

REGIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Background

H-GAC currently funds the following regional incident management activities:

- Quick Clearance Towing Program within the City Limits of Houston
- Harris County Sheriff's Office's (HCSO) Motorist Assistance Program (MAP)
- and the HCSO's Incident Management Unit (IMU)

These activities operate out of Houston TranStar (The Regional Transportation Management Center). The Quick Clearance towing program is a "No Cost" towing program to remove motorists who are stranded on the side of the freeway to a safe location off-system within the City Limits of Houston. The IMU authorizes these "No Cost" tows using the TxDOT Freeway CCTV cameras at Houston TranStar. MAP is a Freeway Assistance Service Patrol which patrols all freeways in Harris County.

Current Situation

H-GAC has contracted with the City of Houston to reinstate the Quick Clearance towing program within the City limits of Houston. This program through contracts with the towing industry, started the "No Cost" towing program to remove stranded motorists on the main lanes and shoulders of the freeway to a safe location off-system on May 1st. H-GAC is working on contracting with Harris county to expand the "No Cost" Program to the Freeway systems with Camera coverage to un-incorporated parts of county and other Harris county cities. H-GAC is also working with Newman and Newman, Inc. on a Public Outreach campaign which will include a press conference, a website and advertising campaign. The advertising campaign will include radio, TV and outdoor advertising. The "No Cost" towing program will be branded as the Gulf Coast Regional Tow and Go™ Program.

Action Requested

Information Only.