



Sacramento Region

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Travel Info

MILLION MILE MAY CHALLENGE ISSUED
Region Kicks Off Month Promoting Bicycling

SACRAMENTO – Just blocks from the Capitol, where state officials are leading the nation to address greenhouse gases, a crowd gathered with their own zero-emissions vehicles—bicycles—to kick-off Bicycle Commute Month. Local and state leaders joined to challenge residents to bike one million miles in May. Bicyclists young and old can add their miles to the regional total at www.bikecommutemonth.com.

Bike Commute Month honorary co-chairs West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon and Sacramento City Councilmember Steve Cohn issued the challenge to bicyclists in St. Rose of Lima Park. They were joined by Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), California Department of Health Services Director Sandra Shewry and State Public Health Officer Dr. Mark Horton.

“Bicycling is a viable way to commute in our region. I urge everyone to look at their car trips and think about which of those could be done by bike. Each time you pick up your helmet instead of your keys that makes an impact,” said honorary co-chair and Mayor Christopher Cabaldon.

Honorary co-chair and Councilmember Steve Cohn added: “With two jobs, commuting by bike is not easy, but I challenge everyone in the community to match my 100-mile pledge in May. If 10,000 people take up that challenge, we will easily meet the million-mile goal.”

“I am delighted to help Sacramento kick off Bike Commute Month and encourage everyone to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, avoid traffic headaches and save some money on gas by commuting on bike,” said Assemblyman Leno who is authoring legislation based on a national movement to build “Complete Streets” for all users of the road. “Streets aren’t just for cars, they’re for people and AB 1358 will ensure our roadways are safe and convenient for everyone— young or old, riding a bike or on foot, in a car or on a bus.”

Commute, recreation, training and errand miles all count towards the region bicycling one million miles in May. Everyone is encouraged to log their bicycling miles at www.bikecommutemonth.com.

In addition to the known health benefits of cycling, rising gas prices and sunny skies in May provide two more reasons for people to dust off their bikes and join their neighbors and co-workers in biking for work, errands or recreation.

On **Thursday, May 17** the region celebrates Bike-to-Work Day with a BikeFest on the west steps of the State Capitol. In addition to prizes and live music, the Sacramento BikeFest will feature booths by bike shops and bike groups, as well as more than 50 tables of commute information.

On **Thursday, June 14** the campaign concludes with a Regional Million Mile May Finale at RiverWalk in West Sacramento from 3:30-6:30 p.m., featuring live music, prize drawings and regional awards. After the event, cyclists and their families are invited to purchase tickets and head over to the RiverCats game sponsored by Bike Commute Month. The drawings and awards will take place at 5:30 p.m.

Bike Commute Month is coordinated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the region's transportation management associations and organizations. Information about special events and rides planned throughout the month is available at www.bikecommutemonth.com.



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