



For Immediate Release

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**BIKE TO WORK DAY BREAKS REGIONAL RECORD  
16,800+ CYCLISTS REGISTERED  
TO PROMOTE CYCLING AS A GREEN COMMUTE OPTION**

Washington, D.C. – Despite the inclement weather, thousands of Washington metropolitan commuters participated in Friday’s Bike to Work Day. Registration for the event jumped, 14 percent over last year, and the largest number since the first regional Bike to Work Day was held in the region in 2000.

Cyclists who braved Friday’s weather [enjoyed festivities at 79 regional pits stops with speakers](#), refreshment and prizes. The Bike to Work Day free event was coordinated by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board’s Commuter Connections program and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) and individual pit stops were hosted by local and state governments, federal agencies, employers, bicycle retailers, volunteers, and transit partners in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

“We thank cyclists, sponsors, volunteers, elected officials and dignitaries who came out in the rain to support Bike to Work Day,” said Chuck Bean, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. “The support from all registrants is appreciated, and signifies their willingness to adopt a sustainable, low-cost, healthy commuting option,” Bean said.

“Bike to Work Day’s record breaking registration is one more way we are celebrating Commuter Connections’ 40<sup>th</sup> year. We are proud of the partnerships we’ve built to help support and encourage cycling in the region, from new trails, bicycle lanes, bicycle sharing, and employers who make it possible for commuters to bike to work by providing employee incentives and bicycling amenities at the workplace,” said Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Commuter Connections. “Bike to Work Day is an important catalyst to getting people to think about alternatives to driving alone to work by bicycling, ridesharing, using transit, and teleworking.”

Commuter Connections provides information on alternative commute programs to encourage bicycling, ridesharing, and transit options and help employers establish commuter benefit and incentives, including telework for their employees.

Bike to Work Day celebrates National Bike Month in cities throughout the United States.

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*Commuter Connections, [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org) is a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, [www.mwcoq.org](http://www.mwcoq.org). Commuter Connections has been providing ridematching services since 1974, promotes bicycling to work, transit and other alternatives to drive alone commuting, and offers the free Guaranteed Ride Home program. Commuter Connections, is funded by the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and U.S. Departments of Transportation.*

*The [Washington Area Bicyclist Association, www.waba.org](http://www.waba.org), creates a healthy, more livable region by promoting bicycling for fun, fitness, and affordable transportation; advocating for better bicycling conditions and transportation choices for a healthier environment, and educating children, adults, and motorists about safe bicycling.*