



COUNTY OF MARIN NEWS RELEASE

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Study confirms more bikes and feet on the streets, again

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The Nonmotorized Pilot Program (NTPP) recently completed a thorough survey project to find out how many people are walking and biking in Marin County. This project collected counts at 23 locations in the cities and unincorporated areas. A summary report comparing the outcomes of the 2009 counts with those conducted in 2008, 2007, and 1999 is now available on the Walk Bike Marin webpage: http://www.walkbikemarin.org/resource_library_reports.php.

The results of these counts show that weekday bicycling rates increased an average of six percent between 2008 and 2009 and 118 percent since 1999. During weekends, bicycling increased an average of ten percent between since 2008 and 125 percent between 1999 and 2009. Weekday walking rates increased 26 percent between 2008 and 2009 and 51 percent between 1999 and 2009. Weekend walking rates increased one percent between over the last year and five percent since 1999.

Supervisor Hal Brown, President of the Marin County Board of Supervisors, commented, "As we continue to improve our bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, more and more Marin residents are discovering that bicycling and walking can be an easy, fun, and healthy way to get around our communities."

This data will continue to be useful as the NTPP projects are completed. Collection of new data will occur in 2010 as additional NTPP projects are completed and programs continue. The data will show the impact of the Pilot Project and other improvements to walking and bicycling facilities.

The Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program is a federal transportation program which provides \$25 million each to Marin County and three other communities in the Midwest to evaluate whether construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, along with educational and outreach programs, can encourage bicycling and walking as a means to reduce automobile trips.