



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NOVEMBER 23, 2017 – Alameda, CA**

456 residents from Alameda and surrounding areas gathered at Washington Park on October 7<sup>th</sup> to participate in the 22-mile “Bike for the Parks” Community Ride around the outer edges of the island of Alameda. With weather in the 70’s, under a bright blue sky, the event kicked off at 9:00 AM with Mayor Spencer at the lead.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event is the brainchild of Gene Oh and George Stephens of Alameda Bicycle and the Alameda Friends of the Parks Foundation. With the involvement of the Alameda Recreation and Park Department and support of the Alameda Rotary Club, the event was an excellent example of Alameda community involvement.

The full 22-mile ride took two hours to complete and offered Rest Stations throughout the ride, with volunteers at numerous locations to offer directions and bike repair if needed. The views of the surrounding Bay Area were spectacular based on rider’s comments at the post ride party at Washington Park, where attendees could consume BBQ’d hotdogs, listen to music and visit various bike related booths.

All proceeds from the event are used for Alameda park projects and programs. Parks that have benefited from this event to date are Woodstock, Godfrey and Longfellow, along with events like Starlight Movies in the Parks, Teen Halloween Haunted House and the Splash in to Spring event at Crab Cove.

Sponsors for this event were: VF Outdoor, Catellus, TriPoint Homes, Bay Ship & Yacht, Alameda Theatre, Deb Knowles/Edward Jones, Lars Hansson CPA, SRMErnst, and Alameda Bicycle.

The “Bike for the Parks” Team Winners this year were East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) and The Center for Independent Living (CIL). They were recognized for their spirit and teamwork at the event. – photo: The CIL, EBMUD, Mayor Spencer, ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge, ARPD Staff Pat Russi and Dennis McDaniels, Friends of the Park President Bill Delaney and George Stephens from Alameda Bicycle.