



Connect South Carolina Celebrates Connected Certification of the Town of Hilton Head Island

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Town of Hilton Head Island becomes fourth community in the state to achieve Connected certification

Town of Hilton Head Island, SC – The Connect South Carolina team traveled to the Town of Hilton Head Island on Tuesday to recognize and celebrate the community as the fourth Certified [Connected](#) Community in the state, and the 35th Connected community in the country!

“It is wonderful to be recognized as one of only four Certified Connected Communities in South Carolina, but this is much more about where we need to go than where we are currently,” said Information Technology Taskforce Chairman Jim Collett. “While this award shines a light on the importance of telecommunications to any community, the real value of working with the Connect South Carolina team is creating a plan for what Hilton Head Island needs to do to continue to have a vibrant economy and to remain a world class destination, as well as a great place to live and work.”

The community’s certification celebration was held in the council chambers of the Town of Hilton Head Island with nearly 40 attendees, including the mayor, town and county council members, members of the Information Technology Task Force, and local, regional, and state broadband and technology stakeholders. Collett served as the celebration host, while Jim Stritzinger, Connect South Carolina executive director, made remarks comparing the expansion of

broadband in the twenty-first century with the rural utility build-out of the first half of the twentieth century, in addition to giving an overview of the Connected program. Jeanne Antonuccio, president of About Pittsburgh, Inc., spoke about the importance of business people visiting and residing on the island having the ability to telework. Stritzinger then presented the trophy award to Hilton Head Island Mayor David Bennett and Collett.

The [Town of Hilton Head Island Technology Action Plan](#) unveiled at the event includes projects and action items established for the Town of Hilton Head Island related to improved broadband access for students, public-private partnerships, connecting the beach, and recognizing technological achievements throughout the community.

The [Connected Community Engagement Program](#) empowers local and informed collaborative action to increase the access, adoption, and use of technology. When complete, the program provides a nationally recognized platform for spotlighting communities that are excelling across all broadband adoption, access, and use measurements.

Photo Caption: Connect South Carolina Executive Director Jim Stritzinger presents Mayor David Bennett, Collett, and Senator Tom Davis with the official Certified Connected trophy.

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About Connect South Carolina: As the State Broadband Initiative grantee, Connect South Carolina is leading the effort to increase high-speed Internet access, adoption and use to ensure South Carolina's competitiveness in the connected global economy of the twenty-first century. Connect South Carolina is a public-private partnership designated by the state to work with all broadband providers to create South Carolina's first interactive map of broadband coverage. This work serves as a foundation for addressing remaining service gaps while also engaging state, regional and local leaders in workforce development activities designed to bridge South Carolina's digital divide. For maps, research or to get involved with efforts in your community please visit: www.ConnectSC.org. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Connected Nation
developed the Connected
Community Engagement



Program to help guide a community through an assessment of its overall broadband and technology status. Connected certified communities have measurably demonstrated their proficiency for effective Access, Adoption, and Use of broadband-supported technologies. Connected Nation through its partners provides a national platform for recognizing those communities that excel across these important benchmarks. Funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), this effort is part of the State Broadband Initiative.