

MORGAN STANLEY MUNICIPAL INCOME OPPORTUNITIES TRUST
Form N-CSRS
February 04, 2005

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number: 811-05597

Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Ronald E. Robison
1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020
(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 212-762-4000

Date of fiscal year end: May 31, 2005

Date of reporting period: November 30, 2004

Item 1 - Report to Shareholders

Welcome, Shareholder:

In this report, you'll learn about how your investment in Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust performed during the semiannual period. We will provide an overview of the market conditions, and discuss some of the factors that affected performance during the reporting period. In addition, this report includes the Fund's financial statements and a list of Fund investments.

Market forecasts provided in this report may not necessarily come to pass. There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. The Fund is subject to market risk, which is the possibility that market values of securities owned by the Fund will decline and, therefore, the value of the Fund's shares may be less than what you paid for them. Accordingly, you can lose money investing in this Fund.

FUND REPORT

For the six-month period ended November 30, 2004

MARKET CONDITIONS

The economy continued to grow through the six-month period ending November 30, 2004. During the spring and summer it hit what Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan described as a "soft patch." Oil prices almost doubled, reaching

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record highs, and employment growth weakened. However, by November, disappointment over weak payroll numbers proved short-lived after the release of a strong October report and an upward revision to previous months. Oil prices also backed off from their peak.

By April 2004, the market had begun to anticipate that the Federal Reserve Board (the Fed) would begin to increase short-term interest rates in response to higher commodity prices and reduced concern about the risk of deflation. In a series of four measured moves between June and the end of November, the Fed did increase the federal funds rate, from 1.00 to 2.00 percent.

Rising inflation fears led to rising bond yields from April to June. The market changed course in July, however, with yields falling from July through October as investors became concerned with slower growth. With the improvement in employment the market again reversed direction and long-term municipal bond yields rose in November. Higher short-term interest rates reduced the yield pickup for extending to longer maturities, and the yield curve flattened. Lower-quality municipal bonds performed strongly in this environment, as the difference in yields (known as the "yield spread") between AAA and BBB rated bonds narrowed.

The ratio of municipal yields to Treasury yields, which serves as a gauge of relative performance, indicated that municipals generally remained attractive relative to Treasuries during the period. As a result, taxable investors such as insurance companies and hedge funds that normally focus on other sectors of the bond market supported municipal bond prices by "crossing over" to purchase municipal bonds.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

For the six-month period ended November 30, 2004, Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust's (OIA) total NAV return was 5.95%. The Fund's total market return was 9.66%. OIA's share price was trading at a 4.20% discount to its NAV on November 30, 2004. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Monthly dividends for the fourth quarter of 2004, declared in September, were increased from \$0.04 to \$0.0425 per share to reflect the Fund's current and projected earnings level. The Fund's level of undistributed net investment income was \$0.111 per share on November 30, 2004, versus \$0.092 per share six months earlier.

OIA is a non-leveraged closed-end fund that invests primarily in higher-yielding municipal bonds. As a result, more than 50 percent of the portfolio is invested in nonrated issues. Currently, OIA has only one holding, representing less than 1 percent of net assets that is nonperforming.

OIA's duration,* a measure of interest-rate sensitivity, has been targeted to be shorter than its benchmark index, thus reducing interest-rate volatility. This

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positioning reduced upside performance as rates declined but helped performance when interest rates rose. The Fund's duration was 6.8 years. The Fund's net assets of \$157 million were diversified across 85 credits in 12 long-term sectors.

The Fund's procedure for reinvesting all dividends and distributions in common shares is through purchases in the open market. This method helps support the market value of the Fund's shares. In addition, we would like to remind you that

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the Trustees have approved a procedure whereby the Fund may, when appropriate, purchase shares in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions at a price not above market value or net asset value, whichever is lower at the time of purchase.

PERFORMANCE DATA QUOTED REPRESENTS PAST PERFORMANCE, WHICH IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS, AND CURRENT PERFORMANCE MAY BE LOWER OR HIGHER THAN THE FIGURES SHOWN. Investment return, net asset value and common share market price will fluctuate and fund shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

There is no guarantee that any securities mentioned will continue to perform well or be held by the Fund in the future.

* A measure of the sensitivity of a bond's price to changes in interest rates, expressed in years. Each year of duration represents an expected 1 percent change in the price of a bond for every 1 percent change in interest rates. The longer a bond's duration, the greater the effect of interest-rate movements on its price. Typically, funds with shorter durations perform better in rising-interest-rate environments, while funds with longer durations perform better when rates decline.

LARGEST SECTORS

Hospital Revenue	14.9%
Retirement and Life Care Facilities Revenue	14.8%
IDR/PCR*	14.2%
Tax Allocation Revenue	11.1%
Nursing and Health Related Facilities Revenue	10.7%

LONG-TERM CREDIT ANALYSIS

Aaa/AAA	3.3%
Aa/AA	7.1%
A/A	6.5%
Baa/BBB	20.2%
Ba/BB	9.9%
N/R	53.0%

* Industrial Development/Pollution Control Revenue.

Data as of November 30, 2004. Subject to change daily. All percentages for largest sectors are as a percentage of net assets. All percentages for long-term credit analysis are as a percentage of total long-term investments. These data are provided for informational purposes only and should not be deemed a recommendation to buy or sell the securities mentioned. Morgan Stanley is a full-service securities firm engaged in securities trading and brokerage activities, investment banking, research and analysis, financing and financial advisory services.

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DISTRIBUTION BY MATURITY

(% of Long-Term Portfolio) As of November 30, 2004

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WEIGHTED AVERAGE MATURITY: 18 YEARS

1-5	9
5-10	13
10-20	28
20-30	41
30+	9

Portfolio structure is subject to change.

Geographic Summary of Investments
Based on Market Value as a Percent of Net Assets

Alabama.....	0.6%
Arkansas.....	1.3
California.....	5.5
Colorado.....	4.6
Connecticut.....	1.3
District of Columbia....	0.2
Florida.....	10.0
Hawaii.....	2.0
Illinois.....	2.8
Indiana.....	0.7
Iowa.....	2.4
Kansas.....	1.0
Kentucky.....	0.8
Louisiana.....	0.6
Maryland.....	2.4
Massachusetts.....	4.6
Michigan.....	0.4
Minnesota.....	5.0
Missouri.....	6.7
Nevada.....	3.9
New Hampshire.....	7.3
New Jersey.....	4.3
New York.....	6.1
North Carolina.....	1.9
Ohio.....	1.3
Pennsylvania.....	6.0
South Carolina.....	2.7
Tennessee.....	1.1
Texas.....	4.1
Vermont.....	1.3
Virginia.....	4.0
West Virginia.....	1.3

Total.....	98.2%
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* Joint exemptions have been included in each geographic location.

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CALL AND COST (BOOK) YIELD STRUCTURE

(Based on Long-Term Portfolio) As of November 30, 2004

YEARS BONDS CALLABLE -- WEIGHTED AVERAGE CALL PROTECTION: 5 YEARS

2005 (a)	22
2006	2
2007	3
2008	11
2009	10
2010	8
2011	9
2012	9
2013	9
2014+	17

COST (BOOK) YIELD(B) -- WEIGHTED AVERAGE BOOK YIELD: 7.3%

2005 (a)	8.5
2006	6.6
2007	5.9
2008	6.5
2009	6.4
2010	6.9
2011	7.0
2012	6.8
2013	6.9
2014+	7.9

(a) May include issues callable in previous years.

(b) Cost or "book" yield is the annual income earned on a portfolio investment based on its original purchase price before the Fund's operating expenses. For example, the Fund is earning a book yield of 8.5% on 22% of the long-term portfolio that is callable in 2005.

Portfolio structure is subject to change.

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT IN THOUSANDS		COUPON RATE	MATURITY DATE	

	Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds (96.2%)			
	General Obligation (1.3%)			
\$ 1,000	California, Various Purposes dtd 03/01/04.....	5.00%	02/01/33	\$ 1,
1,000	Southlands Metropolitan District #1, Colorado, Ser 2004...	7.125	12/01/34	

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2,000							

1,200	Educational Facilities Revenue (2.4%)						
500	ABAG Finance Authority for Nonprofit Corporations, California, National Center for International Schools COPS.....					7.50	05/01/11
1,000	San Diego County, California, The Burnham Institute COPS.....					6.25	09/01/29
1,000	Bellalago Educational Facilities Benefits District, Florida, Bellalago Charter School Ser 2004 B.....					5.80	05/01/34
	Westchester County Industrial Development Agency, New York, Guiding Eyes for The Blind Inc Ser 2004.....					5.375	08/01/24

3,700							

1,000	Hospital Revenue (14.9%)						
2,000	Colbert County - Northwest Health Care Authority, Alabama, Helen Keller Hospital Ser 2003.....					5.75	06/01/27
2,000	Baxter County, Arkansas, Baxter County Regional Hospital Impr & Refg Ser 1999 B.....					5.625	09/01/28
1,000	Hawaii Department of Budget & Finance, Kuakini Health 2002 Ser A.....					6.375	07/01/32
2,000	Indiana Health Facility Financing Authority, Riverview Hospital Ser 2002.....					6.125	08/01/31
600	Maryland Health & Higher Educational Facilities Authority, University of Maryland Medical Center Ser 2000.....					6.75	07/01/30
3,000	Gaylord Hospital Financing Authority, Michigan, Otsego Memorial Hospital Ser 2004.....					6.50	01/01/37
1,500	Henderson, Nevada, Catholic Health West 1998 Ser A.....					5.375	07/01/26
2,000	New Hampshire Higher Educational & Health Facilities Authority, Littleton Hospital Assn Ser 1998 A.....					6.00	05/01/28
1,105	New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority, Raritan Bay Medical Center Ser 1994.....					7.25	07/01/27
1,000	Nassau County Industrial Development Agency, New York, North Shore Health Ser B.....					5.875	11/01/11
1,560	Monroe County Hospital Authority, Pennsylvania, Pocono Medical Center Ser 2003.....					6.00	01/01/43
2,000	Philadelphia Hospitals & Higher Education Facilities Authority, Pennsylvania, Chestnut Hill Hospital Ser 1992.....					6.375	11/15/11
	South Carolina Jobs - Economic Development Authority, Palmetto Health Alliance Refg Ser 2003 C.....					6.875	08/01/27

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT IN THOUSANDS			COUPON RATE	MATURITY DATE	V
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\$ 1,000	Knox County Health Educational & Housing Facility Board, Tennessee, Baptist Health of East Tennessee Ser 2002....	6.50%	04/15/31	\$ 1,
1,000	Decatur Hospital Authority, Texas, Wise Regional Health Ser 2004 A.....	7.125	09/01/34	1,
-----				-----
23,765				23,
-----				-----
2,000	Industrial Development/Pollution Control Revenue (14.2%) Los Angeles, California, American Airlines Inc Terminal 4 Ser 2002 C (AMT).....	7.50	12/01/24	1,
360	Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, District of Columbia & Virginia, CaterAir International Corp Ser 1991 (AMT)+.....	10.125	09/01/11	
2,000	Chicago, Illinois, Chicago O'Hare Int'l Airport/United Airlines Inc Refg Ser 2001 C (a).....	6.30	05/01/16	
1,500	Iowa Finance Authority, IPSCO Inc Ser 1997 (AMT).....	6.00	06/01/27	1,
1,500	Dayton, Ohio, Emery Air Freight Corp Refg Ser 1998 A.....	5.625	02/01/18	1,
505	Zanesville-Muskingum County Port Authority, Ohio, Anchor Glass Container Corp Ser 1989 B (AMT).....	10.25	12/01/08	
2,000	Beaver County Industrial Development Authority, Pennsylvania, Toledo Edison Co Collateralized Ser 1995 B.....	7.75	05/01/20	2,
3,330	Carbon County Industrial Development Authority, Pennsylvania, Panther Creek Partners Refg 2000 Ser (AMT).....	6.65	05/01/10	3,
2,125	Lexington County, South Carolina, Ellett Brothers Inc Refg Ser 1998.....	7.50	09/01/08	2,
1,000	Brazos River Authority, Texas, TXU Electric Refg Ser 1999 A.....	7.70	04/01/33	1,
1,000	Chesterfield County Industrial Development Authority, Virginia, Virginia Electric & Power Company Ser 1985....	5.50	10/01/09	1,
4,000	Pittsylvania County Industrial Development Authority, Virginia, Multi-Trade Pittsylvania County Ser 1994 A (AMT).....	7.45	01/01/09	4,
2,000	Upshur County, West Virginia, TJ International Inc Ser 1995 (AMT).....	7.00	07/15/25	2,
-----				-----
23,320				22,
-----				-----
3,885	Mortgage Revenue - Multi-Family (6.9%) Washington County Housing & Redevelopment Authority, Courtly Park Ser 1989 A.....	9.75	06/15/19	3,
1,165	Courtly Park Ser 1989 A (AMT).....	10.25	06/15/19	
24,080	Courtly Park Ser 1989 B.....	0.00	06/15/19	
8,678	Courtly Park Ser 1989 B (AMT).....	0.00	06/15/19	
3,715	White Bear Lake, Minnesota, White Bear Woods Apts Phase II Refg 1989 Ser A.....	9.75	06/15/19	3,
19,771	White Bear Woods Apts Phase II Refg 1989 Ser B.....	0.00	06/15/19	
3,000	Brookhaven Industrial Development Agency, New York, Woodcrest Estates Ser 1998 A (AMT).....	6.375	12/01/37	2,
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64,294				10,

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT IN THOUSANDS		COUPON RATE	MATURITY DATE	V

	Mortgage Revenue - Single Family (7.0%)			
	Colorado Housing & Finance Authority,			
\$ 180	1996 Ser B (AMT).....	7.65%	11/01/26	\$
800	Ser 1998 D-2 (AMT).....	6.35	11/01/29	
28,230	New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Residential 1983			
	Ser B.....	0.00	01/01/15	9,

29,210				10,

	Nursing & Health Related Facilities Revenue (11.3%)			
	Escambia County, Florida,			
5,470	Pensacola Care Development Centers Ser 1989.....	10.25	07/01/11	5,
1,255	Pensacola Care Development Centers Ser 1989 A.....	10.25	07/01/11	1,
1,000	Orange County Health Facilities Authority, Florida,			
	Westminister Community Care Services Inc Ser 1999.....	6.75	04/01/34	
1,000	Pinellas County Health Facilities Authority, Florida, Oaks			
	of Clearwater Ser 2004.....	6.25	06/01/34	1,
1,965	Iowa Health Facilities Development Financing Authority,			
	Care Initiatives Ser 1996.....	9.25	07/01/25	2,
1,205	Kentucky Economic Development Financing Authority, AHF/			
	Kentucky-Iowa Inc Ser 2003.....	6.50#	01/01/29	1,
1,000	Westside Habilitation Center, Louisiana, Intermediate Care			
	Facility for the Mentally Retarded Refg Ser 1993.....	8.375	10/01/13	1,
1,775	Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, New England			
	Center for Children Ser 1998.....	5.875	11/01/18	1,
1,000	Massachusetts Health & Educational Facilities Authority,			
	The Learning Center for Deaf Children Ser C.....	6.125	07/01/29	
870	Mount Vernon Industrial Development Agency, New York,			
	Meadowview at the Wartburg Ser 1999.....	6.00	06/01/09	
1,000	St Louis County Industrial Development Authority,			
	Missouri, Pediatric Rehabilitation Center Ser 2003 A....	6.625	11/15/35	1,

16,540				17,

	Recreational Facilities Revenue (5.6%)			
2,000	Sacramento Financing Authority, California, Convention			
	Center Hotel 1999 Ser A.....	6.25	01/01/30	2,
1,000	San Diego County, San Diego Natural History Museum COPs...	5.70	02/01/28	
	Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribe, Connecticut,			

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1,010	1996 Ser A (b).....	6.40	09/01/11	1,
1,000	1997 Ser B (b).....	5.75	09/01/27	1,
2,000	St Louis Industrial Development Authority, Missouri, St Louis Convention Center Headquarters Hotel Ser 2000 (AMT).....	6.875	12/15/20	1,
2,000	Austin Convention Enterprises, Texas, Convention Center Hotel Ser 2000 A.....	6.70	01/01/32	2,

9,010				8,

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT IN THOUSANDS		COUPON RATE	MATURITY DATE	V

\$ 1,000	Retirement & Life Care Facilities Revenue (14.8%) St Johns County Industrial Development Authority, Florida, Glenmoor Ser 1999 A.....	8.00%	01/01/30	\$ 1,
1,000	Hawaii Department of Budget & Finance, Kahala Nui, 2003 Ser A.....	8.00	11/15/33	1,
1,500	Lenexa, Kansas, Lakeview Village - Southridge Ser 2002 C.....	6.875	05/15/32	1,
1,500	Maryland Health & Higher Educational Facilities Authority, Mercy Ridge 2003 Ser A.....	6.00	04/01/35	1,
1,500	Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, Loomis Communities Ser 1999 A.....	5.75	07/01/23	1,
1,500	Kansas City Industrial Development Agency, Missouri, Bishop Spencer 2004 Ser A.....	6.50	01/01/35	1,
1,000	New Jersey Economic Development Authority, Cedar Crest Village Inc Ser 2001 A.....	7.25	11/15/31	1,
1,000	Franciscan Oaks Ser 1997.....	5.70	10/01/17	
1,000	The Presbyterian Home at Montgomery Ser 2001 A.....	6.375	11/01/31	1,
2,000	United Methodist Homes of New Jersey Ser 1998.....	5.125	07/01/25	1,
3,250	Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency, New York, Jefferson's Ferry Ser 1999.....	7.25	11/01/28	3,
1,000	North Carolina Medical Care Commission, The Given Estate, Ser 2003 A.....	6.50	07/01/32	1,
1,000	Chester County Health & Education Facilities Authority, Pennsylvania, Jenner's Pond Inc Ser 2002.....	7.625	07/01/34	1,
750	Shelby County Health, Educational & Housing Facilities Board, Tennessee, Village at Germantown Ser 2003 A.....	7.25	12/01/34	
1,000	Houston, Health Facilities Authority, Texas, Buckingham Senior Living Community Ser 2003 A.....	7.125	02/15/34	1,
2,100	Vermont Economic Development Authority, Wake Robin Corp Ser 1999 A.....	6.75	03/01/29	2,
1,000	Peninsula Ports Authority of Virginia, Virginia Baptist Homes Ser 2003 A.....	7.375	12/01/32	1,

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23,100				23,

	Tax Allocation Revenue (11.1%)			
1,000	San Marcos Community Facilities District No 2002-01, California, University Commons Ser 2004.....	5.95	09/01/35	1,
2,000	Elk Valley Public Improvement Corporation, Colorado, Ser 2001 A.....	7.35	09/01/31	2,
2,000	Beacon Lakes Community Development District, Florida, Ser 2003 A.....	6.90	05/01/35	2,
1,000	Midtown Miami Florida Community Development District, Florida, Ser 2004 A.....	6.25	05/01/37	1,
2,000	Chicago, Illinois, Lake Shore East, Ser 2002.....	6.75	12/01/32	2,
725	Lincolnshire, Illinois, Special Service Area No 1 Ser 2004.....	6.25	03/01/34	
2,000	Des Peres, Missouri, West County Center Ser 2002.....	5.75	04/15/20	2,

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT IN THOUSANDS		COUPON RATE	MATURITY DATE	V

\$ 4,000	Fenton, Missouri, Gravois Bluffs Redevelopment Ser 2001 A Refg.....	7.00%	10/01/21	\$ 4,
1,995	Las Vegas District No 808, Nevada, Summerlin Area Ser 2001.....	6.75	06/01/21	2,

16,720				17,

	Transportation Facilities Revenue (3.9%)			
5,000	E-470 Public Highway Authority, Colorado, Ser 1997 B (MBIA).....	0.00	09/01/15	3,
1,780	Mid-Bay Bridge Authority, Florida, Sr Lien Crossover Refg Ser 1993 A (Ambac).....	5.85	10/01/13	1,
1,000	Nevada Department of Business & Industry, Las Vegas Monorail 2nd Tier Ser 2000.....	7.375	01/01/40	1,

7,780				6,

	Refunded (2.8%)			
1,000	Illinois Health Facilities Authority, Riverside Health Ser 2000.....	6.85	11/15/10++	1,
3,000	Massachusetts Health & Educational Facilities Authority, Dana Farber Cancer Institute Ser G-1.....	6.25	12/01/05++	3,

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4,000				4,
-----				-----
223,439	Total Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds (Cost \$160,936,985).....			151,
-----				-----
	Short-Term Tax-Exempt Municipal Obligations (1.9%)			
2,000	University of North Carolina, Hospitals at Chapel Hill Ser			2,
	2001 A (Demand 12/01/04).....	1.64*	02/15/31	
1,000	North Central Texas Health Facilities Development			
	Corporation, Presbyterian Medical Center Ser 1985 D			
	(MBIA) (Demand 12/01/04).....	1.64*	12/01/15	1,
-----				-----
3,000	Total Short-Term Tax-Exempt Municipal Obligations (Cost \$3,000,000).....			3,
-----				-----
\$226,439	Total Investments (Cost \$163,936,985) (c).....	98.1%		154,
=====				=====
	Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities.....	1.9		2,
		-----		-----
	Net Assets.....	100.0%		\$157,
		=====		=====

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

- AMT Alternative Minimum Tax.
- COPs Certificates of Participation.
- * Current coupon of variable rate demand obligation.
- + Joint exemption in locations shown.
- ++ Prerefunded to call date shown.
- # Currently a 6.50% coupon; increases to 8.00% on January 1, 2009.
- (a) Issuer in bankruptcy; non-income producing security.
- (b) Resale is restricted to qualified institutional investors.
- (c) The aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes is \$163,855,054. The aggregate gross unrealized appreciation is \$5,916,652 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation is \$15,577,534, resulting in net unrealized depreciation of \$9,660,882.

Bond Insurance:

- Ambac Ambac Assurance Corporation.
- MBIA Municipal Bond Investors Assurance Corporation.

See Notes to Financial Statements

Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
FINANCIAL STATEMENTSStatement of Assets and Liabilities
November 30, 2004 (unaudited)

Assets:

Investments in securities, at value (cost \$163,936,985).....	\$154,194,172
Cash.....	99,715
Interest receivable.....	3,058,170

Total Assets.....	157,352,057

Liabilities:

Payable for:

Investment advisory fee.....	69,162
Shares of beneficial interest repurchased.....	55,638
Administration fee.....	12,978
Accrued expenses and other payables.....	122,875

Total Liabilities.....	260,653

Net Assets.....	\$157,091,404
	=====

Composition of Net Assets:

Paid-in-capital.....	\$176,960,111
Net unrealized depreciation.....	(9,742,813)
Accumulated undistributed net investment income.....	2,214,112
Accumulated net realized loss.....	(12,340,006)

Net Assets.....	\$157,091,404
	=====

Net Asset Value Per Share,

20,018,872 shares outstanding (unlimited shares authorized of \$.01 par value).....	\$7.85
	=====

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

Statement of Operations

For the six months ended November 30, 2004 (unaudited)

Net Investment Income:

Interest Income.....	\$ 5,978,959

Expenses	
Investment advisory fee.....	394,831
Administration fee.....	208,379

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Transfer agent fees and expenses.....	42,120
Shareholder reports and notices.....	19,641
Professional fees.....	18,304
Registration fees.....	9,839
Custodian fees.....	6,283
Trustees' fees and expenses.....	3,872
Other.....	12,595

Total Expenses.....	715,864
Less: expense offset.....	6,189

Net Expenses.....	709,675
Net Investment Income.....	5,269,284

Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss):	
Net realized loss.....	(2,162,972)
Net change in unrealized depreciation.....	5,291,073

Net Gain.....	3,128,101

Net Increase.....	\$ 8,397,385
	=====

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2004	FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2004
	-----	-----
	(unaudited)	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets:		
Operations:		
Net investment income.....	\$ 5,269,284	\$ 10,642,996
Net realized loss.....	(2,162,972)	(2,478,163)
Net change in unrealized depreciation.....	5,291,073	(3,072,450)
	-----	-----
Net Increase.....	8,397,385	5,092,383
Dividends to shareholders from net investment income.....	(4,950,738)	(10,327,443)
Decrease from transactions in shares of beneficial interest.....	(2,620,548)	(2,707,158)
	-----	-----
Net Increase (Decrease).....	826,099	(7,942,218)
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period.....	156,265,305	164,207,523
	-----	-----
End of Period		
(Including accumulated undistributed net investment income of \$2,214,112 and \$1,895,566, respectively).....	\$157,091,404	\$156,265,305

=====

See Notes to Financial Statements

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

1. Organization and Accounting Policies

Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust (the "Fund") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of current income which is exempt from federal income tax. The Fund was organized as a Massachusetts business trust on June 22, 1988 and commenced operations on September 19, 1988.

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies:

A. Valuation of Investments -- (1) portfolio securities are valued by an outside independent pricing service approved by the Trustees. The pricing service uses both a computerized grid matrix of tax-exempt securities and evaluations by its staff, in each case based on information concerning market transactions and quotations from dealers which reflect the mean between the last reported bid and asked price. The portfolio securities are thus valued by reference to a combination of transactions and quotations for the same or other securities believed to be comparable in quality, coupon, maturity, type of issue, call provisions, trading characteristics and other features deemed to be relevant. The Trustees believe that timely and reliable market quotations are generally not readily available for purposes of valuing tax-exempt securities and that the valuations supplied by the pricing service are more likely to approximate the fair value of such securities; (2) futures are valued at the latest sale price on the commodities exchange on which they trade unless it is determined that such price does not reflect their market value, in which case they will be valued at their fair value as determined in good faith under procedures established by and under the supervision of the Trustees; and (3) short-term debt securities having a maturity date of more than sixty days at time of purchase are valued on a mark-to-market basis until sixty days prior to maturity and thereafter at amortized cost based on their value on the 61st day. Short-term debt securities having a maturity date of sixty days or less at the time of purchase are valued at amortized cost.

B. Accounting for Investments -- Security transactions are accounted for on the trade date (date the order to buy or sell is executed). Realized gains and losses on security transactions are determined by the identified cost method. Discounts are accreted and premiums are amortized over the life of the respective securities. Interest income is accrued daily except where collection is not expected.

C. Federal Income Tax Policy -- It is the Fund's policy to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its taxable and nontaxable income to its shareholders. Accordingly, no federal income tax provision is required.

D. Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders -- Dividends and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

E. Futures Contracts -- A futures contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell financial instruments or contracts based on financial indices at a set price on a future date. Upon entering into such a contract, the Fund is required to pledge to the broker cash, U.S. Government securities or other liquid portfolio securities equal to the minimum initial margin requirements of the applicable futures exchange. Pursuant to the contract, the Fund agrees to receive from or pay to the broker an amount of cash equal to the daily fluctuation in the value of the contract. Such receipts or payments known as variation margin are recorded by the Fund as unrealized gains and losses. Upon closing of the contract, the Fund realizes a gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed.

F. Use of Estimates -- The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Investment Advisory/Administration Agreements

Pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement with Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc. (the "Investment Adviser"), the Fund pays an advisory fee, calculated weekly and payable monthly, by applying the annual rate of 0.50% to the Fund's weekly net assets.

Effective November 1, 2004, pursuant to an Administration Agreement with Morgan Stanley Services Company Inc. (the "Administrator"), an affiliate of the Investment Adviser, the Fund pays an administration fee, calculated weekly and payable monthly, by applying the annual rate of 0.08% to the Fund's weekly net assets. Prior to November 1, 2004, the annual rate was 0.30%.

3. Security Transactions and Transactions with Affiliates

The cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of portfolio securities, excluding short-term investments, for the six months ended November 30, 2004 aggregated \$10,497,998 and \$13,640,329, respectively.

Morgan Stanley Trust, an affiliate of the Investment Adviser and Administrator, is the Fund's transfer agent. At November 30, 2004, the Fund had transfer agent fees and expenses payable of approximately \$18,800.

The Fund has an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering certain independent Trustees of the Fund who will have served as independent Trustees for at least five years at the time of retirement. Benefits under this plan are based on factors which include years of service and compensation. Aggregate pension costs for the six months ended November 30, 2004 included in Trustees' fees and expenses in the Statement of Operations amounted to \$3,757. At November 30, 2004, the Fund had an accrued pension liability of \$61,721 which is included in accrued expenses

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. On December 2, 2003, the Trustees voted to close the plan to new participants and eliminate the future benefits growth due to increases to compensation after July 31, 2003.

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Effective April 1, 2004, the Fund began an unfunded Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Compensation Plan") which allows each independent Trustee to defer payment of all, or a portion, of the fees he receives for serving on the Board of Trustees. Each eligible Trustee generally may elect to have the deferred amounts credited with a return equal to the total return on one or more of the Morgan Stanley funds that are offered as investment options under the Compensation Plan. Appreciation/depreciation and distributions received from these investments are recorded with an offsetting increase/decrease in the deferred compensation obligation and do not affect the net asset value of the Fund.

4. Shares of Beneficial Interest

Transactions in shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

	SHARES	PAR VALUE OF SHARES	CAPITAL PAID IN EXCESS OF PAR VALUE
	-----	-----	-----
Balance, May 31, 2003.....	20,756,472	\$207,564	\$186,928,7
Treasury shares purchased and retired (weighted average discount 5.83%).....	(377,200)	(3,772)	(2,703,3
Reclassification due to permanent book/tax differences.....	--	--	(4,848,5
	-----	-----	-----
Balance, May 31, 2004.....	20,379,272	203,792	179,376,8
Treasury shares purchased and retired (weighted average discount 4.46%)*.....	(360,400)	(3,604)	(2,616,9
	-----	-----	-----
Balance, November 30, 2004.....	20,018,872	\$200,188	\$176,759,9
	=====	=====	=====

* The Trustees have voted to retire the shares purchased.

5. Federal Income Tax Status

The amount of dividends and distributions from net investment income and net realized capital gains are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. These "book/tax" differences are either considered temporary or permanent in nature. To the extent these differences are permanent in nature, such amounts are reclassified within the capital accounts based on their federal tax-basis treatment; temporary differences do not require reclassification. Dividends and distributions which exceed net investment income and net realized capital gains for tax purposes are reported as distributions of paid-in-capital.

As of May 31, 2004, the Fund had a net capital loss carryforward of \$7,279,954 of which \$700,037 will expire on May 31, 2006, \$87,017 will expire on May 31, 2008, \$4,628,820 will

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED) continued

expire on May 31, 2009 and \$1,864,080 will expire on May 31, 2011 to offset future capital gains to the extent provided by regulations.

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As of May 31, 2004, the Fund had temporary book/tax differences attributable to post-October losses (capital losses incurred after October 31 within the taxable year which are deemed to arise on the first business day of the Fund's next taxable year) and book amortization of discount on debt securities.

6. Dividends

The Fund declared the following dividends from net investment income:

DECLARATION DATE	AMOUNT PER SHARE	RECORD DATE	PAYABLE DATE
September 28, 2004	\$0.04	December 10, 2004	December 23, 2004
December 28, 2004	\$0.0425	January 7, 2005	January 21, 2005
December 28, 2004	\$0.0425	February 4, 2005	February 18, 2005
December 28, 2004	\$0.0425	March 4, 2005	March 18, 2005

7. Expense Offset

The expense offset represents a reduction of the custodian fees for earnings on cash balances maintained by the Fund.

8. Risks Relating to Certain Financial Instruments

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in residual interest bonds, which are inverse floating rate municipal obligations. The prices of these securities are subject to greater market fluctuations during periods of changing prevailing interest rates than are comparable fixed rate obligations.

To hedge against adverse interest rate changes, the Fund may invest in financial futures contracts or municipal bond index futures contracts ("futures contracts").

These futures contracts involve elements of market risk in excess of the amount reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Fund bears the risk of an unfavorable change in the value of the underlying securities. Risks may also arise upon entering into these contracts from the potential inability of the counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts.

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Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Selected ratios and per share data for a share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout each period:

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2004	FOR THE YEAR END		
-----	2004	2003	2002
(unaudited)			

Selected Per Share Data:
Net asset value, beginning of

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the period.....	\$7.67	\$ 7.91	\$ 7.88	\$ 8.0
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) from investment operations:				
Net investment income*...	0.26	0.52	0.54	0.5
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) ..	0.17	(0.26)	0.04	(0.1)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total income (loss) from investment operations.....	0.43	0.26	0.58	0.4
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Less dividends from net investment income.....	(0.25)	(0.50)	(0.55)	(0.5)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net asset value, end of period.....	\$7.85	\$ 7.67	\$ 7.91	\$ 7.8
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Market value, end of period.....	\$7.52	\$ 7.09	\$ 7.76	\$ 8.0
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total Return+.....	9.66 % (1)	(2.34) %	3.09%	1.4
Ratios to Average Net Assets:				
Expenses (before expense offset).....	0.91 % (2)	0.94 %	0.93% (3)	0.9
Net investment income.....	6.67 % (2)	6.63 %	6.85%	6.9
Supplemental Data:				
Net assets, end of period, in thousands.....	\$157,091	\$156,265	\$164,208	\$165,01
Portfolio turnover rate.....	7 % (1)	10 %	8%	

* The per share amounts were computed using an average number of shares outstanding during the period.

+ Total return is based upon the current market value on the last day of each period reported. Dividends are assumed to be reinvested at the prices obtained under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan.

(1) Not annualized.

(2) Annualized.

(3) Does not reflect the effect of expense offset of 0.01%.

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See Notes to Financial Statements

TRUSTEES

Michael Bozic
 Charles A. Fiumefreddo
 Edwin J. Garn
 Wayne E. Hedien
 James F. Higgins
 Dr. Manuel H. Johnson
 Joseph J. Kearns
 Michael E. Nugent
 Fergus Reid

OFFICERS

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Charles A. Fiumefreddo
Chairman of the Board

Mitchell M. Merin
President

Ronald E. Robison
Executive Vice President and Principal Executive Officer

Joseph J. McAlinden
Vice President

Barry Fink
Vice President

Amy R. Doberman
Vice President

Carsten Otto
Chief Compliance Officer

Stefanie V. Chang
Vice President

Francis J. Smith
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

Thomas F. Caloia
Vice President

Mary E. Mullin
Secretary

TRANSFER AGENT
Morgan Stanley Trust
Harborside Financial Center, Plaza Two
Jersey City, New Jersey 07311

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Two World Financial Center
New York, New York 10281

INVESTMENT ADVISER
Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc.
1221 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020

Investments and services offered through Morgan Stanley DW Inc., member SIPC.

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[MORGAN STANLEY LOGO]

MORGAN STANLEY FUNDS

Morgan Stanley
Municipal Income
Opportunities Trust

Semiannual Report
November 30, 2004

[MORGAN STANLEY LOGO]

38563RPT-RA05-00035P-Y11/04

Item 2. Code of Ethics.

Not applicable for semiannual reports.

Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Expert.

Not applicable for semiannual reports.

Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

Not applicable for semiannual reports.

Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed Registrants.

Not applicable for semiannual reports.

Item 6.

Refer to Item 1.

Item 7. Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

Not applicable for semiannual reports.

Item 8. Closed-End Fund Repurchases

REGISTRANT PURCHASE OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number of Shares (or Units) (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
June 1, 2004- June 30, 2004	73,300.00	\$7.0141	N/A	N/A
July 1, 2004- July 31, 2004	67,400.00	7.1137	N/A	N/A
August 1, 2004- August 31, 2004	65,600.00	7.2060	N/A	N/A
September 1, 2004- September 30, 2004	37,900.00	7.3445	N/A	N/A
October 1, 2004-				

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October 31, 2004	55,400.00	7.5250	N/A	N/A
November 1, 2004- November 30, 2004	60,800.00	7.5384	N/A	N/A
	-----	-----	---	---
Total	360,400.00	\$7.2903	N/A	N/A
	-----	-----	---	---

Item 9. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

Not applicable.

Item 10 - Controls and Procedures

(a) The Fund's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Fund's disclosure controls and procedures are sufficient to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Fund in this Form N-CSR was recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, based upon such officers' evaluation of these controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report.

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(b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal half-year (the registrant's second fiscal half-year in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 11 Exhibits

(a) Code of Ethics - Not applicable for semiannual reports.

(b) A separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant are attached hereto as part of EX-99.CERT.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Morgan Stanley Municipal Income Opportunities Trust

/s/ Ronald E. Robison
 Ronald E. Robison
 Principal Executive Officer
 January 20, 2005

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

/s/ Ronald E. Robison
 Ronald E. Robison

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Principal Executive Officer
January 20, 2005

/s/ Francis Smith
Francis Smith
Principal Financial Officer
January 20, 2005