



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the Mayor

Date: January 26, 2015

To: Honorable John Quincy, Chair Ways and Means Committee

Referral to: Honorable Elizabeth Glidden, Chair Committee of the Whole

Subject: **Acceptance of Innovation Delivery Grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies**

Recommendation:

1. Accept grant award from Bloomberg Philanthropies for \$900,000 per year for up to three years for the establishment of an Innovation Delivery Team.
2. Authorize the appropriate officials to enter into a three year agreement with Bloomberg Philanthropies.
3. Increase the 2015 appropriation and revenue budgets for the City Coordinator Department by \$900,000.

Previous Directives: None

Department Information

Prepared by: Ben Hecker, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Approved by: John Stiles, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Presenters in Committee: John Stiles

Reviews: NA

Financial Impact

- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget or Operating Budget
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Community Impact - NA

Supporting Information

Background

In the Fall of 2014 Bloomberg Philanthropies invited select Mayors throughout the world to submit proposals for grant funding to build capacity for innovation in their cities. The program provides for a multi-year investment in creating a data-driven approach to solving seemingly intractable problems through the creation of "innovation teams." In December, Bloomberg announced that Minneapolis is one of 12 U.S. cities selected to participate in the

Innovation Teams program. The five cities that participated in the first round of Innovation Delivery showed concrete successes on their focus areas:

Chicago, IL: Cut the licensing time for new restaurants by 33%; more than 1,000 new restaurants have opened

Atlanta, GA: Moved 1,022 chronically homeless individuals into permanent housing, quickly establishing itself as a national leader

Memphis, TN: Reduced retail vacancy rates by 70% along key commercial corridors

New Orleans, LA: Reduced murder in 2013 by 19% compared to the previous year, resulting in the lowest number of murders in New Orleans since 1985

Louisville, KY: Redirected 21% of low-severity 911 medical calls to a doctor's office or immediate care center in lieu of an ambulance trip to the ER

Scope of Work

Minneapolis has been awarded \$900,000 per year for up to three years to:

- 1) analyze core city services to determine whether those services are being delivered equitably throughout the City, and;
- 2) in cases where there is inequitable service delivery and/or outcomes work collaboratively with departments to identify and implement strategies that address the inequity.

The Mayor and City Council have explicitly set eliminating racial inequities as a goal, and we are now poised to analyze and correct race- and place-based inequities in the delivery of municipal services. The Innovation Delivery grant will drive more equitable service delivery in Minneapolis by utilizing a systematic and sustainable model for innovation and problem solving that leverages departmental expertise.

Grant Requirements

Matching

Acceptance of the Innovation Delivery Grant includes a requirement for a 1:3 funding match. Half of the required match must be identified by February 1, 2016, and the balance by February 1, 2017. The match requirement may be met through a range of flexible solutions. For example, the match may be met through expenditures related to implementation of initiatives developed by the Innovation Delivery Team. It is anticipated that recommended strategies for meeting the match requirement will be identified through the implementation process, in coordination with partner departments and policy makers.

Performance Benchmarks

The grant provides for a series of performance benchmarks tied to a process timeline. The timeline calls for the identification of actionable initiatives by November, 2015.

Sustainability

Third year grant funding is contingent upon the execution of a strategy to provide for ongoing public funding for a portion of the Innovation Team personnel prior to the conclusion of the program's second year.

Next Steps

Initial steps for the creation of the Innovation Team are underway with the establishment of the Innovation Team Director position, which is expected to be filled by the end of February.

Once in place, the director will move forward the hiring of a full team and development and implementation of the 2015 Innovation Delivery plan. The team anticipates providing updates to Committee of the Whole as appropriate.