



## Charleston County News Release

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# Charleston County Public Works, Transportation Development, and Facilities Department Score National Accreditation

*American Public Works Association will award the departments at May 21 ceremony, good start to National Public Works Week*

The [American Public Works Association \(APWA\)](#) offers a special certification to government departments nationwide that go above and beyond requirements. Three [Charleston County Government](#) departments will receive the honor of accreditation during a regular County Council meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May: Public Works, Transportation Development and Facilities.

The Public Works Practices manual details more than 500 practices that departments must show compliance in order to be accredited. It's a process that on average takes about three years. Yet, Charleston County managed to complete the evaluation in just 13 months. In April, a four-member review team from APWA got a firsthand look at the operation in Charleston County to finalize the evaluation process.

"One of my first directives as County Administrator was to challenge each and every county department to become certified or accredited by the appropriate national agency or organization. The accreditations show the departments are committed to practicing excellent customer service and enhancing the quality of life for our citizens," said [Charleston County Administrator Kurt Taylor](#). "I am extremely proud of all three departments that have worked diligently to achieve this distinction well ahead of schedule."

**It would take a few hundred pages to detail what these departments cover day in and day out, so here is the short version:**

- **Public Works** is charged with maintaining county roads and drainage systems as well as managing the mosquito control program.
  - The news is timely for this department, as Charleston County joins other agencies across the U.S. in celebrating [National Public Works Week May 19-21](#). "The Public Works Department strives to be a leader for other public works agencies nationwide," said Director of Public Works James Neal.
  - The County's Public Works Department has local winners ready to participate in the regional backhoe rodeo competition on Thursday, May 23 (for more information, visit <http://southcarolina.apwa.net/news/4076/>).
  - For more information on Charleston County's Public Works Department: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/Departments/PublicWorks/index.htm>
- **Transportation Development** is tasked with road improvement projects from the design phase to maintenance and all stages in between.
  - For more information on Charleston County's Transportation Development Department: <http://roads.charlestoncounty.org/#&panel1-1>
- **Facilities** handles all County buildings to make sure the structures are in efficient working order so employees can continue to serve the citizens of Charleston County.
  - For more information on Charleston County's Facilities Department: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/Facilities/index.htm>

