FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 5, 2021

NMDOT Supports Walk and Ride to School Day 2021

SANTA FE – Thousands of students, parents, teachers, and community leaders across New Mexico will walk, bike, scoot, or skate to school on October 6, in celebration of *the 25th Annual National Walk to School Day.* This year, 34 elementary and middle schools in New Mexico have registered Walk to School Day events on walkbiketoschool.org. The total number of schools and events is expected to grow as celebrations continue throughout October, *National Walk to School Month.* Participation will fit within local public health guidance.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) along with local law enforcement encourage drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists to remember to "*Look for Me*" as they navigate public roadways, bikeways, and sidewalks. National Walk to School Month is an opportunity to remind everyone to be alert and aware when driving, biking, skating, or walking through our school zones, residential neighborhoods, parks, downtowns, and wherever children may be.

"The NMDOT values active transportation," said Transportation Secretary Mike Sandoval. "Walk to School Day events emphasize the need to create safer routes for walking and bicycling and highlights the importance of pedestrian safety, increasing physical activity among children, traffic congestion and concerns for the environment. The events build connections between families, schools and the broader community," adds Sandoval.

To learn more about the events and locations of registered NM schools participating in Walk to School Day 2021, visit walkbiketoschool.org/registration/whoswalking.php?sid=NM.

For more information on Safe Routes to School and the Active Transportation Program please contact Shannon Glendenning, NMDOT at 505-231-4300, Shannon.Glendenning@state.nm.us

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