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**Denver Commission To End Homelessness
Presents Proposed 10-Year Plan To Mayor Hickenlooper**

(DENVER) The Denver Commission To End Homelessness today presented Mayor John Hickenlooper with its proposal for ending homelessness in Denver in 10 years.

The proposal includes eight core goals and hundreds of underlying action steps to create solutions to homelessness in Denver by focusing on housing, supportive services and public safety. More than 350 community volunteers assisted in developing the proposal, which has been presented for further input at more than 30 community meetings.

The Mayor thanked the Commission for its 18 months of work developing the Plan, saying, "You have taken on a task that many believe is impossible and, yet, because of your tireless and substantive efforts, I know Denver will succeed in ending homelessness.

"When I campaigned for Mayor, I heard a great deal of concern about people who were living on the streets, about public safety, and about the effects of homelessness on the business community. When we formed the Commission in late 2004 I said that I wanted input from the best hearts and minds in the City to help us approach these challenges in a manner that honors all of our citizens. I am grateful that, once again, this City has engaged in an inclusive and extensive community input process to gather the best possible solutions to end homelessness."

The Commission includes among its 41 members people who are homeless, City Council members and representatives from nonprofit service providers, local and state government agencies, the business community, foundations and neighborhood groups.

As the Mayor reviews the Plan over the next few weeks, City Council members and zoning and planning officials also will receive and consider it. In the meantime, the Commission will step up efforts to raise funding to implement the plan and new efforts to help those who are homeless, said Roxane White, manager of the Denver Department of Human Services and chair of the Denver Commission To End Homelessness.

"I am confident that the same dedication and energy that was given to creating the plan will now be directed to implementation," White added. "This plan will not sit on a shelf. Upon final approval of the plan, and with support from the community, we will work immediately to implement the action steps to end homelessness in Denver."

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