

## **Press Release**

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Students Set to Host Events Throughout Alameda County to Boost Active and Shared Transportation

Designed by youth task force members, Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools' 'Reboot Your Commute' events encourage high school students to walk, roll or take transit to school

**ALAMEDA COUNTY**, **Calif.** – The <u>Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program</u> is excited to launch the third annual Creation for Transportation event with the new theme, Reboot Your Commute, designed by countywide SR2S Youth Task Force members. Started in 2021, Creation for Transportation events offer engaging and fun ways for students to channel their creative expression and be thoughtful about the impact of their transportation choices. The <u>Reboot Your Commute event</u> will take place on various dates at high schools throughout the winter from Wednesday, January 18 to Friday, March 17, 2023.

Reboot Your Commute aims to encourage high school students across Alameda County to walk, roll (bike, scoot, skate, use wheelchairs and other mobility devices) or take transit to school. Students are also encouraged to use additional options like skateboarding, scootering or roller-skating. During these events, students will share their transportation and travel stories through creative writing and drawing about their commute experiences to foster a schoolwide conversation about how travel choices impact their health, well-being, community and the environment.



"The Alameda County Transportation Commission is proud of our innovative efforts to reach our county's youth through peer-led approaches. It's a great accomplishment of the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program to serve as a model to the nation in high school youth programming," said SR2S Program Manager Denise Turner.

The events will be organized by student leaders with assistance from Alameda County SR2S staff. Student volunteers will set up welcome tables at their schools, where they will hand out tickets for a prize drawing to students who choose active or shared transportation to get to school during the event. Students can also

earn an additional raffle ticket by sharing why they like walking, biking, carpooling, or taking transit on the event chalk boards or white boards.

Along with the ticket drawing, Peer-to-Peer leadership welcome tables will have information about joining the SR2S Youth Task Force, support with signing up for Youth Clipper Cards or the Student Transit Pass Program (STPP) and access to transit resources, such as biking and walking maps. Schools are encouraged to incorporate additional SR2S engagement activities, such as a bike blender (a bicycle-powered smoothie maker!), trivia wheel and other SR2S training services. At the end of each school's event day or series of events, a drawing will be held to select a winning student from each school. The selected student will receive a \$50 Clipper Card.

There is still time for interested schools to get involved and participate. For additional information, please visit the <u>event webpage</u>. Schools can express interest in holding an event by using the <u>quick registration form</u>. To learn about events as they are happening, follow SR2S's <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> accounts, and #saferoutestoschools.

### 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.