FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 2, 2001

This Hurricane Greg preparedness exercise is a mock demonstration by the City of Houston Division of Emergency Management and the Harris County Office of Emergency Management.

Contact: Artee Jones – Executive Public Information Officer, Houston TranStar 713-881-3244 or 713-607-0182

THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS CENTER AT HOUSTON TRANSTAR TO CONDUCT MOCK HURRICANE GREG PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PRE-LAND FALL ACTVITIES

(Houston, Texas) ---- On Wednesday, April 4, 2001 from 8:00am – 11:00am, The City of Houston Division of Emergency Management and the Harris County Office of Emergency Management will conduct a Hurricane Greg pre-land fall exercise in preparation for hurricane season which starts June 1 thru November 30, 2001.

The Emergency Management Operations Center housed at Houston TranStar will conduct two different exercises. The City of Houston Division of Emergency Management will conduct a 'functional' exercise focusing on pre-land fall evacuation and law enforcement activities, while the Harris County Office of Emergency Management will conduct a 'tabletop' exercise testing its ability to communicate with the 29 cities that comprise Harris County, as well as the seven surrounding counties and any state and federal agencies.

This preparedness exercise is an annual statewide event for the region that enables local and state governments, volunteer agencies and private industry the opportunity to test their plans, procedures and personnel in this critical area prior to the onset of hurricane season.

For more information on the Hurricane Greg preparedness exercises, please contact Craig McDowell, City of Houston Division of Emergency Management at 713-881-3052 or Jim White, Harris County Office of Emergency Management at 713-881-3078.

For media interviews or to arrange coverage of the Hurricane Greg preparedness exercises, please contact Artee T. Jones, Executive Public Information Officer for Houston TranStar at 713-881-3244 or 713-607-0182.

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Houston TranStar is the regional Transportation and Emergency Management Center for the greater Houston Area. It is a partnership between the City of Houston Harris County, METRO and the Texas Department of Transportation. It combines the expertise and resources of each partner agency to provide an unprecedented level of service to the greater Houston region.