



## MEDIA ALERT

# WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULED FOR 15 MAY 2020 IS POSTPONED

**Friday 20 March 2020:** In light of the Federal Government directives regarding COVID-19, the Pedestrian Council of Australia (PCA) wishes to advise that Walk Safely to School Day has been postponed.

The annual event, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, was scheduled for 15 May 2020.

Chairman and CEO of the Pedestrian Council, Harold Scruby said the health, safety and wellbeing of the Country's children, parents, carers, teachers and school communities are the PCA's highest priority.

"Given that the situation is changing daily, there is too much uncertainty in the foreseeable future to proceed with the event in May.

"We will continue to monitor the situation closely and act in accordance with formal advice. Hopefully we can reschedule once things settle down, but we can't confirm when at this stage," he said.

The community initiative aims to raise awareness of the health, road safety, transport and environmental benefits that regular walking (especially to and from school) can provide for the long term well-being of our children. Apart from the physical benefits, regular walking also has a favourable impact on their cognitive and academic performance.

Scruby went on to say that he did not make this decision lightly.

"I am committed to fostering healthy walking habits in all Australians. Although this campaign will not go ahead in the near future, I hope the messages in relation to the importance of keeping our children active over this uncertain time are not forgotten," he said.

**ENDS.**

**Contact: Harold Scruby (0418) 110-011**



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For more information, including images and interviews contact:  
Gabrielle Leonello | 0425 554 454 | [gabrielle@littlalion.com.au](mailto:gabrielle@littlalion.com.au)