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## Commute.org Wraps up the 2019 Commuter Challenge

*Super Commuters Got Rewarded!*

### **SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUTERS SAVED 439.1 TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> AND GOT REWARDED FOR SHOWING OFF THEIR SUPERPOWERS**

SAN MATEO COUNTY, Calif., June 20, 2019: Commute.org announced the results and the grand prize winners of the 2019 Commuter Challenge at an awards ceremony this week. Participants from this year's challenge, which was designed to encourage commuters to use their "superpowers" to find and use alternative commute modes, were randomly selected to win one of five grand prizes. In addition, participants were entered in weekly drawings for prizes when they used non-drive-alone alternatives to commute to and from work or college.

Challenge participants logged their commutes on Commute.org's STAR tool, which can be accessed at [my.commute.org](http://my.commute.org). Commuters also had the option to track their trips using the Commute Tracker, Scoop, Waze Carpool, and Strava apps and connecting the app to their STAR account.

The annual Commuter Challenge encourages people to use alternative methods to commute, such as bicycling, walking, carpooling, vanpooling, teleworking, and public transit. The superhero theme of this year's challenge inspired commuters to become "super commuters" who use their powers to reduce traffic congestion and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Participants were able to track their alternative commute statistics CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, calories burned, and money saved.

Thanks to the amazing effort of San Mateo County commuters, the 2019 Commuter Challenge surpassed all prior annual challenges. This year's challenge resulted in:

- 2,735 challenge participants
- 101,382 non-drive alone trips logged
- 1.9 million single occupancy vehicle (SOV) miles eliminated
- 439.1 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> reduced
- \$0.7 million in commute cost savings
- 5.3 million calories burned by bicyclists and walkers

"The annual San Mateo County Commuter Challenge is a fun way to encourage more people to try using different forms of alternative transportation," John Ford, Executive Director of Commute.org said. "In the immortal words of Commissioner Gordon of Batman fame, 'You're going to make a difference. A lot of times it won't be huge, it won't be visible even. But it will matter just the same.'" Ford added.

Commute.org would like to thank the employers and community partners in San Mateo County who helped encourage commuters to participate in the 2019 Commuter Challenge. Every alternative commute counts towards improving our air quality and traffic congestion.

For more details about the 2019 Commuter Challenge including infographics of the results, please visit [www.commute.org](http://www.commute.org).

Hashtags: #CommuteSTAR #YourCommuteCounts

*About Commute.org:*

Commute.org is San Mateo County's transportation demand management agency. Its primary objective is to reduce the number of single-occupant vehicle (SOV) trips in San Mateo County, thereby reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality. Commute.org receives funding from the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

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