



## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Celebrates National Bike Month with Third Annual Bike to Work Day Ride and Rally**

*City Bikeway Program and partners hold special events promoting bike safety and awareness*

**(Houston, Texas)** - On Friday, May 16, 2003 the City of Houston Bikeway Program will hold their third annual Bike to Work Day Ride and Rally in support of National Bike Month. The ride and rally is aimed at promoting safe cycling and increasing citizens' awareness of the many bicycling opportunities available in the city.

This year's Bike to Work Day celebration will include a five-mile ride from South Main Baptist Church to City Hall followed by a bicycling information fair to be held around the City Hall reflection pool. Registration for the ride will begin at 8:00 AM in the parking lot of South Main Baptist Church, located at 4100 Main, with the ride commencing at 8:30 AM. The riders, escorted by the Houston Police Department along the way, will arrive at approximately 9:00 AM for a rally and welcoming ceremony at City Hall, located at 900 Bagby.

The bicycling information fair that will be held around the reflection pool at City Hall from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Participants will be treated to refreshments from local vendors along with advice and information from local bike shops and fitness organizations. Additionally, HISD's Eisenhower High School's marching band will provide a free concert.

This year's ride to City Hall will be echoed throughout the community as the Bikeway Program's corporate partners, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) and Hewlett Packard (HP), join the city's effort's to encourage bike riding and fitness. The Texas Medical Center will organize a bike ride event and present a special map detailing bike parking facilities for cyclists. Hewlett Packard will organize a 2k walk, a 5k run and a bike to work ride to promote employee wellness.

"We are proud of our partnerships with TMC and HP to promote safe cycling at their workplaces," said Lilibeth André, the City of Houston's Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator. "The goal of our events is to teach safe cycling and to inspire as many people as possible to get out and ride bikes."

For more information on Bike to Work Day activities visit [www.houstonbikeways.org](http://www.houstonbikeways.org) and click the Bike to Work Day link or call the Houston Bikeway Program at (713) 837-0003.

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