



# Press Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Thousands of Students to Walk & Roll to School on October 10

Also, final year of Measure BB-funded Student Transit Pass Pilot Program launches.

ALAMEDA COUNTY, Calif. – This year, thousands of Alameda County students will join the fun and enjoy the benefits of taking a healthy route to school by walking, riding, scooting, or sharing their ride on [International Walk and Roll to School Day](#). The marquee celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, with some schools celebrating on a different day in October.

[Alameda County's Safe Routes to Schools Program](#) supports this annual event at schools throughout the county to promote active and shared commutes to school. Families who live far from school are also encouraged to participate by either trying transit, coordinating a carpool, or even parking a few blocks away from school and walking to school together.

"Walking and biking are healthy habits for our kids and our community. International Walk and Roll to School Day is an important event, both for public health and for reducing traffic congestion and improving our environment," says Alameda CTC Chair Richard Valle, Alameda County Supervisor, District 2. "We know that students perform better in school when they are more physically active, and these efforts reduce congestion and air pollution."

Events will be held at schools on October 10 to support and encourage students and their families to participate. For example, the [BikeMobile](#), a mobile bicycle repair clinic that is part of the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools program, will participate in events all week, repairing bikes for free and providing free bike safety and repair training - see the BikeMobile's calendar [here](#) or request a visit [here](#). Up to 50 percent of Alameda County's students do not ride their bikes due to minor issues, such as a flat tire or worn out brakes. The BikeMobile addresses this problem by bringing mechanics directly to students.

Another key component of Alameda County's Measure BB transportation sales tax measure, [the Student Transit Pass Pilot \(STPP\) Program](#), has completed a successful

second year and has just launched the final year of its three-year pilot. During this current 2018-2019 school year, 21 middle and high schools in Alameda County will be participating in the STPP with about 15,000 students eligible to participate. Free transit passes are being distributed to all students at 15 schools, and free passes are being distributed to low-income students at six schools.

“Following the tremendous success of years one and two of the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program, I’m thrilled to see continued success through this third and final year,” remarks Valle. “The STPP was designed and implemented to reduce barriers to transportation access to and from schools, improve transportation options for middle and high school students and build support for transit.”

#### **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. 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 [www.AlamedaCTC.org](http://www.AlamedaCTC.org) to learn more, and follow Alameda CTC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

#### **About Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools**

Safe Routes to Schools is a comprehensive, proven approach to getting more kids walking and biking 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 140 schools throughout the county. Visit [www.alamedacountysr2s.org](http://www.alamedacountysr2s.org) to learn more.

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