

Press Release

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Schools in Alameda County Participate in Second Annual "Bike to the Moon" Week

Students and school communities will celebrate May Bike Month in Alameda County through imaginative play by tracking the minutes and miles spent bicycling and engaging in other physical activities with the collective goal of "reaching the moon"—a 287,000 mile trip!

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. – In celebration of Bike Month in May, the <u>Alameda County Safe Routes to</u> <u>Schools (SR2S) Program</u> will host the second annual "<u>Bike to the Moon" Week</u>, a week-long virtual event to encourage students to walk, bike, skate, scoot, carpool, take transit and use other active modes of travel. The event will take place from Monday, May 9 to Friday, May 13, 2022. This is the second year of "Bike to the Moon" Week. This virtual event aims to align with the Safe Routes to Schools Program's mission of striving for healthy kids, safer streets and strong communities.

Students, families, teachers, and staff digitally track their miles and minutes of activity during this event, with the goal of biking all the way "to the moon", which is 286,900 miles away. For participants to collaboratively travel the goal distance, Safe Routes to Schools staff will convert all activity collected-both minutes and miles- into "moon miles" using a Mileage Tracking Tool. Activities submitted by 5:00 p.m. on May 16 will be converted and counted collectively toward the "moon miles." Visit the Safe Routes to Schools Program's <u>"Bike to The Moon" Week event webpage</u> for more information on mileage tracking.

This year, schools have the option to host a traditional Bike to School Day during "Bike to the Moon" Week as a way of celebrating Bike Month. Both events celebrate bicycling and the mission of supporting school communities in reducing pollution and congestion, being active and healthy, and building community.

During the event, members of the media can monitor the participants' collective progress to the moon on social media by following the event hashtag, #IBikedToTheMoon, and by visiting the Program social media pages—<u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program will provide a daily update of the number of participating schools and the number of moon miles traveled. Opportunities for in-person media coverage or live coverage of the event, in addition to the metrics posted on social media, are dependent on schools' visitor policies. Visit the <u>Alameda County Safe Routes</u> to <u>Schools Program's "Bike to The Moon" Week event webpage</u> and see the Media Toolkit for more information and promotion resources.

About the Alameda County Transportation Commission

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers essential, voter-supported transportation improvements in every city throughout Alameda County. Alameda CTC administers the county's Safe Routes to Schools Program and provides most of its funding through the voter approved transportation sales tax Measures B and BB, which were approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000, and more than 70 percent of voters in 2014, respectively. Visit <u>Alameda CTC's website</u> to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

About Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools

Safe Routes to Schools is a comprehensive and effective approach to getting more kids biking, rolling and walking safely to school. It provides kids and their parents with skills, encouragement, and inspiration through a range of activities, events, and lessons, while also addressing local pedestrian, bicycle and personal safety concerns. Operating since 2006, the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program is funded in part by Alameda CTC with Alameda County's local Measure B and Measure BB sales taxes, and regional, state and federal funds, serving more than 250 schools throughout the county. Visit the <u>Safe Routes to School website</u> to learn more.

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