

# BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

**Event Toolkit** 

**Alameda County Transportation Commission** 



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION







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The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program is a program of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (alamedactc.org) and is funded with Alameda County's local Measure BB sales tax, and regional, state, and federal funds.



ALAMEDA COUNTY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM . BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY TOOLKIT

## **Event Overview**

Bike to School Day is Thursday, May 15, 2025.

## **Event Description**

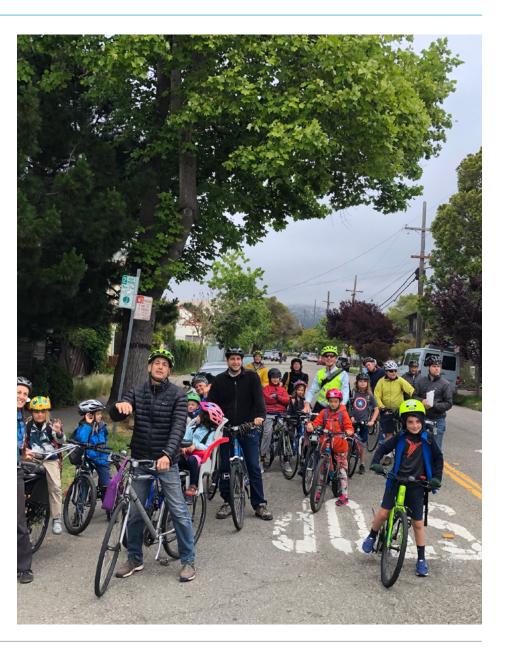
May is National Bike Month! To celebrate, the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) Program partners with schools to organize **Bike to School Day** (B2SD) at over 300 schools throughout Alameda County.

Bike to School Day includes activities designed to encourage more students to bike or roll to school. One of the best ways to generate participation in Bike to School Day is by organizing a **Bike Train** at your school. A Bike Train is an organized group of families living in the same neighborhood who form an adult-supervised biking group to and/or from school. It's like carpooling minus the car!

In addition to coordinating Bike Trains, schools host an at-school event that typically starts 30 minutes before school begins. During this time, students are greeted by encouraging smiles and a giveaway if they arrived to school on a bike, scooter, skateboard, etc. Events during or after school can be held instead of, or in addition to, the event before school. Check out the **website** for the **registration link** and **promotional posters**.

#### **Event Benefits**

- » Decrease traffic congestion around your school
- » Increase opportunities for physical activity
- » Encourage biking and rolling to school
- » Reduce pollution
- » Build a sense of community



# **Event Timeline: What Will You (or a Volunteer) Need to Do?**



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## Resources

### **Bike Trains**

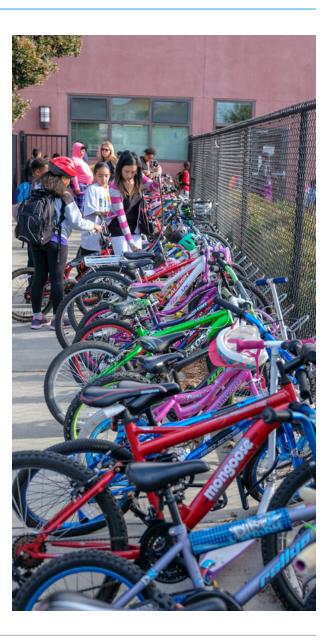
Bike Trains are a great way to generate excitement and encourage community participation for Bike to School Day. A Bike Train can be a structured program with a regular schedule of trained volunteers or it can be more informal, with parents or caregivers taking turns escorting children to school. If you are interested in having a Bike Train for your school, you can refer to our **Bike Train Toolkit**, or speak with your **SR2S coordinator** to learn more.

#### **Additional Resources**

The Alameda County SR2S Program offers an **Educator Guide** with classroom activities and pedestrian and bicycle-themed lessons that are aligned with common core standards. The guide includes the following lesson:

- » Grades K-1: Use Your Head Before Your Feet; Be Safe on Your Feet; Walking Makes Sense; This is the Way We Go to School; Using People Power
- » Grades 2-3: Intersections Galore; Walk Around the Block; Active Travel Choices; Pollution Solutions; Green Heroes
- » Grades 4-5: School Safety Audit; My Safe Route to School; Green House in a Bottle; What's in our Air?; Let's Carpool!

Visit our the **SR2S Bike to School Day website** for more resources.



# **Encouragement Ideas**

Your event can be as simple or robust as you like. Here are some suggested "above and beyond" activities to get your school community rolling.

# Set up a Bike to School Day welcome table or Energizer Station outside the front entrance of your school or by the bike racks and:

- » Provide refreshments for bikers, scooters, or skaters.
- » Offer healthy snacks or small giveaways to students who roll to school.
- » Decorate helmets with glitter, stickers, or colorful tape.
- » Host helmet fittings and pass out helmet safety information for students.
- Decorate spoke cards with students to put in their bike's wheels.Use contact paper to protect the cards from the weather.

#### Other Activities

- » Ride to school with principals or teachers. Select a meeting point and time for a group ride to school in the morning.
- » Have a parade at lunch time where proud bikers and rollers ride around the blacktop to show off their skills while other students cheer.
- » Have top-secret Bike Elves leave surprises (ribbons, cards, messages, etc.) on bikes during the day.
- » Talk to your site coordinator about hosting the BikeMobile, Bike Blender, or Bike Trivia Wheel during the day. For more information, reach out to your Site Coordinator.



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# **Reporting your Data**

## Why

Reporting your school's Bike to School Day participation data enables the Safe Routes to Schools Program to track countywide participation levels, and to evaluate our program year over year.

## **How to Report Your Data**

#### **Reporting Instructions:**

- Count the number of bicyclists and rollers as they arrive at your school OR count the number of bikes, scooters, and skateboards at your school's racks on the day of the event.
- » Share the numbers with the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program by 3 p.m. on the day of your event. There are two ways to report the participation numbers:
- » Complete our online Bike to School Day form.
- » Email your site coordinator your school's data. You can print out the next page and use that as a template to collect your data.



# **Bike to School Day Participation Reporting Sheet**

#### Bike to School Day Participation

Champion Name:	School:	Date:

#### **Reporting Instructions:**

- » Count the number of bicyclists and rollers as they arrive at your school OR count the number of bikes, scooters, and skateboards at your school's racks on the day of the event. You can print out this sheet to help you tally and collect data.
- » Share the numbers with the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program by 3 p.m. on the day of your event. There are two ways to report the participation numbers:
  - » Complete our online Bike to School Day form.
  - » Email your site coordinator.

	Bike	Scooter	Skateboard
Tally			

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