

Metropolitan Transit Authority

Harris County



Texas Department of Transportation

City of Houston

Greater Houston Transportation and Emergency Management Center

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Contact: Artee T. Jones – Executive Public Information Officer
713-881-3244 or ajones3@houstontranstar.org

**HOUSTON TRANSTAR HAS BEEN FEATURED ON ABC WORLD NEWS
TONIGHT WITH PETER JENNINGS AND IN THE WALL STREET
JOURNAL, NEW YORK TIMES, CHICAGO TRIBUNE AND THE
HOUSTON CHRONICLE FOR ITS INNOVATIVE APPROACH
TO ADDRESSING TRAFFIC CONGESTION**

“Recognized nationally and internationally, Houston TranStar serves as a model for government agencies combining resources across modal and political jurisdictional boundaries”

(Houston, Texas) ---- Over the past five (5) weeks, Houston TranStar, the Transportation and Emergency Management center for the greater Houston region, has been featured on ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings and in respected national newspapers including the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Chicago Tribune and the Houston Chronicle for its high-tech and innovative approach to addressing traffic congestion in Houston, Texas, the fourth largest city in the nation.

Hailed as a model for government agencies combining resources across modal and political jurisdictional boundaries, Houston TranStar is a unique multi-agency partnership comprised of the City of Houston, Harris County, the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County and the Texas Department of Transportation-Houston District.

Together this unique multi-agency partnership is responsible for coordinating the planning, design, operations and maintenance of transportation and emergency management functions in the greater Houston region and is recognized nationally and internationally for its collaborative and innovative approach to transportation and emergency management solutions.

Since February of 2005, the Houston TranStar partnership and/or services offered by the partnership have been featured in many nationally recognized media outlets including:

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- **The Wall Street Journal – February 9, 2005**
Efforts to Curb Traffic on Houston Freeways Has Mayor in a Jam
By Thaddeus Herrick
- **The New York Times – February 10, 2005**
Houston’s Mandatory Towing Law Leads to Debate
By Ralph Blumenthal
- **ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings – February 14, 2005**
Houston Finds Innovative Ways to Reduce Congestion
By Peter Jennings
- **Houston Chronicle – March 1, 2005**
METRO Officers Added to Help Motorists Assistance Program (MAP)
By Lucas Wall / Ron Nossimov
- **Chicago Tribune – March 6, 2005**
City Believes Traffic is Ready for Reform / Chicago Takes High-Tech Tips from Houston
By Jon Hilkevitch

According to Jack Whaley, Director of Houston TranStar, “We as a partnership have always strived to be as effective as we possibly can in the delivery of critical transportation and emergency management services to the greater Houston region. To have other major cities like Chicago, Dallas, Beijing and others attempt to emulate what we are doing in the region makes the whole process just that much more satisfying.”

To manage transportation and emergency management functions in the greater Houston region, the Houston TranStar partnership employs a wide-variety of technologies and services including over 300 Closed Circuit Television Cameras, 150 Dynamic Message Signs, Traveler Information Devices, Roadway Flooding Systems, Wrecker Capabilities, Public/Private Partnerships, Railroad Monitoring Systems, Automated Flood Alert Systems and a whole lot more.

For more information on the Houston TranStar partnership, please contact Artee T. Jones, Executive Public Information Officer for Houston TranStar at 713-881-3244 or ajones3@houstontranstar.org.

You may also visit the web addresses (www.wsj.com, www.nytimes.com, www.abcnews.com, www.chicagotribune.com, www.chron.com) for each newspaper and broadcast outlet for more information on the stories.