



**For Immediate Release**

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**May is National Bike Month**

*Community invited to join City of Ventura for free rides and events*

**Ventura Calif.** – The City of Ventura invites families, community members, and local businesses to participate in free events in celebration of National Bike Month and National Bike to Work Week, happening May 16 - May 22.

According to the League of American Bicyclists, “May is a time to celebrate biking and the freedom, the joy, and the wellbeing it imbues within us. It’s a time to encourage ourselves to bike a little bit farther and a time to encourage others to bike a little bit at all. Because we know that when more people ride bikes, life is better for everyone.”

With more than 60 miles of bike lanes, 35 miles of bike routes and paths, and over 400 bicycle lockers for riders to use, the City of Ventura is designated by the League of American Bicyclists as a bronze-rated bicycle friendly community.

“Bike Month serves as a good time to explore Ventura on two wheels,” shared Public Works Director, Phil Nelson. “Bicyclists and pedestrians have the same rights to the road but face even more risk without the protections vehicles have. Learning how to ride together safely is an important issue and we should all be looking out for one another.”

Committed to bicycle safety education, the City of Ventura in partnership with Bike Ventura County offers “Ride Ready” classes in both English and Spanish. These classes will teach adults how to ride safely and legally on the road. For specific dates and times, contact Bike Ventura County at [www.bikeventura.org](http://www.bikeventura.org).

In celebration of National Bike to Work Week, the City will host free community events, including:

- Bike to Work Day Pit Stop on Thursday, May 19, from 6:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., located at Santa Clara and California Streets
- Community bike ride along the Ventura River Trail on Saturday, May 21, at 9:00 a.m., located at Westpark Community Center at 450 W Harrison Avenue. Participants interested in riding are encouraged to RSVP [online](#).

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

To learn more about the California Office of Traffic Safety grant program for bicycling in the City of Ventura, contact Active Transportation Specialist Derek Towers at [dtowers@cityofventura.ca.gov](mailto:dtowers@cityofventura.ca.gov) or visit [www.CityofVentura.ca.gov](http://www.CityofVentura.ca.gov).

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