

Cycle 66 event coming to Edmond in November

By: Jennifer Sharpe June 3, 2021 0

Registration is now open for Cycle 66, a bicycle tour and festival planned for Nov. 7 in Edmond. Participants can choose one of three routes – 10, 33, or 66 miles – that each start and finish in downtown Edmond and include segments of historic Route 66. The tour costs \$35 regardless of distance and \$10 for ages 12 and under.

“Cycle 66 is an economy and tourism driver,” said Jennifer Seaton, director of Visit Edmond. “We are attracting visitors from across the state and region for this first inaugural bicycle tour.”

The 10-mile route is recommended for families and recreational riders, featuring downtown Edmond, notable public art, the University of Central Oklahoma campus and the community’s best parks and bike paths.

For intermediate riders, the 33-mile route is geared for those looking for more challenge. Starting in Edmond and then dipping south to the state Capitol, the route will include OU Health’s “Party at the Turn” before heading back to downtown Edmond.

The 66-mile route is for advanced riders and bikers wanting to push the distance. With significant mileage on Route 66, the course includes the five communities of Edmond, Oklahoma City, Jones, Luther and Arcadia.

“People are looking for something fun to do, and this event really is for everyone with the three distances,” Seaton said. In addition to the bicycle rides, there will be a family-friendly celebration throughout the day at the Festival Market Place with music, entertainment, food trucks and fun for all ages. The event also will feature vendors with cycling or health-conscious focus.

OU Health is title sponsor for the Cycle 66 inaugural event. Event partners include the city of Edmond, the state of Oklahoma, Visit Edmond and all Route 66 stakeholders.

A portion of event proceeds will benefit Autumn Life Behavioral Health Center, a dedicated geriatric psychiatry inpatient program at OU Health Edmond Medical Center that addresses the unique needs of mature adults ages 55 and up. Other proceeds will benefit the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting and preserving Route 66 statewide.

Oklahoma is home to the longest drivable stretch of Route 66, nearly 400 miles. Known as the Mother Road, it was established on Nov. 11, 1926.