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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ORDINANCE INTRODUCED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR \$1 MILLION GRANT SUPPORTING  
DEVELOPMENT OF GROUND-BREAKING ANALYTICS PLATFORM**

*Grant Was Awarded to City in March 2013 by Bloomberg Philanthropies for Chicago to Build  
First Citywide Real-Time Predictive Analytics Platform*

Today the Emanuel Administration introduced an ordinance to the City Council that will enable the City to accept a \$1 million grant that will go towards supporting the development of the first citywide predictive analytics platform, which will help City leaders analyze data in real time to make more effective decisions. The grant was awarded to the City in March 2013 through the Bloomberg Philanthropies' Mayors Challenge, a competition that called upon American cities to generate innovative ideas that solve major challenges and improve city life.

"Chicago has become a national leader in leveraging data and technology to create a smarter, more nimble and more responsive government," said Mayor Emanuel. "This project will help us continue to move the ball forward, because becoming a more data-driven, innovative government allows us to continue to make Chicago a better place to live."

Chicago was selected as a Mayors Challenge winner out of a pool of over 300 applicant cities. The winning cities were chosen based on four criteria: vision, ability to implement, potential for impact and potential for replication. Chicago's SmartData Platform is a tool that will provide leaders the ability to analyze millions of lines of data in real-time; this helps make smarter, earlier decisions to address a wide range of urban challenges. In Chicago, residents can expect to see changes in how the City addresses almost every kind of service delivery – from managing weather emergencies to scaling back traffic accidents.

The City plans to work with academic partners, including Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Chicago, to develop the platform, leveraging data science experts to support the creation, implementation, and eventual replication of the SmartData Platform for other cities who choose to adopt the tool. Once developed, this groundbreaking platform will be open-sourced and available for any city to adopt.

Since Mayor Emanuel took office, the City has launched one of the most ambitious open data programs in the country, overhauling the City's data portal, [data.cityofchicago.org](http://data.cityofchicago.org), to host nearly 450 machine-readable and searchable datasets and has been viewed over 3.3 million times. Further, the City's Advanced Analytics Program has developed and launched a real-time spatial analytics application, "WindyGrid," to help City leaders make data-driven decisions faster. The City has standardized performance metrics across departments and made them available to the public online, as well as implemented an Open311 initiative, which reduces redundancies in City operations and allows Chicagoans to track their service requests online, making City government more effective and responsive.

### **About Bloomberg Philanthropies**

Bloomberg Philanthropies is on a mission to improve and lengthen lives. They focus on five key areas to create lasting change: Public Health, Environment, Education, Government Innovation, which includes the Mayors Challenge, and Arts & Culture. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2012, \$360 million was distributed. For more information, please visit [www.bloomberg.org](http://www.bloomberg.org).

### **About the Mayors Challenge**

The Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge was a competition to inspire American cities to generate innovative ideas that solve major challenges and improve city life. Mayors of U.S. cities with 30,000 residents or more were eligible to compete, with 305 cities representing 45 states submitting applications last September. Providence, Rhode Island was awarded the \$5 million grand prize, while Houston, Philadelphia, and Santa Monica were also awarded \$1 million prizes. To learn more about the Mayors Challenge, visit [bloomberg.org/mayorschallenge](http://bloomberg.org/mayorschallenge).

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