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Thousands of Alameda County Students from 117 Schools to Participate in Bike to School Day on Thursday, May 10 Emphasis on safe and fun bicycling for kids

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. The <u>Alameda County Transportation Commission</u> (Alameda CTC), through its <u>Safe Routes to Schools program</u>, is proud to announce that 117 Alameda County schools will participate in <u>Bike to School Day</u>, this Thursday, May 10. Bike to School Day is one of several major events throughout the school year to promote bicycling as a healthy and active way to get to school and after school activities.

Bike to School Day aims to motivate students to hop on a bike and pedal to school — although, rollerblading and scooting are also encouraged. It is one of many events around the Bay Area during Bike Month and coincides with <u>Bay Area Bike to Work Day</u> on May 10.

"Have a great Bike to School Day, Alameda County!" says Alameda CTC Chair Supervisor Richard Valle. "By supporting Bike to School Day, and year-round active transportation programs like travel training, we are helping a new generation to embrace healthy transportation choices, and prevent additional congestion. The involvement by so many students this year is a testament to the success of our Safe Routes to Schools programming."

Reporters and/or press photographers are invited to visit any of the following Alameda County schools that will host events celebrating Bike to School Day on May 10:

- In Alameda, Ruby Bridges Elementary will be hosting a number of bike safety activities, including a bike helmet fitting and giveaway thanks to a partnership with Safe Kids Alameda County and a grant from Safe Kids Worldwide. Vice Mayor Malia Vella and Superintendent Sean McPhetridge will be stopping by to cheer students on as they arrive at school. Welcome tables will be located at the front and back of the school.
- In Oakland, United for Success Academy will be hosting a Bike Safety Day, where helmets will be given away to students who bike to school that morning also thanks to a partnership with Safe Kids Alameda County and a grant from Safe Kids Worldwide.
- In Castro Valley, Castro Valley High will be hosting an Energizer Station.
- In Hayward, Tyrrell Elementary will pass out giveaways the morning of Bike to School Day and will open their multipurpose field to bikes, scooters, and skateboards for students to have a safe place to play before the school day begins.

- In Fremont, Cabrillo Elementary will give away helmets to students who bike, scooter, or skateboard to school.
- In Dublin, John Green Elementary will be hosting an Energizer Station.
- In Pleasanton, Alisal Elementary will host an all-day Bike to School Day celebration. The day will start with giveaways and will continue into the lunch hour with bike and helmet decorating and a bike parade.

The Measure B-funded <u>Safe Routes to Schools program</u> delivers free walking, biking, carpooling and transit programs to help more kids choose active and shared transportation options to travel safely to school. As the program has expanded, the number of schools participating in Bike to School Day in Alameda County has grown from fewer than 10 in 2011, to 117 this year.

For information and resources for Bike to School Day visit <u>http://alamedacountysr2s.org/plan-an-event/bike-to-school-day/</u> <u>https://bikeeastbay.org/b2sd_2018</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.

About Safe Routes to Schools

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program, funded in part by Alameda CTC with Measure B sales tax dollars, works in schools across Alameda County to develop walk- and bike-to school programs that make sense for their communities. Safe Routes to Schools creates healthier, stronger communities. Learn more at www.alamedacountysr2s.org.

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