

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 11, 2019

## **OpenStreetsPGH Celebrating 5th Anniversary 2019 Routes Announced**

*OpenStreetsPGH is Presented by UPMC Health Plan*

Contact: Alexandria Shewczyk, BikePGH, (412) 325-4334

**PITTSBURGH** – Bike Pittsburgh (BikePGH) is celebrating the 5th Anniversary of OpenStreetsPGH this year and presenting sponsor UPMC Health Plan is excited to host this summer series with over 100,000 people expected to participate.

“OpenStreetsPGH is Pittsburgh’s fastest growing free event series that invites Pittsburghers to reimagine their streets as places for people, not just cars. After 5 years, this event series has grown from 44,000 participants in 2015 to 113,000 participants in 2018,” said Mike Carroll, Events Director at BikePGH. “This year we will be opening streets in 14 neighborhoods by temporarily closing them to cars. Inviting people to explore their community streets in a safer, healthier, more livable way.”

The event is organized by BikePGH, a registered 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit, who works on behalf of the Pittsburgh community to make the city safe and accessible for everyone to bike and walk. BikePGH is committed to improving the health and quality of life of Pittsburgh through increased access to safe bicycling and walking facilities, and by creating opportunities to bike and walk for all.

“UPMC Health Plan is proud to continue our sponsorship of OpenStreetsPGH since these events encourage Pittsburghers of all ages to get physically fit while exploring communities through the city,” said Dr. Michael Parkinson, senior medical director at UPMC Health Plan. ““We’re often referred to as the ‘City of Bridges’ and OpenStreetsPGH helps to bridge the link between physical activity and overall health. We hope everyone will get moving and stay active during each event this summer and throughout the year.”

OpenStreetsPGH offers something for everyone, from fitness workshops, to kids activities, shopping, brunch, community arts, and special promotions presented by over 100 local businesses and organizations. There are three event hubs along the route: two hubs will feature free fitness classes by the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh and one hub will feature a brand new BikePGH Kids Bicycling Education classes.

Unlike other events, OpenStreetsPGH does not necessitate a completely continuous street closure. At each event, car drivers will be able to cross the route at a dozen intersections along the route.

OpenStreetsPGH is inspired by the open streets movement – a global phenomenon promoting healthy outdoor activity and community engagement using city streets. Pittsburgh is one of hundreds of cities worldwide (over 100 in North America alone) that hold open streets events.

### **Check out the 2019 OpenStreetsPGH Schedule:**

Last weekend of May, June and July (9AM – 1PM)

**Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>: Homewood, Larimer, East Liberty, Shadyside, and North Point Breeze**

- Explore the longest OpenStreetsPGH route ever with 4.4 mile loop in Pittsburgh's East End
- **Where to go:** Peoples Hub at Mellon Park, East Liberty Hub at Center Ave., Homewood Hub at Kelly St.

**Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>: Downtown, Strip District, Lawrenceville**

- **Now a 4 mile route:** take a trip from Market Square along Penn Avenue, from Downtown to the Strip District, and Butler Street from Doughboy Square to 52nd Street in Lawrenceville.
- **Where to go:** The Peoples Hub at Market Square, Strip District Hub at 28th St., Lawrenceville Hub at 52nd St.

**Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>: Downtown, Uptown, South Side**

- **4 mile route:** from Market Square, Downtown to Uptown through the Armstrong Tunnel to East Carson Street in the South Side.
- **Where to go:** The Peoples Hub at Market Square, Uptown Hub at Gist St, South Side Hub at 20th.

Media and the public are encouraged to visit <http://openstreetspgh.org/media/>, or follow OpenStreetsPGH on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), for updates and details on event happenings. For more information on how to get to OpenStreetsPGH, visit <http://openstreetspgh.org/getting-there/>.

**About Us**

*The event is organized by Bike Pittsburgh and is made possible through major support from UPMC Health Plan. Additional support is provided by, Peoples, The Benter Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Wahilia Creative, AARP, Port Authority, Uber, and PNC.*

###