



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2017

Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Contact: Kelsey Webb

Email: Kelsey.Webb@drpt.virginia.gov

Virginia Celebrates Bike to Work Week May 15-19

RICHMOND- The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation encourages Virginians to participate in Bike to Work Week May 15-19, 2017, an initiative supported and recognized by Governor Terry McAuliffe. Bike to Work week encourages people to utilize biking as an alternative to driving alone to work.

“Bike to Work Week is an initiative for commuters to explore other travel options rather than congested roadways. It is also a great way to help ease commuter stress,” **said Jennifer Mitchell, DRPT Director.**

Bicycling to work provides numerous advantages to employees and employers. By biking at least one day to work, riders can cut costs on parking, gas, and wear on their vehicles. Bicycling instead of using an automobile reduces pollution and helps improve air quality. It can also improve health and reduce the risk of heart disease and diabetes.

“In addition to the hundreds of miles of bike lanes and trails across the Commonwealth, a number of cities, counties, and universities have bike share programs. There are also many options to help make biking to work as smooth as possible, including bike racks at most park and ride lots and also on many transit services,” **continued Mitchell.**

In addition to Bike to Work Week, DRPT is also celebrating Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 19. Many cities, towns, and counties across the Commonwealth will be holding events to celebrate this weeklong initiative including Northern Virginia, Washington D.C., Alexandria, Arlington County, Harrisonburg, Loudoun County, Prince William County, Roanoke, and Staunton.

Visit www.BiketoWorkVA.org for more information on statewide initiatives celebrating Bike to Work Week.

About the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

The mission of DRPT is to facilitate and improve the mobility of the citizens of Virginia and to promote the efficient transport of goods and people in a safe, reliable and cost-effective manner.