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NEWS**

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S.F. Gears Up for Bike to Work Day

Event Draws Mayor, Supervisors, Tens of Thousands on Two Wheels

San Francisco — Tens of thousands of San Franciscans are expected to choose the two-wheel commute this Thursday, May 17, 2007 for the 13th annual Bike to Work Day. They will be joined by Mayor Gavin Newsom and eight members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, who will bike to City Hall (Polk St. steps) for an 8:30 a.m. press conference.

“Bike to Work Day last year showed me that I could make it downtown quicker than any other way, and feeling great and energized,” says Sacha Ielmorini, who bikes for most of her trips between the Richmond District and downtown San Francisco. “It saves me a lot of money, and I find myself actually enjoying my commute, smiling as I pedal to work.”

Bicycling is an increasingly popular commute choice for San Franciscans concerned about the ill environmental effects of driving and the importance of regular physical activity.

According to a poll by David Binder Research in July 2006, 5% of San Franciscans use bicycling as their *primary* mode of transportation to work or school; one-third of San Franciscans say they *would* ride their bicycles more if the City created more bike lanes, designated more space for bicyclists, and improved the surface of the roads; and 73% support encouraging more bike trips by creating more bike lanes & designated space for cyclists.

Details on the Bike to Work Day routes and ride starting times for the Mayor and Board of Supervisors’ members can be found at www.sfbike.org/btwd_vip More information on Bike to Work Day activities, including locations of two dozen Energizer Stations offering bicyclists free coffee, snacks, and bike treats, can be found at <http://www.sfbike.org/btwd>.

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