

## Rice Park to Host Bike, Walk Commuting Celebration on May 14

*Event to highlight first Twin Cities Bike Walk Week*

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SAINT PAUL – Workers commuting to downtown Saint Paul by bike, bus or foot are invited to a celebration in Rice Park Wednesday, May 14, featuring free food, a bike stunt show, and exhibitors promoting mass transit and bike commuting options.

**Councilmembers Russ Stark and Melvin Carter and Ramsey County Commissioner Toni Carter** will join **Erik “the Bike Man” Saltvold**, founder and CEO of Erik’s Bike Shop; **Mark Stutrud**, CEO of Summit Brewing, and Anne Hayes, director of parking and mass transit for Traveler’s, to welcome cyclists, bus riders, and walkers into downtown. Bicycle patrol officers from the Saint Paul Police Department also will join the celebration.

Commuter convoys will flow into downtown Saint Paul from around the city, with Erik the Bike Man leading one convoy from across the Mississippi River; Councilmembers Stark and Carter joining another leaving 7:30 a.m. from Hamline Park in Saint Paul’s Midway neighborhood; and members of Mayor Chris Coleman’s staff leading a convoy at 7:20 a.m. from Phalen Boulevard and Maryland Avenue on Saint Paul’s East Side.

Commuters can find posted routes or sign up to lead a convoy from their neighborhood on the Web at [www.bikewalkweek.org](http://www.bikewalkweek.org). On the site, workplaces can compete to have the highest percentages of participating employees and win trophies, and bikers and walkers can join to be eligible to win prizes, including bicycles, gear, and gift certificates.

**Festivities in Rice Park, including a free continental breakfast, begin at 6:30 a.m., with speakers giving a special presentation at 8 a.m. and Rich Wieber’s Bike Stunt Show at 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.**

Other events are being added regularly for Bike Walk Week. To find out the latest, go to the Bike Walk Week website at [www.bikewalkweek.org](http://www.bikewalkweek.org).

Bike Walk to Work Day is a public, private, and non-profit partnership. Presenting sponsors include Ameriprise, Anoka County TMO, City of Minneapolis, City of Saint Paul, Dero Bike Racks, Downtown Minneapolis TMO, 494 Commuter Services, Hennepin County, Hoigaard’s, Hour Car, Metro Transit, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Penn Cycle, REI, Rich Wieber’s Bicycle Stunt Show, St. Paul Smart Trips (Formerly St. Paul + Midway TMOs), Transit for Livable Communities, and Whole Foods.

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