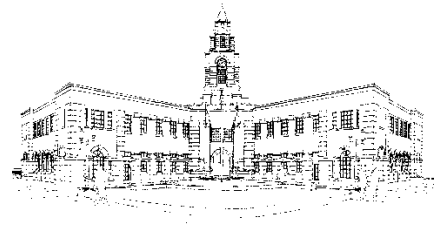


# City of Morristown, TN

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## Media Release

*December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

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Recently, Morristown City Administrator, Tony Cox, attended the International City Manager's Association (ICMA) Conference in Nashville. At this conference, the City of Morristown was presented with a Voice of the People Award for its "Transformation in Built Environment". The Voice of the People Awards are given to jurisdictions that best listen and act to improve their communities. Twenty awards for different categories were given to municipalities across the nation. Awards were given based on citizens' responses to the National Citizen Survey, which is sent out each year to a sampling of residents. Survey responses from residents prompt City action. The results in last year's survey showed residents saw improvement in our community, particularly in the area of built environment. Morristown has improved in its design, construction and management of the human-made spaces in which people live, work and play. This is the third Voice of the People Award that Morristown has received in the 8 years it has been a participant in the National Citizen Survey. Receiving these awards shows that the City of Morristown has listened to its people's needs and responded accordingly.

The City of Morristown has taken great steps to improve the look and feel of our community. With the City's emphasis on community appearance and the removal of dilapidated buildings, residents are able to clearly and quickly see major improvements in appearance. Areas that at one time were an eyesore are now cleared, useable properties.

The City's Planning Department recently created a "shepherding" program to guide and direct development projects from start to finish. This program has made new development and construction projects an easier process for citizens, creating well-planned and executed developments across town.

The City has itself undergone several development projects in recent years to add to the quality of life in our community. Some of these projects include expanding the disc golf course at Frank Lorino Park, adding a bike pump track, and expanding the greenway system. Heritage Park, Morristown's newest public space, was recently opened to the public. A new firehouse was dedicated last year and construction is currently underway on a new Public Works facility. All of these improvements, seen by our Morristown residents, are what helped Morristown to receive this award.

To continue improvement, the City has implemented a curb maintenance program and will begin sidewalk upgrades to enhance the appearance of our main thoroughfares through town. Repairs are being made to the City Center building entrance and construction will soon begin on a new community center. The City of Morristown will continue to utilize survey data from the National Citizens Survey to pinpoint which areas are of concern to our citizens.

The City recently mailed out this year's National Citizens Surveys. 2400 households were randomly selected to participate in the survey. If your household received one, please complete the survey and return it by the end of the month. Your responses to this survey are what help the City set its priorities in the coming years. You can see the results of last year's survey by visiting the City website at [http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/national\\_citizens\\_survey/index.php](http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/national_citizens_survey/index.php).