

APA-NJ NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 24, 2012

PLANNERS RECOGNIZE BROAD STREET IN HOPEWELL AS A GREAT PLACE IN NEW JERSEY

Hopewell Borough's main thoroughfare, Broad Street (CR 518), has been named a *Great Place in New Jersey* by the American Planning Association-New Jersey Chapter (APA-NJ).

"The Great Places award is an honor and a tribute to past and present local officials and community members that worked to develop a long-term vision for our downtown area," said Hopewell Borough Mayor Paul Anzano. "Hopewell has a strong sense of community that is on display every day up and down Broad Street. Our history is preserved, our unique character is showcased, and there's a vibrancy and friendliness in town that both welcomes visitors and protects the small town feel for our residents."

"Through sound planning and the combined efforts of local officials, business owners, and residents, the Borough of Hopewell has retained Broad Street's historic character while ushering it into a new era of market demand for a return to past development patterns," said APA-NJ President Charles Latini, Jr., AICP. "The revitalization of Broad Street is particularly important because it demonstrates that the walkable communities of the past are indeed our future."

"We were fortunate to receive funding assistance from two federal Transportation Enhancement grants for the streetscape improvement project through the New Jersey Department of Transportation," said longtime Council President David Knights. "These grants enabled the Borough to implement the streetscape plan that has made Broad Street an attractive, pedestrian-friendly destination that features our local businesses."

"We are pleased to recognize eight special and unique places around New Jersey," said Latini. "From Historic Downtown Bordentown and Frenchtown on the Delaware River and the relatively new Pier Village on the Long Branch beach front," Latini continued, "our 2012 Great Places reflect a tremendous amount of history, diversity and economic vitality. We hope that they inspire other communities to envision, plan and create their own great places."

Great Places offer better choices for where and how people work and live. They are enjoyable, safe and desirable, places where people want to live, work and visit every day. New Jersey's great streets,

neighborhoods and public spaces are defined by many criteria, including architectural features, accessibility, functionality and community activity.

Great Places in New Jersey is just one of the ways that APA-NJ will celebrate Community Planning Month in October (www.njplanning.org/events-calendar/community-planning-month). Community Planning Month is designed to recognize and celebrate the many residents, officials, and professionals who contribute to making great communities.

The 2012 Great Places in New Jersey designees, listed below, are not ranked. Additional details about each are available at <http://njplanning.org/about/greatplaces>.

2012 Great Neighborhoods

Downtown Bordentown in Bordentown City, Burlington County

Downtown Frenchtown in Frenchtown Borough, Hunterdon County

Pier Village in Long Branch City, Monmouth County

2012 Great Streets

Broad Street in Hopewell Borough, Mercer County

Church Street in Montclair City, Essex County

2012 Great Public Spaces

Grove Street Plaza in Jersey City, Hudson County

Waverly & Lincoln Places in Madison Borough, Morris County

Historic Perth Amboy Waterfront in Perth Amboy City, Middlesex County

The American Planning Association-New Jersey Chapter is a not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities. APA-NJ and its parent organization, the American Planning Association (APA), are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic, and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and encourage civic leaders, business interests and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's lives. For more information, visit www.planning.org and www.njplanning.org.