

Metropolitan Transit Authority

Harris County



Texas Department of Transportation

City of Houston

Greater Houston Transportation and Emergency Management Center

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**HOUSTON TRANSTAR WINS NATIONAL HONORS
TWO YEARS IN A ROW FOR ITS FREEWAY TRAFFIC
MANAGEMENT WEB SITE**

"United States Department of Transportation Deems Web Site Top Traveler Information Site in Nation"

(Houston, Texas) ----- Houston TranStar, the Transportation and Emergency Management Center for the Greater Houston region, was recognized by the United States Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration as the only two-time winner of the top traffic information web site award in the nation during the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Board of Directors meeting in Anchorage, Alaska.

Houston TranStar's freeway traffic management web site (<http://traffic.tamu.edu>) features snapshots of Houston area freeways, real-time travel information, text reports, speed charts, historical data, route builder, emergency road and construction closures and is sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI).

According to the United States Department of Transportation-Federal Highway Administration Administrator Mary E. Peters, "The Internet is an important means of providing traveler information. These outstanding sites were chosen because of their user friendliness, comprehensiveness of information and real-time reporting. Reliable, accessible traveler information helps relieve congestion and improves safety by giving travelers and shippers the information they need to choose the best time, route and even mode of transportation. "

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Jack Whaley, Director of Houston TranStar states, “The Houston TranStar partnership is excited about the web site being recognized two years in a row as the top traveler information site in the nation. Our goal with this web site is to provide the most up to date and accurate information to travelers in a very user-friendly fashion.”

Other winners included the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, the Oregon Department of Transportation and the GCM web site, which is cooperative effort of the Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee priority corridor partners (Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin Department of Transportation).

For more information on this national recognition, please contact Artee T. Jones, Executive Public Information Officer for Houston TranStar at 713-881-3244 or ajones3@houstontranstar.org. You may also contact Bill Outlaw with the United States Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration at 202-366-0660 or www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov.

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Houston TranStar is a partnership comprised of the City of Houston, Harris County, METRO and the State of Texas. For more information about Houston TranStar, please visit the web site located at www.houstontranstar.org.