



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sheri Chadwick
Communications Director
303-754-3320

City of Centennial Awarded Bloomberg Philanthropies Innovation Team Grant
City works to improve mobility

Centennial, CO – Today, Bloomberg Philanthropies announced Centennial as one of 12 U.S. cities selected to participate in the \$45 million expansion of Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Innovation Teams program. The i-teams program aims to improve the capacity of City Halls to effectively design and implement new approaches that improve citizens’ lives – relying on data, open innovation, and strong project and performance management to help mayors address pressing urban challenges. Centennial will receive up to \$1.5 million throughout three years to create an i-team.

“The City looks forward to putting together an innovative team to address the mobility challenges throughout the City. Transportation is an important issue and one that affects school children, daily commuters, businesses, households/families and especially the often-overlooked and unique mobility needs of our increasing senior population,” says Centennial Mayor Cathy Noon. “This is an amazing opportunity to pursue ideas that will enhance our quality of life, even more.”

Innovation Teams function as in-house innovation consultants, moving from one city priority to the next. Using Bloomberg Philanthropies’ tested Innovation Delivery approach, i-teams help agency leaders and staff through a data-driven process to assess problems, generate responsive new interventions, develop partnerships, and deliver measurable results.

In Centennial, the new i-team will initially focus on improving mobility across all modes of transportation throughout the City. Some goals the City will address include applying new technologies and creative concepts to help improve traffic flow, reduce motor vehicle traffic congestion hours and related costs, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety – such as safe routes to schools – and so much more.

Innovation Team grants will also go to the U.S. cities of Albuquerque, NM; Boston, MA; Jersey City, NJ; Long Beach, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Mobile, AL; Minneapolis, MN; Peoria, IL; Rochester, NY; Seattle, WA; and Syracuse, NY.

Bloomberg Philanthropies also announced that two non-U.S. cities will receive i-team grants: Jerusalem and Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel. In addition to the grants, cities receive robust implementation support and opportunities to exchange lessons learned and best practices with peers in other cities. Newly formed i-teams will hit the ground running in each city no later than spring 2015.

The i-teams grants are the second round made through Bloomberg Philanthropies' Government Innovation portfolio, which focuses on promoting public sector innovation. The first round of grants were made to the cities of Atlanta, Chicago, Louisville, Memphis, and New Orleans. Successes include reducing retail vacancies in Memphis, minimizing unnecessary ambulance trips to the emergency room in Louisville, cutting licensing time for new restaurants in Chicago, reducing homelessness in Atlanta, and reducing the murder rate in New Orleans.

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About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies' mission is to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Public Health, Environment, Education, Government Innovation and the Arts. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2013, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$452 million. For more information on the philanthropy, please visit bloomberg.org or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @BloombergDotOrg.