Jeffrey E. Turner
Chairman
Gail B. Hambrick
Vice-Chair
Dr. Alieka Anderson
Commissioner
Felicia Franklin
Commissioner
DeMont Davis
Commissioner



Valerie L. Fuller

Communications Administrator

Office of Communications 121 South McDonough St. Jonesboro, GA 30236 www.claytoncountyga.gov

For Immediate Release July 15, 2022

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Clayton County Ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the National 2022 Digital Counties Survey for Improvements

(Clayton County, GA)-Clayton County earns a Top 10 national recognition (for populations 250,000 - 499,999) in the Center for Digital Government's 2022 Digital Counties Survey. The County's Department of Information Technology ranks 8th in the digital survey and follows the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework. As a result of using new strategies for cybersecurity, workforce and digital services, Clayton County will be honored at the National Association of Counties (NACo) conference on July 21, 2022, at an award reception.

Clayton County focused on cybersecurity, digital equity and inclusion, and other aspects for improvement, including organizational structure and infrastructure:

- Hiring the county's first Chief Information Security Officer and creation of a dedicated team of cybersecurity analysts that work daily to protect the county's data and network infrastructure
- A network capacity upgrade that improves disaster resiliency by upgrading several critical components, minimizing the chance of a single point of failure while also increasing service availability at data center locations
- Implementation of a fiber-optic network to connect all county buildings, saving about \$400,000 annually (100-mile-long network also benefits residents and visitors, providing public Wi-Fi at 30 different buildings)
- Using data and analysis to help county agencies achieve greater diversity in housing
- Streamlining the process to access county services making it easier to attract new businesses
- Creating the Office of Digital Equity and Inclusion to help bridge the digital divide and chart new ways for our citizens to fully participate in the digital economy
- Launching the county's first employee technical training program

"Our Clayton County Board of Commissioners and team of technical professionals are committed to removing barriers to better connect and serve our citizens," said Chief Operations Officer Detrick Stanford. "We take pride in being among the top 10 in the nation to lead the way using innovative technology to help make improvements."

Jeffrey E. Turner
Chairman
Gail B. Hambrick
Vice-Chair
Dr. Alieka Anderson
Commissioner
Felicia Franklin
Commissioner
DeMont Davis
Commissioner



## Valerie L. Fuller

Communications Administrator

Office of Communications 121 South McDonough St. Jonesboro, GA 30236 www.claytoncountyga.gov

-More-

"I commend the work of the Information Technology team for working diligently to advance our cybersecurity posture and service offerings to earn the 2022 Digital Survey award," said Chief Information Officer Jason Brookins. "Our goal now is to continue to improve upon this good work and evaluate ways in which we can enhance our service levels for our employees and the citizens of Clayton County."

Additionally, the County has launched other initiatives aimed at improving constituents' ability to communicate with citizens. Through the Click Clayton app, residents can report non-emergency issues like potholes just by dropping a pin on a map and answering a few quick questions. On the county website, <a href="www.claytoncountyga.gov">www.claytoncountyga.gov</a>, constituents can also subscribe to receive communications and information by subject through email or text.

For more information about the Centers for Digital Government ,access <a href="https://www.govtech.com/digital-counties-survey-2022-results">https://www.govtech.com/digital-counties-survey-2022-results</a>.

###