

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 3, 2016

Proclaiming May as “ Bike to Work Month”

May is “Bike to Work Month” and presents us with a great opportunity to promote the health and environmental benefits of riding a bicycle. This mode of transportation improves air quality and helps the County meet its mandatory clean air goals. Bicycling is one of many rideshare options available to County employees and ridesharing just one day a week is strongly encouraged as it can have a significant positive impact on the environment and the health of our work force.

In order to increase the use of bicycles by County employees, the Board of Supervisors received a matching grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Committee (MSRC) to install 575 bike racks at over 200 facilities, including signage and supplemental lighting at a minimum of 80 of these locations. In addition, the Office of Workplace Programs and Marketing is hosting 48 free one-hour basic bicycle commuting workshops at various locations throughout the County during the lunch hour, and eight free six-hour Traffic Skills 101 bicycle courses on the weekend with more in-depth content on rules of the road and hands-on bicycle skills practice..

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All employees that attend one of the 48 basic workshop classes will receive a free bike light kit for attending and employees and family members that attend one of the eight advanced six-hour weekend courses will receive a free bicycle helmet. These classes are designed for all employees whether they ride a bicycle or not, and will cover the rules of the road as they pertain to people who bicycle. Employees will learn the top reasons for crashes involving people cycling and how to avoid them. They will also learn how to properly fit a bike helmet on themselves or their children. The eight six-hour classes on the weekends provide more intensive hands on training and require employees and their family members to bring their own bicycles.

Employees are strongly encouraged to attend one of the bicycle safety and education courses to learn about bicycle safety tips. Whether you bicycle regularly or not at all, these classes provide an opportunity to make our roads safer for everyone. To learn more information about how to sign up for the courses, please visit the Rideshare website at www.rideshare.lacounty.gov or contact your local Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC). ETCs in the County promote rideshare and assist County employees with all rideshare needs.

These free bicycle safety and education classes provide us with a unique opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to a healthier lifestyle and cleaner environment.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:

1. Recognize May as “Bike To Work Month” by promoting the Bicycle Safety and Education Courses offered by the County and co-sponsored by the MSRC;

2. Instruct all Department Heads to provide information about the Bicycle Safety and Education Courses to their employees and encourage participation;
3. Encourage County employees to attend one of the 48 free one-hour Bicycle Safety and Education Courses and one of the eight free six-hour advanced training courses on the weekend to learn bicycle safety tips that make the roads safer for everyone;
4. Encourage all County employees to “Take Pride, Share the Ride” by Ridesharing at least one day a week; and
5. Recognize and thank all of the County’s Employee Transportation Coordinators who work hard to promote the County Rideshare Program.