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URA ANNOUNCES CHALLENGE CUP COMING TO PITTSBURGH

*URA will host local business pitch competition; winner qualifies for the global finals in New York City
Application period is now open*

PITTSBURGH, PA (May 2, 2017) The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA) announced today that it will host a Challenge Cup Local competition on June 28, 2017. The Challenge Cup is a business pitch competition created by 1776, a global incubator based out of Washington, D.C. This will be the fourth annual global Challenge Cup, which seeks to find innovative startups solving the world’s most complex challenges.

"The Challenge Cup brings together stakeholders from the startup, government, and business communities to find the best solutions for complex challenges," Mayor William Peduto said. "We're excited to welcome the Challenge Cup to Pittsburgh this year and support its goals."

Challenge Cup-Pittsburgh will have a focus on inclusion, resiliency, and sustainable growth – challenges that Pittsburgh is seeking to address as a growing city in the 21st century.

"We are excited to hear pitches from companies posing solutions to physical, social, and economic challenges that are relevant to Pittsburgh and cities worldwide," said Tom Link, director of the center for innovation and entrepreneurship at the URA. Link added, "This competition is a unique opportunity to showcase Pittsburgh’s startups and the growing tech ecosystem and provide them with access to resources and connections on a global scale."

Pittsburgh will host 1 of the 75 Challenge Cup Local competitions happening around the world. Each competition will feature pitches from startups in critical industries – education, energy, health, food, money, security, cities, and transportation, etc. Startups interested in applying must be beyond the "idea stage" and have a pilot program or MVP in market.

Competing companies will have access to 1776’s Union Network, a digital platform that connects startup ecosystems around the world enabling them to connect with mentors, have discussions with peers, and attend classes and events anywhere in the world. Learn more about eligibility requirements [here](#).

At each local competition, one winner is selected to compete for the \$50,000 grand prize, spend time with investors, customers, and media at the global finals in New York City in November.

The application to compete in Challenge Cup - Pittsburgh is [here](#). The application period will remain open until Friday, June 2nd.

[The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh](#) (URA) is the City of Pittsburgh's economic development agency, committed to creating jobs, expanding the City's tax base and improving the vitality of businesses and neighborhoods. The URA achieves this mission by assembling, preparing and conveying sites for major mixed-use developments; and by providing a portfolio of programs that include financing for business location, relocation and expansion, housing construction and rehabilitation, and home purchases and improvements.

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