Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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More than 90 Alameda County Schools to participate in Two-week Golden Sneaker Contest

Contest promotes active and green transportation choices for students.

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. Approximately 65,000 students throughout Alameda County will walk, bike, carpool and take transit as much possible from February 27 to March 10, competing in the Safe Routes to Schools <u>Golden Sneaker Contest</u> to get active while reducing their carbon footprint. This year, students and classes from 96 Alameda County elementary and middle schools will participate, and for the first time trophies for the winning classrooms will be extra golden as they are made with sneakers donated by the Golden State Warriors.

"The Golden Sneaker Contest is a great opportunity for students and families to try a new way to get to school," says Alameda CTC Chair Rebecca Kaplan, Oakland City Councilmember At-Large. "We are excited that the Warriors donated sneakers to make this year's Golden Sneaker trophies. Competing for these coveted awards helps support healthy transportation choices and habits that we hope will last a lifetime."

At the end of the two-week contest, the classroom in each participating school with the highest percent of students using active or shared transportation to commute to and from school will receive a Golden Sneaker trophy in honor of their efforts to support a healthier environment. Families who live too far away to walk or bike to school can still join in the contest by parking several blocks away and then walking to school together, taking the bus or carpooling.

The ultimate prize, the Platinum Sneaker award, will be presented to the school with the greatest percent increase of students using green modes of transportation during the contest, and will be honored by Alameda CTC at its March 23, 2017 Commission Meeting.

This annual contest is sponsored by <u>Alameda County's Safe Routes to Schools Program</u> and funded by the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Schools that are new to Safe Routes to Schools can find contest resources and materials in English and Spanish at the Safe Routes to Schools online resource center: <u>http://alamedacountysr2s.org/plan-an-event/golden-sneaker-contest/</u>

About the Alameda County Transportation Commission

Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers essential, voter-supported transportation improvements in every city throughout Alameda County. Funding sources for Alameda CTC's expenditure plans include Measure B, approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000, and Measure BB, approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2014. For more information, please visit the Alameda CTC website at http://www.alamedactc.org.