

FEDERAL ETC UPDATES

NIH CYCLES AWAY WITH BIKE TO WORK DAY EMPLOYER CHALLENGE



Perennial Bike to Work Day favorites, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) cycled away with the Employer Challenge distinction for the employer with the greatest number of bicyclists registered for the May 2019 annual Bike to Work Day event.

The NIH Bicycle Commuter Club's massive membership of 400 promotes participation in Bike to Work Day and bicycling on a regular basis as a commute method. NIH supported Bike to Work Day by hosting a pit stop at its main campus and by participating in many more throughout Montgomery County where other NIH offices are located. Overall, more than 550 NIH employees registered for the popular spring bicycling event, making NIH tops in the Washington, DC region.

In a ceremony held on Bike to Work Day, the NIH Bike Club presented the Carl Henn Bicycling Advocacy Award, named for a former employee who was tremendously active with the NIH Bike Club and the community at large.

The NIH Bike Club administers the "Bike Bucks" program to reward employees for bicycling to work. Bicyclists log their commute miles and for every 100 recorded they receive five Bike Bucks. The Bike Bucks are honored as cash at the NIH Fitness Center, Proteus Bicycles in College Park, and The Bicycle Place in Silver Spring. Additionally, Bike Bucks can be used toward the cost of a coveted NIH Bike Club jersey.

Other NIH amenities and perks that support bicycle commuting include covered bike parking and lockers, shower facilities, free bicycle registration with NIH campus police, a bike mentor program that matches NIH employees new to bicycle commuting with experienced NIH bike commuters. Mentors help with anything from route suggestions, how to ride safely in traffic, selecting gear, bikes on bus instructions, and other great tips.



l to r: Joseph Cox, Chief, Transportation Services Branch, NIH; Susan Cook, Director of Division of Amenities and Transportation Services, NIH; Colleen McGowan, Director of Office of Research Services, NIH; Vernon Anderson, President of the NIH Bicycle Club; Dr. Alfred Johnson, Deputy Director for Management, NIH; Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Transportation Operations Programs, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; Hannah Anderson-Dana, Membership and Development Coordinator, Washington Area Bicyclist Association.