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## **“International Walk & Roll to School Day” Will Get Thousands of Alameda County Kids Using Their Feet**

*Alameda CTC Board Chair Mark Green kicks off event on October 3, 2012.*

*Alameda County - California.* Students from 99 elementary, middle, and high schools in Alameda County will be walking, bicycling, scootering, carpooling and riding transit to school along with parents, teachers and community leaders on International Walk & Roll to School Day.

Sponsored by the Alameda County Transportation Commission ([Alameda CTC](http://www.AlamedaCTC.org)), this year's October 3<sup>rd</sup> event will be the largest on record with close to 60,000 students participating. A number of Alameda CTC's Commissioners will join in the festivities including: County Supervisors Scott Haggerty (Dublin High School) and Wilma Chan (Grant Elementary); Alameda CTC Board Chair and Union City Mayor Mark Green (Delaine Eastin Elementary); San Leandro Vice Mayor Michael Gregory (McKinley Elementary); and Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti (Dublin High School). Other elected officials throughout the county will also be participating. See list of participating schools [here](#).

The event is part of Alameda County's [Safe Routes to Schools Program](#), a countywide collaboration that promotes safe walking and biking to school. International Walk and Roll to School Day kicks off 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 to promote healthy habits and improve air quality.

MORE

According to a [new count report](#) published by Alameda CTC in September 2012, more people are walking and biking in the Bay Area:

- Since 2002 in Alameda County, there has been a 47% increase in pedestrians counted and a 75% increase in bicyclists counted during the afternoon commute period.
- Between 2010 and 2011, Alameda County bicyclists counted in the same period increased by 27%, while the number of pedestrians remained steady.
- The proportion of female bicyclists in Alameda County reached 30% in 2011, up from 18% in 2008.
- Thirty percent of trips in the San Francisco Bay Area are one-mile or less, making bicycling and walking healthy alternatives for a significant portion of daily trips.

To stay ahead of the growing trend, Alameda CTC will complete the final draft of the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans this October. The update process, which began in May 2010, has included extensive outreach to and input from the public. [The 2012 Final Draft Plans](#) reflect current bicycling and walking conditions, needs, and priorities in Alameda County. The plans will identify countywide capital bike/ped project and program priorities, and will guide the allocation of countywide funds to 2040. The Final Draft Plans are expected to be approved by the Alameda County Transportation Commission on [Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>](#).

To ensure continued investments in walking and biking programs, the Alameda CTC developed the 2012 Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP), which will be funded by Measure B1, if approved by voters on November 6, 2012. The TEP would bring in the highest amount of funding for pedestrian and bicycle safety infrastructure and programs in the County to date, including increased funding for Safe Routes to Schools.

For more information:

[Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program](#)  
[Pedestrian and Bicycle Manual Count Report for Alameda County 2012](#)  
[Countywide Bicycling and Walking Programs/Data](#)  
[2012 Transportation Expenditure Plan/Measure B1](#)

#### **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 the half-cent sales tax approved by 81.5% of county voters in 2000. For more information, visit [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org).

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