

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Students Across Alameda County to Participate in Global Event 'International Walk and Roll to School'

Over 100 Alameda County schools will encourage their students to join others around the world to kick off the school year with active and shared transportation choices

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. - Schools throughout Alameda County have signed up to participate in the annual <u>International Walk and Roll to School Day</u>. The big celebration, to be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, will encourage students countywide to walk, bike, roll, scoot, skate, use mobility devices, ride the bus, or share a carpool ride as part of an effort to make streets safer for active travel, reduce traffic, improve air quality, and provide a fun opportunity to exercise.

International Walk and Roll to School Day is a part of the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S)

Program, which promotes active and shared commutes to school. Students of all ages, caregivers, and school faculty and staff are encouraged to walk or roll to school. Those who live greater distances from school can participate by trying transit, coordinating a carpool, or parking a few blocks away from school and walking to school together.

"Each year, students demonstrate great enthusiasm for International Walk and Roll to School Day, and we're



excited for the energy participants bring to this year's event," said Alameda CTC Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program Manager Denise Turner. "International Walk and Roll to School Day is an excellent way to increase active and shared transportation while engaging and educating students with lessons that can last a lifetime."

On the morning of the event, students report how they got to school by placing a sticker that represents their mode of transportation on their school's International Walk and Roll to School Day mode chart. Participating schools submit their event data to celebrate the number of students who walked, "rolled" (e.g., by bike, skates,

scooter, wheelchair, or other mobility devices), took transit, carpooled, or were driven to school. The event data and highlights will be published on the <u>SR2S website</u> on Monday, November 6. This experience fosters connections within schools across grade levels, encourages communities to make healthier and environmentally cleaner transportation decisions, and gives students a chance to be part of an effort that reaches throughout Alameda County and beyond.

Media can visit https://alamedacountysr2s.org/our-services/plan-an-event/iwr2sd/ for more information and follow our 2023 International Walk and Roll to School Day event hashtag, #WalkandRoll23. To engage with the event, all media inquiries including requests for in-person attendance should be directed to info@alamedacountysr2s.org.

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 Measure BB, which was approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2014. Visit <u>Alameda CTC's website</u> to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>X, formally known as 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 a program of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (alamedaactc.org) and is funded in part by Alameda CTC with Alameda County's local Measure BB sales tax, and regional, state, and federal funds, serving more than 290 schools throughout the county. Visit the <u>Safe Routes to School website</u> to learn more, and follow Safe Routes to Schools on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>X, formally known as Twitter</u>.