

For Immediate Release June 22, 2009

New Park & Ride Service Linking Mainland and Galveston

The first Park and Ride Service between the Mainland and Galveston Island will kickoff on Monday July 6, 2009 from Mall of the Mainland (MOM) in Texas City. The new service will provide five AM trips and five PM trips. The first four trips during the morning and evening commute periods include stops at UTMB, downtown Galveston, and 53rd/Broadway. A fifth and final trip in the morning and evening will provide express service to and from Schlitterbahn and Moody Gardens.

MORNING SCHEDULE

Begin Mall Of The Mainland	25th St. & The Strand / Downtown	UTMB 8th & Market	Broadway @ 53rd	Schlitterbahn & Moody Gardens
6:00 AM	6:35 AM	6:40 AM	6:50 AM	
6:30 AM	7:05 AM	7:10 AM	7:20 AM	
7:00 AM	7:35 AM	7:40 AM	7:50 AM	
7:30 AM	8:05 AM	8:10 AM	8:20 AM	
8:00 AM				8:30 / 8:33 AM

EVENING SCHEDULE

Begin UTMB 8th & Market	25th St. & The Strand / Downtown	Broadway @ 53rd St	Schlitterbahn & Moody Gardens	Mall of The Mainland
4:30 PM	4:35 PM	4:45 PM		5:20 PM
5:00 PM	5:05 PM	5:15 PM		5:50 PM
5:30 PM	5:35 PM	5:45 PM		6:20 PM
6:00 PM	6:05 PM	6:15 PM		6:50 PM
			6:30 / 6:33 PM	7:00 PM

Passengers will park in a designated area near Sears Department store. The new service dubbed “Island Connect” is the result of a partnership between the Gulf Coast Center/Connect Transit, the City of Galveston/Island Transit and the Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). The service will be administered by Connect Transit and operated by the City of Galveston. The H-GAC has approved Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant funding in the amount of \$320,000 to support the initial three years of the service. The trip fare is \$2.00 one way per passenger. Passengers will be allowed free transfers to Galveston’s Island Transit fixed-route system.

The new transit service will provide commuters with an inexpensive alternative to the increasing price of gas and a way to get to work on Galveston Island as both employment and traffic congestion increase again as a result of the Island’s ongoing recovery from Hurricane Ike.

The public is invited to attend a ceremonial kick-off event at Mall of the Mainland Park and Ride lot near Sears at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2009.

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