



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Thousands of Alameda County Kids Try a New Way to Get to School on Wednesday — International Walk & Roll to School Day

Record number of Mayors participate and hit the pavement in support

Alameda County, CA – Students from more than 75 elementary and middle schools in Alameda County will be walking, bicycling, skateboarding and scootering to school along with parents, teachers and community leaders on October 5th for International Walk & Roll to School Day. This year, a record number of Mayors and Supervisors will join in the festivities including: County Supervisors Miley and Chan, Union City Mayor Mark Green, Fremont Mayor Wasserman and Vice Mayor Chan, Hayward Mayor Sweeney, San Leandro Mayor Cassidy and Vice Mayor Gregory. They'll be ready to high-five children as they arrive to school in a healthy way.

Nearly 5,000 schools across the U. S. and 40 countries around the world will participate in activities that promote active transportation as a way to improve health, safety, and the environment. Blanche Kim, a parent at Lum Elementary in the City of Alameda, encourages families who usually drive to try something different on International Walk & Roll to School Day, "With a little inspiration, parents realize walking is a great way to get to school. It's such a simple thing, but it has so many benefits ... and the kids love it."

"International Walk and Roll to School Day is an excellent way to highlight the multiple advantages of having students get to school using their own mobility," said Union City Mayor and Chair of the Alameda County Transportation Commission Mark Green. "Walking, skating or riding a bicycle is healthier, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, helps to minimize congestion and is more fun. Throughout Alameda County, the Safe Routes to Schools program is expanding and more students are participating in a healthier way to start off the school day."

Alameda County's Safe Routes to Schools Program is a countywide collaboration that promotes safe walking and biking to school. International Walk and Roll to School Day is the kickoff to a full school year of Safe Routes to Schools programming to encourage walking and bicycling to school, as well as carpooling and public transit use. As part of the Metropolitan Transportation

Commission's new Climate Initiatives program, the 4-plus-year-old Safe Routes to Schools Alameda County Program has expanded to over 80 schools across the county, reaching students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

For more information about the program please visit: <http://transformca.org/sr2s>.

What: International Walk and Roll to School Day, October 5, 2011

Kids, parents, school staff and elected officials will be available for interviews at all the following schools.

When: Wednesday, October 5 at various schools throughout Alameda County:

Delaine Eastin Elementary—Union City

Coordinator: Sky Baumbach, Teacher

Time: 7:45 a.m.

Union City Mayor Mark Green in attendance

Warm Springs Elementary – Fremont

Coordinator: Brett Nelson, Principal

Time: 7:55 a.m.

Fremont Mayor Wasserman in attendance

Parkmont Elementary – Fremont

Coordinator: Malini Kumar, Parent

Time: 8:05 a.m.

Fremont Vice Mayor Chan in attendance

Franklin Elementary – Alameda

Coordinator: Kathryn Boyle, Parent

Time: 8:05 a.m.

Alameda Mayor Gilmore in attendance

Bay Farm Elementary – Alameda

Coordinator: Joelle Prislín, Parent

Time: 8:05 a.m.

County Supervisor Chan in attendance

Roosevelt Elementary – San Leandro

Coordinator: Lisa Jackson, Parent

Time: 7:45 a.m.

San Leandro Mayor Cassidy in attendance

McKinley Elementary – San Leandro

Coordinator: Cher Mott, Principal

Time: 7:55 a.m.

San Leandro Vice Mayor Gregory in attendance

Hillside Elementary – Ashland, Unicorporated AC

Coordinator: Cynthia Flemister, School Staff

Time: 7:40 a.m.

County Supervisor Miley in attendance

Eden Gardens Elementary – Hayward

Coordinator: Gary Dobbs, Principal

Time: 7:40 a.m.

Hayward Mayor Sweeney in attendance

Martin Luther King Middle School – Berkeley

Coordinator: Amber Evans

Time 7:20 a.m.

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[Alameda CTC](http://www.alamedactc.org) administers Measure B, the half-cent transportation sales tax in Alameda County, which was approved by 81.5 percent of the voters, as well as state and federally funded transportation improvements, as well as state and federal transportation funds for the County. Its mission is to plan, fund and deliver transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County. For more information visit: <http://www.alamedactc.org>.