



**BIKE NEW YORK LAUNCHES INITIATIVE WITH THE NYC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF IMMIGRANT
AFFAIRS TO OFFER FREE BIKES TO ASYLUM SEEKERS**

Initiative launched as registration for the 45th TD Five Borough Bike Tour is now open

New York, NY, January 11, 2023 – Bike New York announced today a new initiative designed to provide free bicycles to asylum seekers and other immigrants recently arriving in New York City.

Through this new initiative, Bike New York is partnering with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA), the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), Unlimited Biking, and Recycle-A-Bicycle to oversee a large-scale effort to receive, repair, and distribute donated bikes to recent arrivals from the southern border, with the goal of providing an inexpensive and convenient way for them to access the jobs and services they need to get settled and acclimated in their new homes. Those who receive a bike will also be provided with a helmet courtesy of New York City DOT, as well as a bike lock and bike lights donated by Bike New York partner Kryptonite.

The launch of this new initiative was celebrated today at an event announcing that registration is now open for the [2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour](#) – the world's largest charitable bike ride – taking place on Sunday, May 7, 2023. Every year, the TD Five Boro Bike Tour brings together cyclists from all walks of life and skill levels for an opportunity to experience New York completely free of cars.

"For 45 years, the annual TD Five Boro Bike Tour has provided cyclists from New York City and beyond with the opportunity to ride car-free through the five boroughs of the most vibrant and diverse city in the world," said **Ken Podziba, CEO and President of Bike New York**. "But the Tour is much more than that because biking is not just a fun, healthy, inexpensive, and eco-friendly way to get around. Each year the event provides our organization with the funding and visibility needed to bring the transformative aspects of biking to even more people and communities, including this important new partnership with the City of New York to provide free bicycles to asylum seekers and other immigrants recently arriving in our city."

"As the proud title sponsor of the Five Boro Bike Tour, and ingrained part of the fabric and footprint of New York City, TD is excited that registration has opened for what will once again be another incredible Tour later this May," said **Andrew Bregenzer, Regional President of Metro NY, TD Bank**.

The new initiative for asylum seekers and recently-arrived immigrants is one such program that meets this mission. Bike New York will be accepting bike donations at select drop-off locations provided by [Unlimited Biking](#) and NYC DCAS and will then refurbish the bikes through its community bike shop, [Recycle-A-Bicycle](#), in Brooklyn. Recycle-A-Bicycle is known for its work repairing and reselling donated bikes and bike parts, providing full repair services, and offering free bike maintenance classes and community rides for cyclists in Clinton Hill and the surrounding neighborhoods. All sales benefit Bike New York's educational classes and programs. Donation drop-off locations include:

- Manhattan: Unlimited Biking
 - 56 West 56th Street from Monday-Sunday 9 AM-5 PM
 - 346 West 57th Street from Monday-Sunday 9 AM-5 PM
 - 79 Chambers Street from Monday-Sunday 9 AM-5 PM
- Queens: DCAS
 - 66-26 Metropolitan Ave from Monday-Friday 10 AM-2:30 PM (take the ramp up one level)
- Brooklyn: Recycle-A-Bicycle
 - 858 Fulton Street from Tuesday-Saturday 10 AM-6 PM and Sunday 9 AM-5 PM

The TD Five Boro Bike Tour is the premier fundraising event for Bike New York, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to empowering New Yorkers to transform their lives and their communities through cycling. Proceeds from the event directly fund free public bike education and access programs for more than 30,000 adults and kids throughout the five boroughs, Bike New York co-produces this iconic New York tradition with the New York City Department of Transportation.

Other Bike New York programs benefiting from the TD Five Boro Bike Tour include Bike Path, an initiative that provides New Yorkers with modest job prospects, including formerly incarcerated residents, with intensive bike mechanic training, so they can obtain stable employment with Motivate, which maintains Citi Bike's fleet.

"Since the beginning of this humanitarian crisis, communities across New York City have come together in incredible ways to ensure recently arrived asylum seekers are welcomed with dignity," said **MOIA Commissioner Manuel Castro**. "Today, MOIA is proud to partner with Bike NY to encourage New Yorkers to participate in the bike donation program. We are incredibly grateful for the existing support and look forward to the distribution of these bikes to asylum seekers, so they may continue to acclimate in their new homes."

"New York City is home to people of all backgrounds and nationalities, many of whom arrived with little more than the clothes on their backs," said **DOT Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez**. "New Yorkers also stand up for those in need and this time is no different. That's why we are happy to partner with Bike NY and the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to begin putting this event together. Bikes represent more than just a mode of transportation for people, it can provide newcomers with freedom, a form of income, and renewed feeling of community. I urge all New Yorkers looking to make a difference in the life

of one of our City's newest arrivals to drop off a donated bike at one of the five locations throughout the city – and strongly encourage cyclists -- from New York and beyond -- to join us here in May for this great Five Boro Bike Tour.”

"We are proud to support and partner with Bike New York as they donate bikes to asylum seekers through this initiative," said **DCAS Commissioner Dawn M. Pinnock**. "With these bikes, we're giving those in greatest need opportunities to acclimate to our city and navigate it in an inexpensive, convenient, and environmentally friendly way. At DCAS, we prioritize making city government work for all New Yorkers, and that includes supporting those who want to build a life in our city. "

Unlimited Biking store locations near Central Park, Columbus Circle, and Brooklyn Bridge will be the official [drop-off](#) points for those interested in donating bikes for this cause. For locations and hours, visit UnlimitedBiking.com/donations. “We are proud to be the official rental partner with Bike New York for the TD Five Boro Bike Tour, and we are especially happy to provide an easy donation process at our three Manhattan stores,” said **Hakan Ugdur, CEO and Founder of Unlimited Biking**.

For more information and to register for the 2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour, visit www.bike.nyc/tour.

About Bike New York

Bike New York is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides free bike education programs throughout New York City. Bike New York teaches bike education and safety skills to 30,000 kids and adults each year. Funding for these programs comes from numerous annual events, including the TD Five Boro Bike Tour and regional rides like Twin Lights. www.bike.nyc

About Unlimited Biking

At Unlimited Biking, we believe that the best cycling experience is one that encompasses quality bikes, great customer service, and the desire to explore. Through sightseeing tours and rentals in NYC, San Francisco, Washington DC, and soon in Miami, San Diego and Los Angeles, we've been dedicated to sharing our passion for biking for over ten years.