

# Press Release

1111 Broadway, Suite 800

• Oakland, CA 94612

• 510.208.7400



• [www.AlamedaCTC.org](http://www.AlamedaCTC.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2015

Contact: Tess Lengyel, Deputy Director of Planning and Policy

T: 510.208.7428

E: [tlengyel@alamedactc.org](mailto:tlengyel@alamedactc.org)

[www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org)

Alternate contact: Renee Rivera, Executive Director, Bike East Bay

T: 510. 845.7433

E: [renee@bikeeastbay.org](mailto:renee@bikeeastbay.org)

[www.BikeEastBay.org](http://www.BikeEastBay.org)

## Thousands of Alameda County Students to Participate in Bike to School Day on Thursday, May 14

Emphasis is on safe and fun bicycling for kids

Alameda County - California. The [Alameda County Transportation Commission](http://www.alamedactc.org) (Alameda CTC), through its [Safe Routes to Schools program](http://www.alamedactc.org) and partner, [Bike East Bay](http://www.bikeeastbay.org) (formerly the East Bay Bicycle Coalition), is promoting bicycling as a great way for kids to stay healthy and active. The upcoming Bike to School Day on Thursday, May 14, is one of several major events held throughout the school year.

Bike to School Day is focused on motivating students to hop on a bike and pedal to school - though rollerblading and scooting are also encouraged. It is one of many events around the Bay Area during Bike Month, and coincides with Bike to Work Day on May 14.

The number of schools participating in Bike to School Day in Alameda County has grown from fewer than 10 in 2011, to more than 90 in 2014 (with more than 5,000 students biking). This year more than 100 schools have already committed to participating in Bike to School Day. Participation for this year's celebration is expected to swell to over 5,500 students.

"Bike to School Day presents an exciting opportunity for us to promote the virtues of getting to school by some means other than by automobile," says Alameda CTC Chair Supervisor Scott Haggerty. "From helping the environment to improving physical health, biking to school has tremendous benefits, and we're thrilled to be working with Alameda County schools to encourage and motivate students to ride - not only on Bike to School Day, but all year long."

Children who walk or bike to school have higher daily levels of physical activity and better cardiovascular fitness than children who do not actively commute to school. Furthermore, more students using alternate means of transportation to get to and from school means that the roads will be less clogged with cars, making for cleaner and safer commutes.

Reporters, editors, and/or press photographers are invited to visit any of the following Alameda County schools that will be hosting events celebrating Bike to School Day on May 14:

## Bike to School Day May 14, 2015

- International Community School, Oakland will celebrate at 7:45 a.m. with an Energizer Station, Rock the Block assembly, visit from Super Weevil, and welcome tables.
- Berkeley Arts Magnet, Berkeley, will celebrate 8:45 - 9:10 a.m. with an Energizer Station shared with Missing Link Bicycle Cooperative.
- Marshall Elementary School, Castro Valley, will celebrate at 7:40 a.m. with School Board Member Dot Theodore biking to Marshall Elementary and helping to welcome students and families as they arrive.
- Castro Valley High School, Castro Valley, will celebrate at 7:00 a.m. with an Energizer Station hosted by Bike Walk Castro Valley and Supervisor Nate Miley in attendance.
- Irvington High School, Fremont, will celebrate at 7:15 a.m. with an Energizer Station.
- Oliveira Elementary, Fremont, will celebrate from 8:15 - 8:30 a.m. with a Bicycle Trivia Wheel and welcome tables. The school received a new bike rack last October through the SR2S program.
- John Green Elementary, Dublin, will host an Energizer Station from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. and will celebrate from 8:00 - 8:25 a.m.
- Foothill High School, Pleasanton, will celebrate before school begins on May 14. The BikeFest, to be held on May 12, will prepare students to ride.
- Jackson Avenue Elementary School, Livermore, will celebrate on Wednesday, May 13, from 8:00 - 8:30am with a parade around the park, bike blender, bicycle trivia wheel, and help from Superintendent Kelly Bowers.

Pedal parades, helmet fittings, and bike decoration stations are just some of the kid-friendly activities at these schools prior to and during these events. Several Alameda CTC commissioners will be attending these events.

“Each year, Bike East Bay’s free education program helps thousands of parents and kids learn how to bike as a family and to have more fun on every ride,” said **Robert Prinz, Bike East Bay’s Education Director**. “These programs strive to encourage safe, convenient and enjoyable biking.”

The [BikeMobile](#), a program that helps youth repair their bikes, and teaches mechanics and safety, will be making appearances at the Union City BART Bike to Work Day Energizer Station from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. and at the Energizer Station at Lincoln Elementary in Newark in the afternoon. Last year, the BikeMobile fixed more than 550 bikes during the month of May alone, enabling kids to ride to school. This year, the BikeMobile is making 30 visits around the County during Bike Month.

See the full list of Safe Routes to Schools participating in Bike to School Day.

<http://alamedacountysr2s.org/events/bike-to-school-day/>

### **About the Alameda County Transportation Commission**

Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers essential, voter-supported transportation improvements in every city throughout Alameda County. Funding sources for Alameda CTC’s expenditure plans include Measure B, approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000 and Measure BB, approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2014. Visit [www.alamedactc.org](http://www.alamedactc.org) to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **About Bike East Bay**

Bike East Bay (formerly the East Bay Bicycle Coalition) serves more than 33 cities in Alameda and Contra Costa County supporting bicycling as an alternative source of transportation for everyday commuting and recreation. Visit [www.BikeEastBay.org](http://www.BikeEastBay.org) for more information.

### **About Safe Routes to Schools**

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program, funded in part by Alameda CTC with Measure B sales tax dollars, works in schools across Alameda County to develop walk- and bike-to school programs that make sense for their communities. Safe Routes to Schools creates healthier, stronger communities. Learn more at [www.alamedacountysr2s.org](http://www.alamedacountysr2s.org).