

October 10, 2023

Dear Municipal Clerk,

In 2026, the United States will commemorate its 250th anniversary and New Jersey is getting ready! To prepare for this, Governor Philip Murphy signed legislation creating RevolutionNJ, a partnership between the New Jersey Historical Commission (a division of the New Jersey Department of State) and the nonprofit Crossroads of the American Revolution Association. Under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Tahesha Way, RevolutionNJ is preparing a variety of programs and resources to support anniversary activities around the state. We are now encouraging local governments to join us in this once-in-a-generation opportunity to build heritage tourism, enhance K-12 history education, and encourage civic engagement.

To get started, we suggest passing a resolution to become a **RevolutionNJ Community** (draft resolution here). As a RevolutionNJ Community, you will join our growing network of partners around the state, allowing you to connect to ongoing programs for the 250th. Studies show that communities with vibrant heritage sites and a strong sense of historical character see increases in tourism revenues while enhancing business development and fortifying the local economy. This is a unique opportunity for you to grow heritage tourism in your area and support economic development by partnering with your local historic sites, small businesses, and civic and cultural organizations.

We encourage you to create your own initiatives as well as join in statewide activities during this landmark anniversary. Visit our website, www.revnj.org, for information and inspiration. We also ask that you designate a representative with whom we can communicate regularly throughout the commemoration. Once you pass a resolution and designate your representative, email us at info@revnj.org to join our growing list of municipalities and counties that are already RevolutionNJ Communities. We look forward to partnering with you and urge you to reach out if you have any questions.

Sara Cureton

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