



Baltimore
Metropolitan
Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BIKE TO WORK DAY ENCOURAGES PUBLIC TO CONSIDER COMMUTING BY BICYCLE

BALTIMORE, MD (May 19, 2016) – More than 1,500 people will meet up at 33 locations around the Baltimore region on **Friday, May 20** for the 19th annual Bike to Work Day. Bike to Work Day events throughout the region will feature bicycle tune-ups, riding challenges, free food and prize give-away including three bikes, courtesy of Race Pace Bicycles and REI, for those who register in advanced.

Each event takes place, rain or shine.

Bike to Work Day is a national campaign that celebrates bicycling as a healthy commuting option, while promoting public awareness of its safety and environmental factors. It occurs each year in May, which coincides with both National Bike Month and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council's Clean Commute Initiatives.

“In addition to saving time and money, commuting by bike can improve our health and reduce our effect on the environment. It's no surprise that it's become so popular,” said Michael B. Kelly, executive director of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. “Please join BMC, our regional partners and more than 1,500 cyclists on Friday, May 20, to celebrate Bike to Work Day 2016.”

The Clean Commute Initiatives begin mid-April and continue through June. Clean commuting options are particularly important to the Baltimore region because late spring is the start of the ground-level ozone season, when we hear about code red and orange bad air days. Emissions expelled from single occupancy vehicles contribute significantly to our region's dangerous ozone levels. Bike commuting can improve the air quality.

Bike to Work Day helps raise awareness of the rules of the road for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists and highlights the need to improve bicycle facilities to improve safety. Many of the Bike to Work Day partners are an integral part of the year-round transportation planning process across the region to improve the roads for everyone.

Details about each event throughout the Baltimore region, including registration, can be found by visiting www.Bike2WorkCentralMD.com

Additional employee-based events also will take place throughout the region. Check with your employer to find out how you can participate. For more information on Bike to Work Day – specifically regarding [commuting resources](#) or BMC’s Clean Commute Initiative, go to www.baltometro.org, or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) works collaboratively with the chief elected officials in the region to create initiatives to improve the quality of life and economic vitality. BMC, as the Baltimore region’s council of governments (COG), hosts the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), the federal metropolitan planning organization (MPO), and supports local government by coordinating efforts in a range of policy areas including emergency preparedness, housing, cooperative purchasing, environmental planning and workforce development.

BMC’s Board of Directors includes the executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties, the mayor of the City of Baltimore, a member of the Carroll County Board of Commissioners, a member of the Maryland State Senate, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.