

# HAMPTON VA

## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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## Hampton named top city in nation for public sector information, communications technology

**Nov. 13, 2014** – Hampton has been named one of the top cities in the country for best practices in public sector information and communications technology.

In a news release announcing winners of the 2014 Digital Cities Survey, Todd Sanders, executive director of the Center for Digital Government, said: “This year’s Digital Cities’ winners brought about impressive change across all aspects of government by leveraging information technology investments to expand open government, citizen participation and shared services.” Download the release and get more information at [www.digitalcommunities.com/survey/cities](http://www.digitalcommunities.com/survey/cities)

Hampton has been ranked among the survey’s top 10 for 13 of the past 14 years. This year Hampton tied with Durham, N.C. for 4<sup>th</sup> place among cities with a population of 125,000-249,000.

Open to all cities in the U.S., the Digital Cities Survey focuses on results achieved by cities through the use of technology in operating efficiencies, realizing strategic objectives, innovative or creative solutions or approaches, effective collaboration and transparency measures.

Sanders said: “winning cities spanned the nation, indicating a trend that more and more cities are making it a priority that digital government be easier to access, navigate and interact with.”

Mayor George Wallace said the survey highlights Hampton’s innovative efforts to serve residents - including a new website launched in 2012 - and to help everyone get the information they need to successfully live, work and play in Hampton.

“We have made special efforts to engage Hampton’s citizens, so I’m happy to see that those efforts are not only successful, but recognized by the survey,” Wallace added.

Robin McCormick, Hampton’s communications strategist and head of the Marketing and Outreach Department, said: "Hampton has long been noted for its engaged citizenry, but as this award reflects, we continue to expand engagement by utilizing technology. With online surveys, as well as social media, more of our residents can easily offer their views on policy issues and spending priorities."

Leslie Fuentes, director of information technology for Hampton, said the survey shows that “we continue our tradition of using technology as an enabler to help us be more productive, more innovative and more responsive to our citizens’ needs.”

The survey’s top 10: (1) Winston-Salem, N.C. (2) Augusta, Ga. (3) Salt Lake City, Tacoma, Wash. (4) Durham, N.C., Hampton (5) Scottsdale, Ariz. (6) Springfield, Mo. (7) Fort Collins, Colo. (8) Chula Vista, Calif., Hollywood, Fla., Pasadena, Calif. (9) Alexandria, Va. (10) Olathe, Kansas.

The Center for Digital Government is a “media and research company focused exclusively on public-sector innovation for state and local government.” The center has been taking the survey since 2001, and Hampton has been in the top 10 every year except 2012, when the city did not submit an application.

The top 10 ranked cities will be honored Nov. 20 at a special awards ceremony during the National League of Cities’ annual conference in Austin, Texas.

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