



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 26, 2016

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MINER ANNOUNCES SYRACUSE SELECTED TO JOIN *WHAT WORKS CITIES*, NATIONAL INITIATIVE OF CITY GOVERNMENTS COMMITTED TO CIVIC DATA INNOVATION

Syracuse Joins Select Cities Nationwide as Part of Bloomberg Philanthropies Effort to Make Government More Efficient, Effective Through the Use of Data

Miner: Syracuse Is Joining the Top Echelon of Civic Innovators and I Am Eager for Us to Begin the Exciting Work Ahead

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner announced today that the City of Syracuse has been selected to join What Works Cities, a national civic innovation collaboration launched by Bloomberg Philanthropies in 2015. What Works Cities partners with municipalities to enhance the use of data in public sector decision making. As part of this program, Miner announced the City will work to make data about housing, infrastructure, and neighborhood issues open to the public.

“Syracuse is joining the top echelon of civic innovators and I am proud we are taking our record of experience and our creative ideas to What Works Cities,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “This will give the City of Syracuse the opportunity to work with remarkable minds developing twenty-first century solutions to our challenges. I am eager for us to begin the exciting work that lies ahead.”

“We are thrilled to welcome these new cities to the initiative, furthering our mission to help cities leverage data and evidence to improve their residents’ lives,” said **Simone Brody, Executive Director of What Works Cities**. “We’re proud to add the commitment of these 16 new and innovative cities to this national movement.”

The City of Syracuse will use this partnership to begin more work with open data, reliably compiling data to improve municipal decision making. Additionally, the City will make more data available for the public and seek input from citizens about how to best use this information. Recently, the City of Syracuse has sponsored a Civic Data Hackathon, providing open data and seeking citizen solutions to road infrastructure challenges.

About What Works Cities

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In 18 short months, What Works cities has stimulated the largest movement of cities and city leaders across the country sharing lessons and best practices to improve the effectiveness of government. The initiative has inspired 90 U.S. mayors to better use data and evidence to improve services and has engaged over 1,700 city employees on performance management, analytics and other leading practices. What Works Cities has produced 130 resources that cities around the world are using to improve their communities and drive better outcomes for residents.

The consortium of leading organizations assembled by Bloomberg Philanthropies and delivering a program of support to cities includes the Behavioral Insights Team, the Center for Government Excellence at Johns Hopkins University, the Government Performance Lab at the Harvard Kennedy School, Results for America and the Sunlight Foundation.

The 16 new cities join the following 39 cities as What Works Cities: Anchorage, AK; Baltimore, MD; Buffalo, NY; Bellevue, WA; Boston, MA; Cambridge, MA; Cape Coral, FL; Chattanooga, TN; Charlotte, NC; Denton, TX; Denver, CO; Fort Lauderdale, FL; Greensboro, NC; Gresham, OR; Independence, MO; Jackson, MS; Kansas City, KS; Kansas City, MO; Las Vegas, NV; Lexington, KY; Little Rock, AR; Louisville, KY; Mesa, AZ; Milwaukee, WI; Naperville, IL; New Orleans, LA; Providence, RI; Raleigh, NC; San Francisco, CA; San Jose, CA; Seattle, WA; Scottsdale, AZ; Saint Paul, MN; Tacoma, WA; Topeka, KS; Tulsa, OK, Victorville, CA; Waco, TX; and Wichita, KS.

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