

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
TOWN OF MORRISTOWN – GENERAL SERVICES**

Community Profiles

The Town of Morristown, Village of Morristown and Morristown Central School District are located in central St. Lawrence County in the North Country region of New York State. The Town and Village are very small and rural, although both are less dependent upon state and federal aid than average. The Morristown School District is also very small, but does obtain a higher than average revenues from federal and state aid, signaling a higher level of economic distress than other school districts.

| 2005 | Town of Morristown | NYS Town Average | Village of Morristown | NYS Village Average | Morristown School District | NYS SD Average |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Population | 2,050 | 9,326 | 456 | 3,385 | 402 | 2,545 |
| Revenue from State and Federal Aid | 11.5% | 14.2% | 4.0% | 10.1% | 65.3% | 39.8% |

Background

The Town, Village and School District are conducting a feasibility study of all opportunities for shared services that might make delivery of services more efficient and economical to the taxpayers and residents of a small rural community. No specific plans have been made except to collaborate in the feasibility study. As part of the feasibility study they will be working with consultants, attorneys and officials of other municipalities who have conducted similar successful projects. The Town and Village of Morristown as well as the School District are always looking for ways to provide necessary services on a small budget. Some areas of overlap have been suspected and/or identified and cooperation is common when the arrangements can be made. However, questions of liability and supervision can make these handshake agreements problematic.

Funding

The three municipalities were approved for a \$54,000 SMSI grant to study general cooperation and maintenance of vehicles, roads and public works. The total estimated cost of the project is \$60,000. Each of the co-applicants will contribute \$2000.

Outcome

The municipalities have not yet begun the feasibility study.