

# BUFFALO Commons

## Proposal for Research

Created by the Partnership for the Public Good and Cornell in Buffalo, the **Buffalo Commons** seeks to make **Buffalo-Niagara-focused research** accessible to the community and to inspire collaborative efforts among researchers and practitioners that will expand that body of knowledge.

Through the research portal, community organizations can propose topics for research that would help them serve the public. Students and faculty can then choose from those topics and produce work to benefit the community. The Buffalo Commons will publish and archive the resulting research so that it is easily available. A description of your initiative will help researchers choose your topic.

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**Name of your Organization** Partnership for the Public Good

### **Brief Description of what your organization does/is and/or the community served**

PPG is a community-based think tank doing research and advocacy on behalf of roughly 300 organizations in Buffalo-Niagara.

### **Brief description of the research needed**

Bicycles are potent anti-poverty, anti-pollution, and pro-health tools, but most people with low incomes do not own them, and usage rates are lower among people of color than whites. In addition to cost, what are key barriers preventing bike use by people with low incomes and people of color? What programs and best practices exist to offer free or low-cost bicycles, helmets, locks, and training to people with low incomes? What are other best practices in promoting cycling among these populations and how can they be implemented, particularly in cold-weather, Rust Belt cities?

**Potential Title of Proposed Research Project** Increasing Bicycling by People with Low Incomes

**Is there a specific date by which this research is needed?** May 2020.

**How will this research be used to aid the community?** We will share it with cities and non-profits and use it to advocate for policies, programs, and funding to promote bicycling..

**What (if any) other community groups are involved** GOBike Buffalo and Colored Girls Bike Too are PPG partners.

**What resources can you offer to aid the researcher (access to data, people to interview, etc.)**

We have some past research and data and can connect with community organizations and city officials.