

## 2008 National Bike and Walk to Work Day in Concord

Groundwork Concord and Concord 20/20 report an over-the-top turnout for the May 16 event in front of the State House this year. 171 surveys were filled out so it's estimated a crowd of around 200 people bicycle-commuted or walk-commuted to the State House and then to work to demonstrate their support for reducing the number of cars on the road. Mayor Bouley joined Governor Lynch and Dr. Susan Lynch at the podium in delivering proclamations in support of the "one less car" theme. The Governor and Dr. Lynch rode in from Hopkinton with NH DES Commissioner Tom Burack and an entourage of state employees and members of the Granite State Wheelman. Jeff Warner of the city engineering department was part of the governor's ride. City Councilors Dick Lemieux and Jan McLure rode their bikes to the event, while four additional City Councilors had pledged earlier in the week to walk or ride to work that day. Several city employees, including Seth Pingree in Engineering, Becky Hebert in Planning, and Phil Bilodeau of General Services also attended on bike or on foot. Bagel Works and S&W Sports were sponsors again this year, providing bagels, coffee and free water bottles to participants. New sponsors Anthem Blue Shield and "PATH" (Program for Alternative Transportation and Health) were on hand to talk about health and economic benefits to "curbing your car". Concord's new Bicycle Master Plan was on display, and the recently updated regional bike maps and other free items were handed out to event participants in bags provided by Anthem. Several Concord High School students attended this year, along with a few employer-organized teams. The crowd shared "bragging rights" for distance walked or ridden that morning while listening to live music from local bluegrass band, The Grassdawgs. Special thanks to Jeff Hoadley and Chris Jacques at the city General Services Department for powering up the PA system and for delivering bike racks that got a real work out this year!



We had kids of all ages this year!



Team Northeast Delta Dental