



NEWS RELEASE

City of Santa Barbara

Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5/3/2007

NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

City of Santa Barbara is Geared Up!

SANTA BARBARA, CA – 5/3/2007 – Transportation staff are pleased to announce the following events and opportunities celebrating National Bike Month:

- 1) Santa Barbara Bikestation Grand Opening Tuesday May 1st;
- 2) Bike to Work Day Wednesday May 16th includes event at State and de la Guerra and free parking at the Bikestation;
- 3) Discounted Bike Tune-ups in May to prepare for Bike to Work Day and the Team Bike Challenge in June!

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- 1) **Santa Barbara Bikestation Grand Opening** on May 1st at 1219 Anacapa Street

Cyclists can enjoy a free breakfast and tours of the bicycle parking facility at the Granada Garage from 7 am to 9 am. The ribbon cutting ceremony will commence at 9 am.

Bikestation Santa Barbara is an automated bicycle parking facility available to members twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Members choose from a number of affordable payment options. To enter the facility, members simply swipe their automated access key located near the front entrance. The facility has over 70 bike racks, which also accommodate personal bike locks for added security. Members have access to a shower, restroom and personal lockers as well as to a work stand, vending machine and basic tools to perform minor bicycle repairs. See more at <http://www.bikestation.org>.

If you are interested in a Bikestation Membership, please contact me and I will provide you with directions on how you can sign up for your City Sponsored Membership!

- 2) **Bike Week 2007** - Bike Week 2007 will be held May 12<sup>th</sup>-May 20<sup>th</sup> 2007. Fifteen special events, including Bike to Work Day on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and Bike to School Day on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> are planned for the week to celebrate and encourage the use of bicycles for transportation. See <http://sbbike.org/BW/bw.html> for a complete list of Bike to Work Day events.

**Bike to Work Day, Wednesday May 16<sup>th</sup>**. The City of Santa Barbara invites all commuters traveling by bicycle on Wednesday May 16th to enjoy two blocks of car-free State Street during its Downtown event from 7:00 am to 9:00 am on State Street at De La Guerra Street. Participants will be treated to free food, drinks, and prizes. Longer distance commuters can check out <http://www.trafficsolutions.info> to research possible bike on bus or train options!

Please note that, with prior permission from your supervisor, the City Administrator has approved City employees' attendance at this Bike to Work Day event on **City time** (as long as you bike to work!).

Also available is *Free Parking at the Santa Barbara Bikestation* for bicycle commuters arriving between 7 am and 9 am and picking up their bikes between 4 pm and 6 pm.

3) **June's Team Bike Challenge** helps bike commuters ride on into the summer: Bike to Work Day is a great way to get warmed up for a summer full of bike commuting and SBCAG Traffic Solutions is conducting a month long event to help people ride bikes for transportation. The Team Bike Challenge is a friendly competition that will run for the entire month of June with five member teams making as many trips as possible by bike instead of car. For more details visit <http://www.trafficsolutions.info>.

Be prepared!

Transportation Staff will be offering City Staff Training on Street Skills for Bicycling on Thursday May 18th, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. We have also arranged to subsidize your bicycle tune-ups at local bicycle shops between now and May 31, in preparation for Bike to Work Day and the Team Bike Challenge.

Please contact me if you would like to know more about classes or the City subsidized Bikestation memberships and tune-ups .

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