



STATE OF THE TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH

Mayor Crawford Moore

July 9, 2026

As Mayor, I am proud to recognize the dedication and commitment of our Town Administration, department heads, and staff, whose daily efforts help keep Edisto Beach moving forward. Together with Councilmembers Jerome Kizer, Bob Renner, Jay Watts, and Joey Bagwell, we remain committed to protecting our beach, serving our residents, and ensuring that the Town continues to provide the essential services our community relies upon. As we continue our work on several important projects that will shape Edisto Beach's future, I am grateful for the continued trust, support, and involvement of our residents.

During the 2025–2026 fiscal year, we accomplished a great deal while maintaining the Town's strong financial position. I am especially pleased to report that the Town did not increase the millage rate, nor did we increase user fees for water or sewer.

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project has been completed, and all meters have been installed. The Town is now working on increased billing frequency, electronic payment options, and customer portal access.

The new Emergency Operations Center/Town Hall facility, funded by the Colleton County Capital Projects Sales Tax, officially opened its doors for business on May 26, 2026, with a ribbon-cutting event on June 4. The facility was built under the \$10 million budget approved by the voter referendum and is the first completed project among the many projects approved throughout the county. The remaining funds will be used for improvements to the old Town Hall, which will house the Police Department, and for improvements to the Fire Department, all in an effort to continue to improve our emergency and public safety operations.

The SCIIP grant funded improvements to our Wastewater Treatment operations, and all projects associated with this grant are substantially completed. As part of this grant, both Pump Stations A and B were updated and constructed, and an 8" forcemain was installed on the golf course as part of this work. Eleven (11) wastewater pump stations were renovated and improved. The refurbishment of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was the final project approved under the grant.

Town Council and the Town administration continue diligently to work with the US Army Corps of Engineers in an effort to bring the Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project to fruition. Complex real estate requirements are being addressed, and we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. This much-needed \$30 million

renourishment and 50-year protection plan for our beach is critical to protecting beachfront homes and protecting our beach, and we are doing all we can to ensure this project moves along and becomes reality very soon. At this point, construction will hopefully take place in Fall 2027.

Additional accomplishments, projects, and actions as follows:

- Auditors Brittingham Group, LLP issued the Town an unmodified, clean opinion for year ended June 30, 2024, signifying the Town's financial statements are free from any material misstatements. The full report is posted on the Town website.
- For the second consecutive year, the Town received the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award reflecting the commitment of the governing body and staff in meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.
- The Town continued to make available to residents the Digital Budget Book on the website.
- For the second consecutive year, the Town published and printed a user-friendly Annual Report. Please pick up a copy of the 2025 Annual Report in the lobby.
- Approved Town Council 2026-2027 goals following a goal-setting session in January 2026.
- Received \$225,000 in funding from the Colleton County Transportation Committee to begin the design and engineering phase of stormwater improvements.
- Approved bid award for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) to Fortiline Waterworks in the amount of \$1,067,727.
- Approved bid award for \$4,452,000 to Haren Construction Company for upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Edisto Beach Police Department implemented a new Report Management Computer Aided Dispatch Integration System.
- Appointed Thomas H. Hart III as Municipal Judge.
- Informational Rip Current signs installed at all beach accesses.
- Upon recommendation from the TIDE Committee, and recommendation from the ATAX Board on funding, Council approved the installation of a Pollinator Garden at Jungle Road Park.
- Approved osprey nest platform at Burley L. Lyons Park.
- Repaved McConkey Square.
- Approved the Proposal and Scope of Services for the design of interior drainage improvement from Davis & Floyd.
- Adopted the 2026-2027 Budget.
- Approved the AirMedCare Network Municipal Site Membership Agreement for Town Residents and Town Employees.
- Approved sea turtle protection signs.
- Upon the TIDE Committee's suggestion, the Town sponsored Shred Day on April 25, 2026, with 1175 pounds of paper shredded.

- The newly repaved Jungle Shores Bike Path, funded by a grant received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and with a match from Town funds, was completed and opened for use in September 2025.
- Conducted hurricane season tabletop exercises with Colleton County Emergency Management and the Town also held the annual Hurricane Preparedness Workshop for residents.
- Updated the Emergency Operations Plan for the 2026 Hurricane Season.
- Approved thirteen (13) special event applications.
- Fire Department received the SC Fire Safe Community Award for the third year in a row.
- Volunteer Fire Department members painted Town hydrants.
- For Summer 2026, an additional beach patrol officer was hired, bringing the total to six (6) officers; extensive two-day trainings held with all beach patrol officers prior to the season start; and a third shift was continued on the weekends for Summer 2026.
- Fifteen (15) Starfish Awards were presented by Council.
- Adopted Ordinances, Resolutions, and Proclamations in 2025-26 including:
 - Ordinance updated for golf cart regulations as per new state requirements
 - Ordinance updated for Recreational Fires to address conditions under which they may be permitted in Town limits
 - Ordinance approved to Standardize Business License Class Schedule as required every odd year
 - Resolution approved for the 2026-27 Town Council Goals Resolution
 - Resolution approved for the Annual Town of Edisto Beach Safety Policy for Employees
 - Amended Chapter 86, Article V, Section 214, *Signs for which a permit is not required*
 - Approved resolution for the Lowcountry Council of Governments' efforts to include improvements to the SC-174 Causeway in regional long-range transportation plans and to advance SCDOT's efforts to implement causeway resiliency improvements
 - Proclamation establishing Edisto Lions Club Day for June 12, 2026, in recognition of the 75th anniversary
 - Resolution approved for Hurricane Preparedness Week, May 3-9, 2026
 - Resolution approved for Municipal Clerk Week, May 4-11, 2026
 - Approved Building Safety Month Proclamation, May 2026
 - Approved Golf Cart Safety and Education Month Resolution for June 2026
- Presentations at Town Council meetings were held as follows:
 - Drainage Study Presentation by Davis & Floyd
 - 2024-2025 Auditors Presentation
 - 2025 SC Department of Environmental Services Beach Monitoring Data
 - AirMedCare Presentation
- Approved Accommodations Tax Advisory (ATAX) Funding as follows during the 2025-2026 fiscal year:
 - \$250,000 to the Town of Edisto Beach for Beach Renourishment

- \$60,700 to the Town of Edisto Beach for pollinator garden at Jungle Road Park
- \$15,000 to the Town of Edisto Beach for Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival
- \$18,399 to the Edisto Beach Police Department for Beach Patrol Gator 4X4
- \$15,000 to the Town of Edisto Beach for the July 4 Family Fun & Fireworks
- \$4,850 to the Art Guild for the Plein Air Paint Out
- \$14,105 to the Town of Edisto Beach for life rings
- \$25,450 to the Edisto Chamber of Commerce for software related to Tourism Data & Visitor Experience Initiative
- \$9,000 to the Town of Edisto Beach for Location Intelligence and Foot Traffic Data Software
- \$5,000 to the Animal Lovers of Edisto for the Paddlin' for the Pups event
- \$5,500 to the Edisto Art Guild for the 2026 Arts in the Park Concert Series
- Town Council held seventeen (17) regular monthly and special meetings during 2025-2026, with only seven (7) executive sessions held over these 17 meetings.

These items are a few highlights of the Town's accomplishments during the 2025-2026 year. Town Council is committed to working together with our residents to do all we can for our beautiful beach town.