Bloomberg Philanthropies
City Data Alliance

CITY DATA ALLIANCE: **ACCELERATOR**

Through a six-month curriculum of classroom training, individualized city coaching, and opportunities to apply learning led by the Bloomberg Center for Government Excellence at Johns Hopkins University (GovEx), the City Data Alliance Accelerator (Accelerator) is helping mayors' selected senior teams deepen their use of data to inform decisions, transform systems, understand impact, and communicate results. Targets are set so cities have a comprehensive plan and process to ask tough questions, invest in proven practices, innovate their approaches, evaluate progress, and establish new policies and standards to ensure the work is sustained. The Accelerator will help mayors and their senior teams:

1. **Lead confidently with data,** including knowing how to integrate data practices into your daily routines and decision making.
2. **Invest in the right people, practices, and platforms,** including how to attract and retain new data talent, invest in existing talent, and prioritize the investments that can advance data practices in your city.
3. **Empower people to be part of the solution,** including how to ask internal and external stakeholders to come to the table with data, and effectively communicate with staff and residents using data.

By the end of the Accelerator, your city will create or refine a citywide data strategy: a three-year vision and actionable plan designed to advance your city's use of data and improve city outcomes. It will cover the core components of data governance, quality, use, and transparency.

The Accelerator includes:

- **In-Person Convening:** Mayors will participate in two days of activities with their peers and learn the role they have to play in creating a data-informed culture. Mayors will be introduced to the core concepts that will be covered during the six-month period and how to lead their team to be successful during this time. Mayors will be exposed to the possibilities presented by adopting a data-informed culture and set a vision for applying data to their top priorities for resident impact to share with their senior teams. For a city to participate in the Bloomberg Philanthropies City Data Alliance, mayors must participate in the convening, beginning the evening of Wednesday, June 26, 2024, and concluding the afternoon of Friday, June 28, 2024. No surrogates will be accepted.
- **Keynote Sessions:** Virtual keynote sessions for senior teams led by world-class practitioners and faculty to assess real-world examples of the work in action and to collaborate with peers.
- **Hands-on workshops for senior teams:** Virtual group sessions for senior team members to unpack the skills from keynote sessions and plan for how the practices can be applied in their city.
- **Individual city coaching sessions:** Regular, virtual check-ins with your Coach, who will support you in advancing your implementation plan.
- **Showcases:** Opportunities for the senior team to demonstrate how they put their learnings into action in their city (e.g., a new data routine, enactment of a new policy) to receive feedback from their Coach and ensure that these practices are sustained moving forward.
- Additionally, mayors will be expected to re-engage with the team and their GovEx Coach at key moments throughout the six-month training to provide direction or make decisions.

Mayors can consider the following roles when selecting the senior team (3-4 members) to participate in Accelerator programming:

- City Manager or Chief of Staff;
- A Chief Data Officer (or similar);
- A senior-level role responsible for driving equity initiatives/accountability;
- A chief policy staffer; and/or
- A communications lead.

Each city is unique and staff with different roles than the above may make sense for the city's team composition.