MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Many SPP&Eer’s and TTIer’s provided volunteer assistance during and after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Thanks to everyone throughout the Institute who helped in numerous ways!

In College Station, TTI staff volunteered with local efforts assisting evacuees. Staff at Riverside also assisted with the staging of TxDOT equipment and personnel and providing TxDOT personnel with access to showers and break areas.

Staff in the Houston office assisted TxDOT in numerous ways, including establishing an emergency back-up website for the real-time traffic map and placing automatic traffic counters along key routes. The TranStar Website was accessed by over 475,000 users during the events. San Antonio TTI staff organized and conducted evacuation traffic data collection efforts for TxDOT.

It appears TTI will be involved in follow-up activities exploring ways to improve future evacuation efforts.

Thanks again to everyone who assisted sponsors and volunteered their time with local efforts during Katrina and Rita.

Thanks!

Staff Activities

Joe Zietsman presented a paper, Reducing School Bus Emissions, at the Mid Continent Transportation Research Symposium held at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa from August 18-19. Joe also gave a presentation at EPA’s 2005 Air Innovations Conference held in Chicago, Illinois from August 23-25. Joe’s presentation was on “Mexican Truck Emissions.”

Tim Lomax participated in a panel discussion on Issues in Transportation at the 2005 Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) Conference in Anaheim, California on September 19th.
Fall RMC Meeting Schedule

The fall RMC meetings will be held at the Omni Hotel (Marina Tower) in Corpus Christi November 7-10. TxDOT has provided the following preliminary schedule for the meetings.

RMC 2, 4, and 5 – Monday, November 7, 2005 – 1:00 p.m.; Tuesday, November 8, 2005 – 8:00 a.m.

RMC 1 and 3 – Wednesday, November 9, 2005 – 10:00 a.m. (RMC 1) and 1:00 p.m. (RMC 3); Thursday, November 10, 2005 – 8:00 a.m.

New RMC Chairs

New chairs and vice-chairs have been appointed to the RMCs. Some changes have also been made in RMC membership. The TxDOT District Engineers serving as the new chairs and vice chairs for the RMCs are as follows:

RMC 1 – Chair – Lynn Passmore, Brownwood; Vice-Chair – Bobby Littlefield, Paris
RMC 2 – Chair – Chuck Berry, El Paso; Vice-Chair – Bill Hale, Dallas
RMC 3 – Chair – Mark Tomlinson, Amarillo; Vice-Chair – Randy Hopmann, Lubbock
RMC 4 – Chair – Lauren Garduno, Odessa; Vice-Chair – Walter McCullough, San Angelo
RMC 5 – Chair – Mario Jorge, Pharr; Vice-Chair Brian Wood, Bryan

October

Phillip Reeder 10/3
Toni Carelock 10/8
Ed Hard 10/11
Christy Harris 10/14
Katie Turnbull 10/15
Patti Ellis 10/15
David Pearson 10/21
Mike Teal 10/25
Bill Eisele 10/26
Tina Collier 10/29

November

Eun Sug Park 11/7
Dennis Perkinson 11/13
Bill Stockton 11/21
Jennifer Barry 11/22