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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Communities Across the Country Celebrate Bike to School Day and Focus on Health and Safety

CHAPEL HILL, NC (May 8, 2019) — Hundreds of thousands of students, parents, school officials and local leaders in communities across the United States will bicycle to school on May 8, 2019, to celebrate the 8th annual National Bike to School Day while also raising awareness of road safety for children and everyone.

This year, approximately 3,000 communities across the U.S. have registered Bike to School Day events on walkbiketoschool.org. The total number of events is expected to grow as celebrations continue throughout May, National Bike Month. Bike to School Day events are great ways to promote a broader message of safety and support for safe, active travel in general.

“It’s so exciting to see people come together with the common goals of starting children on the right path to active and healthy lifestyles as well as ensuring a safe trip to and from school,” said Nancy Pullen-Seufert, Director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School, the coordinating agency for Bike to School Day. “By starting with children on their way to school, communities become safe places for everyone to walk and bike. Bike to School Day events are a great way for communities to rally around making safety improvements that benefit children, which ultimately benefit the community as a whole.”

The Bike to School Day national event will take place in Washington, D.C., where local and national officials and partners will gather at Lincoln Park with approximately 250 students and other community members from the Capitol Hill neighborhood, together with the National Center for Safe Routes to School, U.S. Department of Transportation, District Department of Transportation, the FIA Foundation, Ward 6 Public Schools Parent Organization and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center. Students from more than fifteen schools will form “bike trains” to depart from Lincoln Park.

To learn more about the events and locations of registered U.S. schools participating in Bike to School Day 2019, visit walktoschool.org/register.

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About the National Center for Safe Routes to School

Established in May 2006, the [National Center for Safe Routes to School](#), part of the University of North Carolina (UNC) Highway Safety Research Center, helps support communities in changing their culture to support safe and active travel. The National Center's work uses research-based evidence to highlight what works and why, and translates this research into education, professional development tools and training to provide communities the technical support they need to make community-enhancing decisions. As the coordinating organization for Walk to School Day held every October and Bike to School Day held each May, the National Center provides technical support; coordinates online registration, develops resources, and facilitates worldwide promotion and participation. The UNC Highway Safety Research Center has served as the coordinator of Walk to School Day since the event's U.S. inception in 1997. For more information, visit walkbiketoschool.org.