

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Alameda County Kids Walked and Biked to School in Record Numbers in March to Compete in Golden Sneaker Contest**

*McKinley Elementary School in San Leandro Wins Platinum Sneaker Award for Greatest Participation*

*Alameda County - California.* Students across Alameda County walked, biked, and carpooled as much as possible during the first two weeks in March, competing in the “Pollution Solution Golden Sneaker Contest” as part of the [Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program](#). The annual contest challenged students to increase their walking, biking, carpooling, and transit use to reduce emissions and increase physical activity. Contest participation has increased from 12 schools in 2011 to 58 schools this year.

After tallying the results, [McKinley Elementary School](#) in San Leandro showed the greatest increase in the number of students using active and shared transportation during the 2013 Golden Sneaker Contest, earning it the Platinum Sneaker Award. On a typical day 48% of McKinley’s students walk, bike, or carpool to school, and during the Golden Sneaker Contest - 69% percent did! This was the highest change countywide, and represents 65 students making the shift to healthier transportation, and a total of 4,277 trips over the two week contest.

McKinley Elementary will be honored for its success by the [Alameda County Transportation Commission](#) at its [March 28, 2013 Commission Meeting](#).

“Our goal is to support students and families to make the shift to healthier, more community friendly transportation. Safety is always a top issue for parents, and by investing in safe access for walking and biking, we increase family participation and change transportation habits.” said Alameda CTC Chair Supervisor Scott Haggerty. “McKinley Elementary shows us that our investments are worth it!”

In addition to the county-wide competition, classes in each school competed with each other to have the greatest increase in green transportation modes, and the class with the greatest participation in each school received a Golden Sneaker trophy.

The contest was sponsored by the [Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program](#), funded by the [Alameda County Transportation Commission](#) and the [Metropolitan Transportation Commission](#).

**The Alameda County Transportation Commission**

The mission of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is to plan, fund and deliver transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County. Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers the expenditure plan for Measure B, the half-cent sales tax approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000. For more information, visit [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org); [www.facebook.com/AlamedaCTC](http://www.facebook.com/AlamedaCTC); @AlamedaCTC

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