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

Over 125 Alameda County schools will encourage students to join others around the world to kick off the school year with active and shared transportation choices

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. – Students throughout Alameda County are preparing for <u>International Walk and Roll to School Day 2024</u> on October 9th. The annual global event encourages students to walk, bike, roll, scoot, skate, use mobility devices, ride the bus, or share a carpool to reduce traffic, improve safety and air quality, and provide a fun opportunity to exercise.

International Walk and Roll to School Day is one of many events the <u>Alameda County Transportation</u> <u>Commission's Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program</u> hosts annually to promote 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 and walking to school together.

SR2S Program Manager Denise Turner observed, "International Walk and Roll to School Day is a fun way to encourage young people to choose walking, biking, and other active transportation options while increasing safety and reducing traffic. These choices can encourage lasting changes in how students travel throughout their lives. And it's exciting for participants to build community within their schools while knowing they are participating in something that's happening around the world."

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 SR2S website by Wednesday, October 30. 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 SR2S' 2024 International Walk and Roll to School Day event hashtag, #WalkandRoll24. 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 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. Governed by a 22-member Commission, Alameda CTC manages the county's one-cent transportation sales tax and serves as the county's congestion management agency. The agency delivers more than \$200 million each year in transportation improvements that create jobs, enhance mobility and enrich communities.

Learn about current transportation <u>projects and programs</u> and learn about <u>Measure BB</u>, which voters passed in November 2014. Visit Alameda CTC's website to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on Facebook and X, formally known as Twitter.

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 (alamedactc.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 295 schools throughout the county. Visit the Safe Routes to Schools website to learn more, and follow Safe Routes to Schools on Facebook and X, formally known as Twitter.