

## MEDIA ADVISORY Contact: Dinah Massie Martinez 713.881.3244

## Officials at Houston TranStar Expect Severe Weather Conditions

Officials at Houston TranStar expect severe weather through early morning Thursday, Oct. 19, which could create dangerous travel conditions, especially during morning commute times.

Beginning tonight, the National Weather Service predicts that Southeast Texas will receive between 2-3 inches of rainfall, with up to 5-10 inches of rain in some areas.

Rain will begin falling in the Bryan-College Station area about midnight, moving southeast to the Houston region at about 3 a.m. Thursday. Heaviest rains are expected from 3-9 a.m.

The rainfall will affect already saturated areas, likely flooding some neighborhood and roadways.

"Our message to the public is this: Because the ground is soaked, flooding is a strong possibility. Before leaving your house, check your local weather reports or go to <a href="www.hcoem.org">www.hcoem.org</a> for the latest information," said Mike Montgomery, Harris County Emergency Management Coordinator and Fire Marshal.

"If you have to drive, remember: If you see water on the roadway--Turn around, don't drown. You may not be able to gauge the depth of the water, and it's not worth risking your life," Montgomery said.

The following watersheds are in greatest risk of overflowing their banks:

Clear Creek
Spring Cypress
Greens Bayou
Hunting Bayou
San Jacinto River above the spillway
Halls Bayou

Houston TranStar is a collaboration between four government agencies that coordinate and enhance transportation and emergency management services, responding to incidents and emergencies in Harris County and beyond. These agencies, which share their resources and find solutions for providing services to its residents, are the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Harris County, Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (Metro) and the City of Houston.