



## Manchester Recognized as Certified Connected Community

*Manchester completes technology plan aimed at bridging technology gap, boosting economy, paving way for improved quality of life*

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### [View the technology action plan](#)

**Manchester, IA** – Today, legislative leaders and local officials joined Connect Iowa to recognize Manchester for becoming a Certified Connected Community and releasing its technology action plan.

“It is clear the economy is changing, and to remain competitive, we must remain connected” said Governor Branstad in recognition of Manchester’s achievement. “The communities that will thrive in this new economy are those that take every opportunity to organize and plan to continually improve their technological capabilities. That is precisely what Manchester has done with this Connected Community assessment.”

Manchester is the 14th community to hold a certification ceremony. The other communities in Iowa that have received this certification are Indianola, Webster City, West Des Moines, Black Hawk County, Creston, Fairfield, Osceola, Urbandale, Manning, Grinnell, Knoxville, Story County, and Bremer County.

Manchester has been working since June 2014 with Connect Iowa on the [Connected Community Engagement Program](#). This initiative assesses the local broadband landscape, identifies connectivity gaps, and establishes technology-driven goals and objectives to increase broadband access, adoption, and use for families, organizations, and businesses throughout the community. Manchester met the requirements necessary to achieve the Certified Connected Community status.

“The collaborative effort that went into achieving this designation for our city was impressive. It reflects the way Manchester operates: public and private, business and non-profit pulling

together to make the community a better place to work and live,” said Donna Boss, Manchester Community Champion and Executive Director Delaware County Economic Development.

“Congratulations to Manchester for this special distinction as a Certified Connected Community,” said Tom Ferree, Connected Nation president and COO. “Connect Iowa and Connected Nation applaud the community’s efforts to complete the Connected Community Certification and to continue improving the community’s access, adoption, and use of broadband technology.”

For more information about the project or to join a Connected community technology team, please contact Connect Iowa at [info@connectiowa.org](mailto:info@connectiowa.org).

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**About Connect Iowa:** Connect Iowa is a subsidiary of Connected Nation and operates as a nonprofit in the state of Iowa to promote broadband access, adoption, and use. The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) is leading the initiative to increase broadband Internet access throughout rural Iowa. Connect Iowa was commissioned by the state to work with all broadband providers in Iowa to create detailed maps of broadband coverage and develop a statewide plan for the deployment and adoption of broadband. For more information visit: [www.connectiowa.org](http://www.connectiowa.org).

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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.

<http://www.connectednation.org/get-connected>