PRESS RELEASE

15 YEARS OF BIKE TOUR TRADITION DRAWS RIDERS INTO ELIZABETH ON MAY 20, 2018

Jennifer M. Costa Director, Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization [EDMO]

PRESS RELEASE



15^{TH} ANNUAL TOUR DE ELIZABETH SEEKS RIDERS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS

Cyclists of every skill level are readying their bicycles in anticipation of the 15th Annual Tour de Elizabeth scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2018- rain or shine. The Annual 15 mile cycling event begins and ends at City Hall, which is located at 50 Winfield Scott Plaza in New Jersey's 4th largest City.

Elizabeth, N.J. May 11, 2018-- Cyclists of every skill level are readying their bicycles in anticipation of the 15th Tour de Elizabeth, scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2018. The Annual 15 mile cycling event begins and ends at City Hall, which is located at 50 Winfield Scott Plaza in New Jersey's 4th largest City, rain or shine.

Registration is still open online at www.groundworkelizabeth.org and www.elizabethnj.org. No bike? No problem! For those needing a bicycle, participants can rent one onsite. The Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization has made arrangements, which include a

helmet, at https://www.goelizabethnj.com/bike/ Walk up registrations are \$25 each and are welcome. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the ride begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. The first 500 registrants will receive a signature 2018 cap, created by ABG Accessories and a Tour t-shirt. All riders will also be given a free raffle ticket for the post event drawings. For last minute questions, prospective riders are requested to call 908-289-0262.



The theme for this year's ride is "Destination Elizabeth", featuring Elizabeth as a year round destination City which boasts of great hotel accommodations, shopping, history, cuisine, and diversity. Groundwork Elizabeth and the City help to organize the Tour, assisted by the Elizabeth Destination Marketing Organization, the Bicycle Committee, and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders whom are all working with the City to promote the annual bike tour tradition.

The event site is also home to vendors, nonprofit organizations and for the first time, it will feature a Wellness Village on the plaza in front of City Hall, courtesy of the City of Elizabeth's Health and Human Services Department.

Mayor Chris Bollwage, the City, and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders wholeheartedly support the Tour. Sponsorships, along with the commitment by Energy partner Elizabethtown Gas, help fund the Tour. Sponsors include Elberon Development Group, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, Brounell and Kramer Realtors, Harbor

Consultants Inc., T&M Associates, Rotary Club of Elizabeth, State Farm Insurance office of Angel Rodriguez, Investors Savings Bank, Universal Peace Federation USA, Atalanta Corporation, BJ&M Auto, Tropicana Diner, the Gateway Family YMCA, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, the Election Fund of Carlos Torres, Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA LP, the Elizabeth Avenue Partnership, the Historic Midtown Special Improvement District, the Elizabeth Housing Authority, Donald T. Alosio, Jr. DC, Hilton Newark Airport Hotel, Residential Home Funding, Stanley J. Appraisers. In kind supporters such as Rock 'n' Joe, IKEA, Gargiulo Fruit, Navy Veteran Printing, NJ American Water, and others add to the base of supporters who make the day a special event.



The Tour is open to all ages and all riding skill levels. As long as the participant can keep a moderate pace of 10 miles per hour and is able to ride 15 miles - there is a "bail-out" at the halfway mark. Helmets are required for all riders. Members of the Elizabeth Police Department will also be on hand to escort cyclists on a route with rolling intersection closings and assist where needed.

Part of the proceeds will be donated to the nonprofit organization Groundwork Elizabeth, whose mission is to build more sustainable communities. For more information on the City of Elizabeth and on Groundwork Elizabeth please visit www.groundworkelizabeth.org or www.groundworkelizabeth.

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Contact Jonathan Phillips at Groundwork Elizabeth, 908-289-0262 ext. 203, <u>elizabethnj@groundworkusa.org</u> or Kelly Martins, Public Information, City of Elizabeth, 908-820-4124, <u>kmartins@elizabethnj.org</u>