saw its own, suitably smaller version of tourism: "A number of wealthy men of New York ... have recently purchased Elizabeth Island in Black Lake ... and built thereupon a fine clubhouse, chiefly for their own benefit, at an expense of several thousand dollars." (ibid.)

Presently, Morristown is home to Jacques Cartier State Park, as well as a host of "camps" (seasonal vacation homes) on the St. Lawrence River. The southern edge of the town borders Black Lake; the Black Lake Road includes numerous rental cabins, other vacation homes, a state-owned boat launch with composting toilet, bait shops, boat dealers, and other recreational opportunities and businesses.





## Demographic Profile

The Town of Morristown was established in 1821. Census records from a year earlier (1820) indicated that 827 persons lived in the area that became the Town of Morristown.

In spite of the fact that part of the Town was split and added to the Town of Hammond in 1827, population continued to grow in Morristown. By 1840, population in the Town reached a peak at more than 2,800 persons. The next year, another part of Morristown was portioned off and added to the Town of Macomb; population in the Town has never been as high again.

### *Population Over Time, Village of Morristown*

Historical population		
Census	Pop.	%±
1880	397	—
1890	472	18.9%
1900	466	-1.3%
1910	540	15.9%
1920	489	-9.4%
1930	505	3.3%
1940	540	6.9%
1950	546	1.1%
1960	541	-0.9%
1970	532	-1.7%
1980	461	-13.3%
1990	490	6.3%
2000	456	-6.9%
2010	395	-13.4%
Est. 2016	382 <sup>[1]</sup>	-3.3%
U.S. Decennial Census <sup>[9]</sup>		

The next population high point came in 1860, with almost 2,300 persons living in the Town. After that, population slowly declined until 1,569 people lived in the Town in 1950.

After that date, population rose slowly but steadily until 2000 (2,050 persons), after which it again declined. Current population is estimated at 1,913 persons (2016).

Population in the Village was not tracked until it was incorporated; in 1880, at that time, the population was 397.

Village population reached 500 before 1910, and peaked at 546 persons in 1950.

### *Population Over Time, Town of Morristown*

Historical population		
Census	Pop.	%±
1820	827	—
1830	1,618	95.6%
1840	2,809	73.6%
1850	2,274	-19.0%
1860	2,284	0.4%
1870	1,954	-14.4%
1880	2,186	11.9%
1890	1,966	-10.1%
1900	1,798	-8.5%
1910	1,888	5.0%
1920	1,719	-9.0%
1930	1,658	-3.5%
1940	1,635	-1.4%
1950	1,569	-4.0%
1960	1,776	13.2%
1970	1,823	2.6%
1980	1,921	5.4%
1990	2,019	5.1%
2000	2,050	1.5%
2010	1,974	-3.7%
Est. 2016	1,913 <sup>[1]</sup>	-3.1%
U.S. Decennial Census <sup>[2]</sup>		

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This was during the era when the Village was a manufacturing site for Comstock's Indian Root Pills. Comstock's factory finally closed in 1960. Since then, population in the Village has trended down, falling below 500 after 1970, and below 400 after 2000. In 2016 population in the Village was estimated at 382 persons.

According to the Census Bureau's Decennial Census, in 2010 the Town of Morristown had a population of 1,974 persons. Women made up 50.9% of population. In 2017, the Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (ACS) estimated population in the Town at 1,704 persons. Females made up 49% of population.

Median Age in the Town in 2010 was 42.0 years old. By 2017, Median Age was estimated at 52.8 years. This represents a significant change.

In 2010, 24.7% of population was under 18 years old. By 2017, that had shrunk to 15.9%. By contrast, the percentage of people 65 years and older has increased from 16.2% of population in 2010, to slightly more than 25% in 2017.

School district enrollment data for Morristown Central School indicate a drop of only 49 students during the period 2012 – 2019 (379 students in 2010; 330 students in 2019; source: NYS Education Dept., Information and Reporting Services, <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/statistics/enroll-n-staff/home.html> ).

**Evidently, people have been leaving Morristown since 2010. Morristown seems to have lost 13.7% of its population. Those leaving seem to be households with children. This would account for the rise in Median Age (42.0 years old to 52.8 years old); the reduction in percentage of people under 18 years old (24.7% to 15.9%); and also the increase in people 65 and older (16.2% up to 25%).**

At the same time, racial characteristics in Morristown have remained stable. In 2010, the population was 98.4% white; in 2017, the population remained 97.9% white.

The number of households also remained stable: the Town of Morristown had 766 households in 2010; by 2017, there were 751 households.

In 2010, 522 households (68%) were family households; in 2017, 483 (64.3%) were family households.

Average household size was 2.56 persons per household in 2010; in 2017, it was 2.25 persons per household.

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Average family size in 2010 was 3.01 persons; in 2017 average family size was 2.69 persons.

American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2013-2017 (ACS) show that, among residents of the Town who were 25 years or older, 54.3% had attained a high school or GED educational attainment. Another 39.7% had attained some college or a degree (Associates or Bachelor's). Residents that attained a graduate or professional degree made up 6.7% of the population.

Among the civilian population in the Town, 16.8% have some type of disability. Among residents under 18 years old, 8.8% have a disability. Conversely, 25.5% of persons 65 years and older have disabilities.

Among residents 16 years or older, 49.4% are in the civilian labor force. The occupational sector with the most employees among residents of Morristown was "Management, business, science and arts", with 34.0% of the employed population older than 16 years of age. "Sales and office occupations" had 28.0% of the employed population.

The industry employing the largest number of residents in Morristown was "Educational services, health care and social assistance", with 27.5% of the civilian labor force. "Retail trade" employed 18.7% of residents in the labor force. No other industry reported employing more than 10% of the resident labor force.

In 2017, the Median Household Income (half of households make more money; half make less) for Town residents was \$68,125. The Mean Household Income (average household income) was \$69,053. Per Capita Income (average income on a per person basis) was \$35,438. By comparison, PCI in St. Lawrence County for 2017 was just \$23,554.

Poverty is a difficult subject to gauge. According to the Census, 18.6% of residents of Morristown lived below the poverty level in 2017. But the poverty level was an annual income of \$12,060. For a family of four persons, poverty level in 2017 was \$24,600. In Morristown, 10.6% of all families fell below that figure. Twenty eight point six percent of female-headed households in Morristown were below the poverty level.

Another indicator of poverty is whether a household qualifies for assistance from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. To qualify for HUD programs, a household has to earn less than 80% of the County Median household Income; this figure is adjusted according to household size. According to HUD data, 47.9% of households in the Town of Morristown qualify by income for HUD assistance.

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## ***Natural and Built Feature Assessment***

Like the rest of St. Lawrence County, Morristown lies within the Saint Lawrence Watershed. It is, in fact, geographically defined by its two primary waterbodies: the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake. The northern shore, along the St. Lawrence, features relatively affluent homes and seasonal residences. The southern shore, along Black Lake, is a working-class tourist area, known for modest summer cottage rentals and a thriving sport fishing industry. The area between these waterbodies consists of agricultural land, forested areas and wetlands.



The Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) adopted by the Town and Village of Morristown in 1991 provides a detailed

description of the area's natural resources, including water resources, air quality, bedrock and surficial geology, soils, vegetation, and fish and wildlife. This Comprehensive Plan does not repeat this information in detail. Instead, this section will reflect key public land and waterbodies whose recreational opportunities are directly linked to other community characteristics, goals and recommendations. The full LWRP may be found at:

[https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/WFRevitalization/LWRP\\_status.html](https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/WFRevitalization/LWRP_status.html).

### **Key Waterbodies**

The Saint Lawrence River is the gateway between the North Atlantic and the Great Lakes. This portion of the St. Lawrence is a Class A-Special waterbody, suitable for drinking water supply, public bathing, general recreation use, and support of aquatic life. It is assessed as an impaired waterbody due to aquatic life and fish consumption uses that are known to be impaired due to Mirex, PCBs, and dioxins from industrial waste sites and legacy sediment contamination. This portion of the River is included on the 2016 and draft 2018 NYS Section 303(d) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters.

Black Lake is a Class B waterbody, suitable for public bathing, general recreation use and support of aquatic life, but not as a water supply. Recreation use and public bathing are considered to be impaired due to elevated nutrients (phosphorus), excessive algae, and poor water clarity. It is assessed as an impaired waterbody and is included on the 2016

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and draft 2018 Section 303(d) List of Impaired TMDL Waters. Nonetheless, the lake's weed beds, bays, drop-offs, shoals, and other features make it a popular sport-fishing destination. It is known for crappie, large and smallmouth bass, walleye, bluegill, rock bass, northern pike, and muskie.

Chippewa Creek is a Class C waterbody, suitable for general recreation use and support of aquatic life, but not as a water supply or for public bathing. With respect to water quality, it is unassessed.

## **Public Land and Trails**

Jacques Cartier State Park is known for its excellent boating and fishing opportunities. It features include a swimming beach, boat launch/dock, camping, picnic areas/pavilions, playground and a modest network of hiking/cross-country ski trails. It is managed by the Thousand Islands Region of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. See: <https://parks.ny.gov/parks/114/details.aspx>



The Red Barn Preserve (see also section on Quality of Life: Community Programming, Service Organizations, Community Revitalization) includes a modest, but growing trail network showcasing its acreage and wildlife.

The Blue Heron Rookery Trail is approximately three-quarters of one mile. A second trail of approximately one-half of one mile, including a boardwalk and viewing platform, was constructed in the spring of 2019. Additional trail build-out is anticipated.



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## Other Built Features

Bayside Park is on the eastern shoreline of Morristown Bay. It features a double boat launch and a picnic area. Docks and slips were removed and are pending re-construction.

Chapman Park is a small public park on Morris Street known as the home of the community's Stone Windmill, as well as a small playground, tennis courts, and gazebo.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail is a 518-mile scenic driving route that follows the shores of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River in New York and Pennsylvania. One of the first roads in America to be designated as a National Scenic Byway, the Great Lakes Seaway Trail highlights historical, cultural and natural features throughout these areas, with an emphasis on birdwatching, boating, fishing, and diving sites. The Middle St. Lawrence region is noted as "one of the ornithological least known waterfront areas in the state, this extensive region offers excellent opportunities for viewing a wide variety of birds."

<http://www.seawaytrail.com/>



Langbrook Meadows Golf and Country Club is a Par 71, 5766 yard, 18-hole golf course, known for cool breezes off the River and as one of the earliest-opening courses in the area.

<http://www.langbrookmeadows.com/>

## Boat Launches and other Water-Based Recreation Resources

Public boat launches are available at Jacques Cartier State Park, Bayside Park and Black Lake. Private docking include Wright's Marine, RiverWatch Marina and McDonald's.

Wright's Marine features boat tie-ups and boat sales, repair, storage and winterization. RiverWatch Marina has seasonal slip rentals and day-use tie-ups. McDonald's docks offers tie-ups, but no other facilities.



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## International Border

The US-Canada border bisects the St. Lawrence River. While it poses no direct impact to the residents of Morristown; it could affect potential visitors travelling by boat. Although some call it “imaginary,” it is a legal and policed boundary between two sovereign nations; established procedures for entering each national territory must be followed. Pleasure boaters must report international travel to U.S. Customs and Border Protection; several methods of reporting may be employed. Additional information regarding international travel is available from U.S. Customs and Border Protection at <https://www.cbp.gov/travel/pleasure-boats-private-flyers/pleasure-boat-locations/nrthn-ny>.

## Public Input

Natural and built features, appeared prominently in the community SWOT analysis and visioning sessions and online survey. Together, the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake were at the top of the list of community strengths. There were no directly related weaknesses, although the lack of River access and waterfront amenities were noted.

Some identified opportunities are closely linked to natural features, including recreation, the shoreline, and tourism. Related threats included aquatic invasive species, eutrophication of Black Lake, other water quality factors, and seasonal flooding. Detailed public input results are found in **Appendix A**.

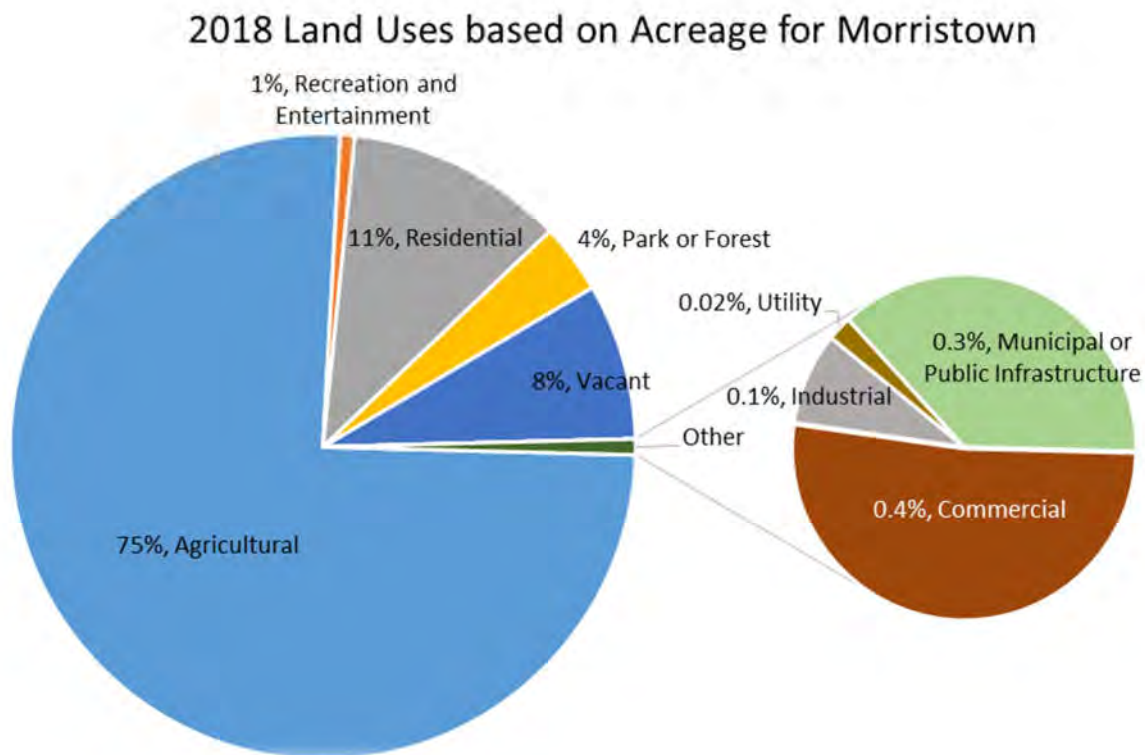


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## *Land Use*

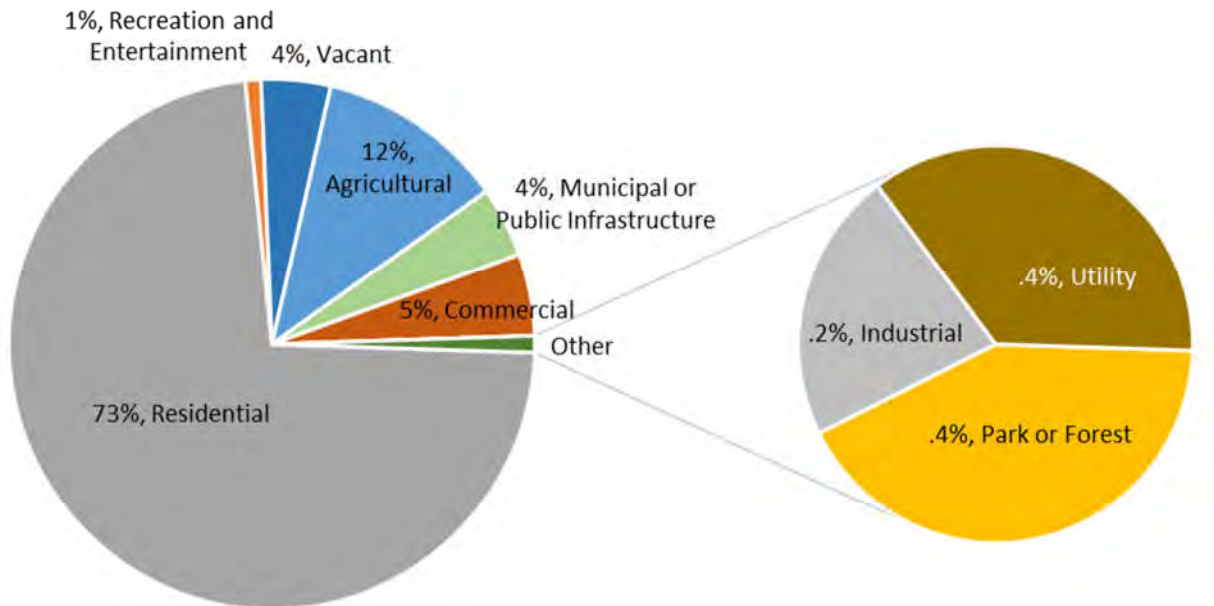
The following charts and table quantify Morristown's land uses based on acreage, number of parcels, and taxable value. Each property in the county is classified by a local assessor according to its primary use. If multiple uses are present on a lot, they may not be reflected in the primary classification assigned by the assessor.

Morristown's real property tax records indicate there are 2,198 parcels totaling 28,406 acres with a combined taxable value of \$195.7 million. Agriculture is the largest land use which occupies 75% or 21,440 acres of the community's land base, and accounts for 12% of Morristown's taxable value at \$22.7 million. There are 1,278 residential lots which account for 11% of the community's land base but represent 73% of the taxable value in Morristown.



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## 2018 Land Uses based on Taxable Value for Morristown



The largest residential category is single family residences at 693 parcels with a taxable value of \$84.5 million, followed by seasonal residences with 402 lots having a taxable value of \$47.7 million. Twenty percent of Morristown's land (2,289 acres) is classified as vacant. Recreational or entertainment land uses represent 1% of the total acreage in the community (213 acres), a majority of which consists of the Langbrook Meadows Golf and Country Club.

While limited in size based on acreage (120 acres which is less than half of one-percent of the total acreage in the community), commercial operations in Morristown account for \$9.8 million of the community's total taxable value. Morristown's cottage industry and dining establishments are two of the largest categories in the commercial land use category (64 parcels and 22 parcels respectively). All other land uses each account for less than 1% of the community's land base.

## 2018 Composition of Land Uses in Morristown

Class	Type	Acres		%	Parcels		%	Taxable Value		%
<i>Agricultural</i>		21,440		75%	347		16%	\$ 22,700,580		12%
105	Farmland		4,361			83			\$ 1,862,300	
112	Dairy Farm		4,635			36			\$ 5,399,600	
113	Cattle Farm		827			8			\$ 1,310,600	
120	Field Crops		604			14			\$ 314,000	
150	Orchard Crops		241			3			\$ 262,500	
240	Residence 10+ Acres		6,596			97			\$ 11,318,180	
320	Rural Vacant Land		4,177			106			\$ 2,233,400	
<i>Residential</i>		3,212		11%	1,278		58%	\$ 142,814,225		73%
210	Single family residence		1,634			693			\$ 84,547,450	
215	SFR with apartment		1			2			\$ 492,000	
220	Two family residence		7			6			\$ 495,200	
260	Seasonal		571			402			\$ 47,709,475	
270	Mobile home		862			162			\$ 7,097,500	
280	Multiple residence		133			8			\$ 1,610,500	
411	Apartment		2			3			\$ 507,900	
283	Residence w comm use		2			2			\$ 354,200	
<i>Vacant</i>		2,289		8%	445		20%	\$ 8,343,178		4%
300	Vacant land		364			7			\$ 140,000	
310	Residential vacant		197			137			\$ 1,033,233	
312	Vacant with garage		1,065			102			\$ 3,191,070	
314	Vacant less than 10 acres		470			178			\$ 3,440,575	
315	Vacant - underwater		0			2			\$ 6,500	
330	Commercial vacant		43			16			\$ 107,600	
331	Commercial vacant w garage		150			3			\$ 424,200	
<i>Commercial</i>		120		0.4%	62		3%	\$ 9,821,400		5%
400	Commercial		4			2			\$ 19,200	
415	Motel		1			2			\$ 302,500	
417	Cottage		64			22			\$ 5,727,500	
420	Dining establishment		22			4			\$ 570,000	
425	Bar		2			3			\$ 316,500	
431	Auto dealer		4			1			\$ 124,000	
432	Gas station		2			2			\$ 171,900	
433	Auto body		1			1			\$ 16,100	
437	Parking garage		0.2			1			\$ 30,500	
441	Fuel storage & distribution		1.3			1			\$ 109,800	
442	Storage		4			1			\$ 159,000	
444	Lumberyard/sawmill		2			1			\$ 235,000	
447	Truck terminal		0.1			1			\$ 21,300	
449	Other storage		2			4			\$ 204,800	
455	Sales and service		1			1			\$ 68,000	
460	Banks and office building		2			3			\$ 321,000	
480	Mixed use		8			12			\$ 1,424,300	

**2018 Composition of Land Uses in Morristown (continued)**

Class	Type	Acres	%	Parcels	%	Taxable Value	%
<b>Recreation and Entertainment</b>		<b>219</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>\$ 2,659,900</b>	<b>1%</b>
522	Racetrack	28		1		\$ 115,000	
534	Social organization	1		1		\$ 75,000	
550	Outdoor sports facility	175		3		\$ 510,000	
570	Marina	6		6		\$ 1,012,700	
582	Campground	2		1		\$ 114,000	
591	Playground	2		1		\$ 60,000	
600	Recreational Field	6		2		\$ 773,200	
<b>Municipal or Institutional</b>		<b>80</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>\$ 7,647,500</b>	<b>4%</b>
610	Library or school	18		2		\$ 2,431,500	
620	Church	8		6		\$ 1,744,800	
633	Home for the Aged	2		1		\$ 460,000	
642	Health Clinic	4		1		\$ 408,000	
650	Municipal Buildings	2		6		\$ 659,000	
662	Police/Fire Station	16		3		\$ 1,436,400	
680	Cultural or Recreation	1		2		\$ 374,000	
695	Cemetery	17		9		\$ 75,700	
822	Water supply	0		1		\$ 2,000	
852	Landfill	12		1		\$ 12,100	
853	Wastewater treatment	0		2		\$ 44,000	
<b>Industrial</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>\$ 439,600</b>	<b>0%</b>
710	Manufacturing/processing	4		2		\$ 418,600	
720	Mining quarry	16		2		\$ 21,000	
<b>Utility</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>0.02%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>\$ 710,265</b>	<b>0%</b>
830	Telecommunications	3		2		\$ 178,300	
843	Railine	2		1		\$ 7,000	
872	Electric substation	1		2		\$ 524,965	
<b>Park or Forest</b>		<b>1,021</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$ 837,400</b>	<b>0%</b>
910	Private Forest	365		5		\$ 88,800	
961	State-Owned Park/Rec Area	477		2		\$ 673,100	
970	Conservation lands	179		1		\$ 75,500	
<b>Total</b>		<b>28,406</b>		<b>2,198</b>		<b>\$ 195,974,048</b>	



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### ***Shoreline Resiliency in Morristown***

In 2017, during a late winter/early spring that involved record-setting rainfall, the St. Lawrence River rose to near-record heights. High winds frequently drove waves against the shoreline; the combination of water levels and wave action caused damage along shorelines throughout St. Lawrence County.

In the aftermath of that high-water period, the County's Emergency Services Department aggregated reports of property damage among shoreline communities. There were 74 reports for the Town. Damage costs ranged from \$1,000 to \$50,000, with an average cost of \$9,770.27 and a median cost of \$5,000. Eleven reports (14.9%) estimated damage costs to be \$20,000 or higher.

<b>Damage Reports - Town of Morristown, 2017</b>		
Total	74	100.0%
Business	1	1.4%
Municipal	1 (park)	1.4%
Owned	19	25.7%
Vacation Property	51	68.9%
Unknown	2	2.7%

Damage Summary - Town of Morristown, 2017				
Type of Damage	No. of times reported	% of reports	Estimated Flooding Costs	
Docks	64	86.5%	Total Costs	\$723,000.00
Seawall	11	14.9%	Mean	\$9,770.27
Shoreline erosion	1	1.4%	Min	\$1,000.00
Camp flooding	1	1.4%	Max	\$50,000.00
Deck damage	0	0.0%	Median	\$5,000.00
Electrical damage	4	5.4%	Total No. of Reports:	74
Basement flooding	1	1.4%		
Business flooding	0	0.0%		
Boathouse	14	18.9%		
Septic damage	0	0.0%		
Debris	1	1.4%		



The Village of Morristown had the fewest reports of the six shoreline municipalities in the County. There were only 11 reports, two of which were businesses. All reports mentioned dock damage; about half listed one additional type of damage. Estimated damage costs ranged from \$2,000 to \$50,000 with an average of \$13,818.

<b>Damage Reports - Village of Morristown, 2017</b>		
Total	11	100.0%
Business	2	18.2%
Owned	2	18.2%
Vacation Property	5	45.5%
Unknown	2	18.2%

Damage Summary - Village of Morristown, 2017				
Type of Damage	No. of times reported	% of reports	Estimated Flooding Costs	
Docks	11	100.0%	Total Costs	\$152,000.00
Seawall	2	18.2%	Mean	\$13,818.18
Shoreline erosion	0	0.0%	Min	\$2,000.00
Camp flooding	0	0.0%	Max	\$50,000.00
Deck damage	0	0.0%	Median	\$10,000.00
Electrical damage	1	9.1%	Total No. of Reports:	11
Basement flooding	0	0.0%		
Business flooding	0	0.0%		
Boathouse	2	18.2%		
Septic damage	0	0.0%		
Debris	0	0.0%		

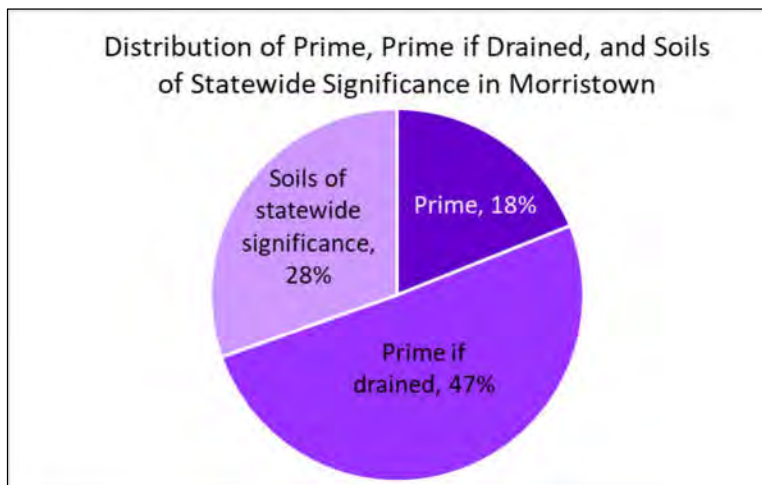
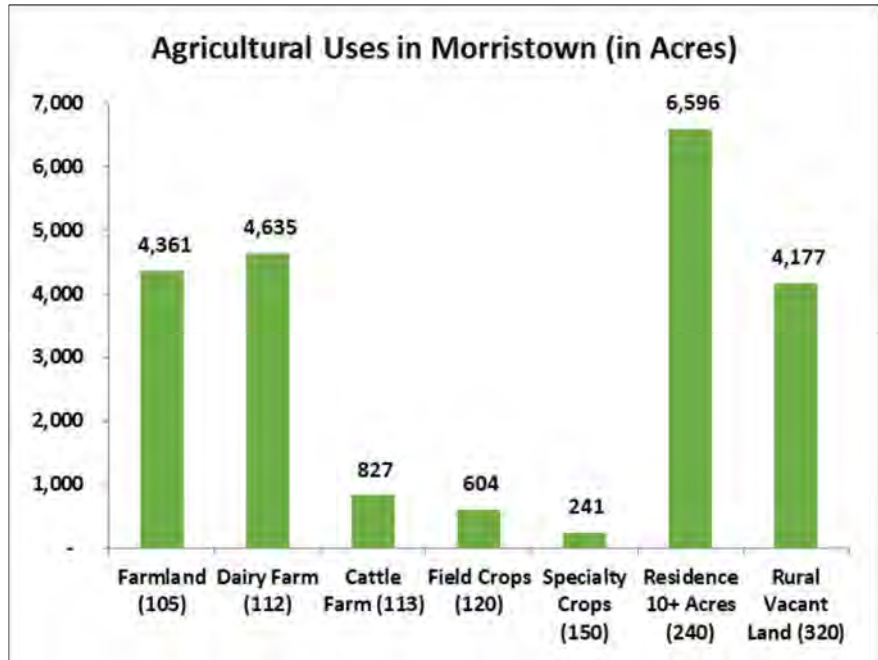
The County Planning Office believed that an informed response to these high-water conditions would assist shoreline communities to become better able to cope with future high-water events. In 2018, the County applied for funding through the **NY Sea Grant / Great Lakes Basin – Small Grants Program** for the project, “Enhancing Shoreline Resilience Along the St. Lawrence River in St. Lawrence County.” The application was successful, consultants were hired, the study was completed in July 2019. The recommendations from that report are attached: see **Appendix C**.

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## Agriculture

### *Agricultural Land Classifications*

Morristown's property records indicate there are 347 parcels totaling 21,440 acres (75% of the community's land area) that are used for agricultural purposes. Residences with 10 or more acres (property class 240) is Morristown's largest agricultural land classification and accounts for 31% of the total acres that is used for farming. Dairy farms (property class 112) is the second largest category with 4,635 acres, followed by farmland (105) at 4,361 acres, and rural vacant land at 4,177 acres. The three smallest categories by acreage are farm cattle at 827 acres, field crops at 604 acres and specialty crops at 241 acres.



10,094 acres (47% of land area), followed by soils of statewide significance at 6,027 acres (28%), and prime at 3,775 acres (18%).

Access to productive soils is a fundamental asset farm operators require to successfully grow food and agricultural products. These soils are divided into three categories: prime, prime if drained, and soils of statewide significance. In Morristown, these soils encompass 19,926 acres. Of these three categories, prime if drained soils are the most abundant at

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A map of these soils (found in Map Documents Section) shows prime soils are concentrated along the western town line on either side of Sand Street, off the Demot Road north of County Route 6, and between the Stowe Road and Center Road near the eastern town line. It is important to note that this chart and associated map indicate a resource that is suitable for agricultural production; it does not indicate the land's actual use. A better proxy for this chart and map are land classifications assigned by the assessor and whether a parcel is receiving an agricultural exemption.

One-hundred, forty-three parcels totaling 10,817 acres in the Town received agricultural exemptions in 2018, which indicates the associated farm operator had at least seven acres in production and grossed \$10,000 in annual sales receipts. When depicted on a map, opportunities for additional farmland to receive agricultural exemptions where prime soils exist include areas off the Watson Road, the Demot Road, and the Center Road.

### *Wetlands and Hydric Soils*

Federal and State Wetlands, and hydric soils preclude certain types of development and land uses. Freshwater wetlands regulated by the Department of Environmental Conservation are at least 12.4 acres in size, and include a 100' wide protection zone around its perimeter. State wetlands are grouped into four classes: Class I to Class IV. Class I wetlands are the most valuable and are subject to the most stringent standards. Activities in a State wetland and associated buffer are restricted. Most agricultural activities are allowed, but require a permit. Activities requiring a permit include: filling or depositing soil, clear-cutting trees, road construction which involves moving earth or altering water flow, filling spoil, and erecting structures not required to enhance or maintain the agricultural productivity of the land (State Freshwater Wetlands Permit Requirements are detailed in NYCRR Part 663.2).

Federal wetlands meanwhile, are not determined by size and do not include a buffer around their perimeters. Activities that are regulated in federal wetlands include (but are not limited to): dredging, filling, excavating, land clearing, use of mechanized equipment, ditching, stream channelizing and relocation, shoreline protection and dock construction. Land that is already under agricultural production is exempt from federal wetland regulations, but regulations do apply for converting wetlands to agricultural production.

A majority of the State and Federal wetlands in Morristown (depicted in pink and purple on the associated map) are found in the center of the Town, south of County Route 2 and the Center Road.

The full extent of wetlands in a community is more accurately reflected by the presence of hydric soils. Hydric soils are saturated with moisture and are known to damage or destroy conventional construction methods for septic systems, roads and basements. A

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greater concentration of hydric soils (depicted in goldenrod and yellow in the associated map) are found along the eastern half of the town, and run to parallel on either side of County Route 2, Yankee Street Road, and the Center Road.

### **Public Input:**

Public consultation throughout the Plan development process identified several references to agriculture in Morristown. The sentiment identified at the public consultation sessions and in the on-line survey was that of the importance of agriculture as an economic driver for the community and as a way of preserving open space. The following goal and recommendations came from that input and from the agricultural knowledge of the County Planning Office.

### ***Goals and Recommendations:***

Goal A: Maximize the use of prime and prime if drained soils for agricultural production.
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#### Recommendations:

1. Adopt the use of the County's Agricultural Data Statement (see **Appendix E**) so that the Town Planning Board can make informed decisions about the impacts of land use projects on farm operations located in Ag District 1.
2. Solar arrays currently pose the greatest threat to the displacement of prime soils that are in agricultural production. Revise the Town's solar regulations to identify suitable non-agricultural sites that can be used in lieu of prime farmland, which may include: former quarries, remediated brownfields, and capped landfills.
3. In lieu of approving a solar array on productive farm fields with prime soils, examine the viability of developing solar arrays on less productive agricultural land.
4. Request that the Town Planning Board conduct a "farm-friendly" audit of the Town's zoning regulations, and revise as needed to protect farmland and promote agricultural activities in the area.



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## ***Business Environment***

While Morristown is primarily known as a quiet summer retreat with numerous seasonal residences along Black Lake and the St. Lawrence River, a number of businesses were identified.

A detailed windshield survey was carried out as part of the background data gathering component of the Comprehensive Plan development. The following businesses were identified throughout Morristown. The raw data of this business list can be found in **Appendix D**.

<b>Business / Commercial Uses</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Village*</b>	<b>Total</b>
Recreation-Oriented	23	3	26
Miscellaneous Services	16	5	21
Retail/Sales	11	2	13
FIRE (Finance, Insurance, Real Estate)	0	4	4
Government/Institutional	5	9	14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>78</b>

\*Village data refers to the area of the Town that was encompassed by the former Village of Morristown boundary. This was left separate to better differentiate where these business are located.

The highest number of businesses identified in Morristown are recreation oriented. Recreation oriented includes any business that caters primarily to the vacationing population and to individuals using disposable income. These include all of the accommodation businesses along Black Lake, restaurants, and activity-oriented endeavors such as golf courses, wineries and go-kart tracks.

Miscellaneous services is all-encompassing, including anything that can provide a service primarily to the year-round population of Morristown. Businesses in this category include construction contractors, self-storage units, hair salons, medical and legal services and more unique facilities such as well drilling, funeral services and fuel supplies.

Retail and Sales services are scattered throughout Morristown. Small scale auto sales and services exist as well as two gas station and convenience stores (Edwardsville and State 37). A number of specialty retail businesses exist town-wide, but a clear lack of basic services exists and was expressed by the public in the three outreach meetings and the on-line survey. Suggestions for preferred retail businesses are listed below in the Public Input section.

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Finance, insurance and real estate businesses make up the smallest group of businesses identified. All these businesses exist in the former Village of Morristown and include banks, real estate brokerages and insurance agencies. The location of these businesses shows that their presence is tied to a larger population center, where a critical mass can make them financially viable. The static population in Morristown will mean that there will not likely be an increase in these types of businesses at the present time.

While government and institutional services are not always thought of as businesses, they do provide a stable employment base and purchase goods and services that help the overall economy. The presence of Jacques Cartier State Park along the St. Lawrence River is a seasonal economic engine that should be promoted. The Black Lake DEC boat launch and municipal boat launch in Morristown can also act as anchors for seasonal businesses. The Brier Hill and Morristown Fire Departments, library, and Gateway Museum are pillars in the community as gathering places and service providers. Municipal offices, Morristown Central School, and the United Helpers Assisted Living Facility in the former Village of Morristown contribute to the employment of the Town of Morristown.

### **Public Input:**

Public Consultation throughout Plan development process identified numerous business strengths and deficiencies throughout Morristown. The following recommendations came from the SWOT analysis, Visioning Sessions and the on-line survey.

#### **SWOT Analysis:**

- Residents value the presence of small businesses that are located in the village and along both waterfronts.
- Residents are concerned about the small number of businesses that are operating in the community, and limited employment opportunities they provide. Residents are also concerned that the limited capacity of existing broadband and cellular service hinders future business investment in Morristown.
- Residents felt there exists there is potential for Morristown to expand its summer tourism industry by expanding the types of accommodations for visitors to consider, and to host recreational events throughout the year, such as cycling and fishing competitions in the summer, and an ice sculpture and skiing competition in the winter.
- Residents support economic development initiatives that attract Canadian visitors, increase tourism in the town, and enhance self-employment/home occupation opportunities.



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### Vision Sessions and On-line Survey:

The Vision for Morristown in 10 years includes: productive and diverse farm operations, more small businesses on Main Street, an active Local Economic Development Committee, and overall economic vitality with numerous employment opportunities.

Actions that can be taken to achieve the vision include: the creation of partnerships with other chambers of commerce, development agencies, promotion of Morristown's amenities on social media, the assurance that existing businesses are adequately supported, the solicitation and the siting of businesses including a dollar store, small grocery store, restaurants and antique stores, and improvement to the appearance of Main Street.

Of the 71 respondents who participated in the on-line community survey, 74% (52 respondents) did not feel the existing businesses and services in Morristown met their day to day needs. Of the 65 respondents who provided written feedback in the survey, 23 respondents (35%) suggested grocery stores, 10 respondents (15%) identified restaurants, while 3 persons (5%) each identified a coffee shop or a pharmacy.

### ***Goals and Recommendations:***

Goal B: Protect and enhance the current economic drivers of the Town.
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#### Recommendations:

1. Establish a Morristown Chamber of Commerce or create a business promotion Committee that can work with the Black Lake Chamber of Commerce and the County Chamber to promote local businesses.
2. Refer existing farms and other open space uses to area service organizations who can assist with securing open space/conservation easements, to help maintain existing open spaces.
3. Support area businesses by sponsoring "shop local" campaigns to ensure that existing businesses can remain viable.
4. Encourage all small business owners to participate in any tax relief initiatives, and business management training offered through the Small Business Development Center and other like entities.

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Goal C: Develop new businesses and commercial opportunities that meet the needs of Morristown residents and complement the existing business environment.

Recommendations:

1. Solicit development proposals from national dollar store chains.
2. Encourage investment in existing structures that could house small grocery stores and restaurant businesses.
3. Host presentations by SUNY Canton's Small Business Development Center at any one of Morristown's venues on the preparation of business plans by prospective entrepreneurs.

Goal D: Promote commercial investment in the community by revitalizing the downtown district of the Hamlet of Morristown.

Recommendations:

1. Participate in State and Federal grant programs to rehabilitate and restore residential and commercial properties on Main Street and the surrounding neighborhood. Improving the appearance of a downtown district is a visual indication to visitors, residents, and small business entrepreneurs that Morristown is a community worth visiting and in which to invest.
2. Abate and/or demolish dilapidated properties, particularly in and around Morristown's downtown where water and sewer service is available. The likelihood of success for a new small business is significantly improved when it is conveniently nearby other services and businesses that are regularly frequented by customers.

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Goal E: Promote tourism throughout Morristown, drawing on Black Lake and the St. Lawrence River as anchor attractions.

Recommendations:

1. Establish a partnership between the Town of Morristown and the Black Chamber of Commerce to promote Morristown tourist-based businesses.
2. Pursue State and Federal resources available through the DEC, EPA, the Soil and Water Conservation District, and the County Environmental Management Committee to maintain or enhance water quality in Black Lake.
3. Promote Jacques Cartier State Park as a premiere destination for camping and water sports along the St. Lawrence River.
4. Foster a working relationship with the County Chamber of Commerce to promote Morristown nationally and in Canada.



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## ***Community Infrastructure***

A variety of community infrastructure characteristics were identified as key components for Morristown's Comprehensive Plan. They include education, housing, telecommunications, transportation, and water and sewer.

### ***Education:***

Morristown Central School was identified among the community's strengths. Per the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the District's K-12 enrollment is 318 students with an average of approximately 23 students per grade level. Its graduation rate modestly exceeds the NYS graduation rate and is reasonably consistent with the overall graduation rate in the County.

Unlike many small school districts, Morristown offers an after school program that provides personal and academic enrichment opportunities for students from Kindergarten through 12th grade. The Green Rockets Rising After School Program also helps fill the local need for child care services, a critical service for working parents of pre- and school-aged children. The program is funded by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services; the 2018-2019 academic year is the program's second year of operation under the current five-year contract. In addition, the school collaborates with the municipality to provide spring and summer recreation programs.

### ***Public Input:***

Matters relative to the school and public education were raised during the community SWOT analysis and Visioning session. The school's program(s) and facilities were noted as a strength, although limited course offerings were noted as a weakness. Nonetheless, the school was recognized as an underutilized asset, or opportunity. Threats relevant to the school include population loss and a limited tax base.



### ***Goal and Recommendation:***

Goal F: Ensure continued provision of a quality education for K-12 students.
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#### ***Recommendation:***

1. Morristown Central School should continue reviewing course offerings, analyze per-student costs and compare to surrounding districts. The purpose of this recommendation is to encourage the school and community to be pro-active with

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respect to the possibility of future school mergers. (Being pro-active allows the school and community greater control and choice in a time when many local districts face similar threats of declining population and limited, or eroding, tax bases.)

### ***Housing:***

The Town of Morristown includes several communities (former Village of Morristown; hamlets of Brier Hill and Edwardsville), and a pattern of scattered settlements across the Town. The northern and southern edges of the Town have tended to be more developed, as these edges face the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake respectively, which have acted as catalysts for settlement. The area between these edges has traditionally been agricultural, with individual homes and farms spread out on the landscape.

Morristown includes 1,693 housing units (2013-17 ACS); 14% of these units are located within the former Village (234 units). The vast majority of units in the Town are single-family, including “1-unit, detached” (71.9%) and mobile homes (17.6%). Fifty-one housing structures include 2 units, while 67 buildings in the town each include 5 to 9 units. Two buildings include 20 or more units.



A number of housing units are vacant (942, or 55.6% of all units). This is primarily explained by the fact that 715 units are considered “for seasonal, recreational or occasional use.” Other vacant units were either listed for sale or rent (115) or otherwise vacant (108 units).

For most people, their home represents the largest single asset they own. Similarly for towns, the aggregate value of housing stock typically represents the largest portion of the value of their built environment. In Morristown, aggregate value of housing units in 2017 totaled \$82.2 million. Median value for a home in Morristown was \$101,800. By contrast, median value for a home in St. Lawrence County was \$88,000.

Houses tend to be modestly-sized in Morristown. The median number of rooms is 5.0; this compares to 5.7 rooms per unit in St. Lawrence County. Similarly, half of the units in Morristown have 2 bedrooms or fewer. For the County, half of housing units have at least 3 bedrooms.

A majority (51.1%) of housing units in Morristown were built before 1960. Across St. Lawrence County, 50.1% of housing units were built before 1960. Fourteen percent of units in Morristown have been constructed since 2000; this compares to the County, where only 9.4% of units have been built since 2000.



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In Morristown, there is a significant dichotomy in age between owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units. The median year of construction for owner-occupied units was 1966. For renter-occupied units, median year of construction was 1939 or earlier. Older rental units are more likely to be at risk of deferred maintenance and substandard housing conditions.



Staff in the County Planning Office have conducted “windshield surveys” to assess housing conditions in communities across the County. These surveys consist of driving every road in a community; briefly looking at each housing unit, and making a rough estimate of condition. Staff assign housing units to one of several categories: Standard, Substandard, or Dilapidated.

“Standard” housing seems to be in good shape, but may need routine maintenance.

“Substandard” housing requires work to bring it up to standard condition.

“Dilapidated” housing is in critical condition, and is most likely not salvageable.

Using these criteria, Planning staff have evaluated housing conditions in the Town and Village of Morristown. For the Town, Planning staff observed that 58.5% of housing units were either “Substandard” or “Dilapidated.” In the former Village, Planning staff concluded that 56.2% of units were “Substandard” or “Dilapidated.” By contrast, in surveys conducted by Planning staff across the County, an average of 31.4% of housing units were seen to be in “Substandard” or “Dilapidated” condition.

### **Public Input:**

Public Consultation throughout the Plan development process identified numerous comments about housing in Morristown. The following recommendations came from the SWOT analysis, the Visioning Sessions, and the on-line survey:

#### **Community SWOT Analysis**

Residential properties contribute the greatest taxable value of any land use in Morristown, but the substandard condition of some housing units adversely affects the overall impression of the community and may be a deterrent to attracting new investment.

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The contrast between “nice” homes and those requiring repair or that are vacant/abandoned was noted as a weakness.

The pursuit of grant funds for community revitalization projects, including housing rehabilitation, was identified as an opportunity. Ensuring uniform enforcement of property maintenance standards and the promotion of home occupations were also identified as housing-related opportunities. Threats include population loss, a sluggish economy, the linkage of the economy to state jobs; and apathy among some residents (conversely, citizen engagement was noted as a strength).

The Visioning sessions and on-line community survey all identified the need to improve the condition of housing and offer services to those who need assistance with home repair or to assist with initial home purchase.

Sixty-one percent (44 persons) of respondents felt the community’s housing stock was in unsatisfactory condition. While 61% of respondents (43 persons) were neutral on whether the community offered affordable housing, 21% (15 persons) said affordable housing was not readily available in Morristown. Even though most respondents felt the overall condition of Morristown’s housing stock was unsatisfactory, a majority of respondents (87% or 62 persons) felt their home was in satisfactory condition; only 1% (1 person) said their house was in unsatisfactory condition.

### **Goals and Recommendations:**

Goal G: Enhance and preserve the condition/appearance of housing in the Town.
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#### **Recommendations:**

1. Implement a housing rehabilitation program. Possible funding sources include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), NYS HOME, and USDA Rural Development. Potential partner agencies include the Development Authority of the North Country and the North Country Housing Council.
2. Promote development of housing in areas already served by municipal infrastructure. Develop a “land-bank” using public funds as needed to purchase lots and hold them until preferred development alternatives exist.
3. Develop a Historic District/Landmark Buildings program. Technical assistance, information on weatherization, and historic preservation tax credits are available through the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

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4. Adopt a Section 421-f partial tax exemption for increased assessments related to reconstruction of and improvements to residential property (this is relevant to all applicable taxing jurisdictions, i.e. Town and school district). Section 421-f allows a municipality to phase in any assessed value increase due to renovation of a residential property over an eight-year period, with local authority over precise definitions and allowances.

Goal H: Increase affordable housing options/housing choice/senior housing.
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Recommendations:

1. Implement a revitalization project in the downtown area of the former Village that includes second-floor housing. Possible funding sources include New York Main Street, Rural Area Revitalization Project (RARP), and Empire State Development.
2. Contact local development agencies to discuss marketing of the community to private developers and to explore potential funding options. Suggested agencies include:
  - St. Lawrence County IDA
  - St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency
  - Development Authority of the North Country (DANC)
  - New York Dormitory Authority
3. Contact housing authorities and property management agencies in proximate areas to discuss possible partnerships. Suggested agencies include:
  - St. Lawrence County Community Development Program (CDP)
  - St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging
  - Housing Authorities (Canton, Edwards, Gouverneur, Ogdensburg, DeKalb)
  - North Country Housing Council
  - Development Authority of the North Country (DANC)
  - United Helpers
  - USDA Rural Development

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### ***Telecommunications:***

The Development Authority of the North Country has successfully installed more than 1,800 miles of fiber optic cable network across northern New York which enables telecommunications carriers to provide phone and high speed internet service to area homes and businesses. This open access network extends into Morristown along State Highways 12, 37, 58, and along portions of County Route 2.

To help accelerate the delivery of high speed internet throughout the State, the New York State Empire State Development Corporation awarded more than \$5.8 million in New NY Broadband Program funding to a variety of telecommunications companies that service census block groups in and around Morristown. Beginning in 2016, three rounds of funding were awarded to benefit up to 2,467 households, or 22% of all households (or just over one for every five households) in Census Tracts 4928 and 4929 which encompasses the towns of Morristown, Macomb, Rossie, and Hammond. A map and table detailing awards by Census Tract and award phase are shown below:

<b><i>New NY Broadband Program Awards to Telecommunications Companies Serving Morristown Area</i></b>								
<i>Phase</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Match</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Census Tract</i>	<i>Block Group(s)</i>	<i>Houses in BGs</i>	<i>% of Houses</i>
1	Citizens of Hammond	\$ 3,316,810	\$ 829,202	1,860	4928 4929	1 1, 2, 3	2,971	63%
2	Citizens of Hammond	\$ 1,395,688	\$ 348,923	382	4928	1, 2	1,760	22%
3	Hughes Network Systems, LLC	\$ 11,340	\$ 6,988	60	4928 4929	1, 2, 4 3	2,849	2%
3	Verizon	\$ 1,135,718	\$ 780,986	165	4928 4929	1, 2, 3, 4 1, 3	3,800	4%
		\$ 5,859,556	\$ 1,966,099	2,467			11,380	22%
<i>Source: <a href="https://nysbroadband.ny.gov">https://nysbroadband.ny.gov</a></i>								

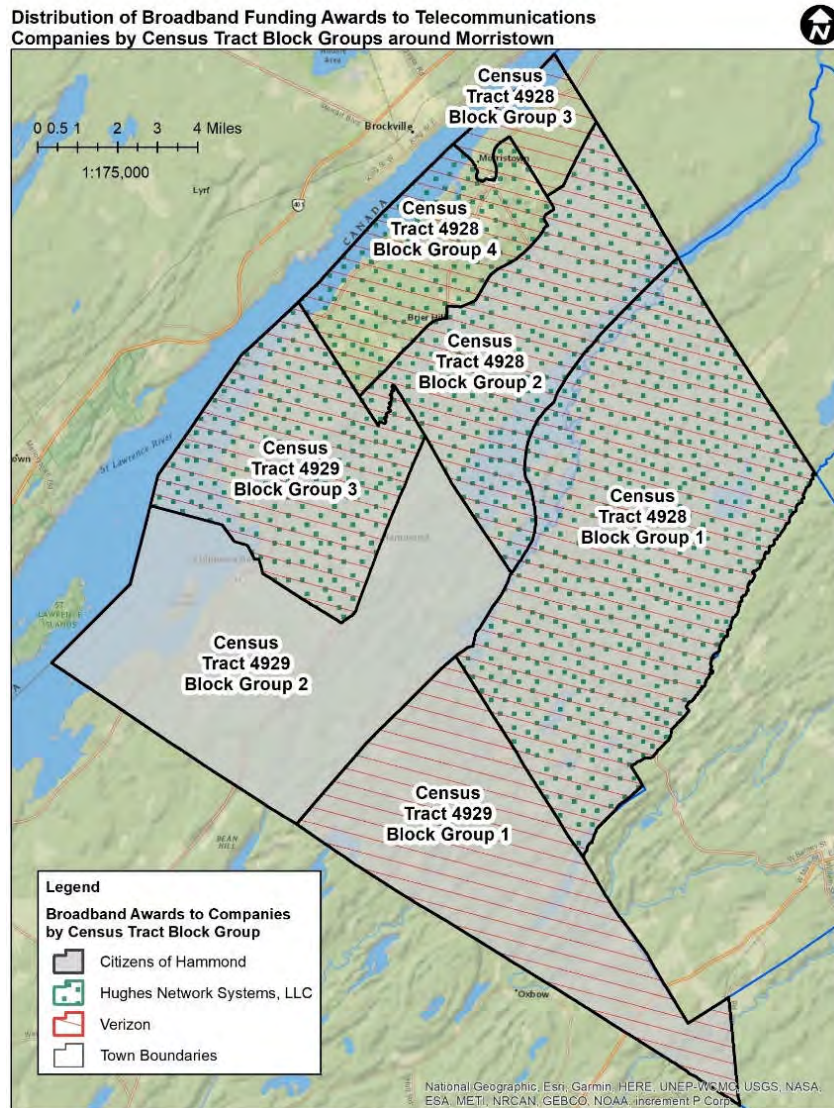
### ***Public Input:***

Residents are unhappy about the limited capacity of existing broadband and cellular service, which hinders future business investment and tourism.

Residents noted the importance of access to high speed internet service and improved cell service to promote new investment in the community.

Satisfaction with the quality of internet service in Morristown was evenly distributed between agree (34%), neutral (35%) and disagree or strongly disagree (31%). Sixty-five percent of respondents (46 persons) said their internet service was through Spectrum, followed by 5% (3 persons) said Verizon, and 3% (2 persons) said Citizens Telephone Company. Twenty persons (28%) did not respond or said they did not have internet access.

When asked about cellular service, 42% (30 respondents) said they disagreed, or strongly disagreed that they were satisfied with its quality. Thirty-nine percent (28 respondents) said they agreed, and 15% (11 persons) were neutral. Sixty-five percent (46 respondents) said their cellular service was with Verizon, followed by 14% (10 respondents) who said AT&T, 3% (2 respondents) said Tracfone, and 1% (1 respondent) said TMobile. Twelve persons (17%) did not respond or did not have a cell phone.



### Goal and Recommendation:

**Goal I: Determine whether public funds awarded to area telecommunications companies is achieving the desired availability of high speed internet services to Morristown residents.**

#### Recommendation:

1. Contact the NYS Broadband Program Office to determine the status and timeframe of completion for projects that received \$5.8 million in broadband funding, and to identify what high speed internet services are available to residents and businesses as a result of these awards.

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***Transportation:***

Three New York State highways traverse in the Town of Morristown. State Highway 37 runs through the entire length of the Town; State Highway 12 runs south off of 37, just south of the former village of Morristown, and State Highway 58 bisects the town running between 37 through Edwardsville and continuing south. Three County routes also exist in Morristown. Route 2 and 5 are located in the interior of the Town, while Route 6 runs along the shoreline of Black Lake and continues outside of the Town to the north and south. Numerous Town roads exist and vary in usage level and maintenance.

Public transportation is limited in the Morristown area. Two St. Lawrence County transportation bus routes, Route 1 and 2, include stops at the parkway gas and convenience store on State Highway 37, but the service is not regular and ridership is minimal.

The Northumberland Street Bridge and Bay Street have been identified as an area of concern for many years, dating back to the 1991 Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (Section II, Page II-5).

With the dissolution of the Village, the Town will maintain and repair an additional six miles of roads. As part of its assessment of the Village's streets, the Development Authority of the North Country found 744' of curb and 1,254' of pavement on Montgomery Street in poor condition and will reach its end of life within the next three to five years. The estimated project cost to repair poor curbs and roadways is \$30,000. The Asset Management Plan also recommends an annual allocation of \$106,642 for the next 5 years in a reserve highway fund so that sufficient funds are available for road maintenance and repairs.

***Public Input:***

A limited number of comments were made regarding transportation during the various public input sessions. Ideas that were mentioned the most include the need to address the Bay Bridge, the lack of public transportation, specifically between the park and the former village. Several comments were made regarding seasonal ferry access to Canada.

A majority of respondents are satisfied with Morristown's road network. Fifty-three percent (37 persons) agreed, or strongly agreed that roads in Morristown were satisfactory or better. Twenty-four percent (17 persons) were neutral, and 23% of respondents (16 persons) disagreed, or strongly disagreed.



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**Goals and Recommendations:****Goal J: Maintain and improve road infrastructure throughout Morristown.****Recommendations:**

1. Allocate annually \$106,642 in a reserve highway fund for the next 5 years so that sufficient funds are available for road maintenance and repairs and ensure that that figure is adjusted for inflation as required.
2. Incrementally raise the highway department paving budget to allow for additional paving to occur on Town roads.
3. Ensure the County roads throughout the town are in the County paving schedule.
4. Maintain and open line of communication with the state to ensure that State roads are maintained to the best possible standard

**Goal K: Improve public transportation in and to and from Morristown.****Recommendations:**

1. Ensure that some public transit route continues through the town and advertise to make sure it is fully subscribed.
2. Secure a seasonal bus route between Morristown and Jacque Cartier Park on a weekly basis.

**Goal L: Improve the road network around Morristown Bay.****Recommendations:**

1. Complete the Bay Street bypass.
2. Remove the Northumberland Bridge and abutments.

**Goal M: Increase ease of access from Canada to Morristown.****Recommendations:**

1. Examine the possibility of a seasonal ferry between Brockville and Morristown.
2. Partner with area tourist agencies to advertise Morristown amenities in Canada.

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### ***Water and Sewer:***

Based on an Asset Management Plan prepared by the Development Authority of the North Country, Morristown's wastewater collection system consists of 9.7 miles of vacuum, gravity and force main which runs from the eastern boundary of Jacques Cartier State Park along the River Road, along most streets in the Village; and extends eastward along Riverside Drive to the English Settlement Road. Water lines extend along most Village streets, and there are two vacuum pump stations in the Village. Detailed information about the condition of these assets is outlined in the Asset Management Plan.

### **Public Input:**

Limited public input was gathered regarding water and sewer services at the SWOT or Visioning Sessions. A majority of community survey respondents are satisfied with Morristown's water and sewer service. Eighty-percent (or 57 persons) agreed, or were neutral that Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure was satisfactory or better. Only 18% of respondents (13 persons) disagreed, or strongly disagreed with this statement.

### **Goals and Recommendations:**

Goal N: Proactively budget funds to allow for the affordable expansion, repair and replacement of the Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure.

#### **Recommendations:**

1. Hire an engineering firm to evaluate each element of Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure to determine what and when items should be replaced.
2. Budget \$54,120 for a reserve account for water service, and \$84,722 for a reserve account for sewer service so these assets can be repaired and replaced once they reach the end of their useful lives.
3. Review the current rate schedule and system users to ensure these rates will properly fund the operation of the districts and their respective reserve accounts.
4. Complete a rate study to determine whether the current rate structure covers the variable and fixed costs with each system.
5. Adopt preventative maintenance schedule as outlined in the Asset Management Plan to maximize the life of the community's water and sewer infrastructure.

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## ***Local Government***

A significant change in municipal government occurred in 2018 when Village of Morristown residents voted to dissolve the Village. This decision was made through a Village referendum after a detailed study was prepared by the Development of the North Country. The Study is available at: <https://www.danc.org/morristown-study>. The Town government will assume the responsibility of managing the land area of the former Village on January 1, 2020.

The Town will assume all municipal responsibility previously held by the Village. This includes road maintenance, water, wastewater, fire services, municipal building maintenance, municipal record keeping, zoning, other local law review, and all other former village asset management. The Development Authority of the North County has prepared a Dissolution Implementation Plan. The document states “the purpose ...is to summarize the actions that will take place to move forward with Village Dissolution and to provide details on how services, presently provided by the Village, will continue after dissolution.” The Plan is available online at: <https://www.danc.org/morristown-study>.

The Town will continue to carry out the duties of the previous administration in the former Village as well as maintain the government responsibilities in the Town. The existing government structure will continue to exist, undertaking the expanded governing responsibility. While internal staffing may be increased as a result of Village dissolution, no new titles are anticipated.

Code enforcement has traditionally been carried out by one code officer acting for both the Village and Town of Morristown. This task will be simplified in the future, as there will be one land use code for the entire Town. There is a two year window during which the Town must consolidate the codes of the Town and the former Village. This consolidation process will continue after the date of dissolution.

Elected and Appointed Town Positions
Supervisor
Town Board Members (4)
Clerk and Tax Collector
Justices (2)
Highway Superintendent
Assessor
Historian
Attorney
Dog Warden
Code Enforcement Officer

The Town and Village of Morristown, with the assistance of the Department of State completed a Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP). This Plan, which was adopted in 1991, has the stated purpose of “promoting economic development and revitalization within the local waterfront area while assuring the protection and beneficial uses of coastal resources...” (LWRP Preface). The local waterfront area includes a

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portion around Chippewa Creek in the southern part of the Town and lands from the St. Lawrence River to 1000' south of NYS Highway 12 and 37, from the Hammond Town Line to the Oswegatchie Town line.



The benefits of having an adopted LWRP are identified as threefold: first, to protect and enhance local coastal resources through specific policies; second, to require both State and Federal agencies to be consistent with the policies identified; and third, the municipality becomes eligible for LWRP implementation funds through the Department of State, when available.

There are 44 separate policy statements identified in the LWRP. The policies speak to a wide range of topics including development, fish and wildlife, flooding and erosion, public access, recreation, historic and scenic resources, agricultural land energy and ice management, and water and air resources. These policies are not inconsistent, and complement the goals identified in the Morristown

Comprehensive Plan. When reviewing any waterfront development proposal both documents should be consulted. The LWRP, including the 44 policy statements, is available at: [https://docs.dos.ny.gov/opd-lwrp/LWRP/Morristown\\_V&T/Index.html](https://docs.dos.ny.gov/opd-lwrp/LWRP/Morristown_V&T/Index.html)

### **Public Input:**

Public consultation throughout the Plan development process identified several government strengths and deficiencies. The following recommendations came from the SWOT analysis, the Visioning Sessions, and the on-line survey:

Residents encouraged Town officials to increase communication with State, County, other local officials and residents to better understand what government assistance could be provided to the Town. More direct communication between Town elected officials was encouraged and could be done through: on-line or mail correspondence, government satisfaction surveys, better notification processes for municipal meetings, and better meeting facilities.

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This desire for better communication with Municipal officials is substantiated by on-line survey results. Only 30% of survey respondents felt that the Morristown government did a good job of getting information out to residents.

Property maintenance was mentioned numerous times during the public consultation process. A clear concern about derelict building conditions, vacant parcels and excess refuse on properties was identified. Property maintenance is the primary responsibility of the property owner; however, the Town Code Enforcement Officer and the Town can play a part through strict enforcement of state property maintenance regulations and local junk storage laws.

***Goals and Recommendations:***

Goal O: Support the single municipal government structure for Morristown and promote partnerships that will allow for government advancement.
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Recommendations:

1. Continue to maintain a partnership with DANC and New York State Department of State for asset management and dissolution assistance.
2. Ensure that all funding that has been identified for Town administrative functions as a result of the dissolution process is secured and budgeted appropriately.
3. Improve communication between Town Officials and residents through regular on-line postings and occasional hard copy mail notifications and satisfaction surveys.

Goal P: Ensure that code enforcement office has the resources necessary to enforce all consolidated zoning and land use regulations.
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Recommendations:

1. Fund the Code Enforcement Office to the greatest extent possible and ensure all training requirements are met.
2. Ensure that all zoning documents are updated for the Town and former Village and available on-line as soon after dissolution as possible.

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3. Transition the former Village zoning code to the Town code within the 2 year window from dissolution date.
  4. Bolster property maintenance local law enforcement to ensure that aesthetic improvements can be obtained.
  5. Assign the Town Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer the task of reviewing the revising the Town's Subdivision Regulations.

Goal Q: Ensure that recommendations from the Morristown Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan and the Shoreline Resiliency Study are considered when shoreline development is proposed.

Recommendations:

1. Consult with the Department of State to determine what process is necessary to ensure that all policies identified in the Town and Village LWRP are still in effect with the single municipal boundary.
2. Use the LWRP as a guide when rewriting the zoning code for the Town and former Village.
3. Pursue any funding sources available through LWRP implementation programs.
4. Adopt recommendations from the Shoreline Resiliency Study to help eliminate the risk from future flooding events along the St. Lawrence River.



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## ***Quality of Life***

### *Community Amenities & Programming, Service Organizations, Community Revitalization*

Morristown's public amenities can largely be grouped into four categories of facilities that are utilized by residents and visitors alike. They include: sports and recreation, history and culture, gathering places, and affordable housing.

**Sports and recreation.** Amenities include: baseball and soccer fields owned by the fire department, the municipality and local school, a municipal tennis court, a boat launch and parking area in Morristown Bay and Black Lake, campground, boat launch, trail system, playground, picnic area, and swimming beach at Jacques Cartier State Park, and the Blue Heron Trail at the Red Barn Preserve.



**History and Culture.** Features include the Gateway Museum and public library. Also, there are eight buildings recognized on the National Historic Register: its well-known Stone Windmill (built in 1825 by Hugh McConnell), the Stone School House, Samuel Stocking House (The Hawk's Nest), Morristown United Methodist Church, Jacob Ford House, Paschal Miller House, Stone Store (Wright's Marine) and the Land Office (Morristown Public Library).

The Gateway Museum and the Red Barn Preserve celebrate the history and character of the people of Morristown. The Gateway Museum is located downtown, in a building built by the owners of the Indian Root Factory. It has multiple galleries and sponsors a robust calendar of events. See:

<https://www.morristowngatewaymuseum.org/>

In 2016, the museum was a beneficiary of the estate of Allan and Lorraine Bogardus, receiving 160 acres of farm land and the Red Barn, the namesake of the community's original museum. Museum supporters, the municipality, and other volunteers continue to make improvements on this property, now known as the Red Barn Preserve. It includes several trails, described in the Natural and Built Feature Assessment portion of this document.

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**Gathering Places.** Venues for community meetings and gatherings consist of each municipal building, the fire stations in Morristown and Brier Hill, and Morristown Central School.

**Affordable Housing.** Morristown is home to two affordable housing complexes: Columbia High Manor, which provides assisted living to persons with disabilities, and Morristown Area Housing, which provides affordable housing to senior citizens.

In addition to the library, museum, school, municipal offices (and court), and Morristown and Brier Hill Volunteer Fire Departments, other services and institutions in Morristown include the United States Post Office, with locations in Morristown and Brier Hill, and the Black Lake Chamber of Commerce.



Community organizations include the Black Lake Association, which is actively engaged in matters related to invasive aquatic species and water quality, the Black Lake Fish & Game Club, St. John's Catholic Church, Christ Church Episcopal Church, and the First Congregational Church of Morristown.

Morristown's community activities, events, and programs are most prolific during the summer months: the Gateway Museum's summer concert series, the Library's Plein Air Festival, Mare's Wares Festival, the Fourth of July parade and fireworks and spring/summer Morristown Recreation Program.

In addition to its four-day Plein Air Festival, the Library hosts the Garden Club and RAK Club, a summer reading program, Battle of the Books, children's activities, book sale, holiday events, and movie nights. The Morristown Fire Department hosts many annual and other community events, including a spaghetti dinner, bingo, the Auxiliary craft and vendor fair, golf tournament, annual auction, community breakfasts, and Fourth of July celebration. The Brier Hill Fire Department also conducts annual and other events, including a golf tournament, chicken BBQ, lawn mower races, bullhead/haddock dinner, and children's holiday events.

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**Public Input:**

Residents of Morristown feel strongly about their community's quality of life; their community spirit and pride are demonstrated in the success and support of community institutions and organizations.

**SWOT Analysis:**

Public input showed that the residents of Morristown value its library and museum as much as they do its waters. Other strengths related to quality of life include: fire department(s), a small town aesthetic and sense of safety/security, good, honest citizens, Fourth of July events, and other summer programs, and rich local history.

Quality of Life detractors include the overall physical appearance of structures, both residential and commercial, inadequate access to the River for boating and swimming, lack of a Morristown Chamber of Commerce, inconsistent/inadequate telecommunications options, including broadband and cellular, and inadequate tourist accommodations. It should be noted that the 1991 LWRP also recognized the need for enhanced River access: "public access and recreation facilities...must be considered marginally adequate in the face of current demand." (Section II, Page 33).

Community revitalization and quality of life opportunities include increasing attractiveness of the downtown and the broader community, increasing recreation opportunities, with an emphasis on the waterfront, as well as opportunities for walking, biking, fishing and boating, expanding community events and recreation to the winter season, and re-establishing a ferry to Canada.

Threats include population loss, sluggish economy and the linkage of economy to state jobs, aquatic invasive species and other water quality issues, and apathy among some residents (conversely, citizen engagement was also noted as a strength).

***Key takeaways from SWOT***

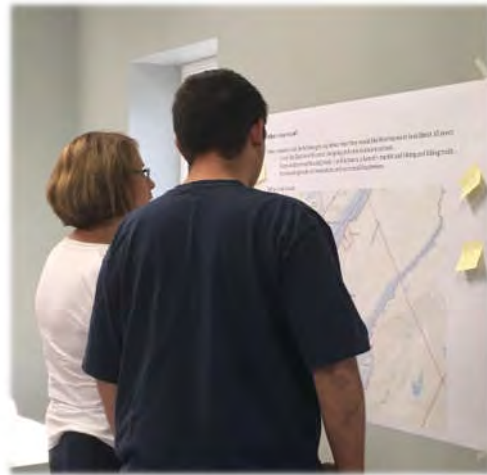
- Even though public infrastructure accounts for less than 1% of the community's land base, Morristown residents greatly value their access to these facilities which include the library and museum, recreational amenities such as its tennis courts and walking trails, and access to municipal water and sewer service.
- Residents desire increased public access to the St. Lawrence River by way of a boating dock and beach, and they support expansion of the community's recreational trail system.

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## Visioning Sessions:

During the July 16<sup>th</sup> Visioning session, meeting participants suggested:

- Constructing a community pool if securing public beach access was not a viable option.
- Continuing of a grant-funded septic repair and replacement program to address untreated residential sewage disposal into Black Lake and the St. Lawrence River.
- Expanding, or “opening up” the Morristown Bay harbor area was identified as an economic development opportunity.
- Promoting the St. Lawrence River as the #1 location for bass fishing in the US and Black Lake as a big sport fishing draw.
- Converting an old railroad bed that traverses the town into a recreational trail.



## On-line Community Survey:

Community survey respondents clearly linked the area’s natural features to quality of life and community/economic development through outdoor recreation. Forty-four percent of respondents (31 persons) felt Morristown provides adequate access to outdoor activities, while 29% (20 persons) disagreed with this statement. A majority of respondents also felt there is adequate access to the St. Lawrence River (59% or 42 persons) and to Black Lake (55% or 39 persons). Thirty-one percent (22 persons) did not feel there is adequate access to the River, and 28% (13 persons) felt the same about access to Black Lake.

When asked what additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities residents would like to see in Morristown, 25% of respondents (18 persons) identified facilities to access the St. Lawrence River, particularly beaches and pier or harbor. Ten percent of respondents (7 persons) recommended improving and expanding park facilities; the tennis and basketball courts and adding an area for bocce. Nine percent (six persons) recommended expanding non-motorized recreational trails, and 7% (five persons) suggested programming such as exercise classes, a bicycle and yoga.

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## Goals and Recommendations:

Goal R: Improve community aesthetics for residents and visitors.
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### Recommendations:

1. Pursue NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation monies to renovate or construct public facilities, including Morristown's Welcome Center and new boating dock.
2. Adopt (or continue) a Section 421-f partial tax exemption for increased assessments related to reconstruction of and improvements to residential property (this is relevant to all applicable taxing jurisdictions, i.e. Town and school district). Section 421-f allows a municipality to phase in any assessed taxes stemming from a revaluation due to renovation of a residential property over an eight-year period, with local authority over precise definitions and allowances (see also Housing section).
3. Review local zoning regulations for consistency with Comprehensive Plan and to ensure clarity and comprehensiveness; compare with regulations of communities that Morristown wishes to emulate.
4. Institute a Town-wide rubbish/metal collection on an annual or semi-annual basis. Provide a means for residents to ask for and receive assistance with the removal. Partner with waste haulers to remove refuse from demolished buildings, vacant, and abandoned properties.
5. Institute a local network to assist property owners with projects that improve the appearance of properties. Provide a means for residents to ask for, and receive assistance (financial or in the form of volunteers) for exterior improvements to private property.
6. Promote an "adopt-a-roadway" program for roads throughout the Town.
7. Shift economic development interests and focus from jobs to making Morristown a highly desirable place to live. Flexible work spaces and tele-commuting are changing how people do their jobs and create greater opportunities for people to choose where they live.

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Goal S: Improve water quality along the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake.

Recommendations:

1. Convey support to the area's State-elected officials for continued funding for the State-funded septic repair and replacement program which improves water quality in the St. Lawrence and Black Lake.
2. Increase knowledge and awareness about emerging issues related to aquatic invasive species.

Goal T: Increase recreational opportunities.

Recommendations:

1. Re-install docks and slips previously located at Bayside Park.
2. Improve then increase amenities available at public boat launches (Jacques Cartier State Park, Bayside Park, and Black Lake Boat Launch). Potential improvements include: parking, sidewalks, restrooms, lockers, showers, lighting, landscaping, benches, picnic facilities, and trash and recycling receptacles.
3. Encourage public-private partnerships to build additional water-based recreation resources and/or improve existing resources, and to expand/construct a recreational trail system.
4. Participate in public outreach activities in the anticipated development of a statewide multi-use trails plan (legislation passed NYS Senate and Assembly in June 2019, awaiting the Governor's signature).
5. Study the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and review local projects-of-interest for consistency. The 2020-2025 SCORP is available at: <https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>.
6. Consider designation under Bike Friendly New York (BFNY), a bicycle-friendly certification program administered by Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) and the New York State Canal Corporation. BFNY aims to recognize and promote businesses that provide special accommodations for bicyclists. A wide range of businesses can apply for bike-friendly certification, including restaurants and bars, lodging, shops, and museums. More information at: <https://www.ptny.org/cycle-the-erie-canal/bikefriendly>.



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7. Promote Morristown as a destination for commercial bicycle touring companies. Visit or consult with other top bicycle-touring destinations such as Burlington, VT and Louisville, KY (see <https://www.fodors.com/news/outdoors/10-best-bike-vacations-in-the-us1>)
  8. Examine the possibility of acquiring the former rail bed and convert it to a recreational trail, connecting with the town of Hammond.

9. Review the 1991 Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) to determine its relevance to current community needs and interests. An LWRP is a publically-



vettted document that identifies and prioritizes desired activities and provides access to NYS Department of State (NYS DOS) funds for implementation. If the LWRP is no longer consistent with community interests or does not fully reflect

the range of projects of interest to the community, apply for DOS funds for a plan update. The 1991 LWRP may be found at:

[https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/WFRevitalization/LWRP\\_status.html](https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/WFRevitalization/LWRP_status.html)

10. Pursue NYS Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization funds to establish a municipal park at Morristown Bay by removing the Northumberland Street Bridge deck and abutments, and to establish a swimming beach with bath house, playground, open air pavilion and parking area.
11. Create a system of cataloging and providing an estimated value of volunteer and in-kind services for trail (and other) work conducted at the Red Barn Preserve. This may be used to demonstrate local commitment to certain projects should grant funds be pursued in the future.

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Goal U: Capitalize on local history.

Recommendations:

1. Partner with the Morristown Gateway Museum to advance the goals identified in its 2016 Strategic Plan. Specific goals of particular relevance to the community and local government include: expand and diversify community events at Museum properties and throughout the community, and consider an annual municipal budget appropriation to support operating costs.
2. Conduct a historic resources' survey to determine the potential to develop a Historic District / Landmark Buildings program. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) can provide technical assistance and expertise to guide the development of these concepts and advise about related State and federal historic tax credits and other resources. An additional, or alternate, source of information and technical assistance is the Preservation League of New York State.
3. Designate an historic district and create local laws regarding designation of landmark structures can adopt a Section 444-a partial tax exemption for Historic Properties giving authority to offer (up to) a five-year freeze on increases in assessment that commonly result after an owner has rehabilitated a property. After five years, the increased taxes will be phased in over the next five years, resulting in a ten-year delay before the full impact of the new assessment is felt.
4. Conduct building conditions surveys for historic buildings with multiple or unknown structural concerns or deferred maintenance issues. The Preservation League of New York State's Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program can assist with building conditions surveys, engineering/structural analyses, feasibility/reuse studies and specialized building conservation studies.
5. Create self-guided walking tours featuring the community's historic areas.
6. Maintain an active role and funding for the Town Historian; partner with the library and the school to conduct local history workshops.



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Goal V: Strengthen and diversify community engagement.
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Recommendations:

1. Form a “welcoming committee” to meet with new residents, orient them to the community and encourage involvement in local organizations and committees.
2. Designate or organize a summer kick-off event to welcome back seasonal residents.
3. Build on strong civic engagement of local high school students: learn from them to foster the next generation of community leaders.
4. Form or designate a community group that will undertake small, attainable landscape and community improvement projects in population centers or proximate to other points-of-interest. Personally invite residents to participate and celebrate successful completion of each project. Some examples include: flower planter boxes, sidewalk/roadway cleanup, park benches, etc.
5. Ensure that the population has an opportunity to voice their opinion to local officials on what is and isn’t working in Morristown and take steps to ensure they feel heard. Create a system to track public comments and review progress on changes arising from them.

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## ***Implementation Matrix Overview***

A comprehensive plan only has worth if its recommendations can be implemented. In order to implement what is identified in the plan a clear representation of tasks must be made. This is best done in a chart form or matrix.

The matrix found in this section contains the following information: area of study, responsible party, time frame, potential funding sources, and other agency assistance.

The area of study corresponds with the Community Characteristics, Policies and Recommendations section of the plan. In the body of the plan is a goal, followed by recommendations. Below each goal in the matrix will be the listed recommendations. For ease of use the recommendations in the matrix may be abbreviated from what is in the body of the plan. Review of the Community Characteristics section should be coupled with reference to the matrix to obtain all information.

The responsible party refers to the group within Morristown that will be responsible for addressing the recommendation. This does not mean that they are to carry out the recommendation directly, but will ensure that it is addressed. This responsible party will usually contain at least the municipal board, as they are the elected officials responsible for municipally-sanctioned undertakings.

Time frame is important; an action is more likely to happen if a finite amount of time is allotted for related tasks. The Implementation Matrix utilizes four timeline categories. They are:

- Within 1 year
- 1-3 years
- 4-10 years
- Ongoing

Potential funding sources will be suggested for those recommendations that require financial assistance. Many initiatives can be undertaken with human capital, but others will require financial assistance from the Town of Morristown and other funders. This list will not be exhaustive as additional funding sources may become available or may no longer be available in the future.

Other Agency Assistance lists organizations, government entities, and groups that may be able to help implement the recommendation. Residents and elected officials in the town should always feel that they can reach out to other entities to advance their community.



## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b><i>AGRICULTURE</i></b>				
<b>Goal A:</b> Maximize the use of prime and prime if drained soils for agricultural production.				
Recommendations:				
1. Adopt the use of the County's Agricultural Data statement	Town Board/Planning Board	< 1 year	NA	County Planning Office
2. Revise the Town's solar regulations to identify suitable non-agricultural sites that can be used in lieu of prime farmland	Town Board/Planning Board	Ongoing	NA	County Planning Office, NYSERDA
3. In lieu of approving a solar array on productive farm fields with prime soils, examine the viability of developing solar arrays on non-productive agricultural land.	Town Board	1-3 years	NYSERDA, private developers	NYSERDA
4. Request the Town Planning Board conduct a "farm-friendly" audit of the Town's zoning regulations, and revise as needed to protect farmland and promote agricultural activities.	Town Planning Board	1-3 years	NA	County Planning Office, NYS Department of State
<b><i>BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT</i></b>				
<b>Goal B:</b> Protect and enhance the current economic drivers of the Town.				
Recommendations:				
1. Establish a Morristown Chamber of Commerce or create a Business Promotion Committee that can work with the Black Lake Chamber of Commerce and the County Chamber to promote local businesses.	Town/Business Promotion Committee	1-3 years	Empire State Development Market NY, as a component of a larger project/region.	Black Lake Chamber of Commerce, County Chamber of Commerce



## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
2. Refer existing farms and other open space uses to area service organizations who can assist with securing open space/conservation easements, to help maintain existing open spaces.	Town Board/Community	1-3 years	NYS Ag & Markets	Cornell Cooperative Extension, SLC Soil & Water Conservation District
3. Support area businesses by sponsoring “shop local” campaigns to ensure that existing businesses can remain viable.	Business Promotion Committee/Chambers of Commerce	1-3 years	NA	County Chamber of Commerce
4. Encourage all small business owners to participate in any tax relief initiatives, and business management training offered through the Small Business Development Center and other like entities.	Town/Community	Ongoing	ESD Division of Small Business Program for Investment in Micro-Entrepreneurs, US Small Business Administration	Small Business Development Center at SUNY Canton, County Chamber of Commerce, County IDA
<b>Goal C: Develop new businesses and commercial opportunities that meet the needs of Morristown residents and complement the existing business environment.</b>				
<b>Recommendations:</b>				
1. Solicit development proposals from national dollar store chains	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	<a href="https://investor.dollargeneral.com/">https://investor.dollargeneral.com/</a> <a href="https://www.dollartreeinfo.com/investors/">https://www.dollartreeinfo.com/investors/</a>
2. Encourage investment in existing structures that could house small grocery stores and restaurant businesses.	Town/Community	1-3 years	Empire State Development	DANC, IDA, USDA Canton Service Center, Small Business Development at SUNY Canton
3. Host presentations by SUNY Canton’s Small Business Development Center on the preparation of business plans by prospective entrepreneurs.	Town/Community	1-3 years	NA	Small Business Development at SUNY Canton

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b>Goal D:</b> Promote commercial investment in the community by revitalizing the downtown district of the Hamlet of Morristown.				
Recommendations:				
1. Promote commercial investment by revitalizing the downtown of the Hamlet of Morristown.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NYS Department of State, NYS Office of Community Renewal (CDBG, Main Street)	DANC, IDA, County Planning Office
2. Abate and/or demolish dilapidated properties, particularly in and around Morristown's downtown where water and sewer service is available.	Town/Community	Ongoing	CDBG, RESTORE NY (Empire State Development), OPRHP, National Grid Main Street Program, NYS Main Street Program	DANC, IDA, County Planning Office
<b>Goal E:</b> Promote tourism throughout Morristown, drawing on Black Lake and the St. Lawrence River as anchor attractions.				
Recommendations:				
1. Establish a partnership between the Town of Morristown and the Black Lake Chamber of Commerce to promote Morristown tourist based businesses.	Town Board	1-3 years	NA	County Chamber, Black Lake Chamber of Commerce
2. Pursue State and Federal resources available through the DEC, EPA, the Soil and Water Conservation District and the County Environmental Management Committee to enhance water quality in Black Lake.	Black Lake Chamber of Commerce/Town of Morristown	Ongoing	NYS DEC Water Quality Incentive Program (WQIP) and Non-Ag Nonpoint Source Planning Grant, U.S. EPA	
3. Promote Jacques Cartier State Park as a premiere destination for camping and water sports along the St. Lawrence River.	Town/Community	Ongoing	Media sponsors	County Chamber, NYSOPRHP, media
4. Foster a working relationship with the County Chamber of Commerce to promote Morristown nationally and in Canada.	Town/Community	Ongoing	Empire State Development Market NY, as a component of a larger project/region.	County Chamber

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE</b>				
<b>Goal F:</b> Ensure continued provision of a quality education for K-12 students.				
Recommendations:				
1. Morristown Central School should review its course offerings, analyze its per-student costs and compare to surrounding districts.	School Board	1-3 years	NA	State Education Department
<b>Goal G:</b> Enhance and preserve the condition/appearance of housing in the Town.				
Recommendations:				
1. Implement a housing rehabilitation program.	Town/Community	4-10 years	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), NYS HOME and USDA Rural Development	DANC, North Country Housing Council
2. Promote development of housing in areas already served by municipal infrastructure. Use funds to develop a “land-bank” as needed to purchase lots and hold them until preferred development alternatives exist.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NYS Land Bank Program (ESD)	SLCIDA, DANC
3. Develop a Historic District / Landmark Buildings program. Technical assistance, information on weatherization of historic properties and historic preservation tax credits are available through the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).	Town/Community	4-10 years	NA	SHPO, Town Historian
4. Adopt a Section 421-f partial tax exemption for increased assessments related to reconstruction of and improvements to residential property (this is relevant to all applicable taxing jurisdictions, i.e. Town and school district).	Town Board/Assessor	< 1 year	NA	County Real Property Office, Assessor

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b>Goal H:</b> Increase affordable housing options/housing choice/senior housing.				
Recommendations:				
1. Implement a revitalization project in the downtown area of the former Village that includes second-floor housing.	Town/Community	4-10 years	New York Main Street, Rural Area Revitalization Project (RARP), and Empire State Development.	North County Housing Council, USDA
2. Contact local development agencies to discuss marketing of the community to private developers and to explore potential funding options.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	County IDA, St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency, DANC, New York Dormitory Authority
3. Contact housing authorities and property management agencies in proximate areas to discuss possible partnerships.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	Community Development Program (CDP), County Office for the Aging, Housing Authorities (Canton, Edwards, Gouverneur, Ogdensburg, DeKalb), North Country Housing Council, DANC, United Helpers, USDA Rural Development
<b>Goal I:</b> Determine whether public funds awarded to area telecommunications companies is achieving the desired availability of high speed internet services to Morristown residents.				
Recommendations:				
1. Contact the NYS Broadband Program Office to determine the status and timeframe of completion for projects that received \$5.8 million in broadband funding, and identify what high speed internet services are available to residents and businesses as a result of these awards.	Town Board	1-3 years	New York Broadband Program, USDA Rural Development Broadband Reconnect Program	New York Broadband Program Office, local internet providers

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b>Goal J: Maintain and improve road infrastructure throughout Morristown.</b>				
Recommendations:				
1. Allocate annually allocate \$106,642 in a reserve highway fund for the next 5 years so that sufficient funds are available for road maintenance and repairs and ensure that that figure is adjusted for inflation as required.	Town Board	Ongoing	Dissolution funding sources	DANC, Town Highway Department
2. Raise incrementally the highway department paving budget to allow for additional paving to occur on Town roads.	Town Board	Ongoing	NYS DOT CHIPS, PAVE NY	County and municipal Highway Departments
3. Ensure the County roads throughout the town are in the County paving schedule.	Town Board	Ongoing	NA	County Highway Department
4. Maintain and open line of communication with the state to ensure that State roads are maintained to the best possible standard.	Town Highway Department/Town Board	Ongoing	NA	State DOT
<b>Goal K: Improve public transportation in and to and from Morristown.</b>				
Recommendations:				
1. Ensure that some public transit route continues through the town and advertise to make sure it is fully subscribed.	St. Lawrence County Mobility Manager/Community	Ongoing	NA	St. Lawrence County Public Transit Operator
2. Secure a seasonal bus route between Morristown and Jacques Cartier Park.	Town/Community	1-3 years	NYSDOT	School District, DOT, State Park, Town of Keene/Essex County
<b>Goal L: Improve the road network around Morristown Bay.</b>				
Recommendations:				
1. Complete the Bay Street bypass.	Town Board	1-3 years	NYSDOT	DOT, County Highway Department

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
2. Remove the Northumberland Bridge and abutments.	Town/County	1-3 years	NYS DOS LWRP	DOT, County Highway Department
<b>Goal M:</b> Increase ease of access from Canada to Morristown.				
Recommendations:				
1. Examine the possibility of a seasonal ferry between Brockville and Morristown.	Town/Community	4-10 years	U.S. DOT Federal Transit Administration	County Chamber of Commerce/Brockville Chamber of Commerce
2. Partner with area tourist agencies to advertise Morristown amenities in Canada.	Town/Community	1-3 years	NA	County Chamber of Commerce/Brockville Chamber of Commerce
<b>Goal N:</b> Proactively budget funds to allow for the affordable expansion, repair and replacement of the Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure.				
Recommendations:				
1. Hire an engineering firm to evaluate Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure to determine a replacement schedule.	Town Board	1-3 years	NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation, NYS ESD – Strategic Planning & Feasibility Studies Program	DANC, DEC, State Public Health
2. Budget annually \$54,120 for a reserve account for water service, and \$84,722 for a reserve account for sewer service so these assets can be repaired and replaced once they reach the end of their lives.	Town Board	Ongoing	Town	DANC
3. Review the current rate schedule and system users to ensure these rates will properly fund the operation of the districts and their respective reserve accounts. The Town should also consider a rate study to determine whether the current rate structure covers the variable and fixed costs with each system.	Town Board	1-3 years	NYS ESD – Strategic Planning & Feasibility Studies Program	DANC

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
4. Adopt preventative maintenance schedule as outlined in the Asset Management Plan to maximize the life of the community's water and sewer infrastructure.	Town Board	1-3 years	NA	DANC
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
<b>Goal O:</b> Support the single municipal government structure for Morristown and promote partnerships that will allow for government advancement.				
Recommendations:				
1. Continue to maintain a partnership with DANC and New York State Department of State for asset management and dissolution assistance.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	DANC, NYS Department of State
2. Ensure that all funding that has been identified for Town administrative functions as a result of the dissolution process is secured and budgeted appropriately.	Town Board/DANC/Department of State	Ongoing	NYS Department of State	DANC, NYS Department of State
3. Improve communication between Town Officials and residents through regular on-line postings and intermittent hard copy mail notifications and satisfaction surveys.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	NYS Association of Towns
<b>Goal P:</b> Ensure that code enforcement office has the resources necessary to enforce all consolidated zoning and land use regulations.				
Recommendations:				
1. Fund the Code Enforcement Office to the greatest extent possible and ensure all training requirements are met.	Town Board	Ongoing	Town	County Code Enforcement Officer Association



## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
2. Ensure that all zoning documents are updated for the Town and former Village and available on-line as soon after dissolution as possible.	Town Board/Town Planning Board/Town Zoning Board of Appeals	< 1 year	NA	DANC, County Planning Office
3. Transition the former village zoning code to the town code within the 2 year window from dissolution date.	Town Board/Town Planning Board/Town Zoning Board of Appeals	1-3 Years	Dissolution Funds	DANC, County Planning Office
4. Bolster property maintenance local law enforcement to ensure that aesthetic improvements can be obtained.	Town Board	1-3 Years	NA	County Public Health (County Sanitary Code), State Codes Office
5. Assign the Town Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer the task of reviewing the revising the Town's Subdivision Regulations.	Town Planning Board	1-3 Years	NA	County Planning Office
<b>Goal Q:</b> Ensure that recommendations from the Morristown Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan and the Shoreline Resiliency Study are considered when shoreline development is proposed.				
Recommendations:				
1. Consult with the Department of State to determine what process is necessary to ensure that all policies in the LWRP are still in effect with the single municipal boundary.	Town Board	< 1 year	NA	NYS Department of State
2. Use the LWRP as a guide when rewriting the zoning code for the Town	Town/Community	Ongoing	NYSDOS LWRP	NYS Department of State
3. Pursue any funding sources available through LWRP implementation programs	Town/County	Ongoing	NA	NYS Department of State, County Planning Office
4. Adopt recommendations from the Shoreline Resiliency Study to help eliminate the risk from future flooding events along the St. Lawrence River.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	County Planning Office, NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, FEMA

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
<b>QUALITY OF LIFE</b>				
<b>Goal R:</b> Improve community aesthetics for residents and visitors.				
Recommendations:				
1. Pursue NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation monies to renovate/construct public facilities, including Welcome Center and new boating dock.	Town/Community	1-3 Years	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Grants	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
2. Adopt/continue a Section 421-f partial tax exemption for increased assessments related to reconstruction/improvements to residential property.	Town Board	< 1 year	NA	County Real Property Tax Office, NYS Department of Taxation & Finance
3. Review local zoning regulations for consistency with Comprehensive Plan and to ensure clarity and comprehensiveness; compare with regulations of communities that Morristown wishes to emulate.	Town Board/Town Planning Board	1-3 Years	NA	County Planning Office, New York State Department of State
4. Institute a rubbish/metal collection on an annual or semi-annual basis. Provide a means for residents to ask for assistance with the removal. Partner with waste haulers to remove refuse from demolished buildings, vacant, and abandoned properties.	Town Board	1-3 Years	Town, Restore NY (Empire State Development)	DANC, County Solid Waste/Recycling Coordinator
5. Institute a local network to assist property owners with projects that improve the appearance of properties. Provide a means for residents to ask for/receive assistance (financial or in the form of volunteers).	Town/Community	1-3 years	CDBG, RESTORE NY (Empire State Development), National Grid Main Street Program, NYS Main Street Program	Code Enforcement Officer, North Country Housing Council

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
6. Promote an “adopt-a-roadway” program for Town roads.	Town	Ongoing	NYSDOT	NYSDOT
7. Shift economic development interests/focus from jobs to making Morristown a highly desirable place to live.	Town/Community	Ongoing	See all Quality of Life goals and recommendations.	Citizens’ Institute on Rural Design (CIRD), Orton Family Foundation Community Heart & Soul
<b>Goal S: Improve water quality along the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake.</b>				
Recommendations:				
1. Convey support to State-elected officials for continued funding for the septic repair and replacement program which improves water quality in the St. Lawrence and Black Lake.	Town/Community	1-3 years	CDBG, NYS EFC Septic Tank Replacement Program, NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP)	NYS Elected Officials
2. Increase knowledge and awareness about emerging issues related to aquatic invasive species.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	County Planning Office, Cornell Cooperative Extension of SLC, NYSDEC, St. Lawrence-Eastern Lake Ontario (SLELO) Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM)
<b>Goal T: Increase recreational opportunities.</b>				
Recommendations:				
1. Re-install docks and slips previously located at Bayside Park.	Town/Community	4-10 years	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Grants, NYSDOS LWRP, Empire State Development	NYS OPRHP, NYSDEC
2. Increase or improve amenities available at public boat launches (Jacques Cartier State Park, Bayside Park, and Black Lake Boat Launch).	Town/Community/ New York State	4-10 years	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation EPF Grants, NYSDOS LWRP	NYS OPRHP, NYS DEC, Black Lake Association, Black Lake Chamber of Commerce

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
3. Encourage public-private partnerships to build out/improve water-based recreation resources and to expand/construct recreational trails.	Town/Community	1-3 years	Parks & Trails New York (PTNY), NYS OPRHP Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA), NYS OPRHP Trails Technical Assistance
4. Participate in public outreach activities in the anticipated development of a statewide multi-use trails plan (legislation passed in June 2019, awaiting Governor's signature).	Town/Community	< 1 year	NA	NA
5. Familiarize officials with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and review local projects-of-interest for consistency.	Town	Ongoing	NA	NYS OPRHP
6. Consider designation under Bike Friendly New York (BFNY), s a bicycle-friendly certification program administered by Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) and the New York State Canal Corporation.	Town	1-3 years	Parks & Trails New York (PTNY)	NYS OPRHP Trails Technical Assistance, Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) and the New York State Canal Corporation
7. Promote Morristown as a destination for commercial bicycle touring companies. Visit or consult with other bicycle-touring destinations.	Town/Community	4-10 years	Empire State Development Market NY, as a component of a larger project/region.	County Chamber, media
8. Consider acquiring the former rail bed and convert it to a recreational trail; connecting with the town of Hammond.	Town	4-10 years	Parks & Trails New York (PTNY), NYS OPRHP Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA), NYS OPRHP Trails Technical Assistance
9. Review the 1991 Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) to ensure relevance to current community needs	Town/Community	1-3 years	NA	NYS DOS

## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

and interests; update if needed.				
AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
10. Pursue NYS Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization funds to establish a municipal park at Morristown Bay by removing the Northumberland Street Bridge deck and abutments, and to establish a swimming beach with bath house, playground, open-air pavilion and parking area.	Town	4-10 years	NYS DOS LWRP	NYS DOS, County Planning Office
11. Create a system of cataloging and providing an estimated value of volunteer and in-kind services for trail (and other) work conducted at the Red Barn Preserve. This may be used to demonstrate local commitment to certain projects should grant funds be pursued in the future.	Community	< 1 year	NA	New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON)
<b>Goal U: Capitalize on local history.</b>				
<b>Recommendations:</b>				
1. Partner with the Morristown Gateway Museum to advance the goals identified in its 2016 Strategic Plan.	Town/Community	Ongoing	See 2016 Morristown Gateway Museum Strategic Plan	Gateway Museum, St. Lawrence County Arts Council, NYS Archives
2. Conduct a historic resources survey to determine the potential to develop a Historic District / Landmark Buildings program.	Town/Community	1-3 years	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Preservation League of New York State	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Preservation League of New York State, New York Landmarks Conservancy
3. Designate an historic district and local laws regarding designation of landmark structures can adopt a Section 444-a partial tax exemption for Historic Properties.	Town	4-10 years	NA	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

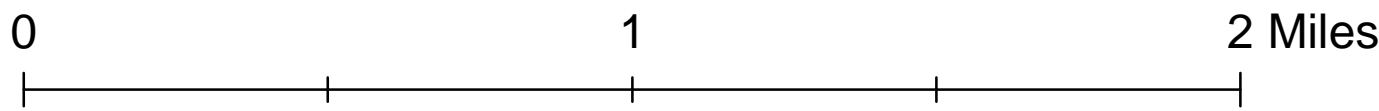
## Morristown Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

AREA OF STUDY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES	OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE
4. Conduct building conditions surveys for historic buildings with multiple or unknown structural concerns or deferred maintenance issues.	Town/Community	4-10 years	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Preservation League of New York State Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)	Historic Preservation Architect, SHPO
5. Create self-guided walking tours of the community's historic areas.	Town/Community	1-3 years	NA	NYS OPRHP
6. Maintain an active role and funding for the Town Historian; partner with the library and the school to conduct local history workshops.	Town	Ongoing	Town	Gateway Museum, Library, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), NYS Archives
<b>Goal V: Strengthen and diversify community engagement.</b>				
<b>Recommendations:</b>				
1. Form a "welcoming committee" to meet with new residents, orient them and encourage involvement.	Town/Community	< 1 year	NA	NA
2. Designate or organize a summer kick-off event to welcome back seasonal residents.	Town/Community	1-3 years	Local sponsors	Other communities w/ summer festivals
3. Build on strong civic engagement of local high school student to foster the next generation of leaders.	Town/Community	Ongoing	NA	NA
4. Form or designate a community group that will undertake small, attainable landscape and community improvement projects.	Town/Community	Ongoing	Northern New York Community Foundation, "big box" corporations like Home Depot, Lowes	Orton Family Foundation Community Heart & Soul
5. Ensure that the population has an opportunity to voice their opinion and take steps to ensure they feel heard. Create a system to track public comments and review progress on changes arising from them.	Town	< 1 year, ongoing	NA	NA

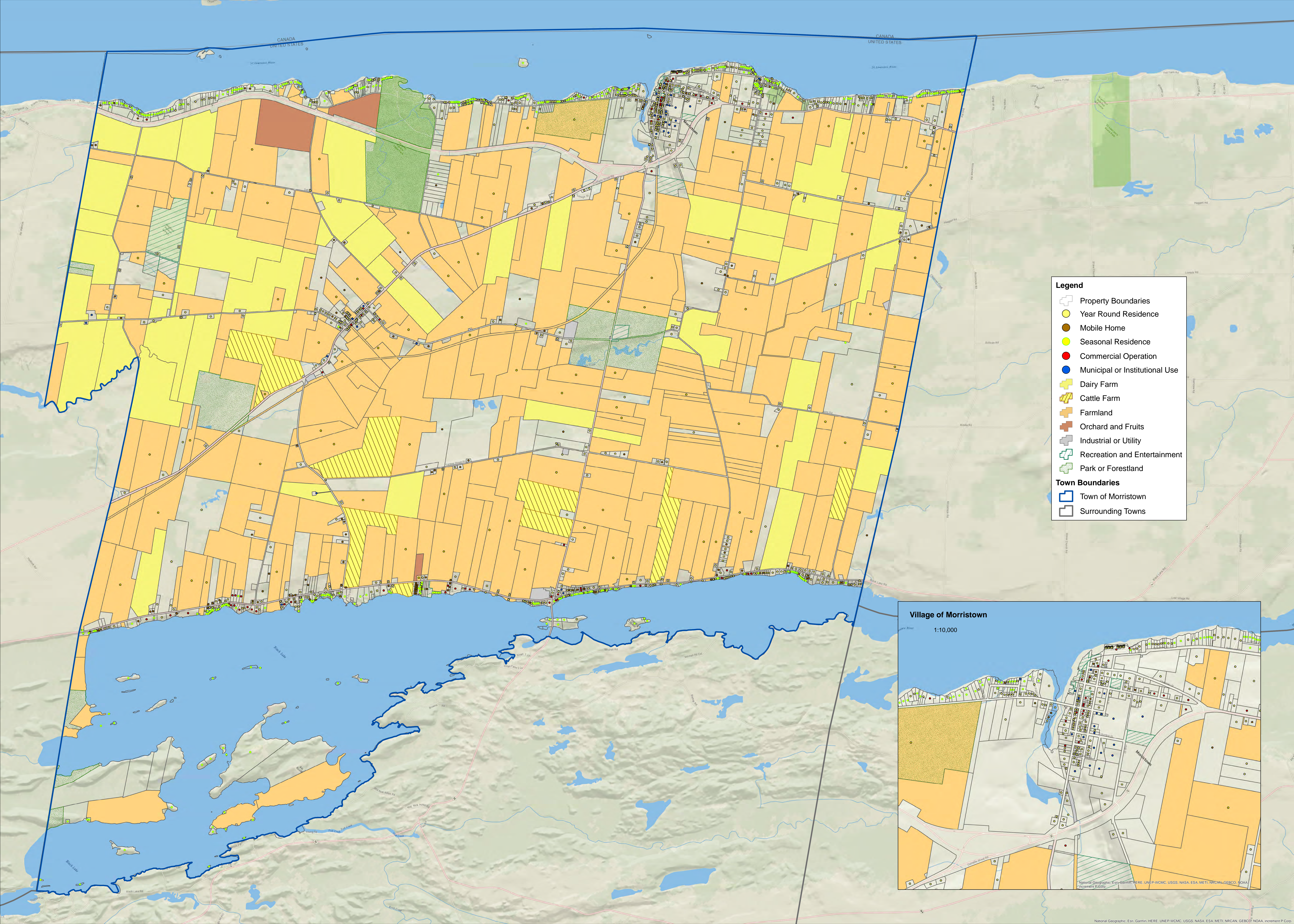
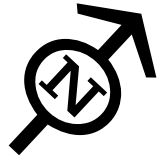


2018 Land Uses in Morristown  
(based on local assessor records)

Note: Dots do not depict actual location of dwelling



1:20,000



Legend

Property Boundaries

Year Round Residence

Mobile Home

Seasonal Residence

Commercial Operation

Municipal or Institutional Use

Dairy Farm

Cattle Farm

Farmland

Orchard and Fruits

Industrial or Utility

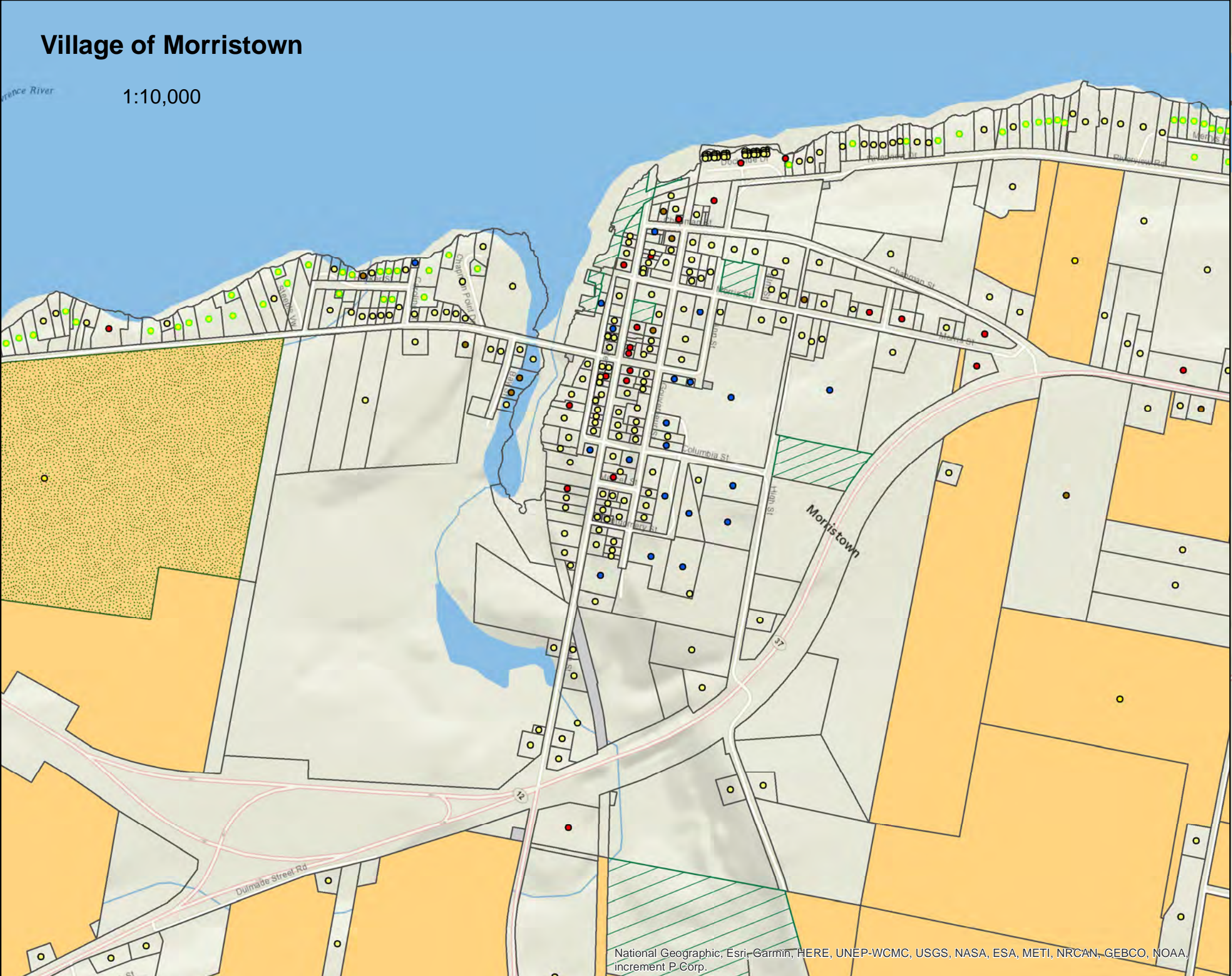
Recreation and Entertainment

Park or Forestland

Town Boundaries

Town of Morristown

Surrounding Towns

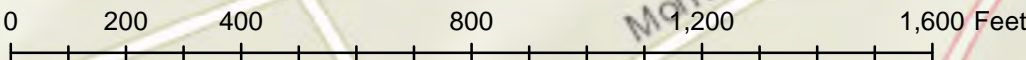








Community Amenities in Morristown



Legend

Sports and Recreation:

Athletic Fields

Tennis Court

Boat Launch and Parking Area

Welcome Center

Gathering Spaces:

Fire Station

Municipal Building

School

History and Culture:

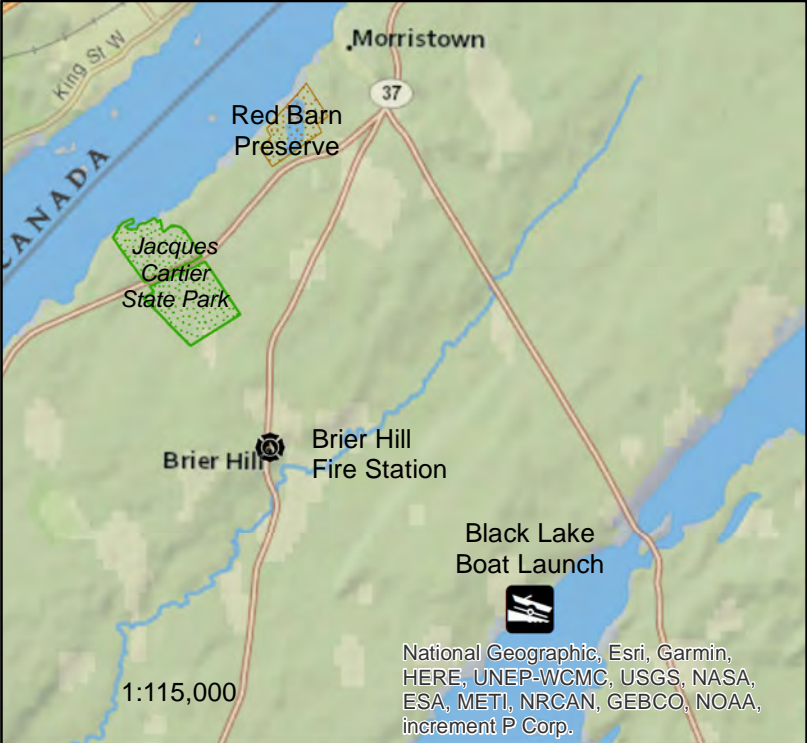
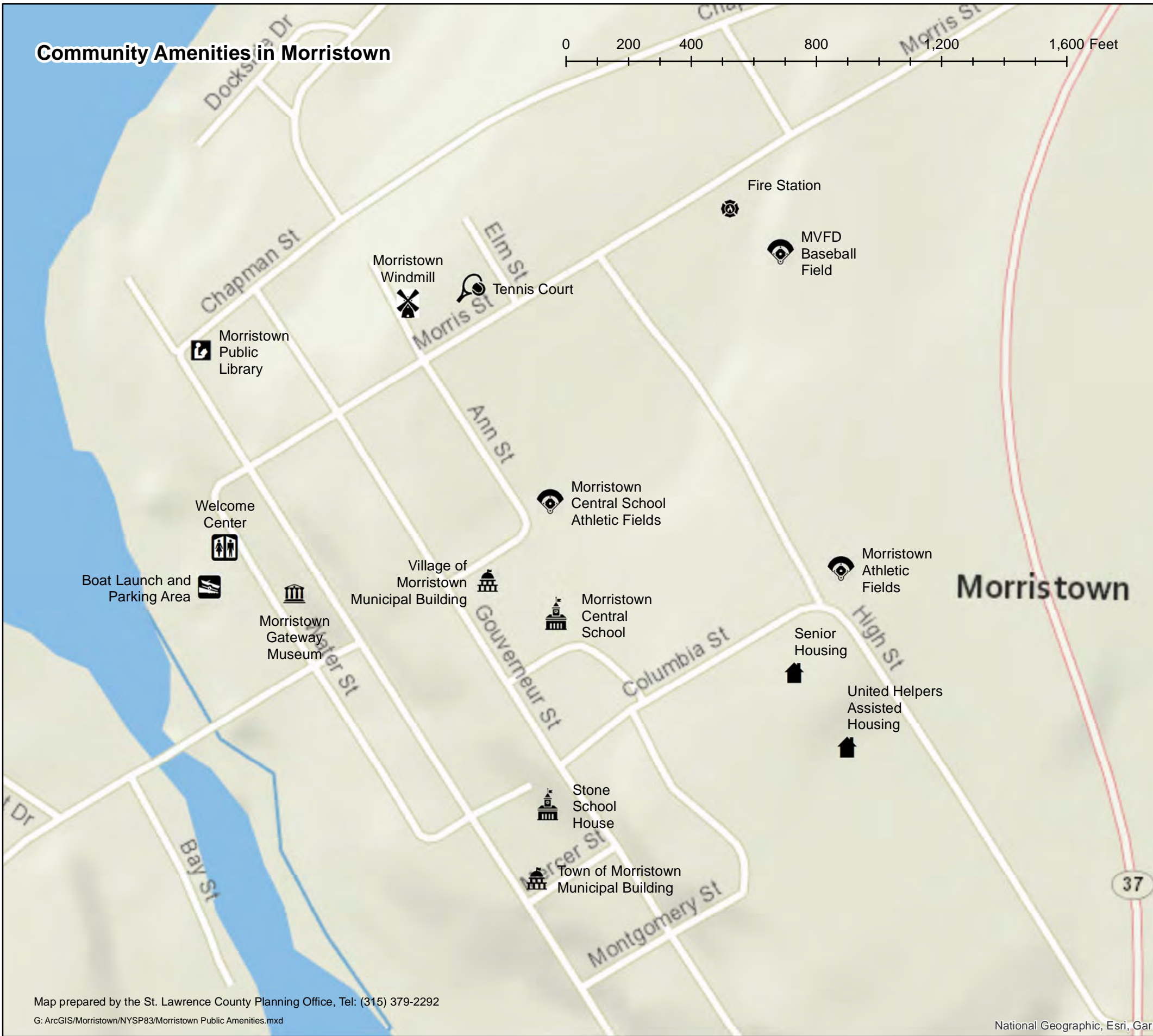
Morristown Windmill

Morristown Gateway Museum

Morristown Library

Affordable Housing:

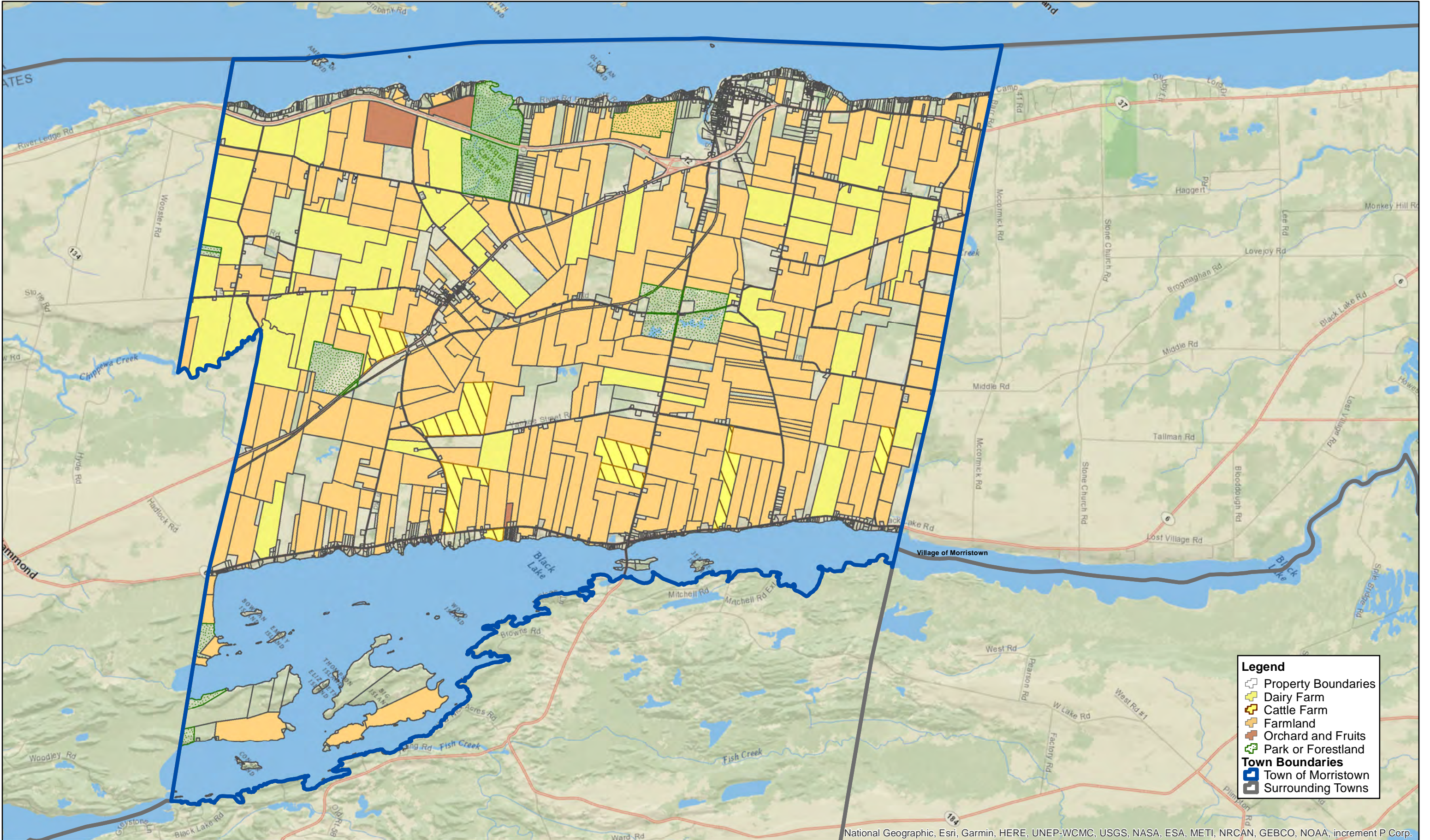
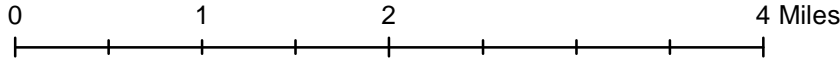
Assisted Housing





## 2018 Agricultural Land Uses in Morristown (based on local assessor records)

1:65,000

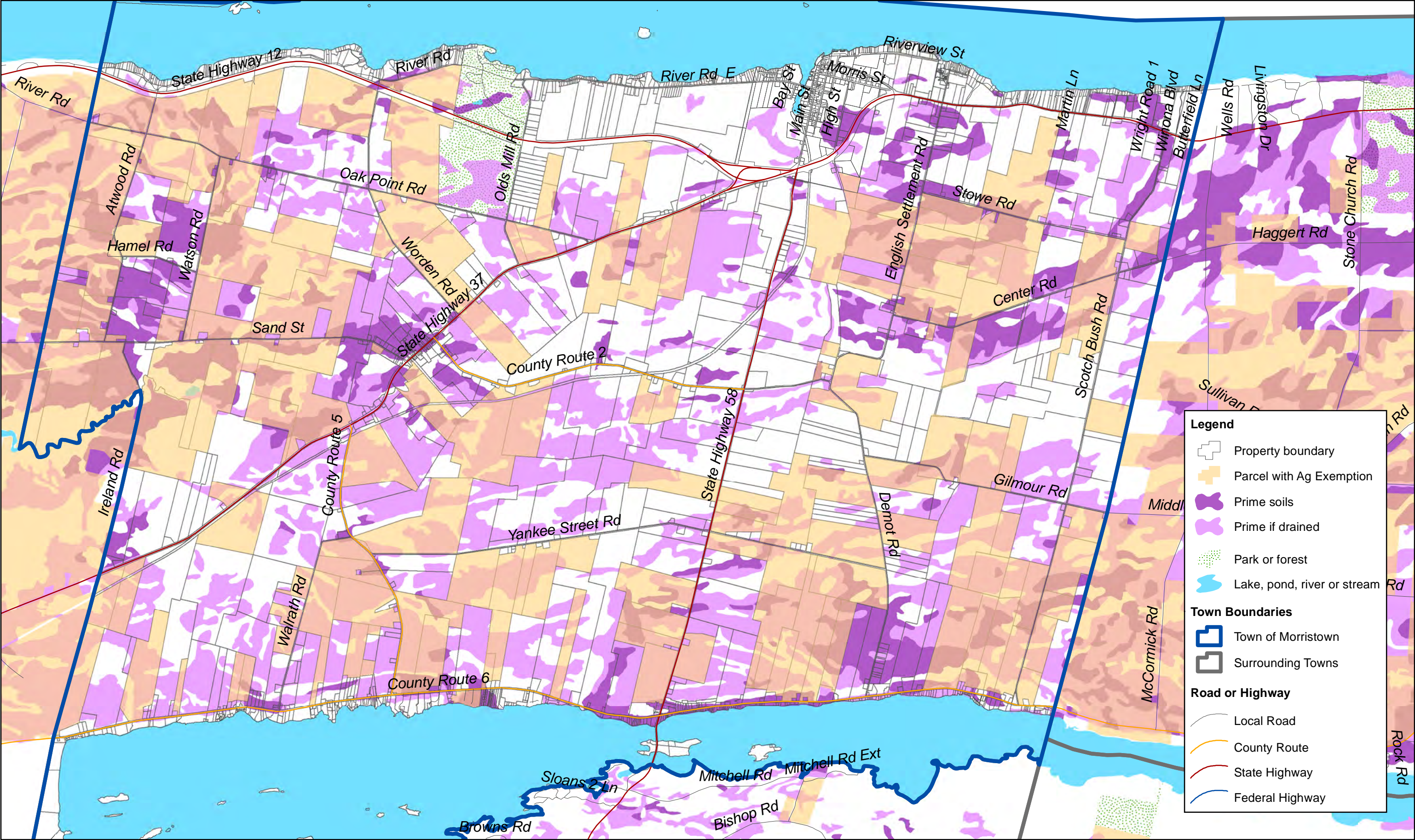


Map prepared by the St. Lawrence County Planning Office, Tel: (315) 379-2292

G: ArcGIS/Morristown/NYSP83/Morristown 2018 Land Uses.mxd

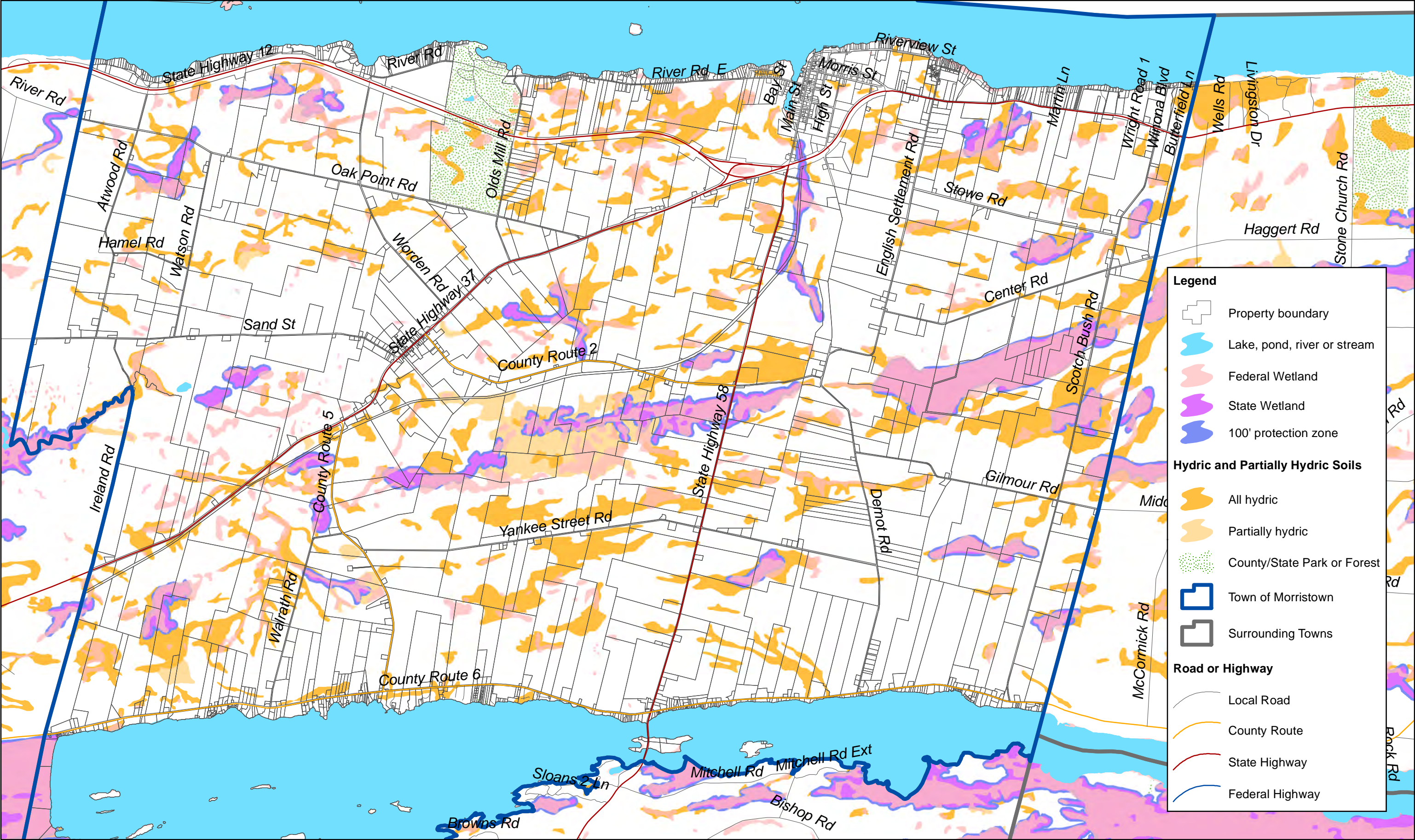


Location and Distribution of Prime Soils and Farmland with Agricultural Exemptions in Morristown



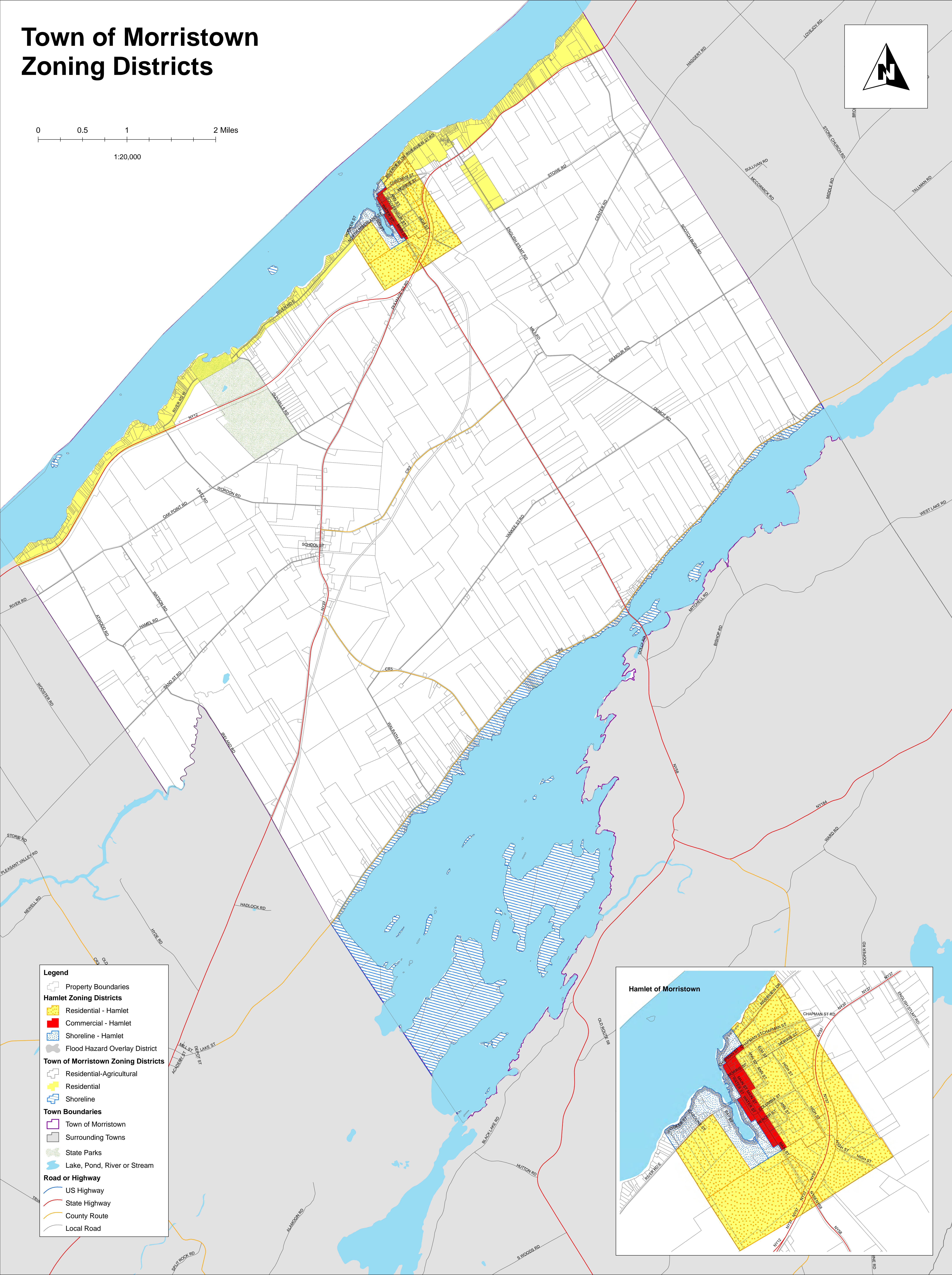
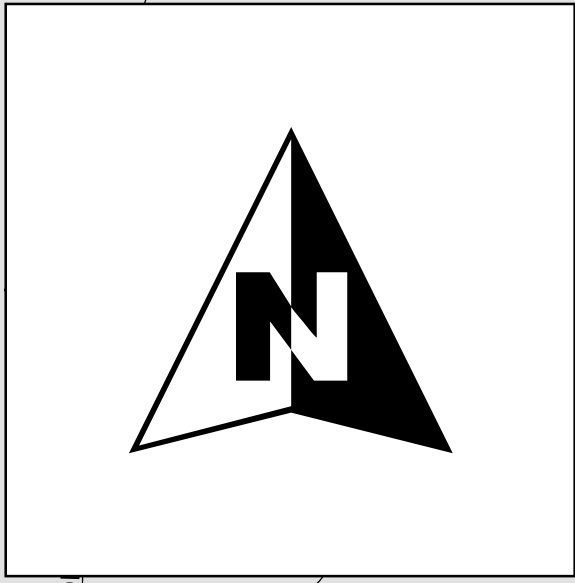
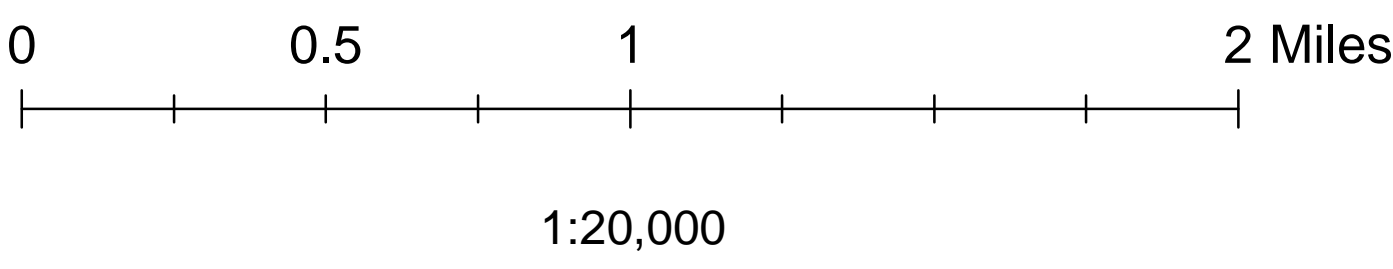


Location and Distribution of Hydric Soils, and  
State and Federally Protected Wetlands in Morristown





# Town of Morristown Zoning Districts



**Legend**

Property Boundaries

**Hamlet Zoning Districts**

Residential - Hamlet

Commercial - Hamlet

Shoreline - Hamlet

Flood Hazard Overlay District

**Town of Morristown Zoning Districts**

Residential-Agricultural

Residential

Shoreline

**Town Boundaries**

Town of Morristown

Surrounding Towns

State Parks

Lake, Pond, River or Stream

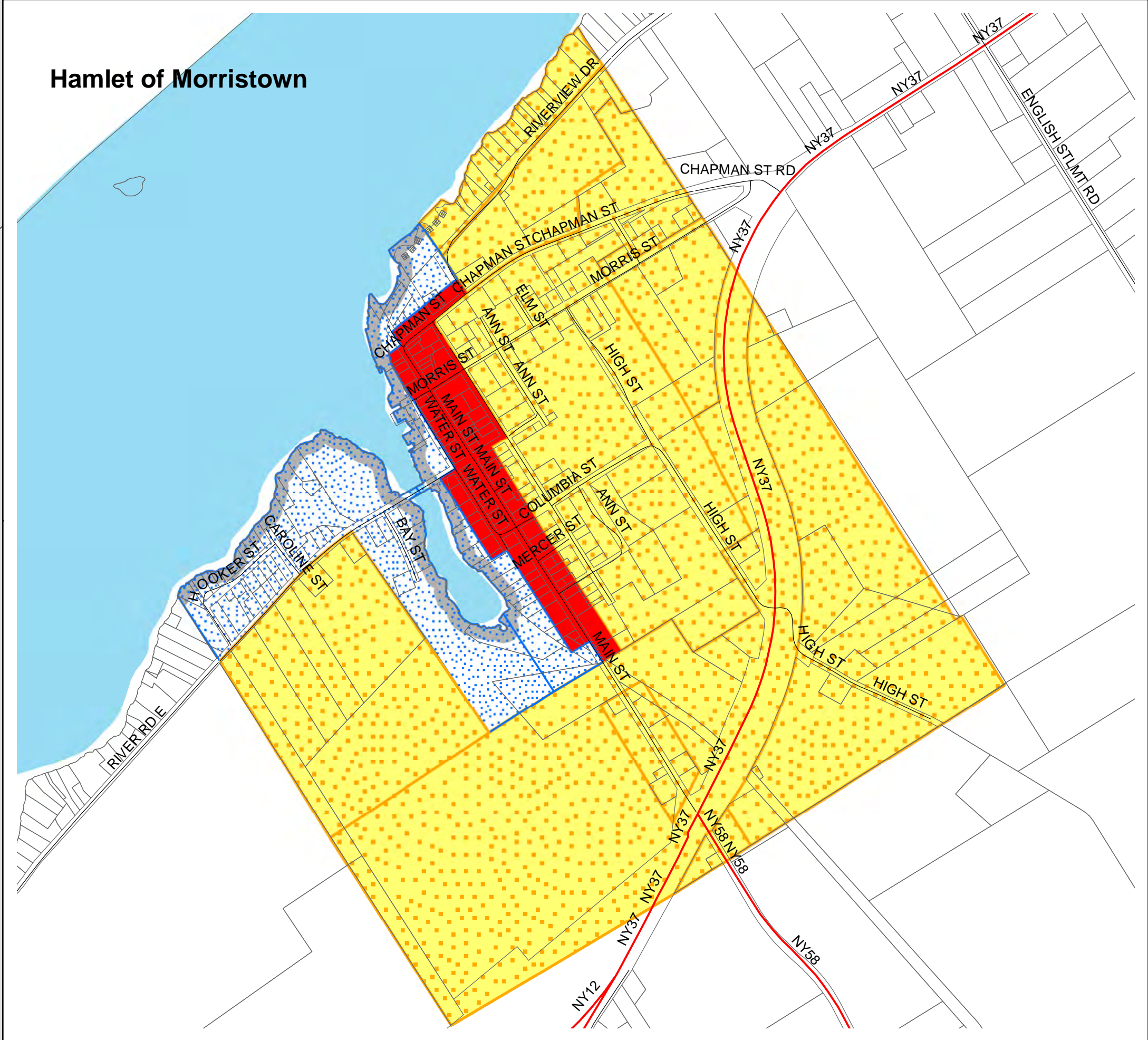
**Road or Highway**

US Highway

State Highway

County Route

Local Road





# Proposed Morristown Bay Development

0 200 400 800 1,200 Feet





<b><i>Morristown's Strengths</i></b>	<b><i>Votes</i></b>
<b><i>Community Infrastructure</i></b>	<b><i>41</i></b>
Library	14
Museum (with Blue Heron trail: Accessible, 1-Mile, All Volunteer Effort)	14
Water & Sewer	4
Municipal Water Source	0
Town Highways are well Maintained	3
Good School with Campus and After School Facilities Program(s)	3
Great State Park	2
Windmill/Chapman Park with Tennis & BB Court and Gazebo	1
Recreational Uses	0
<b><i>Quality of Life</i></b>	<b><i>27</i></b>
<b><i>Morristown's Service Organizations</i></b>	<b><i>9</i></b>
Fire Department and Rescue Squad	4
Fire Department: Bingo, 4th of July Activities, Meal Site, Holiday Events, Dinners, Brier Hill, Morristown	3
Black Lake Fish & Game: Hunter Ed, Programming	2
Variety of Religious Denominations	0
<b><i>Morristown's Residents</i></b>	<b><i>9</i></b>
Good Citizen Involvement, Good Turnout at Meetings, Apathy is not a Problem	3
People: Wonderful, Honest, Friendly, Industrious	2
Amish	2
Presence of Amish Farming Community	2
Kid Friendly	0
<b><i>Community Events in Morristown</i></b>	<b><i>8</i></b>
4th of July Parade and Fireworks	6
Summer Concert Series	2
Plein Air Festival	0
Programming	0
Gathering Space	0
<b><i>Local Government</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
Zoning	1

<b><i>Morristown's Strengths</i></b>	<b><i>Votes</i></b>
<b><i>Morristown's Natural and Built Features</i></b>	<b><i>21</i></b>
<b><i>The St. Lawrence River and Black Lake</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>
St. Lawrence River: We have waterfront	10
Water (river and lake)	5
SLR, Black Lake	0
International Waterway	0
Seaway	0
<b><i>Economic Impact</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
Proximity to Canada	2
Fishing	2
Attracts Seasonal Residents	0
Economic Impact/Tourism	0
<b><i>The Views and Built Environment</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>
History: War of 1812, Windmill, Farms, Land Use Pattern	2
Vistas	0
Fabulous Views	0
Ships	0
<b><i>Morristown's Business Environment</i></b>	<b><i>13</i></b>
Businesses Along Black Lake	5
Local Artisans Present	4
Winery	2
Diners	1
Hardware Store	1
Computer/Tech Access	0
Shop Small	0
Cafés	0
Marina	0
Under Promoted Go-Cart Race Track	0
Well Run Businesses	0

<b><i>Morristown's Weaknesses</i></b>	<b><i>Votes</i></b>
<b><i>Community Infrastructure</i></b>	<b><i>47</i></b>
<i>Public Facilities</i>	<i>19</i>
No public access to River; no public boat dock, public beach	16
Need More Recreational/Pedestrian Opportunities	2
International Welcome Center is Dirty: Embarrassing	1
<i>Housing Stock</i>	<i>12</i>
Housing Stock is Uneven; Nice Homes and Homes Needing Repair or are Abandoned/Unoccupied	7
Community Aesthetic	5
<i>Telecommunications</i>	<i>8</i>
Need Broadband and Cellular Service	8
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>8</i>
Public R-O-W: Standards of Use	6
Metal Wagon Wheels Impact on Asphalt/Paved Roads	2
<b><i>Business Environment</i></b>	<b><i>41</i></b>
<i>General Business Environment</i>	<i>20</i>
Lack of Employment Opportunities, especially for young people	8
Loss of Main Street Businesses	7
Local Grocer/Pharmacy is Needed; Need Incentives	4
No Neighboring Industry in Nearby Communities	1
<i>Chamber of Commerce</i>	<i>11</i>
Local Chamber of Commerce is Absent	9
Access to Capital \$	1
Inconsistent Support of Entrepreneurs	1
<i>Tourism</i>	<i>10</i>
Not Enough Places for People to Stay; Accommodations	6
Lack of Commerce; Lots of Potential in Tourism Industry	3
Seasonal Businesses: Off-Season Closing	1
<b><i>Quality of Life</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>
<i>Local Government</i>	<i>9</i>
Inadequate Zoning Enforcement and Follow Through via Local Courts	6
No Public Transportation	2
Cronyism/Corruption/Intimidation	1
<i>Community Programming</i>	<i>4</i>
Due to Size, Hard to Scale Up Services and Programming	1
Limited Course Offerings at School	1
Not Enough Youth/Children's Programming: Publicity	1
Not A Lot of Winter Sports	1
<i>Local Residents</i>	<i>2</i>
Aging Population Reluctant/Resistant to Change	1
Losing Youth to More Populated Areas	1

<b><i>Morristown's Opportunities</i></b>	<b><i>Votes</i></b>
<b><i>Community Revitalization</i></b>	<b><i>28</i></b>
Pursue Grant Monies to: Fix Houses, Infrastructure, Transportation, Recreation, Broadband and Cell Service, Library	16
Beautify Our Downtowns	3
Community Clean Up Day	3
Make the Community More Attractive	3
Shoreline/Whole Community Should be Absolutely Gorgeous	3
Reward Positive Change (To Promote)	0
Connecting Trails	0
<b><i>Community Programming</i></b>	<b><i>25</i></b>
Attract Recreational Activities: Walking, Cycling, Biking, Fishing, X-Country Skiing, Ice fishing Derby	13
Use Media to Promote Events/Activities	4
Front Porch/Summer Event Competition	3
Host a Winter Carnival: Ice Sculpture on the Bay	3
Consider Local Assets as Solutions: Schools	2
Day Camps: Kids, Elder Camps	0
<b><i>Land Use Regulations &amp; Enforcement</i></b>	<b><i>25</i></b>
Renewable Energy Systems are Coming: Solar, Wind, Hydro	9
Zoning Updates	7
Re-examine Zoning Opportunities	2
Consider Zoning/Local Law Changes to Support	0
Uniform Enforcement of Property Maint. & Habitability Reqs	7
<b><i>Tourism &amp; Business Development</i></b>	<b><i>18</i></b>
Canadian Interest in Ferry: Lost Opportunity A to A	7
Farmer's Market, Fruit Orchards/Specialty Crops	4
Home Occupation/Self-Employment	4
Welcoming Committee/Improve Welcome Center	2
Enhance Border Crossing Procedure	1
Expand & Diversify Tourism	0
Incentivize Business	0
<b><i>Community Tax Base</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>
Dissolution may be an Opportunity for New Investment	6
Increased Cash Flow: Decrease Taxes, Dissolution of Village	0
Sales of Vacant Homes Due To Decrease in Taxes	0

<b><i>Morristown's Threats</i></b>	<b><i>Votes</i></b>
<b><i>Tourism &amp; Business Environment</i></b>	<b><i>29</i></b>
Population Loss: Small Schools Getting Smaller, Tax Base, Business Support	13
Our Economy Depends on State Jobs, i.e. Prisons	8
Consolidate/Market Locally Produced Foods: Create a Middle Marketplace	7
Border Security/Checking in is Not Easy When Crossing the River	1
<b><i>Environmental Quality</i></b>	<b><i>27</i></b>
Aquatic Invasive Species/Other Water Quality Threats (Runoff) and Eutrophication/Black Lake & Morristown Bay Dying Off; They're Getting Full of Muck & Weeds Due to Slow Flow & Sedimentation	13
Sewage Treatment into Black Lake	11
Flooding/High-water/Mitigation Response	3
<b><i>Community Residents</i></b>	<b><i>11</i></b>
Mindset: i.e. Not Many People Turned Out Tonight	8
We Have a Drug Problem: Meth Manufacturing and Opiates	3
<b><i>Community Infrastructure</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>
Bridge Infrastructure: Bay Bridge	4
Scale Infrastructure to Accommodate Development (CIP)	2
<b><i>Local Government</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
Lack of Public Accountability/Transparency	3
Too Many Government Regulations & Resources	1

## **Morristown SWOT Highlights:**

After the Town and Village's first community outreach meeting, feedback from the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) session were grouped into categories and prioritized by vote to help the community identify important themes that were raised by the public. Themes that emerged from the SWOT exercise are highlighted below:

### Community Infrastructure:

- Residents greatly value their access to the community's existing infrastructure, which includes Morristown's library and museum; recreational amenities such as tennis courts and walking trails; and access to municipal water and sewer service.
- Residents desire increased public access to the St. Lawrence River by way of a public dock and beach, as well as expanding the network of recreational trails in the community.
- The quality of Morristown's housing stock was identified as being uneven; nice, well-maintained homes are found next to homes in need of repair, or have been abandoned, which has a detrimental visual impact on residents and visitors.
- Residents felt the Town should prepare for the arrival of renewable energy systems – solar arrays in particular – and to update the community's zoning regulations to identify locations that are suitable for development.

### Quality of Life:

- Morristown's residents feel the community's quality of life is enhanced by the contributions of local service organizations and residents who help coordinate the community's popular annual events such as the Fourth of July parade and Plein Air Festival.
- Suggestions to enhance the community's appearance and strengthen community pride included scheduling an annual community clean-up day, and hosting a front porch competition.
- Residents acknowledged that while Morristown's small rural size is valued, it constrains the community's ability to scale-up programming and events.

### Community Features:

- The St. Lawrence River and Black Lake are identified as two of the most important natural features in Morristown, which draw people into the community.

- Residents want to protect and restore the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake from invasive species, eutrophication and sedimentation. Residents are most concerned about runoff threats to water quality, and the disposal of untreated sewage into both waterbodies.
- Residents felt Morristown's appeal could be greatly enhanced by pursuing community revitalization grant funds to repair the community's housing stock; expand recreational amenities; enhance cell phone and internet service; and by revamping the appearance of the community's Welcome Center.

#### Local Economy:

- Residents value the presence of small businesses that are located in the village and along both waterfronts.
- Residents are concerned about the small number of businesses that are operating in the community, and limited employment opportunities they provide. Residents are also concerned that the limited capacity of existing broadband and cellular service hinders future business investment in Morristown.
- Residents felt there is lot of potential for Morristown to expand its summer tourism industry by expanding the types of accommodations for visitors to consider, and to host recreational events throughout the year, such as cycling and fishing competitions in the summer, and an ice sculpture and skiing competition in the winter.
- Residents support economic development initiatives that attract Canadian visitors, increase tourism in the town, and enhance self-employment/home occupation opportunities.



## Morristown Community Visioning Session

### April 23, 2019

#### ***What do we want Morristown to look like in 10 years?***

#### ***VOTES***

<b><i>Community Revitalization</i></b>	<b><i>31</i></b>
Mimic Clayton: Quality of visual appearance, community investment, entertainment, shopping, housing stock, concerts, dining, public beach, playground, welcome signs, farmers Chamber of Commerce: Calendar of Events	13
Host an artists community	12
Hotel/Conference Center	3
New welcome signs	2
Value tourism development	1
People-powered watercraft focus	
A Destination	
More Amish will be living here	
Makes a first great impression	
<b><i>Community Infrastructure</i></b>	<b><i>16</i></b>
Bike/hike trails (safe bike lanes): related business	9
Boat Dockage/Revamp Morristown Harbor: Formal Dev Plan, Finish Sheet Piles	7
A place to picnic on the river	
Will have a public beach	
A better playground for kids	
A Recreation Center	
Fitness Center	
Host a municipal solar system	
<b><i>Transportation Infrastructure</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>
Decommissioned bridge repurposed	2
Decent sidewalks	2
Improved access to markets	2
Establish a deep water port (via the US Army Corps of Engineers)	1
Railway is back	
Ferry to Brockville	
<b><i>Economic Development</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>
Productive Farms	2
Diverse Farm Operations	
Grow local businesses by 25%	2
Local Economic Development Committee (C-FEDC) (LDC)	1
More small businesses on Main Street	1
Attract new investment	
Economic vitality	
Access to employment opportunities	

***What do we want Morristown to look like in 10 years?******VOTES***

<b><i>Housing</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
Abandoned houses are taken care of	2
Cut the number of sub-standards homes in half	1
<b><i>Telecommunications</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>
Better telecommunication access and capacity (Broadband and cell phone)	2
Improved Internet Service	
More Cable Choices	
More relay towers for cable stations and internet signal	
<b><i>Education</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
School districts may merge	1
Renew 1 room schoolhouse, community center, school age?	
Young people choose to live here because of the school	

***What do we do to get Morristown there?******VOTES***

<b><i>Economic Development</i></b>	<b><i>18</i></b>
Chamber of Commerce, sub with County C of C, LDC, development plan for Bay, CFFDC,	
Waddington: steal ideas, create a pilot program	11
Create/partner with a Chamber of Commerce	1
Lack of local employment: local employer, small scale to start, growth potential	5
Form an economic development committee to advertise businesses	1
Promote local businesses such as the winery	
Add/highlight businesses and amenities on Seaway Trail promotional materials and on social media	
How can riverfront compliment with Black Lake businesses	
<b><i>Community Revitalization</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
Pursue grant funds: use volunteers to write	1
Get young people to participate in planning & implementing our projects	1
Partner with other organizations that demonstrated success	1
Sign design competition	
Celebrate success	
Infectious community investments	
Lifestyle, picturesque, available/loyal wf	
<b><i>Governance</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
Communicate with county/state/federal elected officials	1
Congresswoman Stefanik	
Spend/use existing fund balance on earmarked items	
Incentivize employees to reside here	
<b><i>Infrastructure</i></b>	
Consider a downlink for internet service or tap into existing fiber	

# Morristown Comprehensive Plan

## July 16, 2019 SWOT

### *Opportunities and Strengths:*

- Expand the harbor.
- Public dump.
- The land and waterfronts are beautiful. For tourism purposes we need to keep buildings, property beautiful too.
- Encourage a system for transportation to Canada via the river.
- Use the old railroad bed for hiking and biking trail.
- Strength of our good summer programs. E.g. Monday night music, July and August; plein air festival; July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.
- Activities at museum, heron walk, plein air festival, concerts.
- Consider new ferry boat summer service: harbor to Brockville 3 times a day, June -September.
- Open spaces; farm/Amish; tourism; artist; self-employment.
- Opening up Bay Harbor area. Cleaning and greater accessibility of Bay to residents of town. Beach possibilities.
- Need to take advantage of fishing on St. Lawrence.
- More support for Black Lake for tourism, fishing.
- St. Lawrence River #1 bass in US.
- Black Lake, going strong, customers 2.5 hours away plus. Big draw - PA
- Good harbor for boaters.
- Rural environment, sporting, fishing, boating, opportunities. Canada.

# Morristown Comprehensive Plan

## July 16, 2019 SWOT

### *Challenges and Concerns:*

- Our biggest export is our children. Do something to develop businesses to keep them here.
- Design methods to encourage college educated youth to remain in area or return to area.
- Reduce agricultural fertilizer, road salt run off that impairs water quality and increases algae blooms.
- Extend town water line along River Road (despite cost).
- Better, stronger cell phone connections.
- Loss of campgrounds on Black Lake - retire - business divided and sold as private residences.
- No public dump. Attention to ecological issues.
- Voting rights for seasonal residents. Now that village will be dissolved town should be represented by all taxpayers.
- School is too small. Not enough courses.
- We don't know enough about what's available along Black Lake. Is it private? Are there public sites, services?
- Public telecommunications are currently non-existent.
- Develop harbor area. Coax anchor business/hotel/waterfront complex on empty land where old Harbor Inn was?
- Zoning for new businesses conflicting with rules off parking off street.
- Need more businesses.
- Knock down homes that are eyesores, redevelop with nicer style that has appealing architecture.
- High speed internet town-wide.
- Drug addiction.
- Lack of opportunities for young people.
- Bad attitudes.
- Cronyism.
- The filthy welcome station.
- Bad people with meth habits proliferating here.
- Challenge is Bay Bridge removal. Develop some facilities along shoreline in bay.

# Morristown Comprehensive Plan

## July 16, 2019 SWOT

### *Vision:*

- Need a hotel with a conference center to bring in and keep people for a longer visit.
- Encourage state to include residents in the park admission, use and participation. There is no sharing.
- Improve harbor area for boaters, downtown for walkers, to attract visitors. Brockville to Alex Bay and Clayton. Building style all nice, no substandard homes or businesses.
- More places for visitors to stay: B&B's, hotels, etc. A service to list availabilities.
- Ferry to Brockport.
- Clayton is great! Cape Vincent is good. Can Morristown compete?
- Participation/voting rights - input for seasonal residents of the Town of Morristown.
- Ditch old ad campaign (our past is our future) for something better, more social, media friendly.
- Create a safe place for kids, especially 10-15, to swim. The old bridge and town docks are not safe for them.
- Organic farming and markets (Vermont as influence) doctors, artists, flea markets, antiques.
- Double the population "storefronts follow roof tops".
- Support small business. Take advantage of the river and lake.
- Transportation to Canada.
- Better grocery is a great idea.
- Make Morristown a hub (social media, ads) for sailors, boaters, cyclists (offer biking and boating "trails") and active outdoor enthusiasts.
- Walking and biking trails. Heron trail great!
- Accessible dump.
- Ferry to Canada.
- Safe swimming for children.
- Playground for children.
- More business.
- Connect proposed town hiking trails to museum hiking trails. Create a circuit.

Count	What are the two most important things that you would like to see changed in Morristown?	What are the two most important things that should remain the same in Morristown?	What business or service that is not in Morristown would you most want to see?	Who is your internet provider?	Who is your cell phone provider?	What additional activities or services are needed?	What additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see in Morristown?	Do you have any other suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan?
1	Improved downtown in Village, limited access highway through the County (not necessarily Morristown)	clean recreational waters, sense of community	drugs & sundries, casual clothing	Spectrum	Verizon	walking trails, workout gym	trails	
2	A beach and a grocery store	Friendliness and safety	Grocery store	Spectrum	AT&T	Beach	Beach	Clean up housing, paint and repair
3			Larger grocery store	Spectrum	Verizon			
4	housing upgrades and economic development	agriculture and healthy environment	Dollar General	Spectrum	Verizon	Health Facility like a gym	waterfront municipal beach	
5	More business, better kept homes	History, fire department	Grocery	Spectrum	Straight talk		Beach	Dredge the bay. Park with eater access, swimming availability closer to town.
6	More restaurants and festivals		Restaurants	Don't know	T mobile		Boating, kayaks, paddle boards... dinner river boat cruises	Over all more scheduled fun events would bring in traffic
7	Lower taxes on the river such as Hammond.	Small town charm.	Grocery, hardware, decent dining.	Dont have one.	Verizon.	Town recreation dept. sponsored softball, tennis, sailing etc...	Bike and ATV trails.	Make opportunities for residents to have a say throughout the whole process such as this survey.
8	Better use of the downtown and riverfront in what was the village. Stricter code enforcement to remove some of the blight including abandoned or burned out homes and houses with overgrown lawns and trash in their yards. A 100% reassessment of the town now that the village is dissolved.	The support of community based organizations such as the museum and library, if not increased support. The celebration of the historic town by museums and historians.	A good restaurant that would consistently offer good food in a timely manner.	Time Warner/Spectrum	Verizon			Morristown needs to make better use of the St. Lawrence River. It needs to attract businesses that would help bring tourism to the town.
9	We need a re-assessment. (It is many years overdue). Better code enforcement. (Trash in yards. Trash burning. Barking dogs etc.)	Support of the museum and library.	Better restaurants with good options for dietary restrictions.	Spectrum	Verizon	Private access roads need to be serviced by the town where taxpayers live, but have no control over the road.		
10	Promote the area especially waterfront areas . Better housing for working people too	Library is an excellent resource . Boat ramps for access to river and parks nice too	Nice coffee shop . More activities for youth	Spectrum	Verizon	More activities for people of all ages	Indoor facilities for winter activities like exercise classes	Morristown needs to advertise why it is a good place to live . Would be nice those of us who did not have a boat an easy way to get to Brockville.
11				Don't have access to one	At&t			
12	Roadside brush pickup.	Small town/village feel	Grocery, wine	Time warner	Verizon			
13	Taxes are too high. that has driven away potential new residents and businesses. Need a marine gas station. It attracts tourists who spend money.	Nice boat launch. Very dedicated fire department.	Take a drive to Alex Bay and walk down the main drag. I would take any of those shops. See my marine gas station comments.	cable internet	This must be a joke? The cell service is awful. I have to pay for canada roaming for my phone to work at all.			It's good that you ask these questions. It's a first step.
14	Would like a real village, a destination. Like Clayton. Something happening on the river.	The Library. Can't think of 2	A grocery store. Competition for Ella's (it's too expensive). Some life on the river - take advantage of the river front.	Spectrum...is there another choice?	Verizon	Something to do!! Especially in the winter months. It's like the village hibernates	What is available now???? Nothing! Give us choices!	
15	Tax breaks and/or credits for property and home enhancement ! If you improve the town cosmetically you invite more homebuyers and businesses to look at this area.	The boat launch ! The July 4th parade/fireworks	Dollar general or family dollar	There is astronomical quotes to run cable up a side road from the highways.	At and t	A civic center or banquet hall	Safe and properly constructed boat launch - it's FULL OF HAZARDS from shoddy contractor work. Golf carts being allowed on streets - including the new owner of that amazing racetrack right outside the village !	Ability to download and submit tax forms for star online - pay taxes online - publish wages of all town and village employees -
16	Roads fixed , and more venues brought to the river . Bring back the harbor!		Shops	Jb wireless	Berizon	More things for kids to do		Morristown has the potential to be an Alex bay or Clayton. Why not have more businesses, Shops,and restaurants. The boat launch area was under construction last season and looked like a dump. Nothing for kids to do here.
17	More downtown stores and restaurants to bring in tourism and revenue.	The quaint charm and local leadership	Groceries, pharmacy, gym, seasonal waterside icecream/ snack shop, seasonal tourist activities: mini golf, go-carts, boat & jet-ski rentals, harborside amenities to bring in boaters		AT & T	Tourist Activities	Better tennis courts, Water sport equipment rentals	
18	Finish the park at the Ferry Docks People with a vision and youth and excitement to be more involved in the community.	The fire department	A place for summer boaters to stop for a burger and fries or ice cream or pizza and maybe gas for their boat and bait for fishing. Maybe a miniature golf.	Spectrum	Verizon	More 4th of July activities to keep people in our town spending money A bait shop and gas and docks for boaters A swimming area with beach	Yoga classes, Zumba classes, line dancing classes, etc Better choices in bands for the gazebo in the summer	Better advertising for the community Better sidewalks, a farmers market
19	Clean up the park at the launch area, last house on the sewer line and it has never worked properly - lines not deep enough in ground and no solution offered.	parking area for the boat launch, the post office.	More restaurants	Verizon	Verizon, sometimes can make a call, most times cannot	Movie nights at the launch - outdoors would be perceived as cool, maybe at firehall	bike race, better promoted road race	Continue to focus on what families need, access to good schooling
20	More businesses and things to do	The streets and good people that live there	Marine services, stores, antique shops, community events	Verizon	Verizon	Senior citizen activities, children's activities, concert series in the park, a better community involved 4th of July parade, downtown salon, retail	Maintain public park amenities	Bring in commerce and offer more things even if it's seasonal to get a little revival going! It's a perfect bay for water access, capitalize on it! It was once a fabulous place to grow up, but we all need a little more pride and a helping hand to others that can't fix and improve on their properties. Incentive to clean up houses and properties! The 4th of July parade should be a huge attraction!! Where are the bagpipers, military bands, etc. Make it a place all will want to come to and not just for a chosen few
21								
22	Development of the waterfront and maintenance of older homes	The quiet charm and friendly people	Cell service where you don't end up with a bill from Canada.		AT&T	boat fuel	We need a public pier for swimming and fishing at the base of Main Street.	Among the depressed communities in St.Lawrence County, Morristown alone has great potential for becoming a regional destination and retirement community because of the River, the Bay and the million-dollar view of Brockville, but we have to want to become better.



Count	What are the two most important things that you would like to see changed in Morristown?	What are the two most important things that should remain the same in Morristown?	What business or service that is not in Morristown would you most want to see?	Who is your internet provider?	Who is your cell phone provider?	What additional activities or services are needed?	What additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see in Morristown?	Do you have any other suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan?
23	Full-service grocery store, full-service auto repair	small town flavor	Full-service grocery store	Spectrum	Tracfone			
24	The old Harbor Inn site restored as originally planned by the owner (Jarret Newby?) And I'd like to see some main street vitalization grants to help that area.	Support for the Library and Gateway Museum.	I would like to see an alternate internet provider rather than just Spectrum.	Spectrum	Verizon	The Library does a wonderful job for kids but I wish we had a public place for them to swim and enjoy The River and Lake. We have good boat ramps in both the village and Black Lake if you have a boat to get out there.	See above on the Library and the Fish and Game Club have activities but I'd like to see the walking trail linked directly into the village for easier access.	Keep at it. If we can get this plan done perhaps there's grant money out there to help people and businesses that need it.
25	Increase in tourism and more business growth and development		Ferry, or maybe a tour boat like Brockville or Alex Bay has.	Time Warner Cable		a swimming area in village would be nice.		Take a day trip to Ganonoque to see how they have utilized the shore of the river to increase tourism...and get some ideas for our town.
26	River access for the community kids(beach), more businesses downtown	Our vital, active library, and the Gateway Museum	Small grocery	Spectrum	Verizon		River access for kids and families, kayak or paddle board rentals	Main St. Is dilapidated and depressing. Some work to make it more inviting would be great.
27	a public beach and truck traffic moved from SH 37 to SH 12, especially the oversized loads. They all speed through Brier Hill and it's terrorizing.	Support of the library and fire department	gasoline fill-up station on the river	Castle Cable	Verizon	a beach		
28	We need to see the bridge come out and the bay cleaned out so there will be boat traffic with public docks. I would like to see the school become just a grade school.	The boat ramp and also the public park where the gazebo.	Car wash - wash boats off and a laundromat	Spectrum	Verizon	Exercise classes for adults and seniors	basketball courts, tennis, bocce,	New businesses don't seem to be welcomed in this community.
29	Bay cleaned up; addition of affordable local shops	River front;main St business district	Other shopping/dining choices	Verizon	Verizon	Need activities for ALL ages.	Community events/sporting events	.
30		The school system and separate fire districts. I don't believe there is a need to combine the two.	The waterfront developed more, as well as restaurants	Spectrum	Verizon			
31	To see it cleaned up in places	Debris pick up		Spectrum	Verizon	Pool	Swimming	
32	A local government that encourages business development rather than going out in public stating they are boycotting local businesses and attempt to encourage others to do likewise.  It would be nice to see those who own property on the river front invest money and develop those properties. It is apparent the present owners are not interested in doing so. Some have had a lot of empty promises and others want to sell their property for outrageous amounts of money but aren't willing to invest their own money.	The sense of community that does somewhat exist.  Keep and support what few businesses there are.		Spectrum	Verizon	Chapman Park needs to be expanded.	Difficult to say with the limited resources available.	Until local government officials commit to developing business and stop being petty and negative toward anything that doesn't benefit them personally then it is difficult to develop our communities. There also needs to be more grants for people to improve their property. More grants to improve our water system, our streets, sidewalks and for recreational opportunities should be pursued. Unfortunately there is limited space to expand business or develop new ones. In the village of Morristown certain areas of Main Street are need of being cleaned up. On both ends of the street there are eyesores that are a black eye for the village. The same can be said of Brier Hill.
33				Spectrum	Verizon			
34	Lower taxes			Jb wireless	Verizon	Better internet service in the whole town,Brier Hill area outside the hamlet has none	Beach	As we know the village residents spoke to eliminating the village! This needs to be remembered that they need to lose all service and match the rest of the town. No more brush pickup, no more sidewalk work(home owner)no flags or flowers. No more "personal services".
35	Would like to see a thriving and beautiful Main Street which would include more businesses and a welcoming harbor for visitors by boat.	Planning and zoning both should remain in place and work with those interested in bettering our community. Our sense of family should remain the same too.	First a beach and picnic area and as to a business a bakery/coffee shop would be a welcome addition.	Time Warner/ Spectrum	Verizon..but there are some dead spots hers.	Playgrounds, picnic areas and public beaches like Lisbon, and Waddington have.	Again picnic, swimming and bike trails.	The Town has done a good job of getting information out to the community. The Village has done little or nothing for the community. My answers of neither agree or disagree are because I feel right now we need a better looking, more business oriented and vibrant area. We need to be proud of what we have and the leadership we have to want to recommend people to come here. Shame on the Village for catering to the needs of a very few and not all of us.
36			Grocery store					
37	more hiking trails/ fix up and paint the existing houses		need a gym(exercise facility)	spectrum	verizon	playground		
38	more small businesses and jobs; improved housing	the quality of rural living; the friendliness of most residents	bar/restaurant on Morristown Bay. (read: the Harbor Inn)	Spectrum	Verizon		hiking and biking trails; a public swimming area on the River (not Jacques Cartier Park).	attract a business that hires local people; leverage that into better housing and improved schools.
39	1 homes repaired and cleaned up, 2 low interest loans made available so a can be accomplished.	water and sewer rates stay as they are,or even drop in price	a mini mall on the river	Spectrum	Verizon	YMCA	safe areas to walk	
40	New elected officials. Receiving of information in a more advance time.	Keep the Village & water/sewer maintenance	A nice family restaurant that is good food at a reasonable price!	Spectrum - the only one available	Tracfone	movie theater	drive in theater	Keep the Fire Districts as they are.
41	highway maintenance within village limits town clean up provided	village identity water and sewer infrastructure	small store like Dollar General, affordable family dining manufacturing facilities	Spectrum	tracfone	drive in movie theater exercise facility or gymnasium		our motto is "our past is our future" lets make that happen.
42	More businesses and light industry in the town. More attractive downtown Morristown and businesses to go to	Safety Great library	Locally owned convenience store/small pharmacy	Spectrum	Verizon Wireless	playgrounds. Activities are needed for all groups. I chose families because it was the most important.	Attractive, well maintained beach	Not at this time; it was a wonderful start, great meeting
43	Easier access to town/village info. Clean up/demolition of neglected properties	Maintenance and upkeep of roads. Quietness of town.	Grocery store					
44	Improve sidewalks in the Village. Open up the Bay.			Spectrum	Verizon		Public swimming	I would recommend Morristown to families with children on every count except the school. It's limited in courses, electives, clubs, and sports, all because it's so small.
45	More things to draw people here	Waterfront area	More motels fir people to stay	Spectrum	Verizon	Anything	Not sure	Need more places to stay in village area and more busnesses to draw people
46	Restaurant/ less drugs	Community feel	Coffee shop		Verizon	Mentorships		
47	Control real estate tax costs. Zoning to eradicate people's lawns filled with junk.	Ease of contacting Town employees.		Spectrum	Both Verizon and ATT			
48	Grocery store or Hardware store	Hometown/Small town feel	Grocery Store		Verizon			
49	Fix up some of the neglected houses, more water front development	Old town flavor	Drug store.	Time Warner	Verizon		Water front, maybe boat tour	

Count	What are the two most important things that you would like to see changed in Morristown?	What are the two most important things that should remain the same in Morristown?	What business or service that is not in Morristown would you most want to see?	Who is your internet provider?	Who is your cell phone provider?	What additional activities or services are needed?	What additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see in Morristown?	Do you have any other suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan?
50	1)I would like to see night time entertainment brought back to the river side 2) grocery store	The beautiful historic buildings	grocery store & night life	citizens	verizon	entertainment on riverfront		
51	Amish should be required to use battery powered lights and reflectors on the buggies							
52	bring back the old restaurant that was torn down by the harbor and nothing replaced it. What a shame. Loved that place. Want pickleball lines put on a tennis court or a couple of dedicated pickleball cts.	access to the water by anyone for free!	restaurant and bar right on the water....like the one that was torn down		Verizon	beach swimming and pickleball cts		
53	More things to do and getting year round residents to keep up their property.		We need more of everything. A medium sized well stocked grocery store would be nice.	Citizens Telephone	AT&T	Parks, playgrounds, beach access.	A simple park with playground would be nice.	I've been a seasonal visitor and cottage owner at Black Lake for over 40 years. Its amazing how little has changed. That's not a good thing. How about some code enforcement? Most people arrive at Black Lake on Route 6 coming from Hammond. Could the town get the year round local residents to clean up the junk, old cars, boats, trailers from their front yards on Route 6? That's the first thing new visitors see when they arrive here. What a 1st impression. There's been an abandoned store at the corner in Edwardsville for how many years now? 10? The town needs a plan to clean up the eyesores that we drive by each day. Unless you fish non-stop, there is very little to do for families or seniors around the lake. No public park, playground, basketball court, or any kind of maintained swimming beach.
54	Improved public waterfront access and more local restaurants/larger grocery	Museum/history	Larger local grocery store	FrontierCommunications	Verizon Wireless		River fortn walkway	
55		Library	Grocery store	None	Verizon	Van pickup		
56	Lower taxes, more local business	Town docks returned to park area; library	More restaurant options, a gym	Spectrum	Verizon	Yoga and art classes year round		
57	Improve/ repair roads and infrastructure. Reduce tax rate on lake property owners who use the fewest town resources. Clean up abandoned vehicles/trailers/trash around some properties.		More restaurant options	Citizens	At&T			
58		Disposal of lawn debris and metal recycling at the town barn. Hiking trails		I don't use an internet provider	Consumer Cellular			no
59			Grocery Store					
60	No street Parking OR a No Parking Zone in front of my home. I cannot see oncoming traffic when leaving my property. We should have a Police Station. We need the Morristown Sign RESTORED, maybe a school art project or have a contest for the design???	Noontime fire whistle. No wake allowed ordinance.	Tourists shops like Alex Bay.	Spectrum	Verizon	Fireworks on the water?	Community Garden.	Resource Center for low income families to access services for housing. USDA RD is my employer and we have programs for home purchase and home repair. Also community programs for non-profits and municipalities.
61	We would NOT like to see Morristown evolve into a community that looks like Alex Bay -- More land should be preserved.		None--If you want more businesses-move to where they are.	Verizon	Consumer Cellular			We like Morristown the way it is. More development means more problems and then we loose what we have. A peaceful and safe place to live. We have lived and seen when things start to "grow" and it has never turned out well.
62	Added cell towers to serve the lake both AT&T and Verizon. Better general shopping and garbage disposal.		Grocery shopping		Verizon			Cell service a big deal or lack there of at the milearm bay end of Black Lake.
63	Taxes			Time Warner	Verizon			
64	Meaningful codes enforcement action taken to clean up very dumpy resident and businesses around the Black Lake. Second, Proper sewage treatment for Hammond and surrounding areas to eliminate sewage going into Black Lake and that includes farms being prohibited from using manure on lake shore side of the lake.	Low taxes.		Spectrum	Verizon		I don't go to Morristown. I couldn't care less about Morristown activities or facilities. I don't even care about St. Lawrence River.	Yeah, keep taxes low. Focus on public safety. Keep the area quiet and fix the roads.
65	Better grocery store Periodic ferry to Brockport		Better grocery store	Castle Cable	AT&T	Service organizations		Realistic goals and timelines
66	Upgrade fiber optic phone system - Verizon landline goes down in rain making it dangerous in case of emergency as cell phones roam to Canadian towers. telecommunications so cell phones don't roam to Canada, internet and cable tv for all locations. Business and investment opportunities.	Feel of community. Safety.	Grocery, restaurants, marina (or yacht club) with fuel for boaters. Water sports rental. Access to State Park year round for fishing/ice fishing, cross country skiing etc. State Park blocks access for bikers and cars. Transportation. Laundromat. Car wash.	In Brier Hill Excede Satellite not great service.	A T & T	Free beach/river access, access to Canada. Hotel.	Geared to river	Residents do not want to upgrade houses because the assessed value will increase and raise their taxes. Something must be done so residents are not penalized for fixing their homes. Also, I heard from realtors that families are not looking to move to Morristown school district.

Count	What are the two most important things that you would like to see changed in Morristown?	What are the two most important things that should remain the same in Morristown?	What business or service that is not in Morristown would you most want to see?	Who is your internet provider?	Who is your cell phone provider?	What additional activities or services are needed?	What additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see in Morristown?	Do you have any other suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan?
67	<p>Improving the appearance on the Main Street.</p> <p>Find a place for the children to play and store their toys off the Main Street. Wright's Marina needs to improve the appearance of the boat storage across from the library. The Village workers do a good job, but the community that owns and lives along Main Street need to take more pride in their property.</p> <p>The library and bank look great and are a example for others to follow. Morristown Fuel looks great and is a draw to keep our business locate.</p> <p>The village waterfront is a disaster, third world.</p> <p>Encourage business and owners to improve or sell. Starting from Dockside Resort going upriver around the point into Morristown Bay should be condemned. Wright's Marina next to Dockside Resorts has wrecked docks, underwater, washed up on shore. Electrical outlets underwater or just laying on the shoreline. Who will be responsible if someone gets hurt walking along the shoreline. This should not be acceptable and against the law. The old gas lines are exposed and where are the fuel tanks, what condition are they in? Is it a environmental hazard?</p> <p>Start, recruit a community volunteer committee to research grants. Andrea Smith in Ogdensburg is a grant writer, not employed by the City, she works off a percentage. Village Officials should meet with her....</p>	<p>Keeping the Village safe.</p> <p>At the Morristown Comprehensive Plan Meeting the village received a 86% rating for safety. This must even improve with No tolerance for any crime in the Village and town. Open and provide for free a Law Enforcement Office in the Village. Where they can do paperwork, make call, interviews, eat, go to the bathroom, shower...</p> <p>Don't give up the Waterfront.</p> <p>Improve the waterfront without loosing access for the public.</p> <p>Improve the waterfront for public use.</p>	<p>Food Shopping</p> <p>I know in Indian Lake NY the village had the same problem. The Village approved subsidizing a Food Chain to open in the Village which quickly became successful. They found a vacate building and shared the expense to renovate it.</p> <p>Because of the Village efforts, the community became strong supporters of the market.</p> <p>Town Docks</p> <p>From Ogdensburg to Blind Bay there is no place for boats to fuel up on the American side of the river. Big boats, sailboats can not fuel up in either of these location due to a bridge in Ogdensburg and shallow water in Blind Bay.</p> <p>Big boat owners have no place to dock over night or stay for repairs. Many boats would prefer staying on the American side of the river.</p> <p>Morristown could be promoted as a destination, mid way from the locks upriver to Alex Bay.</p> <p>There is a big unused brain pool in the Morristown area. Making a effort to welcome them into supporting the town would benefit all...</p>			<p>Open up activities to all residents and visitors</p> <p>Use the Waterfront</p> <p>Behind the fire hall is not a drawn</p> <p>We can do better, look better</p>	<p>Tennis courts, swimming program with teaching for both</p> <p>The Park is too far away without transportation</p> <p>The swimming is bad there</p> <p>And it cost too much...</p> <p>Free swimming in Morristown</p> <p>, think of the Mother with kids and no job.</p>	<p>Thank you for this survey.</p> <p>We live in Morristown by choice.</p> <p>We see Morristown in the future being a destination for people to come to to enjoy a small town lifestyle by the river.</p> <p>You are trying, it's just the beginning</p> <p>We moved here, we're staying, we're investing...</p> <p>Don't get discouraged</p> <p>Thanks again...</p>
68	<p>More businesses,ferry to Canada.</p>	<p>Fire and rescue squad.</p>	<p>A general store such as the gilmour store which was here years ago</p>	<p>Spectrum</p>	<p>Verizon</p>	<p>Senior citizen club, playground for kids,</p>	<p>Safe place for swimming for all ages,we do have the park but it's about 3 miles away and beach is closed a lot because of contamination</p>	<p>We need to enhance our village in such a way to draw people in.</p> <p>Bass fishing is great here we should booster that, I live on the bay in Morristown, once that is open up and cleaned out I think it would make excellent fishing, kayaking, and maybe someday swimming. I moved here as a child in1946 and remember all the great things we had then. Three groceries stores,general store, three gas stations. The ferry and of course a train. A bus line to ogdensburg, and the greyhound bus stopped here.we we a busy little village. Hope to see it come alive again, thankyou</p>
69	<p>Clean the area and more business</p>		<p>Ore businesses to pull in more tourism</p>	<p>Time awarner/Spectrum</p>	<p>Verizon</p>	<p>More winter activities to get people out</p>	<p>Clean up the ferry docks and have a business where the Harbor Inn used to be</p>	
70	<p>Re-develop waterfront where old Harbor Inn was; attract businesses with attractive tax breaks to a renovated 'downtown' that has nicer storefronts for local shopping, a summer outdoor market and seasonal ferries to Brockville</p>	<p>Gateway Museum is a local gem as is the town library with a godsend, free wifi (why not make the town wifi-free)</p>	<p>Get a known hotel to anchor waterfront where old Harbor Inn was with attractive tax rates; losing the Harbor Inn without a replacement site or small shopping complex coming in for tourism was bad. That land could be so nice but now is just an eyesore.</p>	<p>Spectrum (only just installed for season)</p>	<p>I live and work in London, England, so it's Vodafone</p>	<p>Maybe try a sailing camp similar to what's in Brockville? Support a local farmers' market in the summer downtown? Bring in or help support more local businesses so don't have to shop constantly in Ogdensburg.</p>	<p>Improve the tennis court by the windmill; add a nice basketball court?</p>	<p>Find a way to bring in water that's potable along River Road: it's a sanitation and health issue and in this day and age it's really a must. We don't want to algae blooms either for similar reasons in the bay so it must be cleaned and revitalized. Morristown has so much potential, tourism to river activities, but poor buildings dot its struggling downtown and it has almost zero business.</p>
71	<p>I believe that Morristown high school should be abolished and those students go to OFA. I feel the exposure to a bigger high school would provide more challenges and opportunities for youth in Morristown. I do not believe that a senior class of 13 or 15 students provides enough diversity of talent or views to help students.</p> <p>I believe that Morristown residents should have free daytime access to Jacques Cartier state park so they can have access to the river for swimming.</p>	<p>I believe that the Morristown library is an invaluable service for the community and should be supported lay as strongly as possible.</p> <p>I also want to commend the Morristown rescue ambulance volunteers who do a tremendous service for the community.</p>	<p>No ATM is in town</p> <p>Very limited food purchase offerings</p>	<p>Spectrum</p>	<p>Verizon</p>		<p>The empty lot where all the bass fishing boats park on the river needs to be turned into a swimming park for families, still with some parking but more multi use. So families can picnic, swim, sun, maybe have s ice cream stand etc.</p>	<p>There is a void of where to find info. Is there a town website? Does each church have their own? There needs to be one place that has all info from taxes to school barbecues to concerts etc</p>

## Please identify the area of Morristown in which you live:

Count	Percent	
24	34%	Village
20	28%	Black Lake
24	34%	St. Lawrence River
3	4%	Town Interior
71		Total Responses

## My family and I feel safe in Morristown.

Count	Percent	
26	37%	Strongly Agree
37	52%	Agree
6	8%	Neither Agree or Disagree
2	3%	Disagree
0	0%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

## Roads in Morristown are satisfactory or better.

2	3%	Strongly Agree
35	50%	Agree
17	24%	Neither Agree or Disagree
13	19%	Disagree
3	4%	Strongly Disagree
70		Total Responses

## The businesses and services in Morristown are adequate for my day to day needs.

1	1%	Strongly Agree
8	11%	Agree
10	14%	Neither Agree or Disagree
43	61%	Disagree
9	13%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

## Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure are satisfactory or better.

1	1%	Strongly Agree
25	35%	Agree
32	45%	Neither Agree or Disagree
8	11%	Disagree
5	7%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

## The quality of internet service in Morristown is satisfactory or better.

0	0%	Strongly Agree
24	34%	Agree
25	35%	Neither Agree or Disagree
10	14%	Disagree
12	17%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

## The quality of cell phone service is satisfactory or better.

2	3%	Strongly Agree
28	39%	Agree
11	15%	Neither Agree or Disagree
11	15%	Disagree
19	27%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

The condition of houses and apartments in Morristown is satisfactory or better.

0	0%	Strongly Agree
6	8%	Agree
21	30%	Neither Agree or Disagree
33	46%	Disagree
11	15%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

There are affordable houses or apartments available in Morristown that meet the needs of my family.

0	0%	Strongly Agree
13	18%	Agree
43	61%	Neither Agree or Disagree
12	17%	Disagree
3	4%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

My home is in a satisfactory condition or better.

30	42%	Strongly Agree
32	45%	Agree
8	11%	Neither Agree or Disagree
1	1%	Disagree
0	0%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

How many households can you turn to in an emergency?

7	10%	0
15	22%	1
19	28%	2
6	9%	3
8	12%	4
14	20%	5 or more
69		Total Responses

More activities are needed in Morristown for:

26	39%	Families
12	18%	Seniors
14	21%	Adults
8	12%	Teens
6	9%	Children
66		Total Responses

There is adequate access to outdoor recreational activities in Morristown.

3	4%	Strongly Agree
28	40%	Agree
19	27%	Neither Agree or Disagree
18	26%	Disagree
2	3%	Strongly Disagree
70		Total Responses

There is adequate access to the St. Lawrence River.

7	10%	Strongly Agree
35	49%	Agree
7	10%	Neither Agree or Disagree
17	24%	Disagree
5	7%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

There is adequate access to Black Lake.

3	4%	Strongly Agree
36	51%	Agree
19	27%	Neither Agree or Disagree
10	14%	Disagree
3	4%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

I would recommend Morristown to ANYONE as a good place to live.

5	7%	Strongly Agree
28	39%	Agree
23	32%	Neither Agree or Disagree
14	20%	Disagree
1	1%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

I would recommend Morristown to FAMILIES with CHILDREN as a good place to live.

5	7%	Strongly Agree
26	37%	Agree
22	31%	Neither Agree or Disagree
16	23%	Disagree
2	3%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

I would recommend Morristown to SENIORS as a good place to live.

7	10%	Strongly Agree
25	35%	Agree
19	27%	Neither Agree or Disagree
17	24%	Disagree
3	4%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

I would recommend Morristown as a tourist destination.

3	4%	Strongly Agree
20	28%	Agree
12	17%	Neither Agree or Disagree
24	34%	Disagree
12	17%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

Morristown (Town & Village) does a good job of getting information out to residents.

1	1%	Strongly Agree
14	20%	Agree
27	38%	Neither Agree or Disagree
21	30%	Disagree
8	11%	Strongly Disagree
71		Total Responses

Please identify the area of Morristown in which you live:

- ☐ Village
- ☐ Black Lake
- ☐ St. Lawrence River
- ☐ Town Interior

What are the two most important things that you would like to see changed in Morristown?

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What are the two most important things that should remain the same in Morristown?

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My family and I feel safe in Morristown.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Roads in Morristown are satisfactory or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

The businesses and services in Morristown are adequate for my day to day needs.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Morristown's water and sewer infrastructure are satisfactory or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

What business or service that is not in Morristown would you most want to see?

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The quality of internet service in Morristown is satisfactory or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Who is your internet provider?

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The quality of cell phone service is satisfactory or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Who is your cell phone provider?

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The condition of houses and apartments in Morristown is satisfactory or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

There are affordable houses or apartments available in Morristown that meet the needs of my family.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

My home is in a satisfactory condition or better.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

How many households can you turn to in an emergency?

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5 or more



**More activities are needed in Morristown for:**

- ☐ Families
- ☐ Seniors
- ☐ Adults
- ☐ Teens
- ☐ Children

**What additional activities or services are needed?**

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**There is adequate access to outdoor recreational activities in Morristown.**

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

**What additional outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see in Morristown?**

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**There is adequate access to the St. Lawrence River.**

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

**There is adequate access to Black Lake.**

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

**I would recommend Morristown to ANYONE as a good place to live.**

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

I would recommend Morristown to FAMILIES with CHILDREN as a good place to live.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

I would recommend Morristown to SENIORS as a good place to live.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

I would recommend Morristown as a tourist destination.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Morristown (Town & Village) does a good job of getting information out to residents.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree or Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Do you have any other suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan?

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## Section 3.0 Adaptive Flood Mitigation Strategies

The project team developed a range of adaptive mitigation strategies to reduce flooding vulnerability and enhance resilience within the project area. Based on findings of the vulnerability assessment, the project team developed draft mitigation strategies for discussion with the stakeholder group. A stakeholder meeting was held on May 8, 2019, whereby the project team discussed the results of the vulnerability assessment; identified data gaps and discussed flood mitigation strategies. The following flood mitigation strategies were identified and organized into the following three categories:

- Local Planning and Regulations
- Built Environment Protection
- Natural Environment Protection

### 3.1 Local Planning and Regulations

#### 1. Form Partnerships to Support Floodplain Management

Partnerships between federal, state, and regional entities help expand resources and improve coordination. Consider the following actions:

- Coordinating with the International Joint Commission regarding regulated outflows and adaptive flood management strategies in a changing climate and environment.
- Collaborating with State- and County-level Department of Transportation regarding hydrological influences of flooding in connection with flow constrictions, such as culverts, bridges and roadways.
- Fostering partnerships with State government to support more resilient shoreline communities that can respond to and recover from climate change and future flood events. New York State's Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) is described in Section 4.4.
- Working together with the regional watershed council (i.e., St. Lawrence River Watershed Partnership) to unify resources for comprehensive analysis, planning, decision-making and cooperation for advancing watershed-based planning initiatives.
- Forming an intermunicipal work group and/or retaining a resiliency director to help communities improve flood preparedness and resilience through planning and implementing adaptive mitigation strategies.
- Implementing and monitoring progress on advancing local mitigation actions to address flood hazards.

## 2. Incorporate Flood Mitigation into Local Planning

Comprehensive planning and floodplain management can mitigate flooding by influencing development. Recommended strategies include:

- Developing new maps and flood data.
- Adopting flood damage protection and floodplain protection overlay district into local code. This study proposed the limits of a floodplain protection overlay district.
- Providing the flood data to the community(s).
- Providing information to the community(s) to support tracking water levels (i.e., real-time and forecasts) within the River. For example, the IJC's Great Lakes boards use new modeling tools (<https://ijc.org/en/advancements-great-lakes-water-level-forecasting>) developed by US Corps of Engineers for application to seasonal water supply and water level forecasts throughout the Great Lakes. Another example is the NY Sea Grant's new inundation mapping tool for the public: <https://seagrant.sunysb.edu/articles/t/coastal-community-development-program-resources-tools-coastal-resilience-index>.
- Educating property owners that are at-risk of flooding.
- Developing training requirements or programs for municipal boards.
- Determining and enforcing acceptable land uses and development practices to alleviate the risk of damage by limiting exposure in flood risk areas. Local governments may benefit from new guidance per the DOS and DEC in the form of model local laws. New model local laws and tools to enhance resiliency can be found at <https://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/resilience/index.html>.
- Mitigating hazards during infrastructure planning. For example, decisions to install or extend utilities or roadways to an area may increase exposure to flood hazards.
- Establishing a green infrastructure program to link, manage, and expand existing parks, preserves, greenways, etc.
- Adopting a post-disaster recovery ordinance based on a plan to regulate repair activities. For example, decisions to 'harden' a shoreline with structural measures (i.e., vertical walls- see Figure 3.11) may increase exposure to future erosion and flood hazards.



Figure 3.11 – An example of a hardened shoreline which may provide more hazards than benefits in the long term; erosion above the wall may be exacerbated during flooding

### 3. Improve Flood Risk Assessment

A heightened awareness of flood risk areas is recommended using the following methods:

- Using topographic survey, hydrological assessments and GIS mapping to further refine areas at risk of flooding along the St. Lawrence River and its tributaries. Information can be shared with community members using an interactive flood mapping tool.
- Incorporating the procedures for tracking high water elevations following a response into hazard mitigation and/or emergency response plans.
- Maintaining a database to track community exposure to flood risk.
- Conducting a verification study of FEMA's repetitive loss inventory and developing an associated tracking database.
- Revising and updating regulatory floodplain maps.

### 4. Limit or Restrict Development in Floodplain Areas

Flooding can be mitigated by limiting or restricting how development occurs in floodplain areas through actions such as:

- Prohibiting or limiting (future) development within the floodplain through regulatory measures.
- Limiting the density of development and/or percentage of allowable impervious surface in the floodplain and/or watershed.
- Developing a shore buffer ordinance to protect water resources and limit flood impacts.
- Prohibiting fill in floodplain areas.

## 5. Adopt and Enforce Building Codes and Development Standards for New Development

The use of building codes and development standards can promote infrastructures ability to withstand flooding. Potential actions include:

- Adopting the International Building Code® (ASCE, 2015) and International Residential Code® (ASCE, 2015).
- Adopting American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 24-14, Flood Resistant Design and Construction. ASCE 24 is a references standard in the International Building Code® that specifies minimum requirements and expected performance for the design and construction of buildings and structures in flood hazard areas to make them more resilient to flood loads and damage.
- Adding or increasing “freeboard” requirements (e.g., feet above base flood elevation) in the flood ordinance.
- Using design standards to require elevation data collection during planning and to have buildable space on lots above the base flood elevation. See Figure 3.12 for an example of a structure in a strategic lot.
- Requiring standard tie-downs for temporary structures, such as docks and fuel tanks.



Figure 3.12 – Use of a naturally elevated and hard shoreline, showing strategic development

## 6. Adopt Policies to Improve Stormwater Management Planning

Rainwater and snowmelt can cause flooding and erosion in developed areas. Stormwater management practices include:

- Linking flood hazard mitigation objectives with EPA’s stormwater initiatives.
- Completing a stormwater drainage study for known problem areas.
- Preparing and adopting a stormwater drainage plan and ordinance.
- Encouraging the use of Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure techniques, such as porous pavement, vegetative buffers and bioswales, to name a few. See Figure 3.13.
- Adopting erosion and sedimentation control regulations for development and agriculture.

Figure 3.13 – Incorporating more pervious surface systems like this rain garden -or other Green Infrastructure- is a sustainable and Low Impact Development practice



#### 7. Participate in the Community Rating System

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes communities for enforcing floodplain management activities that exceed minimum NFIP requirements. There are many advantages to proactive floodplain management such as improved public safety, property loss reduction, open space and natural resource protection, and enhanced post-disaster recovery. Proactive floodplain measures include:

- Taking action to minimize the effects of flooding on people and property through measures including flood resilience and emergency response planning, flood warning, and evacuation planning.
- Advising the public about the flood hazard area and flood protection measures.
- Implementing property damage reduction measures for existing buildings such as acquisition, relocation, retrofitting, and other flood mitigation measures.
- Enacting and enforcing regulations that exceed NFIP minimum standards for new development.

### 3.2 Built Environment Protection

Regarding the built environment, planning and strategic engineering decisions are crucial to protecting both critical and noncritical infrastructure. Implementing resilient design, shown in Figures 3.21 through 3.23, can mitigate flooding-related damage during an event. If measures are not taken to protect existing or new structures, failures can occur due to structural limitations and outdated design, as shown in Figure 3.24.



Examples of protection actions are as follows:

1. Reduce flood losses to existing development
2. Remove Existing Structures from Flood Hazard Areas
3. Improve Stormwater Drainage System Capacity
4. Conduct Regular Maintenance for Drainage Systems and Flood Control Structures



Figure 3.21 – Use of riprap and structural shore walls, as well as natural vegetative features



Figure 3.22 – Emergency response measures (e.g., Aquadam and supersack installation) may be warranted to protect properties that are not resilient





Figure 3.23 – Hard and soft mitigation combined, using limestone blocks and natural vegetation to create a resilient shoreline



Figure 3.24 – A concrete seawall less than 50 years old becoming ineffective, due to changing conditions and limitations of material properties in design

## 5. Elevate or Retrofit Structures and Utilities

- a. Elevating structures so that the lowest floor, including the basement, is raised above the base flood elevation
- b. Raising utilities or other mechanical devices, such as electric generators, above expected flood levels. See Figure 3.25.
- c. Wet floodproofing in a basement, which may be preferable to attempting to keep water out completely because it allows for controlled flooding to balance exterior and interior wall forces and deters structural collapse.
- d. Dry floodproofing buildings by strengthening walls, sealing openings (e.g., doors), or using waterproof compounds to keep water out. See Figures 3.26 and 3.27 for examples.

## 6. Protect Critical and Non-Critical Infrastructure



Figure 3.25 – Two workers elevate condenser units on a platform above BFE (Image courtesy of FEMA)

Figure 3.26 – Residential flood gates are used to protect openings (Image courtesy of Stormguard Floodplan)



Figure 3.27 – Waterproof membrane used to protect concrete foundation (Image courtesy of SUPERSEAL Construction Projects)



### 3.3 Natural Environment Protection

Natural resources and open space provide floodplain protection and other ecosystem services that mitigate flooding. It's important to preserve and protect such functionality using the following:

1. Conserve, Protect and Restore Natural Features, Floodplains and Open Space
  - Protecting and enhancing ecological landforms (i.e., stream channels, wetlands, etc.) that provide natural floodplain functions.
  - Developing an open space acquisition, reuse, and preservation plan targeting floodplain areas.
  - Preserving or restoring vegetative management, such as vegetative buffers, along streams, lakes, and other water resources, as shown in Figure 3.31.
  - Retaining natural vegetative beds in stormwater channels
  - Using Green Infrastructure (e.g., rain gardens and bioswales), natural (e.g., wetlands) and nature-based features (e.g., living shorelines and created wetlands) to capture, store, and treat stormwater runoff, as shown in figures 3.32.



Figure 3.31 – Natural vegetative buffer along the St. Lawrence River



Figure 3.32 – Porous asphalt pavement and low-lying vegetation and retention pond: parking lot system

- Using green solutions to shoreline management, such as living shorelines, shown in Figure 3.34, will help humans and natural resources coexist on our coasts in a changing climate. Living shorelines are sometimes called nature-based shorelines because they incorporate vegetation or other living, natural “soft” elements alone or in combination with some type of harder shoreline structure (e.g., boulders or rock sills) for added stability. Living shorelines maintain continuity of the natural land-water interface and reduce erosion while providing habitat value and enhancing coastal resilience.
- Flooding should be considered in the design of open space areas to promote stormwater and floodwater retention based on changes in land elevation. Managing floodwater in an urban or suburban area has a lot to do with the amount of permeable land that is available for water to move to, stay on, and percolate through. Improvement of the amount of function of permeable land in a built environment, as in Figure 3.35 and Figure 3.36, will reduce flood impacts. Parklands and urban open spaces can be designed specifically to accept excess rainwater. After a heavy rain, the open space may be flooded and not usable by people. But, after the water subsides, the area will again be usable as parkland for people and wildlife.





Figure 3.34 – An example of Sustainable Shoreline design (Image courtesy of Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve)

Coastal resilience means building the ability of a community to “bounce back” after hazardous events such as hurricanes, coastal storms, and flooding – rather than simply reacting to impacts (NOAA).

Figure 3.35 – Porous asphalt pavement and bioretention cell to reduce impervious surfaces and make a parking lot area more sustainable

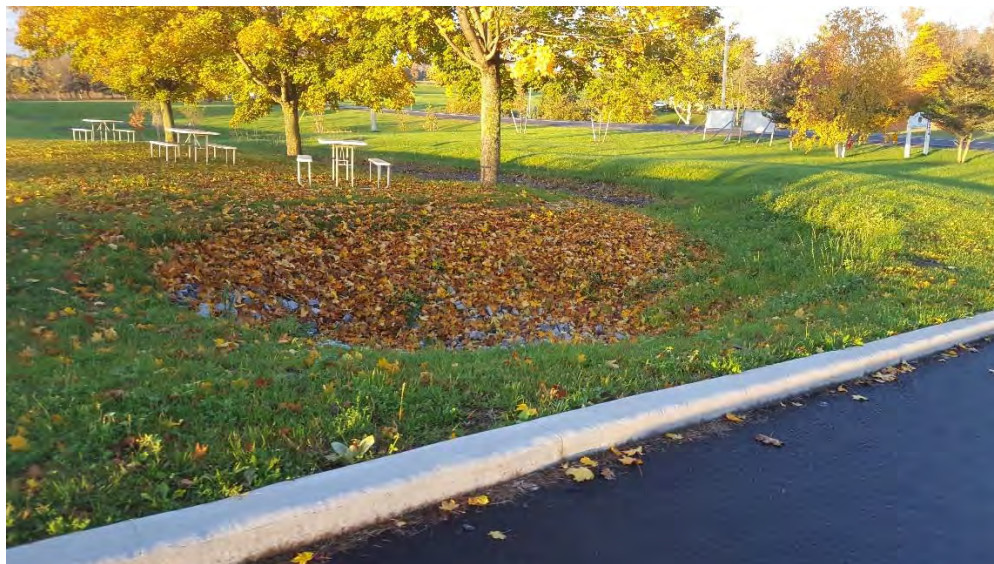


Figure 3.36 – Bioretention area for efficient use of the land and effective runoff collection



**Commercial/Other Land Uses – Town/Village of Morristown – 2018**

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Business or Other Land Use</b>
County Route 6	Reliable Auto Sales
County Route 6	Black Lake Marines Cottages
County Route 6	Cozy Cottages
County Route 6	Lakeside Treasures Marine and Lodge
County Route 6	Fisherman's Landing
County Route 6	CJ's Custom Lawns and John's Small Engine Repair (Black Lake Entrepreneurs)
County Route 6	Ricci's Reel It Inn
County Route 6	Echo's on the Lake Gas Station and Convenience Store (Edwardsville)
County Route 6	Mack's Inn (Edwardsville)
County Route 6	April's Hair Studio (Edwardsville)
County Route 6	Route 6 Auto Sales
County Route 6	The Log Cabins Bait and Tackle
County Route 6	DEC Boat Launch
County Route 6	Bella Brook Vineyards
County Route 6	Thomas Farm Campsite
County Route 6	Black Lake Self Storage
County Route 6	Edgar's the Happy Fisherman
County Route 6	Cedar Grove Camps
County Route 6	North Country Cottage and Camps
County Route 6	Pleasant View Cottages
County Route 6	Butternut Cove Cottages and Boats
County Route 6	Rogers Old Oak Camps

Road Name	Business or Other Land Use
County Route 6	Davis Country Cabins
County Route 6	Chapman's Bait and Tackle (Large store with lots of clothing and other goods)
State Highway 37	Pine Tree Rendering (For Sale, not operational)
State Highway 37	MX Fuel Depot (multiple Tanks)
State Highway 37	Canvas Lady (Brier Hill)
State Highway 37	Brier Hill Fire Station and Community Room
State Highway 37	Valero/Parkway Express
State Highway 37	Bedrock Wine and Spirits and Restaurant
State Highway 37	Custom Rustix – Cabinets and Furniture
State Highway 37	Mare's Wares Pottery
Potato Street/County Route 2	Hill Top Marine, boats, RVs Repair and Storage
Potato Street/County Route 2	Town Highway Department/Salt Storage
Potato Street/County Route 2	Bertrand Legal Services
Yankee Street	Chain Saw Creations
Gilmour Road at CR 58	Black Lake Fish and Game
Demot Road	Horton Construction
State Highway 58	Route 58 Storage (just outside Village)

Road Name	Business or Other Land Use
State Highway 58	Miss Lyn's Beauty Salon
State Highway 58	Verizon Substation
State Highway 58	North Star Drilling
State Highway 58	Turner Inn
English Settlement Road	Bonder Construction
Sand Street (Brier Hill)	Foxy's Creations
Ireland Road	Northern Services (Construction)
Hamel Road	Langbrook Meadows Golf Course
Hamel Road	Grove School Sugar Shack
Oak Point Road	Absolute Water Solutions
Wordon Road	Citizen's Telephone
Olds Mill Road	Julie's Hair Studio
River Road	Red Barn Preserve and Walking Trails
Northumberland Road	Sheer Image Hair Design
High Street	Go Kart Track
High Street (Village)	United Helpers facility
Morris Street	Sherlock Graphics
Chapman Street	That Damn Leather business
Chapman Street	Doctor's Office
Chapman Street	Morristown Fuel and Supply
Riverview Road	Things/thyme Bed and Breakfast

Road Name	Business or Other Land Use
Morris Street	Island View Funeral Home
Morris Street	James Bogardus Insurance
Main Street	Wright's Marine
Main Street	Library
Main Street	Ella's Restaurant
Main Street	Gateway Museum
Main Street	St. Lawrence River Real Estate
Main Street	Silver and Collins Law Office
Main Street	Silver Realty
Main Street	Quality Air business
Main Street	Dane's Diner and Main Street Market
Main Street	Citizen's Bank
Main Street	Episcopal Church
Main Street	Town Hall
Water Street	Public Boat Launch and washrooms
	School
	Catholic Church
	Village Offices
	State Park

**Housing Conditions – Town/Village of Morristown – 2018**

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Substandard</b>	<b>Dilapidated</b>	<b>Mobile Home</b>
County Route 6	80	32	5	31
Walrath Road	7	1		1
County Route 5	4	2		6
State Highway 37	62	34	3	9
Potato Street (CR 2)	11	9		6
Yankee Street	12	6		7
Winona Rd (Private)	3			
Scotch Bush Road	13	8		2
Demot Road	10	4		
Gilmore Road	9	4		1
State Highway 58	19	14	1	3
English Settlement Road	24	5 plus 1 multi-unit	1	1
Stowe Road	7	3		5
Center Road	10	4		3
Ireland Road	1	1		
Sand Street	9	20	2	8
Atwood Road	7	1		1
Oak Point Road	12	4		2
Watson Road	5	2		2
Hamel Road	2			
Lintz Road				



Road Name	Standard	Substandard	Dilapidated	Mobile Home
Wordon Road	4	1		2
Olds Mill or Old Mills Road	2			1
School Street (Brier Hill)	1	5		1
State Highway 12				
Black Stone Road (Private)	4			1
Sprague Road (Private)	1			
River Road	10	2		1
Village				
North Umlerland	13	5		1
Caroline Street	1			
Hooker Street	1			
Chapman Street	10	5		2
Bay Street	2			1
High Street	6	1		
Morris Street	10	3	1	1
River View Street (dockside)	37	8	1	
Elm Street	2			
Gouverneur Street	10	16		1
Columbia Street (plus senior residence)	1	1		
Montgomery Street		2		
Mercer Street	1	1		
Main Street	18	30		
Water Street	4	7		

# Agricultural Data Statement

**Circle: TOWN VILLAGE CITY OF :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** To be completed when requesting a special use permit, site plan approval, use variance or a subdivision approval for a parcel within 500 feet of a farm operation located in a State-certified Agricultural District. Online property information is available at: [new.dancgis.org/ima](http://new.dancgis.org/ima). A copy of this Agricultural Data Statement must be included with the referral to the County Planning Board.

Applicant	Property Owner (if different from applicant)
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____

1. Project Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Map Number (Parcel ID): \_\_\_\_\_

2. Type of Application: (check one or more)

☐ Special Use Permit; ☐ Site Plan Approval; ☐ Use Variance ☐ Subdivision Approval

3. Project Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Is this parcel in an Agricultural District? ☐ No ☐ Yes Agricultural District Number \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is this parcel farmland or part of a farm? ☐ No ☐ Yes

6. Are prime soils present? ☐ Prime ☐ Prime if Drained ☐ Soil of Statewide Importance

7. Does the parcel receive an agricultural valuation? ☐ No ☐ Yes

8. Is the parcel tile drained? ☐ No ☐ Yes

9. All farms within 500 feet of project location (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
Farmed? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Farmed? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
Farmed? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Farmed? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Form Prepared By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Municipal Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date







