



It's Bike to School Day! Students Across the Country Celebrate Fun, Safe, Bike-Powered Transportation

CHAPEL HILL (May 10, 2017) –Today schools, cities, volunteer groups, public health and law enforcement agencies and parents alike are organizing [Bike to School Day](#) events to celebrate the benefits of choosing student-powered transportation.

National Bike to School Day provides an opportunity for communities across the country to join together to celebrate safe, active transportation and, where needed, to bring attention to necessary changes so more people can safely bicycle to more places. Participation in the annual event grows every year and as of today, over 2,500 schools in 49 states have registered events on the official Bike to School Day website, walkbiketoschool.org. The success of Bike to School Day is thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of tens of thousands of students, parents, volunteers, school administrators, elected officials, and community leaders.

“Bicycling is a wonderful way to exercise, have fun and can be a means for some students to get to school,” said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao. “National Bike to School Day is an opportunity for communities to highlight the many benefits of bicycling and promote bicycle safety for Americans of all ages.”

The U.S. DOT provides support for promotion of Bike to School Day through its clearinghouse, the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center](#), which coordinates closely with the National Center for Safe Routes to School, the national coordinating agency for Bike to School Day.

Also supported by the [FIA Foundation](#), Bike to School Day 2017 takes place during [UN Global Road Safety Week](#), an international campaign for road safety that focuses on speed management and improvements to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries worldwide.

“On Bike to School Day, we’re pleased to report that places around the country are celebrating the fun of biking to school and prioritizing children as they look to improve transportation safety for their entire communities,” said Nancy Pullen-Seufert, Director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School. “For example, Chicago, New York City and many rural and small town communities are seeing school zones as priority places to address speeding traffic - which can have safety benefits for everyone.”

Bike to School Day events are taking place nationwide on May 10, 2017, and throughout the month of May, National Bike Month. The National Bike to School Day media event will be held in Washington, DC where local officials and partners will gather with over 150 students and



other community members from the Capitol Hill neighborhood. Students will participate in bike and helmet safety activities before departing on nine different bike trains to 13 schools.

To browse the names and locations of registered 2017 events, visit walkbiketoschool.org/registration/whosbiking.php.

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About National Bike to School Day

Established in 2012, National Bike to School Day provides an opportunity for schools across the country to celebrate bicycling to school each May. It is an energetic, kid-centric part of National Bike Month and builds on the popularity of International Walk to School Day, held each October. Event partners include [FIA Foundation](#), [Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center](#), the U.S. Department of Transportation's [Federal Highway Administration](#) and [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#), and the National Center for Safe Routes to School. For more information, visit walkbiketoschool.org.

About the National Center for Safe Routes to School

The National Center for Safe Routes to School (National Center) is committed to empowering communities to make walking and bicycling to school a safe, appealing, preferred choice for families. The National Center facilitates communities in becoming places for safe walking and bicycling for everyone starting with children and the trip to school. In 2016, the National Center launched the "Vision Zero for Youth" initiative, which includes encouraging elected officials to use walk and bike to school events to voice their commitment to safe walking and bicycling and the elimination of fatal and serious traffic crashes.

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