



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Knoxville to Celebrate 17th Annual Bike to Work Day

Knoxville, Tennessee –May 11, 2017– Friday, May 19 is National Bike to Work Day, and people making their commutes on two wheels are invited to stop by Market Square. To refuel participants, Trio Café will donate coffee and free treats will be available between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.

Bike to Work Day is a way for people who have considered biking to work, whether to save money or to improve their health, to try it out. Bike convoys leave from north, south, east and west locations and offer guided, casual paced rides to Market Square. See www.ibikeknx.com for a list of meeting locations. Those interested can either ride from home or drive to a convoy meeting location and then bike in with the group.

"We love seeing new bike commuters on Bike to Work Day," says Kelley Segars, Principal Planner with the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization. "Often, learning the route and meeting people to ride with will encourage someone to make it a habit."

If downtown is not your destination or if 8 a.m. is not your start time, there are other ways to get a "thank you for biking" on Bike to Work Day. Many local businesses are offering a free cup of coffee or other item all day on May 19th to people who bike to work. Other discounts are available throughout May to anyone with an I Bike KNX helmet sticker, available by taking a safe biking pledge online, at Mast General Store, or at Three Rivers Market.

Bike commuting has seen a growing popularity in Knoxville. In the past year, more than 100 individuals logged bike trips with Smart Trips, an online program that encourages alternatives to driving alone. Collectively, they biked more than 127,000 miles, saved nearly 3,000 gallons of gas, and kept more than 58,000 pounds of greenhouse gases out of our air. They also burned 3 million calories and saved \$15,000.

For more details, see www.ibikeknx.com.

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Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) coordinates a comprehensive, multimodal transportation planning process for the Knoxville Urban Area. Member jurisdictions include Knox County and the urbanized areas of Anderson, Blount, Loudon and Sevier Counties and includes the following cities: Alcoa, Clinton, Knoxville, Lenoir City, Loudon, Maryville and Oak Ridge, the Town of Farragut, Tennessee Department of

Transportation and East Tennessee Development District. For more information, visit our website:
www.knoxtrans.org