

OPM ADDRESSES SAFETRACK FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES Continued from front

who are eligible to telework. Similarly, agencies should review their policies for alternative work schedules.

Finally, since the SafeTrack project will occur over an extended period and will affect agencies differently, OPM does not anticipate the need for the widespread use of excused absence, and agencies are reminded that any excused absence provided should not be for an extended or indefinite period or on a recurring basis.

For more information on OPM's guidance on SafeTrack, read the full memo dated May 20, 2016 at <https://chcoc.gov/transmittals>. For more information, and help with providing commuting alternatives to your employees, visit www.commuterconnections.org.



U.S. NAVY AWARDED FOR OUTSTANDING BIKE TO WORK DAY PARTICIPATION

After breaking the record for participants in 2015, Bike to Work Day 2016 did it again! Held on May 20, this year's BTWD event saw more than 17,500 registered bicyclists leaving their cars at home and riding to work.

Helping to lead the way, the United States Navy participated with 197 riders. Region-wide, Navy cyclists attended 44 out of the 83 total pit stops. The top five most attended pit stops for Navy bicyclists were Capitol Riverfront, D.C.; Old Town Alexandria, VA; Naval Support Activity Bethesda, MD; and two locations in Arlington - Crystal City, and Rosslyn.

"By having such terrific passion and enthusiasm for bicycling, the U.S. Navy has become a model for other employers in the metropolitan Washington region," said Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Commuter Connections.

The Employer Challenge luncheon was held on June 30th, at Naval Support Activity Bethesda (NSAB), where a plaque was presented to Commanding Officer, Captain Marvin L. Jones, by representatives from Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, co-organizers of Bike to Work Day.

The continued success and growth of Bike to Work Day can be attributed to both repeat attendees and the influx of new riders each year. "Bicycling to work has lots of potential to grow since the average bike commute in the region is 4.6 miles each way, and 17 percent of all Washington area commuters live less than 5 miles from work," added Ramfos.

Bicycling to work is not something one has to do every day. According to the Commuter Connections 2013 State of the Commute report, the average number of days per week for bicycle commuting within the region is 3.5, up from 3.0 in 2010.

Encourage your employees to participate next May and see if you can be one of the top regional employers for BTWD 2017!



l to r: Michelle Cleveland, Washington Area Bicyclist Association; Amanda O'Brien, Morale Welfare and Recreation - NSAB; Captain Marvin L. Jones, Commanding Officer - NSAB; Amanda Kozay, Morale Welfare and Recreation - NSAB; Doug Franklin, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments - Commuter Connections; Ryan Emery, Installation Transportation Officer - NSAB