FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Introducing Centennial's new innovation team!
Through Bloomberg Philanthropies Innovation Team Grant

(Centennial, CO) The City of Centennial is excited to introduce its new Innovation Team, comprised of four forwarding-thinking staff members tasked with injecting innovation into the City to facilitate long-term change. Innovation Teams function as in-house innovation consultants that assess problems, generate innovative responses and develop partnerships to fix an existing problem. The City's new Innovation Team or "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 and related costs, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety – such as safe routes to schools – and so much more.

The innovation team is made possible through a 3-year, $1.5 million grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies. Centennial was one of 12 U.S. and two international cities to be selected in December 2014 to participate in the expansion of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Innovation Teams program.

Meet the team:

Scott Blumenreich, the leader of the team, was hired in March as the Innovation Team Manager. Formerly the Deputy Chief Information Officer of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Scott spent the past few years as an Executive IT Consultant providing services to a diverse set of industry leaders. Blumenreich has a Master's Degree in Information Systems from Nova Southeastern University, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and emphasis in Genetics from Metropolitan State College in Denver.

Daniel Hutton is honing his passion for the pursuit of ideas as the Innovation Team Project Manager. Formerly Senior Management Analyst for the City of Centennial, Daniel's background in telecommunications supported Centennial's fiber optic initiative and analysis of the City's utility rate structures. He has earned a Bachelor's in Political Science from Randolph-Macon College and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver's School of Public Affairs.

Melanie Morgan is the Innovation Team Data Analyst with the statistical expertise to manage the data-driven approach to solving local and regional challenges. Melanie has a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health from Tulane University and recently completed her Master's in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. During her graduate studies, she worked as an intern at Renaissance Planning Group, a transportation and land use planning consulting firm, where she conducted GIS analysis, forecasted population and employment growth, and investigated how light rail stations impact demographic change.

Bailey Little is Team Coordinator with the skills to mobilize energy around innovation that drives change. Bailey previously worked at Englewood Schools as an Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent and the Learning Services Department. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of South Dakota.

Visit www.CentennialCO.gov/iteam for more information.

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(From Left to Right): Melanie Morgan, Bailey Little, Daniel Hutton and Scott Blumenreich.

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.