



Sacramento Region

Mayisbikemonth.com

2009

NEWS RELEASE

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TWO-WHEEL, LOW-COST, ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLE USE ENCOURAGED IN MAY *Region Kicks Off Month Promoting Bicycling*

WEST SACRAMENTO – As California leads the nation in responding to global climate change, dozens of local residents gathered in West Sacramento and rode across the Tower Bridge and through downtown Sacramento using new and used zero-emission vehicles—bicycles. Local leaders challenged residents in Sacramento region to try bicycling for at least some of their trips in May, and log their miles towards a regional goal of 1,000,000 miles at www.mayisbikemonth.com.

May is Bike Month honorary co-chairs Davis Mayor Pro Tem Don Saylor and Roseville Councilmember Jim Gray issued the Million Mile May challenge, along with West Sacramento Councilmember Oscar Villegas, Department of General Services Chief Deputy Will Semmes and Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates Board Member and BicycleChef Bicycles owner Christopher Davis-Murai.

"The Million Mile May challenge is intended to remind us how fun and easy a bike ride is and how many of us could use our bikes as an alternative to our cars. Just bicycling one mile instead of driving reduces carbon emissions the same as turning off a 100 watt light bulb for 8 hours," said honorary co-chair and Roseville Councilmember Jim Gray.

In addition to the known health benefits of bicycling, savings on gas and sunny skies in May help drive people to dust off their bikes and join their neighbors and co-workers in bicycling for work, errands or recreation. 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.mayisbikemonth.com.

The region—which includes El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties—is home to many bicycle-friendly communities and regional trails. Throughout the month, there will be weekly prize drawings, individual, group and employer challenges, rallies, awards, safety clinics and organized rides.

On Saturday, May 2, local rides will be held across the six-county region. Energizer stations will be set up with refreshments, giveaways and information about bicycling.

On Thursday, May 21, the region celebrates Bike-to-Work Day with a BikeFest at 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 commute information.

May is Bike Month is coordinated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the region's transportation management associations and organizations. For more information, visit www.mayisbikemonth.com or call (916) 321-9000.

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