

**Request for Proposal**  
**Public Art**  
**Morristown Partnership**  
**Deadline: June 2, 2023 by 12:00pm EST**

Request for proposals from artists and/or artist teams interested in create site specific artwork in Morristown, NJ.

**Background and Context**

The Morristown Partnership is seeking proposals for a public art sculpture in honor of Michael Fabrizio, the former Executive Director of the Morristown Parking Authority (MPA) and the founding Executive Director of the Morristown Partnership (MP). Unfortunately, Michael recently passed away unexpectedly, but he was an integral part of the exciting growth in Morristown. To better acquaint you with him, we have a separate bio citing his background and accomplishments.

It is the intent of the Morristown Partnership to select an artist and contract to design, produce and install in a yet-to-be confirmed location in the downtown of Morristown.

**Michael J. Fabrizio**

**Morristown, NJ**  
**Epstein's Redevelopment**  
**Morristown Partnership**  
**Economic Development**

**Budget:** \$25,000 (Subject to Change Orders)

The price will include all taxes, insurance, materials (including base materials and recognition plaque), labor, engineering fees, and installation fees, as well as any equipment the artist may need to complete the public artwork. Concepts presented should meet the project budget.

Concept Design	\$1,500 (\$500/ 3 Finalists)	Provided directly to finalists
Installation (Including Insurance, Recognition Plaque and Equipment)	\$3,500	Retained by MP in coordination with artist and property ownership
Artist Fee & Materials	\$20,000	Provided directly to the awarded artist or artist team

**Size/Location:**

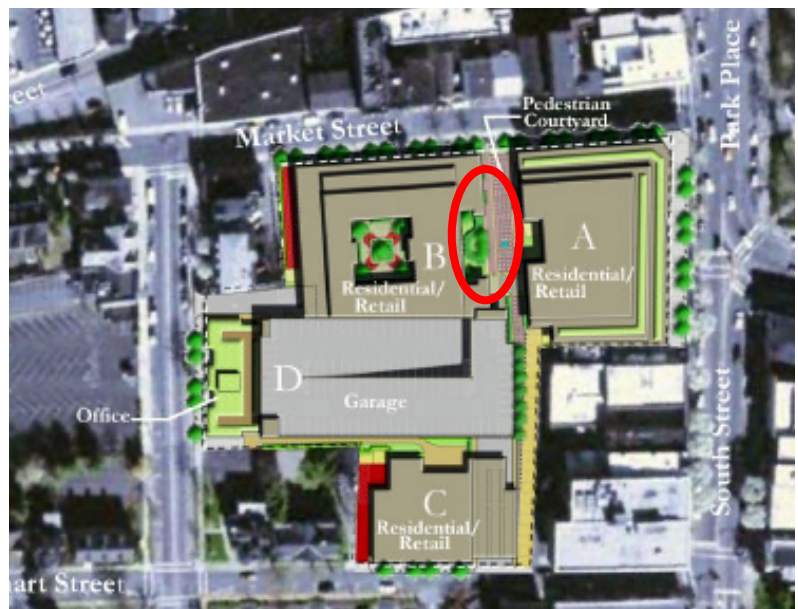
Within the city block occupied by both the Morristown Partnership and the Morristown Parking Authority, several potential areas have been identified within the pedestrian courtyard.

Artists are encouraged to submit suggestions for specific location(s) within the site. There will only be one location selected. Public artwork should be suited to the space.

Our preference is for a freestanding installation or sculpture, but we encourage creativity in design.

- [Epstein's Pedestrian Courtyard](#)

**Site linked to Google Maps**  
**Detail Images on Next Page**





## Pedestrian Courtyard



- **Courtyard Wall**



- **Courtyard Fountain**





- **Courtyard Planter**



**Selection Criteria:**

In addition to respecting the existing structures and permanent landscaping at the site, the artwork should reflect the vibrancy of downtown Morristown. The artwork may or may not include interactive or kinetic elements. In honoring community leader Michael Fabrizio and his contribution to Morristown's economic development, the art committee will place a high priority on artistic excellence, visual impact, and connection to the community. Artists will also be evaluated on their ability to execute projects of this scale and durability.

Morristown Partnership is committed to engaging student artists throughout the RFP process. As part of this project, it is strongly encouraged that the artist and/or artist team provide mentoring support to up to two students in the Art and Design Department at County College of Morris.

**Keywords:**

- Advocate
- Collaboration
- Foundation
- Growth
- Partnership
- Welcome

**Durability, Maintenance, & Safety:**

All applicants are expected to consider the issues of long-term conservation and maintenance of public art. These projects will be exposed to New Jersey weather and physical stresses, as well as subjected to vandalism. Public art projects should be fabricated of highly durable, low-maintenance materials.

**Selection Process:**

Initial proposals will be reviewed and selected by a jury consisting of representatives of Morristown Partnership in consultation with representatives of the Morristown Parking Authority. The top 3 finalists will be invited to meet on site and given 4 weeks to fully develop designs and an itemized budget. All finalists will receive a \$500 stipend for time and expenses. Final design must also be approved by property ownership.

**Timeline (Subject to Change):**

- **April 21, 2023:** RFP Issued (Friday)
- **June 2, 2023:** Email submission due by 12:00pm EST (Friday)
- **June 30, 2023:** Finalists selected; applicants notified
- **Weeks of July 10 & 17, 2023:** Finalist site visits
- **August 25, 2023:** Final proposals due by 12:00pm EST
- **September 15, 2023:** Selected artist notified
- **2024:** Artwork installed

**Submission Requirements:**

Our expectation is that all bidders will submit a detailed description or sketch as to how they would approach the project, together with any background information or their experience on similar projects or examples of their work. We also ask that a tentative timeline and delivery date assuming award be included for the committee's consideration.

- Preliminary Project Concept drawing(s)
- Resume or C.V.
- 3-5 images of past artwork

Artist must be over the age of 18.

Emailed proposals must be returned by 12 noon on Friday, June 2, 2023, to the attention of:

Jennifer Wehring  
Executive Director  
Morristown Partnership  
14 Maple Avenue, Suite 201  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
[jennifer@morristown-nj.org](mailto:jennifer@morristown-nj.org)



## **Background and Context Details**

### **Michael J. Fabrizio**

*Over 20 years of community leadership in Morristown*

Executive Director of the Morristown Partnership (1995-2016)

Executive Director of the Morristown Parking Authority (2016-2022)

Michael was chosen in December 1994 from a field of 35 highly qualified candidates to hold the newly created position of Executive Director of the Morristown Partnership. To the substantial benefit of our community, he accepted and executed his position with great success until 2016. Along with the Board of Trustees, he was tasked with establishing a plan, garnering support and leading our newly formed special improvement district (SID), the Morristown Partnership.

From the outset, Michael enthusiastically carried out the mission of the Partnership to establish Morristown as a premiere destination community in which to live, shop, work, and play. His achievements were many and his legacy of accomplishments in the community has resoundingly left a mark. His dedication and service to Morristown transformed it and he unequivocally led a renaissance of the community that will benefit the residents, its visitors and business owners for many years to come.

Michael's expertise included a proficient knowledge and ability to execute economic downtown development and he is responsible for laying the foundation that revitalized Morristown, as well lending his professional input to other municipalities throughout the state seeking to do the same.

With humility and civility, Michael led by example and was admired by those he engaged with. His ability to listen, as well as advise, resulted in the fostering of many positive relationships that allowed fruitful collaboration and efficiency in moving Morristown forward.

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Michael J. Fabrizio passed away suddenly on June 15, 2021. He was 55 years old. He was born on September 14, 1965, in Orange, New Jersey, and grew up in Maplewood. After high school, Michael went on to attend Seton Hall University where he met and married his wife in 1993. They settled in Mendham, and were blessed with triplets.

Michael served as the Executive Director of the Morristown Parking Authority, and previously as the Executive Director of the Morristown Partnership. He leaves a legacy as an expert in economic downtown redevelopment, and is responsible for laying the foundation for the revitalizing of Morristown among other municipalities throughout the state. He was well respected by colleagues and community members alike. Above all, Michael was a family man, and will be remembered for making his children his number one priority. He cherished every moment he spent with them, especially relaxing at the beach and fishing.

### **Morristown Partnership**

Special Improvement District (SID) created in 1994, designated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. It supports Morristown's vibrant business district by developing private/public partnerships among business, government, civic and community members. It is self-funded partly through special assessments on commercial properties located in the SID, foundation and/or government grants, promotional participation, sponsorships for community events and financial & in-kind donations. The Morristown Partnership consists of more than 400 commercial properties and 1,000+ businesses physically located in the SID.

Morristown Partnership supports the ongoing revitalization of the central business district in the Town of Morristown through economic development initiatives in areas of communications, business recruitment and retention, marketing, promotions, events, redevelopment and capital improvement projects. The organization is committed to championing dynamic projects and supporting all efforts to ensure that the municipality continues to be attractive to local businesses and investors.

**Morristown, NJ**

Morristown is the Morris County seat, home to the County government, State Superior Courthouse, major medical services through and supporting the Morristown Medical Center, thousands of downtown office workers, remarkable natural and historic resources, religious institutions of virtually every denomination, hundreds of restaurants, cafes, and retailers, and hosts of non-profit institutions and entertainment destinations.

Morristown's history and future are linked to its location and role as a regional center. The first permanent European settlement occurred here in 1715, when a village was founded, and Morristown was incorporated by the New Jersey legislature in 1865. Morristown has been called "the military capital of the American Revolution" because of its strategic role during that war. George Washington first came to Morristown in the winter of 1777.

**Epstein's Redevelopment**

The Epstein's Redevelopment Project/The Metropolitan at 40 Park was completed in February 2010 and opened for occupancy in April 2010 . The project consists of apartment homes, part of an urban mixed- use development which includes condos, townhomes and over 72,000 square feet of ground floor and lower level retail space called The Shoppes on the Green. Home of the former Epstein Department Store, this seven-story studio, one and two bedroom apartment building has approximately 10,000 square feet of retail space below, a club room complete with fitness center, game room, conference room and a 2,500 square foot rooftop terrace.

**Economic Development**

MORRISTOWN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

<https://www.morristown-nj.org/our-history/>